Strategic Project Management and Portfolio Governance Training Course



21 - 25 Dec 2026

Milan

5900 € (Per Person)

Ref: #PLA7447_128058

Course Introduction / Overview:

This course provides a comprehensive framework for aligning project execution with organizational strategy through robust portfolio governance. In today's dynamic business environment, simply completing projects on time and within budget is insufficient; organizations must ensure they are investing in the right projects that deliver maximum strategic value. This training delves into the core principles of project portfolio management (PPM), moving beyond individual project success to a holistic view of an organization's entire portfolio of initiatives. We will explore the methodologies for selecting, prioritizing, and balancing projects to optimize resource allocation and mitigate risks. Drawing upon foundational concepts from thought leaders like Dr. Robert G. Cooper and the frameworks outlined in publications such as the Project Management Institute's "The Standard for Portfolio Management", participants will learn to establish and manage effective governance structures. BIG BEN Training Center has designed this program to equip leaders with the skills to translate strategic objectives into a tangible, value-driven portfolio of projects, ensuring that every investment contributes directly to long-term business success and competitive advantage. This is a practical, hands-on journey from strategic intent to measurable results.

Target Audience / This training course is suitable for:

- Portfolio Managers.
- Program Managers.
- Project Management Office (PMO) Directors and Staff.
- Senior Project Managers.
- Heads of Departments.
- Strategy and Planning Professionals.
- Business Analysts.
- Executives and Senior Leaders involved in strategic decision-making.
- Finance Managers responsible for project funding.
- IT Managers and Leaders.

Target Sectors and Industries:

- Information Technology and Telecommunications.
- Banking, Finance, and Insurance.
- Healthcare and Pharmaceuticals.
- Engineering and Construction.
- Manufacturing and Industrial.
- Energy, Oil, and Gas.
- Government Agencies and Public Sector Organizations.
- Consulting and Professional Services.
- Retail and Consumer Goods.
- Aerospace and Defense.

Target Organizations Departments:

- Project Management Office (PMO).
- Strategy and Corporate Planning.
- Information Technology (IT).
- Research and Development (R&D).
- Finance and Accounting.
- Operations Management.
- Product Development.
- Marketing and Sales.
- Human Resources.
- Engineering Departments.

Course Offerings:

By the end of this course, the participants will have able to:

- Develop a comprehensive portfolio management framework aligned with strategic goals.
- Implement robust governance structures for effective portfolio oversight and control.
- Master techniques for project selection, prioritization, and categorization.
- Balance the project portfolio based on risk, resource capacity, and strategic value.
- Establish key performance indicators (KPIs) to monitor portfolio health and performance.
- Optimize resource allocation and capacity planning across the entire portfolio.
- Conduct effective portfolio reviews and communicate status to executive stakeholders.
- Integrate benefits realization management into the portfolio lifecycle.
- Manage portfolio-level risks and dependencies effectively.
- Lead change initiatives to foster a culture of strategic portfolio management.

Course Methodology:

The training methodology at BIG BEN Training Center is designed to be highly interactive, immersive, and practical, ensuring that participants can immediately apply their learning in their professional roles. We move beyond traditional lecture-based formats to create a dynamic learning environment that fosters collaboration and deep understanding. The course heavily utilizes real-world case studies, allowing participants to analyze complex portfolio challenges and develop strategic solutions. Group discussions and team-based exercises are central to our approach, encouraging the sharing of diverse perspectives and experiences. Participants will engage in hands-on workshops to practice key skills such as developing a business case, using prioritization matrices, and creating portfolio dashboards. Interactive sessions, facilitated by our expert instructors, ensure that every participant is actively involved in the learning process. Continuous feedback is provided throughout the course, both from the instructor and peers, to help refine skills and reinforce key concepts. This blended approach of theoretical knowledge and practical application ensures a robust and lasting learning outcome.

Course Agenda (Course Units):

Unit One: Foundations of Strategic Portfolio Management

- Introduction to project, program, and portfolio management.
- The critical link between corporate strategy and portfolio management.
- Defining portfolio governance and its core components.
- Understanding the portfolio management lifecycle.
- Identifying and engaging key portfolio stakeholders.
- The role of the Project Management Office (PMO) in portfolio governance.
- Assessing organizational maturity in portfolio management.

Unit Two: Establishing the Portfolio Governance Framework

- Designing a tailored governance model for your organization.
- Defining roles and responsibilities for portfolio governance.
- Establishing decision-making bodies like a portfolio review board.
- Developing portfolio management processes and standards.
- Creating the portfolio charter and communication plan.
- Integrating financial governance and investment approval processes.
- Ensuring compliance and ethical considerations in portfolio decisions.

Unit Three: Portfolio Selection, Prioritization, and Balancing

- Developing robust project selection and intake processes.
- Crafting compelling business cases and value propositions.
- Utilizing qualitative and quantitative prioritization techniques.
- Applying scoring models and financial metrics (NPV, ROI, Payback).
- Balancing the portfolio across different dimensions like risk, strategy, and investment type.
- Conducting portfolio optimization and what-if scenario analysis.
- Techniques for managing project dependencies within the portfolio.

Unit Four: Portfolio Execution, Monitoring, and Control

- Defining portfolio key performance indicators (KPIs) and metrics.
- Developing portfolio dashboards and reporting for executive leadership.
- Implementing a portfolio performance monitoring and control system.
- Managing portfolio-level risks, issues, and changes.
- Conducting strategic resource and capacity planning.
- The process for regular portfolio review meetings.
- Techniques for terminating or de-prioritizing underperforming projects.

Unit Five: Advanced Topics and Sustaining Portfolio Excellence

- Integrating Agile and Lean principles into portfolio management.
- Managing benefits realization and value delivery.
- The psychology of portfolio decision-making and avoiding common biases.
- Leading organizational change for portfolio management adoption.
- Tools and technology for effective portfolio management.
- Developing a strategic roadmap for continuous portfolio improvement.
- Capstone exercise: Simulating a full portfolio review cycle.

FAQ:

Qualifications required for registering to this course?

There are no requirements.

How long is each daily session, and what is the total number of training hours for the course?

This training course spans five days, with daily sessions ranging between 4 to 5 hours, including breaks and interactive activities, bringing the total duration to 20 - 25 training hours.

Something to think about:

How can an organization effectively balance the need for rigid portfolio governance with the flexibility required for agile innovation and market responsiveness?

What unique qualities does this course offer compared to other courses?

This course distinguishes itself by focusing on the integration of strategic intent with practical governance execution. While many programs teach the mechanics of project management, this training elevates the conversation to the portfolio level, addressing the critical questions of "Are we doing the right projects?" and "How do these projects collectively drive our strategy?". We move beyond theoretical models to provide a pragmatic, actionable framework for establishing and running a governance system that works in the real world. The curriculum emphasizes the nuanced art of balancing the portfolio, considering not just financial returns but also strategic alignment, risk exposure, and resource capacity. A significant focus is placed on benefits realization management, ensuring that the value promised in the business case is actually delivered and measured. Participants will not just learn techniques; they will engage in sophisticated simulations and case studies that mirror the complex; high-stakes decisions faced by senior leaders. The course is designed to build strategic thinkers who can champion a value-driven culture and steer their organization's investments toward sustainable success.