



THE CHIEF STRATEGY OFFICER EXECUTIVE LEADERSHIP TRAINING COURSE

23 - 27 Nov 2026

CAPE TOWN

4600 € (PER PERSON)

REF: #PLA9934_280847



COURSE INTRODUCTION / OVERVIEW:

This intensive program is designed to equip current and aspiring Chief Strategy Officers with the advanced competencies required to navigate today's volatile business landscape. The course moves beyond traditional strategic planning to address the modern CSO's role as a catalyst for transformation, an architect of growth, and a key advisor to the CEO and board. We will delve into the core principles of strategic leadership, drawing upon foundational concepts from influential thinkers like Michael Porter on competitive advantage and industry structure. Participants will explore practical frameworks for translating high-level vision into actionable initiatives, a challenge detailed in the seminal work "Execution: The Discipline of Getting Things Done" by Larry Bossidy and Ram Charan. At BIG BEN Training Center, we have crafted a curriculum that integrates strategic formulation with the critical arts of execution, stakeholder influence, and fostering a culture of innovation. This course provides a comprehensive toolkit for leading strategic renewal, driving sustainable competitive advantage, and securing the organization's future in an era of constant disruption.

TARGET AUDIENCE / THIS TRAINING COURSE IS SUITABLE FOR:

- Chief Strategy Officers (CSOs).
- Vice Presidents and Directors of Strategy or Corporate Planning.
- Heads of Corporate Development and Business Transformation.
- Senior executives transitioning into a strategy-focused role.
- General Managers and Business Unit Leaders with strategic responsibilities.
- High-potential leaders being groomed for executive leadership.
- Consultants specializing in corporate strategy and transformation.

TARGET SECTORS AND INDUSTRIES:

- Technology and Telecommunications.
- Financial Services, Banking, and Insurance.
- Healthcare, Pharmaceuticals, and Life Sciences.
- Manufacturing and Industrial Goods.
- Energy, Utilities, and Natural Resources.
- Consumer Goods and Retail.
- Professional Services and Consulting.
- Governmental agencies and public sector organizations.



TARGET ORGANIZATIONS DEPARTMENTS:

- Executive Leadership and C-Suite Offices.
- Strategy and Corporate Planning.
- Corporate Development and Mergers & Acquisitions.
- Business Transformation and Change Management.
- Innovation and Research & Development.
- Finance and Strategic Finance.
- Marketing and Market Intelligence.
- Operations and Business Unit Management.

COURSE OFFERINGS:

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

- Develop and articulate a compelling corporate vision and strategic plan.
- Master advanced analytical frameworks for market and competitive analysis.
- Lead complex business transformation and change management initiatives.
- Design and implement effective strategic execution and performance monitoring systems.
- Evaluate and execute strategic growth opportunities, including M&A and partnerships.
- Champion a culture of innovation and strategic agility across the organization.
- Enhance strategic decision-making capabilities under uncertainty.
- Effectively communicate and align stakeholders around strategic priorities.
- Integrate digital transformation and sustainability into core business strategy.
- Provide influential strategic counsel to the executive team and board of directors.



COURSE METHODOLOGY:

The training methodology at BIG BEN Training Center is designed for maximum engagement and practical application, recognizing that executive learning thrives on interaction and real-world problem-solving. This course eschews passive lectures in favor of a dynamic, workshop-style environment. Our approach is built on a foundation of expert-led facilitation, where seasoned instructors guide participants through complex strategic concepts. A significant portion of the program is dedicated to the analysis of contemporary and classic business case studies, allowing participants to dissect the strategic decisions of leading global companies. Interactive group discussions and peer-to-peer learning are central to the experience, providing a confidential forum for executives to share challenges and benchmark solutions. Participants will engage in hands-on strategy simulations and practical exercises that require them to apply frameworks to realistic business scenarios. Continuous feedback from both instructors and peers is integrated throughout the course, ensuring that learning is reinforced and personalized, empowering leaders to return to their organizations with actionable insights and refined strategic leadership skills.

COURSE AGENDA (COURSE UNITS):

UNIT ONE: THE EVOLVING MANDATE OF THE CHIEF STRATEGY OFFICER

- The modern CSO role beyond traditional planning.
- Core competencies for strategic leadership and influence.
- Developing a strategic mindset and systems thinking approach.
- The strategist's relationship with the CEO and the Board.
- Setting the strategic agenda and rhythm for the organization.
- Ethical considerations and governance in strategic decision-making.
- Understanding the psychology of strategic choice and cognitive biases.



UNIT TWO: ARCHITECTING CORPORATE AND BUSINESS-LEVEL STRATEGY

- Advanced environmental scanning and PESTLE analysis.
- Mastering competitive analysis using Porter's Five Forces and value chain analysis.
- Formulating a compelling vision, mission, and strategic intent.
- Developing robust business-level strategies for competitive advantage.
- Crafting a corporate-level strategy for portfolio management and synergy.
- Blue Ocean Strategy and creating uncontested market space.
- Data-driven strategy formulation and leveraging business intelligence.

UNIT THREE: DRIVING STRATEGIC EXECUTION AND ORGANIZATIONAL ALIGNMENT

- From strategy to execution, bridging the implementation gap.
- Utilizing frameworks like the Balanced Scorecard and OKRs.
- Leading large-scale business transformation and change management.
- Aligning organizational structure, culture, and processes with strategy.
- Resource allocation and strategic capital budgeting.
- Building a robust performance management system to track progress.
- Communicating the strategy effectively across all organizational levels.

UNIT FOUR: FOSTERING INNOVATION, GROWTH, AND FUTURE-READINESS

- Cultivating a culture of innovation and managed risk-taking.
- Managing the corporate innovation portfolio and growth horizons.
- Leading digital transformation as a strategic imperative.
- Strategy for mergers, acquisitions, and strategic alliances.
- Post-merger integration planning and execution for value creation.
- Mastering strategic foresight and advanced scenario planning techniques.
- Building organizational resilience and anti-fragility.



UNIT FIVE: ADVANCED STRATEGIC LEADERSHIP AND INFLUENCE

- The CSO as a coach, facilitator, and internal consultant.
- Mastering the art of stakeholder management and engagement.
- Influencing decision-making in the C-suite and boardroom.
- Crafting and delivering powerful strategic narratives.
- Negotiation and conflict resolution in high-stakes strategic contexts.
- Personal leadership development and building a strategic legacy.
- Final capstone project, integrating course concepts into a comprehensive strategic plan.

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 a Chief Strategy Officer effectively balance the pursuit of disruptive, long-term innovation with the relentless pressure for short-term financial performance and operational stability?



WHAT UNIQUE QUALITIES DOES THIS COURSE OFFER COMPARED TO OTHER COURSES?

This course distinguishes itself by focusing intensely on the dual roles of the CSO as both an architect of strategy and a driver of execution. While many programs concentrate on the theoretical aspects of strategic formulation, this training dedicates significant time to the practical challenges of implementation, change management, and organizational alignment. We move beyond standard frameworks to explore the nuanced leadership skills required to influence stakeholders, build consensus, and maintain momentum on complex, multi-year initiatives. The curriculum is uniquely forward-looking, integrating critical contemporary themes such as digital transformation, sustainable strategy, and strategic foresight directly into the core modules, rather than treating them as peripheral topics. Furthermore, the learning environment is curated for senior leaders, emphasizing peer-to-peer exchange and problem-solving based on real-world challenges faced by participants in their own organizations. The emphasis is not just on knowing what to do, but on developing the executive presence and influencing capabilities to actually get it done.