Strategic Program and Portfolio Management Training Course



26 - 30 Oct 2026

Milan

5900 € (Per Person)

Ref: #PMP5077_124006

Course Introduction / Overview:

This course provides a comprehensive framework for aligning organizational projects and programs with overarching strategic goals to drive corporate competitiveness. In today's dynamic business environment, the ability to select, manage, and execute the right initiatives is paramount for sustainable success. This training moves beyond traditional project management to explore the strategic dimensions of program and portfolio management, ensuring that investments in projects deliver measurable business value. We will delve into the principles outlined by leading thinkers like Dr. Harold Kerzner and the frameworks presented in publications such as the Project Management Institute's "The Standard for Portfolio Management". Participants will learn to establish robust governance structures, optimize resource allocation, manage portfolio risk, and master benefits realization management. The curriculum at BIG BEN Training Center is designed to equip leaders with the strategic execution framework needed to translate corporate strategy into tangible results, fostering a culture of value delivery and continuous improvement across the enterprise. This is an essential journey from strategic planning to successful implementation.

Target Audience / This training course is suitable for:

- Program Managers and Directors.
- Portfolio Managers.
- Project Management Office (PMO) Leaders and Staff.
- Heads of Strategy and Corporate Planning.
- Senior Project Managers and Team Leaders.
- Business Unit and Departmental Heads.
- Senior Executives and Decision-Makers.
- Business Analysts involved in strategic initiatives.
- Finance Managers responsible for project investment.

Target Sectors and Industries:

- Information Technology and Telecommunications.
- Banking, Finance, and Insurance Services.
- Healthcare and Pharmaceuticals.
- Engineering, Construction, and Infrastructure.
- Manufacturing and Industrial Operations.
- Energy, Oil, and Gas.
- Governmental bodies and Public Sector organizations.
- Consulting and Professional Services.
- Retail and Consumer Goods.

Target Organizations Departments:

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

Course Offerings:

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

- Develop a strategic execution framework to link projects directly to business objectives.
- Implement a comprehensive portfolio governance model for effective decision-making.
- Master portfolio prioritization and balancing techniques to maximize value and manage risk.
- Optimize resource capacity planning and allocation across the entire portfolio.
- Design and utilize performance metrics and dashboards for portfolio monitoring.
- Lead benefits realization management to ensure project outcomes deliver intended value.
- Enhance stakeholder engagement and communication for strategic initiatives.
- Integrate agile principles into portfolio management for increased adaptability.
- Conduct organizational project management maturity assessments for continuous improvement.

Course Methodology:

The training methodology at BIG BEN Training Center is designed to be highly interactive, experiential, and participant-centered. We believe that adult learning is most effective when theoretical concepts are immediately applied to practical, real-world scenarios. The course will utilize a blend of expert-led presentations, in-depth case study analyses of successful and failed portfolios, and collaborative group workshops. Participants will engage in hands-on exercises to practice portfolio balancing, resource optimization, and risk assessment. Interactive discussions and peer-to-peer learning are heavily encouraged to facilitate the sharing of diverse experiences and perspectives. Role-playing simulations will be used to practice stakeholder negotiations and governance board presentations. Throughout the course, continuous feedback will be provided by the instructor to guide learning and ensure a deep understanding of the strategic program and portfolio management concepts. This immersive approach ensures that participants leave not just with knowledge, but with the confidence and skills to implement these frameworks within their own organizations.

Course Agenda (Course Units):

Unit One: Foundations of Strategic Program and Portfolio Management

- The link between strategy, projects, programs, and portfolios.
- Defining corporate competitiveness and the role of strategic execution.
- Key concepts from the PMI Standard for Portfolio Management.
- Understanding the program and portfolio management lifecycles.
- Roles and responsibilities of the Portfolio Manager, Program Manager, and PMO.
- Introduction to organizational project management maturity models.
- Differentiating between project, program, and portfolio success.

Unit Two: Establishing Portfolio Governance and Structure

- Designing a robust portfolio governance framework.
- Establishing the role of the portfolio governance board.
- Developing the portfolio charter and strategic plan.
- Defining portfolio components and categories.
- Creating a centralized portfolio register or repository.
- Stakeholder identification, analysis, and engagement planning.
- Communication strategies for portfolio management.

Unit three: Portfolio Planning and Component Selection

- Developing criteria for project and program selection.
- Techniques for portfolio prioritization (e.g., scoring models, forced ranking).
- Portfolio balancing for risk, resource constraints, and strategic alignment.
- Conducting financial analysis and investment appraisal for initiatives.
- Developing the strategic portfolio roadmap.
- Resource capacity planning and demand management.
- Dependency analysis across portfolio components.

Unit Four: Portfolio Execution, Monitoring, and Control

- Authorizing and initiating portfolio components.
- Monitoring portfolio performance against strategic objectives.
- Developing and using Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) and dashboards.
- Portfolio risk identification, assessment, and response planning.
- Managing portfolio-level issues and change requests.
- The principles and process of benefits realization management.
- Reporting portfolio status to executives and stakeholders.

Unit Five: Advanced Concepts and Continuous Improvement

- Integrating Agile and Lean principles into portfolio management.
- The role of the Enterprise Project Management Office (EPMO).
- Managing strategic change and organizational transformation.
- Fostering a culture of value delivery and strategic alignment.
- Tools and software for portfolio management (PMIS).
- Conducting portfolio reviews and health checks.
- Developing a plan for advancing portfolio management maturity.

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 its portfolio between high-risk, high-reward innovation projects and low-risk, incremental improvement initiatives to ensure both short-term stability and long-term growth?

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

This course distinguishes itself by adopting a holistic, strategy-first perspective, moving beyond the mere mechanics of managing projects to embedding portfolio management as a core driver of corporate competitiveness. Unlike programs that focus narrowly on tools or certification prep, our curriculum emphasizes the development of a strategic execution framework, ensuring that every decision and investment is directly traceable to business objectives. A significant focus is placed on benefits realization management, a critical and often-overlooked discipline that guarantees the value promised by projects is actually delivered and measured. We integrate contemporary concepts like agile portfolio management, providing participants with the skills to foster adaptability and responsiveness in a volatile market. The learning is deeply practical, centered on complex case studies and simulations that mirror real-world challenges, rather than abstract theory. Participants will not just learn what to do; they will understand why they are doing it and how to lead the strategic change required for successful implementation.