Lean Project Management and Process Improvement Training Course

23 - 27 Nov 2026

Cape town

4600 € (Per Person)

Ref: #PRM1547_280511

Course Introduction / Overview:

In today's competitive landscape, organizations are under constant pressure to deliver projects faster, with higher quality, and at a lower cost. This intensive training course provides a comprehensive framework for integrating Lean principles into project management to achieve operational excellence. It moves beyond theory to offer practical strategies for identifying and eliminating waste, optimizing workflows, and fostering a culture of continuous improvement. Drawing upon the foundational concepts articulated by pioneers like James P. Womack in his seminal work, "Lean Thinking", this program demystifies concepts such as Value Stream Mapping, Kaizen, and the 5S methodology. Participants will learn how to apply these powerful tools to streamline processes, reduce project lead times, and enhance customer value. BIG BEN Training Center has designed this course to bridge the critical gap between traditional project management and the dynamic efficiency of Lean thinking, equipping professionals with the skills to lead transformative change and drive sustainable results within their organizations. This journey is about fundamentally changing the way you see and manage work, ensuring every action and every process adds tangible value to the final outcome.

Target Audience / This training course is suitable for:

- Project Managers and Project Leaders.
- Program Managers and Portfolio Managers.
- Operations Managers and Supervisors.
- Process Improvement Specialists and Consultants.
- Quality Assurance and Control Professionals.
- Team Leaders and Department Heads.
- Business Analysts and System Analysts.
- Anyone involved in project execution and process optimization.

Target Sectors and Industries:

- Manufacturing and Engineering.
- Information Technology and Software Development.
- Healthcare and Pharmaceutical.
- Banking, Finance, and Insurance.
- Logistics, Supply Chain, and Distribution.
- Construction and Real Estate.
- Telecommunications and Utilities.
- Governmental agencies and public sector organizations.

Target Organizations Departments:

- Project Management Office (PMO).
- Operations and Production.
- Quality Assurance and Control.
- Information Technology (IT).
- Product Development and Engineering.
- Logistics and Supply Chain Management.
- Human Resources and Training.
- Customer Service and Support.

Course Offerings:

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

- Apply the core principles of Lean thinking to any project environment.
- Identify and systematically eliminate the eight wastes in business processes.
- Utilize Value Stream Mapping to analyze and improve workflow.
- Lead and facilitate Kaizen events for rapid, continuous improvement.
- Implement the 5S methodology to create an organized and efficient workplace.
- Integrate Lean concepts with Agile and Scrum frameworks for enhanced project delivery.
- Develop meaningful KPIs to measure process performance and project success.
- Champion a culture of continuous improvement within their teams and organization.

Course Methodology:

This training course emphasizes a highly interactive and experiential learning approach to ensure that theoretical concepts are translated into practical skills. The methodology at BIG BEN Training Center is built around a blend of expert-led instruction, real-world case study analysis, and collaborative group workshops. Participants will engage in hands-on simulations, such as creating Value Stream Maps for sample processes and planning a Kaizen event. Team-based exercises will challenge attendees to apply problem-solving techniques like the 5 Whys and A3 reporting to diagnose and resolve complex operational issues. The learning environment is designed to be dynamic, encouraging active participation, peer-to-peer feedback, and open discussion. Our expert instructors act as facilitators, guiding participants through practical applications and ensuring they can confidently apply Lean project management tools and strategies in their own professional contexts immediately upon completion of the course. The focus is not just on learning the tools, but on understanding the mindset required for a successful Lean transformation.

Course Agenda (Course Units):

Unit One: Foundations of Lean Project Management

- Introduction to Lean Thinking and its Core Principles.
- Defining Value from the Customer's Perspective.
- Identifying the Eight Wastes (Muda, Mura, Muri) in Projects.
- The Intersection of Lean, Six Sigma, and Traditional Project Management.
- Overview of the DMAIC (Define, Measure, Analyze, Improve, Control) Framework.
- The Role of a Lean Project Manager.
- Setting the Stage for a Lean Transformation.

Unit Two: Value Stream Mapping and Process Analysis

- Introduction to Value Stream Mapping (VSM) as a Diagnostic Tool.
- How to Create a Current State Value Stream Map.
- Identifying Bottlenecks, Delays, and Non-Value-Added Activities.
- Designing a Future State Value Stream Map.
- Calculating Process Cycle Efficiency and Lead Time.
- The 5S System for Workplace Organization and Efficiency.
- Introduction to Visual Management and Kanban Boards.

Unit Three: Driving Continuous Improvement with Kaizen

- Understanding the Philosophy and Spirit of Kaizen.
- Planning, Executing, and Following Up on Kaizen Events.
- The PDCA Cycle (Plan-Do-Check-Act) for Structured Improvement.
- A3 Thinking for Systematic Problem-Solving and Reporting.
- Advanced Root Cause Analysis Techniques (Fishbone Diagrams, 5 Whys).
- Conducting Effective Gemba (Go and See) Walks.
- Developing Standardized Work to Maintain Process Stability.

Unit Four: Integrating Lean with Agile Methodologies

- Exploring the Synergies Between Lean and Agile Principles.
- Applying Kanban for Continuous Flow and Delivery in Projects.
- The Importance of Limiting Work in Progress (WIP).
- Managing Workflow for Predictable Project Outcomes.
- The Role of Scrum within a Lean Framework.
- Adapting Lean Tools for Software Development and IT Projects.
- Metrics for Lean-Agile Teams (Cycle Time, Throughput).

Unit Five: Lean Leadership and Sustaining Change

- The Principles of Lean Leadership and Respect for People.
- Leading and Managing a Lean Transformation Initiative.
- Developing Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) for Lean Projects.
- Building and Sustaining a Culture of Continuous Improvement.
- Overcoming Resistance to Change in an Organization.
- A Framework for Scaling Lean Practices Across the Enterprise.
- Final Project Simulation and Personal Action Planning.

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 might the rigid application of Lean principles stifle the very innovation and employee empowerment it aims to foster in complex, creative project environments?

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

This course distinguishes itself by providing a holistic and integrated perspective that connects Lean principles not only to process improvement but directly to the frameworks of project management and Agile methodologies. Unlike programs that teach Lean tools in isolation, this curriculum emphasizes the strategic synergy between eliminating waste and delivering projects on time and within budget. It focuses heavily on the cultural and leadership aspects of a Lean transformation, recognizing that sustainable change is driven by people, not just processes. Participants will engage in sophisticated simulations that mirror real-world project challenges, forcing them to move beyond theoretical knowledge to practical application and critical thinking. The content is structured to build a deep, conceptual understanding, ensuring that attendees learn not just the "how" of tools like Value Stream Mapping, but the "why" behind their application. This approach cultivates true Lean thinkers and leaders capable of adapting principles to their unique organizational context, rather than simply creating technicians who can only follow a prescribed set of steps.