Sustainable Supply Chain and Logistics Optimization Training Course



23 - 27 Nov 2026

Cape town

4600 € (Per Person)

Ref: #SUS6529_284483

Course Introduction / Overview:

This comprehensive training course provides a deep dive into the critical principles and practices of sustainable supply chain management and green logistics. In today's global market, integrating sustainability is no longer a choice but a strategic imperative for resilience, efficiency, and corporate responsibility. This program is designed to equip professionals with the knowledge to transform traditional supply chains into models of environmental stewardship and economic viability. As highlighted by the renowned academic Dr. Alan McKinnon in his seminal work, "Green Logistics: Improving the Environmental Sustainability of Logistics," the focus is on creating systems that minimize ecological impact while maximizing operational performance. Participants will explore the entire lifecycle, from ethical sourcing and sustainable procurement to green transportation, warehousing, and reverse logistics. BIG BEN Training Center has developed this curriculum to bridge the gap between theoretical concepts like the circular economy and their practical application in real-world business scenarios, ensuring that attendees can lead sustainability initiatives, manage risks, and drive competitive advantage through optimized, responsible supply chain operations.

Target Audience / This training course is suitable for:

- Supply Chain Managers and Directors.
- Logistics and Distribution Managers.
- Procurement and Sourcing Professionals.
- Operations Managers.
- Sustainability and Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) Officers.
- Warehouse and Inventory Managers.
- Compliance and Risk Management Specialists.
- Product Development and Quality Assurance Teams.
- Finance and Investment Analysts focusing on ESG criteria.
- Consultants in supply chain and sustainability fields.

Target Sectors and Industries:

- Manufacturing and Industrial Production.
- Retail and Consumer Packaged Goods (CPG).
- Logistics and Transportation Services.
- Pharmaceuticals and Healthcare.
- Food and Beverage Industry.
- Automotive and Aerospace.
- Technology and Electronics.
- Energy and Utilities.
- Governmental agencies and public sector organizations.
- Construction and Real Estate.

Target Organizations Departments:

- Supply Chain Management.
- Logistics and Distribution.
- Procurement and Purchasing.
- Operations Management.
- Sustainability and Corporate Responsibility.
- Environmental, Health, and Safety (EHS).
- Finance and Accounting.
- Strategic Planning and Business Development.
- Quality Assurance and Control.
- Legal and Regulatory Compliance.

Course Offerings:

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

- Develop a comprehensive sustainable supply chain strategy aligned with corporate goals.
- Implement ethical sourcing and sustainable procurement policies.
- Analyze and reduce the carbon footprint of logistics and transportation operations.
- Integrate circular economy principles into supply chain design and processes.
- Master techniques for sustainable warehousing and inventory management.
- Utilize key performance indicators (KPIs) to measure and report on sustainability performance.
- Identify and mitigate environmental and social risks within the supply chain.
- Apply green logistics best practices to optimize last-mile delivery.
- Leverage technology for enhanced transparency and traceability in sustainable supply chains.
- Champion sustainability initiatives and drive a culture of continuous improvement.

Course Methodology:

The training methodology at BIG BEN Training Center is designed to be immersive, interactive, and highly practical. This course moves beyond traditional lectures to foster a dynamic learning environment where participants actively engage with the material. The program is built on a foundation of expert-led instruction, real-world case studies of leading sustainable companies, and collaborative group discussions that encourage peer-to-peer learning and knowledge sharing. Participants will work on practical exercises and simulation activities that challenge them to apply concepts like Life Cycle Assessment (LCA) and green network design to solve complex problems. Interactive workshops will focus on developing tangible skills, such as creating a sustainability scorecard or mapping a circular supply chain. Continuous feedback from the instructor and peers is a core component, ensuring that participants can refine their understanding and confidently apply their new skills back in their professional roles. The approach emphasizes critical thinking and strategic implementation, preparing attendees to become effective leaders in sustainable supply chain management.

Course Agenda (Course Units):

Unit One Foundations of Sustainable Supply Chain Management

- Introduction to sustainability and the Triple Bottom Line (People, Planet, Profit).
- The evolution from traditional to sustainable supply chains.
- Key concepts: ESG, Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR), and the circular economy.
- Global sustainability standards and regulatory frameworks (e.g., ISO 14001).
- The business case for sustainability: cost reduction, brand reputation, and risk mitigation.
- Stakeholder analysis and engagement in the supply chain.
- Mapping your current supply chain's environmental and social impact.

Unit Two Sustainable Procurement and Ethical Sourcing

- Principles of sustainable procurement and its strategic importance.
- Developing a sustainable sourcing policy and supplier code of conduct.
- Supplier evaluation, selection, and auditing for sustainability criteria.
- Managing supplier relationships to foster collaboration and improvement.
- Techniques for ensuring transparency and traceability in sourcing.
- Addressing key issues: fair labor practices, human rights, and conflict minerals.
- The role of certifications (e.g., Fair Trade, FSC) in ethical sourcing.

Unit Three Green Logistics and Transportation Optimization

- Analyzing the environmental impact of logistics activities.
- Strategies for reducing carbon emissions in freight transportation.
- Optimizing transportation routes and modes for sustainability.
- Principles of sustainable warehousing and green building design.
- Eco-friendly packaging solutions and waste reduction strategies.
- Implementing efficient reverse logistics and product take-back programs.
- Innovations in last-mile delivery for urban environments.

Unit Four Measurement, Analytics, and Technology in Sustainable Supply Chains

- Developing Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) for supply chain sustainability.
- Conducting a Life Cycle Assessment (LCA) for products and services.
- Carbon footprint accounting and reporting methodologies.
- The role of technology: IoT, AI, and Big Data for sustainability monitoring.
- Blockchain for enhancing transparency and traceability.
- Using predictive analytics to optimize resource use and reduce waste.
- Creating effective sustainability reports for internal and external stakeholders.

Unit Five Strategy, Risk Management, and Future Trends

- Integrating sustainability into the core business and supply chain strategy.
- Conducting a sustainability-focused risk assessment (climate, social, regulatory).
- Building a resilient and adaptive sustainable supply chain.
- Change management for implementing sustainability initiatives.
- Collaborating with industry partners and NGOs for greater impact.
- Future trends: circular supply chains, renewable energy integration, and digitalization.
- Developing a personal action plan for driving sustainability in your organization.

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:

Reflection Question: Beyond cost savings and compliance, what is the most profound ethical responsibility a company holds in creating a sustainable supply chain, and how can that be measured effectively?

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

This course distinguishes itself by offering a holistic and strategic perspective that transcends basic compliance and operational tactics. While many programs focus narrowly on green logistics or ethical procurement, this curriculum integrates these elements into a comprehensive framework for strategic business advantage. It uniquely emphasizes the critical link between sustainability, risk management, and supply chain resilience, preparing participants not just to react to regulations but to proactively build robust, future-proof operations. The content moves beyond theory by incorporating advanced analytical tools and metrics, such as Life Cycle Assessment (LCA) and sustainability KPIs, providing a quantitative basis for decision-making. Furthermore, the course delves into the application of emerging technologies like blockchain and AI, offering a forward-looking view on how digitalization can drive transparency and efficiency in sustainable practices. The focus is on cultivating strategic leaders who can champion change, articulate the business case for sustainability to senior management, and embed a culture of environmental and social responsibility throughout the entire value chain.