ITC
International Training Centre

PROJECT DESIGN CERTIFICATION PROGRAMME

Overview

This tutor-based online certification programme provides a practical approach to project design, helping professionals reach their long-term goals. It brings together experts in project management and resource mobilization as well as creative thinkers, in a collaborative and instructive online space.

Are you ready to become a certified project design professional?

FOOTER

Why a project design certification programme?

Organizations require their staff to develop and implement projects in their respective areas of specialization. These professionals are often highly specialized in their technical area, but lack the competencies needed to design well-structured and complete projects.

This certification programme contributes to closing this skills gap and enhancing the candidates' personal skills and this way strengthening their capacity to design successful projects and to mobilize resources.

After all, a well-written project document

- is the first step in ensuring project success, and
- is the best entry point for fundraising and partnership building.

What will I be able to do?

- Identify project opportunities for an organization
- Use a set of tools and techniques to identify, design, plan, and budget projects
- Develop a project document and mobilize resources
- Identify potential partnerships for development cooperation

What certification will I get as a successful candidate?

- You will obtain a certificate of achievement once you have completed successfully the programme requirements.
- This certificate will demonstrate that you possess the right knowledge, skills and attitudes to design development projects.
- At the end of the programme, you will have designed and completed a project document as part of the certification programme - a great addition to your CV!

Why should I join?

This course is delivered through distance learning and deployed on the ITCILO e-campus. It frees you from the classroom and gives you the flexibility to complete the learning modules at your own pace and to fit the weekly assignments and the project within your own schedule.

- Project design skills are essential to professionals working in development.
- Employers that sponsor participants obtain project documents ready for use.
- Participants receive a professional certification attesting their capacity to design projects.
- The programme was developed and is implemented by project management experts and practitioners.
- Participatory activities include self-guided modules, an online forum, practical assignments, coaching and tutoring.
- Participants get permanent access to the project design toolkit.

Who takes this course?

- Development cooperation professionals
- Technical specialists active in the development sector
- Resource mobilization officers
- Project managers and assistants
- Programming and planning officials

What are the programme objectives?

At the end of the programme, you will:

- Have demonstrated that you can apply project identification, design and planning processes and use management tools and techniques to design effectively projects.
- Have understood the social complexity of development project and acknowledged the importance of stakeholders' participation in project design.
- Have produced a complete project document using recognized international norms under guided supervision.

What does the programme contain?

The programme is divided into 10 modules which require 7 - 10 hours of effort from candidates per week. On a weekly basis, learning modules are deployed.

1. Introduction to Project Cycle Management (PCM) and to the project documents
2. Situation analysis: stakeholder and target group analysis
3. Situation analysis: problem analysis
4. Strategic planning and assessment of alternatives
5. The logical framework, the results chain and the theory of change
6. Assumptions and risk management
7. Monitoring and evaluation
8. Operational planning and budgeting
9. Institutional arrangements and implementation modalities
10. Introduction to Project Funding Mechanisms and Modalities
    Optional module on Soft Skills

Introduction

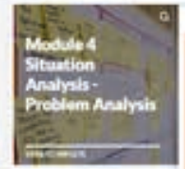
Yuliya's Learning Journey

Yuliya's receives a disappointing email, her employment contract is ending. She then starts a quest to identify and design a project. On her path, she finds colleagues, Thierry and Zakaria, who promise her their support, but who don't share the same ethics. When potential local partners start to lose interest in a project and in Yuliya everything on that was simple on paper becomes more complicated...

Yuliya starts to wonder ... why and how should one implement a project? How can one design a big project in the future? And what is a project actually ? Thierry expounds his philosophy about the latter question.

During this course, you will travel along with Yuliya and her
together you will acquire a detailed understanding of what a
it is characterized by and what the project cycle management

Most likely, you already possess quite some intrinsic knowledge on what a project is. Click on the hotspots below, starting with START and following the numbers until you end at FINISH, to learn from Professor Thierry just how much you are already familiar with projects.



Knowledge check

Did you understand the content of this chapter? Check your knowledge with the quiz below.

Which tools and techniques are used to break down complex problems into cause- and- effect?

What is a stakeholder analysis?

"This chapter will provide you with tools and techniques to get an in -depth overview of your stakeholders in terms of their strengths, weaknesses, motivations, constraints, expectations and perceptions."

Zakaria is in a complex social system

Zakaria's project stakeholders quickly rejected his project proposal. Before that video -call, he was confident that his local partners would have approved the project document. The hard reality, however, has taught him something different. He promised Yuliya a job on this project which is now unlikely to materialize. He is looking out for her and, above all, for her help...

You cannot put Monitoring and Evaluation approaches into a box!

"As the panel demonstrates, it seems there is no box to clearly fit monitoring and evaluation in. Panelists disagree on definition, types of evaluation questions and on monitoring and evaluation approaches.

Why so? Because in the monitoring and evaluation world, managers, evaluators, monitoring and evaluation specialists, among others, are unconsciously biased by their perception of the word.

Each of us perceives the complexity of programmes and projects from a different paradigm... "

Professor Thierry

aradigms

epts, approaches and techniques in the field ones from the co -existence of three main

What approach and methodology is used to deliver the online

MODULE 1

1. For each module, participants must first acquire knowledge of the subject matter through an interactive self-guided learning module that mixes readings, questions, quizzes, films, lectures and tools.

KNOWLEDGE
Self-guided learning module ap.
4 hours per week

2. When participants feel comfortable with the knowledge they have acquired, they are required to take a knowledge test to ensure that they have grasped all the central elements of the learning module deployed.

SKILLS
Practical supervised assignment
1-3 hour per week

3. Once participants have acquired the knowledge, successfully passed the knowledge test, they can put it into practice. This next step is where the participants practice their new skills concretely by building a component of their own project under the supervision of a coach.

course?

4. Through each module, the candidates are also led to reflect on the human, ethical and moral aspects, in other words the attitudes to adopt, in order to design projects that will be firmly anchored in the institutions and that will succeed.

ATTITUDES
Reflectionsand discussions
1 hour per week

NEXT MODULE

Assessing the certification programme candidates

- Each week, participants build a component of their project document, these single pieces are assessed and graded all along the implementation of the programme.
- Nevertheless, to assess the coherence and relevance of the project proposal built piece-by-piece throughout the modules, participants are ultimately required to assemble all elements to complete and write an entire project document in its light version.
- It is through the project document that programme assessors can ultimately perform the certification of project designers.

Who is behind the programme?

The content experts behind this course are ITCILO staff, project management consultants/experts and e-learning firms who collaborate with the ITCILO.

What are the technical requirements needed?

For a successful interactive learning experience, you need a computer or telephone with a good Internet connection and speakers. This course often makes use of multimedia material, some of which may take a little longer to display if your connection is not good. We offer three ways of accessing our courses, the classic one using a PC and browser (we recommend Chrome/ Firefox/Safari), or via mobile phone using the browser (we recommend Chrome/Safari) or via our eCampus ITCILO App.

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