UNIX Trainers & Consultants
Head Office: Wema Twins Annex, Plot No. 181,
Boko-Bagamoyo Road, P.O. Box 33826, Dar es salaam.
Mob: +255-715-361-880/+255-754-361-880
Email: info@unixtrainers.com; training@unixtrainers.com
Website: www.unixtrainers.com

Effective Project Delivery in the Public Sector through Integrated Planning, Scheduling and Implementation

Course Overview

The **"Integrated Project Excellence Masterclass"** is a 5-day intensive program tailored for the African public sector. In many African jurisdictions, projects fail not due to a lack of technical engineering skill, but due to poor synchronization between planning, funding, and implementation. This course provides a unified framework for managing complex public works and service delivery initiatives. It emphasizes the use of the **Logical Framework Approach**, **Critical Path Method (CPM)**, and **Integrated Monitoring** to ensure projects are delivered on time, within budget, and with the intended social impact.

Program Objectives

By the end of this program, participants will be able to:

- **Synchronize** project lifecycles with national fiscal calendars and procurement laws.
- **Develop** comprehensive Project Implementation Plans (PIPs) using integrated scheduling tools.
- **Apply** the Critical Path Method (CPM) to identify and manage bottlenecks before they cause delays.
- **Manage** multi-stakeholder ecosystems, including donor agencies, private contractors, and local communities.
- **Utilize** Digital Project Management Information Systems (PMIS) for real-time tracking and transparent reporting.

Course Coverage (Modules)

Day 1: The Integrated Planning Framework

- **The Project-Budget Link:** Ensuring project plans are realistic relative to the Medium-Term Expenditure Framework (MTEF).
- **The Logical Framework Approach (LogFrame):** Defining clear hierarchies of goals, outcomes, and inputs.

- **Stakeholder Mapping:** Identifying and managing the "Political-Administrative Interface" in African infrastructure projects.

Day 2: Advanced Scheduling and Resource Allocation

- **Work Breakdown Structure (WBS):** Breaking complex public works into manageable work packages.
- **Scheduling Techniques:** Mastering Gantt Charts and the Critical Path Method (CPM) to manage time-critical dependencies.
- **Resource Leveling:** Balancing labor, equipment, and cash flow to prevent project "stuttering."

Day 3: Integrated Implementation & Procurement

- **Procurement-Led Scheduling:** Integrating the "Lead Time" for international bidding into the project master schedule.
- **Contract Management for Delivery:** Using FIDIC and other standard forms of contract to manage risk and performance.
- **Quality Assurance (QA) in the Public Sector:** Ensuring materials and execution meet national and international standards.

Day 4: Monitoring, Evaluation, and Risk

- **Earned Value Management (EVM):** Using a single metric to track both cost and schedule performance.
- **Risk Mitigation:** Managing currency fluctuations, weather patterns, and political transitions.
- **Field-to-Office Reporting:** Utilizing mobile-based monitoring tools for real-time site updates.

Day 5: Governance and Project Closure

- **The Project Steering Committee:** Defining roles for effective oversight and quick decision-making.
- **Handover and Sustainability:** Ensuring the "Operational Phase" is funded and staffed post-construction.
- **Action Planning:** Developing an "Integrated Delivery Roadmap" for a live project in the participant’s department.

Target Participants

- **Project Managers and Coordinators** in Sector Ministries (Energy, Water, Transport, Health).
- **Directors of Planning and Policy** responsible for national portfolios.

- **Senior Engineers and Architects** in Public Works.
- **Procurement and Finance Officers** involved in large-scale capital projects.
- **Regional and Local Government Engineers.**

Expected Outputs

Participants will graduate with an **"Integrated Delivery Toolkit"** containing:

- **An Integrated Project Schedule:** A draft Gantt chart for a high-priority project, including procurement and funding milestones.
- **A Project Risk Register:** A customized identification of the top 10 risks facing public projects in their specific country.
- **A Communication & Reporting Protocol:** A template for monthly "Executive Dashboards" to keep leadership informed.
- **A 100-Day Acceleration Plan:** A step-by-step guide to unblocking a current delayed project in their institution

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