BLACKBIRD FOR TRAINING

Managing Strategic Alliances and Partnerships

13 – 17 December 2026
Dubai (UAE)



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Introduction

In today's fast-paced business environment, strategic alliances and partnerships play a critical role in achieving competitive advantage. However, successful collaborations require a clear strategic vision, a balanced relationship, and the ability to broker mutually beneficial partnerships. This course is designed to equip managers and executives with the essential skills and knowledge to manage strategic alliances and partnerships effectively. Participants will learn how to optimize their organization's interests, facilitate collaborative decision-making, and implement best practices in alliance management to drive future growth.

Course Objectives

By the end of this course, participants will:

- Gain a comprehensive understanding of how to gain a competitive advantage through business networks, strategic alliances, and partnerships.
- Develop frameworks for building collaborative advantage and managing diverse partnerships.
- Learn the essential techniques for designing and implementing successful business partnerships.
- Enhance their management skills with advanced collaborative techniques and strategies.
- Build cultural awareness to overcome barriers to collaboration in global or cross-border partnerships.
- Master the skills needed for effective risk management in strategic alliances.

Course Outlines

Day 1: Initiating Alliances and Partnerships

- Introduction to the strategic alliance life cycle and the process of forming successful partnerships.
- Motives for collaboration and aligning business goals with partner objectives.
- Selecting partners and forming business relationships: How to measure compatibility and partner fit.
- Overview of joint ventures, supplier networks, strategic alliances, and public-private partnerships.



Day 2: Structuring Collaborative Work

- Types of strategic alliances and partnerships in strategic management.
- Cross-border management structures and creating cross-border virtual teams.
- Motivating and facilitating collaboration: How to broker partnerships and overcome differences.
- Collaborative strategies for executing and optimizing the partnership.

Day 3: Managing Shared Resources and Value Co-Creation

- Distinguishing between bilateral and multi-lateral collaborations.
- Managing complex relationships and optimizing shared resources for value co-creation.
- Exploring upstream and downstream value co-creation in partnerships.
- Negotiating and managing contingencies: Contracts, renewals, trust-building, and managing lock-in effects.
- Communication strategies for effective partner interfaces.

Day 4: Designing Open Innovation Platforms

- Coordination and control in collaborative settings: Best practices in managing shared platforms.
- Facilitating networking within public-private partnerships and multi-stakeholder engagement.
- Open access and open innovation: Procedures for shared access to resources.
- Governance and regulation of platforms and shared resources in partnerships.
- Maximizing learning and developing absorptive capacity in collaborative settings.

Day 5: Performance Evaluation and Learning from Strategic Alliance Partners

- Assessing the advantages and disadvantages of partnerships and strategic alliances.
- Overcoming barriers to collaboration and techniques for conflict resolution.
- Managing continuous improvement in strategic partnerships: Balancing coordination costs and benefits.
- Building high-performance strategic partnerships through sustained engagement.
- Exploring strategic alliance success and failure stories.
- Alliance termination, exit clauses, and buy-out formulae.



Why Attend This Course: Wins & Losses!

- Enhance your alliance management skills and learn how to manage alliances strategically in dynamic business environments.
- Acquire the knowledge necessary to structure and manage diverse types of strategic alliances and partnerships.
- Master advanced partnership management strategies to optimize outcomes for both sides.
- Gain critical skills to navigate cultural differences and foster collaboration across borders, which is vital for international partnerships.
- Learn from real-world case studies of successful and failed alliances to avoid common pitfalls and maximize the effectiveness of future partnerships.
- Equip yourself with the tools to manage risks in strategic alliances and ensure long-term sustainability.

Conclusion

Strategic alliances and partnerships are at the heart of modern business success. Whether you're managing global partnerships, cross-border alliances, or innovative collaborations, this course will provide you with the necessary tools, strategies, and insights to excel in managing partnerships.

By applying advanced alliance management skills, you'll be equipped to foster sustainable collaborations that drive competitive advantage and future growth.

