

Strategic Executive Leadership in Government

14 – 18 December 2026
Kigali (Rwanda)

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Introduction

In today's fast-paced and complex world, governments of all types face increasing pressures and challenges. The number and complexity of issues are growing, while the budgets and resources available to manage these issues remain limited. At the same time, citizens' expectations are rising, and they have more access to information and tools, such as social media, to voice their concerns.

Strategic leadership in government is the ability to make long-term decisions based on an understanding of current conditions and future contexts. It involves developing and implementing effective policies, managing change, addressing crises, and engaging with a broad range of stakeholders. This course on Strategic Leadership in Government is designed to provide the strategies and tools necessary to enhance the leadership performance of government officials, enabling them to take a strategic approach to manage the challenges facing modern governments.

Course Objectives

This course will equip participants with the skills and tools to apply strategic leadership effectively in the public sector. By the end of the course, participants will be able to:

- Understand recent global trends and developments in government leadership and types of government leadership.
- Ensure that high ethical standards are maintained in leadership decisions.
- Learn how to develop an effective organizational culture within the government.
- Develop strategies for creating and implementing high-quality policies.
- Learn how to manage change effectively in public institutions.
- Gain skills in crisis management and how to respond to emergencies.
- Understand the importance of stakeholder engagement and how to communicate with the public and other parties.

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A graphic illustration of a chessboard with several chess pieces. A large gold king piece is prominent in the foreground, with a silver pawn and a silver knight behind it. The board is checkered, and there are concentric circles in the background.

Course Outlines

Day 1: Introduction to Strategic Government Leadership

- What is Strategic Leadership? Define strategic leadership and understand how to apply it in government settings.
- Ethics, Values, and Standards: Study the role of ethical leadership in promoting good governance and upholding public trust.
- Human Rights and Transparency: How strategic leadership can uphold human rights and ensure transparency in governance.
- Global Trends and Developments: Explore global trends affecting executive leadership in government today.
- Challenges Facing Government Departments Today: Discuss the key challenges in government leadership and how strategic leadership can help address them.

Day 2: Organizational Culture and Performance

- What is Organizational Culture? Understand the concept of organizational culture and its importance in public sector leadership.
- Shaping and Maintaining an Effective Organizational Culture: Learn how to create and sustain a culture that fosters high performance and ethical behavior.
- Effective Team Performance: The role of leadership in building high-performing teams in the public sector.
- Performance Management: Learn effective strategies for performance management in government settings, including feedback and appraisal techniques.

Day 3: Policy Development and Implementation

- Setting Policy Priorities: Learn how to prioritize policies strategically and develop an agenda that aligns with government goals.
- Policy Development: Understand the steps in the policy development process, from ideation to execution.
- Effective Consultation: Learn how to engage stakeholders and conduct effective consultations in the policy development process.
- Impact Assessment: Use strategic tools to assess the potential impacts of policies and ensure they deliver intended results.
- Delivering Policy: Explore how to implement and communicate policy effectively to ensure successful outcomes.

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A graphic of a chessboard with several chess pieces. A gold king piece is prominent in the foreground, with a silver pawn and a gold pawn behind it. The board is checkered, and there are concentric circles in the background.

Day 4: Crisis Management

- Planning for a Crisis: Develop strategies for crisis management and prepare for unforeseen events that require immediate action.
- Roles and Responsibilities: Define the roles of leadership in times of crisis and the importance of coordination and communication.
- First Response and Crisis Management: Learn how to handle the first response to a crisis and manage it effectively through clear leadership.
- Crisis Communication: Understand the principles of effective communication during crises and how to maintain public confidence.
- Managing the Aftermath: Learn how to manage post-crisis recovery and prevent future crises by learning from the experience.

Day 5: Stakeholder Engagement

- Who is a Stakeholder? Understand the concept of stakeholder mapping and identify the key stakeholders in government operations.
- Stakeholder Mapping: Learn how to create a stakeholder map to effectively engage with citizens, NGOs, journalists, and other stakeholders.
- Engagement Strategies: Learn how to develop and implement strategies for engaging stakeholders and gathering feedback.
- Public Consultation and Grievance Mechanisms: Understand how to handle public consultations and manage grievances to ensure transparency and accountability.

Why Attend This Course: Wins & Losses!

Attending the Strategic Leadership in Government course is essential for anyone involved in public sector leadership or aspiring to develop their leadership capabilities in government roles. Whether you are a government official, public sector manager, or an aspiring leader, this course offers:

- A comprehensive understanding of strategic leadership and how to apply it in government leadership roles.
- Practical tools and techniques for addressing the challenges of public sector leadership and executive leadership in government.
- Knowledge of how to implement good governance practices, manage change, and develop effective policy in government settings.
- Insights into how to manage crisis situations and engage effectively with stakeholders across government projects.
- A deeper understanding of types of government leadership and how to apply them in different organizational contexts.

A graphic of a chessboard with several chess pieces (a king, a queen, and a pawn) on it, set against a background of concentric circles.

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Conclusion

Mastering strategic leadership in government is a must for government professionals who wish to lead effectively and sustainably in today's complex political and social landscape. Whether managing a small department or a large government initiative, this course provides the tools necessary for success. By the end of the course, you will have a thorough understanding of leadership in the public sector, the importance of ethical governance, and how to drive change and innovation through strategic leadership.

By attending this course, you will be prepared to navigate the complexities of government leadership and implement solutions that benefit citizens, improve public sector performance, and ensure accountability at all levels of government.

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