

Renewable Energy Economics: Financial Modeling & Analysis

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Cape Town (South Africa)

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Introduction

Renewable energy projects require rigorous economic analysis and robust financial modeling to ensure long-term viability and attractive investment performance. As global markets accelerate toward clean energy transition, professionals must understand not only renewable technologies and policy frameworks, but also project finance structures, risk assessment methodologies, valuation techniques, and capital optimization strategies.

This intensive 5-day program delivers a comprehensive and practical understanding of financial modeling for renewable energy projects, combining core theoretical foundations with hands-on modeling exercises built around real-world case studies. Participants will learn how to evaluate project feasibility, structure debt financing and tax equity, assess risk exposure, perform sensitivity and scenario analysis, and support strategic investment decision-making with confidence.

Course Objectives

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

- Build comprehensive financial models for renewable energy projects from the ground up.
- Analyze key economic drivers, policy frameworks, and market dynamics affecting renewable energy investments.
- Structure project finance models, including debt financing, tax equity, and capital expenditure planning.
- Apply advanced valuation methodologies such as NPV, IRR, and MOIC.
- Conduct detailed risk assessment, including sensitivity analysis, scenario modeling, and Monte Carlo simulation.
- Calculate and interpret Levelized Cost of Energy LCOE and Weighted Average Cost of Capital WACC.
- Develop professional-quality cash flow waterfalls, financial ratios, and performance indicators.
- Present financial model outputs effectively to stakeholders and investment committees.

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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 other pieces like a silver pawn and a gold pawn visible. The board is checkered, and there are concentric circles in the background.

Course Outlines

Day 1: Fundamentals of Renewable Energy Economics

- Overview of renewable energy technologies: solar, wind, storage, offshore wind, and green hydrogen.
- Renewable energy markets and regulatory policy frameworks.
- Key economic drivers and investment fundamentals.
- Introduction to project finance and investment analysis structures.
- Levelized Cost of Energy LCOE calculations and cost competitiveness analysis.

Day 2: Financial Modeling Basics for Renewable Energy

- Excel modeling best practices and financial modeling standards.
- Designing the model framework and structuring assumptions.
- Revenue forecasting methodologies and operating expense modeling.
- Capital expenditures CapEx and depreciation modeling techniques.
- Building integrated project cash flow structures.

Day 3: Advanced Financial Modeling Techniques

- Debt financing structures and sculpting mechanisms.
- Tax equity structures and flip mechanics in renewable energy finance.
- Cash flow waterfalls and distribution modeling.
- Key performance indicators KPIs and financial ratio analysis.
- Optimization of financing structures to maximize investor returns.

Day 4: Risk Analysis and Project Valuation

- Sensitivity analysis and scenario modeling frameworks.
- Monte Carlo simulation for advanced risk assessment.
- Project valuation methodologies: NPV, IRR, MOIC.
- Cost of capital estimation and WACC calculations.
- Investment decision-making under uncertainty.

Day 5: Real-World Applications and Case Studies

- Modeling different renewable technologies: utility-scale solar, wind farms, offshore wind, and energy storage.
- Case study: Utility-scale solar project financial model development.
- Case study: Offshore wind farm investment analysis.
- Emerging trends in renewable energy finance: green hydrogen and advanced storage modeling.
- Presentation of model outputs and investment memorandums.

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Why Attend This Course: Wins & Losses!

- Develop a fully integrated renewable energy financial model from scratch.
- Strengthen expertise in economic analysis, project valuation, and risk modeling.
- Master advanced tools including debt sculpting, tax equity structures, Monte Carlo simulation, and WACC calculation.
- Enhance ability to structure and optimize project financing for maximum returns.
- Produce professional-grade investment memorandums and financial reports.
- Gain practical exposure to real-world case studies across solar, wind, offshore wind, storage, and green hydrogen.

Conclusion

Economic analysis and financial modeling form the backbone of successful renewable energy investments. This course equips participants with the technical depth, analytical precision, and practical modeling expertise required to evaluate complex projects, structure effective financing solutions, and manage risk with confidence.

By the end of the program, participants will not only understand renewable energy finance in theory, but will also possess the hands-on capability to build sophisticated financial models, assess investment performance, and support high-level strategic decisions in a rapidly evolving clean energy landscape.

A graphic of a chessboard with several chess pieces (a king, a queen, and a pawn) positioned on it. The board is checkered in white and grey, and the pieces are gold and silver. In the background, there are concentric circles radiating from the center.

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