ADVANCED PROGRAMME IN STRATEGIC THINKING AND EXECUTIVE DECISION MAKING

Introduction

In an era of rapid technological disruption, geopolitical uncertainty, economic volatility, and evolving stakeholder expectations, organizations require leaders who can think strategically rather than merely react to events. While many executives are skilled in operational management, relatively few possess the strategic thinking capabilities needed to anticipate future trends, identify emerging opportunities, navigate uncertainty, and make high-impact decisions that create sustainable organizational value. Strategic thinking is the foundation of effective leadership, enabling executives to move beyond day-to-day operations and focus on long-term organizational success. This advanced executive programme is designed to develop the strategic thinking mindset and executive decision-making capabilities required to lead organizations in complex and dynamic environments. Participants will learn how to analyze complex situations, identify strategic issues, evaluate alternative courses of action, manage uncertainty, challenge conventional assumptions, and make evidence-based decisions that align with organizational vision and long-term objectives. The programme integrates internationally recognized concepts in strategic management, systems thinking, critical thinking, behavioral economics, decision science, strategic intelligence, innovation, and organizational leadership.Through executive simulations, boardroom scenarios, case studies, decision laboratories, and practical problem-solving exercises, participants will gain hands-on experience in applying strategic thinking frameworks to real organizational challenges.

Course Objectives

- Develop a strategic thinking mindset for executive leadership.
- Distinguish strategic thinking from operational and tactical thinking.
- Apply systems thinking to complex organizational challenges.

- Analyze strategic issues using structured decision-making frameworks.
- Evaluate strategic alternatives under uncertainty.
- Apply critical thinking and evidence-based decision-making.
- Recognize and minimize cognitive biases in executive decisions.
- Use strategic intelligence to support organizational planning.
- Lead innovation and transformational change through strategic thinking.
- Improve executive judgment, governance, and organizational performance.

Course Modules

> Module 1: Foundations of Strategic Thinking
- Strategic thinking versus strategic planning
- Strategic versus operational leadership
- Characteristics of strategic thinkers
- Strategic mindset development
- Global leadership perspectives

> Module 2: Systems Thinking and Organizational Complexity
- Systems thinking principles
- Understanding complex adaptive systems
- Interrelationships and feedback loops
- Root cause analysis
- Systems mapping
- Organizational leverage points

> Module 3: Critical Thinking and Executive Judgment
- Critical thinking frameworks
- Executive reasoning
- Structured problem-solving
- Decision quality assessment
- Logical fallacies
- Evidence-based analysis

> Module 4: Strategic Intelligence and Environmental Sense-Making
- Strategic intelligence gathering
- Weak signal detection
- Trend analysis

- Strategic foresight
- Competitive intelligence
- Executive environmental scanning

> Module 5: Executive Decision-Making Under Uncertainty

- Decision-making models
- Rational and bounded rationality
- Decision-making under risk
- Decision-making under uncertainty
- Scenario-based decisions
- Executive judgment techniques

> Module 6: Cognitive Biases and Behavioral Decision Science

- Confirmation bias
- Anchoring bias
- Groupthink
- Availability heuristic
- Overconfidence bias
- Debiasing strategies

> Module 7: Strategic Innovation and Creative Decision-Making

- Design thinking
- Innovation strategies
- Blue Ocean thinking
- Creative problem-solving
- Strategic experimentation
- Opportunity recognition

> Module 8: Risk-Based Strategic Decision Making

- Enterprise risk thinking
- Strategic risk assessment
- Opportunity-risk balancing
- Decision trees
- Decision matrices
- Contingency planning

> Module 9: Boardroom Decision Making and Strategic Leadership

- Executive governance
- Board decision processes
- Ethical leadership
- Strategic communication
- Stakeholder engagement
- Crisis decision-making

> Module 10: Executive Strategy and Decision Laboratory

- Executive decision simulations
- Complex organizational case studies
- Strategic decision workshops
- Boardroom simulations
- Group presentations
- Personal strategic leadership action plan