ENVIRONMENTAL & SOCIAL RISK MANAGEMENT (ESRM) COURSE

Introduction

The Environmental and Social Risk Management (ESRM) Course equips senior executives, risk managers, project leaders, regulators, financial institutions, and sustainability professionals with the strategic knowledge and practical tools required to integrate environmental and social considerations into enterprise risk management, project development, investment appraisal, procurement, and operational decision-making. Climate change, biodiversity loss, environmental degradation, human rights concerns, social inequality, and evolving regulatory requirements have significantly increased expectations for organizations to identify, assess, manage, and disclose environmental and social risks throughout the lifecycle of projects, investments, and business operations. Participants will learn how to establish robust ESRM systems that support responsible investment, sustainable infrastructure, regulatory compliance, and long-term organizational resilience. The programme explores environmental risk assessment, climate-related risks, biodiversity protection, social safeguards, human rights due diligence, stakeholder engagement, environmental and social impact assessments, grievance mechanisms, ESG integration, and sustainability reporting. The programme is aligned with globally recognized frameworks including the IFC Performance Standards, World Bank Environmental and Social Framework (ESF), Equator Principles, ISO 31000, IFRS Sustainability Disclosure Standards (ISSB), UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights (UNGPs), and the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Course Objectives

- Understand Environmental and Social Risk Management (ESRM) principles and international best practices.
- Identify and assess environmental, climate, biodiversity, and social risks across projects

and operations.
- Conduct environmental and social due diligence for investments, infrastructure, and development programmes.
- Integrate ESG risks into enterprise risk management and strategic decision-making.
- Design effective environmental and social safeguard systems.
- Strengthen stakeholder engagement and grievance management processes.
- Ensure compliance with environmental legislation and international safeguard standards.
- Monitor environmental and social performance using appropriate indicators and reporting frameworks.
- Improve project sustainability, resilience, and responsible investment outcomes.
- Lead the implementation of organization-wide ESRM frameworks that enhance governance and stakeholder confidence.

Course Modules

> Module 1: Foundations of Environmental and Social Risk Management
- Principles of Environmental and Social Risk Management (ESRM)
- ESG risk and sustainability concepts
- Global environmental and social risk trends
- Regulatory and institutional drivers

> Module 2: Environmental Risk Assessment and Climate Risk
- Environmental risk identification and analysis
- Climate-related physical and transition risks
- Biodiversity and ecosystem risk management
- Pollution prevention and resource management

> Module 3: Social Risk Assessment and Human Rights Due Diligence
- Social impact identification and assessment
- Human rights due diligence
- Labour standards and occupational health and safety
- Community health, safety, and security

> Module 4: Environmental and Social Due Diligence
- Environmental and social screening
- Due diligence methodologies

- Project appraisal and investment review
- Risk categorization and mitigation planning

> Module 5: Environmental and Social Safeguards
- Environmental safeguard frameworks
- Social safeguard policies
- Involuntary resettlement and livelihood restoration
- Indigenous Peoples and vulnerable groups

> Module 6: Stakeholder Engagement and Grievance Mechanisms
- Stakeholder identification and analysis
- Meaningful consultation and participation
- Grievance redress mechanisms
- Conflict prevention and social license to operate

> Module 7: ESG Risk Integration and Enterprise Risk Management
- Integrating ESRM into Enterprise Risk Management (ERM)
- Governance, Risk, and Compliance (GRC)
- ESG risk governance and oversight
- Strategic risk reporting

> Module 8: Environmental and Social Monitoring, Reporting and Assurance
- Environmental and social performance indicators
- Monitoring and evaluation systems
- Sustainability reporting and ESG disclosures
- Assurance and continuous improvement

> Module 9: Sustainable Projects, Green Infrastructure and Responsible Investment
- Sustainable infrastructure development
- Green and climate-resilient projects
- Responsible investment principles
- Financing sustainable development