



Financial Analysis, Planning & Controlling Budgets Course

29 March – 9 April 2027
Milan (Italy)



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Introduction

This financial planning and analysis course combines essential financial management, planning, and control areas. It provides an understanding of the various aspects of an organization, from a calculative aspect to other related practices in the organization.

The critical element of the financial planning and analysis course is the focus on the practical application of economic and financial models and analysis, which are used to assess the strategic and operational positions of the organization.

As part of our commitment to providing the best financial statement analysis course, we ensure that the course encapsulates financial planning best practices to equip participants with robust budget analysis course methodologies and principles.

Financial Planning & Analysis and Performance Management

This certification for financial planning and budget analysis course focuses on integrating financial planning analysis and performance management strategies.

Participants in this budget analysis course will gain insights into synchronizing financial planning with operational performance metrics and aligning their budgets with strategic goals.

Targeted Groups

- Project managers.
- Financial analysts.
- Financial controllers.
- Accountants.
- Treasurers.
- Corporate planning.
- Also, this financial planning and analysis course is suitable for all organizational management levels.

Course Objectives

At the end of this financial planning and analysis course, participants will be able to:

- Financial planning is more effective for the future.
- Use the financial techniques of financial analysis planning and control.
- Improve performance from the use of economic and financial analysis tools.
- Link planning and budgeting with costing and performance measurement.
- Master the skills of budgetary and cost control.
- Understand how reliable available financial data is and how uncertainty and risk are likely to impact the outcomes of decisions.
- Expand their financial knowledge, develop and manage the financial aspects of their role more effectively, and enhance their performance.
- Increase their self-confidence in dealing with economic and financial issues and financial professionals.
- Understand how financial considerations help to support an organization's strategic decisions.
- Appreciate how such decisions may affect their own departments or business units, as well as their companies.
- Acquire the ability, when involved in decisions about investment, operations, or financing, to choose the most appropriate tools from the wide variety of financial techniques available to provide a quantitative analysis.
- Understand strategic planning and budgeting.
- Link finance and operations for budgeting purposes and strategy execution.
- Learn how to build a comprehensive performance measurement system.
- Learn costing and budgeting terminology used in business.
- Understand the importance of a well-defined costing and budgeting process.
- Understand cost behavior more accurately.
- Be able to perform and interpret variance analysis.

Targeted Competencies

At the end of this financial planning and analysis course, the target competencies will be able to:

- Interpreting financial statements.
- Planning and budgeting.
- Cost control.
- Capital budgeting.
- Applying cost-volume-profit analysis.
- Utilizing breakeven analysis.
- Financial decision-making.
- Business performance management.

Course Content

Unit 1: The Challenge of Financial Economic Decision-Making

- The practice of financial-economic analysis.
- Corporate value and shareholder value.
- A dynamic perspective of business Benchmarking your own strategic position/competitor analysis.
- The agency problem and corporate governance.
- What information and data to use?
- The nature of financial statements.
- The context of financial analysis and decision-making.

Unit 2: Assessment of Business Performance

- Ratio analysis and business performance.
- Management's point of view.
- Owners' point of view.
- Lenders' point of view.
- Ratios as a system in the pyramids of ratios.
- Integration of financial performance analysis in the "Dupont" system.
- Economic Value Added EVA.
- Predicting financial distress.

Unit 3: Projection of Financial Requirements

- Interrelationship of financial projections.
- Operating budgets.
- Standard costing and variance analysis.
- Cash forecasts and cash budgets.
- Sensitivity analysis.
- Dynamics and growth of the business system.
- Operating leverage.
- Financial growth plans.
- Financial modeling.

Unit 4: Analysis of Investment Decisions

- Applying time-adjusted measures.
- Net present value NPV and internal rate of return IRR
- Strategic perspective.
- EVA and NPV.
- Refinements of investment analysis.
- Equivalent annual cost EAC.
- Modified internal rate of return MIRR.
- Sensitivity analysis, scenario analysis, simulation, and NPV breakeven.
- Dealing with risk and changing circumstances.

Unit 5: Valuation and Business Performance

- Managing shareholder value.
- Shareholder value creation in perspective.
- Evolution of value-based methodologies.
- Creating value in restructuring and combinations.
- Financial strategy in acquisitions.
- Business valuation.
- Business restructuring and reorganizations.
- Management buyouts MBOs and management buy-ins MBIs.

Unit 6: Strategic and Financial Planning

- Financial vs. managerial accounting.
- Exploring the linkages between strategy, budgeting, costing, and performance measurement.
- Understanding what strategic planning is and why it is essential.
- Mission vision strategy goals and objectives.
- The outside environment and the internal context: SWOT and PESTEL analysis.
- What is happening in your company?
- Looking for the drivers of value creation.

Unit 7: The Framework for Budgeting

- What is a budget - why create a budget?
- The budgeting framework.
- Various types of budgets.
- The budgeting process and the human side of budgeting.
- Sales forecasting and budgeting schedules.
- What is your company's budgeting process?
- Top-down vs. bottom-up budget.
- Incremental vs. zero-based.

Unit 8: Cost Analysis for Budgeting

- What is the cost? Defining costs.
- Cost behavior of the Fixed and variable.
- Breakeven models and the equation method.
- The contribution margin concept.
- Direct and indirect costs.
- Traditional vs. activity-based costing.
- Product vs. period costs.

Unit 9: Budgeting - Controlling The Budget Variances

- What is the situation in your organization?
- Do departments and or projects organize budgeting?
- Budget variance analysis.
- Describe the difference between a static budget and a flexible budget.
- Compute flexible-budget variances and sales-volume variances.
- Explain why standard costs are often used in variance analysis.
- Integrate continuous improvement into variance analysis.

Unit 10: Beyond Budgeting: Broadening Performance Measurement Systems

- Advantages and disadvantages of budgeting.
- How do you improve budgeting in your organization?
- What next? Beyond the budget.
- The balanced scorecard: linking strategy to budgeting to performance measurement.
- Financial perspective, customer perspective.
- Internal business process perspective, learning, and growth perspective.
- Developing and adapting the scorecard.