



High-Impact Internal Audit Leadership

7 – 11 December 2026
Amsterdam (Netherlands)



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Introduction:

This High-Impact Internal Audit Leadership course will focus on internal audit leaders' challenges and opportunities and show participants how they can contribute strategically, add value, and enhance productivity in the audit process. It will improve participants' awareness and skills and make them better internal audit leaders.

Developing your capacity in internal audit leadership is crucial for aligning the internal audit function with strategic organizational goals. In this High-Impact Internal Audit Leadership program, participants will explore the qualifications required for effective audit leadership, identify key leadership attributes, and enhance their leadership skills.

This High-Impact Internal Audit Leadership training ensures that participants will lead with confidence, insight, and the ability to add significant value to their roles. They will understand the definition of internal leadership and explore the various aspects of internal leadership development, ultimately building upon what internal leadership means within the context of your organization.

Targeted Groups:

- Internal audit management.
- Improvement and innovation.
- Internal audit delivery.
- Persuasion and collaboration.
- Governance, risk, and control enhancement.

Course Objectives

At the end of this High-Impact Internal Audit Leadership course, the participants will be able to:

- Express greater confidence while interacting with senior leaders.
- Know what it takes to lead an internal audit team successfully, grasp how to contribute strategically and successfully, and how to drive corporate success overall.
- Understand the purpose of your internal audit function and how it fits into the assurance jigsaw.
- Impact your major leadership priorities.
- Utilize realistic strategies to control important interactions with the audit committee, senior management, and peers.
- By using effective internal auditing practices, you can add value.
- Learn how to effectively manage your important connections with the audit committee, top management, and peers.
- Understanding what it truly means to provide insight and create value, as well as good practices related to your team's efficiency and productivity.

Targeted Competencies:

At the end of this High-Impact Internal Audit Leadership training, participants competencies will:

- Leadership, management, and risk-based planning.
- Risk management in the internal audit function.
- Manage internal audit resources.
- Manage the internal audit engagement process.
- Market internal audit and effective stakeholder relations.
- Deliver added value and insight.
- Getting the best from your quality assurance and improvement program.

Course Content:

Unit 1: Internal Audit Leadership:

- The importance of steady management.
- Effective leadership.
- A reminder of leadership and management theory.
- The inspirational internal audit leader.
- Qualities of an effective internal audit leader.
- Large versus small internal audit teams.
- The mission statement and definition of internal auditing.
- Relevant attributes and performance standards.
- Challenges all internal audit leaders face.
- Resolving common challenges.

Unit 2: Effective Internal Audit Planning:

- Determining risk maturity.
- Designing the risk-based assurance universe.
- How do you develop your universe and strategy?
- Coordination with other assurance providers.
- Developing an effective internal audit strategy.
- Determining the annual or six-monthly internal audit plan.
- Delivering the plan.
- Advantages and disadvantages of working with other assurance providers.
- Good practice planning.
- Internal audit delivery will be today, and the building team will be capable of doing so tomorrow.

Unit 3: Getting Maximum Impact from our Internal Audit Resources:

- Securing the necessary internal audit resources.
- Managing internal audit resources.
- Dealing with the dispersed team.
- Ensuring an effective internal audit engagement process.
- Maximizing efficiency.
- Managing co-sourcing and contractors.
- In-house versus outsourced contractors.
- Risk management in the internal audit function.
- Risk identification and management for internal audit.

Unit 4: Stakeholder Relationship Management:

- Perceptions of internal audit.
- Stakeholder analysis.
- Effective stakeholder relations.
- Marketing internal audit.
- Internal audit's product mix.
- Best practice stakeholder management.
- Effective reporting and recommendations.
- Conflict management, negotiation, and persuasion.
- Networking.
- Conflict and solutions.

Unit 5: Insight, Added Value and Quality Assurance:

- What is insight?
- Delivering insight and impact.
- Enhancing and protecting organizational value.
- Adding value through assurance and consulting.
- The power and perils of advisory work.
- The quality assurance and improvement program.
- Internal assessments.
- External assessments.
- Elements of the improvement program.