Construction Project Audits: Mastering Excellence in Project Management (1 Week)

9 – 13 August 2027
Addis Ababa

AGILE LEADERS
Training Center

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Overview

Capital projects require disciplined oversight across every phase to prevent budget overruns, schedule delays, and contractual disputes. This one-week programme focuses on conducting construction project audits and enforcing rigorous management controls throughout the asset delivery lifecycle. Participants examine procurement options, tendering document preparation, contractor evaluation scorecards, and proactive risk assessments. The curriculum addresses practical dispute resolution strategies, design-build delivery systems, and project closeout governance across infrastructure and commercial developments. This course is delivered by Agile Leaders Training Center.

Who Should Attend

- Project managers responsible for capital project delivery schedules, cost baselines, and quality compliance.
- Construction administrators responsible for supervising site activities, contractor submittals, and contract obligations.
- Tendering and procurement officers responsible for drafting bidding specifications and conducting commercial bid appraisals.
- Risk management specialists responsible for identifying cost exposures, liability gaps, and schedule vulnerabilities in build contracts.
- Design and build engineers responsible for coordinating multidisciplinary technical documentation and milestone reviews.

Departments and Industries

This programme provides targeted governance tools for capital expenditure and execution divisions across public and private sectors.

- Construction Management Divisions in Infrastructure Development
- Procurement and Contract Administration Teams in Real Estate Firms
- Design-Build Coordination Groups in Civil Engineering
- Capital Works Oversight Units in Public Works Authorities
- Project Risk Assurance Teams in Commercial Development Groups

Learning Objectives

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

- Plan and execute construction project audits across all project lifecycle stages.
- Prepare structured tendering documents and establish objective contractor selection criteria.
- Quantify and mitigate contractual risks within varied project delivery systems.
- Evaluate procurement models including design-build and traditional design-bid-build frameworks.
- Implement structured dispute resolution protocols to resolve construction claims efficiently.
- Formulate detailed audit reports that capture non-conformances and enhance project governance.

Course Agenda

Day 1: Foundations of Construction Project Management

- Lifecycle stages and baseline alignment across capital developments
- Audit frameworks, scope definition, and governance checklists for construction
- Contractual risk identification during tendering document preparation
- Classification of project risks across financial, legal, and operational domains
- Quality control planning and integration with site risk assessments
- Review and practical discussion on aligning audits with delivery stages

Day 2: Procurement Frameworks and Dispute Resolution

- Procurement method selection based on project complexity and risk tolerance
- Governance requirements and control mechanisms in design-build delivery systems
- Alternative dispute resolution techniques and legal interface management
- Procurement transparency measures to reduce fraud and cost escalation risks
- Comparative analysis of delivery agreements and contractual terms
- Case evaluation of procurement choices and claim mitigation tactics

Day 3: Tendering Strategies and Contractor Evaluation

- Technical and commercial specification drafting for tendering documents
- Quantitative bid scoring matrices and tender assessment workflows
- Governance standards and procedural differences in public versus private bidding
- Key performance indicators and verification protocols for contractor selection
- Post-tender negotiation boundaries and audit trail documentation
- Structured exercise on evaluating bidder submissions and contract award justifications

Day 4: Risk Planning and Audit Execution

- Methodologies for quantitative and qualitative construction risk assessment
- Audit indicators, red flags, and cost variance detection on active job sites
- Field audit execution tools, sampling techniques, and evidence verification
- Audit protocols for real estate development and infrastructure schemes
- Simulation workshop on mid-project performance auditing and finding verification
- Debrief and peer critique on field audit findings and corrective actions

Day 5: Closing Audits and Future-Proofing Strategies

- Drafting clear audit findings, executive summaries, and action plans
- Assessing emerging industry trends and their impact on project controls
- Digital audit management software and automated monitoring systems
- Addressing systemic delivery challenges in infrastructure and commercial builds
- Embedding audit lessons into organizational standard operating procedures
- Final team audit presentations, reporting reviews, and expert appraisal

Practical Exercises

Participants engage in practical simulations to master audit execution and contract review techniques.

- Develop a mid-project audit checklist to identify cost overruns and compliance gaps on a simulated civil works project.
- Construct a bid evaluation scoring matrix assessing contractor technical capacity, safety track records, and commercial proposals.
- Draft a dispute avoidance memorandum outlining clear escalation procedures for contractor change order claims.
- Prepare an audit report executive summary outlining critical project risks, contractual non-conformances, and corrective recommendations.

FAQs

How do construction project audits prevent financial losses?

They provide systematic examinations of billing records, change orders, procurement adherence, and site progress, enabling organizations to catch billing errors, unapproved scope expansions, and non-compliance early.

What project delivery models are examined during the sessions?

The course evaluates traditional design-bid-build, design-build delivery systems, and construction management agreements, assessing the audit checkpoints and contractual risk profiles of each approach.

What tools are provided to support post-course implementation?

Participants receive practical templates including contractor evaluation scorecards, tendering document review checklists, risk registers, and structured project audit workbook materials.

Conclusion

Effective capital project delivery depends on proactive management oversight, disciplined procurement, and transparent audit controls. By mastering field audit techniques, rigorous tendering evaluation, and structured risk mitigation, project professionals protect capital investments, resolve disputes constructively, and ensure infrastructure and real estate assets meet operational and financial objectives.