



the-complete-finance-course-for-non-financial-professionals (2 Weeks)

23 August – 3 September 2027
Addis Ababa



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Ref: 103600390_225209 **Date:** 23 August – 3 September 2027 **Location:** Addis Ababa **Fees:** 6400 Euro

Course Overview:

Finance for Non-Financial Professionals Training Course is a strategic program tailored for C-level executives and senior decision-makers. It transforms complex financial information into actionable leadership insights, enabling executives to lead with confidence in financially driven conversations. This course bridges the gap between financial theory and executive application by emphasizing value creation, capital structure, strategic budgeting, performance analysis, and board-level communication. Participants will explore advanced financial principles through real-life corporate scenarios, high-level case studies, and decision-based simulations.

Unlike traditional finance courses, this masterclass equips non-financial executives with the language, tools, and strategic frameworks needed to engage effectively with CFOs, finance teams, shareholders, and board members. Whether evaluating investment opportunities, driving financial transformations, or navigating uncertainty, this course empowers executives to align financial strategies with enterprise-wide goals.

Target Audience:

- Chief Executive Officers CEO
- General Managers
- Executive Directors
- Country Heads and Business Unit Leaders
- Non-financial C-suite and board-level professionals

Targeted Organizational Departments:

- Executive Office
- Corporate Strategy
- Investor Relations
- Business Development
- Operations Oversight
- Strategic Projects and Transformation Units

Targeted Industries:

- Banking & Financial Services
- Healthcare & Pharmaceuticals
- Government & Public Enterprises
- Telecommunications & Technology
- Energy, Oil & Gas
- Manufacturing & Logistics
- Retail & Consumer Goods

Course Offerings :

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

- Interpret financial statements from a strategic decision-making lens
- Evaluate company performance through executive-level financial indicators
- Develop, lead, and defend strategic budgets and capital investments
- Integrate cost management into long-term profitability and efficiency goals
- Guide funding strategy and capital structure decisions for growth and scale
- Translate financial results into compelling boardroom narratives
- Align financial leadership with enterprise vision, sustainability, and risk governance
- Drive shareholder value through sound financial governance

Training Methodology:

The program blends executive-level simulation, scenario-based learning, financial role-plays, and peer exchange. Case studies will center on real-world boardroom decisions, shareholder communications, capital investment choices, and financial crisis management. Participants will build financial playbooks and strategic presentations aligned with actual executive challenges.

Methods include:

- Executive case studies from multinational corporations
- Facilitated boardroom decision-making simulations
- Group discussion on strategic dilemmas
- Interactive budget review and investment proposal role-plays
- Final project: Financial plan presentation for leadership

Course Toolbox:

- Executive Finance Handbook customized for CEO-level roles
- Strategic Budgeting & Forecasting Templates
- Capital Investment Appraisal Models NPV, IRR, WACC calculators
- Executive KPI Dashboard Balanced Scorecard templates
- Risk Heat Map and Internal Control Checklist
- Board Reporting Toolkit for Financial Communication

Course Agenda:

Day 1: Strategic Financial Thinking for Executives

- **Topic 1:** The Evolving Business Landscape and Financial Leadership
- **Topic 2:** The CEO's Role in Financial Oversight and Value Creation
- **Topic 3:** Executive Accountability: Understanding Stakeholder Expectations
- **Topic 4:** Financial Terminology for Board-Level Conversations
- **Topic 5:** Interpreting the Income Statement and Balance Sheet Strategically
- **Topic 6:** Cash Flow Leadership: Understanding Operational Liquidity
- **Reflection & Review:** Aligning Financial Understanding with Strategic Direction

Day 2: Boardroom-Focused Financial Statements Analysis

- **Topic 1:** Decoding Financial Reports: A Guide for Non-Financial Executives
- **Topic 2:** What Annual Reports Really Say: Disclosures, Notes, and KPIs
- **Topic 3:** Financial Ratios for Strategic Decision-Making
- **Topic 4:** Leveraging Financial Analysis for Business Health Diagnostics
- **Topic 5:** Using Financial Statements to Communicate with Investors and Boards
- **Topic 6:** Case Review: Financial Red Flags at the Executive Level
- **Reflection & Review:** Executive Summary Preparation for Board Reporting



Day 3: Strategic Cost Management and Profitability Optimization

- **Topic 1:** Strategic View of Costs: Direct, Indirect, and Hidden Costs
- **Topic 2:** Executive Decisions on Pricing, Profit Margins, and Cost Control
- **Topic 3:** High-Level Application of Cost-Volume-Profit Analysis
- **Topic 4:** Managing Overheads and Enhancing Operational Efficiency
- **Topic 5:** Profit Centers, Investment Centers, and Responsibility Accounting
- **Topic 6:** Budget Structuring for Divisions and Business Units
- **Reflection & Review:** Driving Profitability Through Strategic Costing

Day 4: Enterprise-Wide Budgeting and Forecasting

- **Topic 1:** Aligning Budgets with Corporate Strategy and Growth Goals
- **Topic 2:** Top-Down Budgeting vs. Bottom-Up Planning at the Executive Level
- **Topic 3:** Forecasting Market Changes and Financial Risk Scenarios
- **Topic 4:** Budgetary Controls and Performance Monitoring Systems
- **Topic 5:** Integrating Business Units into Cohesive Budget Models
- **Topic 6:** Board-Level Presentation of Budgets and Forecasts
- **Reflection & Review:** Executive Dialogue on Budget Governance

Day 5: Capital Investment and Corporate Finance Strategy

- **Topic 1:** Capital Allocation Principles for Strategic Growth
- **Topic 2:** Business Valuation Methods and Investment Prioritization
- **Topic 3:** Appraisal Techniques NPV, IRR, Payback for Board Approval
- **Topic 4:** Risk-Adjusted Return and Investment Decision Criteria
- **Topic 5:** Capex vs. Opex: Impact on Long-Term Financial Health
- **Topic 6:** Case Study: Capital Project Justification and Board Approval
- **Reflection & Review:** Linking Investments to Corporate Vision

Day 6: Funding Strategies and Capital Structure Decisions

- **Topic 1:** Choosing Between Equity and Debt for Strategic Financing
- **Topic 2:** Cost of Capital, WACC, and Corporate Funding Mix
- **Topic 3:** Public vs. Private Financing: Pros, Cons, and Readiness
- **Topic 4:** Strategic Use of Internal Funds vs. External Capital
- **Topic 5:** Mergers, Acquisitions, and Joint Ventures: Financial Considerations
- **Topic 6:** Structuring Investor Communication and Shareholder Confidence
- **Reflection & Review:** Strategic Financing for Sustainable Scale



Day 7: Cash Flow, Liquidity, and Working Capital Leadership

- **Topic 1:** Executive Role in Cash Flow Governance and Resilience
- **Topic 2:** Structuring Treasury Functions and Liquidity Buffers
- **Topic 3:** Working Capital Efficiency: Receivables, Inventory, Payables
- **Topic 4:** Scenario Planning for Cash Shortfalls or Surpluses
- **Topic 5:** Financial Dashboards and Monitoring Liquidity Health
- **Topic 6:** Case Review: Managing Cash in Times of Volatility
- **Reflection & Review:** Liquidity as a Lever for Strategic Agility

Day 8: Risk Management, Internal Controls, and Financial Ethics

- **Topic 1:** Executive Responsibility in Risk Identification and Financial Integrity
- **Topic 2:** Designing and Overseeing Internal Control Systems
- **Topic 3:** Fraud Prevention and Ethical Governance in Financial Operations
- **Topic 4:** Strategic Compliance: SOX, IFRS, Audit Readiness
- **Topic 5:** Crisis Response: Managing Financial Fallout
- **Topic 6:** Board-Level Risk Reporting and Accountability Structures
- **Reflection & Review:** Cultivating a Culture of Financial Integrity

Day 9: Strategic Performance Management and KPIs

- **Topic 1:** Using Financial KPIs to Drive Executive Decision-Making
- **Topic 2:** Balanced Scorecard for Enterprise Performance
- **Topic 3:** Return on Capital Employed ROCE and EVA for Corporate Growth
- **Topic 4:** Benchmarking Against Competitors and Industry Averages
- **Topic 5:** Linking Strategy Execution to Financial Performance
- **Topic 6:** Executive-Level Dashboards and Reports for Actionable Insights
- **Reflection & Review:** Elevating Strategy Execution with Financial Metrics

Day 10: Financial Leadership, Board Engagement, and Strategic Integration

- **Topic 1:** Communicating Financial Impact to Boards, Investors, and Stakeholders
- **Topic 2:** Leading Strategy Sessions with Financial Intelligence
- **Topic 3:** Executive Simulation: Company-Wide Strategic Financial Planning
- **Topic 4:** Presenting Integrated Financial Narratives to Leadership
- **Topic 5:** Final Presentations: Executive Financial Playbooks
- **Topic 6:** Individual Assessment and Executive Development Planning
- **Reflection & Review:** From Financial Awareness to Executive Financial Mastery



FAQ:

What specific qualifications or prerequisites are needed for participants before enrolling in the course?

No formal finance background is required. This course is designed specifically for CEOs, General Managers, and Executive Directors who lead without a financial specialization but are responsible for financial outcomes, board communication, and enterprise-level strategy. A foundational understanding of business operations is beneficial.

How long is each day's session, and is there a total number of hours required for the entire course?

Each day's session is structured to last around 4–5 hours, including strategic discussions, simulations, and case studies. The full program spans 2 weeks, totaling approximately 40–50 hours of high-impact executive instruction.

How does this course address the financial challenges executives face when working with CFOs and boards?

This course demystifies complex financial discussions often led by CFOs or auditors. It equips executives with the language, tools, and dashboards to challenge assumptions, validate proposals, and make high-stakes financial decisions. Through boardroom-style simulations, executives learn how to confidently assess capital investments, evaluate liquidity risks, and present strategic financial reports to stakeholders.

How This Course is Different from Other Executive Finance Courses:

Unlike traditional finance workshops that focus heavily on technical accounting or textbook theory, the Executive Finance Masterclass is designed around the real-life responsibilities of senior leaders. It bridges the knowledge gap between non-financial executives and CFOs by integrating practical decision-making frameworks with real-time simulations.

Executives engage in hands-on scenarios where they lead capital budgeting decisions, defend corporate financial strategy in mock boardrooms, and respond to crises involving liquidity, M&A, or ethical risks. The course uses simplified tools such as NPV, WACC, IRR, and Balanced Scorecard dashboards—but teaches them from a strategic leadership perspective, not a technical one.

Additionally, participants receive executive toolkits that include board reporting templates, strategic investment models, and financial KPI scorecards, making the material directly transferable to board meetings and strategic planning sessions. This course is tailored for leaders who must translate financial data into vision, growth, and action—not just understand the numbers.

This is not just a finance course—it's a financial leadership transformation program.