Mastering Local Economic Development: Strategies for Growth

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Lisbon (Portugal)



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Why This Course

Driving sustainable economic growth at the local level requires strategic planning, investment attraction, and effective collaboration. This intensive 1-week program equips participants with the skills to assess local economies, design impactful development strategies, and foster entrepreneurship. Through a mix of theory, case studies, and practical exercises, attendees will learn how to stimulate economic growth, create jobs, and build resilient communities.

What You'll Learn and Practice

By attending this course, you will be able to:

- Understand the key concepts, theories, and models of local economic development.
- Assess local economic conditions and identify opportunities for growth.
- Develop and implement strategic plans for sustainable economic development.
- Attract investments and support entrepreneurship within your community.
- Build effective public-private partnerships to drive collaborative growth.
- Measure and evaluate the impact of economic development initiatives.

The Program Flow

Day 1: Foundations of Local Economic Development

- Introduction to local economic development principles
- Economic development theories and practical models
- Role of local governments in economic growth
- Effects of globalization on local economies

Day 2: Assessing Local Economic Conditions

- Economic base analysis and key indicators
- SWOT analysis for community growth
- Identifying clusters and priority industries
- Methods for data collection and economic analysis



Day 3: Developing Economic Growth Strategies

- Creating a vision for local economic development
- Setting strategic goals and actionable objectives
- Designing implementation plans and allocating resources
- Budgeting and prioritization for sustainable impact

Day 4: Attracting Investments and Fostering Entrepreneurship

- Strategies for investment promotion and business retention
- Supporting startups and small business development
- Creating entrepreneurial ecosystems
- Practical approaches to attracting and retaining investors

Day 5: Partnerships and Evaluation

- Building effective public-private partnerships
- Collaborating with regional and national stakeholders
- Measuring economic outcomes and community impact
- Evaluating strategies and implementing continuous improvement

Individual Impact

Participants will leave this program with:

- A tailored local economic development strategy for their community.
- An actionable investment attraction plan aligned with local strengths.
- Tools to support entrepreneurship and small business growth.
- A framework for measuring and evaluating economic development initiatives.

Organizational Impact

Communities and organizations will benefit from:

- Enhanced capacity to stimulate sustainable economic growth.
- Stronger public-private collaboration and stakeholder engagement.
- Improved support systems for entrepreneurs and small businesses.
- Data-driven strategies to monitor and adjust economic development initiatives.



Training Methodology

- Interactive lectures and discussions
- Real-world case studies and scenario-based exercises
- Hands-on workshops to apply planning and assessment tools
- Group activities to simulate economic development strategy design

Beyond the Course

By the end of this program, participants will be ready to:

- Develop and implement local economic growth strategies.
- Attract investments and foster entrepreneurial activity.
- Build partnerships that enhance community development efforts.
- Measure and continuously improve the effectiveness of economic initiatives.

