
Modern Project Director Programme

01 - 05 Feb 2027
Istanbul





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Ref.: 1415_3711 **Date:** 01 - 05 Feb 2027 **Location:** Istanbul **Fees:** 4500 **GBP**

The Modern Project Director Programme is a 10-day senior project leadership programme delivered by Mars Training Centre UK as two consecutive working weeks in London, Geneva, Vienna, Dubai, Kuala Lumpur, or New York — designed for senior project managers, programme directors, and project directors who need to operate across the full breadth of project director responsibility in a single intensive course.

The project director role has changed substantially in the past decade. Senior delivery leaders are now expected to operate across predictive, agile, and hybrid delivery, lead through governance and assurance at board level, integrate risk and earned value with strategic decision-making, and manage the political and stakeholder dimension of major projects with the discipline of a senior executive. The role has become an executive role in everything but title.

Across ten days delivered as two consecutive working weeks, you will cover the breadth of modern project director responsibility through a mix of frameworks, case work, and applied exercises. Week one builds the technical and methodological foundations — diagnostic, decision-making, hybrid delivery, project controls, and risk. Week two builds the senior leadership dimension — stakeholders, governance, commercial discipline, leading change, personal leadership, and the synthesis of the two weeks into a personal action plan. The faculty are senior practitioners who have led major projects and programmes at director level.

What You Will Learn

By the end of this programme, you will be able to:

- Diagnose the health of a complex project across schedule, cost, scope, risk, and stakeholder dimensions.
- Apply senior decision frameworks to project decisions under uncertainty.
- Lead across predictive, agile, and hybrid delivery without preference or dogma.
- Apply integrated project controls and earned value at project director level.
- Lead qualitative and quantitative project risk management for senior assurance.
- Design and defend project governance arrangements at board level.
- Lead senior stakeholder engagement and high-stakes project communication.
- Apply commercial discipline to scope, schedule, cost, and contractual decisions.
- Lead organisational change associated with major project delivery.
- Apply senior leadership behaviours associated with successful project directors.
- Build a personal project director leadership development plan.



How You Will Benefit

You will leave with the breadth of modern project director responsibility covered in a single structured programme, and a Mars Certificate of Completion.

Your organisation will gain a senior project leader with the cross-functional vocabulary and frameworks to operate at the executive table, sharper delivery judgement on the most complex projects, and a deeper succession bench for project director roles.

Who This Programme Is For

This programme is designed for senior project and delivery leaders, including:

- Senior project managers preparing for project director roles
- Programme managers and project directors consolidating their senior grounding
- Heads of PMO and PMO directors
- Senior responsible owners in public-sector projects
- Heads of transformation and change directors with major project portfolios
- Family-business principals overseeing major capital projects
- Senior delivery partners and engagement directors in consulting

The seniority floor is senior project manager and above.