
Megaproject Leadership and Delivery





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Megaproject Leadership is a 5-day senior leadership course delivered by Mars Training Centre UK at international centres from London and New York to Dubai, Doha, and Kuala Lumpur — designed for project directors, programme directors, and senior delivery leaders responsible for projects above one billion pounds in capital value, where political, public, and reputational risk match commercial risk.

Megaprojects are not big projects. They are a different category of leadership challenge — long-duration, politically scrutinised, technically complex, and statistically prone to overrun. A substantial body of academic megaproject scholarship has documented how megaprojects fail, and the senior behaviours associated with the small minority that succeed. This course works through that research and applies it to live delivery.

Across five focused days, you will work through megaproject economics, the leadership behaviours associated with successful megaprojects, governance and assurance at megaproject scale, the political and stakeholder dimension, and personal leadership at megaproject intensity. The faculty are senior practitioners with megaproject leadership experience and strong links to the academic literature.

The week opens with what a megaproject actually is, moves into governance, assurance, and stage gates at scale, then into the political and public dimension, then into senior leadership at megaproject intensity, and closes with synthesis and a personal action plan.

What You Will Learn

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

- Apply the research base on why megaprojects fail to live delivery decisions.
- Distinguish megaprojects from large projects in governance and assurance terms.
- Apply reference-class forecasting to megaproject cost and schedule estimates.
- Lead megaproject benefits realisation through long durations and changing context.
- Design megaproject governance that survives political and personnel change.
- Lead the political and public dimension of a megaproject credibly.
- Apply senior leadership behaviour for megaproject intensity.
- Manage personal resilience and decision quality at megaproject scale.
- Build a personal megaproject leadership development plan.

How You Will Benefit

You will leave with a research-grounded approach to megaproject leadership, a clear understanding of where megaproject leaders most often fail, and a Mars Certificate of Completion.

Your organisation will gain a senior project leader prepared for the unique demands of megaprojects, with the political, technical, and personal grounding to lead the very largest initiatives.



Who This Programme Is For

This programme is designed for senior megaproject leaders, including:

- Project directors and programme directors on capital projects above one billion pounds
- Senior responsible owners in public-sector megaprojects
- Heads of major projects in client organisations
- Senior delivery leads in major infrastructure, energy, transport, and defence
- Family-business principals overseeing very large capital projects
- Senior assurance and project sponsorship leaders
- Senior consulting partners on megaproject commissions

The seniority floor is project director and above.