

UPSTREAM RISK MANAGEMENT AND FUNDING

“Balancing Technical, Commercial, and Financial Risks in Oil & Gas Exploration Projects”

Schedule

Date	Venue	Fees (Face-to-Face)
09 - 13 Nov 2026	London, UK	USD 3495 per delegate

► **Available delivery methods:** Face-to-Face & Online Training

Introduction

Upstream oil and gas projects are exposed to some of the most complex and capital-intensive risks in the energy sector—from geological uncertainty and operational hazards to regulatory, market, and financial volatility. Effective risk management is essential for securing funding, ensuring regulatory compliance, and maximizing asset value.

This course equips professionals with the knowledge and tools to identify, assess, mitigate, and fund risks across the upstream project lifecycle. It provides a practical understanding of technical and commercial risk frameworks, project economics, and how to structure financing strategies that align with stakeholder expectations and investment risks.

Objectives

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

- Identify key technical, regulatory, and commercial risks in upstream oil & gas
- Apply risk assessment frameworks to exploration and development projects
- Analyze project economics and investment risk profiles
- Structure financing options including equity, debt, and farm-out agreements
- Integrate risk management with funding decisions and project governance

Why Attend

- Gain a strategic understanding of upstream project risk types and their financial impacts
- Learn to evaluate project economics and make risk-informed investment decisions
- Understand how to negotiate funding structures aligned with project risk levels
- Enhance your ability to secure capital through transparent risk disclosure and mitigation
- Apply lessons from real upstream project successes and failures

Target Audience

This program is designed for:

- Project managers and asset development leaders
- Exploration geologists and reservoir engineers
- Corporate finance and investment analysts in the energy sector
- Energy bankers, lenders, and equity investors
- Regulators, advisors, and policymakers involved in upstream approvals

Individual Benefits

Key competencies that will be developed include:

- Upstream project risk identification and profiling
- Quantitative and qualitative risk assessment techniques
- Linking risk analysis with funding strategy and investment terms
- Financial modeling and sensitivity analysis
- Stakeholder engagement and investor communication

Organizational Benefits

Upon completing the training course, participants will demonstrate:

- Improved ability to assess upstream investment risk and opportunity
- Stronger alignment between project planning, risk controls, and financing
- More robust risk mitigation and disclosure for investors and regulators
- Reduced capital exposure through structured risk allocation and funding models
- Enhanced transparency and credibility in upstream project proposals

Instructional Methodology

The course follows a blended learning approach combining theory with practice:

- Strategy Briefings - Exploration risk, upstream funding models, and regulatory requirements
- Case Studies - Real-life upstream projects with varying risk/funding outcomes
- Workshops - Risk mapping, funding structuring, and economic modeling exercises
- Peer Exchange - Discussions on funding and risk mitigation strategies in global markets
- Tools - Risk matrices, economic model templates, financing term sheets, and reporting formats

MAWA EVENTS

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Course Outline

Detailed 5-Day Course Outline

Training Hours: 7:30 AM – 3:30 PM **Daily Format:** 3–4 Learning Modules | Coffee breaks: 09:30 & 11:15 | Lunch Buffet: 01:00 – 02:00

Day 1: Introduction to Upstream Project Risk Landscape

- Module 1: Overview of Upstream Project Risk (07:30 – 09:30) • Exploration, development, and production risk categories • Risk characteristics in conventional vs. unconventional projects • Industry benchmarks and failure trends
- Module 2: Regulatory and Political Risk Factors (09:45 – 11:15) • Licensing, approvals, and host government agreements • Environmental and ESG compliance risks
- Module 3: Workshop – Upstream Risk Identification (11:30 – 01:00) • Build a risk register for an exploration or appraisal project
- Module 4: Peer Exchange – Risk Experiences in Global Markets (02:00 – 03:30) • Discussion on regional project environments and risk levels

Day 2: Risk Assessment and Economic Modeling

- Module 5: Quantifying Technical and Commercial Risks (07:30 – 09:30) • Geological uncertainty, drilling risks, and production variability • Market price volatility and sales contract risk
- Module 6: Introduction to Project Economics (09:45 – 11:15) • Cash flow modeling, NPV, IRR, and breakeven analysis • Project sensitivities to cost, price, and volume
- Module 7: Workshop – Risk-Based Economic Model (11:30 – 01:00) • Build a basic economic model with risk inputs
- Module 8: Case Study – Cost Overruns and Project Viability (02:00 – 03:30) • Explore a scenario where risk impacted financial performance

Day 3: Upstream Financing Structures and Risk Allocation

- Module 9: Upstream Funding Options (07:30 – 09:30) • Sources of capital: internal, debt, equity, and project finance • Structuring farm-ins, joint ventures, and production sharing
- Module 10: Risk Allocation in Contracts and Agreements (09:45 – 11:15) • Sharing technical and financial risk through legal structures • Risk-adjusted return expectations by capital providers
- Module 11: Workshop – Structuring a Farm-Out Agreement (11:30 – 01:00) • Draft a deal that balances funding needs and risk-sharing
- Module 12: Peer Exchange – Investor Concerns in Emerging Markets (02:00 – 03:30) • Group insights on project bankability and funding criteria

Day 4: Risk Mitigation and Monitoring

- Module 13: Technical Risk Mitigation Strategies (07:30 – 09:30) • Appraisal planning, drilling programs, and technology selection • Contingency planning and reserve classification
- Module 14: Commercial Risk Mitigation (09:45 – 11:15) • Offtake agreements, hedging, and insurance • Fiscal terms and stabilization clauses
- Module 15: Workshop – Risk Monitoring Dashboard (11:30 – 01:00) • Design a dashboard to monitor upstream project risk in real-time
- Module 16: Case Study – Successful Mitigation in a Frontier Project (02:00 – 03:30) • Review how structured mitigation enabled financing

Day 5: Investment Readiness and Stakeholder Engagement

- Module 17: Preparing for Investment Approval (07:30 – 09:30) • Project justification, risk-adjusted returns, and readiness criteria • Integrating risk into board and lender decision frameworks
- Module 18: Communicating Risk and Funding Plans (09:45 – 11:15) • Risk disclosures in investment memos and pitch decks • Investor and lender Q&A preparation
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Module 19: Final Project – Risk-Funding Strategy Presentation (11:30 – 01:00) • Present a risk-aligned funding plan for an upstream development

- Module 20: Course Wrap-Up and Certification (02:00 – 03:30) • Certification, Q&A, and key takeaways

Certification

Participants will receive a Certificate of Completion in Upstream Risk Management and Funding, validating their ability to assess and manage exploration and development risks while structuring effective and sustainable funding solutions.

Why Choose MAWA Events

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