

Optimising Board Effectiveness: A Strategic Approach to Board Evaluation

24 January 2025, Friday

9.00am – 1.00pm Speaker: PROF DR ZUBAIDAH ZAINAL ABIDIN FCIS (CS) (CGP)

> Virtual Course code: CG240125W1 Closing date: 22 January 2025

> > 4 CPD HOURS

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Introduction

Effective governance is the cornerstone of organizational success, and the board of directors plays a pivotal role in steering an organization towards its strategic goals. To ensure that boards are functioning at their highest potential, regular evaluation is essential. A robust and well-structured board evaluation framework helps assess the performance of individual members, the entire board, and its committees. It provides valuable insights into strengths, areas for improvement, and opportunities for development.

This training program offers a comprehensive approach to board evaluation, providing a practical framework designed to enhance board effectiveness. Participants will gain the knowledge and tools necessary to implement a structured evaluation process that fosters accountability, strengthens decision-making, and improves overall governance. By aligning board performance with organizational objectives and best practices, this framework empowers boards to drive long-term success and sustainability.

Throughout the program, you will explore key components of board evaluation, including criteria, methodologies, and tools that ensure a thorough, fair, and constructive assessment. By the end of the course, participants will be equipped to lead impactful evaluations, strengthen board performance, and contribute to the continued growth and success of their organizations.

Course objectives

The objective of this course is to equip board members, executives, and governance professionals with the tools, frameworks, and strategies needed to enhance board performance through effective evaluation processes. Participants will learn to:

- 1. Understand Board Dynamics: Analyse the role and structure of boards, including their strategic importance in organizational governance.
- 2. Develop Evaluation Frameworks: Design and implement comprehensive board evaluation frameworks tailored to organizational goals and governance standards.
- Enhance Decision-Making: Identify and address areas of improvement to enhance board effectiveness, collaboration, and decision-making processes.
- 4. Foster Continuous Improvement: Leverage evaluation results to establish actionable insights and long-term development plans for board members.
- 5. Align with Best Practices: Align board evaluation practices with regulatory requirements, ethical standards, and industry best practices.

By the end of the course, participants will have the knowledge and practical skills to conduct meaningful board evaluations, driving organizational success and ensuring robust governance.

Who should attend

Board Members, Corporate Secretaries and Governance Professionals, Governance Committee Members, Regulatory and Compliance Professionals, Consultants and Advisors

Course outline

Module 1: Introduction to Board Effectiveness and Evaluation

- Overview of board roles and responsibilities in governance
- Importance of board evaluation in driving organizational success
- Key challenges in achieving board effectiveness
- The strategic value of regular and structured evaluations

Module 2: Designing an Effective Board Evaluation Framework

- Principles of an effective board evaluation
- Components of a board evaluation process: purpose, scope, and methodology
- Tools and techniques for evaluation: surveys, interviews, and peer reviews
- Benchmarking and aligning with industry standards and best practices

Module 3: Conducting Board Evaluations

- Preparing for the evaluation process: setting objectives and engaging stakeholders
- Roles of the board chair, CEO, and governance committees in evaluations
- Collecting data and ensuring confidentiality and transparency
- Common pitfalls and how to avoid them during evaluations

Module 4: Analysing Results and Providing Feedback

- Synthesizing findings into actionable insights
- Presenting evaluation results to the board effectively
- Identifying strengths, weaknesses, and areas for improvement
- Creating a culture of open communication and constructive feedback

Module 5: Developing and Implementing Improvement Plans

- Translating evaluation outcomes into measurable action plans
- Strategies for board development: training, succession planning, and role clarity
- Monitoring and revisiting action plans to ensure progress

Module 6: Regulatory Compliance and Best Practices in Board Evaluations

- Aligning evaluation practices with governance codes and legal requirements
- Ethical considerations in board evaluation processes
- International perspectives: comparing practices across regions and industries
- Incorporating diversity, equity, and inclusion into board evaluations

Module 7: The Future of Board Evaluations

- Emerging trends: technology and digital tools for board evaluation
- Adapting evaluation processes for dynamic and evolving board structures
- Building resilience and agility through continuous improvement

About the trainer: Prof Dr Zubaidah Zainal Abidin FCIS (CS) (CGP) Expert in Corporate Governance, Board Leadership, and Sustainability Reporting

Dr. Zubaidah Zainal Abidin is an esteemed academic and corporate governance expert with over 40 years of experience bridging academia and industry. Currently an Academic Fellow at Universiti Sains Islam Malaysia (USIM), she has previously held prestigious roles, including Professor at Universiti Teknologi MARA (UiTM), Deputy Vice Chancellor at Kolej Universiti Poly-Tech MARA (KUPTM), and Professor at Putra Business School. Before her academic tenure, Dr. Zubaidah spent 13 years as a company secretary in private and public-listed companies, equipping her with invaluable insights into corporate operations and governance. A prolific author, she has penned five influential books on company secretarial practice, widely adopted in Malaysian universities, and authored the 2022 CGI Study Text on Company Secretarial Practice (Malaysian Version), now a critical resource for the CGI Qualifying Programme. Dr. Zubaidah's expertise lies in corporate governance, board dynamics, ESG, and sustainability reporting. Her groundbreaking research in these areas has been presented at over 20 national and international conferences and published in refereed journals. Her speaking engagements with professional and regulatory bodies, including the Companies Commission of Malaysia (CCM), The Malaysian Governance (MACS) have positioned her as a

Her speaking engagements with professional and regulatory bodies, including the Companies Commission of Malaysia (CCM), The Malaysian Governance Institute (MAICSA), and the Malaysian Association of Company Secretaries (MACS), have positioned her as a sought-after thought leader. Key Speaking Topics

- Corporate Governance and Boardroom Dynamics: Strategies for effective leadership and governance.
- Diversity and Inclusion: The role of diverse boards in driving organizational success.
- Sustainability Reporting and ESG: Practical approaches to embedding sustainability in corporate practices.
- Corporate Social Responsibility: Insights into aligning CSR with strategic business objectives.

Dr. Zubaidah captivates audiences with her deep knowledge, practical insights, and engaging delivery. She is passionate about fostering ethical and sustainable corporate practices and is available for speaking engagements, panel discussions, and workshops.

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MAICSA Member's staff***	400	400	400
Fee includes course materials in digital form and e-certificate. Registration with HRDCorp grant, the NORMAL FEE will apply. Discounted fee is NOT applicable.			

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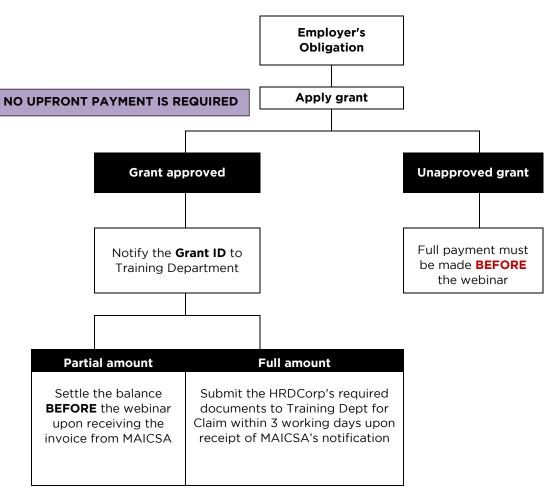
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