IT Governance for Boards & Senior Executives

The Role of the Board and Senior Executives in Digital Transformation and Driving Enterprise Innovation

Unlocking your World to a Sea of Opportunities
A Business Strategic Imperative

Information and Technology has become pervasive and a strategic imperative, disrupting traditional models of doing business, creating new customer experiences, streamlining supply chain models and generating new sources of revenue. Boards (Council and Vice Chancellors) and Senior Executives (Vice Chancellors and Principal Officers) need to be at the forefront of driving innovation and digital transformation. Disruptive technologies such as Artificial Intelligence, Robotics, Internet of Things, Social Media, Cloud Computing, Quantum Computing, 3D printing, Predictive Analytics, Drones, Machine Learning, Cybersecurity and Mobility are becoming the centers of driving today’s organizations’ mission, vision, strategic and performance objectives at speeds that have not been seen before – Speed and Agile is the new game.

Digital and innovation is not an Information Technology agenda – it is a business agenda. If it’s not on the Board and Business Executives Committees agenda, then the agenda is a wrong agenda.

According to King IV, COBIT 5, ISO 38500, The Zimbabwe Public Entities Corporate Governance Act of 2018 the Board and Enterprise Executives are responsible for enterprise digital and innovation journey. The Board and Executive Management need to re-think the way they can make maximum use of disruptive technologies to deliver on their core mandates, vision, mission and strategic goals.

The new adage innovate or die is true; Organisations that fail to put technology at the fore of their strategic initiatives and invest in digital and innovation will not only die a natural death but will go into extinction – Boards & Senior Executives need not to look far than – Kodak, Nokia, Blackberry, Postal and Telecommunications of Zimbabwe to mention but a few corporate organisations once the pinnacle of world corporates but are now in the corporate graveyard of failed organisations due to failure to adopt and adapt emerging technologies to drive new customer experiences and create new business models.
The Information and Technology Governance for Boards & Executive Management will breakdown the key strategies on leading Digital Transformation, Innovation, Information and Technology Modernisation and Enterprise Information & Technology Strategy in business, fostering a culture of innovation, identifying competitive advantages as well as managing digital disruption.

It will equip the Board and Executives with competencies they require to lead their organisations, Digital and Cybersecurity era. It will assist the Board and Executives with practical skills to:

1. Define enterprise digital transformation strategy in line with stakeholder drivers and needs
2. Establish enterprise digital and innovation road map
3. Modernise their Information and Technology Landscape to deliver enterprise vision, mission, and strategic goals
4. Become the leading innovative and digital enterprise or institute
5. Evaluate and Monitor a defined IT modernisation journey
6. Define and implement enterprise digital vision and priorities
7. Understand the role of the Board and Executives in digital transformation governance and management
8. Understand how to utilise emerging technologies to support, enable, sustain and extend enterprise vision, mission, strategic and performance goals
Whilst IT can unlock growth most organisations boards and senior executives lack the know-how and are reluctant to provide the required oversight, leadership and direction over IT leading to their organisations inability to organisations.

Creating Sustainable Competitive Advantage

Use predictive analytics, machine learning, and artificial intelligence to assist in effective and accurate strategic decision

Make digital and innovation a constant agenda item at Board and Executive committees meetings

Define and establish structures, process and procedures for effective oversight of information and technology

Secure enterprise information and digital assets by defining and implementing a 21st century security strategy

Disrupting the way, they deliver their core mandates through new business models enabled by latest technologies

Create new stakeholders’ experiences, new streams of revenue and new ways to create sustainable competitive advantages using disruptive technologies

Evaluate, direct and monitor enterprise digital and innovation enabled initiatives
In a number of cases the IT function reports to the CFO or Head of Corporate Services. In such cases IT will be relegated to an operational function or mere cost centre.

- Systems are frequently down and unavailable leading to non-availability of enterprise services
- IT projects budgets frequently shooting the roofs – budget creeps – leading to unfavourable cost profit ratios
- IT projects that never deliver the promised benefits
- Duplicated systems
- Numerous peripheral systems with many interfaces and duplicated functions
- Too many vendors / suppliers
- Over reliance on 3rd parties
- Emails frequently not working
- Fruitless and wasteful expenditure
- IT budgets that cannot be justified with value on the ground
- Lack of understanding of business by IT – Head of IT a technical specialist with no business knowledge
- Lack of trust between Business and IT
- Inadequate IT skills
IT can sabotage business if not properly governed from the top. Inadequate governance of IT will lead to obsolete services, service breakdown, failure to adopt to new business models, disappointed clients and eventual loss of revenue or closure of business. Organisations that do not have effective leadership and decision making of IT at Board and Senior Executive level are losing business, failing to meet enterprise stakeholder requirements and to deliver strategic and performance objectives. Effective Governance of IT (integral part of Corporate Governance) is critical for realising benefits from IT enabled investment and taking advantage of emerging technologies building sustainable enterprise competitive advantages using IT.

Boards & Executives Oversight & Direction
Scope

IT Governance for Boards & Senior Executives is a 2-day course on Corporate Governance of Enterprise IT designed for Senior Business and IT Leaders – Board Members, Audit Committee Members, Business Executives, CIOs, CEOs and others. It is a practical session which equips business and IT leaders with knowledge of creating new and better ways of serving customers and value in core business, building agile and faster technological capabilities leading to new sources of revenue and unlocking business growth using IT and Emerging Technologies such as Cloud Computing, Big Data, Cybersecurity, Internet of Things, Social Media, Robotics, Artificial Intelligence, Block Chain, Machine Learning, Drones, Predictive Analytics, Quantum Computing, Augmented and Virtual Reality, Wear Your Own Device, Bring Your Own Device etc.

- How to define and establish an IT strategy aligned to the enterprise - (Stakeholders, Vision, Mission, Strategy and Performance Objectives)
- The role of the Board & Senior Business Leaders in IT and IT Strategy Alignment
- IT Governance Frameworks and their practical use:
  - KING III/The NamCode
  - CobiT®5
  - ISO 38500
- How to utilise Emerging Technologies to create enterprise value and meet stakeholder needs:
  - Social Media
  - Consumerisation (Bring Your Own Device)
  - Wearable Devices
  - Cloud Computing
  - Big Data – Analytics
  - Internet of Things and Cybersecurity
  - Robotics
  - Artificial Intelligence
  - Drones
  - Machine Learning
  - DevOps (Agile)
  - 3D Printing
  - Block Chain
  - Augmented and Virtual Reality
- How to make IT a constant Board and Senior Executive agenda item
Scope

- How to establish IT Governance Structures appropriate to an enterprise to deliver maximum enterprise value
  - Board (King III Chapter 5 and King IV Principle 12)
  - IT Strategy Committee
  - IT Investments Committee
  - IT Steering Committee

- The Governance of IT enabled Investments (IT Projects/Business Processes Enabled by IT)
  - How to Establish Effective Governance Process for IT Enabled Investment
  - Making Business Leaders owners of IT enabled investments
  - Making Business Cases a mandatory requirement for every IT expenditure
  - Business Charge Backs – Ensuring that IT decisions are driven by
  - Monitoring & Evaluating IT Investments (Stage Gates)
  - Portfolio Governance

- How to utilise existing corporate governance structures for effective Governance of IT.
- How to define and document useable IT policies, processes and procedures relevant to own enterprise
- The role of the Board & Senior Business Executives in IT Policies
- The role of the Audit & Risk Committee in IT Governance
Who Should Attend?

This course is intended to alert the Board, Risk Committees, Audit Committees, and Business & IT executive management to the critical role they need to play ensuring that their organisation IT effectively and efficiently supports, sustain and extend enterprise strategic and performance objectives. Good IT leadership and decision making by the board and senior executives allows organisation to deliver superior results on IT enabled investments, create enterprise value, build unique selling plusses and meet stakeholder needs. The Board is responsible for IT Governance, should ensure that IT is aligned to strategic and performance objectives of the company monitor and evaluate significant IT enabled investments (IT projects).

- Board Members
- Audit Committee Members
- Chief Executive Officers
- Chief Audit Executives
- Director & Deputy Director Generals
- Municipality Managers
- General Managers Corporate Service
- Assurance Professionals
- Information Security
- IT Practitioners
- IT/IS Management
- Business Managers
- Universities Principals
- Universities Council Members
- Chief Risk Officers
- University Chancellors