
Energy Investment Political Risk Training Course: Country Scenarios, Contracts and Mitigation

5 – 9 July 2027
Cape town





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Programme Summary

Energy investment political risk is the subject of this one-week training course for investment, commercial and country managers in oil and gas companies, ending in a political risk decision pack for one investment. Decisions on licences, partners and capital are taken in places where rules, governments and priorities can change, and exposure is often read late. The programme links country analysis, scenarios, contract exposure and mitigation planning into one sequence, applying each tool to an investment the participant knows. Mars Training Centre UK delivers this programme on energy investment political risk to mixed-organisation cohorts.

The Business Case

Oil and gas projects tie up capital for many years, so a change in terms, a dispute with a host government or a shift in political stability can outlast any price cycle. Investors who read political risk only through headlines react after the damage. Managers who map exposure, build scenarios and test contracts can price risk into decisions, prepare responses and discuss exposure with owners and lenders in plain terms.

- Investment Exposure: Falls as risks are mapped and mitigation is planned before capital is committed.
- Decision Quality: Improves as country scenarios inform go, hold and exit choices.
- Response Time: Shortens as signals and triggers are agreed in advance.

Principles and Evidence Base

- Scenario analysis: Building several plausible country outcomes from uncertain drivers shapes the work in Session 2.
- Risk register with likelihood and impact scoring: Ranking each risk on two scales guides the prioritisation in Session 4.
- Stakeholder mapping: Identifying who holds influence over the project informs the engagement planning in Sessions 1 and 4.

Intended Participants

- Investment managers who appraise and monitor oil and gas assets abroad.
- Commercial and business development leaders who negotiate entry and partner terms.
- Country and government affairs managers who hold relationships with state bodies.
- Risk and planning leaders who report exposure to boards and lenders.
- Legal and contract advisers who review protection in agreements.



Typical functions include corporate development, commercial, government affairs and risk management in oil and gas companies and project lenders.

Learning Outcomes

1. Participants will be able to diagnose the political risks that apply to a given investment.
2. Participants will be able to construct country scenarios with signals and triggers.
3. Participants will be able to assess contract and regulatory exposure to breach and change.
4. Participants will be able to evaluate mitigation options against cost and effect.
5. Participants will be able to prioritise risks by likelihood and impact.
6. Participants will be able to justify an investment position to an owner or lender.

Programme Structure

Day 1: Energy Investment Political Risk Foundations

What counts as political risk for an oil or gas investment, and how does it reach the project?

- Political Risk Type Map
- Investment Exposure Profile
- Risk Transmission Path Diagram
- Stakeholder Influence Map
- Risk Question Brief

Day 2: Country Analysis and Scenario Building

How can the outlook for a host country be read without betting on one future?

- Country Indicator Dashboard
- Property Rights Protection Review
- Driver and Uncertainty Matrix
- Country Scenario Narrative Set
- Early Warning Signal List

Day 3: Contract and Regulatory Exposure

Where do contract terms and rule changes leave the investor exposed?

- Contract Breach Scenario Table
- Regulatory Change Impact Sheet
- Fiscal Term Sensitivity Check
- Dispute Route Comparison Chart
- Contract Protection Gap Register



Day 4: Risk Register and Mitigation Planning

Which political risks matter most, and what response fits each?

- Likelihood and Impact Scoring Sheet
- Political Risk Register
- Mitigation Option Table
- Government Relations Engagement Plan
- Trigger and Response Playbook

Day 5: Applying the Tools to One Investment

Do the country, contract and register tools support one investment decision?

- Applying the Session 1 Investment Exposure Profile
- Using the Session 2 Country Scenario Narrative Set
- Testing the Session 3 Contract Protection Gap Register
- Checking the Session 4 Trigger and Response Playbook
- Completing the Political Risk Decision Pack

Methodology

The programme uses a case analysis method built on anonymised investment cases, country indicator sets, contract extracts and dispute summaries drawn from upstream and midstream projects. Participants work in mixed commercial and risk groups on one shared investment, challenge each other's readings of the evidence and receive written facilitator feedback on each exercise set.

- Suggested activity: Building two contrasting country scenarios for one licence area.
- Suggested activity: Reviewing a contract extract for exposure to regulatory change.
- Suggested activity: Scoring ten political risks and agreeing the top three.

Capstone Output

Each participant completes a political risk decision pack for one investment. It holds an exposure profile, a country scenario set with signals, a contract gap register, a scored risk register and a response playbook. The pack is used at work to brief an investment committee, shape negotiating positions and set the agenda for the next risk review.

Frequently Asked Questions

Is energy investment political risk suitable for managers without a risk background?

Yes. Energy investment political risk assumes involvement in oil and gas investment or commercial work and builds scoring and scenario skills step by step, without advanced modelling.



Which methods does energy investment political risk rest on?

Energy investment political risk rests on scenario analysis, a risk register with likelihood and impact scoring, and stakeholder mapping.

How is the pack from energy investment political risk used at work?

You use the political risk decision pack to brief an investment committee, shape negotiating positions and set the agenda for the next risk review.

How does energy investment political risk differ from general enterprise risk training?

Energy investment political risk centres on host governments, contract terms and country outcomes for oil and gas capital, while general enterprise risk training centres on organisation-wide risk processes.