

Designing & Running Innovation Labs and Hackathons

From framing the challenge to adopting the winning solution — running an innovation event that ends in projects, not photographs.

Level	Practitioner
Duration	3 days · 18 training hours
Fee	699 AED
Group size	8 - 20 participants
Delivery	In-house · Public run
Runs each year	12 April and 8 November

All training programmes are accredited by the Sharjah Private Education Authority.

Programme objectives

- Turn a broad problem into a solvable challenge question
- Design the agenda and pick the facilitation tools
- Build transparent judging criteria that survive scrutiny
- Run rapid prototyping and cheap solution testing
- Secure the adoption path for the winner after the event ends

Who it is for

Innovation and organisational development managers, event coordinators, and improvement teams tasked with running internal challenges.

Prerequisites: None. Bringing a real challenge from your organisation to work on is preferred.

Programme outline

Day 1 — The challenge and the design

- Why most innovation events fail: the badly framed challenge
- Problem-framing tools and writing the challenge question
- Lab or hackathon: matching format to purpose
- Building the agenda and selecting participants

Day 2 — Facilitation and prototyping

- Divergent and convergent generation tools
- Managing mixed teams and productive disagreement
- Rapid prototyping with simple materials
- Testing an idea with a real user inside an hour

Day 3 — Judging and adoption

- Building judging criteria and their weights
- Running the final pitch and the panel
- From winning to a project with an owner and a budget
- Measuring the event's return and documenting it as award evidence

Competencies developed

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|-------------------|--------------------|
| • Problem framing | • Facilitation |
| • Design thinking | • Event management |
| • Judging | |

What participants take away

- A step-by-step innovation lab run-book
- Templates: challenge brief, agenda, judging criteria, scoring sheet
- A facilitation toolkit indexed by lab stage
- An accredited certificate of attendance

How it is assessed

A group deliverable: a complete run-book for a real lab or hackathon, presented and challenged on day three.

About the company

Innovation Excellence Consulting & Training is a Sharjah-based firm working with government and private organisations across the UAE and the region. We deliver management consulting, excellence award readiness, customer experience, corporate innovation, ISO certification and research — alongside accredited, applied training programmes.

Programmes accredited by the Sharjah Private Education Authority · 3,500+ professionals trained · 40 government and private entities

Why train with us

- No less than 40% of every programme is exercises and case work, not lecturing.
- Programmes designed on the ADDIE model, with cases drawn from the participants' own workplace.
- Trainers with genuine field experience in the work they are teaching.
- Delivered in Arabic and English to the same standard — in-house, public or virtual.

Register for this programme



To register, or to run this programme at your premises, get in touch — or register directly from the programme page on our site.

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Fees are per participant in UAE dirhams and exclude VAT. Confirm the year of each run on our website.