Creative Problem Solving and Decision Making
Why Attend

We are continuously confronted with problems that require us to take decisions. Most decisions are reached without requiring any complex decision making process: We’re hungry? We decide to eat. Some problems are more complex, like deciding how to prioritize our work, or understanding why a process failed and deciding what to do about it; these require a rational approach to problem solving. Often, things get even more complicated, or our decisions could have an important impact on our lives, careers or the lives of those around us; that is where we must have the ability to think critically and make sure there is no flaw in our logic. At other times the problem is so unusual that it defies rational and critical thinking; these are the times where creative problem solving becomes an invaluable tool.

In this course we will cover all these important thinking approaches. After understanding the thinking mechanisms, we will provide you with methods and tools that you will practice during the sessions and that can help you at work or in life, and from the most mundane situations to the most difficult or unusual ones.

Course Methodology

The course uses a mix of interactive techniques, such as brief presentations by the consultant and the participants, role plays (rehearsed and impromptu), Video clips with detailed debriefs, and individual and group feedback

Course Objectives

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

- Build and expand decision making, critical thinking and creative problem solving skills
- Apply logical and creative approaches to solving problems and making decisions
- Use traditional and creative tools for identifying causes and generating solutions
- Employ creativity and lateral thinking as business tools
- Analyze and solve actual problems facing them at work
- Demonstrate and build credibility with upper management
- Develop strategic approaches to problem solving and decision making

Target Audience

Managers, supervisors and administrators who will benefit from better problem solving and decision making skills, and business professionals who want to take their critical thinking to the next level by using both their experience and intuition to make the right moves and decisions

Target Competencies

- Attention to details
- Balanced decision making
- Creativity
- Evaluating options
- Intuitive decision making
- Practical and proactive thinking
- Situation analysis
- Problem solving ability and anticipating potential problems

Course Outline

- Problem solving and decision making
  - Definition of ‘problem’
  - Definition of ‘problem solving’
  - Definition of ‘decision making’
  - Creative problem solving and decision making
  - The helicopter view
  - Problem diagnosis
  - Defining the opportunity or problem
  - The link between causes and symptoms
  - Problem deviation
- The right decisions at the right time
- The rational approach to problem solving (Kepner & Tregoe)
  - Defining the problem
  - Writing a problem statement
  - Techniques for recognizing problems
  - Six important questions to clear out
  - The rational approach
  - Kepner & Tregoe
- Problem analysis supplementary tools
  - Root cause analysis
  - Creative problem solving and decision making
  - The five-why process
  - The cause and effect diagram
  - The fishbone diagram
  - Pareto analysis
- Decision making supplementary tools
  - Effective decision making
  - Why-Why and how-how analysis
  - The how-how method
  - Choice making
  - The decision analysis worksheet
  - The Kepner & Tregoe method for analyzing alternatives
  - Use of the matrix
  - Effective decision making
  - The decision making matrix
  - Definition of ‘consensus’
- Creativity and problem solving
  - The need for thinking skills
  - Mental structures of college students
  - Stages in problem solving and decision making
  - The human brain
  - Understanding the two hemispheres of the brain
  - Critical thinking
  - Lateral thinking
  - Mental blocks to creative thinking
  - Brainstorming
  - The six thinking hats
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location &amp; Date</th>
<th>Language</th>
<th>City</th>
<th>Hotel/Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>26 - 30 Jan, 2020</td>
<td>English</td>
<td>Dubai</td>
<td>Double Tree Hilton - Business Bay Hotel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15 - 19 Mar, 2020</td>
<td>Arabic</td>
<td>Dubai</td>
<td>The Oberoi Dubai</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19 - 23 Apr, 2020</td>
<td>English</td>
<td>Dubai</td>
<td>JW Marriott Marquis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31 May - 4 Jun, 2020</td>
<td>English</td>
<td>Dubai</td>
<td>JW Marriott Marquis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19 - 23 Jul, 2020</td>
<td>Arabic</td>
<td>Dubai</td>
<td>The Oberoi Dubai</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27 Sep - 1 Oct, 2020</td>
<td>Arabic</td>
<td>Dubai</td>
<td>Sofitel Downtown Dubai</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 - 5 Nov, 2020</td>
<td>English</td>
<td>Dubai</td>
<td>Sofitel Downtown Dubai</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27 - 31 Dec, 2020</td>
<td>Arabic</td>
<td>Dubai</td>
<td>Media Rotana</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Fees: US$** *(including coffee breaks and a buffet lunch daily)*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Per participant - 2019</th>
<th>Per participant - 2020</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>US$ 4800</td>
<td>US$ 4900</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Fees + VAT as applicable  

UAE Tax Registration Number 100239834300003
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dates</th>
<th>Course Name</th>
<th>Language</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Fees</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>26 - 30 Jan, 2020</td>
<td>Time Management and Stress Control</td>
<td>English</td>
<td>Dubai</td>
<td>US$ 4900</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 - 6 Feb, 2020</td>
<td>Managing Multiple Tasks, Priorities and Deadlines</td>
<td>Arabic</td>
<td>Dubai</td>
<td>US$ 4900</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16 - 20 Feb, 2020</td>
<td>Five Productivity Traits for Optimal Results</td>
<td>English</td>
<td>Dubai</td>
<td>US$ 4900</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 - 5 Mar, 2020</td>
<td>Creative Thinking and Innovation Techniques</td>
<td>English</td>
<td>Dubai</td>
<td>US$ 4900</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 - 12 Mar, 2020</td>
<td>Certified Master Negotiator</td>
<td>English</td>
<td>Dubai</td>
<td>US$ 5200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15 - 19 Mar, 2020</td>
<td>Managing Conflict: Power through Influence</td>
<td>Arabic</td>
<td>Dubai</td>
<td>US$ 4900</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15 - 19 Mar, 2020</td>
<td>Time Management and Stress Control</td>
<td>Arabic</td>
<td>Dubai</td>
<td>US$ 4900</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22 - 26 Mar, 2020</td>
<td>Happiness: Sustaining a Motivating Work Culture</td>
<td>English</td>
<td>Dubai</td>
<td>US$ 4900</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22 - 26 Mar, 2020</td>
<td>Managing Multiple Tasks, Priorities and Deadlines</td>
<td>Arabic</td>
<td>Cairo</td>
<td>US$ 4900</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29 Mar - 2 Apr, 2020</td>
<td>High Performance Teams</td>
<td>English</td>
<td>Dubai</td>
<td>US$ 4900</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29 Mar - 2 Apr, 2020</td>
<td>Social Skills in the Workplace</td>
<td>English</td>
<td>Dubai</td>
<td>US$ 4900</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 - 9 Apr, 2020</td>
<td>The Power of Positive Attitude</td>
<td>Arabic</td>
<td>Dubai</td>
<td>US$ 4900</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12 - 16 Apr, 2020</td>
<td>Creative Thinking and Innovation Techniques</td>
<td>Arabic</td>
<td>Dubai</td>
<td>US$ 4900</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12 - 16 Apr, 2020</td>
<td>Emotional Intelligence Workshop</td>
<td>English</td>
<td>Dubai</td>
<td>US$ 4900</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12 - 16 Apr, 2020</td>
<td>ILM Endorsed Win-Win Negotiation Skills</td>
<td>Arabic</td>
<td>Dubai</td>
<td>US$ 5200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12 - 16 Apr, 2020</td>
<td>Managing Multiple Tasks, Priorities and Deadlines</td>
<td>English</td>
<td>Dubai</td>
<td>US$ 4900</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14 - 18 Jun, 2020</td>
<td>Time Management and Stress Control</td>
<td>English</td>
<td>Dubai</td>
<td>US$ 4900</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28 Jun - 2 Jul, 2020</td>
<td>Emotional Intelligence Workshop</td>
<td>Arabic</td>
<td>Dubai</td>
<td>US$ 4900</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 - 9 Jul, 2020</td>
<td>Communication and Relationship Management Skills</td>
<td>English</td>
<td>Dubai</td>
<td>US$ 4900</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 - 9 Jul, 2020</td>
<td>Creative Thinking and Innovation Techniques</td>
<td>English</td>
<td>Dubai</td>
<td>US$ 4900</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12 - 16 Jul, 2020</td>
<td>Managing Multiple Tasks, Priorities and Deadlines</td>
<td>English</td>
<td>Dubai</td>
<td>US$ 4900</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30 Aug - 3 Sep, 2020</td>
<td>Five Productivity Traits for Optimal Results</td>
<td>Arabic</td>
<td>Dubai</td>
<td>US$ 4900</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30 Aug - 3 Sep, 2020</td>
<td>Time Management and Stress Control</td>
<td>Arabic</td>
<td>Dubai</td>
<td>US$ 4900</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dates</td>
<td>Course Name</td>
<td>Language</td>
<td>Location</td>
<td>Fees</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>------------------</td>
<td>------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>----------</td>
<td>-----------</td>
<td>---------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 - 10 Sep, 2020</td>
<td>Managing Multiple Tasks, Priorities and Deadlines</td>
<td>Arabic</td>
<td>Dubai</td>
<td>US$ 4900</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13 - 17 Sep, 2020</td>
<td>Creative Thinking and Innovation Techniques</td>
<td>English</td>
<td>Istanbul</td>
<td>US$ 4900</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27 Sep - 1 Oct, 2020</td>
<td>ILM Endorsed Win-Win Negotiation Skills</td>
<td>English</td>
<td>Dubai</td>
<td>US$ 5200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 - 8 Oct, 2020</td>
<td>High Performance Teams</td>
<td>Arabic</td>
<td>Dubai</td>
<td>US$ 4900</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 - 8 Oct, 2020</td>
<td>The Power of Positive Attitude</td>
<td>English</td>
<td>Dubai</td>
<td>US$ 4900</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 - 8 Oct, 2020</td>
<td>Time Management and Stress Control</td>
<td>English</td>
<td>Dubai</td>
<td>US$ 4900</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11 - 15 Oct, 2020</td>
<td>Creative Thinking and Innovation Techniques</td>
<td>Arabic</td>
<td>Dubai</td>
<td>US$ 4900</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11 - 15 Oct, 2020</td>
<td>Happiness: Sustaining a Motivating Work Culture</td>
<td>Arabic</td>
<td>Dubai</td>
<td>US$ 4900</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25 - 29 Oct, 2020</td>
<td>Managing Multiple Tasks, Priorities and Deadlines</td>
<td>English</td>
<td>Dubai</td>
<td>US$ 4900</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 - 5 Nov, 2020</td>
<td>Five Productivity Traits for Optimal Results</td>
<td>English</td>
<td>Dubai</td>
<td>US$ 4900</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 - 12 Nov, 2020</td>
<td>Certified Master Negotiator</td>
<td>English</td>
<td>Dubai</td>
<td>US$ 5200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 - 12 Nov, 2020</td>
<td>Managing Conflict: Power through Influence</td>
<td>Arabic</td>
<td>Abu Dhabi</td>
<td>US$ 4900</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15 - 19 Nov, 2020</td>
<td>Emotional Intelligence Workshop</td>
<td>Arabic</td>
<td>Dubai</td>
<td>US$ 4900</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29 Nov - 3 Dec, 2020</td>
<td>Best Practices in Conflict Resolution and Adaptability</td>
<td>English</td>
<td>Dubai</td>
<td>US$ 4900</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29 Nov - 3 Dec, 2020</td>
<td>Communication and Relationship Management Skills</td>
<td>English</td>
<td>Dubai</td>
<td>US$ 4900</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 - 10 Dec, 2020</td>
<td>Time Management and Stress Control</td>
<td>Arabic</td>
<td>Dubai</td>
<td>US$ 4900</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13 - 17 Dec, 2020</td>
<td>Creative Thinking and Innovation Techniques</td>
<td>English</td>
<td>Dubai</td>
<td>US$ 4900</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13 - 17 Dec, 2020</td>
<td>Managing Multiple Tasks, Priorities and Deadlines</td>
<td>Arabic</td>
<td>Dubai</td>
<td>US$ 4900</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20 - 24 Dec, 2020</td>
<td>ILM Endorsed Win-Win Negotiation Skills</td>
<td>Arabic</td>
<td>Dubai</td>
<td>US$ 5200</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Meirc Timeline

2018
Meirc celebrates its 60th anniversary

2015
Meirc relocates to its newly acquired HQ office in Bay Square, Business Bay, Dubai

2014
Meirc adds PLUS Specialty Training, a new division providing technical and industry-specific courses

2007
Meirc opens an office in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia

2004
Meirc opens an office in Abu Dhabi, UAE

1997
Meirc is the 1st training company in the region to have its own website

1991
Meirc becomes headquartered in Dubai, UAE

1988
Meirc celebrates its 30th anniversary with its advisory committee (Aramco, Bapco, KOC, QPC)

1967
Meirc builds its own office building in Beirut

1958
Meirc is founded in Beirut by the late Simon Siksek