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# The benefits of an MSP qualification for UNDP staff



Partners expect UNDP to contribute to development change at scale in an integrated way. With UN reform, it is more important than ever before that UNDP demonstrates value as a strategic partner whose system-thinking analysis helps to break silos and convene partners across all sectors to achieve the SDGs. But we often find ourselves chasing projects that donors want to fund and spend our days ensuring those projects deliver as islands of success. How can we reconcile these two opposing forces?

The answer, it seems, has been in front of us this whole time. While we have been investing in stronger quality CPDs over the past 5 years, they are too often put on a shelf after approval. Instead, we need to be managing the programme consciously to drive smarter pipeline, and advocate what is needed for outcome level change to happen. We need to shift the focus to programme management.



## WHY PROGRAMME MANAGEMENT?

Programme management is about deliberately managing for strategic outcome level change rather than overseeing fragmented projects. Programmes enable us to consider how everything we do - advocacy, partnerships, labs, platforms, research, integration and projects - work together to achieve benefits for society. It is also the level that most directly connects with the UN Cooperation Framework.

Programme management is increasingly recognised as essential in enabling organizations to successfully manage change and transformation. Why? Because with major change comes risk and complexity, the need to change course based on learning, various interdependencies to manage, and conflicting priorities to resolve across projects.

With more and more organizations recognizing the value of programme management to deliver transformational change, now is the time to consider getting a programme management qualification of your own.

## WHAT IS MSP®?

Managing Successful Programmes (MSP) represents proven best practice programme management. It's a framework for successfully delivering large scale, transformational change through a dossier of projects and related activities to make the change 'stick'.

The Foundation qualification will provide you with the necessary knowledge and understanding of the MSP guidance to start the shift to actively managing the programme.

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## WHY TAKE AN MSP COURSE?

MSP will help us to focus on the benefits we are providing to society. The principles and processes you learn on the MSP course will provide a governance structure that establishes clear sets of accountabilities and responsibilities so that you can successfully link development outcomes to project delivery while avoiding the common difficulties of setting unclear priorities and losing focus.

You will learn valuable skills in leadership, stakeholder engagement, risk management, benefits management, and more.

The MSP qualification provides you with the framework to effectively manage transformational change so that you can take advantage of new opportunities while managing threats that may negatively impact results.

MSP will enable you to:

- Move up in your career
- Be more agile in your reaction to change
- Understand how your role fits into the wider picture and be a more effective member of a programme team
- Contribute more effectively to the realisation of strategically aligned benefits



## WHO SHOULD TAKE AN MSP COURSE?

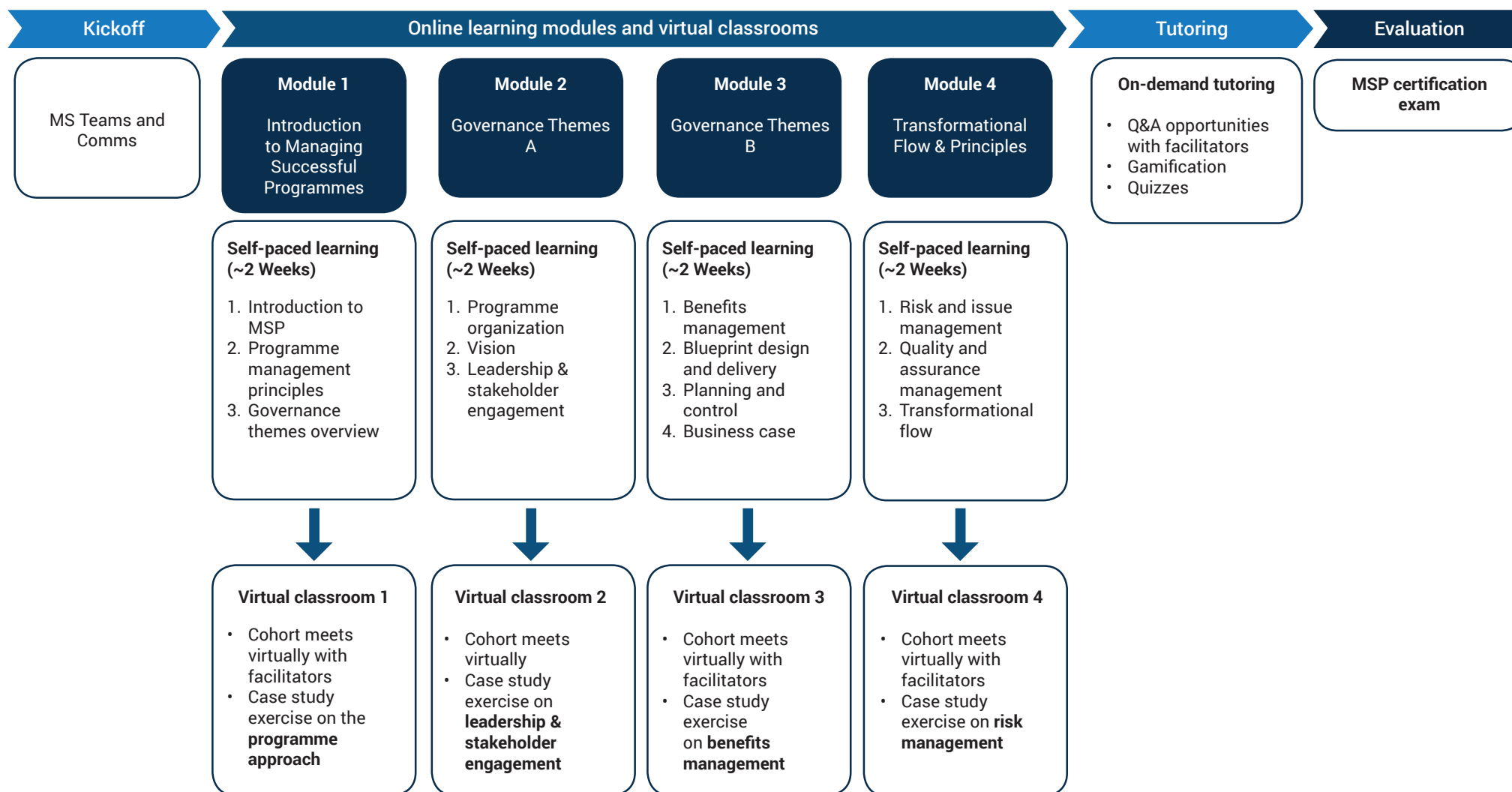
MSP is suited to any of the following job roles:

- Newly appointed programme managers who may have a background in managing projects but have not previously operated in a transformational change environment
- Senior managers who will be held accountable for the programme's success
- Programme staff wishing to build upon their knowledge
- Operational managers and staff with a role in delivering on the programme and constituent projects
- National partners charged with embedding and sustaining development change
- Experienced project managers
- Those seeking a professional qualification in programme management



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## UNDP specific MSP Learning journey



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