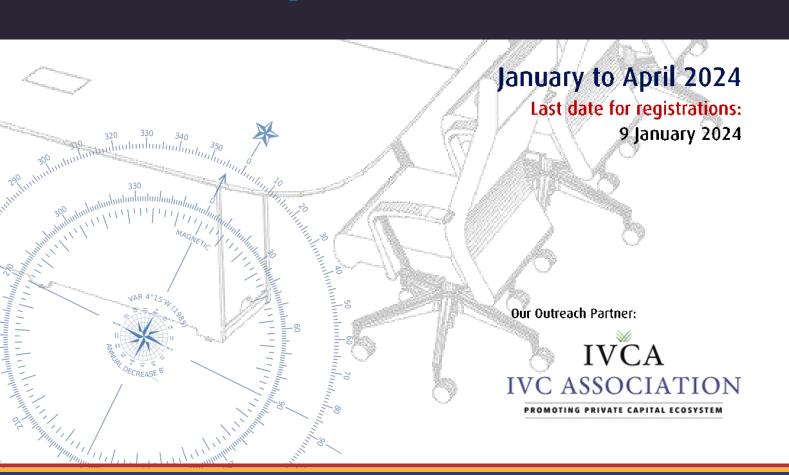


Certification Program for Start-up Boards

Mastering Governance in the Start-up Ecosystem

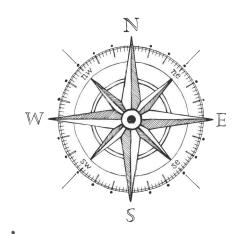




#### Introduction

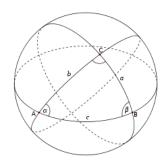
#### The Essence of Governance

"Corporate governance" encompasses the structures, rules, and processes through which companies achieve their objectives. It ensures that a company's management operates within a framework of checks and balances, fostering accountability to their owners and addressing stakeholder concerns. This clarity and transparency facilitate companies in accessing capital.



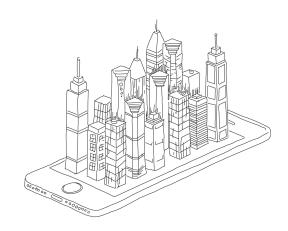
#### Governance: A Startup Imperative

In today's dynamic business landscape, good governance isn't merely a choice—it's imperative, especially for startups. The recent surge in recognized startups in India, bolstered by various Government of India initiatives, is commendable. Yet, the rise and subsequent failures of some startups have highlighted the critical role of corporate governance.



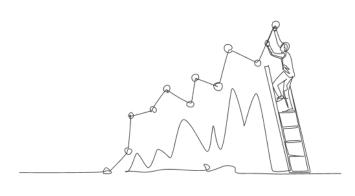
#### Unique Challenges, Unique Solutions

Startups encounter distinctive challenges in governance, compliance, and risk management, potentially impeding their growth and longevity. A robust and independent board can be the beacon, guiding startups through their tumultuous growth phases, adding value, and striking a balance between immediate and future growth. However, the startup ecosystem hasn't been immune to governance lapses. Often, the intense pressure to scale rapidly has led to issues like compromised unit economics, unhealthy work cultures, and significant layoffs.



#### The Dividends of Good Governance

The dividends of robust corporate governance for startups are manifold: enhanced access to capital, bolstered valuations, superior stewardship, augmented profitability, and refined risk management, to name a few. With the right governance practices in place, startups can thrive, innovate, and make invaluable contributions to their industry and community





## Introducing IICA's Certification Program for Startup Boards

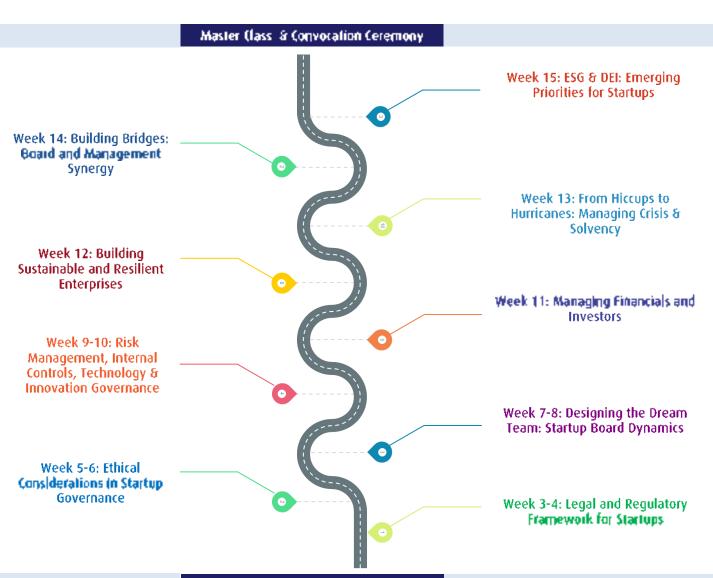
Recognizing the significant role of governance in startup success, the Indian Institute of Corporate Affairs (IICA) is pleased to release our 3.5-month Certification Program for Startup Boards. This program endeavors to unravel the intricacies of startup governance, offering insights to sidestep potential pitfalls. Spanning 15 weeks, the program comprises 30 interactive sessions, master classes steered by industry stalwarts, and culminates in a convocation ceremony. Participants will be armed with the expertise to adeptly navigate governance challenges, ensuring the success and sustainability of their organizations.

3.5-month comprehensive program.

Master class led by industry experts.

30 interactive sessions.

#### Course Structure & Modules



## Expected Learning Outcomes

WEEK 3-4:

LEGAL AND REGULATORY FRAMEWORK FOR STARTUPS

Decoding the Startup Environment: Beyond the Pitch Deck

Legal and Regulatory Compliance for Startups
Role of Regulatory Bodies in the Startup Ecosystem

**WEEK 7-8:** 

DESIGNING THE DREAM TEAM: STARTUP BOARD DYNAMICS

Roles & Responsibilities of Startup Boards
Building a Powerhouse Board: Composition,
Structure and Strategy
Inside the Boardroom: Performance, Pay,
Dynamics, and Dilemmas

**WEEK 11:** 

MANAGING FINANCIALS AND INVESTORS

Introduction to financial aspects of board governance

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Early warning signs and red flags for Independent Directors

Startup Valuation and Funding Rounds
Preparing for an IPO

**Building and Nurturing Investor Relations** 

**WEEK 14:** 

BUILDING BRIDGES: BOARD AND MANAGEMENT SYNERGY

Cultivating a Positive Organizational Culture

**Bridging the Communication Gap** 

Addressing Information Asymmetry Explore tools and processes that facilitate efficient information flow.

**Strategies for Effective Execution** 

**Leadership Lifelines:** 

Planning for Leadership Transitions:
Understand the importance of smooth transitions in leadership roles.
Succession Strategies: Delve into planning for future leadership, ensuring business continuity.

**WEEK 1-2:** 

STARTUP GOVERNANCE UNPLUGGED

Fundamentals of Corporate Governance Significance and Challenges of Governance The Startup Board: Not Your Typical Boardroom

The Pivotal Role of Founders in Governance

WEEK 5-6:

ETHICAL CONSIDERATIONS IN STARTUP GOVERNANCE

Leading with Integrity: Board Leadership in the Fast-paced

Startup Arena Navigating Ethical Dilemmas in Startups

Navigating Ethical Dilemmas in Startups
Addressing and Resolving Conflicts of Interest

WEEK 9-10: -----

RISK MANAGEMENT, INTERNAL CONTROLS, TECHNOLOGY & INNOVATION GOVERNANCE

Understanding and Managing Risks
Building Bulletproof Startups: Resilience Strategies
Technology and Innovation Governance: Steering the
Digital Ship

**WEEK 12:** 

**BUILDING SUSTAINABLE AND RESILIENT ENTERPRISES** 

Strategies for Building a Sustainable Startup
The Board's Role in Steering Startups Towards
Sustainability

**WEEK 13:** 

FROM HICCUPS TO HURRICANES: MANAGING CRISIS & SOLVENCY

Common causes of startup crises, Identifying early signs of a crisis

Crisis response recommendations, Actions to take as a board member during a crisis

**Crisis communication** 

**Strategies for Solvency: Navigating Financial Storms** 

**WEEK 15:** 

**ESG & DEI: EMERGING PRIORITIES FOR STARTUPS** 

ESG Essentials for Startups: Environmental Impact, Social Responsibility, and Governance Best Practices

The Business Case for DEI in Startups

**Implementing DEI Initiatives:** 

From Hiring Practices to Workplace Culture: Practical steps to promote diversity in hiring and create an inclusive work environment.

MASTER CLASS

One-day master class led by industry experts, covering real-world case studies and best practices in startup board leadership and effectiveness.





#### BLENDED LEARNING

The program employs a hybrid delivery method, thoughtfully crafted to cater to the varied profiles of our participants and the distinct challenges of adult learning.

Seamlessly merges the advantages of direct, face-to-face interactions with the adaptability of online education.



# MASTER CLASS BY INDUSTRY EXPERTS

Elevate your understanding of start-up governance by learning directly from the best in the business— the ones who continue to shape the industry.



# DIGITAL LEARNING FLEXIBILITY

The course content will be accessible online through our Learning Management System, Black Board. This digital platform grants participants the liberty to delve into the course material at their own pace, guaranteeing uninterrupted learning

### **Practical Information**

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ıline
Registration is on first come, first serve basis.  Fee once paid shall not be refunded.  Participants are required to remit the fee in advance to confirm their registration.  In case of non-participation by the nominated executive, it is possible to nominate alternate person.  Transfer of nominations will have to be communicated via email to coordinator a week before the commencement of the program.  IICA shall not be liable for any direct or indirect damages that may be incurred due to a cancellation.  IICA reserve the right to change resource persons, dates, topics, venue as per exigencies or







### Distinguished Faculty Members for the Course :\_\_\_\_\_\_



AJAY NANAVATI FORMER MANAGING DIRECTOR 3M INDIA



AMIT JHUNJHUNWALA CFO ACCEL INDIA



ANAND LUNIA FOUNDING PARTNER INDIA QUOTIENT



ANJALI SOSALE PARTNER WATERBRIDGE VENTURES



BURZIN DUBASH COO ANKUR CAPITAL



LAVANYA ASHOK PARTNER, GROWTH EQUITY TRIFECTA CAPITAL



M.D. RANGANATH CHAIRMAN CATAMARAN VENTURES



MADHUMITHA RAMANATHAN CHIEF STRATEGY OFFICER EXPERIAN SERVICES INDIA.



PADMAJA RUPAREL FOUNDING PARTNER INDIAN ANGEL NETWORK (IAN)



PRIYANKA CHOPRA MANAGING PARTNER SEED INVESTING CIIE.CO, IIM AHMEDABAD



RYAN PATEL BOARD MEMBER DRUCKER SCHOOL OF MANAGEMENT - CGU



SHAILESH VICKRAM SINGH FOUNDER MASSIVE FUND



SHASHANK KARNAD PARTNER & CEO - FORENSICS MAHAJAN & AIBARA



SIDDARTH PAI FOUNDING PARTNER 3ONE4 CAPITAL



SUSHMITA GHATAK FORMER MD& CEO ICRA ANALYTICS LTD



The Indian Institute of Corporate Affairs (IICA) is the apex think tank established by the Ministry of Corporate Affairs, Government of India.

We provide policy advice, research, and training to promote sustainable and responsible growth in the Indian corporate sector. Our role in shaping the corporate governance landscape and fostering stakeholder collaboration contributes to a vibrant business ecosystem.

### School of Corporate Governance & Public Policy

**Key Areas** 

Consulting & Advisory Services





Policy Research and Knowledge Dissemination

Awareness, Outreach & Sensitization





Learning & Capacity Building

# Independent Director's

**Centre for Independent Directors** housed at the **School of Corporate Governance & Public Policy** at IICA maintains the National Ostabank Portal for Independent Directors in India.

The conter and the portal together serves as a key mechanism for capacity building interventions, enhancing the corporate governance acosystem in the country.





#### **Key Contacts**





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