

INED Compass: Navigating Compliance & Risk

Wk	Module Title	Session A (60 min)	Session B (60 min)
1	The Irish Regulatory Landscape & IAF/SEAR	The Regulatory Architecture of Irish Financial Services & key regulatory frameworks: (CBI, EBA, ESMA, ECB/SSM, PRISM model)	IAF/SEAR: Senior Executive Accountability Regime (PCFs, Conduct Standards, Statements of Responsibility)
2	Corporate Governance	Board Structure, Composition & Committees: (Corporate Governance Code; Audit, Risk, Remco, Nomination; three lines of defence)	Culture, Conduct & Board Effectiveness (CBI Culture Framework, board evaluation)
3	The Role of the Independent Non-Executive Director	Duties, Obligations & the Nature of Independence (Companies Act 2014, Fitness & Probity, D&O liability)	Exercising effective challenge & managing conflicts (Escalation, whistleblowing, groupthink avoidance) CBI inspection readiness, enforcement, CPD
4	Strategy, Leadership and ESG	Strategic Thinking & the Board's role in Strategy (Strategy formation vs. oversight, challenging management plans, scenario planning) Leadership, Board Dynamics & Leading through change (Chair/CEO relationships, inclusive leadership, crisis leadership)	Climate, ESG & Sustainable Finance ESG: SFDR, CSRD, ECB climate guidance — board duties and disclosure
5	Risk Management	Enterprise Risk Management & the Board's Role (Risk appetite; operational/credit/market/liquidity/conduct)	Digital, Cyber & Operational Resilience (DORA, outsourcing, AI governance) Board-Level Risk Oversight in Practice
6	Anti-Money Laundering, CTF & Financial Crime	The AML/CTF Legal & Regulatory Framework (CJA 2010–2021, AMLD4–6, FATF, CDD/EDD, KYC, PEPs) The role of AMLA	Board Responsibilities & Financial Crime Red Flags (MLRO role, STRs, sanctions, bribery, fraud, market abuse)

Summary:

Board responsibilities continue to evolve, with increasing regulatory expectations, governance requirements and scrutiny across the Financial Services sector.

To support Independent Non-Executive Directors in navigating these developments, BDO Ireland and the Compliance Institute have developed a new six-week CPD-accredited online programme, beginning on 29 September. Sessions will be delivered by specialists from BDO Ireland and BDO UK, alongside guest speakers from the Financial Services sector.

The programme will cover:

- The Irish regulatory landscape and IAF/SEAR
- Corporate governance
- The role of the Independent Non-Executive Director
- Strategy, leadership and ESG
- Risk management
- Anti-money laundering, CTF and financial crime

Who the program is for:

This six-week course is designed for Independent Non-Executive Directors early in their career, and for those who want to reconnect with the essentials of the role in Financial Services. With expectations on boards continuing to rise, the programme provides a practical overview of what effective Independent Non-Executive Directors do. It explores where to add value, how to challenge and support constructively, and how to keep pace with the governance, regulatory and risk factors that influence board decisions.