



Maria Katsarou

Consultancy and Coaching experience

Maria works in association with SWAN Consulting, and brings a wealth of “hands-on” coaching and corporate experience to her coaching and development of Leaders. She has worked within the corporate structure of national and multi-national companies, and has many years experience of having to negotiate her own path through personal and organisational challenges. These experiences enable her to combine her real world experience in coaching and development in her work with clients. Her philosophy is practical and pragmatic and she uses her skills to increase people’s effectiveness and maximise their potential.

Recent and current assignment include:

- Senior Management Development Programmes for multi-national Global telecoms company
- Setting up Human Resources Systems for a large Shipping Organisation
- Design and facilitation of a workshop for the senior Sales Trainers on increasing awareness and effectiveness in providing feedback and improving Sales Teams’ performance
- Design, develop and run a self awareness, increase effectiveness programme including one to one coaching for the Managing Director and entire management team of World Leading retail organisation.
- Coaching and developing managers as part of a succession planning programme.

Line management experience

She has wide industry knowledge and has worked in senior roles with large multi-nationals like SCA Hygiene, Johnson & Johnson, Henkel-Ecolab (Athens and Düsseldorf), where she was responsible for providing the strategic direction, development, support, coordination and control of all HR activities. Her last role was HR Director of Diageo Greece and Turkey. She has led initiatives that included setting up a Human Resources Department, embedding HR process and systems, introducing and being a catalyst for organisational change, as well as leading multi-cultural leadership programmes in Greece, Germany, South Africa, Eastern Europe and Turkey.

Background

Maria grew up in Lagos Nigeria and is now Athens based where she is a co-founder of Our World Group. She has a Bachelor’s Degree in Management and Organisational Behaviour and a Master’s Degree in Human Resources Management and she is currently pursuing a Master’s programme in Psychology. Maria is MBTI, FIRO trained, and has also been a tutor in Management courses at The American College of Greece and teaches at other Academic Institutions. She is multi-lingual, fluent in English, French, German and Greek and brings her international hands-on experience to the Coaching and Development environment.