

# LUKA LUGARIC

## Global Project & Program Manager, Multi-Industry Expertise

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## SUMMARY

- 20 years' international experience leading and delivering complex, multi-stakeholder programs across manufacturing, technology, government and energy sectors, from strategy design to measurable business impact
- Expert in program governance, operational efficiency, and cross-site execution for multinational organizations
- Delivers on-time, on-budget projects with measurable cost savings, risk reduction, and process improvements
- Hands-on leadership of global teams (30+ people, €50M+ programs) across four continents
- Certified PMP & PRINCE2, Lean Management trained, with strong data analytics skills
- Comfortable in boardrooms and on shop floors, bridging technical insights and strategic execution
- Special expertise in industrial decarbonization and sustainability as part of broader transformation initiatives

## CAREER

### 2023 - Present | Independent Project & Program Manager (Owner, Lumaras) — Global

Delivering strategic and operational programs and projects for multinational clients across manufacturing, technology, government and energy sectors. Selected engagements include:

**Umicore (Materials):** Directed €50M global operational program spanning procurement, OPEX and cross-site services (Belgium / Korea / China / EU / Canada).

- Led a 30+ member cross-functional team to redesign global supply chains for critical plant equipment, delivering sustainable cost savings and supplier resilience.
- Established standardized PMO practices and reporting across multiple countries, strengthening governance and visibility for senior leadership.
- Integrated sustainability initiatives into the broader program, supporting corporate decarbonisation and efficiency targets.

**3M (Manufacturing) & Pyxera Global (Corporate Services):** Managed a six-month program to develop STEM and operational capacity across three sites (Croatia).

- Coordinated team members from USA, India, Turkey and Germany.
- Applied agile project management to deliver a portfolio of initiatives on schedule and within scope

**Trocellen (Materials):** Designed a multi-site operational improvement and decarbonisation roadmap prioritizing 5 - 10 year ROI (Germany / Hungary / Italy / Malaysia);

- Executed data analytics for production line energy audits
- Developed implementation plans and feasibility analyses for decarbonization investments

**AvantGarde Group (Decarbonization Consulting):** Head of Digital Solutions

- Led digital product development and pilot implementation for a carbon accounting and planning platform aimed at industrial manufacturing.
- Established inter-company partnerships for industrial IoT solutions; developed MVPs and pitched to prospective customers.
- Delivered data-driven tools and dashboards to improve client decision-making on operations and sustainability.

**Amazon & Speyside Group (Corporate Services):** Senior Consultant advising on digital innovation, e-commerce operations and economic policy.

- Produced executive briefings and analyses on business conditions and risk factors across South-East Europe for senior leadership.

**EU-Funded Projects (Multiple countries):**

- Designed multi-criteria methodologies for industrial transition planning (Serbia); developed regional decarbonisation and transition frameworks aligned with the European Green Deal (Georgia, Ukraine, Moldova, Armenia); mentored climate-tech start-ups and conducted carbon footprint modelling for public-private initiatives (Croatia, Kosovo).

## 2022 - 2023 | Senior Project Manager | Agoda (Booking.com Group) | Thailand

- Led cross-functional teams to deliver high-impact operational and digital transformation projects across Booking, Agoda and Priceline.
- Implemented data-driven decision-making and agile problem-solving with a 14-person team.
- Achieved 25% cost reduction through intercompany support process reengineering.
- Delivered \$1.2M annual savings via product strategy, optimizations, machine learning and virtual card processes

## 2015 - 2022 | Senior Manager | Dubai Supreme Council of Energy (Government) | UAE

- Managed a \$25B, 10-year energy and water strategy portfolio covering planning, stakeholder engagement and execution oversight.
- Directed updates to Dubai's DSM Strategy 2030 (€10B+ efficiency project pipeline).
- Built and managed a PPP network of 20+ entities; launched 11 public-private programs in energy efficiency and circular economy.
- Established governance frameworks and reporting to ensure portfolio performance and stakeholder alignment

## 2013 - 2015 | Project Manager | Dok-Ing Ltd. (Manufacturing) | Croatia

- Managed full lifecycle of robotic vehicle R&D and manufacturing projects under PMP methodology.
- Delivered electronics platform testbed project generating 200%+ ROI with sales team.
- Introduced structured project tracking and risk management to improve delivery predictability.

## 2012 - 2013 | Project Specialist | Center for Energy Sector Investments (Consulting) | Croatia

- Prepared restructuring plan for €4.5B renewables incentive system, aligning with EU regulations and investor requirements.
- Supported investor outreach for Croatia's first LNG terminal project.

## 2009 - 2012 | Program Manager | UNDP (International Development) | South-East Europe

- Designed and managed "Smart Energy City" project pipeline for EU funding across multiple municipalities.
- Co-authored a widely used book on industrial energy management (Wiley).
- Coordinated cross-border donor and government stakeholders to deliver technical assistance programs.

## 2007 - 2012 | Research Scientist & PhD Candidate | University of Zagreb (R&D) | Croatia

- Developed grant proposal and co-directed NATO "Science for Peace" project in sustainable energy.
- Published 10+ research papers; presented findings at international conferences.
- Supervised graduate students and coordinated laboratory collaborations.

## EDUCATION

Master's in Sustainability Leadership	University of Cambridge, UK
Master's in Electrical Engineering - Energy Systems	University of Zagreb, Croatia
Postgraduate Degree in Management (mini-MBA)	University of Zagreb, Croatia

## CERTIFICATIONS

Project Management Professional (PMP)

PRINCE2 Foundation

Lean Management & Manufacturing Expert — Six Sigma Academy

Additional trainings: Agile/SCRUM practices, stakeholder engagement, and data-driven project management

## LANGUAGES

English	Near-native
Croatian	Native

## IT & TOOLS

Project & Collaboration:	MS Project, JIRA, Confluence, Notion, SharePoint and other PMO dashboards
Data & Analytics:	Advanced Excel modeling, PowerBI, Tableau, SQL, Python (working knowledge)
Procurement & Operations:	SAP Ariba