

Dear Friends,

Hope you are fine, healthy and safe during the time when we have been forced to change our work patterns, family routines and lifestyle in general.

Our **WG Update April 2020** shows that observing physical distancing measures and recommendations did not prevent us from maintaining our professional work communication and collaboration, including those related to our individual and collective engagement with the issue of poverty and the SDGs.

Anti-poverty Toolkit to Support Online Learning and Teaching

We are glad to hear that some of our WG members and friends from the responsible management education community have already started using the [Anti-poverty Toolkit](#). More than 500 artifacts published at XX have proven a timely and handy source for learning and teaching while most universities and colleges are running classes online.

To help guide the use of the Toolkit for both faculty and students, the first of a series of Toolkit videos is now online. Produced by **Gabriel Bennett**, a member of the student team from Radford University that has been led by Tay Keong Tan, the video provides a brief yet complete introduction on [how to use the Toolkit](#). We encourage you and your students to explore.

7th Responsible Management Education Research Conference, 19-21 October, Chur, Switzerland

Last week, the submission window for contributions for the [7th RME Research Conference](#) on, "*The Promise of Digitalization and Artificial Intelligence: Implications for Responsible Management Education and Moving forward with the SDGs*," opened. The deadline for submission is 31 May.

As previously reported, our WG is hosting a special conference track within the Conference Stream: *Alleviate Poverty and Hunger*. It includes a **Research** session on *Action and Impact-Oriented Research to Harness the Promise of Digitalization and Artificial Intelligence for Poverty Alleviation*, and a **Teaching and Learning** session on *Developing Mindsets and Capabilities for Poverty Alleviation through Innovative Pedagogical Methods*. In addition, our WG is engaged in the preparation of a **plenary session** on *Building RME Implementation Coalitions for Impact in the Decade of Action*, which will bring together major players in the landscape of responsible management education to discuss how to create synergy through a close internal and external communication and collaboration. As per tradition, we will have also our **WG Planning Session**, where the current activities and new ideas for the future WG projects will be presented and discussed.

Our friend **Christian Hauser**, on the conference Organizing Committee, says they are carefully monitoring the situation, with the health and safety of the conference conveners as the highest priority. Currently, the organizers are planning for a face-to-face gathering in Chur, but are prepared to proactively look for virtual solutions, should the circumstances dictate such a move. Please follow the conference home page, where the information has been regularly updated.

Responding to the Covid-19 Crisis

In every country, individuals and institutions of all kinds (e.g., health care, national, regional and local governments, civil society organizations) have mobilized and have contribute towards mitigating the devastating effects of the Coronavirus. Business schools and management development institutions should not be an exception to this. On the contrary, they should be among the frontrunners.

WHO Director-General **Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus** said, speaking at a virtual briefing on 8 May, “*We cannot end the pandemic until we address the inequalities that are fueling it*”. This pandemic highlights that poverty alleviation is now more important than ever – as inequalities and fault lines between socio-economic groups have become more apparent. As in the past, our WG can be thought-leaders in dealing with these issues.

As a stimulus for this, we share with you three interesting, inspiring/provoking articles on the future post Covid-19:

1. The consulting firm, McKinsey, has replaced the phrase “the new normal” with a phrase we think better describes the future: “the next normal.” McKinsey further describes five qualities that will be critical for [business leaders to find their way to the next normal](#): **resolve, resilience, return, reimagination, and reform**. We think these 5 Rs apply broadly including to our WG. This is our ongoing charge and challenge.
2. Here is a collection of thoughts from **75 experts and thinkers** from different fields and disciplines on the post-Covid-19 world, published in the Spanish newspaper [El Pais](#). (In case you cannot have access to the English version of the article, please let us know and we will share with you the English translation).
3. This is a radio [interview for France24](#) with the famous French writer **Michel Houellebecq**.

News from our Members and Partners

- Our friend **Florencia Librizzi**, Head of Program and Partnerships, SDG Academy at USDN, is informing us that they are partnering with **edX** to provide universities with **codes for free certificates that you can circulate to your students, to take any course in the edX platform** (including our SDG Academy courses). [Here](#) is the link. There is no commitment or cost for the university and might help your institutions as you navigate these unprecedented times. As a reminder, the SDG Academy courses and videos are also available for free in the [SDG AcademyX](#) edX platform (for courses) and in the [SDG Academy Library](#) (for videos). [Here](#) is a webinar on how to access the info.
- Our friend, **Christina Bache**, Co-chair of the PRME Business for Peace Working Group, is inviting us to their webinar on *Reimagining Business, Security and Human Rights in COVID-Affected and Fragile Contexts*”, which will be held on **Wednesday, May 20th at 9:00 AM (EST)**. The speakers, Alan Bryden, DCAF, and Claude Voillat, ICRC, will share how the two organizations work hand-in-hand to address security and human rights challenges faced by corporate actors in fragile contexts. If you (or your students) are interested in participating, please [register](#) in advance.
- Our friend **Anne Tsui** from the Responsible Research in Business and Management is sharing with us the latest [RRBM Newsletter](#) with the editorial introduction entitled *The Turning Point for Responsible Research?*

Looking forward to our future communication, collaboration and meetings,

With best wishes,

Al Rosenbloom and Milenko Gudić

P.S. Attached please find the latest updated **WG membership list**, which includes **215 members** from 173 institutions in 62 countries!

SHIRLEY YEUNG

Books

<https://www.virtusinterpress.org/-Future-Talent-Development-via-UNSDGs-Second-Edition-.html>

<https://www.amazon.com/9786202514217/s?k=9786202514217>

Article <https://www.psychosocial.com/article/PR260361/14290/>

the next normal that will emerge after the battle against coronavirus has been won: Resolve, Resilience, Return, Reimagination, and Reform.

<https://www.mckinsey.com/industries/healthcare-systems-and-services/our-insights/beyond-coronavirus-the-path-to-the-next-normal>

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