

Dear Friends,

We hope you have enjoyed the holidays and seasonal break and entered the New Year with the hopes that it will be better than the one that is behind us.

The year behind us was more than challenging in all aspects of our personal, family and professional lives. The impact of the Covid-19 pandemic has been dramatic and will continue to change our lives. We have learnt a lot from this global crisis: That we need to stay together, face the challenges and try to respond to them the best we can, individually but particularly collectively.

In this respect, the issues of poverty, and the SDGs in general, have not lost anything from their importance and urgency. On the contrary, they have become central to global efforts not only for fighting the pandemic and its immediate consequences, but also for a sustainable and better world in general.

As we move ahead, the purpose of the **December 2019 Anti-poverty WG Update** is to make a bridge between our activities in 2020 and the ones that we are envisioning for 2021. We summarize items from the Anti-poverty WG Annual Report that we submit in January to the PRME Secretariat and highlight the first information on the **8th RME Research Conference that will take place in China in October 2021, hosted by our WG member** (see below for details).

As always, the Update will provide insights into the latest achievements of our WG members and relevant information from our friends and partners.

Summary of the WG Annual Report 2020 and Outlook for 2021

- We co-organized the 7th RMER Conference in Switzerland along with the conference tracks and sessions that we proposed, including those related to the panel on Building Implementation Coalition between different actors operating in responsible management space.
- We participated in PRME WGs' Co-chairs meeting in November, where other WGs heard of the many member projects and events that we highlight regularly in our Updates such as: dissemination of research and publishing outcomes, individual and institutional best practices, videos, invitations for various international research projects, conferences, call for papers and/or book chapters, invitations for institutional collaboration, travel scholarship, etc.
- We emphasized our future work on the Anti-Poverty Toolkit project.
- We continued in our role of co-organizing the **8th RMER Conference to be held in 2021 in China**.

8th RME Research Conference

The 8th RMER event will take place in the 3rd week of October in Suzhou, China. It will be hosted by our WG member **Xuanwei Cao**. The tentative conference theme is *Poverty and Prosperity: Implications for the Advancement of the SDGs, 2030 Agenda, and Responsible Management Education in the Post Pandemic World*, which coincides with the interest for our WG members. Our WG has already started developing with the organizer the initial program design, as well as on other activities that could contribute to the importance and impact of the conference.

In the coming weeks you will receive the **Save-the-Date** announcement and **Call for Contributions**. We look forward to receiving your ideas on how our WG can best prepare and organize its participation through regular conference sessions, special roundtables and panels, as well as different side events.

WG webinar organized by PRME Business for Peace (B4P) Working Group

As a result of a 9 October joint meeting between B4P and our WG's co-chairs, our WG was asked to develop a webinar on poverty to be delivered as part of the B4P ongoing webinar series. The webinar, hosted by the PRME Secretariat, will take place in late February 2021. You will receive registration information for this free webinar shortly.

News from our Members and Partners

- Our WG member from IMD-Lausanne, Switzerland, **Vanina Farber** has just published a book (co-authored with **Peter Wuffli**) titled, [The elea Way - A Learning Journey Toward Sustainable Impact](#). The book is focused on how to bridge impact investing and entrepreneurship to fight absolute poverty, offering practical advice on how inclusive capitalism can address absolute poverty.
- **Kleio Akrivou** our WG member from Henley Business School (UK) is sharing her [recent publications](#) on various ethical, moral and responsible management education issues.
- Our WG member from Goa Institute of Management in India, **Divya Singhal** is sharing her [personal thoughts and reflections on 2020](#), including her personal learning while being Covi-19 infected.
- **Shirley Yeung** published a new book under post Covid19. The new book on wellness business has a Foreword written by Prof Bradley Barnes, Dean, School of Business, Hang Seng University, HK. She also participated in the [South-South Entrepreneurship Academy](#).
- **Begoña Jamardo** shares her institution's (IESIDE) [Sharing of Information Report \(SIP\)](#)
- Our friends at the **B4P WG** encourage use of their website for relevant resources and upcoming events: <http://unprmeb4p.org/>
- **Isabel Rimanoczy**, co-chair of the PRME Sustainability Mindset WG, has recently published a new book, [The-Sustainability-Mindset-Principles-A-Guide-to-Developing-a-Mindset](#)
- **Business Fights Poverty** invites WG members to a 21 January webinar, [Rebuild Better Summit: Where Now?](#) (free registration)
- Our WG friend, **Paolo D'Anselmi** informs on his recent publications that include: Essential Issues in CSR - New Insights and Recent Issues , The Privileged Working Conditions Of Public Employees Sanctioned By Public Law: Adding One Dimension To Inequality published in *Journal of Inequality Inquiry* and [Ideal Types and Behavioral Hypotheses: Public Law, Max Weber and the New Public Administration](#) published in Weber Series 2020
- Our WG friend from Tec de Monterrey, Mexico, and San José State University, USA, **Sergio Ortiz Valdés**, has published a book [Formación emprendedora universitaria: más allá de los mitos. Emprendimiento con sentido de propósito](#). The book focuses on going beyond the traditional myths in educating entrepreneurs with a sense of purpose.

Looking forward to our future communication and collaboration in 2021,

With the very best wishes for the year that has started,

Al Rosenbloom and Milenko Gudić