STRUGGLES AND SUCCESSES IN THE CREATION OF AN ANTI-POVERTY TOOLKIT

THE UN ANTI-POVERTY TOOLKIT WORKING GROUP

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OUR 2030 VISION
Realising the Sustainable Development Goals through responsible management education.

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PRME Working Group on Poverty, a Challenge for Management Education

Description
SESSION OBJECTIVES

- Examine the process of developing an open and universally accessible Anti-Poverty Toolkit
- Demonstrate the use of the Toolkit’s materials in designing new university-level courses on Poverty
- Draw lessons from the experience
1. No Poverty

2. No Hunger

3. Good Health

4. Quality Education

5. Gender Equality

6. Clean Water and Sanitation

7. Affordable and Clean Energy

8. Good Jobs and Economic Growth

9. Decent Work and Economic Growth

10. Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure

11. Sustainable Cities and Communities

12. Responsible Consumption and Production

13. Climate Action

14. Life Below Water

15. Life on Land

16. Peace and Justice

17. Partnerships for the Goals
ORIGINS OF THE ANTI-POVERTY TOOLKIT

- In 2016, the UN PRME Anti-Poverty Working Group ranked the Anti-Poverty Toolkit as a top-priority project for the network.

- In 2017, an Anti-Poverty Toolkit Task Force was formed to spearhead the project.

- In August 2018, the UN's Anti-Poverty Working Group asked a team of four Radford University students and one faculty member to develop a nucleus of resources to aid in the education of poverty.
PEER-REVIEW PROCESS

• Student Researchers source for artifacts on select topics on Poverty, assess their relevance and accessibility. Record citations and draft synopses.
• Faculty advisor collate and edit the researched artifacts, and verify sources. Sends bi-monthly reports to the Co-Chairs of the UN PRME Anti-Poverty Working Group.
• Co-Chairs review artifacts, shares updates with Anti-Poverty Toolkit Working Group, and offer feedback to Faculty Advisor.
• Faculty advisor relay feedback to the Student Researchers.
FEATURES OF THE ANTI-POVERTY TOOLKIT
Radford University Anti-Poverty Toolkit Research Team
The City of Jonkoping, Sweden
Jonkoping University Campus
2019 UN Global Research Conference in Jonkoping, Sweden
Radford University Team receiving Excellence in Research Awards at the UN Research Conference in Jonkoping, Sweden
TWO TOOLKIT WEBSITES DEVELOPED

- **Main Website** – www.povertytoolkit.org
- Supplementary Website: www.povertytoolkit.net, a sandbox for experimentation and design exploration
- **502** Artifacts sourced and uploaded.
TOOLKIT WEBSITE:
WWW.POVERTYTOOLKIT.NET
TWO NEW COURSES ON POVERTY

• First Course: World Poverty and Global Sustainability, POSC 380. Upper-level 14-weeks’ undergraduate course in Political Science
• Second Course: Solutions and Interventions on World Poverty and Hunger, POSC 399. Upper-level 7-weeks’ undergraduate module explores best practices and policy prescriptions in poverty alleviation and hunger abatement
Learn the concepts and issues related to world poverty and global sustainability

Explore the different methods of diagnosing, measuring, and analyzing poverty

Experience the difficulties and dilemmas faced by the poor, and examine the solutions for poverty alleviation
SOLUTIONS AND INTERVENTIONS ON GLOBAL POVERTY AND WORLD HUNGER: TOPICS IN 7 WEEKS

- Week 1: Facts and Concepts on Global Poverty and World Hunger.
- Week 2: Education, Gender, and Inequality and Their Impact on Poverty and Hunger.
- Week 3: Health Policies and Demographic Solutions.
- Week 4: Green Energy and Sustainable Industry.
- Week 5: Food Systems and Agriculture.
- Week 6: Sustainable Cities and Communities.
- Week 7: Artificial Intelligence and Digital Revolution.
CLIMATE CHANGE AND POVERTY: OPEN, ONLINE COURSE MATERIALS

- Weekly reading: https://www.ucsf.edu/news/2016/01/401251/poor-health-when-poverty-becomes-disease. Article gives an overview of how poverty and healthcare relate to each other; problems with one affect the other.

- Background reading: https://grist.org/series/poverty-the-environment-on-economic-and-ecological-survival. This source discusses in-depth the linkages between poverty and climate change.

- Case Study reading: https://borgenproject.org/the-effect-global-poverty-has-on-wildlife. This website focuses on the effect that poverty on animal life, and the unintended consequences of human behavior on wildlife.
Main Reading: https://www.ucsusa.org/food-agriculture/advance-sustainable-agriculture/what-is-sustainable-agriculture. This reading covers several ways the agricultural industry can be made more efficient.

Background Reading: https://www.scientificamerican.com/article/webber-more-efficient-foods-less-waste/. The data and graphics illustrate the amount of food waste produced in various sources and sectors.

Case Study: https://asi.ucdavis.edu/programs/ucsarep/about/what-is-sustainable-agriculture. This website covers many aspects of sustainable food production and proposes solutions to the looming global food crisis.
IN-CLASS EXERCISE ON POVERTY AND SUSTAINABILITY: THE MODIFIED MONOPOLY GAME

- Students will play a game of monopoly with different rules, in order to illustrate systemic challenges to the poor.
- Four players will each be assigned a class: Wealthy, well-off, middle class, and poor.
- Each class will start the game with different amounts of money, and the upper two classes will start off the game with properties.
- Students can play with modified and changing rules, and will later discuss how their experiences of an unequal world and the oppressive conditions of the poor relate to real world situations.
GROUP EXERCISE ON WORLD POVERTY AND HUNGER – HUNGER MAP ANALYSIS

- Using a map developed by the Relief Web: https://reliefweb.int/map/world/hunger-map-2018, students will look at incidences and severity of hunger in parts of the world.
- They will work in groups to analyze the different types and levels of hunger in select countries.
- Student groups will also compare and contrast the phenomena of poverty in certain neighboring countries (such as Iran and Iraq, North and South Korea, and Chad and Niger), and how poverty is manifested in different types and levels of hunger.
HUNGER MAP ANALYSIS

Source: World Food Programme, 2018,
WHERE GLOBAL CAREERS ARE BORN.
2019 Global Gathering of PRME Community

RMER - Responsible Management Education Research

Multistakeholder Engagement for Agenda 2030

30 September - 3 October 2019

Location: Jönköping International Business School, Jönköping, Sweden

Sponsored by Jönköping International Business School and the Municipality of Jönköping

Please register here

Regular fee from 1 August until 30 August: 3950 SEK
Late fee 31 August - 22 September: 4450 SEK

Following the success of the RME Research Conference last year in Germany and previously in Brazil, Switzerland and Egypt.
MAKING IT IN THE REAL WORLD
POVERTY LESSON 1

- Poverty is closely linked to many SDGs.
- Poverty and problems in global sustainability (e.g. hunger, inequality, lack of access to basic healthcare and primary education, climate change) are intertwined.
POVERTY LESSON 2

- Poverty is hard to measure due to its many facets.
- It is manifested in joblessness, malnutrition and endemic hunger, low levels of education and life skills, and suffering from war and conflict, debt, natural disasters, and epidemics.
POVERTY LESSON 3

- The world is faltering in the fight against world poverty.
- Violent conflicts and growing vulnerability to natural disaster and global warming in poor countries.
- Rising inequality in middle- and high-income countries.
POVERTY LESSON 4

- Half the nations of the world are not on track to eradicate extreme poverty by 2030.
- Poverty alleviation is a major, if not the primary, objective of the Global Goals.
Significant progress made in eradicating world poverty over the past decades. However, helping the remaining poorest of the poor proved difficult.

Hard to locate them, diagnose their needs, and find workable solutions.
MAKING IT IN THE REAL WORLD
New research is constantly emerging on Poverty, bringing new ideas and data.

An Anti-Poverty website is a “living portal” that must be constantly accessed and regularly updated.

Like tending to a garden.
University-level courses can be created using free, online materials from the Toolkit. There is no ideal, universally-affordable textbook on Poverty.

The use of free educational materials can empower educators and researchers in poor countries to solve their societies’ problems.
The process of building a toolkit is like a long-distance yacht race, requiring persistent effort, teamwork, and the commitment and the support of many stakeholders.

This toolkit emerged from the vision of the UN PRME Anti-Poverty Working Group, the initiative of a small group of researchers, and significant support from Radford University’s College of Humanities and Behavioral Studies, Center for Global Education and Engagement, & the Office of Undergraduate Research and Scholarship.
PROJECT OUTPUTS

- Anti-Poverty Toolkit with 502 Open Educational Materials reviewed, synopsized, and evaluated through internal and external peer-review.
- Two Websites to host the Toolkit:
  1. www.povertytoolkit.org
  2. www.povertytoolkit.net
- Two New Courses on Poverty created using the Toolkit
  1. World Poverty and Global Sustainability
  2. Solutions and Interventions on Global Poverty and World Hunger
- Two Conference Presentations (PRME Research Conference 2019)
- Two Grant Proposals to Finance the Toolkit’s Future Development
Promotion of courses on Poverty offered by members of the UN Anti-Poverty Working Group, which consists of about 200+ members from 160+ institutions in 60+ countries. The members of this group are educators who teach courses on poverty and have researched and published on poverty-related topics.

If only 20% of the UN PRME Anti-Poverty Working Group members (each teaching 40 students per class and two courses per year) adopted the open educational materials from the Toolkit, there will be 40 instructors plus 3,200 students benefiting worldwide each year.
A textbook on Poverty, e.g. *Handbook on Poverty and Inequality* (published by the World Bank for training workshops on poverty around the world) by J. Haughton and S. Khandker costs $39.95.

The projected global annual savings in textbook costs, if 20% of the 200 scholars in the Anti-Poverty Working Group were to create a new course and another 20% were to switch from a textbook (costing $40) to the open, free materials of the Toolkit = $40 x 3,200 x 2 = $256,000.

Longer-term benefits include promoting anti-poverty research, and the advancement of knowledge and good practices in poverty alleviation and hunger abatement (contributing to SDGs #1 and #2).
The Toolkit Research Team would like to thank:

- College for Humanities and Behavioral Sciences
- Political Science Department of Radford University
- Center for Global Education and Engagement
- Office of Undergraduate Research and Scholarship
- Anti-Poverty Working Group of the UN PRME