

PRME WORKING GROUP
Responsible Supply Chain

WEBINAR

Responsible Supply Chains in Polycrisis: Resilience, Rights, and the Role of Business Schools

Wednesday, 14 May 2025 | 15:30 – 17:00 IST
Business School Faculty & Researchers

◆ SECTION 1 ◆

Concept Note

Overview

The world is navigating an era of compounding disruptions — geopolitical fragmentation, climate volatility, post-pandemic reshoring pressures, and mounting human rights obligations. Supply chains sit at the epicentre of this polycrisis, exposing fundamental tensions between efficiency, resilience, and rights. Yet most business schools remain ill-equipped to help students navigate these tensions in an integrated way.

This PRME Working Group webinar convenes leading faculty, researchers, and curriculum innovators to examine how responsible supply chain management education must evolve — and what role business schools can and must play in preparing future leaders.

Background & Rationale

The concept of ‘polycrisis’ — coined to describe simultaneous, interconnected global crises — has profound implications for how supply chains are designed, governed, and taught. The following converging forces make this webinar timely and urgent:

- Regulatory expansion: The EU Corporate Sustainability Due Diligence Directive (CS3D), Germany’s Supply Chain Act (LkSG), and the US Uyghur Forced Labor Prevention Act are reshaping compliance expectations globally.
- Geopolitical fragmentation: De-globalisation pressures, friend-shoring, and trade volatility are forcing firms to rethink supply network architecture in ways that carry significant social and environmental trade-offs.
- Human rights in the spotlight: Forced labour, modern slavery, and living wage gaps persist deep within supply chains — often invisible to buyers and educators alike.
- Climate-supply chain nexus: Extreme weather events, resource scarcity, and carbon accountability are disrupting sourcing strategies and supplier relationships worldwide.

- Pedagogy gap: Case studies, frameworks, and teaching tools in responsible supply chain management have not kept pace with the complexity students will face.

Objectives

This webinar aims to:

- Establish a shared understanding of polycrisis as a strategic supply chain challenge for educators.
- Explore how human rights due diligence can be meaningfully integrated into supply chain curricula.
- Surface innovative pedagogical approaches — simulations, case studies, field projects from PRME member schools.
- Identify gaps in current teaching materials and catalyse collaborative content development.
- Build community among faculty and researchers committed to advancing responsible supply chain education.

Key Themes Addressed

- Resilience vs. responsibility: Can supply chains be both lean and ethical?
- Regulatory literacy: Embedding CS3D, LkSG, and UFLPA into core curriculum
- Deep supply chain visibility: Teaching beyond Tier 1 thinking
- Decolonising the supply chain classroom: Global South perspectives
- From audit to partnership: Reimagining supplier relationships

Target Audience

This webinar is designed for business school faculty and researchers who teach or research in the areas of supply chain management, operations, sustainability, business ethics, or international business. It is particularly relevant for:

- Faculty developing or redesigning courses in operations, procurement, or sustainability
- Researchers working on responsible business, supply chain ethics, or global value chains
- Curriculum leads and deans responsible for PRME-aligned programme development
- PhD students and early-career academics entering responsible business research.

Full Webinar Agenda

Date: Wednesday, 14 May 2025 | Time: 15:30–17:00 IST | Duration: 90 Minutes | Format: Online (MS Teams)

TIME	SEGMENT	DESCRIPTION
15:30–15:35	Welcome & Housekeeping Dr. Sunita Rani	PRME WG Facilitator opens the session, introduces the platform, and outlines webinar norms. Land acknowledgement and PRME mission reminder.
15:35–15:45	Opening Address By Dr. Donna Marshall	Keynote framing: 'Why Polycrisis Demands a Pedagogy Revolution.' Senior academic or PRME representative sets the context- connecting geopolitical disruption, human rights gaps, and the urgency for business school leadership.
15:45–16:00	Panel Presentation 1 Participant: Mr. Dhananjay Krishna (Practitioner) Dr. Arshia Kaul (Academic Youth Leader)	Resilience & Rights in Tension. Two panellists (academic + practitioner) present 7–8 minutes each on: (1) How supply chain resilience strategies risk displacing workers in vulnerable economies; (2) A corporate case study navigating polycrisis while upholding supplier commitments.
16:00–16:15	Panel Presentation 2 Dr. Syed Hassan Jaffer Dr. Sujit Singh	What Are Business Schools Teaching — And What Are They Missing? Two faculty panellists share: (1) Curriculum audit findings from PRME member schools on responsible supply chain coverage; (2) An innovative pedagogy example — simulation, live case, or field project.
16:15–16:35	Facilitated Discussion All participants	Interactive Q&A and peer exchange. Breakout rooms (optional, 8 minutes): small groups discuss 'One change I will make to my teaching' and report back. Plenary synthesis by facilitator.
16:35–16:50	Working Group Action Lab All participants	Structured collaborative activity: faculty identify priority curriculum gaps, propose collaborative case/content development projects, and sign up for PRME WG working streams.
16:50–16:58	Closing Remarks & Next Steps Dr. Sunita Rani	Summary of key insights. Announcement of follow-up resources: reading list, teaching toolkit, next webinar date. Call for case study submissions and WG membership.
16:58–17:00	Close	Thank you, recording notice, and post-webinar survey link.

Platform & Technical Notes

- Recommended platforms: MS Teams Live Events
- Enable live polling via Mentimeter or Slido for audience engagement
- Breakout rooms: pre-assign groups of 4–5 for diverse institutional mix
- Record for asynchronous access — notify participants at start
- Interpretation: consider French/Spanish channels for global PRME audience
- Post-webinar: share slides, recording link, and discussion summary within 48 hours

◆ SECTION 3 ◆

Speakers & Moderator

The following confirmed speakers will lead this webinar in the order listed below.

Keynote Speaker

ROLE	SPEAKER
Keynote Speaker	Donna Marshall Professor of Supply Chain Management University College Dublin, Ireland

Panel Speakers

ROLE	SPEAKER
Panel Speaker 2	Dhananjay Krishna Sr. Associate Vice President – Sourcing Fertiliser and Raw Materials Coromandel International Limited (Practitioner Perspective)
Panel Speaker 3	Dr. Syed Hassan Jafar Vice-Dean, School of Management Woxsen University, Hyderabad, India (Focus on Curriculum)
Panel Speaker 4	Dr. Arshia Kaul Lecturer – Management, School of Business and Law CQU, Melbourne, Australia (International & Youth Role)
Panel Speaker 5	Dr. Sujit Singh Associate Professor, Operations and Supply Chain Management, School of Management Woxsen University, Hyderabad, India

Moderator

ROLE	SPEAKER
Moderator	Dr. Sunita Rani Associate Professor & Co-Chair, PRME WG on Responsible Supply Chain Woxsen University, Hyderabad, India

Meeting Details

Microsoft Teams – Join Information

- Date: Wednesday, 14 May 2025 | Time: 15:30 – 17:00 IST
- Join Link: <https://teams.microsoft.com/meet/47449586838697?p=7ZbBv18LEpfpoqKliL>
- Meeting ID: 474 495 868 386 97
- Passcode: S5BT3ab6

◆ SECTION 4 ◆

Discussion Questions

These questions are designed for use across the webinar — in live polls, breakout rooms, facilitated plenary discussion, and post-webinar reflection assignments.

Opening Poll (Pre-Webinar or Live at Start)

Deploy via Mentimeter or Slido for instant audience insight:

- How would you rate your current curriculum's coverage of responsible supply chain issues? (Scale: 1 = Not covered, 5 = Comprehensively integrated)
- Which of the following polycrisis drivers do you find hardest to teach? [Options: Geopolitical fragmentation / Climate disruption / Human rights due diligence / Modern slavery / Living wage gaps]
- What is the single biggest barrier to integrating responsible supply chain content in your school? [Options: Lack of teaching materials / No faculty expertise / Not seen as core / No industry partner / Other]

Panel Discussion Questions

Theme 1: Resilience vs. Rights

- Resilience strategies — nearshoring, stockpiling, supplier concentration — often disadvantage workers in the Global South. How should business schools teach students to navigate this trade-off responsibly?
- Is the concept of supply chain resilience itself ideologically loaded? Does it prioritise continuity for buyers over justice for workers?
- What does 'responsible' supply chain reconfiguration look like in practice? Can you share an example where rights and resilience were genuinely reconciled?

Theme 2: Regulation & Compliance

- The CS3D, LkSG, and UFLPA represent a new compliance frontier. How are business schools preparing graduates to advise on these regulations? Are we moving fast enough?
- Do mandatory due diligence laws change the ethical calculus for supply chain managers, or do they risk reducing human rights to a compliance checklist?
- How do we teach students to identify human rights risks beyond Tier 1 suppliers, where data is sparse and audits rarely reach?

Theme 3: Pedagogy & Curriculum

- What does a genuinely transformative responsible supply chain course look like? What makes it different from a standard operations management course with a sustainability module added?

- How do we move from teaching students to audit suppliers to teaching them to partner with suppliers for rights-respecting outcomes?
- Whose voices are missing from supply chain case studies and textbooks? How can PRME members collectively fill this gap?

Breakout Room Prompt

Small Group Discussion (8 minutes)

- Reflect on your own teaching or research: What is ONE responsible supply chain topic you currently cover well?
- What is ONE topic you wish you could teach better — and what is stopping you?
- What resource, collaboration, or support from PRME WG would help you make that change in the next academic year?
- Be prepared to share one insight in the plenary.

Post-Webinar Reflection Questions

Share these with participants via follow-up email for individual or classroom use:

- How does the polycrisis framing change the way you think about supply chain risk management? What should it change in how you teach it?
- Think of a real supply chain disruption from the past two years. Who bore the costs? Who made the decisions? What does this reveal about power, accountability, and responsibility in global value chains?
- If you were to add one new session, case study, or assignment to your supply chain course inspired by today's webinar, what would it be? Draft a 200-word description.
- What does it mean to 'decolonise' supply chain education? What assumptions in dominant frameworks are worth critically examining?
- How can business schools move from producing graduates who manage supply chains to graduates who reform them?

PRME Working Group on Responsible Supply Chain

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