

**Interview with the 2023  
CEEMAN Responsible Management  
Educator of the Year  
- Dr. Shilpi Agarwal**



*Dr. Shilpi Agarwal*

**Teja Duřak:** Congratulations on receiving the CEEMAN Champion Award 2023 in the 'Responsible Management Educator of the Year' category. Can you share what this recognition means to you personally and professionally, and its significance for Woxsen University?

**Shilpi Agarwal:** I am truly honored to receive the CEEMAN Champion Award 2023. This recognition holds profound personal significance as it validates my unwavering commitment to fostering educational and social inclusivity on a global scale. Professionally, this esteemed award serves as a catalyst, motivating me to harness my skills more effectively in steering transformative changes within the realm of education for all. Importantly, it also highlights Woxsen University as a benchmark institution for responsible management education.

**TD:** Reflecting on your journey, what inspired you to focus on ethics, responsibility, and sustainability in management education, and how do you encourage student awareness and involvement in these areas?

**SA:** ERS have been the guiding principles throughout my career, aligning with the imperative to engage every facet of society.

*Sustainability resonates profoundly with the youth, recognizing the importance of preserving the ecosystem for sustained growth. I actively involve my students in various social initiatives, fostering a sense of responsibility towards these critical issues...*

This proactive engagement not only enriches their educational experience but also instills a lifelong commitment to ethical and sustainable practices.

**TD:** Could you detail the innovative projects and ERS activities, especially the Financial Literacy Project, you led at Woxsen University and how they align with the Sustainable Development Goals? Moreover, in your work on promoting financial literacy among rural youth, what challenges did you face and how did you overcome them?

**SA:** Spearheading financial literacy projects in Zila Parishad schools and Government Degree Colleges, I concurrently focused on enhancing the architectural infrastructure of classrooms. Challenges arose from reservations within the targeted groups about the benefits of financial literacy. Overcoming these obstacles involved effective communication and demonstrating tangible advantages, ultimately aligning these initiatives with Sustainable Development Goals for a comprehensive impact. This multi-faceted approach not only addressed financial literacy but also contributed to broader societal development goals.

**TD:** How does collaboration within Woxsen University, including faculty, students, and external partners, contribute to the success of your initiatives in promoting responsible management education?

**SA:** Collaboration within Woxsen University has been instrumental in the success of my initiatives. The unwavering support from faculty, active participation from students, and

partnerships with external entities have fortified the university's commitment to responsible management education. This collaborative ecosystem ensures a holistic approach, enriching the impact and reach of our initiatives beyond the confines of the academic setting.

**TA:** Looking forward, can you share any upcoming projects or initiatives that aim to further the pursuit of responsible management education and its impact on society?

**SA:** I aspire to extend similar projects to European nations, emphasizing social and educational inclusivity. This forward-looking approach seeks to broaden the impact of responsible management education globally, positioning Woxsen University as a trailblazer in the field.

**TD:** In light of global challenges like climate change and inequality, how should management education evolve to prepare future leaders to address these issues effectively?

**SA:** Climate change and inequality pose substantial threats to holistic societal development. Therefore, management education should evolve to instill a profound sense of responsibility and equip future leaders with the skills and knowledge needed to navigate and mitigate these global challenges effectively. It is crucial for educators to integrate real-world problem-solving into curricula, fostering a generation of leaders who are not only adept in business but also committed to driving positive change on a global scale.

**TD:** What advice would you offer to educators and students aspiring to make a difference in management education and beyond, especially in fostering ethics, responsibility, and sustainability?

**SA:** ERS should permeate our daily lives, becoming a guiding ethos for global change. Achieving a better society and world requires mental, physical, and financial collaboration. Educators and students alike must actively contribute to this collective endeavor for a lasting positive impact. By embedding these principles into education, we lay the foundation for a future generation of leaders committed to creating a more just, sustainable, and equitable world.