

THE VOICE INC.



Purpose.Confidence.Contribution

Youth Leadership and spaces for participation: A case study of The Voice Inc.

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Presentation Outline

- Changing landscape from 2007 to 2017;
- Case study of TVI-Findings after ten years of the journey
- Recommendations

***"Youth are a transformative force; they are creative, resourceful and enthusiastic agents of change, be it in public squares or cyberspace."
United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon,
International Youth Day 2012***

"We believe young people are leaders in creating the future today."-TVI Motto

Who are Youth?

The PNG National Youth Policy defines young people between the ages 12-25



Spaces and Place

“Space is a social product..it is not simply “there”, a neutral container waiting to be filled, but is a dynamic, humanly constructed means of control and hence of domination, of power.”

- *H Lefebvre, The production of Space*



The Power of this Moment

2007-2010

Digicel Revolution



10 YEARS IN PNG
CELEBRATIONS

Join the 10 Years
Celebration of Digicel in PNG

DIAL * 675# for 1TOK today

My Digicel
Activate on
My Digicel app
today!

Digicel

A promotional advertisement for Digicel's 10th anniversary in PNG. It features a woman with a large yellow afro and sunglasses giving a thumbs up. The background is red with confetti. Text includes '10 YEARS IN PNG CELEBRATIONS', 'Join the 10 Years Celebration of Digicel in PNG', 'DIAL * 675# for 1TOK today', and 'My Digicel Activate on My Digicel app today! Digicel'.



PNG LNG Project

Delivering PNG's first LNG
project

Driving economic growth in Papua New Guinea
and producing significant, lasting benefits
throughout the country



Vision City



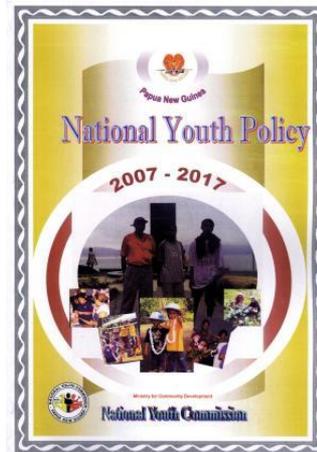
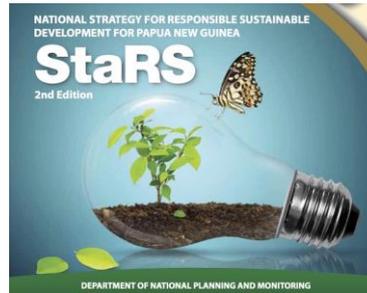
Internet Revolution

**Moa data for your
internet experience**



Government Policy & Strategy

- Youth Policy 2007-2010
- Vision 2050
- StaRS



“Transfer” in Political Power



Birth of The Voice

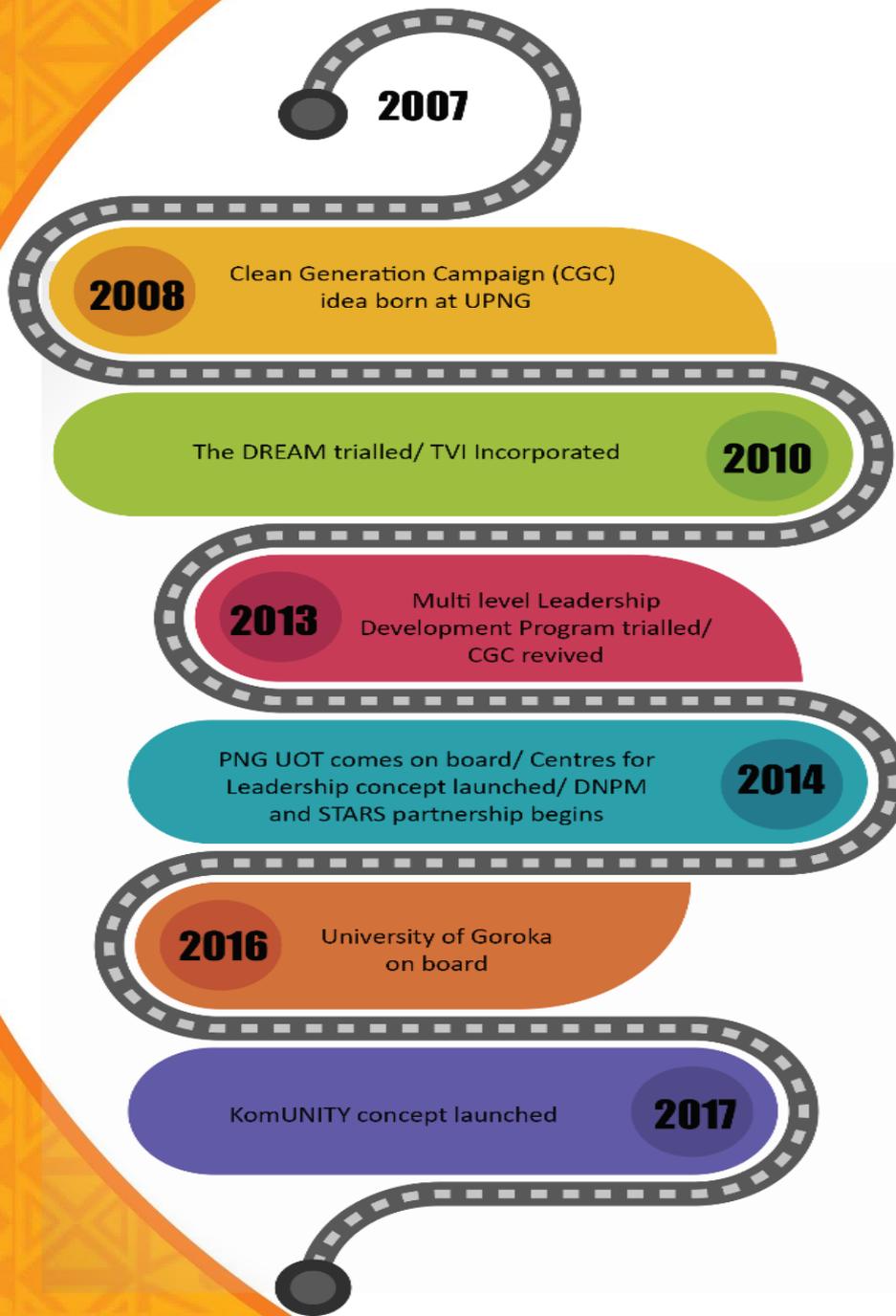


TVI Journey

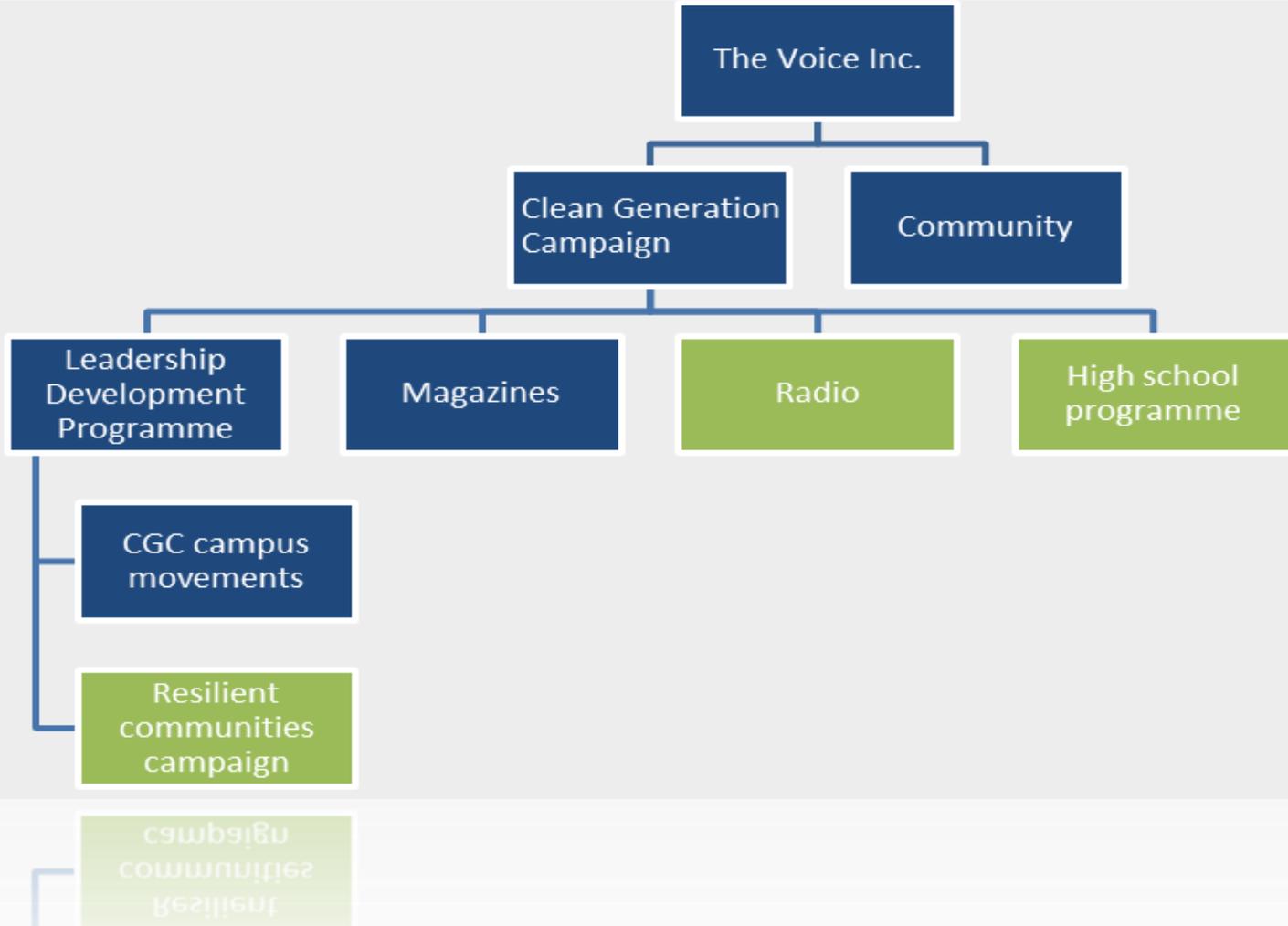
Ten year Reflection:

As our people and programs mature, how can TVI evolve to increase our relevance and impact?'

- i. Understanding each person's journey through leadership and how TVI supported that journey?
- ii. Understanding how the youth participation space has changed since TVI started. Understanding how the space has changed?
- iii. To understanding how power has affected TVI's work.



Our Program Model

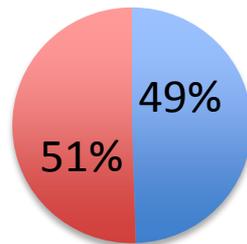


Program Statistics

- 195 students participants in the DREAM Program from 2010-2013;
- 291 have done the Leadership Development Program from 2013 to 2016, 25 students completed all the components;
- 1180 people took part in our Clean Generation Campaign by buying a toolkit to participate and joining Stand activities.

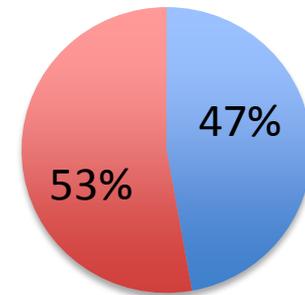
Leadership Development Program

■ Male ■ Female



DREAM Program

■ Male ■ Female



**What do we know
about our Impact?**

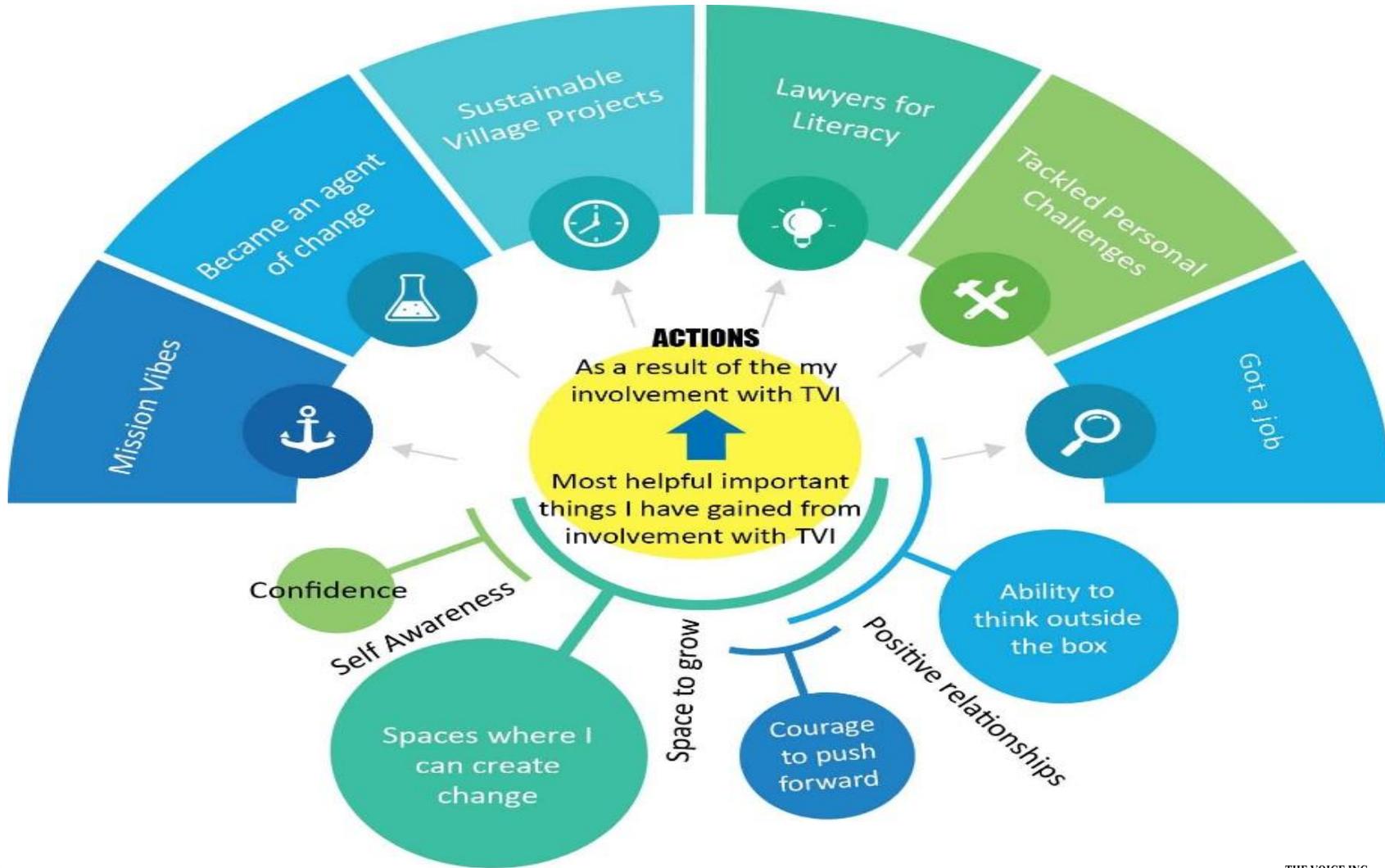
Key findings: TVI's Space

- “An environment and space to grow- a sense of family who continue to positively influence me and push me to think outside my own being/world”.
- “(I have gained) Fellowship (intimacy), Personal Development, Growth and Integrity”
- “The environment supported me in realising my potential and encouraged me to bring that same realization to others outside of this said environment”
- “Finding spaces where I can create change where no one else sees or thinks needs changing”
- “It’s about connecting with other people who, like me want to see our nation changed, families and communities change for the better”
- “TVI has been a place where I can give back to my community, to a group I feel will change PNG”
- “Lifelong friendships that continue to have a positive impact on my life:
RELATIONSHIPS;

Key Findings: Landscape

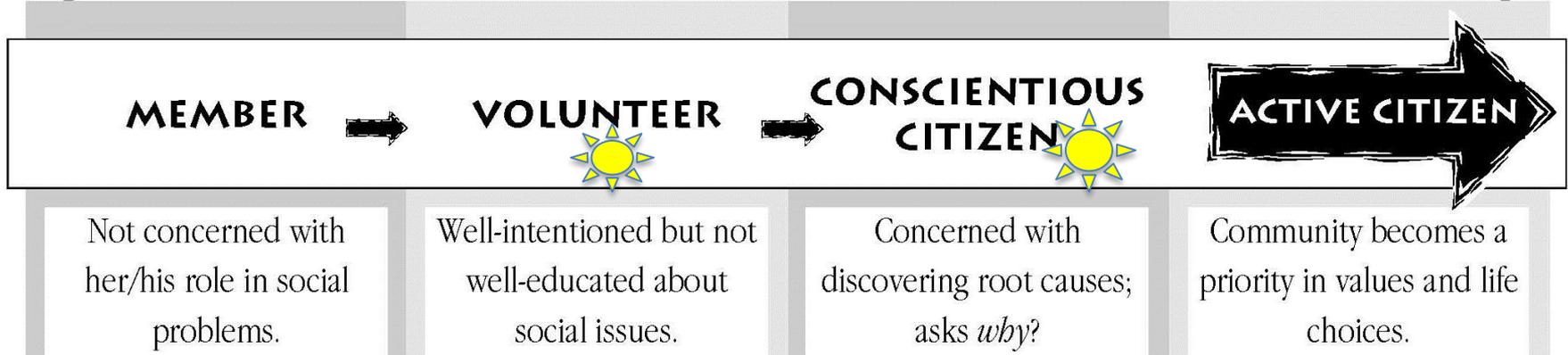
- In a shifting and busy leadership and youth landscape TVI still provides a unique space for shared values, understanding of one's self and developing inspiring relationships
- Contact with TVI often triggers a light bulb moment; the DREAM was highlighted specifically
- LDP graduates stand out; are confident, articulate and able to understand system change
- Many KomUNITY members have gone on to deliver projects, act in the community and are a force for change;
- The group defined 'leadership' (see Annex 1) as many things but key themes were **service, influencing, self-awareness and driving change;**

From “Me” to “We”



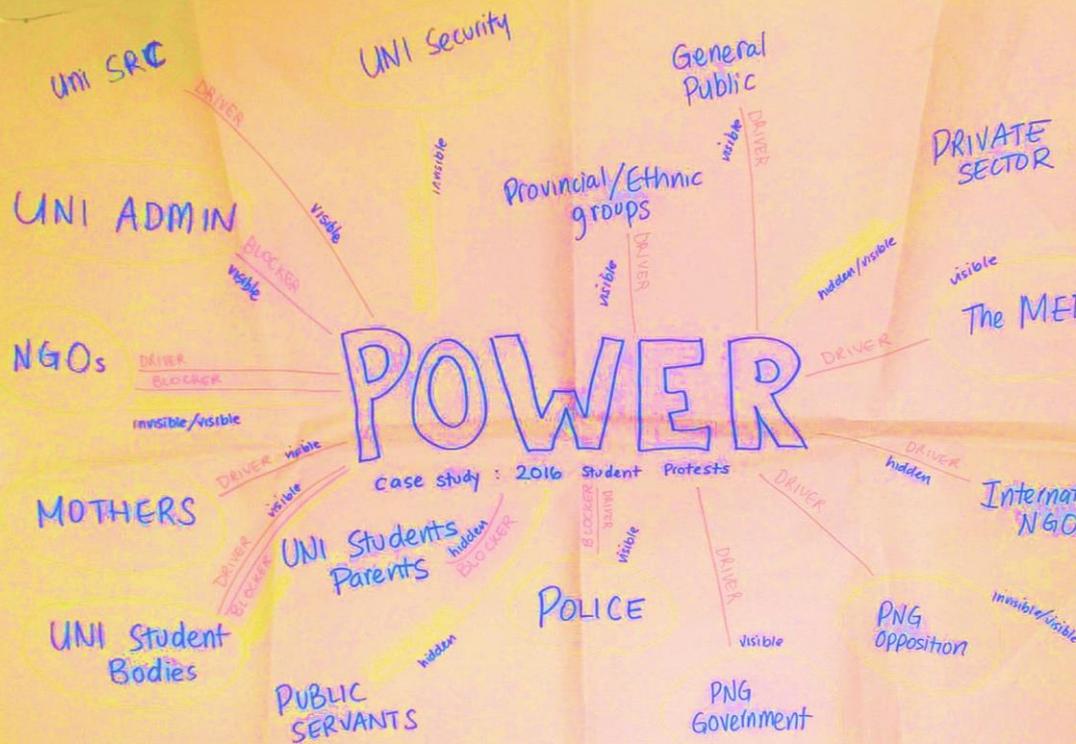
Where are our programs positioned?

The Active Citizen Continuum



Power Analysis

- **Power over:** the power of the strong over the weak, including the power to exclude others.
-  **Power to:** the capability to decide actions and carry them out.
- **Power with:** collective power, through organisation, solidarity and joint action.
-  **Power within:** personal self-confidence, often linked to culture, religion or other aspects of identity, which influences the thoughts and actions that appear legitimate or acceptable.



Redistribution of Power Involved

- Power within → students
- Power with → other students, public, other MPs, private funders
- Power to → wanted to see removal of PM
- Power over → police, uni admin, gart., PM

Power and Participation

- The protest took different forms on each of the three TVI campuses and cities. Different responses and interactions between key University stakeholders unfolded;
- Even though TVI and LDP participants were in key student leadership positions on each campus they were unable to steer the course of this protest.
- As the protest progressed students quickly dissolved into provincial and tribal groups, sidelining and overpowering other forms of student organizations

Continued..

- The students and allies were attempting to use ‘power with’ (collective power) to drive a redistribution of power from the Prime Minister/ NEC to the public
- Power mapping revealed the groups with the highest power were: provincial student groups/ leaders (eg. Enga at UPNG), student councils (in some places), the government and police, campus administrations,
- Participants reflected that students could have been more strategic, focusing their energy on the 2017 elections and using the formal campaign opportunities to try and get the same outcome
- One participant noted that while it may have been useful to understand where the power lay, it was impossible to stop the dissolving of students into tribal groups. And that fear and safety concerns had a very real effect on student’s willingness to stand up and try to lead in different directions.

Recommendations

- We need to focus on building networks and having a stronger collective voice on issues affecting youth;
- To young leaders start small and have a specific focus on your area, don't branch out to big too fast, be resilient and adaptive to the environment around you;
- Draw on the experiences of those that have gone before you, find mentors and ask, ask, ask questions!
- Understand the power landscape of where you are operating, it will help you understand how effective you can be with achieving your end goal;

continued

- Change is not so much logical as it is cyclical
(action+ reflection + change=next change cycle)
- Learning & leading through experiencing -allowing that to be underpinned by spaces for personal self reflection.
- Youth leadership has its greatest potential when tied into youth (specifically youth-led) development. Let young people set the agenda, help with governance let them dictate how things should happen.
- Youth-led development – in contrast with individual youth leadership – gives all young people a stake in deciding how resources are allocated and allows them to play a role in implementing, managing and overseeing development in their communities and wider society.

Emergence

***Despite current ads and slogans, the world doesn't change one person at a time. It changes as networks of relationships form among people who discover they share a common cause and vision of what is possible.-
Margeret Wheatley & Deborah Frieze***

