



UNIVERSITY OF
BIRMINGHAM



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Developmental Leadership Program (DLP) Synthesis Overview

5 December AAC 2023

NAVIGATING EVERYDAY LEADERSHIP:
SPACES OF CONTESTATION IN THE INDO-PACIFIC

Animation Video

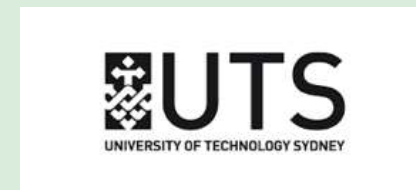
ABOUT DLP

DLP is an international research partnership that explores how leadership, power and political processes drive or block successful development.

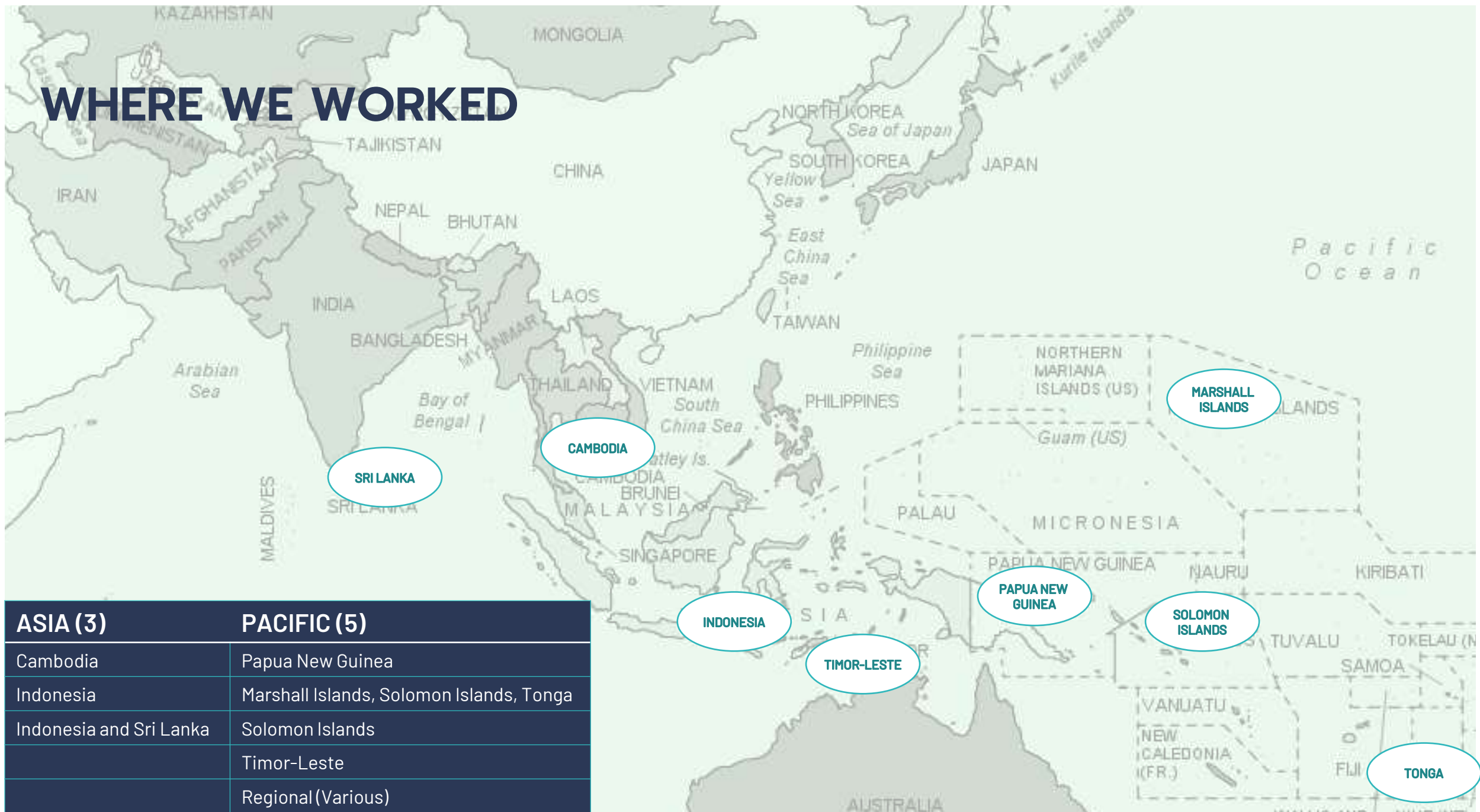
We focus on the role of leadership in forming locally-legitimate institutions that can promote development outcomes – from sustainable growth to political stability and inclusive social development.

Funded by DFAT since 2006. For this phase (phase III), DFAT has invested **AUS \$3.6 million**.

16 partners working across **7+** countries on **9** research projects



WHERE WE WORKED



ASIA (3)	PACIFIC (5)
Cambodia	Papua New Guinea
Indonesia	Marshall Islands, Solomon Islands, Tonga
Indonesia and Sri Lanka	Solomon Islands
	Timor-Leste
	Regional (Various)

WHAT QUESTIONS DID WE ASK?



How is leadership understood in different contexts?



Where do leaders come from?



How do leaders collectively influence development?



How can developmental leadership be supported?



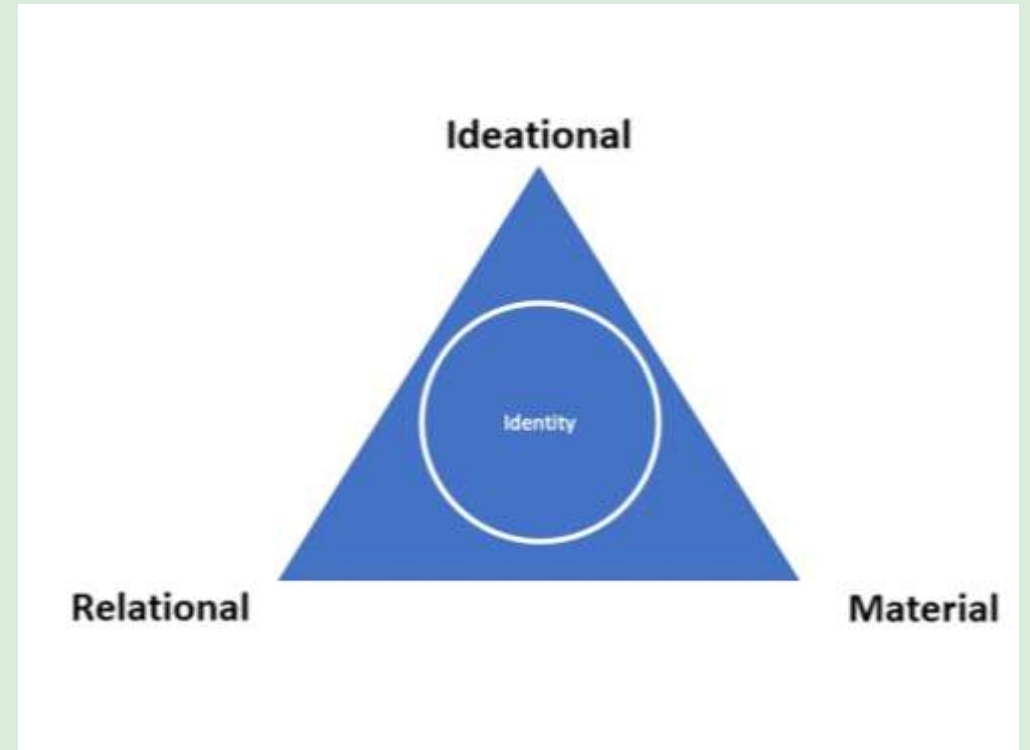
Key message 1: Everyday Leadership Matters

- ❑ Leadership matters because it solves the fundamental problem of collective action: that is, how do people with varied interests, power and ideas negotiate and contest desired futures?
- ❑ To better understand how leadership does this, we need to widen our horizon on it, in two senses:
 - First, expand the definition of *who* can lead, and move beyond a focus on ascribed or inherited 'roles' (e.g. of politicians, officials, or customary leaders), towards a socially embedded view of a 'leader' as anyone with sufficient legitimacy, opportunity and motivation to act.
 - Second, observe leadership in *all* the spaces it operates, including where it is hidden beneath the surface. This requires an 'everyday' perspective.



Key message 2: Relationships and Ideas are the foundation for effective use of Material Resources

- Solving collective action problems requires legitimate and locally embedded leaders who understand the rules, the ideas and norms they represent, and have the power to navigate, contest and harness them towards desired futures. In this process, some things matter more than others:
 - Relationships are the primary engine of collective action: they are how leadership resolves disputes, solves problems, and builds the necessary trust to realise shared interests.
 - Relationships are vital for mobilising and contesting ideas. They also operate through them: leaders need to narrate change following a locally legitimate script.
 - Material resources will only support locally legitimate collective action where enabling relationships and ideas are in place.



Key message 3: Centrality of collective Identity and a sense of self

- ❑ Social identity is both personal and political. It shapes how leaders see the world, what they understand to be the possibilities for change, and how they view their own role in generating it.
- ❑ Identity operates at the level of ideas i.e. expectations of leaders but it also has a relational dimension. We know who we are by who we are not. Developing a sense of self, formative experiences and early socialisation i.e. in the family or at school help explain where leaders come from and what pathways they choose
- ❑ Identity also clearly shapes access to, and authority over material resources which can be used to challenge or reinforce existing networks of power and influence



IMPLICATIONS

- ❑ Recognise the System and Leadership already in Place
- ❑ Enable Emergence
- ❑ Understand Power as Relational
- ❑ Put Ideas and Relationships before Money
- ❑ Make the Invisible Visible



Disability Leadership In Indonesia

Recording

Live Transcription (Closed Captioning) has been enabled Who can see this transcript? Recording On X

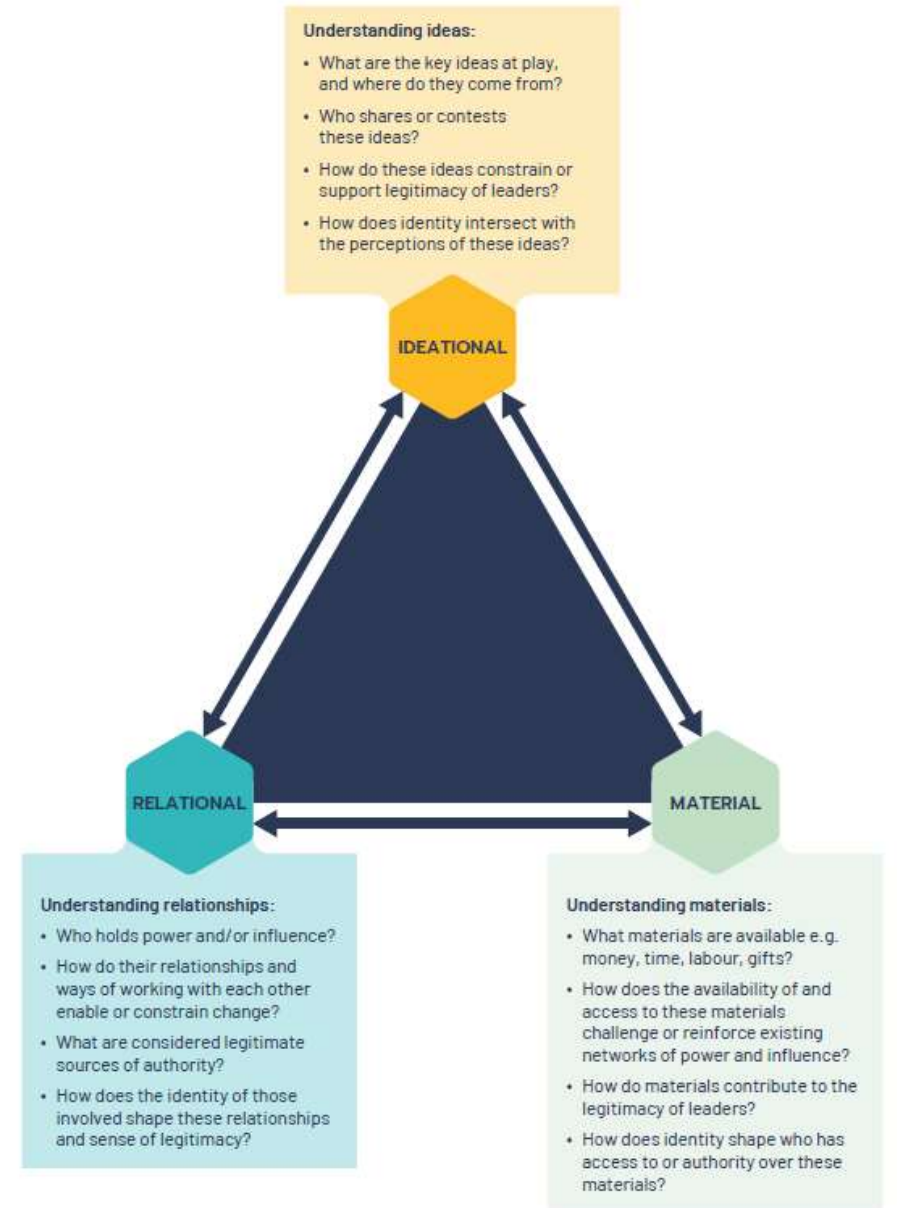
ASL Interpreter/Deb Russell

Mario Gomez

Diana Ayoub - Sh8peshift...

Nadine Vanniasinkam

FIGURE 1: NAVIGATING EVERYDAY LEADERSHIP FRAMEWORK (DIAGRAM)



Thank you to all the brilliant researchers on DLP Phase 3:

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**DEVELOPMENTAL
LEADERSHIP PROGRAM**

DECEMBER 2023



<https://dlprog.org/publications/research-papers/navigating-everyday-leadership/>