Over 100 participants took part in the TLDP workshops held between August-December 2013 in Samoa. The Programme framework focused on 3 key aspects to bring about change:

- The ability to envision a different future
- The commitment to create this future
- The capacity to deliver on this commitment

The aim was to develop leaders who are able to speed the transformation of their organizations, institutions and societies and provide durable solutions to the most pressing challenges.

The participants were asked to solve immediate, visible problems and generate measurable results; it enabled them to change invisible systems that perpetuate the problems - thereby making the results sustainable. Most importantly, all action is sourced from universal values and peoples’ inner capacities and wisdom.

14 Break Through Initiatives groups were formed that address a variety of issues, such as: increasing political participation of women, art therapy for victims of abuse, stopping violence in our society and media.

“This course really did transform the way I think and the way I live my life now”
Participant from TLDP Samoa 2013

“I knew some of this information but had never used it in my work until now”
Participant from TLDP Samoa 2013

“This workshop has given me the tools to use my beliefs about violence and family values and to do something about it”
Participant from TLDP Samoa 2013

The Transformational Leadership Development approach is cutting-edge, a new generation thinking that has been proven to generate transformative changes in societies worldwide: In Ethiopia, UNDP carried out the Leadership Programme and Community Conversations to address HIV and AIDS. This generated some breakthrough results, such as young women in villages refusing to undergo female genital mutilation, a practice that had continued unquestioned for generations.

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Transforming Lives & Developing Leaders

The Transformational Leadership Development Programme & Community Conversations is grounded in universal values - gender equality, justice, non-discrimination, inclusion, peace and hence addresses deep societal and cultural inequities that need to be transformed for sustainable change. The programme draws its tools and techniques from organisational behaviour, sociology, psychology, development practices and other disciplines.

Generating Sustainable Results

The approach is based on key distinctions, concepts, skills, frameworks and tools to:

- develop individuals, generate new insights,
- generate a new and complex understanding of gender based violence and women vulnerability,
- shift perspectives,
- stimulate deep reflection and introspection and
- facilitate conversations that lead to decisions on needed changes in people’s lives, values, attitudes, behaviours and choices in the context of gender based violence, health and development.

As a result of these processes, we expect new leaders at all levels and from all sections and sectors of society to emerge. Such leaders will be able align their values and actions, and draw upon their inherent wisdom to inform and transform what they do, how and why they do it.

This new paradigm has at its core the promise of a just and equitable society for all. It draws upon the emergent space of wisdom within people to plan and implement strategic change and generate measurable results. It develops the capacity of individuals and groups to look within themselves to source their wisdom to ensure that their actions enable justice and equity. It strengthens them to envision new patterns and leverages that can create systemic change and economic and social transformation. It generates action to create and foster breakthrough initiatives, addressing complex systemic shifts and generating measurable results. It fosters spaces for self-reflection and wise action. And it creates platforms for others to source their wisdom and inner capacity for results.