

### **Inclusive Leadership and Business Impact**

Enhancing organisational performance from personal insight

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# What does inclusive leadership look like?



At the heart of a team's success stands the inclusive leader. One who is aware of unconscious biases and open to understanding diverse perspectives to help navigate the challenges facing the team. In a team setting the inclusive leader has a clear "vision of what an inclusive team or culture looks like and works with the team to get there."



# Traditional work models

- 1. Localised
- 2. Location / time specific
- 3. Mono-cultural





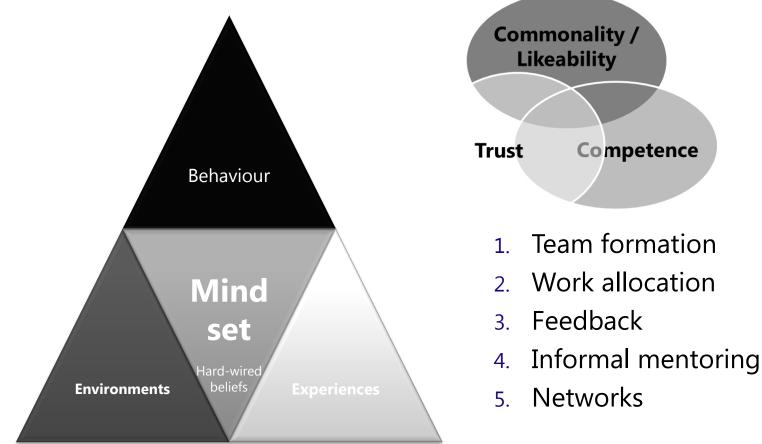
## **Traditional leadership styles**



- Hierarchical leader knows best
- 2. Individual leader as hero
- Surrounded by similar types – education, values, qualities. Working within a set of **dominant biases**
- Want people who conform to agreed norms of thinking and behaviour
- 5. Close down alternative perspectives

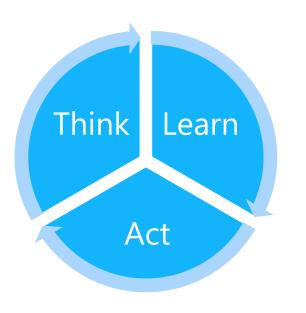
# Unconscious bias and leadership thinking and behaviour





# **Inclusive leadership in practice**

#### Inclusive leaders . . .



and do it all with a global mindset

Sources: Leading across borders: Inclusive thinking in an interconnected world (EYG No KK0774); Susan David, Ph.D., Evidence Based Psychology LLC

#### Think inclusively

- Focus on both business objectives and shared values ►
- Seek, value and leverage different perspectives to achieve ► successful outcomes
- Make 'difference' safe, while actively checking their own  $\blacktriangleright$ assumptions and unconscious bias

#### Learn inclusively

- Engage in powerful listening ►
- Invite dissent and navigate the inherent friction, yet move ► quickly to action
- Elicit and use feedback from all directions

#### Act inclusively

- Identify blind spots and find ways to circumvent them ►
- $\blacktriangleright$ Create a shared identity for their teams while respecting differences
- Standardize key processes but encourage local decision-making

Work outside their comfort zone doing what is often hard and at times less efficient (in the short term) than on homogeneous teams





#### 1. Accountability

- A. Leaders taking personal ownership and **reporting on progress** for diversity at board level.
- B. Creating **accountability in the chain** of command internally and externally

### 2. Developing ownership

- A. Identifying internal champions to drive the agenda
- **B.** Helping others reflect in personal biases
- c. **Questioning**, for instance performance evaluation scores

## 3. Communicating

- A. Become a spokesperson for inclusive behaviour
- B. Use **personal stories** illustrate commitment to change Inspiring others



Inspiring others

#### **1.** Leading by example

- A. Act as role models for inclusive behaviour
- **B. Participating** in organisation decisions recruitment
- c. **Openly challenge** bias decision-making
- D. Being mindful of meeting schedules
- E. Having diversity within senior teams

## 2. Initiating change

- A. Supporting critical programmes focusing on bias with performance reviews
- B. Asking **direct reports** to discuss programme on diversity

## 3. Culture change

- A. Focus on the **long-term perspective** rather than quick fixes
- B. Creating a diversity legacy

# What makes a great leader?

Marvin Bower (1997): The Will to Lead



Fairness

## **Broad-mindedness**

Unassuming behaviour

## Open-mindedness **Trustworthiness**

Making sound and timely decisions

Capacitive to motivate

Flexibility and adaptability

Sensitivity to situations

Initiative

Sensitivity to people

Good judgement

A sense of urgency



# Diagnosing your leadership population

Complete the Inclusive Leadership assessment provided.

What stands out for you?



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