

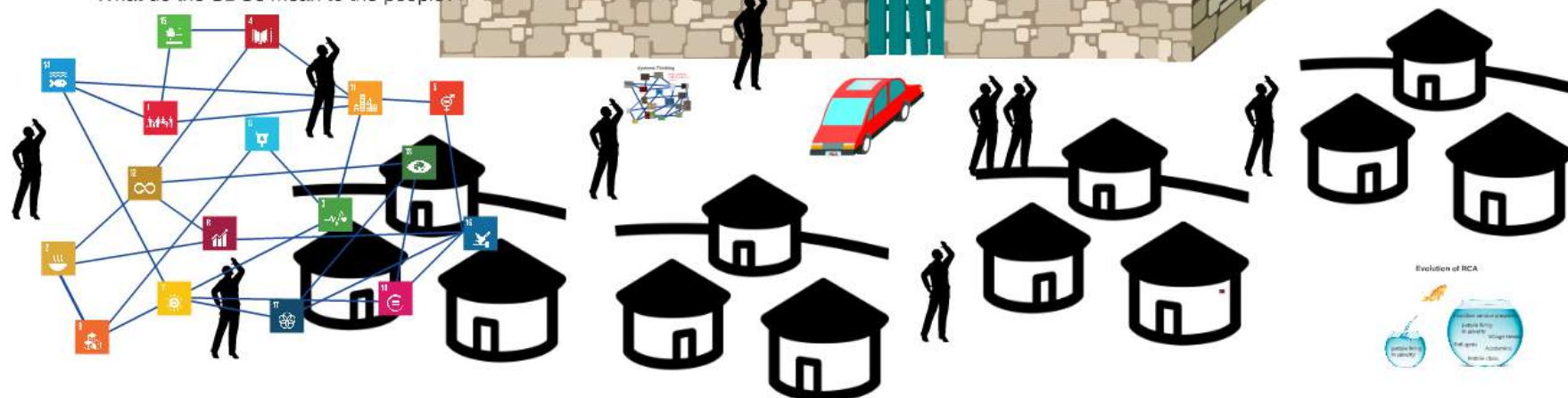
# Multiple Realities in Light of the SDGs: The Reality Check Approach in Different Contexts



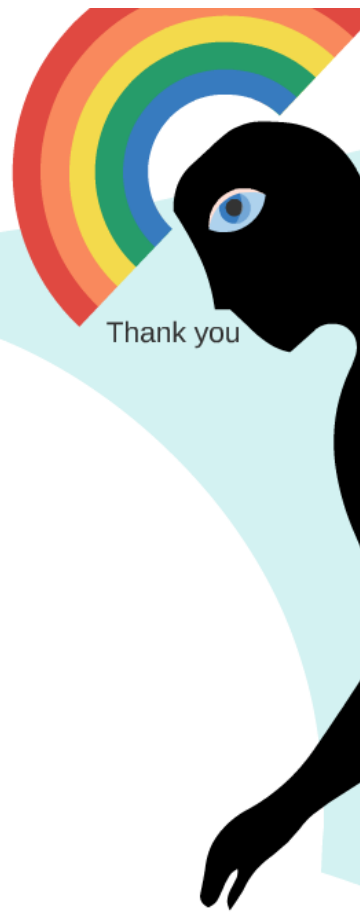
- More holistic multi-dimensional goals
- Contextualised and integrated into (sub)national plans

Keep in touch and up to date with **peoples' realities**

What do the SDGs mean to the people?



# Presentation Structure



1. SDGs and RCA
2. RCA Method and Evolution
3. Research Culture Study
4. Household Finance Study
5. Discussion



- More holistic multi-dimensional goals
- Contextualised and integrated into (sub)national plans

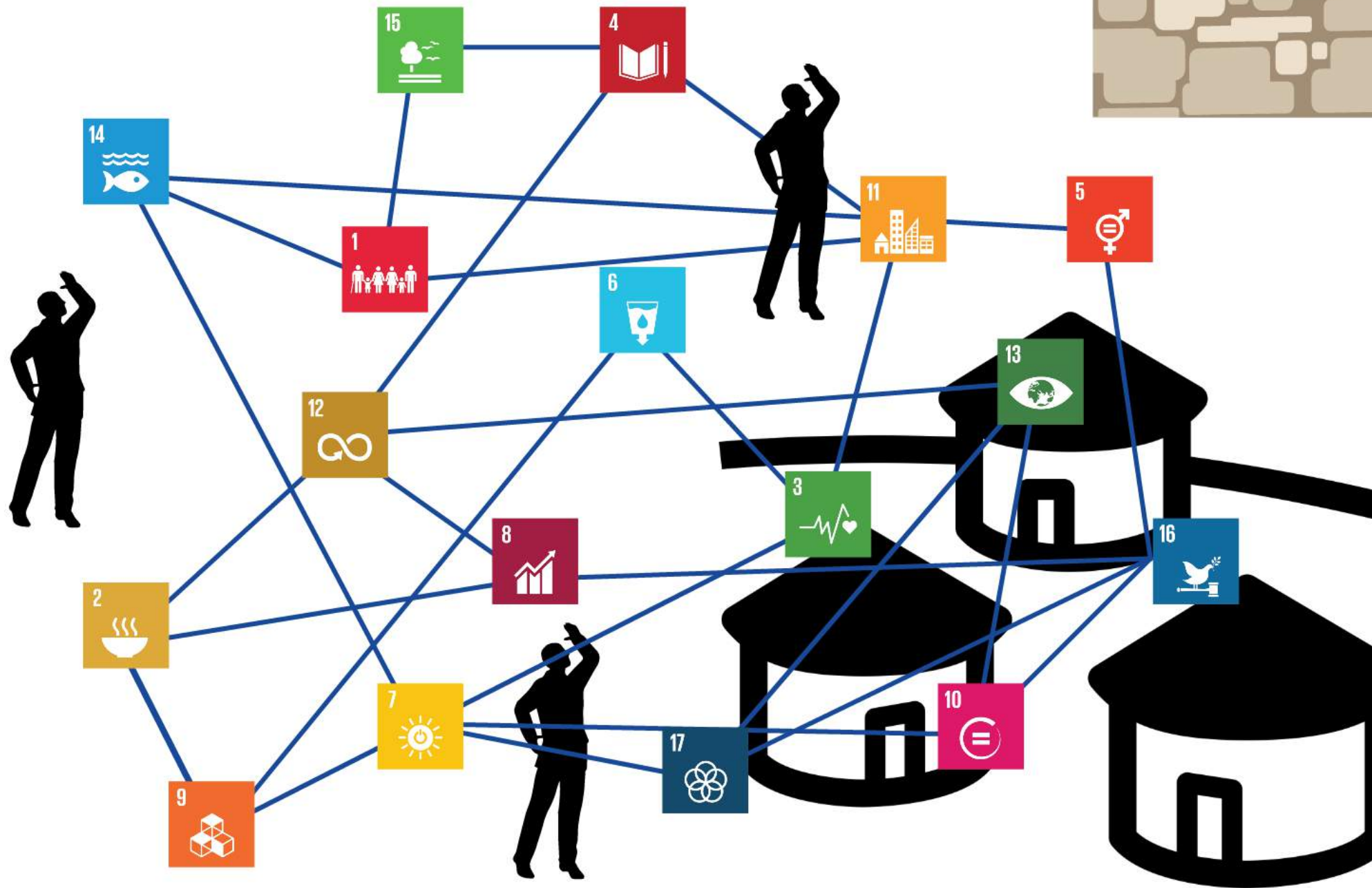
Keep in touch and up to date with **peoples' realities**

What do the SDGs mean to the people?





# What do the SDGs mean to the people?



# Systems Thinking

# Understanding multiple views and stories



# RCA

One of the 3 'Methodologies for Transformative  
Revolutions' (R. Chambers, 2017)

"RCA is the backcountry innovation of the early 21st century with  
the greatest promise to transform knowledge and action at scale"

First developed since 2007 in Bangladesh

+ 40 Studies in 9 Different Countries, commissioned by  
DFAT, DFID, SIDA, SDC, World Bank, UN, etc.

Established RCA Indonesia Team since 2014

Palladium Research and M&E Practice Area

## Reality Check Approach



# ***One of the 3 'Methodologies for Transformative Revolutions' (R.Chambers, 2017)***

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**Palladium Research and M&E Practice Area**

**Living with** rather than **visiting**





# Having conversations rather than interviews





A photograph of a group of people, including adults and children, sitting and standing in a rural village setting. They are gathered under the shade of large trees, with traditional mud-brick houses visible in the background. The group consists of several women, a man with a white beard, and several children of various ages. They are dressed in casual, everyday clothing. The scene is set in a dry, dusty environment with traditional architecture. The text 'A more nuanced view, end of 'one size fits all'' is overlaid on the image in a bold, white font with a yellow highlight on the word 'nuanced'.

**A more nuanced view,  
end of 'one size fits all'**



# Experiencing, Observing, Learning

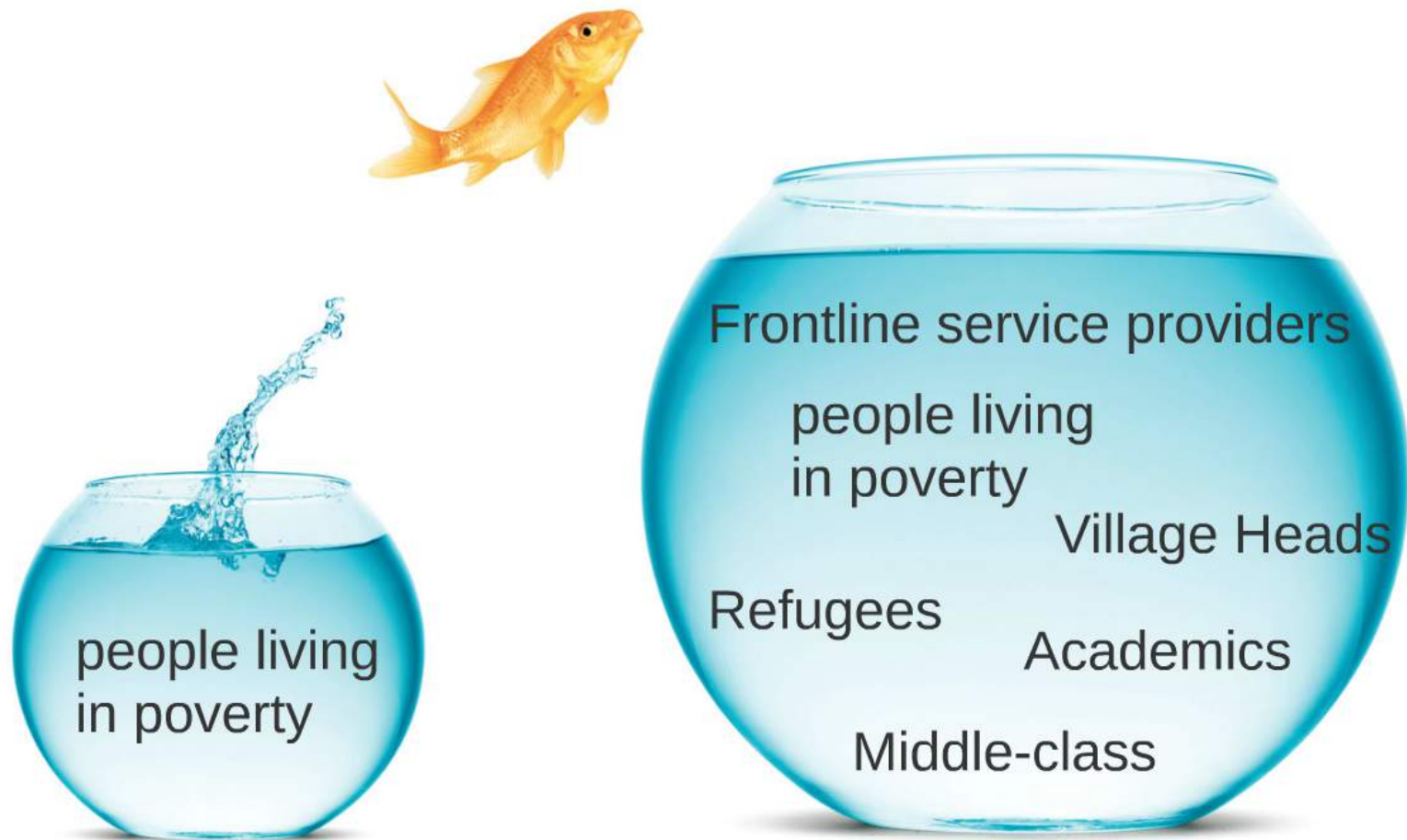




# Systems Thinking



# Evolution of RCA





# RCA Study

Perspectives and Experiences of the  
Research Culture at Universities in Indonesia



? Barrier ?  
and  
growth ?



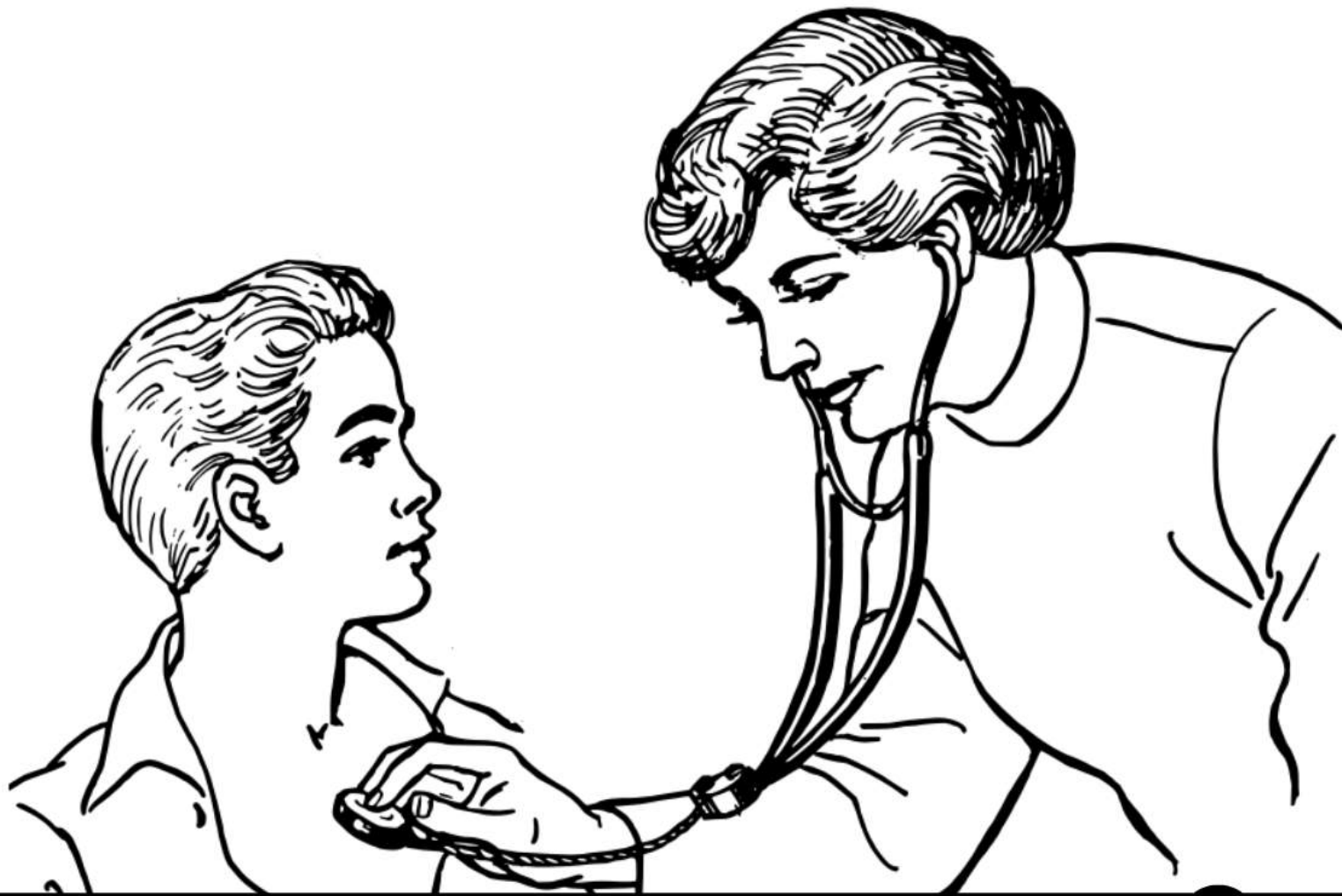
Good quality  
of research  
Strong and  
competitive  
economy



**KNOWLEDGE SECTOR**  
INDONESIA



16 research  
partners



**Diagnostic study**



## KNOWLEDGE SECTOR INDONESIA



together  
**commissioning a  
RCA study**

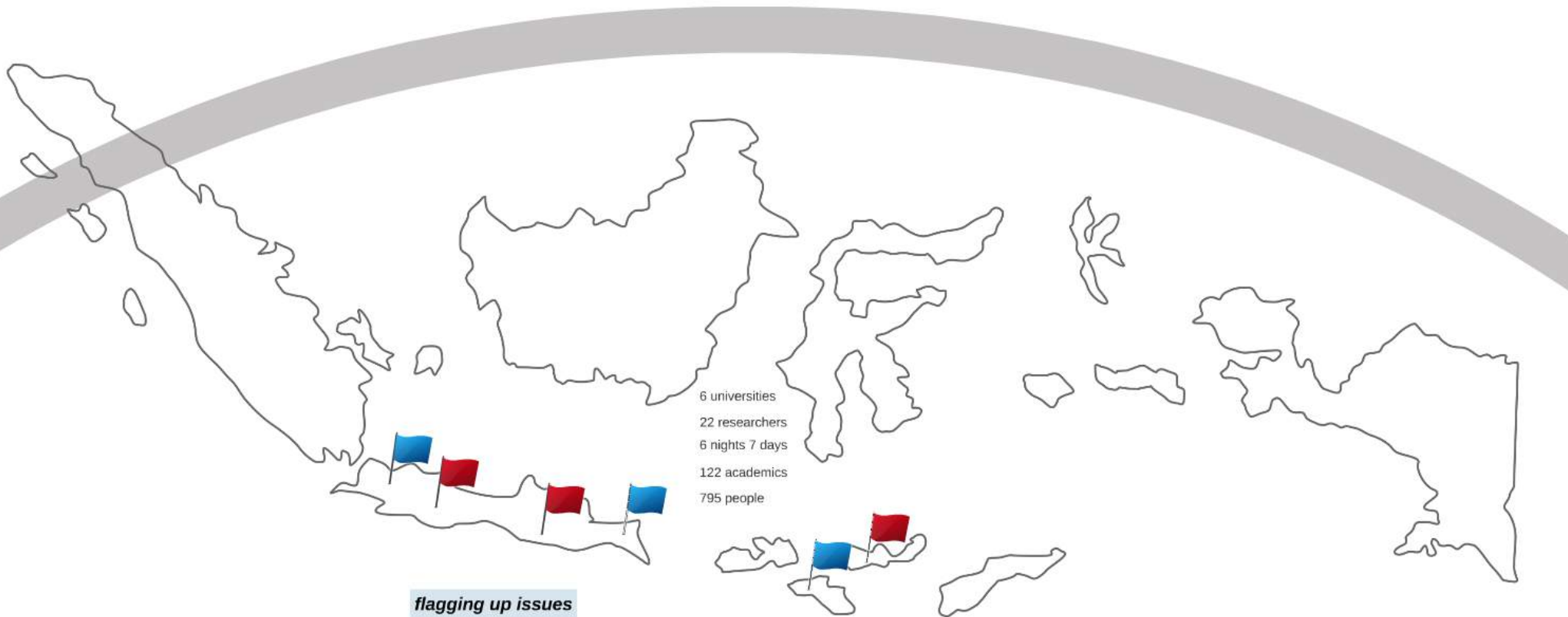


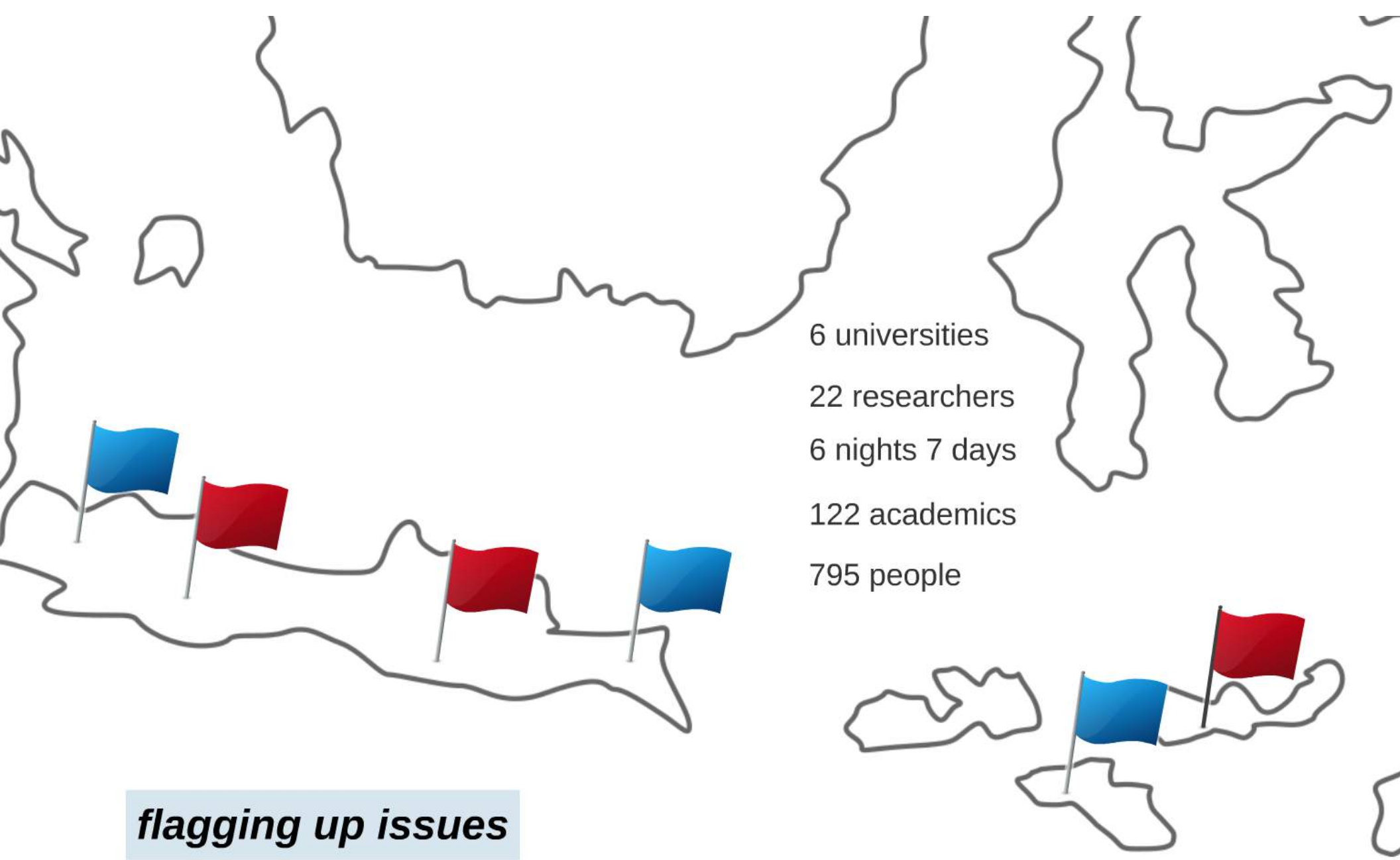
design future  
programmes of  
support





# 3,000 universities





6 universities

22 researchers

6 nights 7 days

122 academics

795 people

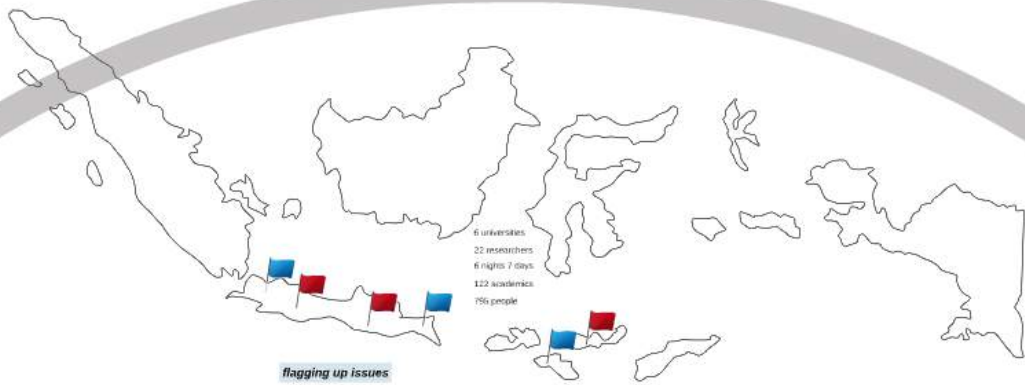
***flagging up issues***

being entered larger than  
frequently or when the  
less intense

For all academics, the  
compliance over acad  
demoralizing

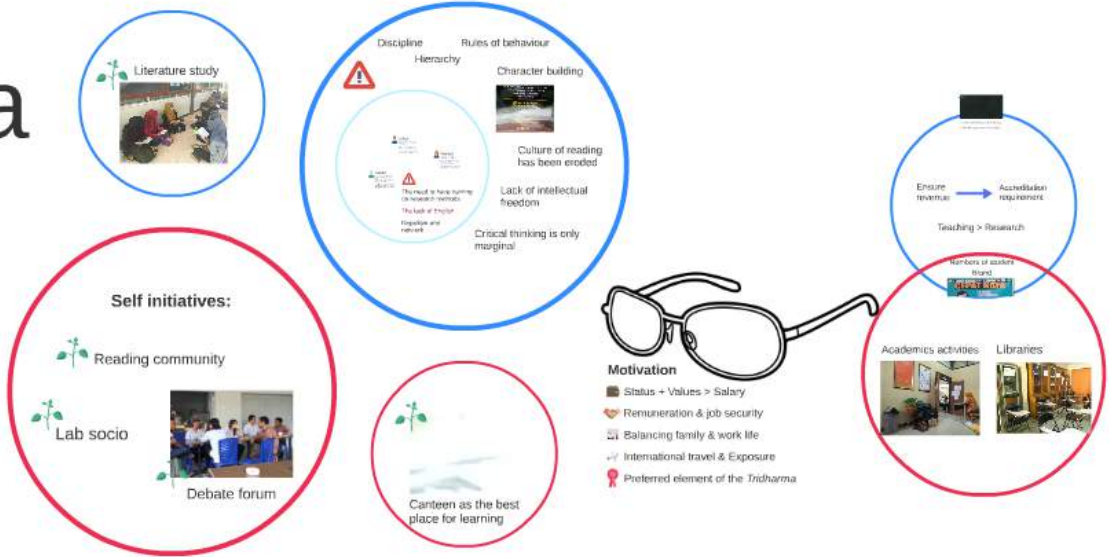
Some of the most lively  
the classroom and form  
key to developing a vib

# 3,000 universities



Java






Outside Java



— private  
— public



# Motivation

-  Status + Values > Salary
-  Remuneration & job security
-  Balancing family & work life
-  International travel & Exposure
-  Preferred element of the *Tridharma*



### Junior:

Having little influence on the distribution of resources and determining their career paths

Being over burdened with teaching responsibilities and additional tasks

*'Junior academics do the teaching while senior academics do the research'*



### Women:

Juggling family and university commitments, especially research

Gender consideration at the workplace (e.g. passed over by men for promotion, special dress codes for women, etc)

*'My priority is my children. I do not want to get stressed out with my university job'*



### Senior:

Greater expectation to publish work  
Demand to promote the image of the university

Administrative roles which impact on their time for research

*'It is almost impossible to teach and do research at the same time. I prefer doing research than teaching because it produces more "kum"'*



The need to have training on research methods

The lack of English

Nepotism and network

Lack of  
free

Critical thinking  
marginal





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# The need to have training on research methods

# The lack of English

# Nepotism and network

# Critic

Discipline

Rules of behaviour

Hierarchy

Character building



Culture of reading  
has been eroded



Senior:

Consistent in work  
Dedicated to promote the progress of the university  
Administrative tasks which impact on the progress of the university  
It is a good example of a senior person who is a good role model for the university



The need to have training  
on research methods

The lack of English

Nepotism and  
network



Women:

Supporting family and friends  
Considerate, especially towards the family  
Considerate towards the family  
Considerate towards the family  
Considerate towards the family

Lack of intellectual  
freedom

Critical thinking is only  
marginal

**KETIKA BERURUSAN DENGAN DOSEN ATAU  
BAGIAN ADMINISTRASI/TATA USAHA  
MAHASISWA AGAR TIDAK  
MENGUNAKAN**

---

**CELANA JEANS/  
CELANA PENSIL**

**KAOS**

**MEMAKAI ANTING  
(BAGI MAHASISWA)**

**SANDAL**

---



Discipline

Rules of behaviour

Hierarchy

Character building



Culture of reading  
has been eroded

Lack of intellectual  
freedom

Critical thinking is only  
marginal

**Junior:**  
Having little to no experience in the job field  
of a major and not knowing their  
career path  
Not given any formal entry level training  
and no formal job training  
Junior experience in the working world  
Senior experience in the working world

**Women:**  
Supporting family and in many  
cases, especially in the  
workplace, they are often  
seen as a burden for the men for their  
family and the workplace  
Not given any formal entry level training  
and no formal job training  
Not given any formal entry level training  
and no formal job training

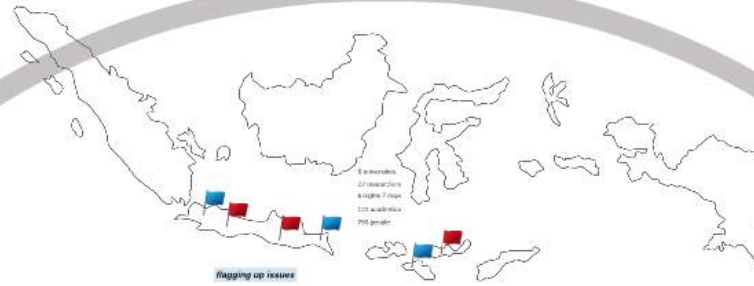
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The need to have training  
on research methods

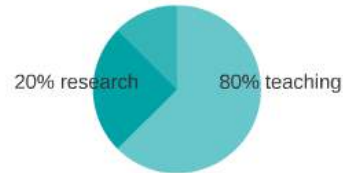
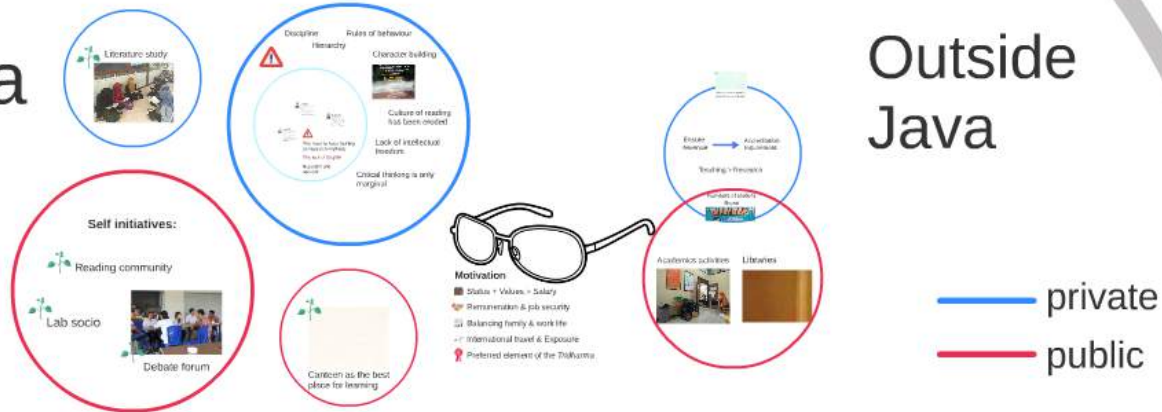
The lack of English

Nepotism and  
network



Java

Outside Java



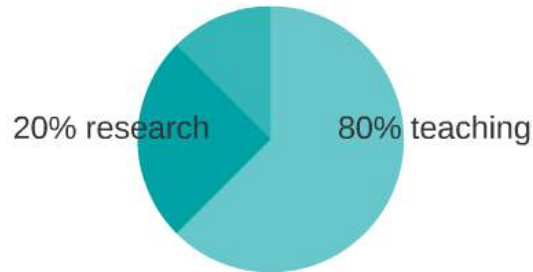
*'Ever changing regulations and administration'*

*'Recruitment and promotion is about ticking the boxes'*



Publication infrastructure





*'Ever changing regulations and administration'*

*'Recruitment and promotion is about ticking the boxes'*



Publication infrastructure







In house journals  
English translation  
Peer reviews

# Numbers of student Brand



Culture of mentoring and networking  
Critical thinking as a teaching subject

Ensure  
revenue



Accreditation  
requirement

Teaching > Research

Numbers of student

Drop



## Academics activities



## Libraries



# Self initiatives:



Reading community



Lab socio



Debate forum



# Literature study







Canteen as the best  
place for learning



Culture of mentoring and networking  
Critical thinking as a teaching subject

# Study implications:

**Not all** academics are **interested in doing research** and some actively prefer teaching

The **commercialization** results in **limiting time** for engaging in **research** once teaching, administration and promoting the university have been prioritized

The *kum* system of accumulating credits results in a '**culture of doing minimum**'

The access towards research funds require demonstration of **seniority rather than expertise** or enthusiasm thereby excluding young and bright researchers

**For women** academics, the child care facilities and being offered larger research grants **less**





researchers

**For women** academics, the child care facilities and being offered larger research grants **less frequently** or when their child care responsibilities less intense

For all academics, the emphasis on **administrative compliance over academic** excellence is considered demoralizing

Some of the most lively academic discussions happen outside of the classroom and formal settings. These **informal spaces are key** to developing a vibrant academic culture



# Household Finances

What did we learn?

## 1. Background

As a general rule, the more people living in a household, the more income is needed to support the household.

Household income is the total income of all household members.

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## 2. Findings

**INCOME = CASH**  
(from wages / selling)

Income is cash from selling something





# 1. Background

**Aim:** to gather insights on how people living in poverty perceive, handle and plan their family finances

**Study Participants:** Returned to Poor families that theoretically meet the criteria for receiving social assistance

34 Poor Households

11 provinces

2,200 people

**April - May 2016**

**Commissioner:** KSI/DFAT and Reference Group  
Chaired by BAPPENAS



## 2. Findings

INCOME = CASH  
(from wages / selling)

'income is cash from selling something'





'Farming is food, cash is income'

own grown food or crop sharing is NOT income

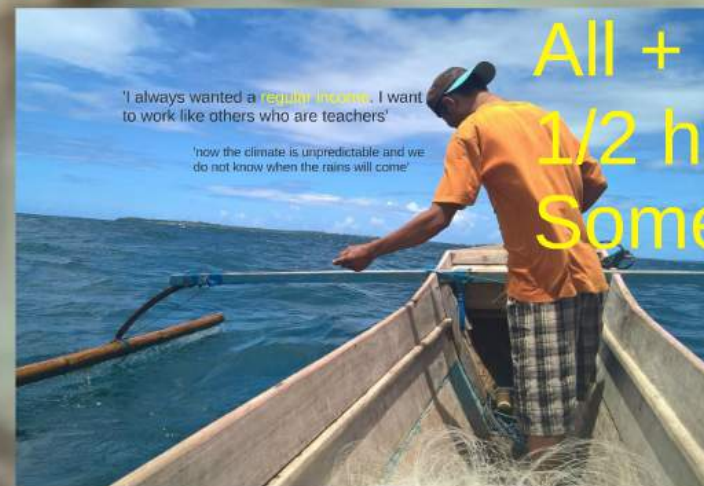
Less bartering and other reciprocal arrangements







## Multiple income sources



All + 1

1/2 had > 3

Some 6-7

'I always wanted a regular income. I want to work like others who are teachers'

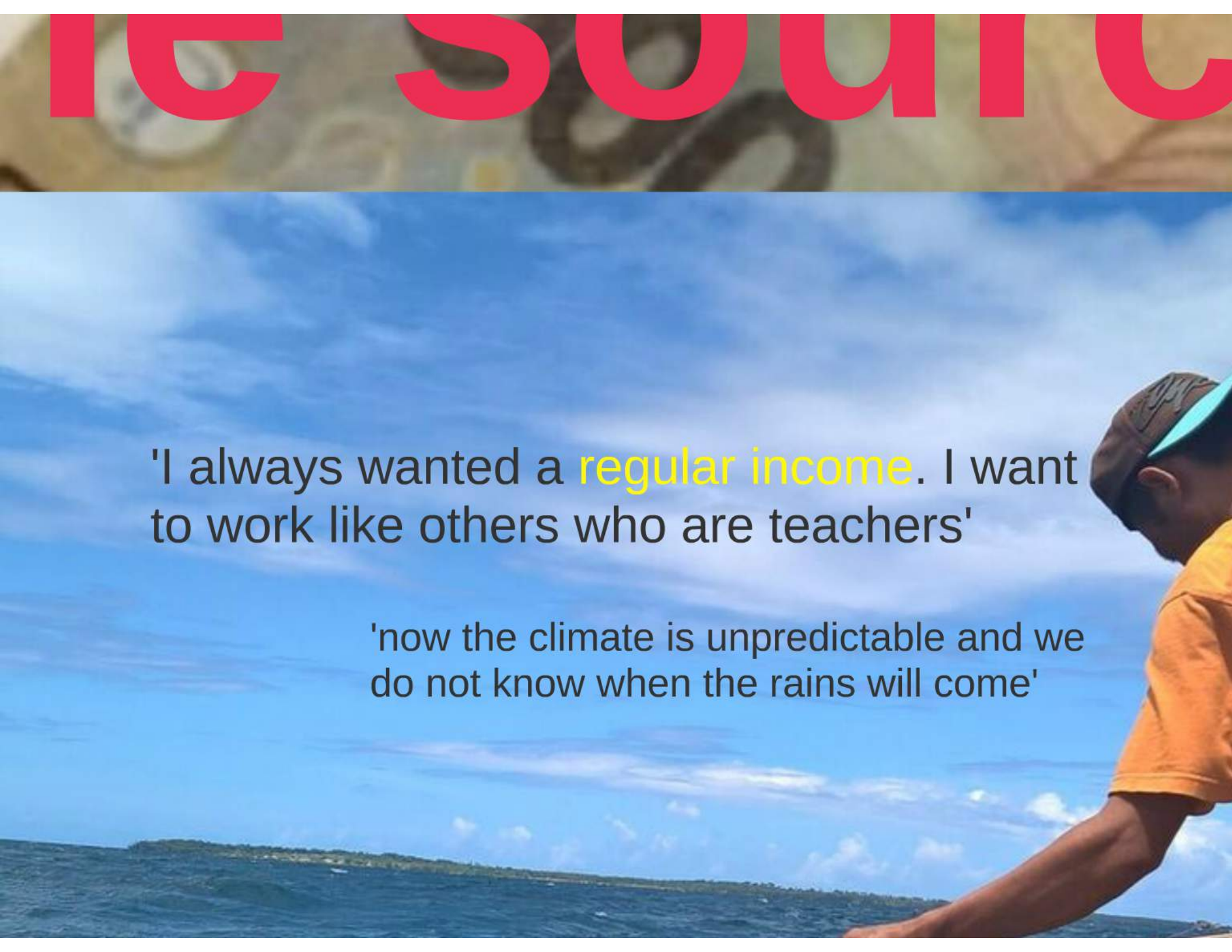
'now the climate is unpredictable and we do not know when the rains will come'



# the sound

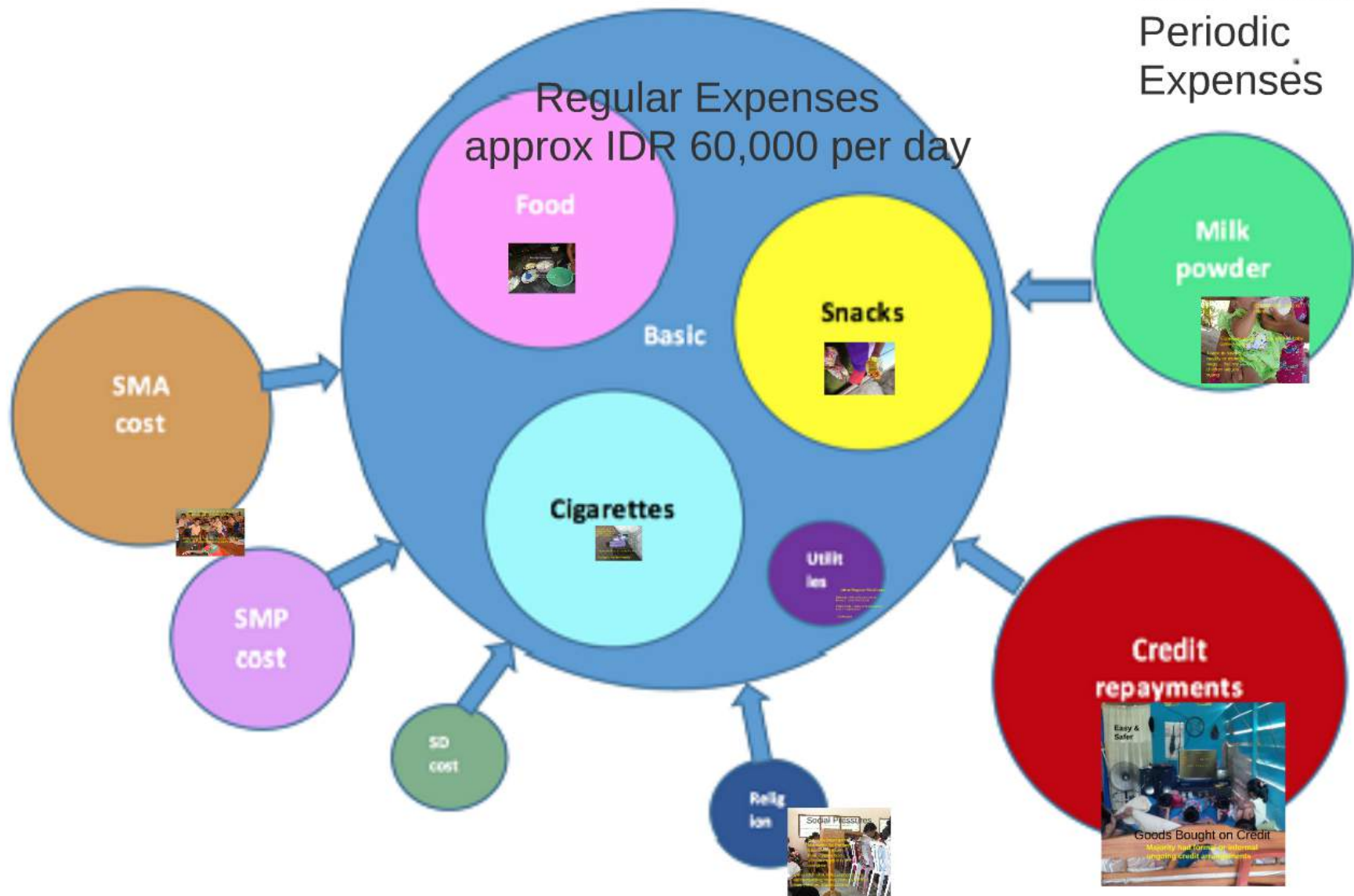
'I always wanted a **regular income**. I want to work like others who are teachers'

'now the climate is unpredictable and we do not know when the rains will come'



# Family Expenditure Diagram

Outer Circles =  
Periodic  
Expenses



# Regular Expenses approx IDR 60,000 per day

Food



Basic

Snacks



Cigarettes



Utilities

Other Regular Bills/Costs  
Electricity: IDR 100,000/month  
Water: IDR 50,000/month  
Internet: IDR 100,000/month  
Phone: IDR 100,000/month  
Transportation: IDR 100,000/month  
Health: IDR 100,000/month  
Insurance: IDR 100,000/month  
Savings: IDR 100,000/month  
Other: IDR 100,000/month





**Most important expense**

'making sure the family can eat'

'During hard times we eat only  
rice and salt' (mother, Bogor)



Growing Trend and Replacing Meals

Some families IDR 1.5-1.8 million / month

Growing Pocket Money Demands  
(IDR 5-15,000 / day)

'I always give my children pocket money or they  
will destroy the houses' (mother, Waluya)





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'I always give my children pocket money or they will destroy the houses' (mother, W.Java)



I gave up smoking last year and now save IDR 1 million / month (young man, C. Kalimantan)



'I would rather buy tobacco than extra side dishes'

'Father's Pocket Money'

# Other Regular Bills/Costs

Electricity - IDR 30-50,000 / month,  
if have a TV IDR 80-100,000

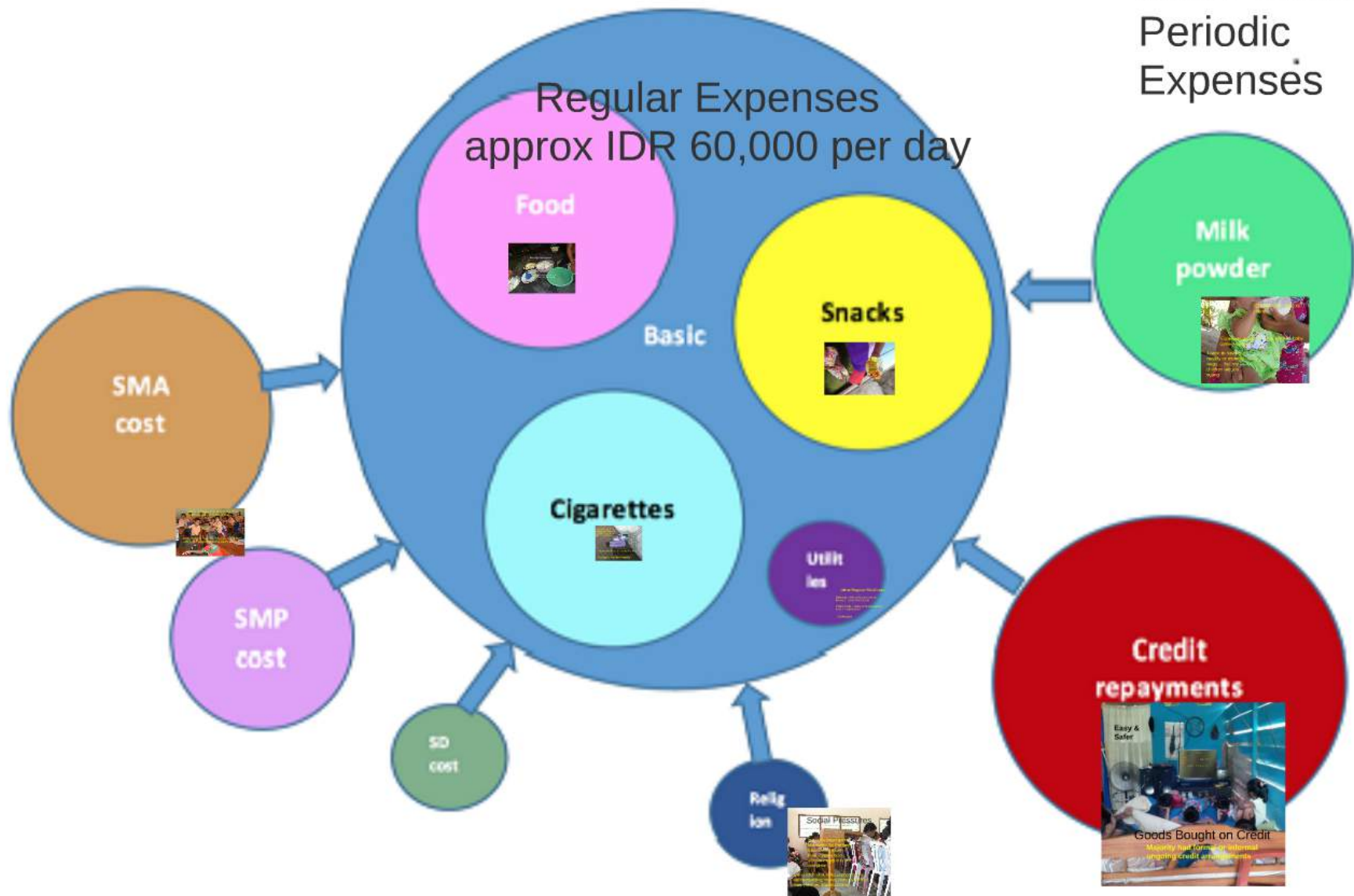
Mobile Credit - nearly all homes have at  
least 1 mobile phone

Cooking fuel




# Family Expenditure Diagram

Outer Circles =  
Periodic  
Expenses







'School is supposed to be free, but there are always calls for contributions'

**School Costs**

'never ending demands'

School fees and registration costs

Uniforms / Bags

Maintenance Costs

Teachers' Gifts

Photocopying

Costs Ranging from IDR 900,000 - 3.6 million /  
child / year; approx 3 months salary



# School Costs

'never ending demands'

School fees and registration costs

Uniforms / Bags

Maintenance Costs

Teachers' Gifts

Photocopying



A close-up photograph of a baby being fed with a white plastic bottle. The baby is wearing a light green onesie with a cartoon fish design. The baby is being held by a person wearing a red and white patterned garment. The background is slightly blurred, showing some greenery and a wooden structure.

IDR 250,000 - 300,000 /  
month

'Expenses got worse after the new baby  
came along'

'I want to have a  
weekly or monthly  
wage ... but my  
children are too  
young'



# Social Pressures

A photograph of a group of people, mostly women, sitting in a room with large windows. They are seated on white plastic chairs, facing a wooden podium. The room is brightly lit by natural light from the windows. The people appear to be listening or participating in a meeting or church service.

'we have been giving donations for the new mosque for more than 2 years now ... still the mosque is not complete'

'the church should be supporting us not demanding money from us all the time' (Mother, Maluku Utara)



**Easy &  
Safer**



**Goods Bought on Credit**

**Majority had formal or informal  
ongoing credit arrangements**



Loans

'better to  
sell assets  
than  
borrow'

Public Shame

Irregular and seasonal incomes





# Savings

1/3 no cash savings at all

Daily Management by the women

Banks - only 3 families had  
Remote (distance and psychologically)

'Banks are costly - I would rather have my money at home where I can access it easily'







tangible = can be pawned/sold





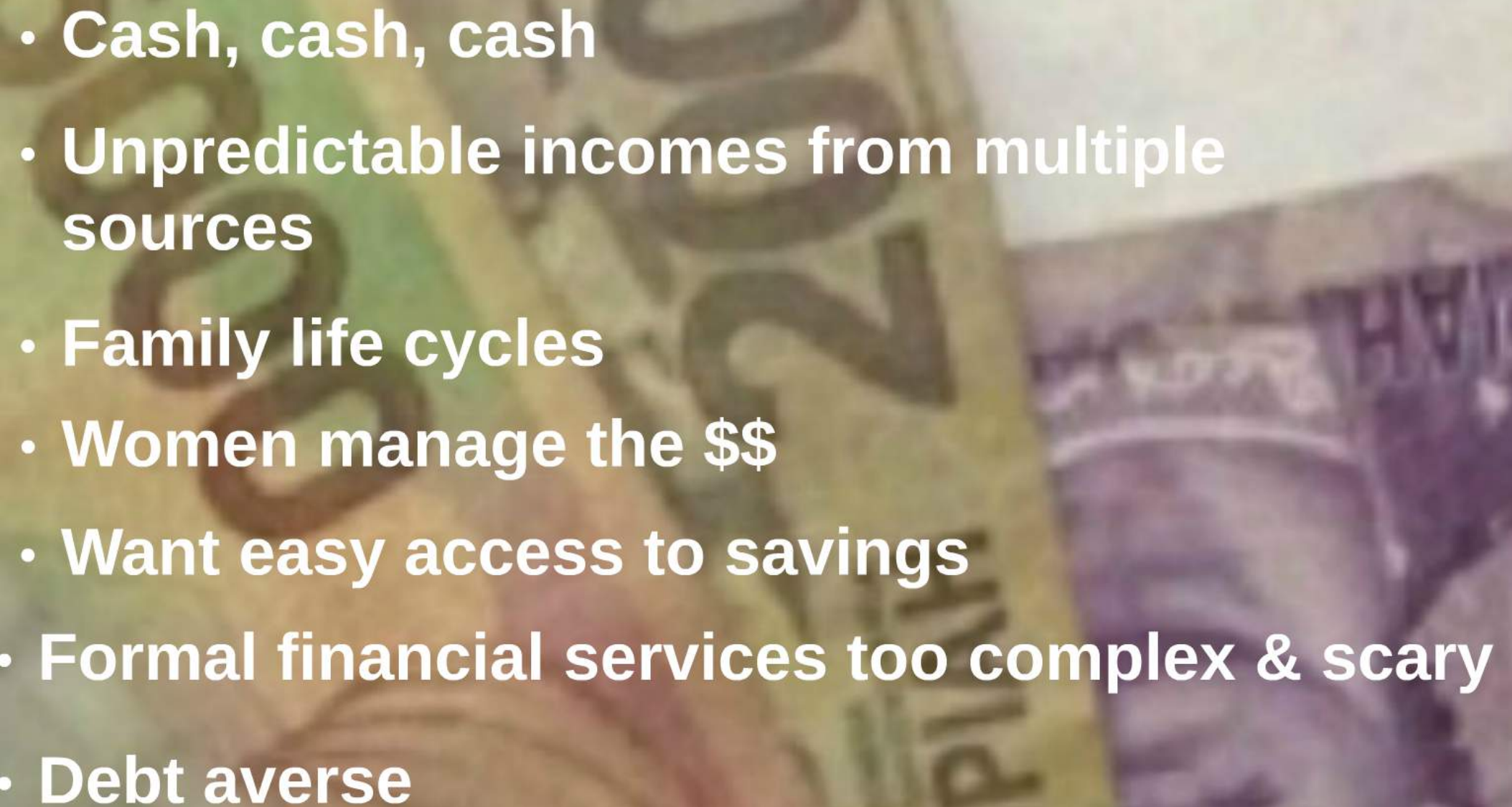
tangible = can be pawned/sold



# What did we learn?

• Each bank cash  
• Dependable sources from multiple  
• Family life cycle  
• Market structure  
• Market structure  
• Market structure  
• Market structure  
• Market structure

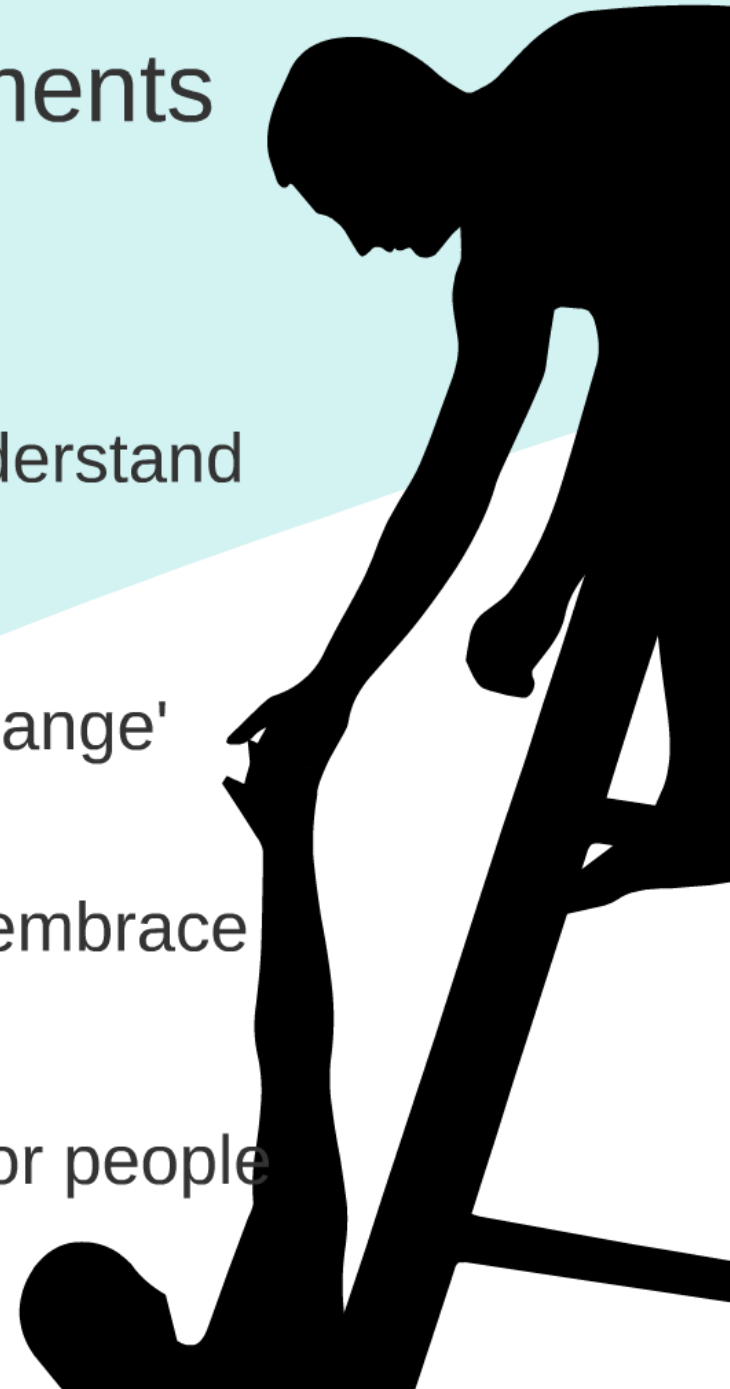


- 
- Cash, cash, cash
  - Unpredictable incomes from multiple sources
  - Family life cycles
  - Women manage the \$\$
  - Want easy access to savings
  - Formal financial services too complex & scary
  - Debt averse

# Learning Goals

## Concluding Comments

- SDGs 'Leave no one Behind'
- RCA used in different contexts to understand multiple perspectives
- RCA aims to transform to see-feel-change'
- Ensure (sub)national plans capture, embrace and reflect peoples' realities
- Inclusive and relevant programmes for people and







Thank you