



“Creating HOPE”

Project leadership lessons from South Africa’s pursuit towards the Rugby World Cup 2019

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UNIVERSITEIT VAN PRETORIA
UNIVERSITY OF PRETORIA
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Graduate School of Technology Management

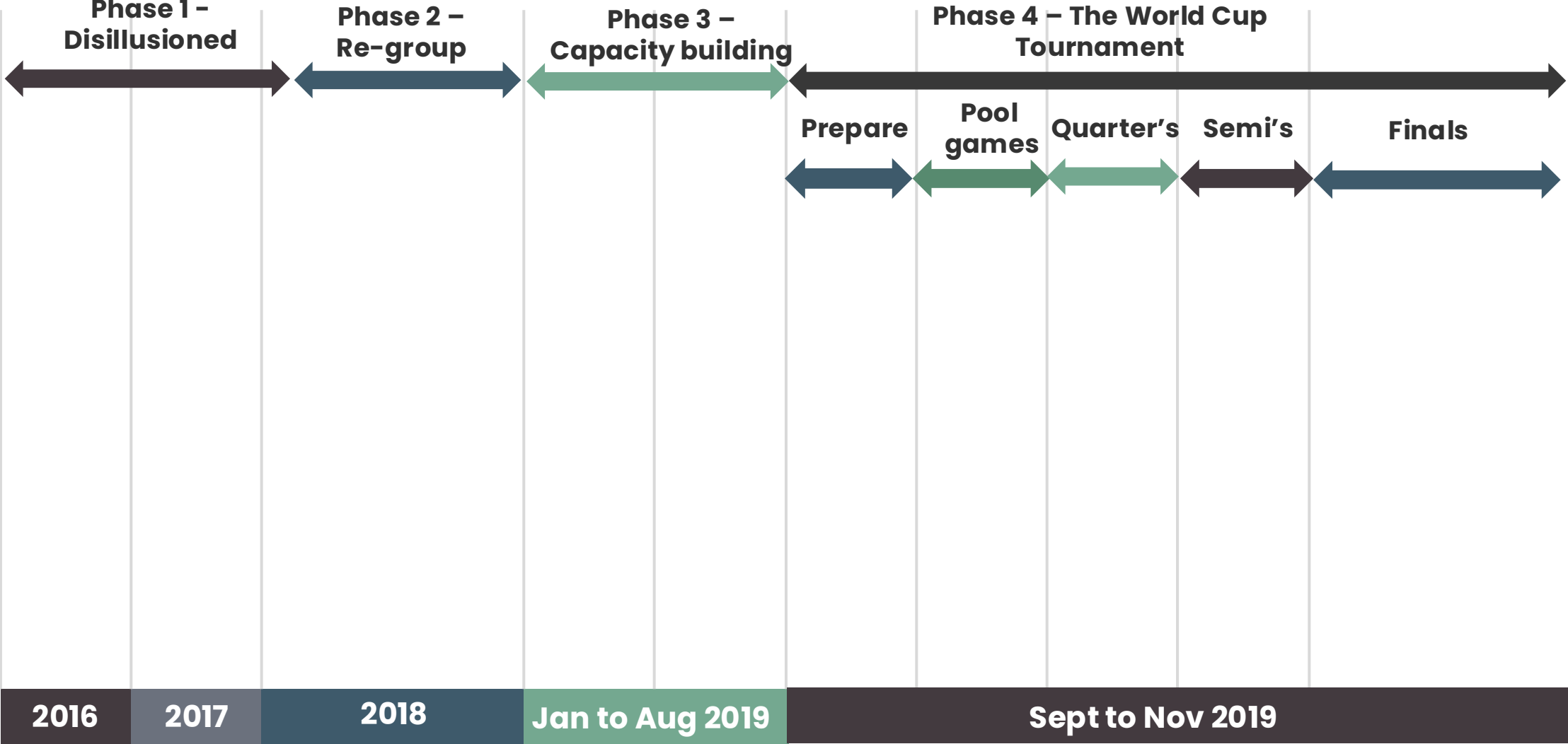
William Webb Ellis Cup



- 38 cm tall
- 4.5 kg sterling silver
- 24 carat gold plating

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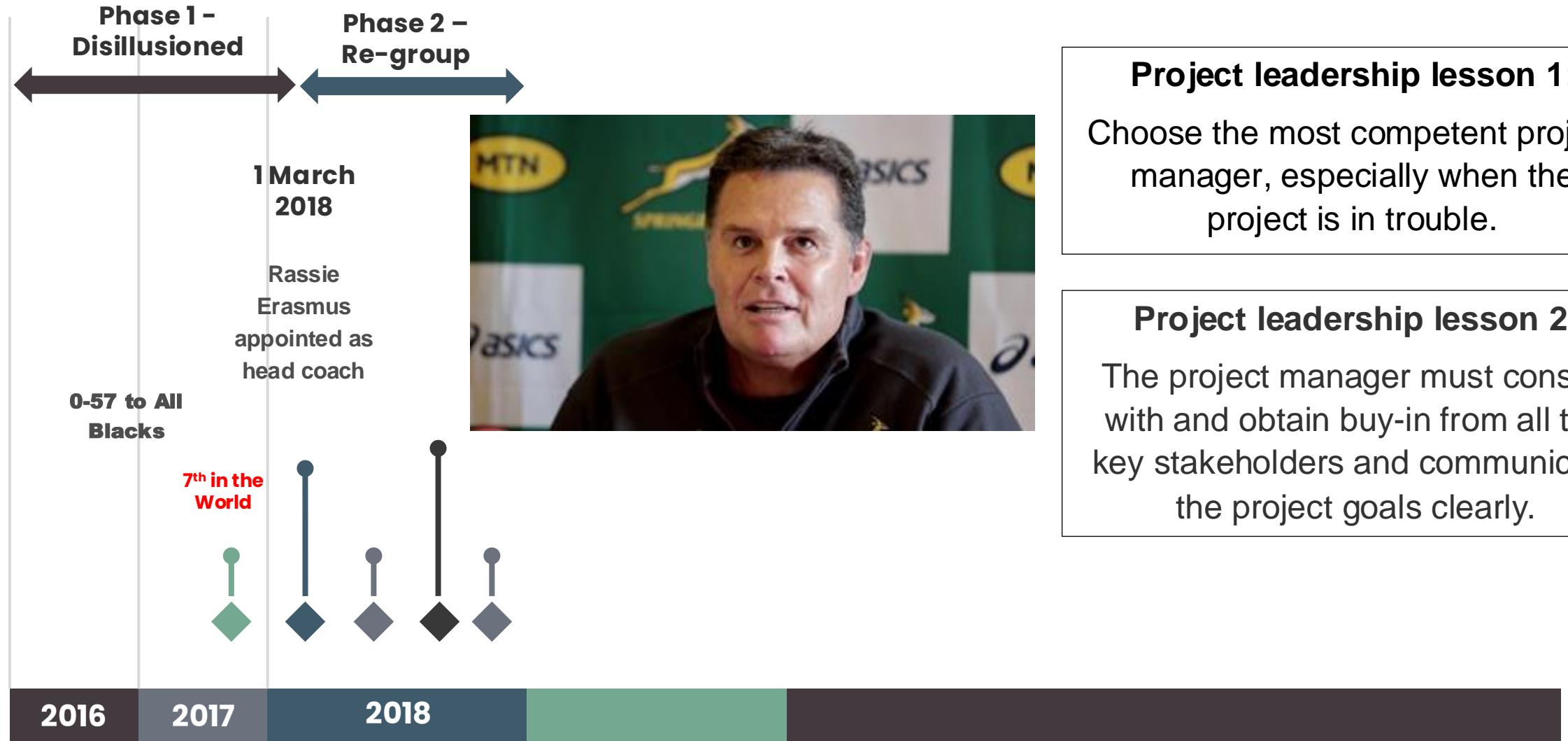
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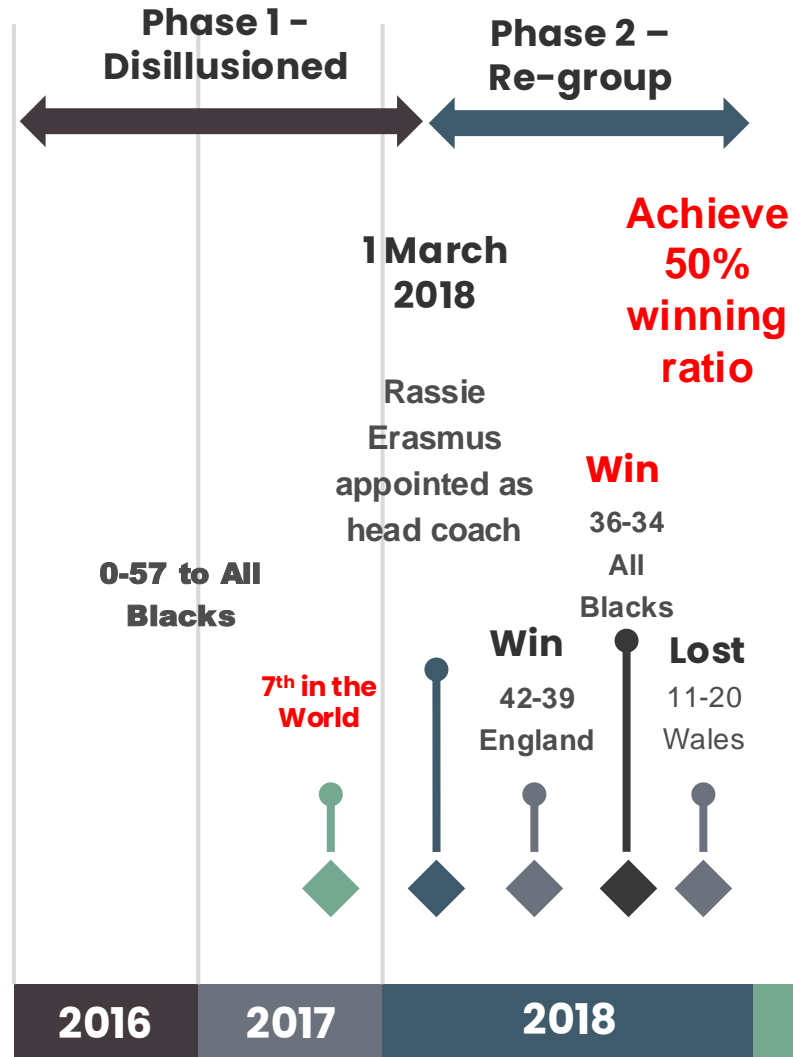
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Project leadership lesson 3:

The project sponsor must have confidence in the team, be willing to take risks, provide the means, and support the project manager under extreme adversity.

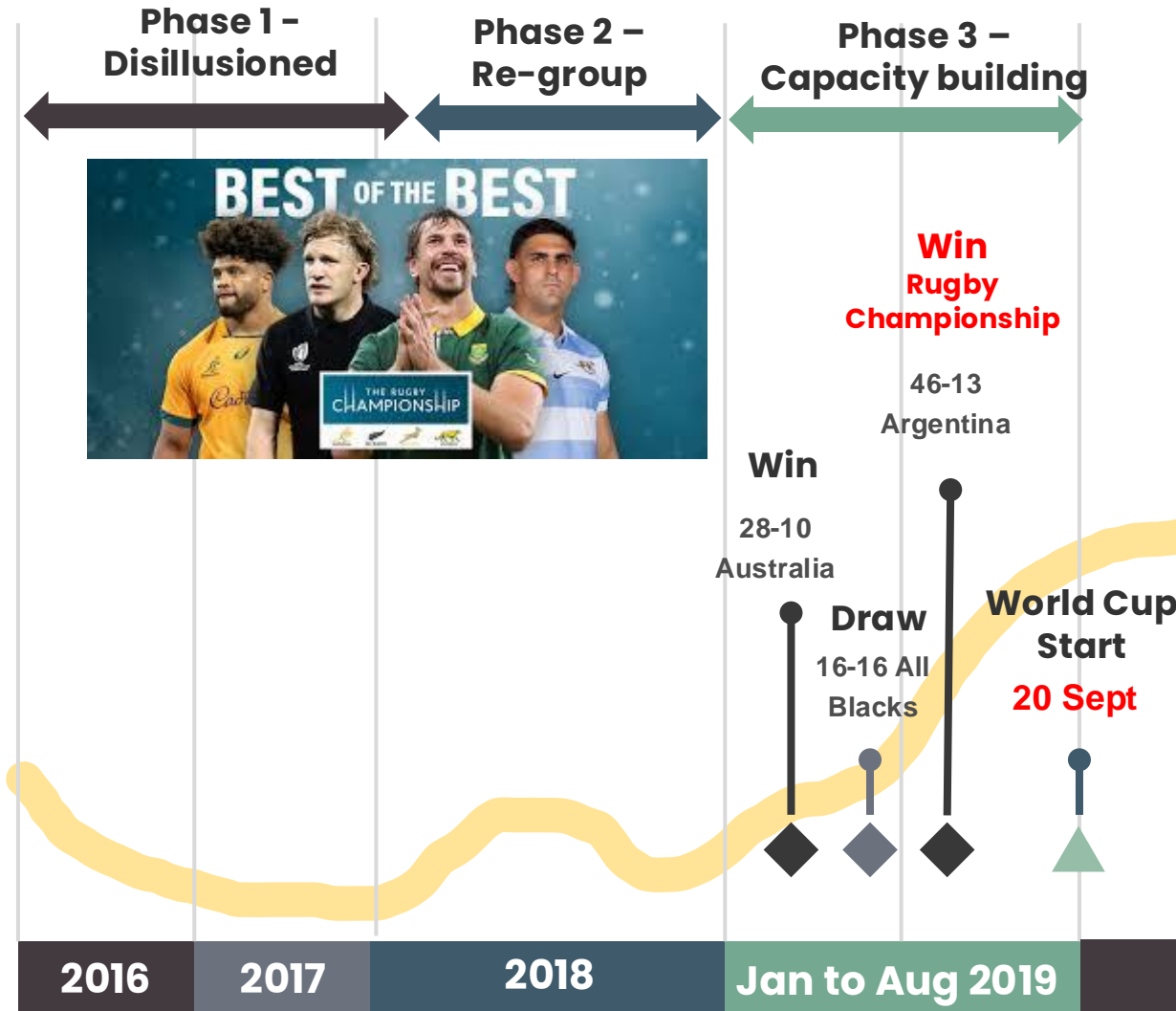


Project leadership lesson 4:

When a project is in trouble, the project manager must inspire the team to get a quick win as soon as possible to boost the morale.

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Project leadership lesson 5:

During a project, the project manager and team are faced with moments or decisions that could impact the outcome of a project.

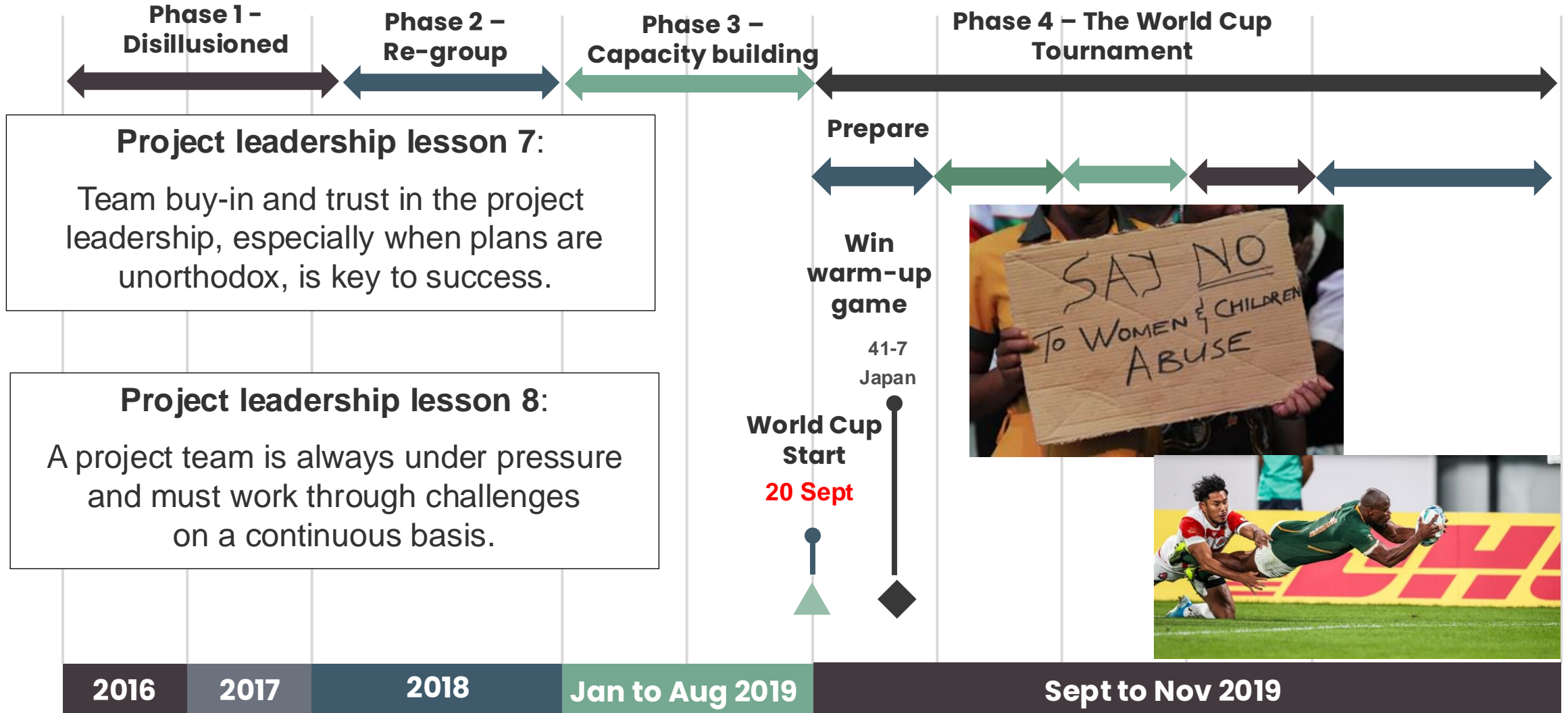
The outcomes are dependent on the capability, competency, and commitment of each team member – and sometimes a little bit of luck.

Project leadership lesson 6:

Celebrate small victories but never become complacent or distracted by external pressure. Keep the focus on the project objective.

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The Importance of PLANNING

- Nutrition and conditioning plans for each individual player.
- Expectations and levels of performance quantified as per playing position.
- Travel plan that allowed the least amount of travel during the tournament.
- Early arrival and acclimatization. Comfortable hotels and easy access to training facilities.
- Communication advisors and social media assistance.
- Arrangements for families and their travel needs.
- Full and open communication with clear selection policies.

The Importance of PLANNING

Project leadership lesson 11:

During any high-stake project, at times, your best efforts might not seem enough. The key is to stick to the well thought through plan and keep the team focused. This requires extraordinary project leadership.

Project leadership lesson 12:

In times of crisis, the project team will rely heavily on the project's upfront planning, preparation, infrastructure, systems, processes, and trust.

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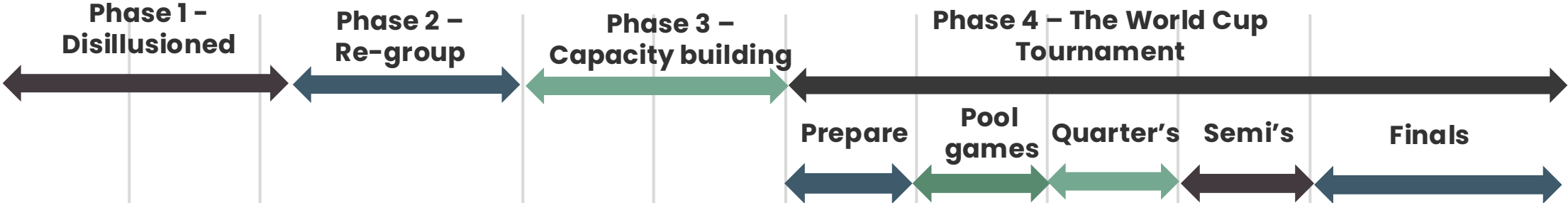
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Project leadership lesson 15:
Towards the end of a project, the team members will get tired and demotivated. Some will already start work on a new, exciting project. There will be many distracting things that could lead to the project not being handed over or closed properly. To make sure the team remain focused will require exceptional project leadership.



2016 2017 2018 Jan to Aug 2019 Sept to Nov 2019

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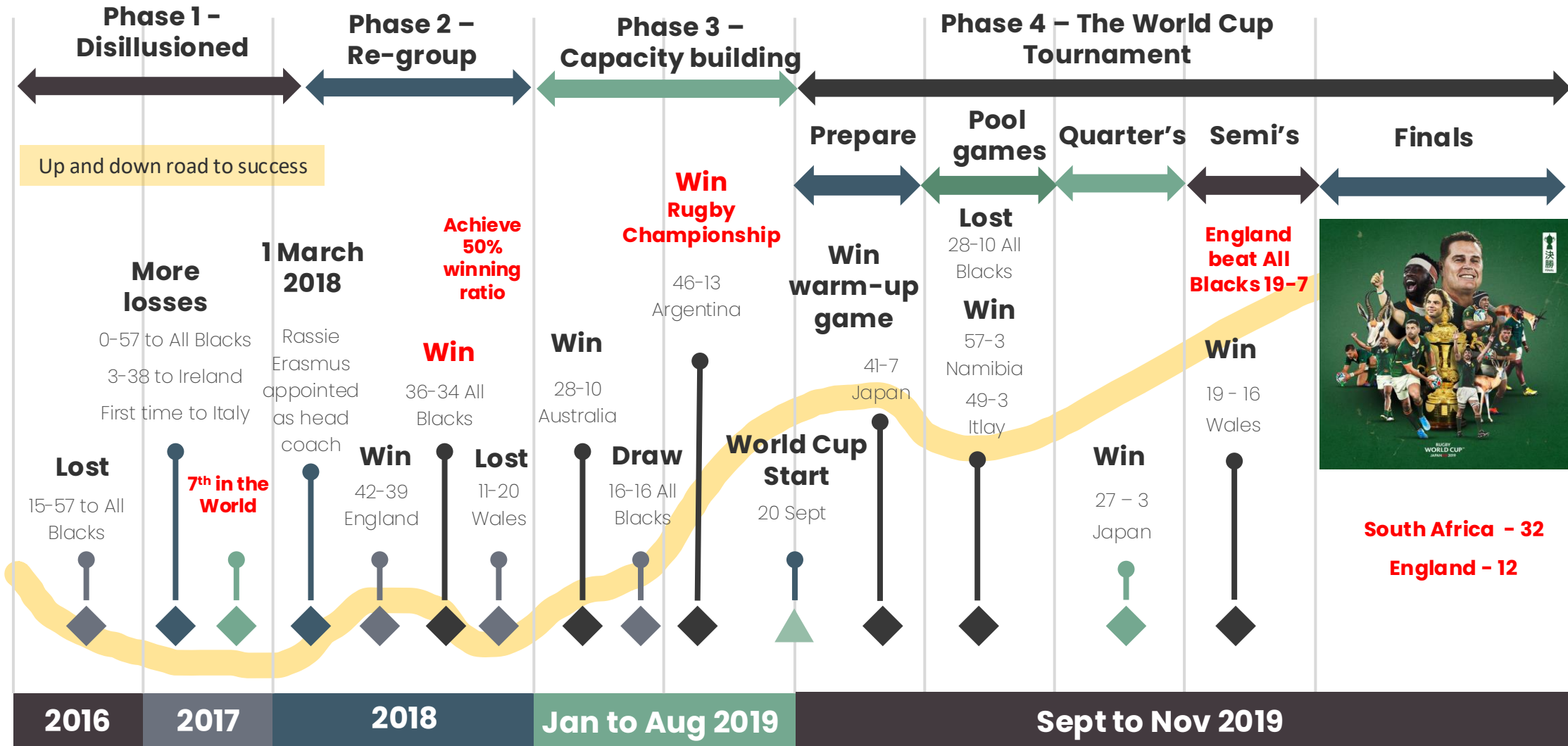


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- **Project leadership is paramount to a project's success.**
- **Any project will be faced with adversity, even animosity. It is how you deal with it that matters.**
- **Project management is one of the most difficult and most rewarding occupations. It takes a special kind a person – look well after the good ones.**
- **The Springbok rugby team under the Project Leadership of Dr Johan (Rassie) Erasmus inspired a whole nation and gave us HOPE. Learn from the best!**



Thank
You!

