**UNITED RELIGIONS INITIATIVE UK: THEORY OF CHANGE**

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| Situation | What is the context or reason for this change? **Interfaith dialogue and multi-faith social action in local communities are facing challenges and a loss of morale, caused by the closure of the Inter Faith Network and the Israel Gaza situation among other factors.** | Aims | What will ‘success’ look like? **Interfaith activity is regalvanised (starting in the West Midlands), with a new cohort of younger interfaith activists emerging.** |

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| **Inputs and activities** | **Outputs** | **Change mechanism** | **Outcomes** | **Impacts** |
| Inputs  What financial outlay, staffing and other resources will be required? **Estimated £30,000 to cover admin, publicity, conference & filming costs. ~28 hours of Chair of Board time to oversee programme.** | What tangible results, products, lessons, inspections or improvements will be produced? **Interfaith activists in the West Midlands will be provided with written and filmed resources and networking** | What actions will be needed to achieve the change(s)? Are you removing frictions, changing behaviour etc.? **Funds will need to be secured to cover associated costs. Existing networks & activists will have to be** **motivated to cooperate** | Short term: what will be the benefits and wider outcomes, both leading and lagging? **20+ places of worship & 15+ other orgs will participate in the main conference and gain tools for further action.** | What are the impacts?  **1. A re-energising of existing interfaith groups and activists;**  **2. More participants in interfaith dialogue and multifaith social action;**  **3. More young people involved in interfaith;** |
| Activities  What will be delivered, such as training or guidance? **At least one conference for interfaith activists. Projects on Health Approach to Preventing Violence, and on cultural heritage.** | **opportunities. Young people within faith groups will be drawn into interfaith through participating in projects to tackle hate & religion-motivated violence, and to celebrate the region’s multifaith heritage.** | **with the programme, through a** **focussed outreach process. Pessimism & growing frictions between faith groups will need to be overcome.** | Long term: what will be the sustainable and lasting changes? What metrics will be used to measure these? **A growth in interfaith activity in the region, measured by the number of projects organised. More organisations becoming URI Cooperation Circles.** | **4. Growing resilience within W. Mids. faith communities to hate speech;**  **5. Growing ability to deal with difficult issues in a way that does not harm interfaith relations;**  **6. Other regions learn from the good example of the West Midlands.** |

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| **Evidence assessment** | What is the strength of the existing evidence base for this change? **Mainly anecdotal: conversations within the interfaith sector in the West Midlands have revealed widespread disillusion and concern about the future. Some interfaith groups have ceased operations; those that remain are largely kept going by elderly faith leaders. The closure of IFN was widely deplored.** |

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| **Assumptions** | What is being assumed as part of the plan?  **We assume that funders will appreciate the gravity of the situation and offer support.** | Possible unintended consequences **Activists will use the conference to attack each other (highly unlikely).** | Are there any other outcomes that might result from this project? **A growth in volunteering and civic participation.** |

WH, 12.vi.24