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DAAD
Higher Education Dialogue with the Muslim World

Community Learning for Local Change

A seminar on community-based social innovation and entrepreneurship

International Online Seminar: **Theory of Change – an introduction**

Tuesday, 14th of April 2020, 16 00 – 17 30 CET /

Hochschule für Wirtschaft und Umwelt Nürtingen-Geislingen · Eesti Maaülikool Estonian University of Life Sciences · Social Enterprise Estonia · WWF · MERCI Charity Boutique · heldenrat Beratung für soziale Bewegungen e.V. · van hall larenstein university of applied sciences · GJU · AUB American University of Beirut

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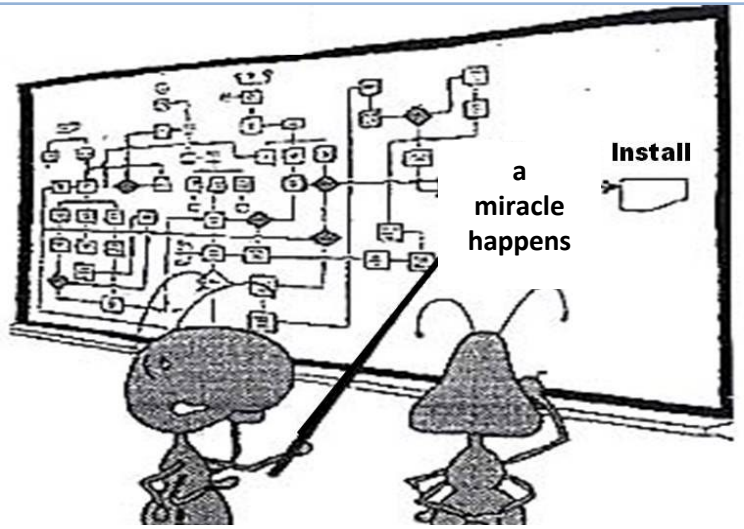
How to solve complex problems?



Good work. But maybe we should be more precice here.

Don´t believe in miracles. Follow the steps of the Theory of Change.

- The Theory of Change helps identify the preconditions, pathways, hurdles and interventions for an initiative's success.
- The Theory of Change Canvas is a theory-based instrument to find a way to solve complex problems.
- It is widely used among social entre-preneurs to map out the steps that will lead to the intended change on society.
- It and can be understood as a chain of causality: "if… then".

Following Kickul, J., & Lyons, T. S. (2016): Understanding social entrepreneurship: The relentless pursuit of mission in an ever changing world, Routledge, p. 95.

Theorie of Change
(https://diytoolkit.org/media/Theory-of-Change-Size-A4.pdf)

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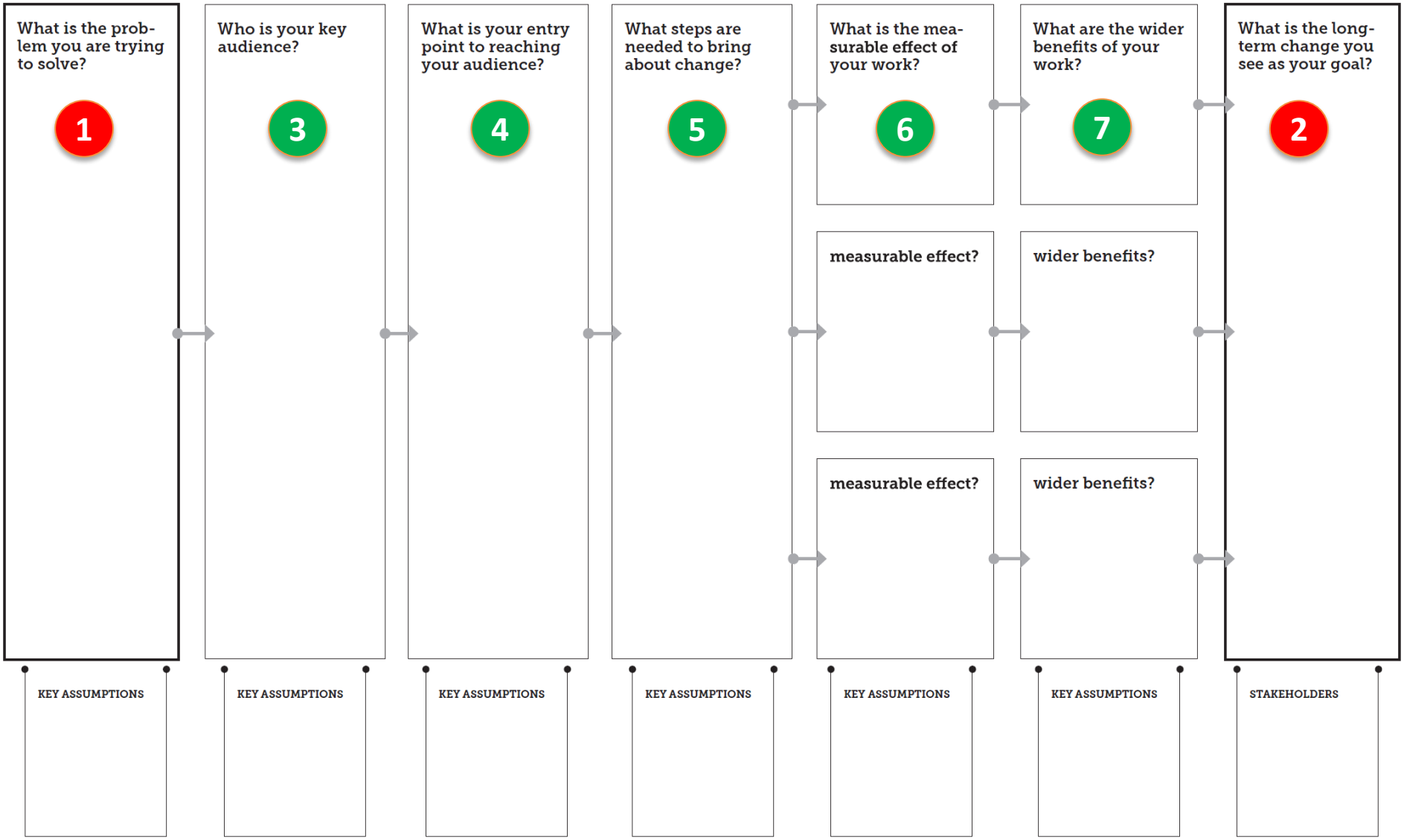

Theorie of Change – Are elderly people lonely?

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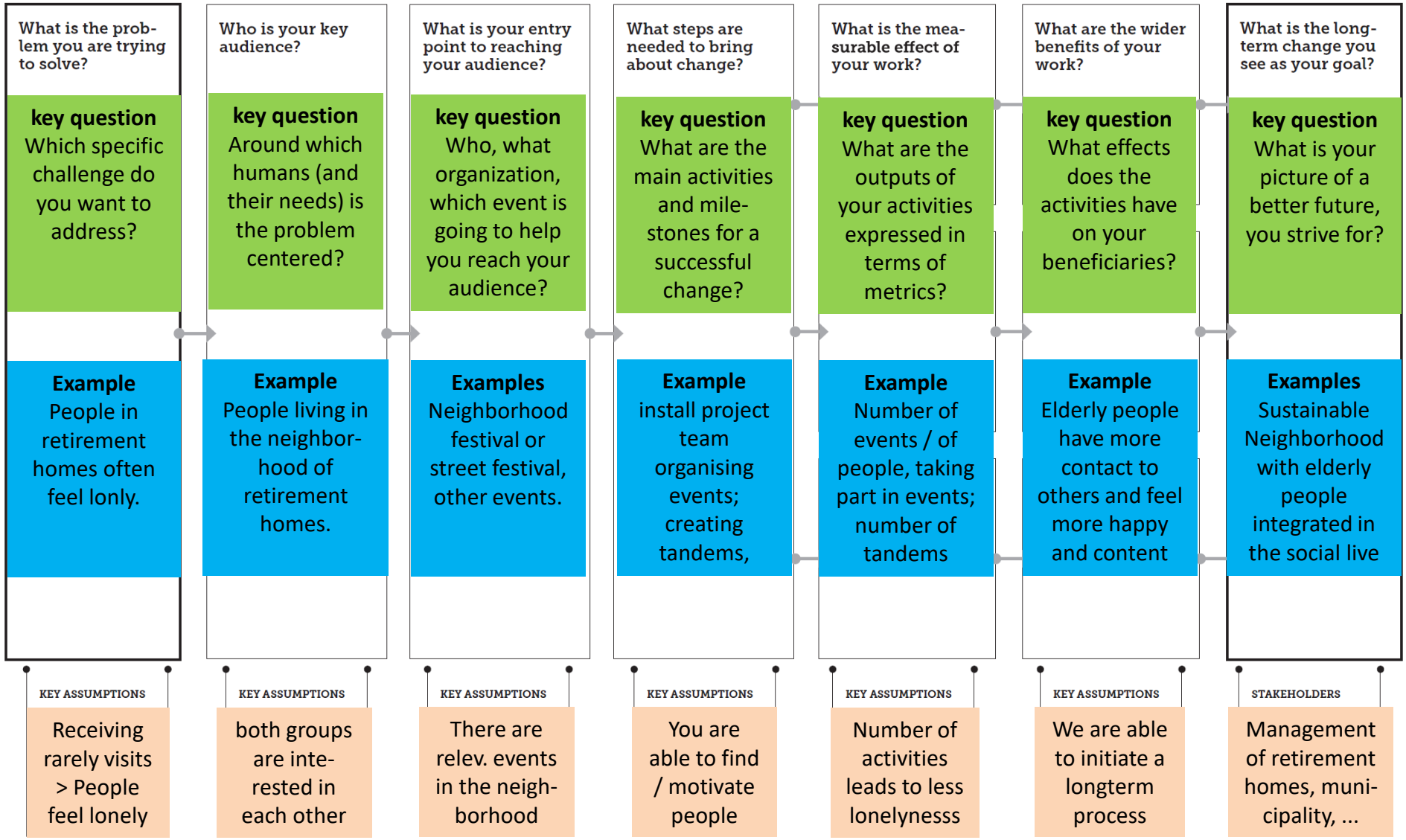

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The work with the „Theory-of-Change-Template“

- It is not just a template! It is a a theory-based instrument to find a way to solve complex problems.
- If you want to use the template – use it! Follow the method – step by step.
- Be as precice as possible, when you define challenges, metrics, beneficiaries etc.
- Think deep about your assumptions and be aware of them. Wrong assumptions are leading to wrong activities, misunderstandings, disappointments and waste of resources.
- It is done, when it´s done. During the change process you will learn and might have to revise the template more than once.