



Definition of Terms

The **context** in which you will be operating, living, or working. This could be a description of what your university environment is like or the other members on your team and how they are engaged in your activities. It could also refer to broader societal, political, and economic conditions. Additionally, it may involve personal abilities, interpersonal connections, institutional frameworks, and the broader infrastructure network.

Example:

- My Planetary Health Undergraduate Club was founded in 2019 and we have 30 members.
- My university is supportive of Planetary Health efforts, as they are members of PHA and I have heard they are actively taking steps to integrate Planetary Health into our curriculum.

The **assumptions** that show why you think one outcome will lead to another. They can be assumptions about the present or what may happen in the future. Looking at what you hold to be true can help you understand the underlying causal mechanisms, preventing misinterpretations of your actions and motivations. What are their implications for long-term success? These may be things that act as enablers or allow you to work towards your long-term goals or they may be speedbumps or barriers that you will have to navigate around or overcome.

Example:

- My university will be supportive of my club's attempts to grow our infrastructure
- My teammates are excited to grow our club's offerings
- The PHCA program will continue to run in 2025

The **intermediate steps** are the steps that must be taken in order to reach your long term goal. They can be broken into two parts, namely, the *actions that must be taken* and the *intermediate outcomes* that you can expect from those actions. These can be big or small.

Actions that must be taken	Intermediate Outcomes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Crafting my application to the 2025 PHCA program - Hosting club meetings 2x per month 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Continuing in my role as a PHCA - My club will continue to operate

The **long-term goals** are what we set out to achieve. These may not be something we can reach in 1 year, 2 years, or even in a lifetime, but we can steadily work towards them. Throughout our work and personal lives, we have aims, objectives and ideas about how to achieve our goals, but we may rarely take the time to think these through, articulate, and scrutinize them. Theory of change can help you see the path towards these long-term goals and facilitate strategic thinking that may help lead to implementation.

Example:

- Create a thriving Planetary Health youth space in my community
- Become a champion for Planetary Health through local advocacy



Next Generation Meeting Theory of Change Exercise

Completed Form Example

Context

- My Planetary Health Undergraduate Club was founded in 2019 and we have 30 members.
- My university is supportive of Planetary Health efforts, as they are members of PHA, and I have heard they are actively taking steps to integrate Planetary Health into our curriculum.
- I am a 2024 PHCA

Assumptions

- My university will be supportive of my club's attempts to grow our infrastructure
- My teammates are excited to grow our club's offerings
- I, or someone at my institution, will be a PHCA in 2025

Intermediate Steps

Actions that must be taken:	Intermediate Outcome:
<p>By You:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Crafting my application to the 2025 PHCA program - Reach out to my regional hub and ask how to get involved <p>By Your Team/Others in Your Community:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Hosting club meetings 2x per month 	<p>Continuing in my role as a PHCA</p> <p>Grow my engagement with the Planetary Health Community</p> <p>My club will continue to operate and maybe even grow</p>

Long Term Goal(s)

- Create a thriving Planetary Health youth space in my community
- Become a champion for Planetary Health through local advocacy



Next Generation Theory of Change Exercise

Context

Assumptions

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Intermediate Steps

Actions that must be taken: By You: By Your Team/Others in Your Community:	Intermediate Outcome:
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Long Term Goal(s)

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This was created as an exercise for the Next Generation Meeting at the 2024 Planetary Health Annual Meeting by Community Building and Engagement Coordinator Ursula Gately