**Guiding Questions for Assumptions**

* Are our assumptions about causality in the pathways valid for all people? What about poor people, women?
* What needs to happen between each output and each outcome? Each outcome and each impact? If there is a big gap between the two levels of a theory of change, then there are likely significant assumptions between them.
* What are we assuming about their current and desired needs, capacities, behaviours, relationships, receptivity and motivation to change?
* On the basis of what evidence, knowledge, experiences or impressions do we make our assumptions?
* Why is this change desirable?
* Why does this change matter to us (worldview, values, etc.)?
* Which ideas and convictions about change underlie our picture of the desired change?
* What social beliefs in the context (where the desired change should occur) does this change, build on or challenge?
* Why do we think that it is these stakeholders, actors, groups, entities who need to change?
* What other perspectives are possible, and would possibly challenge our assumptions? Why?
* How do our beliefs and preferences for specific types of change shape our thinking about the pathways? What are we taking for granted? What would challenge our assumptions?