

## What is an ACWAY Project?

Participants in ACWAY Forums are expected to implement at least one **project\*** within six months of the forum ending.

An ACWAY project is an intentional action that brings people together across differences and contributes to peaceful and inclusive communities. It aims to create impact within your local community and/or beyond, under the umbrella of interfaith and intercultural engagement. It is community-oriented and grounded in meaningful interaction across contexts.

These projects often start small, sometimes as a single conversation, event, or idea, but can grow into sustained initiatives, partnerships, or movements over time.

### **\*ACWAY projects can be:**

- A one-time initiative or a series of activities. **A one-time activity can still be a project.**
- Small or large in scale. The focus is **not on the size**, but on intention, relevance, and the potential to bring people together across differences.
- **Local** or **extended** beyond your immediate community.
- A **collaboration** with other ACWAY fellows and/or organizations, fostering partnerships and collective impact.

## What makes a valid ACWAY project?

Your project should meet the following criteria:

- Promote interfaith and/or intercultural dialogue, understanding, and collaboration
- Contribute to peace, harmony, and tolerance within communities
- Address one or more of the Interfaith Development Goals (IDGs). Read more about IDGs: <https://acway.org/interfaith-development-goals/>
- Be voluntary (*not part of a full-time or part-time job*). You **should not financially gain** from this endeavor/project.
- **Engage participants from at least two different faith backgrounds**, to ensure the project creates genuine interfaith exchange and is not limited to a single community.
- Engage participants who are **18 years or older**, in line with safeguarding considerations (*Further guidance may be provided based on ACWAY policies*).

- For any promotional or marketing materials, the **ACWAY Fellows logo** must be visibly included. Participants are also expected to share these materials with the ACWAY team.

## What does an ACWAY project look like?

There is no set format! ACWAY projects can take many forms. The following are just examples. **We encourage creativity!** If you are unsure whether your idea fits, reach out to us.

**And if you are looking for inspiration,** visit the ACWAY website to explore real projects implemented by our fellows and see how ideas have been turned into action:

<https://acway.org/fellow-projects/>

FORMAT	EXAMPLES
Dialogue	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Interfaith dialogue circles between different religious or cultural groups</li> <li>• University or school-based discussion groups</li> </ul>
Creative & Storytelling Initiatives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Storytelling projects sharing lived experiences across faiths or cultures</li> <li>• Participatory theatre or performance-based dialogue</li> <li>• Photo or video campaigns highlighting diversity and coexistence</li> <li>• Podcast or blog series featuring interfaith voices</li> </ul>
Community Events & Public Engagement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Events around religious, cultural, and global occasions (e.g., World Interfaith Harmony Week).</li> <li>• Interfaith Ramadan iftars, shared meals, or cultural exchange gatherings</li> </ul>
Education & Capacity Building	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Workshops on interfaith understanding or religious literacy</li> <li>• Training youth as dialogue facilitators or peace ambassadors</li> <li>• Sessions on conflict resolution, critical thinking, or media literacy</li> <li>• Awareness sessions on human rights, gender, or inclusion</li> </ul>
Community Service	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Community service projects (e.g., supporting vulnerable groups, fundraising, or solidarity campaigns)</li> <li>• Local initiatives responding to community needs (e.g., crisis response, preventive socialization)</li> </ul>
Environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Interfaith environmental campaigns or clean-up/tree planting</li> </ul>

	<p>initiatives</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Eco-peace clubs bringing youth together around climate action</li> </ul>
Online & Digital Projects	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Online dialogue sessions/webinars connecting participants across countries</li> <li>● Social media campaigns promoting interfaith understanding</li> </ul>

## What does NOT qualify as an ACWAY project?

The following do not meet the ACWAY project criteria:

- Activities that do not promote interfaith or intercultural understanding
- Activities that include participants from different faiths but do not meaningfully engage with interfaith or intercultural themes in the content or structure of the activity
- Misrepresenting or manipulating information to fit eligibility criteria
- Using photos or documentation from unrelated activities and presenting them as ACWAY projects
- Using the ACWAY logo without prior approval from the Monitoring & Evaluation team
- Personal experiences or journeys that do not benefit a wider community
- Activities that are part of your paid employment (***however: partnerships with your organisation may be explored separately if relevant***).