

Cross-Tradition Values Mapping Tool

Purpose

The Cross-Tradition Values Mapping Tool is designed to guide facilitators in identifying, mapping, and synthesizing shared ethical values and principles across diverse spiritual, religious, and ethical traditions during interfaith and inter-spiritual dialogues within the Religious & Spiritual Dialogue Framework. It fosters mutual understanding, highlights common ground, and informs collaborative outcomes such as ethics charters or policy recommendations, ensuring inclusivity, cultural sensitivity, and alignment with the framework's principles of inclusivity, respect, equity, collaboration, and knowledge integration.

Intended Audience

- Facilitators leading global summits, regional workshops, or local dialogue circles
- Community leaders and spiritual practitioners synthesizing dialogue insights
- Regional Hubs and the Global Council for Religious & Spiritual Dialogue (GCRSD) integrating values into governance frameworks

Core Principles

This tool aligns with the framework's five core principles:

1. **Inclusivity:** Ensuring all traditions, especially marginalized ones, contribute to value mapping.
2. **Respect:** Honoring the sacredness and unique expressions of each tradition's values.
3. **Equity:** Amplifying underrepresented voices to address power imbalances in value identification.
4. **Collaboration:** Co-creating a shared understanding through participatory mapping.
5. **Knowledge Integration:** Valuing spiritual and cultural wisdom as central to ethical synthesis.

Tool Overview

The Cross-Tradition Values Mapping Tool includes:

- **Preparation Phase:** Assessing dialogue context and participant diversity.
- **Value Identification Phase:** Collecting values from each tradition.
- **Mapping and Synthesis Phase:** Visualizing and synthesizing shared values.
- **Validation and Application Phase:** Confirming values and applying them to outcomes.
- **Tools and Resources:** Supporting framework tools for implementation.

Cross-Tradition Values Mapping Process

Step 1: Preparation Phase

- **Assess Dialogue Context:**
 - Review the dialogue's objectives and themes (e.g., climate ethics, peacebuilding) using the [Wisdom Documentation Templates](#).
 - Identify relevant cultural and spiritual contexts via the [Regional Customization Framework](#).
 - Example: In a Pacific Islands dialogue, focus on ocean stewardship as a shared theme across Polynesian and Christian traditions.
- **Identify Participant Diversity:**

- Use the [Representation Assessment Tool](#) to ensure diverse traditions (e.g., Indigenous, Abrahamic, secular) and marginalized groups (e.g., youth, women) are represented.
- Example: In a South Asian dialogue, include Hindu, Muslim, Jain, and Dalit perspectives.
- **Engage Stakeholders:**
 - Collaborate with community leaders and spiritual practitioners via the [Local Partnership MOU Template](#) to co-design the mapping process.
 - Example: In an African dialogue, consult Muslim imams and Akan elders to frame value discussions.
- **Prepare Facilitation Tools:**
 - Select accessible tools (e.g., digital whiteboards, physical charts) for mapping, per the [Digital Access & Inclusion Audit](#).
 - Example: In a Latin American dialogue, use a multilingual virtual whiteboard for hybrid participants.

Step 2: Value Identification Phase

- **Facilitate Value Sharing:**
 - Use the [Dialogue Facilitation Guide](#) to prompt participants: “What core value from your tradition guides [insert theme, e.g., environmental care]?”
 - Encourage storytelling or teachings, prioritizing marginalized voices (e.g., Indigenous, youth).
 - Example: In a Middle Eastern dialogue, invite Christian, Muslim, and Druze participants to share values like mercy or hospitality for peacebuilding.
- **Document Values:**
 - Record each tradition’s values, teachings, and examples using the [Wisdom Documentation Templates](#), ensuring consent for sacred content.
 - Example: In a North American dialogue, document Indigenous reciprocity and Christian stewardship with elder approval.
- **Ensure Cultural Sensitivity:**
 - Respect sacred boundaries when documenting values, per the [Cultural Appropriation Prevention Checklist](#).
 - Example: In a South Asian dialogue, seek Jain monk consent before citing ahimsa (non-violence).
- **Adapt for Accessibility:**
 - Provide value-sharing options in accessible formats (e.g., verbal, written, visual), per the [Digital Access & Inclusion Audit](#).
 - Example: In a Central Asian dialogue, offer Kyrgyz audio prompts for nomadic participants.

Step 3: Mapping and Synthesis Phase

- **Create a Values Map:**
 - Use a visual framework (e.g., Venn diagram, table, mind map) to plot each tradition’s values, identifying overlaps and unique contributions.
 - Example Table:

Tradition	Value	Expression
Polynesian	Stewardship	Ocean as ancestor

Christianity	Creation Care	Biblical call to tend the earth
Hinduism	Ahimsa	Non-harm to all beings
Secular Humanism	Responsibility	Ethical duty to future generations

- Example: In a Pacific Islands dialogue, map Polynesian stewardship and Christian creation care as shared environmental care.
- **Synthesize Shared Values:**
 - Identify common themes (e.g., compassion, justice) and articulate synthesized values that bridge traditions.
 - Example: In a Middle Eastern dialogue, synthesize Islamic rahma (mercy) and Christian agape (love) into a shared value of compassionate coexistence.
- **Highlight Unique Contributions:**
 - Acknowledge distinct values that enrich the dialogue without forcing uniformity.
 - Example: In a South Asian dialogue, note Jain ahimsa's unique emphasis on non-violence to all life forms alongside shared compassion.
- **Use Collaborative Tools:**
 - Facilitate mapping in breakout groups or virtual rooms, using tools like Miro or physical flipcharts, ensuring equitable participation.
 - Example: In a Latin American dialogue, use a virtual mind map to connect Indigenous reciprocity and Catholic solidarity.

Step 4: Validation and Application Phase

- **Validate with Participants:**
 - Share the values map and synthesized principles with participants for feedback, ensuring accuracy and cultural respect.
 - Use the [Digital Feedback Dashboard](#) to collect input, asking: "Do these values reflect your tradition?" or "What needs refinement?"
 - Example: In an African dialogue, seek Akan elder approval for mapping ubuntu as a shared value.
- **Apply to Dialogue Outcomes:**
 - Integrate synthesized values into deliverables like the [Ethics Charter Template](#) or [Policy Translation Guide](#).
 - Example: In a Pacific Islands dialogue, use the shared value of stewardship to draft a coastal conservation charter.
- **Address Disagreements:**
 - Manage tensions over value interpretation using the [Conflict De-escalation Protocols](#), prioritizing trauma sensitivity.
 - Example: In a Middle Eastern dialogue, mediate a Christian-Muslim dispute over "mercy" framing with neutral facilitation.
- **Document and Share:**
 - Record the final values map and synthesis in the [Multimedia Resource Library](#), ensuring consent and accessibility.
 - Example: Share an anonymized Pacific Islands values map as a case study for other regions.
- **Report to Stakeholders:**
 - Submit a summary to the Regional Hub or GCRSD, detailing the mapping process and outcomes, per the [Representation Metrics Dashboard](#).

- Example: Report how a South Asian dialogue's values map informed a water conservation policy.

Step 5: Continuous Improvement

- **Refine Mapping Process:**

- Update the tool based on participant feedback, addressing gaps in inclusivity or clarity.
- Example: Add visual storytelling for Indigenous participants after feedback from a North American dialogue.

- **Scale Best Practices:**

- Share effective mapping strategies with other regions via Regional Hubs, fostering cross-regional learning.
- Example: Apply African dialogue's ubuntu mapping to Latin American solidarity frameworks.

- **Build Capacity:**

- Train facilitators in value mapping and cultural sensitivity, per the [Local Partnership MOU Template](#).
- Example: In a Southeast Asian dialogue, train youth to lead virtual mapping sessions.

Considerations for Implementation

- **Cultural Sensitivity:**

- Adapt value expressions to local norms (e.g., oral teachings in Indigenous contexts, written texts in Abrahamic traditions).
- Example: In a Middle Eastern dialogue, use Arabic poetic forms to articulate Islamic values.

- **Power Dynamics:**

- Prioritize marginalized voices (e.g., Indigenous, women, youth) in value identification, per the [Representation Assessment Tool](#).
- Example: In a South Asian dialogue, center Dalit perspectives on justice alongside Hindu values.

- **Accessibility:**

- Ensure mapping tools and processes are accessible (e.g., audio descriptions, translations), per the [Digital Access & Inclusion Audit](#).
- Example: In an African dialogue, provide Swahili audio mapping prompts for rural participants.

- **Youth Engagement:**

- Involve youth in mapping and synthesizing values, leveraging their cross-cultural insights.
- Example: In a European dialogue, engage youth to map secular humanist and Christian values.

- **Remote and Rural Engagement:**

- Use offline methods (e.g., printed charts, verbal recordings) for rural participants with limited digital access.
- Example: In a Pacific Islands dialogue, distribute physical value maps to outer island communities.

- **Ethical Considerations:**

- Obtain consent for documenting sacred values, per the [Cultural Appropriation Prevention Checklist](#).

- Example: In an Australian dialogue, secure Aboriginal elder consent for mapping Dreamtime values.
- **Trauma Sensitivity:**
 - Handle values tied to historical wounds with care, per the [Truth & Reconciliation Toolkit](#).
 - Example: In a Canadian dialogue, frame Indigenous values of healing sensitively regarding residential school trauma.

Appendices

- **Sample Values Map:**

Cross-Tradition Values Map

Dialogue Title: Pacific Islands Dialogue on Climate Resilience

Date: May 19, 2025

Location: Hybrid – Fiji & Virtual

Table:

Tradition	Value	Expression	S
Polynesian	Stewardship	Ocean as ancestor	E
Christianity	Creation Care	Biblical call to tend the earth	
Hinduism	Ahimsa	Non-harm to all beings	Co
Secular Humanism	Responsibility	Ethical duty to future generations	

Synthesized Values:

1. Environmental Care: Protecting the ocean and earth, uniting Polynesian, Christi
2. Compassion: Promoting non-harm and care for communities, rooted in Hindu ahimsa

Application: Values inform [Ethics Charter Template](/frameworks/tools/spiritual/e

Consent: Approved by participants, per [Wisdom Documentation Templates](/framework

Accessibility: Map available in Samoan audio and printed formats.

- **Facilitator Checklist:**
 - Assess dialogue context and participant diversity.
 - Facilitate value sharing, prioritizing marginalized voices.
 - Create and synthesize a values map, ensuring cultural sensitivity.
 - Validate with participants and apply to dialogue outcomes.
 - Document, share, and refine the mapping process.
- **Resources:**
 - [Dialogue Facilitation Guide](#)
 - [Representation Assessment Tool](#)
 - [Cultural Appropriation Prevention Checklist](#)
 - [Conflict De-escalation Protocols](#)
 - [Regional Customization Framework](#)
 - [Sacred Space Setup Guide](#)
 - [Truth & Reconciliation Toolkit](#)
 - [Wisdom Documentation Templates](#)
 - [Digital Access & Inclusion Audit](#)
 - [Ethics Charter Template](#)

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