



# ADVOCATING FOR ECOSYSTEMS and WASH: a blended learning course

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Promotional Webinar 4 August 2021



### AFRICA BIODIVERSITY COLLABORATIVE GROUP

## INTRODUCTIONS

- Introductions type name and location in the chat
- Welcome Colleen Sorto, ABCG FW-WASH Task Lead, Conservation International
- Overview of the webinar Elynn Walter, IRC

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## OBJECTIVES

- Introduce advocacy and advocacy strategies
- Provide an overview of the blended learning course
- Have fun!!

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## **DEFINING ADVOCACY**

## What words do you associate with advocacy?

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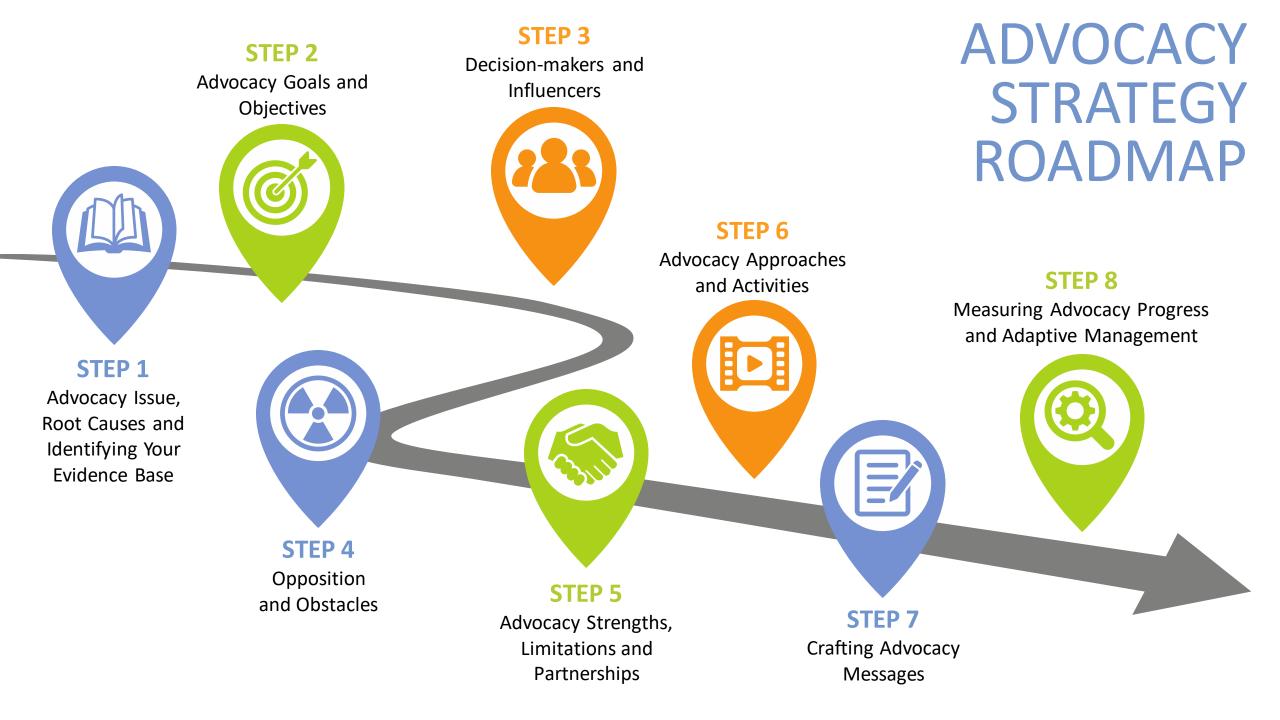
## **DEFINING ADVOCACY**

**Advocacy** is the practical use of knowledge for purposes of social changes directed to government policies, laws and procedures



#### **ADVOCACY**

- Is a deliberate process
- Aims to inform and influence decision-makers
- Seeks changes that are evidencebased



## PARTS OF AN ADVOCACY STRATEGY



PART 1 Advocacy Issue, Root Causes and Identifying your Evidence Base



PART 2 Advocacy Goals and Objectives



T 3 Decision-makers and Influencers



PART 4 Opposition and Obstacles



PART 5 Advocacy Strengths, Limitations and Partnerships

PART 6

5 Advocacy Approaches and Activities



PART 7 Advocacy Messages



PART 8 Measuring Progress and Adaptive Management

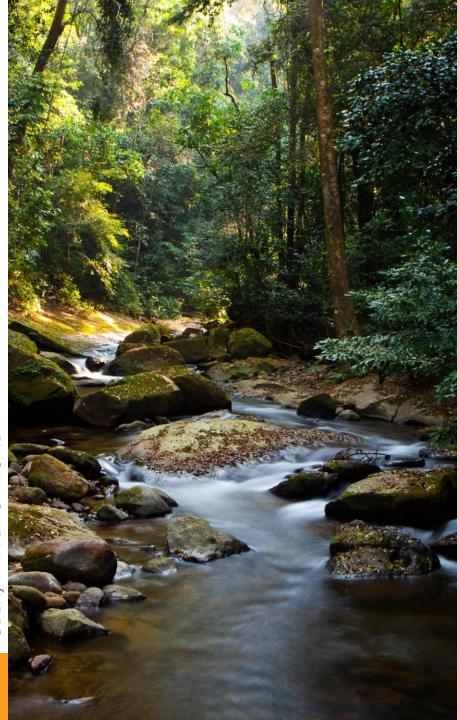
## PARTNERSHIPS

## What is the most important reason to partner in advocacy?

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## PARTNERSHIPS



#### TYPES/FORMS OF COLLABORATION

- Information and data sharing
- Developing common messages
- Mutual consultation
- Joint planning and strategizing
- Coalitions and alliances

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## MESSAGING

## What is the most compelling message you ever heard?

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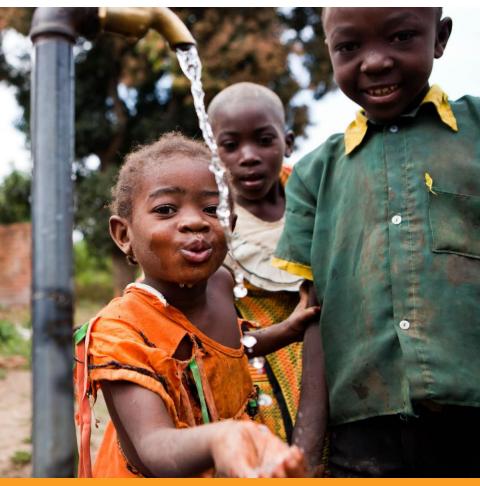
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## QUALITIES OF A COMPELLING MESSAGE

- Brief
- Focused
- Solution-oriented
- Supported by evidence
- Targets key interests of the decision-maker

- Uses non-technical language
- Optimistic and hopeful
- Has a clear request

Uses non-technical





## THE COURSE

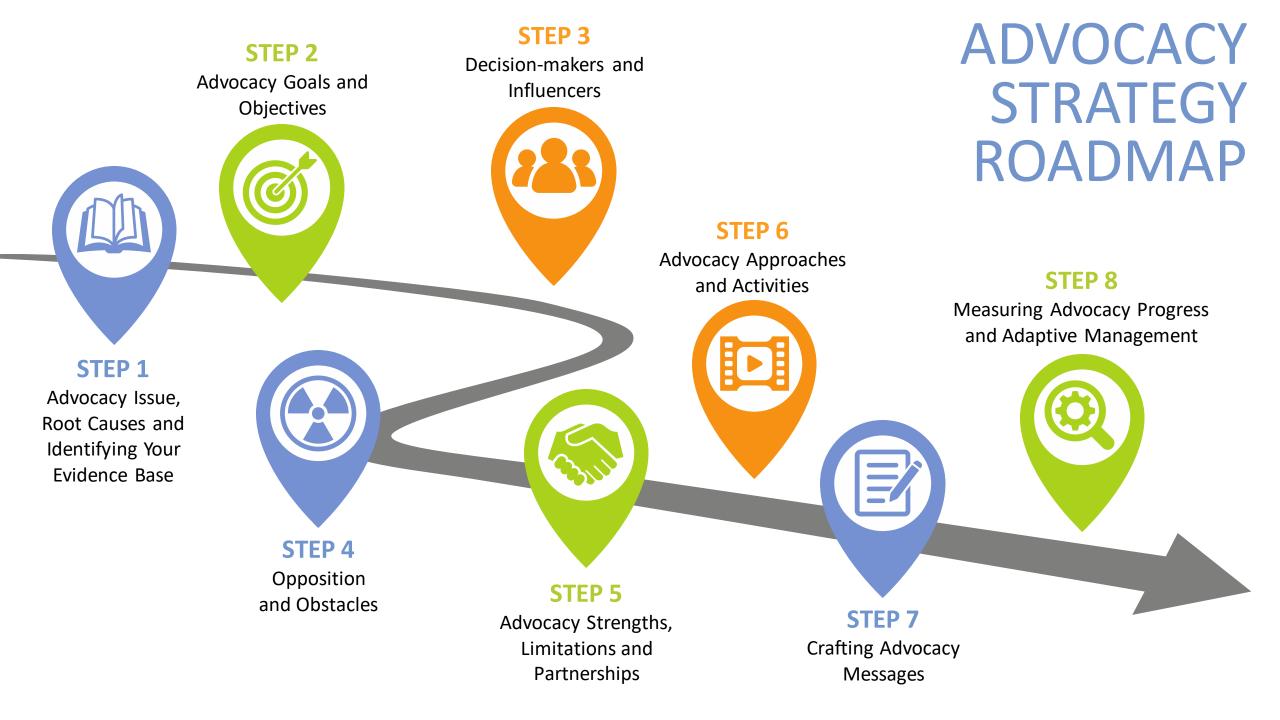
- **Course purpose:** Increase impact of individuals working on the WASH/ecosystems nexus by adding advocacy to their programatic work or strengthening existing advocacy work
- Background: This course builds on previous work of ABCG, Conservation International and IRC
  - Freshwater Conservation and WASH Advocacy Strategy Workshop Facilitator's Guide
  - WASH Systems Academy course Advocacy for Universal WASH Services



## THE COURSE

- **Course overview:** This blended learning course provides faciltated virtual instruction with self-guided activities, group discussions and feedback
  - 3 weeks of live, lab and self-guided sessions
  - Maxiumum of 2 hours a day
  - Follows the strategy development process
  - Space is limited maximum of 15 participants





## THE COURSE

- Who should apply to participate: Advocacy can be beneficial for anyone implementing Ecosystems and WASH work, but this course is designed for people with:
  - Interest in advocacy and influencing
  - Has an experience or project (past or present) they can use as the basis for the course
  - A basic understanding of the local political environment, policy gaps and power structures
  - The ability to apply the learning to their work
  - Dedicated time to participate in all aspects of the course
  - Support from organizational leadership and supervisor
  - English proficiency









#### Thank you

### We hope to see you in the course! The link to an expression of interest form will be sent with webinar follow up

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