

Advocacy Training by Nebojsa Radic, April 12, 2016

Introduction to Advocacy: Advocacy Issues

The Challenge We Face

People...

- Don't know
- Know but don't care
- Care but don't know what to do
- Know what to do but don't know how to do it
- Know how to do it but don't have the support
- Have support but lack a sense of urgency



Advocacy



Task of Advocacy

 The task of advocacy is to make people know and care, let them know what can be done and how, and provide them with the skills to participate and the support to do so

So What is Advocacy?

https://www.youtube.com/results? search_query=what+is+advocacy

https://www.youtube.com/results?
search query=advocacy+examples

Different Definitions

- Historically: representing the interests of the clients in the court
- Today advocacy is much more general term and is seen as acting in the name of someone else
- Non-profit advocacy: change for collective interest
- The first to advance were disability groups in the 80ies

Definition

 Advocacy is <u>strategic</u> use of mass media, litigation, marketing and direct action in order to <u>support</u> community organizing to <u>advance</u> an issue, social or public policy initiative or change. ad·vo·ca·cy

/ˈadvəkəsē/ •

•

noun

public support for or recommendation of a particular cause or policy.
"their advocacy of traditional family values"
synonyms: support for, backing of, promotion of, championing of; More

Key Levels of Advocacy

- ☐Setting the agenda "mainstreaming" What people think and talk about
- ☐Framing or shaping

 How people think and talk about it
- **□**Priming

Getting to decision makers and changing what is done about it

Advocacy Planning



1 1

Issue identification

Identify the problem that needs to be addressed.



5 Evaluation
Monitor actions

Monitor actions and evaluate the results throughout the cycle and decide what further action is appropriate or how advocacy could be done differently in the future.



2

Research and analysis

Gather the necessary information and ensure that the causes and effects of the problem are understood.

A Action

Take action, using the range of methods and activities available. This will need to be agreed and co-ordinated with all those involved.



3 Plan

Planning

When advocacy has been identified as an appropriate way of addressing the problem, a strategy needs to be formulated.



Different Levels of Planning

- Macro level: 4-year strategy
- Mid-level: Annual work plan
- Micro level: A campaign
- Event level
- Etc.

1. Issue Identification

MACRO LEVEL:

- Identifying key issues "Advocacy Agenda"
 - Community needs assessment, focus groups, stakeholder/membership consultations
- Analyzing the issues and selecting priority ones

MICRO LEVEL:

Identifying root causes/ sub-issues to be tackled

Issue Selection Tool

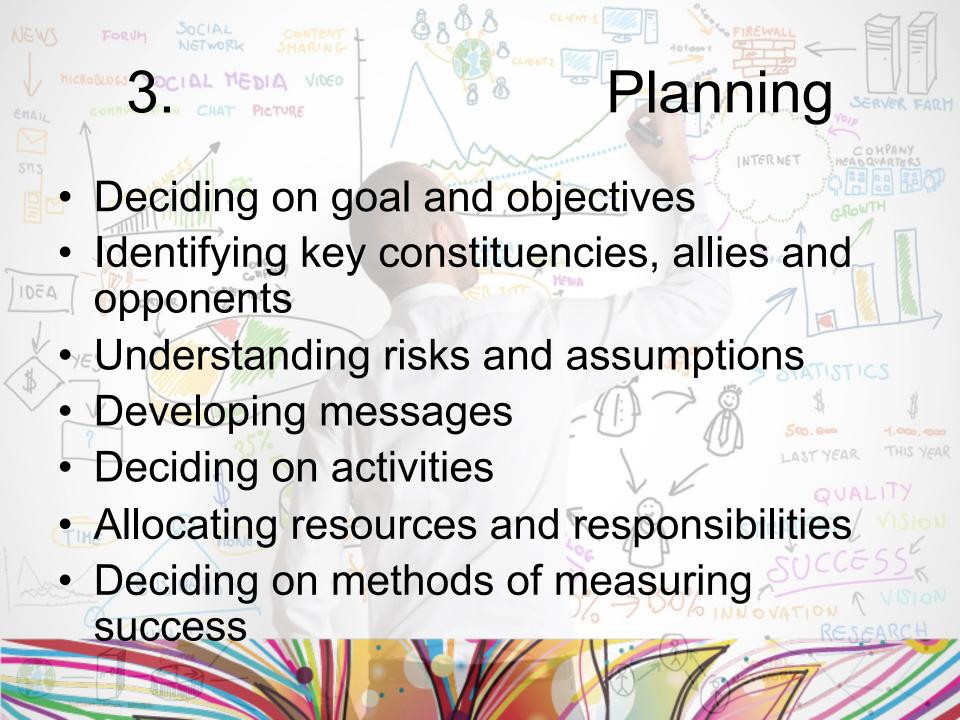
Criteria for selecting issues	Score		
Crittia for selecting issues		2	3
The issue affects many people			
The issue is consistent with your organization's mission/mandate			
The issue is consistent with national policy priorities and development objectives			
The issue is amenable to advocacy intervention			
The issue can mobilize a large number of interested partners and other stakeholders			
Total score			

Identifying Root Causes: Roma Education in Moldova

- Issue: Few Roma children start secondary education
- Sub-Issue 1: Big number of elementary school dropouts
- Sub-Issue 2: Elementary school dropouts underreported
- Sub-Issue 3: Parents often not interested in their children getting education
- Sub-Issue 4: Ministry of Education does not see this as priority

2. Research & Analysis

- Collecting data
 - Collecting existing
 - Generating new
- Analyzing the data
- Presenting it so it is understandable
- Visualizing it



Planning Tools

- Field Force Analysis
- Stakeholders mapping
- SWOT analysis
- Timelines



4. Action

- Consultative process with decision makers
- Policy drafting and promoting
- Supporting community action
- Media advocacy online and offline
- Model service provision
- Litigation
- Direct action
- Networking, coalition building



Silent Witness Exhibition shown in 7 Croatian cities including Split



Women's and human rights NGOs and families of victims marching with SW silhouettes in Budapest, from the building of the Ministry of Justice to the seat of the Constitutional Court.



SW silhouettes made by artists Juan Riveria and Anna Klonowska.

Exhibition shown in the Prime Minister's Chancellery and on Warsaw streets

Creativity



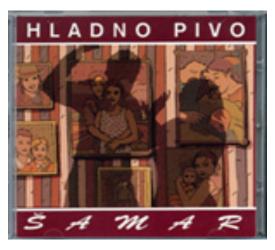
A post stamp featuring motives of the OSI 16 Days campaign issued on November 25, 2001, in Montenegro. 450,000 stamps issued in the country with 650,000 inhabitants.

Croatia 2002

- Well-known Croatian male rock band COLD BEER produced a song SLAP for the campaign
- A single-CD and TV spot produced

16 Days Campaign poster featured on the

cover of the CD

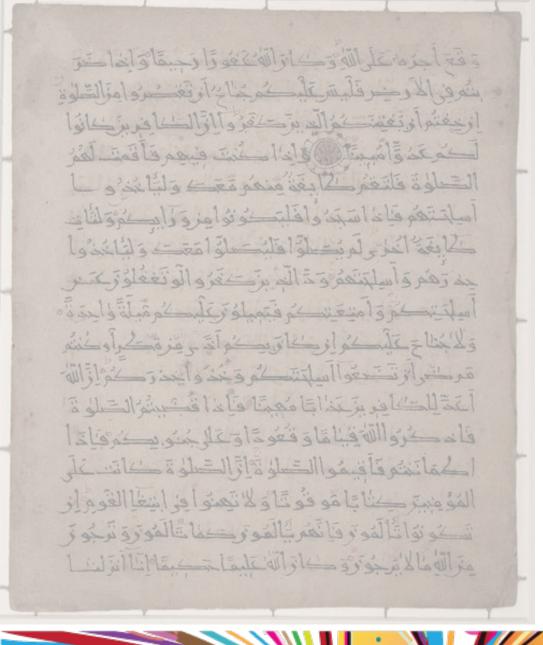




məişət zərakılığı cinayətdir məişət zerakılığı cinayətdir

"And why don't you fight in the way of Allah and for those who are weak, and for women and children who say: "God! Lead us out of this village, the habitants of which are tyrants, and give us a protector from You and give us an assistant from You"?

-Koran, Sura 4, The Women, Verse 77(75) – Woman Aid International, Azerbaijan 2001



Wadud, Amina: Qur'an and Woman: Rereading the Sacred Texts from a Woman's Perspective. New York: Oxford University Press, 1999

In 2002 Fizuli
Musayev, World and
European Karate
Champion became the
first White Ribbon
Ambassador in
Azerbaijan







Montenegro Volleyball team LOVCEN with a banner SHOW YOUR STRENGTH BUT NOT AGAINST WOMEN, before the European qualification match against LISBON in

2001. The match was shown on national TV and on satellite.



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2001 წლის ევროპის ერთა თახის მფლობელი საქართველოს ეროვნული ნაკრები რაგბიში "ლელო".

მხოლოდ მამაკაცთა და ქალთა საერთო ძალისხმევით შეიძლება ბოლო მოეღოს ძალადობას ქალთა მიმართ

ඉറളം ഉറയ്യേര, WomenAid International

საერთაშორისო ქალთა დახმარება



კავკასიის 16 დღიანი აქცია გენღერული ძალაღობის წინააღმღეგ საერთაშორისო ქალთა დახმარება-კავკასია: საქართველო, თბილისი 380060 ხვიჩიას 17 ტელ/ფაქსი: (995 32) 37 92 70 ელფოსტა: walgeo@access.sanet.ge



დაფინანსებულია კანადის საელჩოს მიერ

Canada

Woman Aid International, Georgia, 2001

5. Evaluation

- Different Advocacy Objectives
 - Policy Change
 - CSO capacity building
 - Supporting people-centered policy making
 - Enlarging policy space

	 Raised profile of issue Changed opinion (whose?) Changed rhetoric (in public/private) Change in written publications 	 Change in legislation Change in resource allocation Policy/legislation change implemented (and in the very long term) Positive change in people's lives as a result of the policy/legislation change 		
2.Strengthening civil society by working with individual organisations and networks	 Change in individual members' skills, capacity, knowledge and effectiveness? Change in individual civil groups' capacity, organisational skills, effectiveness? Greater synergy of aims/activities in networks/movements Change in collaboration, trust or unity of civil society groups 	 Increased effectiveness of civil society work Civil groups active in influencing decision makers in ways that will benefit poor people Civil groups monitoring implementation of policies/programmes. Partnerships and networks effective and sustainable 		
3.Supporting people- centred policy making	 Greater awareness of individual rights and the power systems that withhold rights Change in local people's skills, capacity, and knowledge to mobilise and advocate on their own behalves Increased reporting of right violations Existence of systems to monitor rights Claims made by CBOs for enforcing rights 	Improved access to basic rights such as health, housing, water, food, non- discrimination		
4.Enlarging democratic space or the space in which civil society groups can effectively operate in society	 Greater freedom of expression Greater acceptance/recognition of civil groups Existence of fora for civil groups to input into a wider range of decisions Increased legitimacy of civil society groups 	 Increased participation of civil society groups in influencing decisions Change in accountability and transparency of public institutions 		
Adopted from: Monitoring and Evaluating Advocacy, J. Chapman, 2001				

Longer-term objectives

Changed policy

intermediate objectives

Increased dialogue on an issue

Dimension of work

1.Policy change

Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful committed citizens can change the world: indeed it's the only thing that ever has.

Margaret Mead

What you do might seem terribly

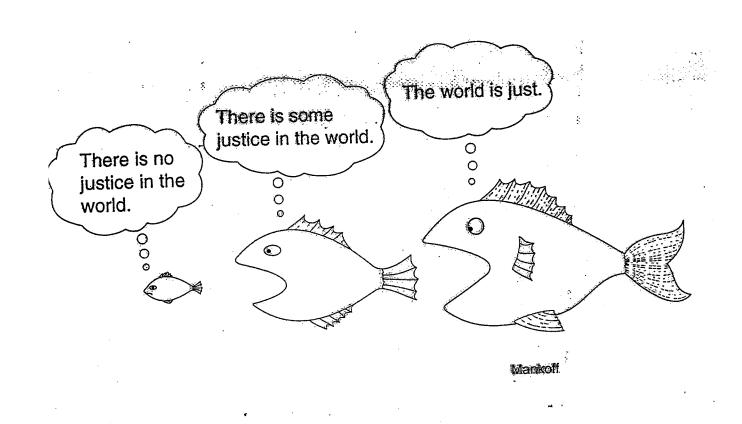
insignificant, but it is terribly important that you do it anyway.

Mahatma Gandhi

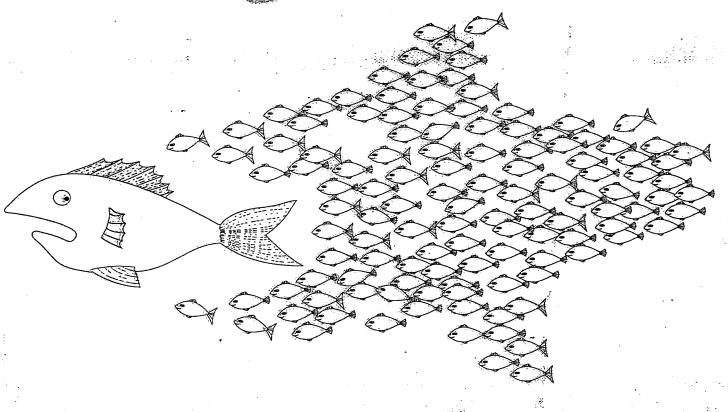
Power of Coalitions

Kahlil Gibran:

Millions of small streams would never make it across a desert, their waters would disappear in the depths of the sands. But, put together, they make a river, big enough to get across.



Organizel







Media and Advocacy

Discussion:

- What is the role of media in advocacy?
- Why are media important for advocates?
- Do media involve independently in advocacy initiatives?
- Examples of media in advocacy?

Role of Media in Advocacy

- A channel
- Meeting place
- Partner
- An independent actor



Channel

- A mean to reach out to your target audiences and constituencies
- The media do not take sides but the angle / tone depends on the information they have
- The tools used:
 - Press releases/conferences/visits
 - Media events
 - Backgrounders, Q&A
 - PSAs
 - Sensitization seminars

Meeting Place

- A space for various actors to meet and exchange opinions
- Agora in Greece
- Media independent but the selection of participants is critical
- The tools:
 - Lists of experts
 - Backgrounders and fact sheets
 - Media interview trainings

Example

- A round table discussion in studio with live calls and video
- The host does not take sides
- Keeps the discussion focused
- Aims at balancing different opinions

Partner

- Taking side regarding the issue
- Approached by CSOs or government
- · Actively promoting the issue and one view on it
- Offer free media space
- Officially listed as campaign partner
- Tools
 - Sensitization seminars
 - Backgrounders
 - Language guidelines
 - Ethical guidelines



MEDIA GUIDELINES for Reporting Suicide



4511 North Himes Ave., Suite 250 Tampa, FL 33614

(800) 717-3117 (813) 872-7835 Fax: (813) 873-7838

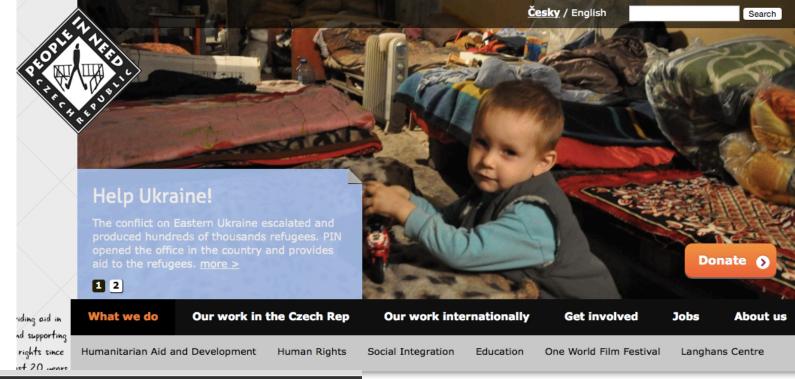
info@obesityaction.org www.obesityaction.org

People-First Language for Obesity

Bias and discrimination against people with obesity is well documented. Research has demonstrated substantial impact on personal relationships, educational attainment, professional achievement, and healthcare delivery. Further, studies have shown that a description of a person as "obese" is sufficient to cause discrimination in the absence of any meeting with the person in question. Describing individuals as obese as opposed to having obesity could have negative impact on how people view them.

Independent Actor

- An actor that acts independently and promotes certain issues
- Most often topics:
 - Media policy
 - Humanitarian
 - Minority rights, etc



Female genital mutilation (FGM)

End FGM Guardian Global Media Campaign

Irene Baqué, Alex Purcell, Kate McCullough, Mary Carson and Maggie O'Kane, theguardian.com











■ Highlights of the Guardian's Global Media Campaign to help end FGM



grassroots work of campaigners against Female Genital Mutilation in the UK, the US, Kenya



Media Sensitization



The Problem

- Media understaffed
- Same reporters cover range of topics
- They do not understand the issues
- Have no time to do research
- Coverage sensationalistic
- Use inappropriate language
- Often ethically questionable

Solution

- Specialized, focused workshop to "sensitize" reporters
- Mutual benefit
- Objective NOT immediate coverage
- Focus on:
 - 1. What are the real issues new angles
 - 2. Access to information/sources
 - 3. Any ethical issues in reporting it
 - 4. Language to use

Example: Mental Disability

- Invite reporters covering social and civil rights in media, not (only) medical!
- Reporters and comment-writers, if possible editors!
- Think of key media to invite: Radio, TV, print
- Make it half to one day long
- Make it interactive with PPT, video, PwD talking, and discussion time

The Topics

- Introduce them to the issues: where is the story
- Urge them to focus on policies not individuals
- Provide them with new angles
- Show them where/who the sources are
- Talk about the language
- Talk about ethics in reporting mental disability

New Angles

- Different participants in public debate often have conflicting policy recommendations
- All try to present their solutions as benefiting the entire society
- So the <u>frame</u> the issues in different ways
- Framing is the second step in the issue cycle

Language Issue

- Identify the language PwD prefer
- Show how language can contain and perpetrate hidden stigma
- Language can hurt
- Get PwD talking
- Distribute printed out guidelines
- Offer contact to help in future work/ dilemmas etc.

Ethical Issues

- Why using PwD as sources?
- Should names be disclosed?
- How to interview PwD?
- Should the reporter pay attention to disability or ignore it?
- Avoid "horrible fate" approach
- Avoid disability first
- Avoid "in spite of disability" language
- Avoid negative portrayal in reporting

Positioning

- Media are editorially independent
- They strive to provide factual, accurate, objective, unbiased reporting, placed in a context, that <u>minimizes harm</u>
- Professional reporting
- You assist them in providing professional reports

