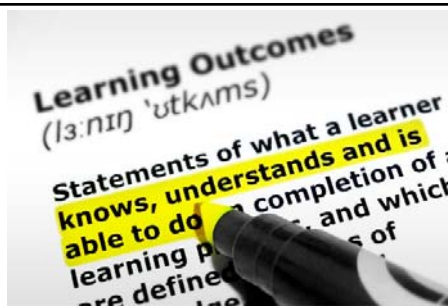


# Regional Course on Communication and Advocacy for Agricultural and Rural Statistics

20 – 24 April 2015  
Beijing, China

## Advocacy Strategy: Identify Opposition & Obstacles




- Identify mechanisms for addressing resistance, opposition, and obstacles to your policy advocacy goal



## Opposition or Resistance

- \* Is a common challenge to advocacy efforts.
- \* Be prepared.
- \* Know who and why.



## Possible Opponents?



## Possible Reasons?

- Too busy and have no time.
- Fundamentally not in agreement with your issue.
- Fear that your issue will take away limited funds from their own issue.
- Feel that they just recently changed the relevant policy and don't want to revisit it yet.

## Dealing with Opposition

- \* Know the opposition and their motives.
- \* Identify their tactics and arguments.
- \* Assess the risks and benefits of confronting them.
- \* Mitigate their influence.
- \* Pick the right partnerships.



Obstacles to Advocacy Goals:  
What may keep you from success?



## Possible obstacles ...



- Lack of funds for advocacy activities
  - Limited staff or capacity
- Lack of coordination among key ministries
- Poor economic climate
- Upcoming elections
  - Vacancies in key decision-makers posts
  - Lack of country-specific evidence
  - Relevant policy is not scheduled to be revised
- Lack of long-term support for the change you want to implement

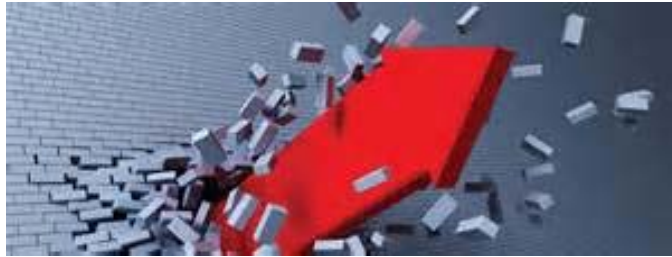
## Overcome Obstacles



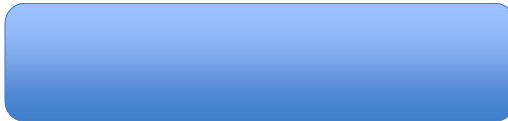
- Lack of coordination among key ministries



## Overcome Obstacles



- Limited staff capacity



## Overcome Obstacles



- Relevant policy is not scheduled to be revised yet



Group Exercise:

**OVERCOMING OBSTACLES**