### SCIENCE ADVOCACY FOR THE YOUTH

Presented by

Nkuiate Harris Sop

University of Exeter, United Kingdom

July 13, 2024

### **OUTLINE**

- 1 What is Science Advocacy?
- 2 Why Advocate?
- 3 How should you advocate?
- 4 What can you do?
- 5 Case study: Science Catalysis



# What is Science Advocacy?

- "Science advocacy is the art of engaging with the public, politicians, and to inspire students and teachers about the wonders and power of science."
- 2 "The objective of these advocacy efforts is to influence political decisions through education and information..." Tom Pollard.
- 3 Translation between two 'languages'. Kevin Wilson
- Science and policy makers (government)
- --→ Science and the press
- $\longrightarrow$  Science and the public

# Why Advocacy?

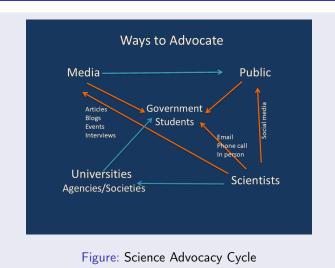
### Why do people advocate?

- It helps politicians and the general public understand why funding is needed-build trust
- To educate the public on research awareness
- To increase the scientific workforce by encouraging students to become scientists

### Why should you advocate?

- 1 You have a compelling story to tell
- We owe it to those who support our research
- If you don't no one else will, for everyone else is busy with their own business
- 4 It's fun!

## How should you advocate?



# What can you do?

#### **Activities**

- Career orientation and awareness campaigns on opportunities in sciences.
- Provision of supportive teaching to science students in secondary schools and higher institutions.
- 3 Celebration of scientific events such as International Day of Mathematics, among others.
- 4 Facilitating science club activities in secondary schools.
- 5 Organisation of interschool science competitions.
- Opening Publicising science role models and facilitating their visits to schools.
- Presentation of science programs on radio and TV stations.

## Case study: Science Catalysis



Maths and Physics Olympiad to mark the Celebration of the International Day of Mathematics (Pi-Day)



Supportive teaching of undergraduates at the faculty of science

## Science Catalysis

#### Activities



TV programme on the role of science in development



Donation of didactive materials to Form IV to uppersixth students on International Day of Education

## Science Catalysis

#### Activities





Publicising of science role models on social media platforms to inspire young people.

Career orientation to high school students at SUBICOL, Cameroon. THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION

