

Is It Working?

Evaluating Successes & Challenges in
Implementing Adaptive Management in
the Chesapeake Bay Program Partnership

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THE CHESAPEAKE BAY PROGRAM PARTNERSHIP

19 FEDERAL AGENCIES

40 STATE AGENCIES

1,800 LOCAL GOVERNMENTS

20 ACADEMIC INSTITUTIONS

60 BUSINESSES & NON-PROFITS





Healthy Watersheds

Environmental Literacy

Water Quality

Toxic Contaminants



Vital Habitats



Sustainable Fisheries



Stewardship

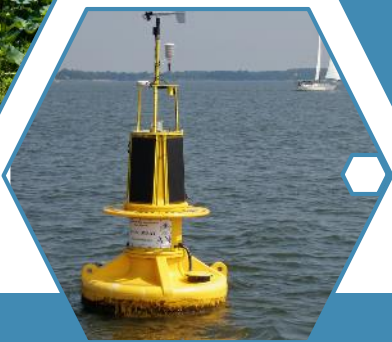
Land Conservation



Public Access



Climate Resiliency



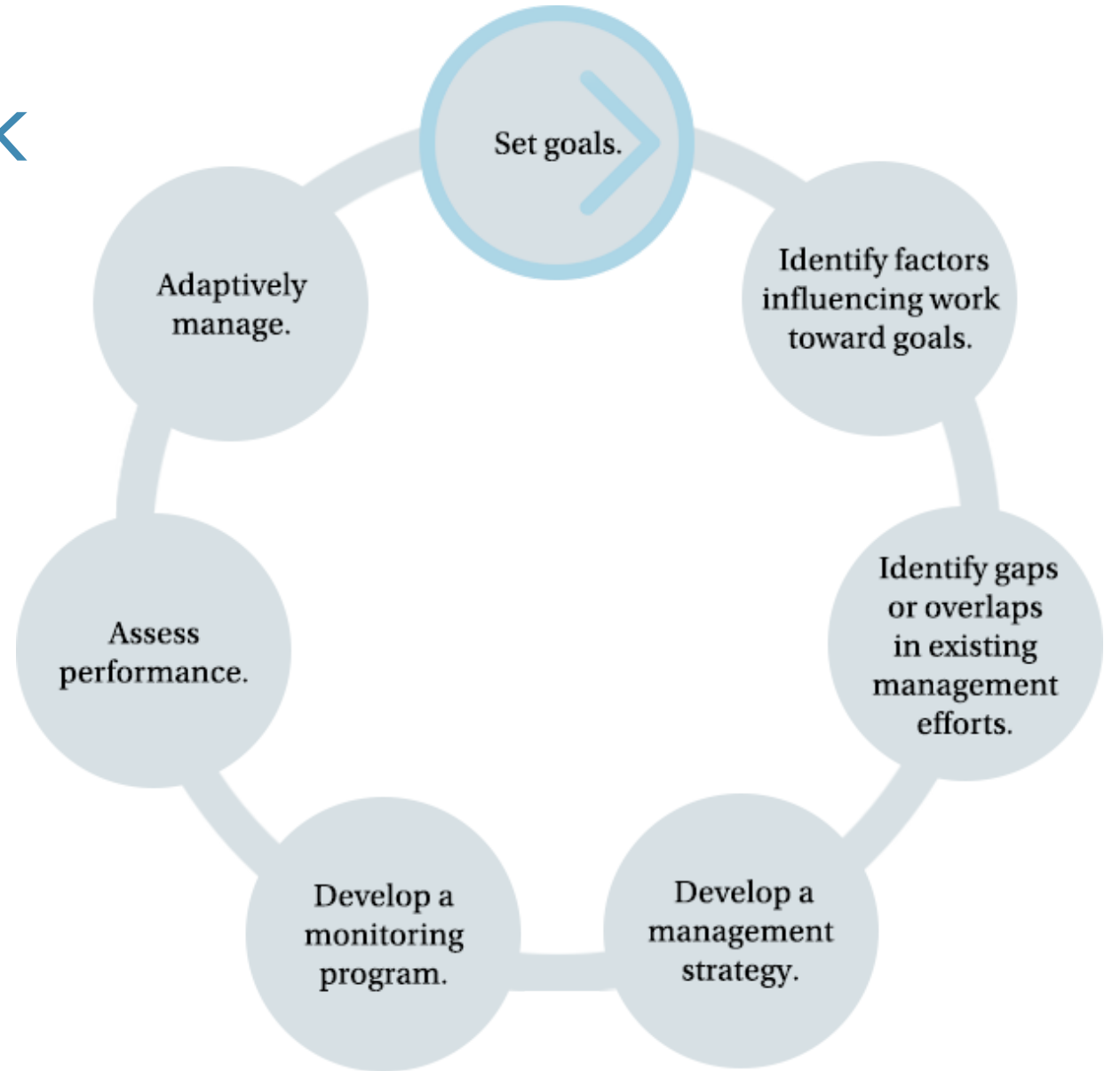
What's Working?

Successes of the Strategy Review System

1. Use Tools That Teach.

Decision Framework

Chesapeake Bay
Program's approach
to adaptive
management



Logic Table Elements

- **Factor:** What is impacting our ability to achieve our outcome? Can we manage it? Is it critical?
- **Current Efforts:** What current efforts are addressing the critical factor?
- **Gap:** What further efforts or information are needed to fully address this factor?
- **Action:** What actions are essential to fill gaps in current efforts?
- **Metrics:** Do we have a measure of progress? How do we know if we have achieved the intended result?
- **Expected Response and Application:** What effects do we expect to see as a result of this action, when, and what is the anticipated application of these changes?
- **Learn/Adapt:** What did we learn from taking this action? How will this lesson impact our work?

Example: Oyster Outcome

“... Restore native oyster habitat and populations in 10 tributaries by 2025 and ensure their protection.”

Factor	Current Efforts	Gap	Actions	Metrics	Expected response and application	Learn/Adapt
Financing of oyster restoration	State & federal agencies	\$ needed to complete restoration of 10 tributaries	Create Finance Strategy	Cash flow to restoration projects	Increased rate of oyster restoration	Continued involvement of watermen and private finance sector

“I was a bit skeptical of the whole process originally but I found it useful ... more so than if we just did a general update of the work plan. It forced you to think a little differently than you otherwise might have.”

-Diversity workgroup chair

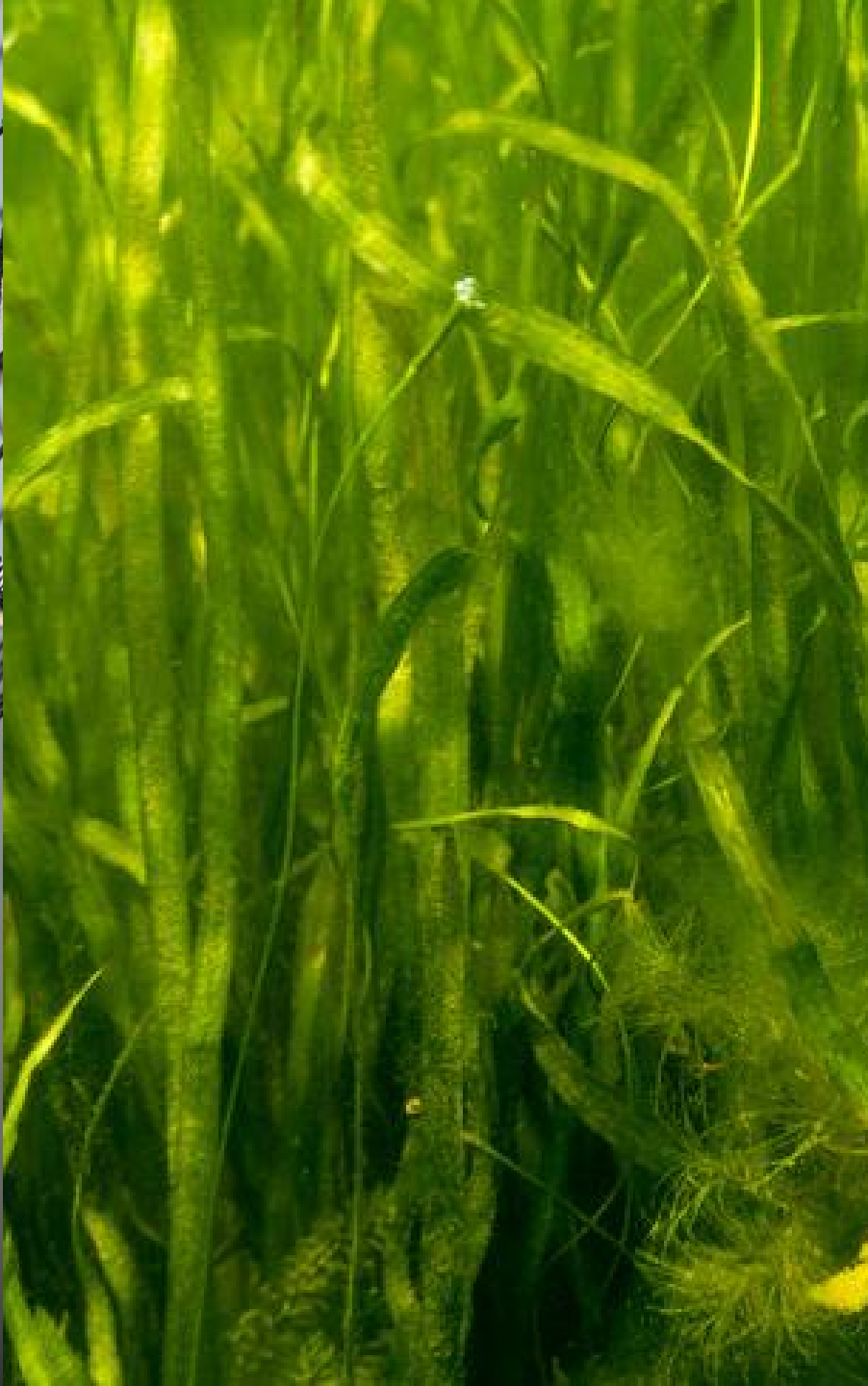
2. Create Collaborative Cohorts



“This process resulted in Executive Council action that will formally engage education leaders with the PSC for the first time.”

-Education workgroup chair





What are the challenges?

Obstacles to the Strategy Review System

1. Many partners means
broader applicability.



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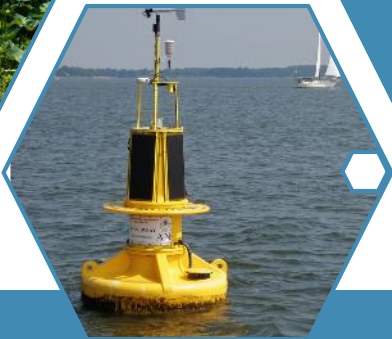
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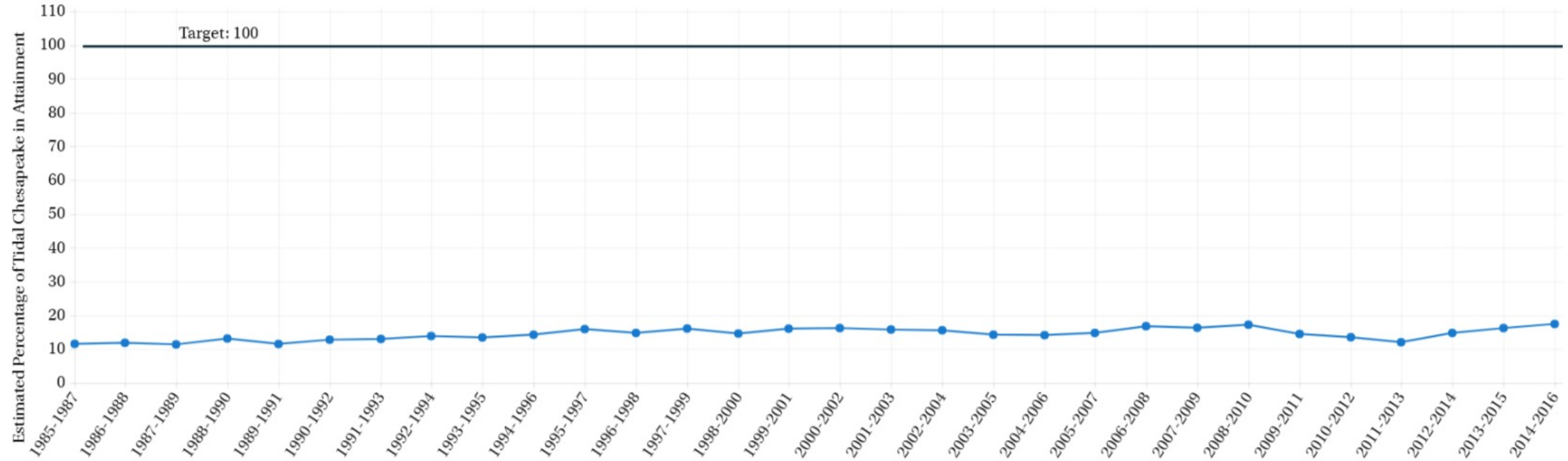
Climate Resiliency



2. Everyone is in a
different place.

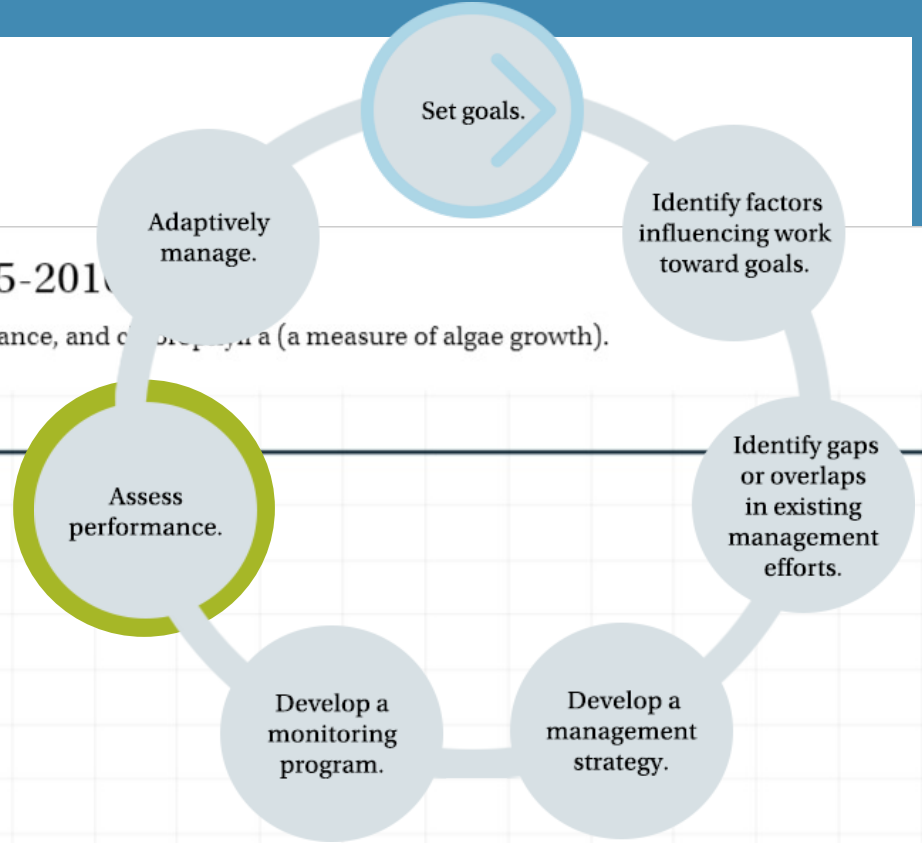
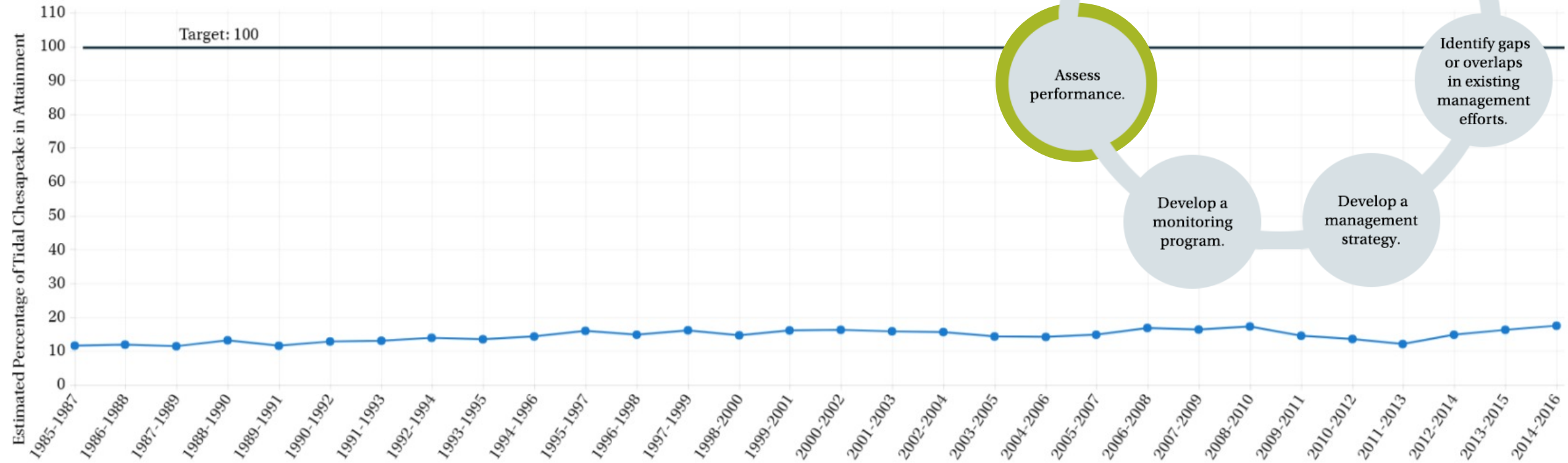
Water Quality Standards Attainment (1985-2016)

Water quality is evaluated using three parameters: dissolved oxygen, water clarity or underwater grass abundance, and chlorophyll a (a measure of algae growth).



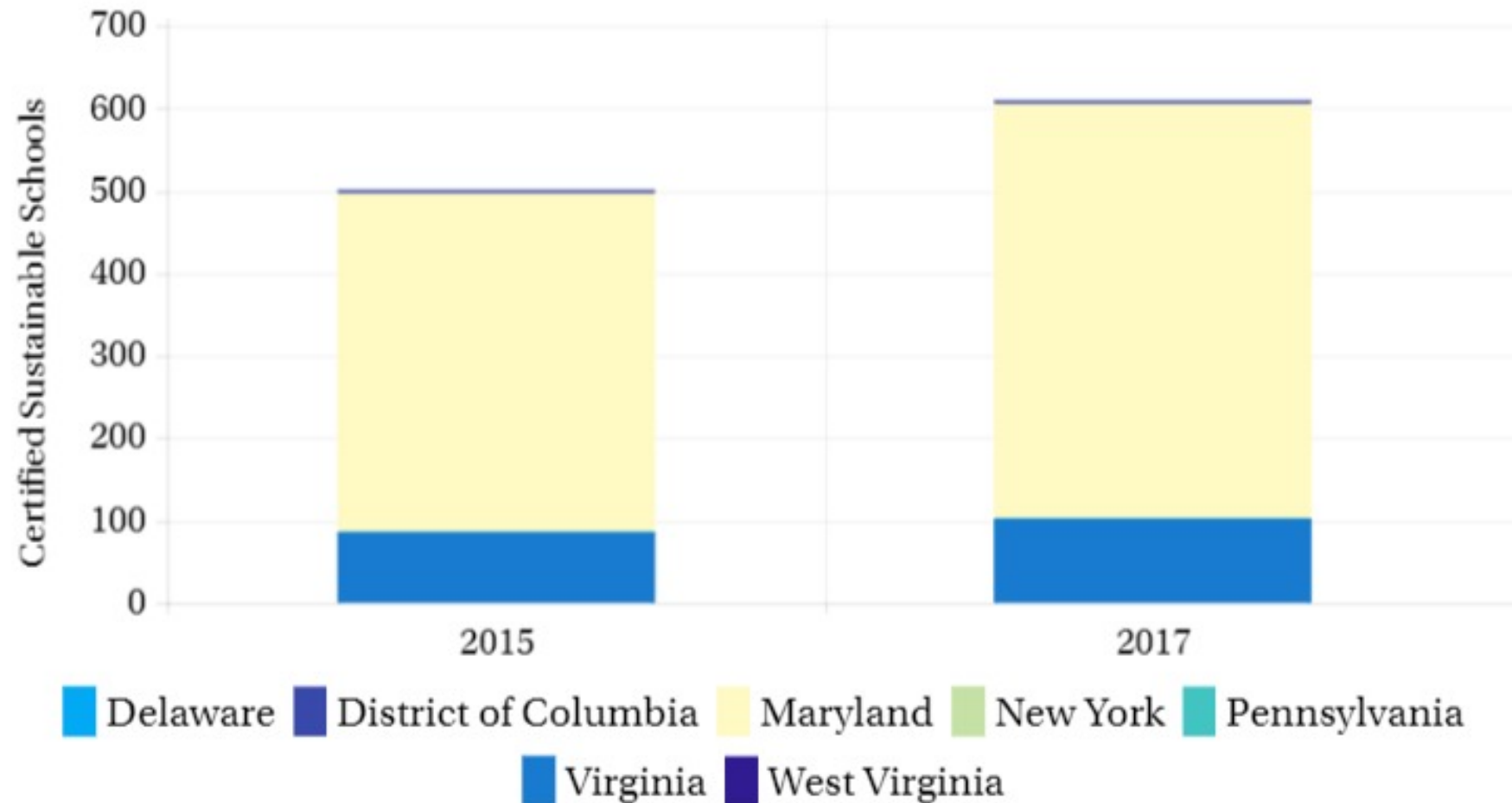
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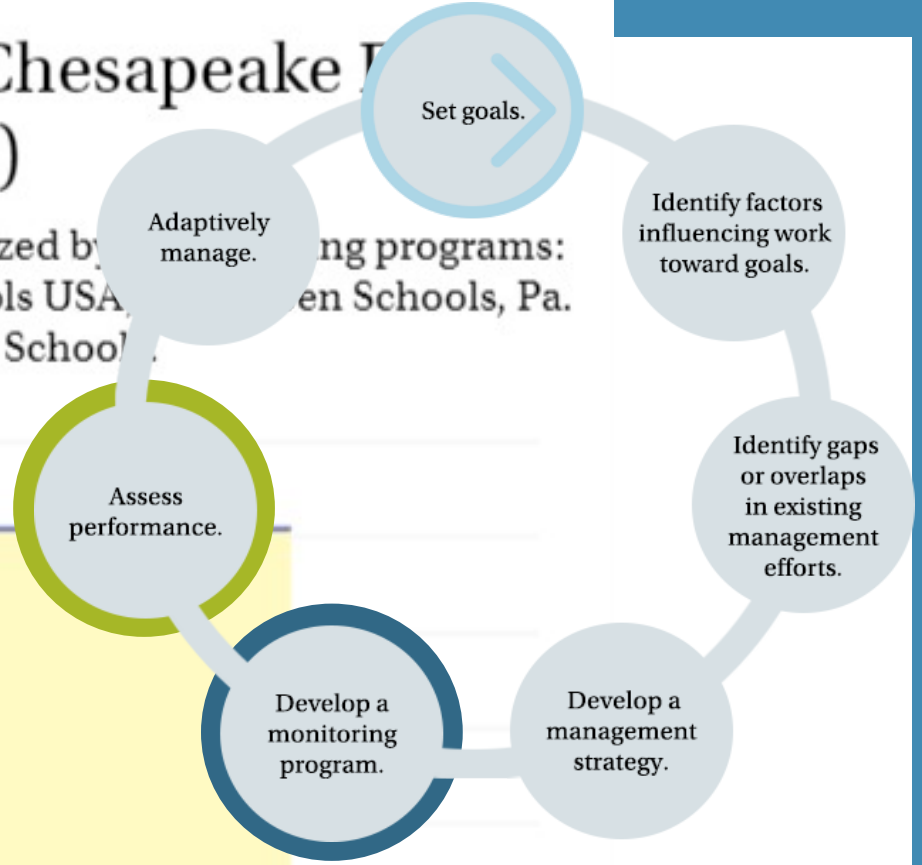
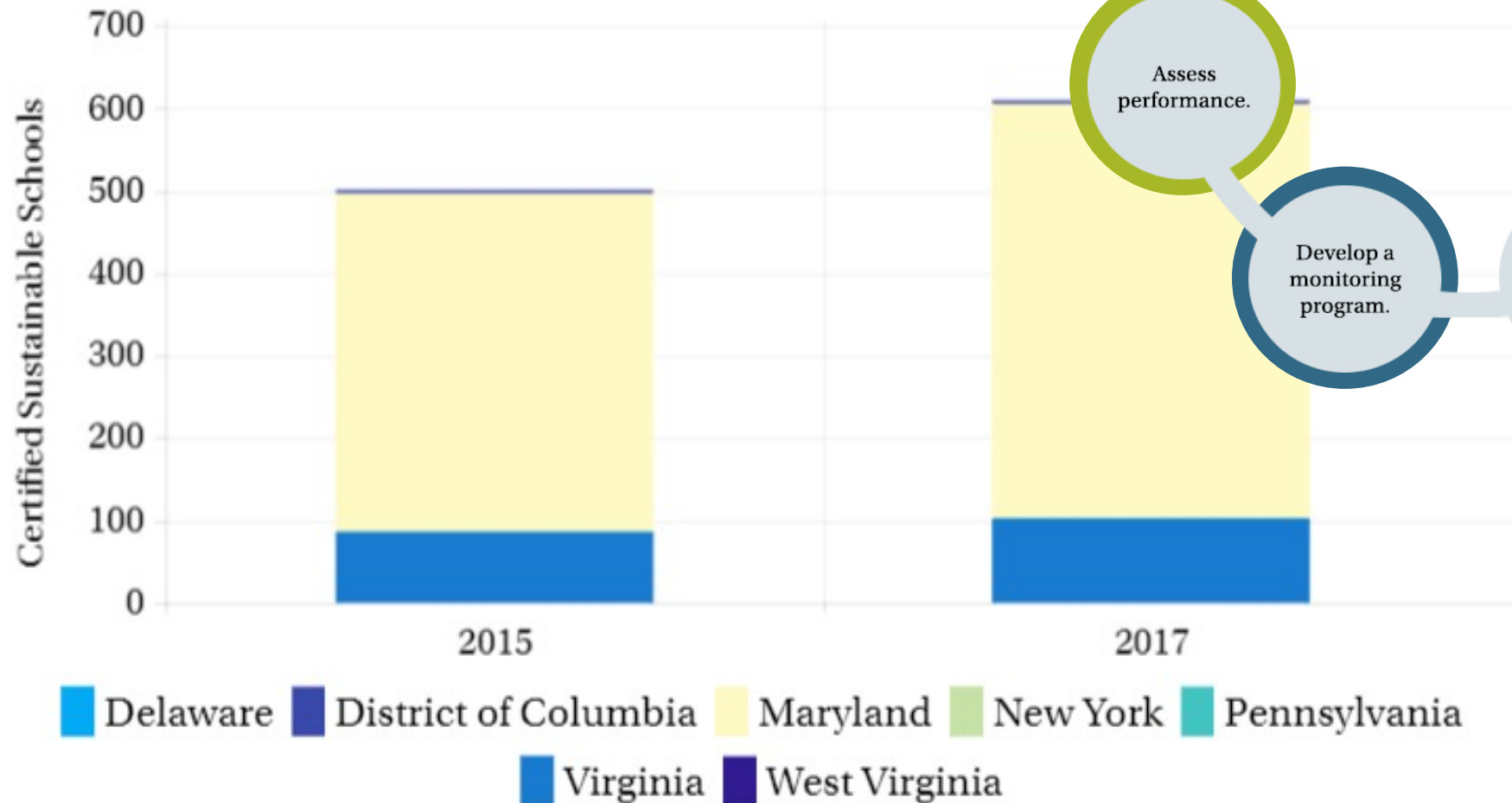
Certified Sustainable Schools in the Chesapeake Bay Watershed (2015-2017)

Certified sustainable public and charter schools have been recognized by the following programs: U.S. Green Ribbon Schools, National Wildlife Federation Eco-Schools USA, Md. Green Schools, Pa. Pathways to Green Schools and Va. Naturally Schools.



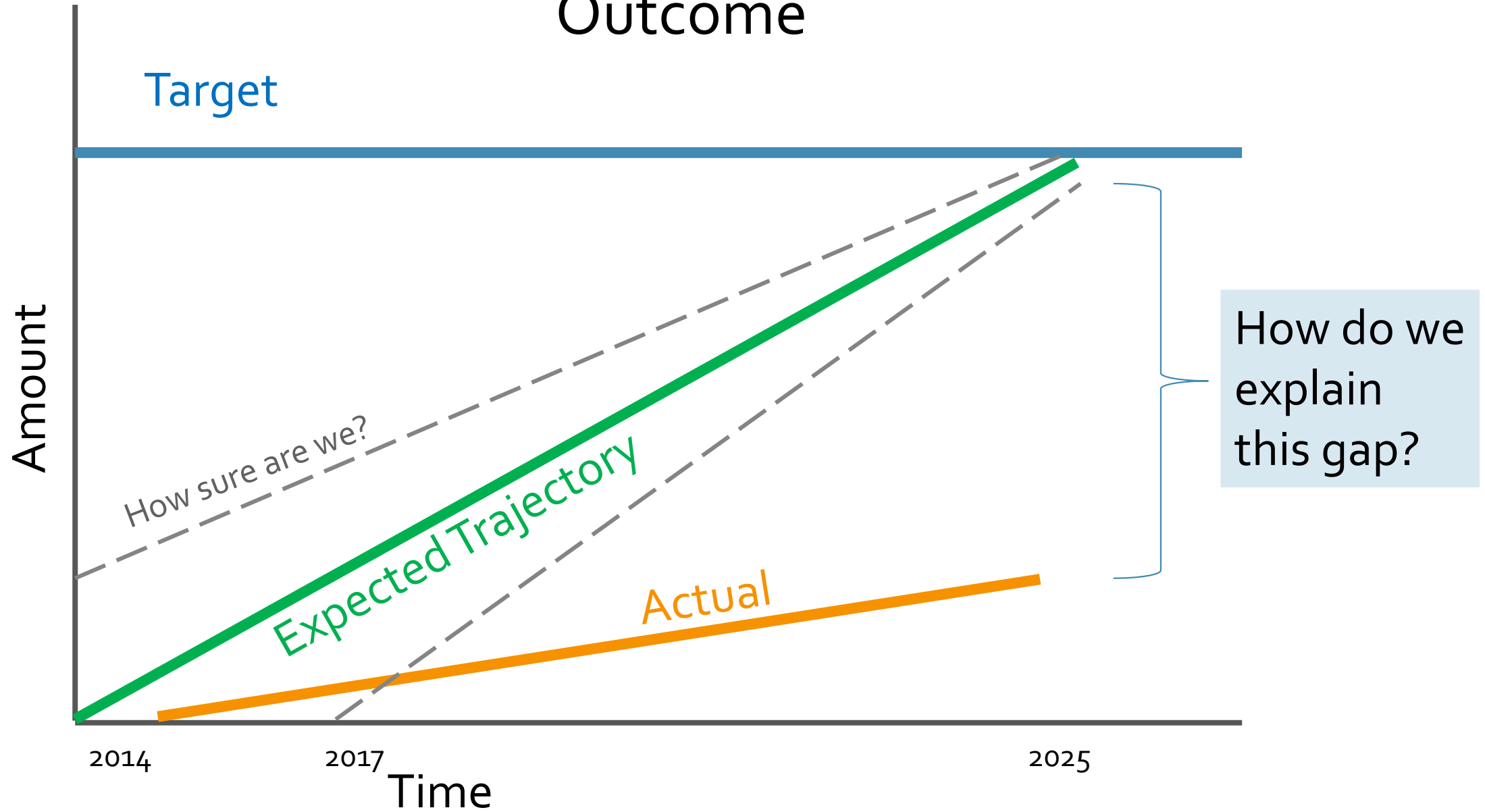
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3. Be articulate about
uncertainty.

Outcome



4. Transparency requires
documentation.

“I’m going to put this time into the Logic Table, and it’s going to be my Work Plan, and it ties together [the workgroup’s] investment and really uses that process constructively.”



Quote from user interviews



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