

# Career Progression

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## Dr Suraj Bhattarai

Dr Suraj Bhattarai, physician and researcher with interests in global public health, health policy and systems research and universal health protection attended three GCRF workshops hosted by the Academy of Medical Sciences and supported by the InterAcademy Partnership over a two-year period.

He said that the events were well planned with clear preparatory work to ensure that the meetings were purposeful and effective attended by top leaders in their fields and that discussions took place across many levels including strategic, policy-making and implementation.

As someone who is making the transition from early career to mid-career researcher Dr Bhattaria felt that his voice was heard by the decision makers.

“ Young global health leaders were involved in all workshops as well as strong representation from Young Physician Leaders from the Inter Academy Partnership. The gender and geographical diversity of participants was well balanced as well as the multiple disciplines involved in health science including clinicians, public health leaders, government officials, private sector, development partners and funding agencies”.

Asked about the impact on his personal development of the workshops attended, Dr Bhattarai explained:

“ Since these meetings were attended by participants from all around the globe, I have learnt how to address country problems at a global forum, how to inter-relate country problems with regional counterparts, how to synthesize the common and unique problems, and how to develop solutions that not only fit everyone but also address unique problems of the country.

For example, clinical research is advanced in the UK, emerging in India and China, but it lags behind in Nepal, Peru and Ghana.

These events have had an excellent impact on my career, leadership, and networking as well as advancing my professional expertise in clinical research and global public health. My approach to crucial health topics has broadened and as a result I am more focused on delivering results-oriented projects”.

His belief in the benefit of the programme is summarised as “ having direct impact in improving individual as well as institutional capacity in many LMICs, in terms of partnership, research, and academic engagement”.

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