

## **Impact of TDR postgraduate training scheme on Implementation Research in my research career**

Namaste, I am Basant Joshi from Nepal, currently a PhD scholar in Epidemiology focusing on implementation research, from University of Bordeaux, France.

My research career started after participating in Operational Research (OR) training course conducted by International Union against TB and Lung disease supported by WHO and MSF in 2014. In this 3-weeks residential training, I achieved all the milestones of the training and published the research findings in peer reviewed international journal. After this, my participation in various research projects in Nepal continued till I got an opportunity to do MPH from University of Gadjah Mada, Indonesia under WHO- TDR scholarship scheme. As per TDR objective, this MPH degree focused on implementation research (IR) where we not only had IR classes but also various field level national and international exposure. As a part of dissertation, I used my theoretical knowledge to conduct implementation research in my country, Nepal. I got an opportunity to present my dissertation work at second TDR postgraduate workshop at Geneva, Switzerland, as a student representative, where I had an interaction with international experts regarding IR, its importance for exploring implementation bottlenecks of the public health programs. My research work during this IR training has been published in international peer reviewed journal.

After completion of MPH, it was very easy for me to work for National Tuberculosis program and then in research projects in Nepal. While working in research projects, I used my IR knowledge gained from regular classes, various guest lectures, national and international exposures and research conducted as part of thesis. Here, I am more than happy to share that during and after IR postgraduate training, I steeped in the next level of my research career by being invited from various international journals to review the research papers. During reviewing the research manuscripts, I found my IR research skills really helpful for better reviewing the manuscripts.

After 1 year of my post MPH work in Nepal, I became successful to get scholarship for my PhD in Epidemiology. This PhD is hosted jointly by doctoral school and TB Speed project lead by University of Bordeaux, France. In this PhD program, my research is focused around implementation research (***Delivery, transferability and scalability of an innovative***

***and decentralized childhood TB diagnostic approaches in resource-limited settings)***

where I am using my IR skills gained during postgraduate training. This research is being implemented in six different countries of Africa and Asia. Apart from this, our research team has initiated an Implementation Research working group within our team in leadership of my PhD supervisor. This gave me the opportunity to share my IR knowledge with the team and participate in various discussion around IR.

Finally, I would like to thank TDR and University of Gadjah Mada for providing me the opportunity to participate in postgraduate training scheme in implementation research which really changed my understanding about IR and positively impacted in my research career.