

## Speaker bio:

Puspa Raj Pant is a Research Fellow at the *University of the West of England (UWE Bristol)* with extensive experience in conducting and managing research on injury prevention, child protection, drowning prevention, road safety, and safety promotion in low- and middle-income countries, particularly in the South-East Asia Region.

He holds an MSc in Public Health Research from the *University of Aberdeen* and a PhD in Injury Prevention from *UWE Bristol (2013)*. His work focuses on advocacy, community engagement, and stakeholder collaboration to promote safety and public health.

Passionate about the dissemination of global health issues, Dr Pant is a Member of the *Nexus of Institute of Research and Innovation (NIRI Nepal)*. He also contributes to international journals as a reviewer and editorial board member. He has authored a forthcoming book on **Injury Prevention and Control** in Nepali language.

# **Empowering communities to strengthen healthcare systems in the face of emerging health and financial challenges**

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# Context

- Challenges of the health systems
  - population / demographic transition,
  - epidemiologic transition,
  - health workforce migration, and
  - climate change impacts.
- A long gap of at local levels (2002-2017).

Pic: Puspa Raj Pant



# Financial challenges

## Ongoing challenges related to national economy

- Heavy focus on infrastructure and materials

## Emerging challenges due to changed global health financing

- Used to be spent of software and system strengthening

Pic: Taksar News (Nepal), Flickr







# Identifying problem

Conducted a community survey on a topic never discussed before: child injuries.

Pics: Puspa Raj Pant



# Intervention Development

The same community groups then utilized the information from the community survey to establish and manage a day-care centre.

Pics: Puspa Raj Pant, February 2015



# Policy influencing

Newly formed community groups successfully influenced policy for improving road safety at local level.







Pic: <https://nepalstudy.org/>

# Formation of research collaboration

The Nepal Family Cohort Study (NeFCoS)



# Conclusion

- ✓ Ultimately, the goal is to cultivate healthcare systems that are evidence-based, efficient, and cost-effective.
- ✓ The feasibility of close collaboration with local levels and grassroots communities for research, intervention development, and policy advocacy is clearly demonstrated by these case studies.
- ✓ The approaches highlighted offer transferable solutions applicable to pressing health issues across all municipalities.
- ✓ A vital next step is establishing a clear mechanism for coordinating communication between communities and local levels.



Thank you very much

**Questions welcome**

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