

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

**For policymakers to participate in the 5th Global Symposium on Health Systems Research
Liverpool, 8-12 October 2018**

#PolicyHSR2018

The Alliance for Health Policy and Systems Research invites applications from policy-makers from low- and middle-income countries who are involved and interested in strengthening health systems, to participate in the 5th Global Symposium on Health Systems Research, to be held in Liverpool, UK from 8-12 October 2018. Applications should be submitted by email to alliancehpsr@who.int no later than March 19, 2018. The Alliance will cover the costs of participation for successful candidates.

This is the second iteration of this initiative. The Alliance also invited 20 senior policy-makers and managers to the 4th Global Symposium on Health Systems Research in 2016. This initiative led to: increased dialogue around the interface between research and policy; the development of a policy checklist tool used in policy institutions to support evidence informed decision making; and strengthened relationships between policy makers at the regional level.

Eligibility Criteria

Policy- and decision-makers who fit the following criteria are eligible to take part in the programme:

- Involved in policy- and decision-making at district, state, regional, provincial, federal, or national level;
- Has at least 3 years of senior management and policy-making experience in the health system or a related sector;
- Is confident of retaining a similar position and responsibilities for at least the next 3 years;
- Has demonstrated interest and commitment to evidence-informed decision-making, including the use of research;
- Is from a low- or middle-income country.

Women are especially encouraged to apply and will be given priority.

Application Details

To apply, please submit the following:

- Name
- Country
- Position and Title
- Length of time in senior management and policy-making positions in health or a related sector
- Expected future tenure in current or other senior management and policy-making position
- Max. 300 words describing your experiences and efforts to support knowledge generation and/or its use in decision-making for the development of health policy and health systems as well as a brief rationale for why you are interested in taking part in this initiative and how you expect the Liverpool experience to enhance your daily work.

Expected Engagement

Participants will be expected to share their experiences and contribute to mutual learning and understanding by:

1. Participating in a daily de-briefing session of approximately 60 minutes to share Symposium experiences and engage with featured guests around the role of health systems research in decision-making.
2. Participating in symposium sessions with researchers and funders to share experiences and discuss the role of policy-making and research for strengthening health systems and addressing the Sustainable Development Goals.
3. Moderating or chairing a session during the Symposium.
4. Being willing to be interviewed about their Symposium experience.
5. Outlining the ways in which they will draw on their Symposium experiences upon return to their workplaces, with particular reference to supporting knowledge generation and/or its use for decision-making (as a basis for periodic interaction with the Alliance to explore the longer term value of Symposium attendance).
6. Building networks with researchers and fellow decision-makers to continue collaborations beyond the symposium.

Selection

All applications will be considered by a selection committee comprised of representatives from the Alliance HPSR and Health Systems Global. Applicants will be notified of decisions by email.

The Alliance will cover airfare, accommodation, symposium registration fee, and costs for selected participants.

Thank you for your interest and we look forward to hearing from you!

Submit your application by email to: alliancehpsr@who.int

Deadline: 19th March 2018

About the Alliance

The Alliance for Health Policy and Systems Research (AHPSR) is an international partnership hosted by the World Health Organization. Since its inception in 1999, the Alliance's mission has been to promote the generation and use of health policy and systems research (HPSR) as a means to strengthen the health systems of low- and middle-income countries.

Visit the Alliance website: <http://www.who.int/alliance-hpsr/>