

Sandra Saad, WHO fellow in health policy and governance

I am a general physician with an MPH and MSc in Health Policy Planning and Financing from the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine.

I think WHO is an excellent organization in which everyone works together to create a better world. I witnessed an amazing level of commitment, organizational skills and technical knowledge.

# What inspired you to come to work every day?

The simple fact that it had been my dream to work in WHO since I was first aware of its existence and am blessed that my dream came true.

## Your expectations versus reality?

They were the same honestly. I increased the depth of my knowledge, sharpened my skills set, developed a new perspective on public health issues and learnt from professionals working in the field.

## What are your future goals?

To continue working in the field of health policy and governance and use my skills in my own country Sudan, especially through its next transitional period.

## What were your major contributions during the fellowship?

I conducted a regional assessment of organizational capacity to incorporate evidence into policy processes in the Region taking Sudan as a pilot study. The assessment will be published in the near future. I am currently preparing a report analysing the role and impact of the media in the policy process regarding the COVID-19 pandemic in the Region.

#### What is your takeaway from this fellowship?

Meeting great people, amazing leaders and accomplishing more on both a personal and professional level.

#### What were your fun experiences outside the office in Cairo?

I am no stranger to Cairo, I consider it my second home and I was given the opportunity to create beautiful memories with family and friends.

# Any tips and suggestions for future fellows?

Always be prepared, open minded, creative, courageous and futuristic in both your thinking and approach.

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