

# Aiswarya Prasad

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## Leadership Experience

### Manager, Activator Operations / Jun 2025 - Present

Nucleate HQ

- Designed an applicant sourcing playbook and trained 18 regional team leaders, streamlining applicant sourcing across the organization.
- Built an Airtable dashboard to track sourcing performance, enabling data-driven recruitment decisions.
- Partnered with marketing to create outreach materials that improved applicant engagement and experience.

### Director, Strategy and Experts / Oct 2024 - Present

Nucleate, Switzerland

- Interviewed biotech startup founders using structured evaluation criteria informing incorporation potential and suitability for Nucleate's Activator cohort.
- Sourced 10+ technical, market, and regulatory experts to advise startups during Activator program workshops.

### Consulting Project Manager / May 2024 - Jul 2025

The Consulting Society EPFL, Switzerland

- Led a client project for a bacterial diagnostics startup, delivering market and pricing recommendations based on competitive analysis and stakeholder interviews - results were directly integrated into the company's strategy.
- Mentored junior consultants and provided training on research synthesis and presentation skills.

### BCG Academy training / Dec 2024

Zürich, Switzerland

- Completed a one-day immersive case workshop on product strategy and customer experience in the MedTech sector. Invited as one among ~20 candidates from Swiss student consulting societies and organizations.

### iGEM Delegate - United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity / Nov 2018

Sharm El-Sheikh, Egypt

- Delegate representing iGEM, an international synthetic biology organization spanning over 65 countries and a network of 86k scientists, advocated for youth inclusion in global biotech policy; published a reflection [here](#).

## Research Experience

### Graduate Researcher – Gut Microbiome & Bioinformatics / Aug 2020 - Present

University of Lausanne, Switzerland

- Designed and executed gut microbiome studies using metagenomics, resulting in 4+ peer-reviewed publications
- Built custom analysis pipelines (Python, R, Bash) and managed collaborations across India, Kenya, and Malaysia
- Reduced pandemic-related project delays by 12 months via strategic collaboration development.
- Co-developed Master's bioinformatics curriculum; student projects contributed to a peer-reviewed publication
- Presented at 4+ international conferences; recognized for clear, engaging presentations

### Master's Thesis Researcher / May 2019 - May 2020

Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore

- Identified and set up a low-cost, Nanopore-based DNA sequencing pipeline at 10% of the traditional setup cost.
- Contacted and looped in clinical partners to lead a study identifying gut microbiome shifts in chronic pancreatitis.

## Awards and Achievements

Mathilde Agassiz Scholarship (~\$90k, 1st-ranked applicant) / 2020 - 2021

Faculty of Biology and Medicine Fellowship (~\$70k) / 2020 - 2023

Best Selected Talk, Microbiome Virtual International Forum / 2024

KVPY Fellowship (top 0.3%, All-India Rank 335) / 2015 - 2020

## Education

**PhD in Quantitative Biology**, University of Lausanne, Switzerland / Aug 2020 – Aug 2025

**BS + MS in Biology**, Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore / Aug 2015 – Jul 2020

## Interests

[Carnatic vocal music](#) – Formal training since childhood; won local contests, performed at cultural events in Switzerland and India; [Food and cooking](#) – Posting accessible recipes for vegetarian South Indian food made accessible to those new to the cuisine; [Crocheting](#) – Small personal projects and gifts for friends and family.