**Camila and Jaffer’s top Chevening interview tips**

**Camila:** I took a public speaking class in college, so I thought I would go back through my notes, and I did. I was looking at different techniques for managing nerves – clenching hands to manage your energy and all those things – but actually what really helped that day, which is something that I actually discovered looking back, was just that I was really sure. I knew what I wanted, I knew why I was there, I knew my qualifications and really, when you look at it like that and you reassure yourself, you’re just answering questions honestly. This is a big, big, big part of it: do not try to make yourself look like something you’re not. When I left the interview I thought I had been too candid, but I met with the man who interviewed me later, and he was like ‘no’. There was this one question that I thought I’d ruined by being too candid, and that was the one I think really convinced him that I was the real deal for this programme. So just be yourself, be sure of what you know.

**Jaffer:** Once I got shortlisted I reviewed what I wrote in my essays and I spoke to a Chevening Alumni. She was really helpful, she did not give me some big extra advice, she just said, ‘just go there, don’t spin what you are’. Then I went into the room, the Chevening interview panel was quite helpful. They first offered me a cup of water, then I took a few minutes to get adjusted – they give you the time. I mean, if you are struggling, if you are having some issues, you can tell them. They’re quite friendly and cooperative.