



International Geneva
Directory of Geneva Global Health Actors

Medecins Sans Frontieres | MSF

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BACKGROUND AND MISSION

Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) was founded in 1971 by a group of French doctors. It is an independent, medical humanitarian NGO with large-scale logistical capacity delivering emergency aid to people affected by armed conflict, epidemics, natural or man-made disasters, or exclusion from healthcare in more than 70 countries.

AREAS OF INTEREST

- Adolescent health
- Emergency medical assistance
- Infectious diseases
- HIV/AIDS
- Epidemiology and access to medicines
- Education and public awareness

HEALTH-RELATED ACTIVITIES

MSF provides medical assistance in situations of conflict, natural disasters, disease epidemics and healthcare exclusion. It offers basic healthcare and surgery, carries out vaccination campaigns, provides mental health care, rehabilitation and nutrition, as well as fights epidemics, including neglected tropical diseases and Ebola. MSF also treats the wounded, provides pre and antenatal care, and supplies safe drinking water and medical and relief supplies to affected regions.

GOVERNANCE AND STAFF

The president of MSF International is Dr Joanne Liu. The secretary-general of MSF International is Jérôme Oberreit. The organisation has over 35,000 employees globally. MSF has offices in 31 countries, and its international coordination office is in Geneva.

FUNDING SOURCES AND BUDGET

Around 95% of MSF funding comes from private sources (6.1 million individual donors), and the remaining from governments and international organisations. For work in the context of conflicts, MSF only uses private donations to fund the activities in order to ensure independence and flexibility in its operations. It maintains reserves allowing rapid response without having to wait for fundraising. Total income in 2016 was EUR 1.51 billion. Of the expenditures, 83% went to social mission and their costs, while the remaining funds were used for fundraising and management.

PUBLICATIONS

See: <http://www.msf.org/publications>

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