

**ON THE MEDICAL  
FRONTLINES**

## WHAT IS DOCTORS WITHOUT BORDERS/ MEDECINS SANS FRONTIERES (MSF)?

Doctors Without Borders/Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) delivers emergency medical assistance to people affected by armed conflict, epidemics, malnutrition, natural disasters, or exclusion from health care in nearly 60 countries. An independent international humanitarian organization, MSF unites direct medical care with a commitment to bearing witness to the plight of the people it assists.



Sudan, 2007 © Simon Burroughs/MSF

In emergencies and their aftermath, MSF provides essential health care, rehabilitates and runs hospitals and clinics, performs surgery, responds to epidemics, carries out vaccination campaigns, operates feeding programs for malnourished children, and offers mental health care. When needed, MSF also constructs wells and dispenses clean drinking water, and provides shelter materials like blankets and plastic sheeting. MSF also provides treatment for people caught in the medical catastrophes of HIV/AIDS, malaria, and tuberculosis, and advocates for appropriate and affordable quality treatments and diagnostics through its Campaign for Access to Essential Medicines.

On any one day, close to 27,000 doctors, nurses, logisticians, water-and-sanitation experts, administrators, and other qualified professionals can be found providing medical care in international teams made up of local MSF aid workers and their colleagues from around the world.

Founded in 1971 in France, today MSF is an international association with offices in 19 countries. MSF-USA was established in 1990 in New York City. In 1999, the organization was awarded the Nobel Peace prize.



[www.doctorswithoutborders.org](http://www.doctorswithoutborders.org)