

Philanthropy IN ACTION

SEPTEMBER
2024
N°6



LUXEMBOURG



RESCUE ZONE

***“YOU CAN ALSO
MAKE A DIFFERENCE
IN PHILANTHROPY”***



Generosity is the cornerstone of our work.

Dear Sir, dear Madam,

Médecins Sans Frontières remains deeply involved in responding to emergency situations and humanitarian crises around the world. Our medical aid efforts for populations excluded from healthcare have never been more critical. Unfortunately, beyond the high-profile issues, public attention and donations are being diverted away from major crises that are gradually fading from view. As a medical humanitarian organization funded solely by private donations, generosity is the cornerstone of our work. It is major donors like you who make our work possible, your commitment helping to save lives. In this issue, you will find concrete examples of the impact that your donations have on humanitarian action.

Because you are also our best ambassadors, we have decided to dedicate issue 6 of Philanthropy in Action to the different ways you can support our projects. Whether it's rounding off your salary via your company, raising funds by taking part in sporting challenges, organizing charity collections, directly financing a flagship project, or including MSF in your will, there are countless ways you can help. Every contribution, accessible to everyone, makes a difference on the ground.

With my sincerest thanks,



Esther Leick,
Fundraising and communication director

Front cover:
MSF's new chartered ship, the M/V Geo Barents in Fiskastrand shipyard Norway getting ready to sail.
© Avra Filias/MSF

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A family tradition of giving: Flavia's testimony on supporting MSF

Family influence and personal commitment

"My involvement with MSF is deeply rooted in my family's values. Since childhood in the 1970s, my mother spoke passionately about the 'French doctors'. Her generosity and discernment inspired me. Once I began earning, I followed her lead, starting with occasional donations and later committing regularly. This support has become a cherished tradition upheld by my entire family."

Evaluating MSF's policies and transparency

"Yet, my commitment to MSF isn't merely inherited. Over the years, I've scrutinized MSF's intervention policies, activity reports, and financial statements. Each year, I find reassurance in their strategic direction, financial prudence, and transparency in operations."



MSF staff vests hang out to dry at the site of the emergency measles vaccination team in Baboua.

Why MSF over other ngos?

"I admire MSF's rapid response to crises worldwide, their steadfast dedication in the face of adversity, and their unwavering commitment to providing unbiased aid. Their philosophy of collective solidarity resonates deeply with me. If I had the necessary skills, I would join their teams on the ground. Instead, I support their efforts through donations.

I believe it's our duty to assist those less fortunate. We often take our peaceful and prosperous lives for granted. Let's remember, luck determined where we were born. It's incumbent upon us to help those born into hardship, famine, or conflict. Should any readers interested in making a donation to MSF wish to contact me to discuss the matter, they can request my contact details from the publisher."

"I admire MSF for their immediate response whenever a crisis breaks out"



Your legacy will continue to save lives in the future

© Steve McKee/MSF

Rotation 28 - Rescue 1 On 1 May 2023, just after completing trainings and entering Malta's search and rescue region, Geo Barents was alerted by the Alarm Phone about a boat in distress located in the international waters off Malta. The rescue operation was completed in four hours. 300 people, including 52 women and girls – three of them pregnant - and a total of 77 minors safely embarked on Geo Barents.



© Scott Hamilton/MSF

Immediate medical response to earthquakes

In the aftermath of the major earthquakes that struck northwest Syria and south Turkey (Türkiye) in February 2023, our staff—already working in northwest Syria—began treating the injured within hours. We also have a dedicated emergency team, known as the E-team, ready to respond rapidly to crises anywhere in the world. Comprising experienced doctors, nurses, logisticians, and epidemiologists, E-team members are always on call.

Legacy support for msf's lifesaving work

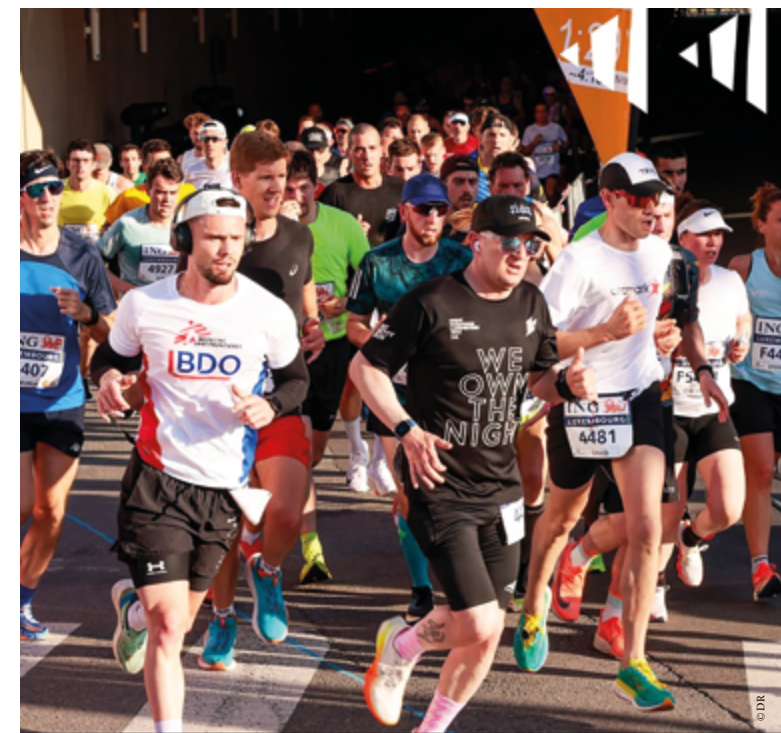
Deploying teams, medical supplies, and equipment to emergencies is costly, and ensuring readiness to respond at a moment's notice requires significant financial support. Currently, most of MSF's patients are people caught up in conflict. Additionally, extreme weather events are becoming more frequent, and disease outbreaks can occur at any time. We never know what the next emergency will be. Leaving a gift is a way to help ensure that this vital work can continue. Without legacies, 1 in 4 MSF projects would never come to fruition. Thank you for making our work possible.

Dr Natalie Roberts, Executive Director, MSF UK

Legacy, donation, life insurance: for more information, visit our website at <https://msf.lu/soutien/disposition-testamentaire> or contact **Danièle Bach** :
Phone: (+352) 33 25 15
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Running for MSF



© IDR

"My first online fundraising event, supporting Médecins Sans Frontières". Michel Christophory

Had you ever done this type of fundraising before?

"No, this was the first time I'd taken part in online fundraising. It was a new and rewarding experience for me".

Why in aid of MSF?

"Médecins Sans Frontières is an organization that is particularly close to my heart because of its humanitarian commitment and global impact. Their work in areas of conflict, epidemics and natural disasters is admirable and I wanted to support their mission to save lives and relieve suffering."

How did you hear about I RUN FOR MSF?

"I heard about I RUN FOR MSF through my mother. She came across the initiative when she read an advert in the City of Luxembourg magazine and shared the information with me."

What led you to take the plunge?

"I'd been wanting to take part in a half-marathon for some time, as a personal challenge and to improve my fitness. When I heard about the I RUN FOR MSF initiative, I was immediately attracted by the idea of being able to combine my sporting commitment with an important humanitarian cause. "

"Supporting Médecins Sans Frontières by running seemed like an excellent way of giving extra meaning to my efforts and contributing to a cause that is close to my heart."



© IDR

Michel Christophory

Running for MSF: for more information, visit our website at <https://msf.lu/> contact **Éléonore Vernier** :
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Fostering social responsibility: supporting charities and humanitarian partnerships



Rho IDP site, Northeastern Congo

“Our company supports this initiative because we believe in corporate social responsibility and the positive impact we can have in our community.”

Cécile Wagner,
Goblet Lavandier
Board Member – Partner Engineer



Supporting charities through payroll giving.

«Payroll giving is an initiative that allows our employees to make donations directly to their chosen charities from their salaries. It’s a simple and effective way to support causes close to our hearts.

Corporate social responsibility and humanitarian commitment.

Our company set up automatic, tax-deductible donations from our employees paycheck. It’s a no-fuss way to donate, and it gives our teams the reliable support they need to be ready at a moment’s notice.

We are convinced of the importance of our company’s social role in today’s society. That’s why we apply our CSR policy in a wide range of areas, including supporting the younger generation, taking part in humanitarian projects by providing our technical expertise free of charge, and supporting associations such as MSF.

Impactful partnership with Médecins sans Frontières.

We’ve been supporting médecins sans frontières for a couple of years through ‘payroll giving.’ Given our expertise in medical technical installations, we are well placed to know how crucial a technical installation can be to the running of a hospital.

That’s why Goblet Lavandier and their employees are very proud to have contributed to support projects such as the initiative launched in Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) in the kusisa and kigulube hospitals, which is enabling msf to save lives with the aid of solar energy. Thanks to solar energy, access to electricity and light is guaranteed, making it possible to provide quality care to all patients, at any time, while reducing the transport costs and the carbon footprint.”

Payroll giving : for more information, visit our website at <https://msf.lu/philanthropie/payroll-giving> or contact
Noële Bouchet :
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Highlight

MSF’s WASH (Water Sanitation Hygiene) Intervention in humanitarian emergencies: vital commitment



Construction of water platform and latrines at Rusayo displaced camp.



Roland COUPRIE
Emergency Water &
Sanitation Coordinator

“Ensuring safe water and sanitation is not just an immediate response; it’s a lasting commitment to human dignity and public health”

MSF’s WASH intervention in humanitarian emergencies: vital commitment.

When humanitarian crises strike, Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) provides immediate and essential responses through its WASH initiatives. WASH, encompassing Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene, is crucial for disease prevention and safeguarding the health of vulnerable populations.

Diverse scope of MSF’s WASH projects.

MSF’s WASH projects are deployed in various critical situations, including displacement due to armed conflicts, outbreaks like cholera and Ebola, and responses to natural disasters such as earthquakes, tsunamis, cyclones, and floods. These initiatives also address climate-related challenges like droughts and landslides, particularly within MSF-managed health facilities.

Focus on essential needs and public health.

WASH activities prioritize several critical aspects to meet the fundamental needs of populations affected by humanitarian crises. This includes ensuring access to clean water in terms of quantity and quality, establishing adequate sanitation facilities such as toilets and showers, and effectively managing solid waste through sorting, storage, and sometimes incineration. Efforts also target combating disease vectors like mosquitoes, addressing specific needs of refugees and internally displaced persons, providing reliable treated water supply, installing on-site sanitation systems (latrines, showers, washing areas, drainage), and promoting safe hygiene practices. Additionally, essential non-food items are distributed to complement basic needs.

MSF’s lasting commitment.

MSF’s WASH intervention goes beyond immediate response, embodying a lasting commitment to public health and human dignity. It ensures safe and hygienic living conditions even in the most challenging contexts, demonstrating MSF’s dedication to providing essential assistance where it is most needed.

WASH Projects: key highlights

Emergency in Goma Shabindu - DRC

- Assisted 8,500 new displaced persons in one week
- Allocated € 55,369 for water tank construction and provision of potable water
- Invested € 16,610,67 in constructing 60 latrines

Cholera outbreak response in Zambia - January to March 2024

- Provided 3,000 liters of chlorinated water daily
- Treated 540,000 liters of water
- Pretreated 5,800 liters of cholera excreta
- Collected and disposed of 2,560 cubic meters of waste
- Distributed 9,925 hygiene kits
- Spent € 24,500 on-site for WASH activities, representing 28% of the total response cost



1 | MSF academy: Critical initiatives: emergency priorities

KEY FIGURES

Training initiative for the entire MSF movement, focusing on strengthening the skills and competencies of front-line healthcare workers in 2023:

- 885 active learners by the end of 2023
- A total of 804 graduates
- In-person programs implemented in 6 countries: Sierra Leone, South Sudan, Central African Republic, Mali, and Yemen
- 61 clinical mentors and tutors support the learners



Participants in the MSF Academy for Healthcare Nursing & Midwifery initiative during their graduation in Lankien.

“I learned a lot of skills that I never practised before. With this training, I am a step closer to my dream of saving lives in my community and providing them with dignified quality of care.”

Changkuoth Yoal, nurse in Lankien, South Sudan



MSF Academy graduation ceremony in Old Fangak (South Sudan)

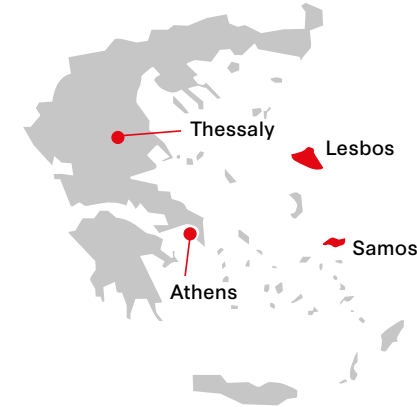
The rationale behind.

In many countries where MSF intervenes, healthcare staff, including those with certified professional qualifications, often lack the required competencies to fulfill their roles effectively. The financing of various medical and paramedical training programs is frequently insufficient, and resources for internships or continuous professional development for trained staff are inadequate or nonexistent.

The adopted approach.

Continuous professional development for healthcare workers is becoming standard in many countries, but this practice had not yet been established in the countries where MSF intervenes. The MSF Academy for Healthcare focuses on strengthening the medical and paramedical skills and competencies of frontline healthcare workers through work-based learning and clinical mentoring. This approach is based on adapted comprehensive curriculums and innovative tools. MSF aims for a long-term impact on healthcare quality in intervention countries and collaborates with academic institutions, Ministries of Health, and Higher Education to train medical and paramedical staff working in MSF-supported facilities.

2 | MSF's support on Lesbos(Greece): addressing urgent healthcare needs.



- Regions where MSF had projects in 2023
- Cities, towns, or villages where MSF work in 2023

KEY FIGURES

Target population and location:

- As of May 12th, 2023, 2,563 people were stranded on the island of Lesbos.
- 90% of the target population resides within the Closed Controlled Access Centre (CCAC) of Mavrovouni.

Human resources:

- MSF employs 5 international mobility staff.
- Additionally, 48 locally hired staff members support operations.

Arrivals and migration data:

- Between January and May 8, 2024, Greece saw 13,106 arrivals, with 3,982 specifically arriving in Lesbos (UNHCR data).
- An estimated 30,000 people travelled to Lesbos in 2022.
- From January to April 2024, over 1,500 arrivals were recorded.

Policy and legal framework:

- Greece suspended the right to access asylum for most asylum-seeking populations since June 2021.
- The "safe third country concept" applies to asylum applications from Afghanistan, Syria, Somalia, Bangladesh, and Pakistan, with rapid screening for admissibility.
- Citizens from another list of 17 countries deemed "safe" must undergo an admissibility process before applying for asylum.

Overview of MSF's presence.

MSF teams on the Greek island of Lesbos provide critical medical and mental health support to thousands of migrants, asylum seekers, and refugees annually. The beginning of this year has witnessed a significant increase in sea arrivals, surpassing last year's numbers by over 200%. This surge underscores the acute need for humanitarian aid amid the challenging conditions faced by these vulnerable populations.

Challenges and current interventions.

In response, MSF focuses on addressing the arduous journeys and harsh living conditions within EU-funded Closed Control Access Centers on Lesbos. By the end of April, MSF had conducted emergency medical interventions to deliver essential care to newly arrived migrants. Discussions are ongoing with authorities to launch an intervention targeting scabies outbreaks within the camps on Lesbos, a prevalent medical issue exacerbated by inadequate journey and living conditions in both formal and informal settlements.



Emergency medical aid activity in Lesbos, Greece.

3 | Medical facilities in Northern Nigeria

KEY FIGURES

Displacement and affected populations:

- Over 2.2 million internally displaced people in the North-eastern region of Nigeria (UNHCR).
- The population of Maiduguri doubled from one to two million due to an influx of displaced persons (Maiduguri).
- 1.2 million people live in non-government-controlled areas inaccessible to humanitarian organizations (UN).

Health and nutrition:

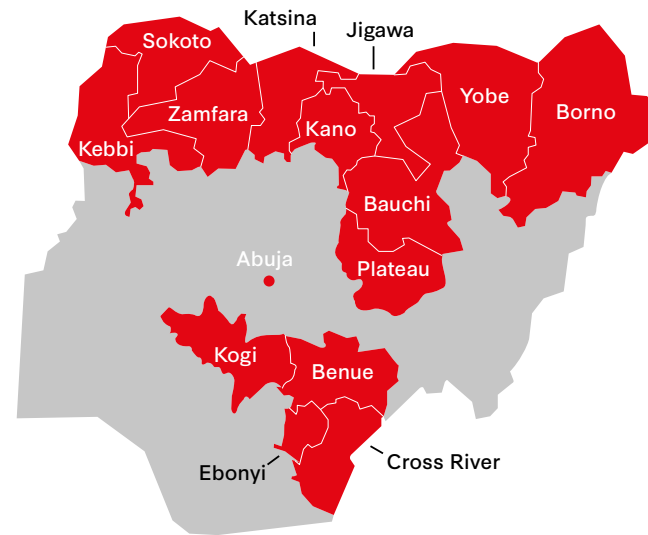
- Approximately 8.4 million people require lifesaving and essential health services in the Northeast region (estimated figure).
- 25 million Nigerians are at high risk of food insecurity in 2023 (UNICEF).
- Malnutrition claims the lives of 2,400 children daily in Nigeria (UNICEF).
- 14.7 million Children under five will suffer from moderate and severe acute malnutrition this year (UNICEF).

Infrastructure and health services:

- Only 60% of health facilities are fully functional throughout Borno state.
- Maternal mortality rates range from 512 to 1,047 deaths per 100,000 live births according to various sources.
- Only 23% of children in Nigeria are vaccinated.

Humanitarian funding:

- Humanitarian funding needs totalled \$133.2 million in 2023, with a 50% funding gap (HRP 2023).



- Regions where MSF had projects in 2023
- Cities, towns, or villages where MSF work in 2023

Increase in admissions and urgent action needed.

Last May, Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) in northern Nigeria has witnessed a significant surge in admissions of severely malnourished children with life-threatening complications, doubling in some areas compared to last year. This influx, occurring ahead of the usual peak in July, has overwhelmed MSF's facilities. Dr. Simba Tirima, MSF's Country Representative, highlights the crisis: "We are treating patients on mattresses on the floor as our facilities are overwhelmed. Children are at risk of dying, emphasizing the urgent need for immediate action to save lives."

Capacity and infrastructure challenges.

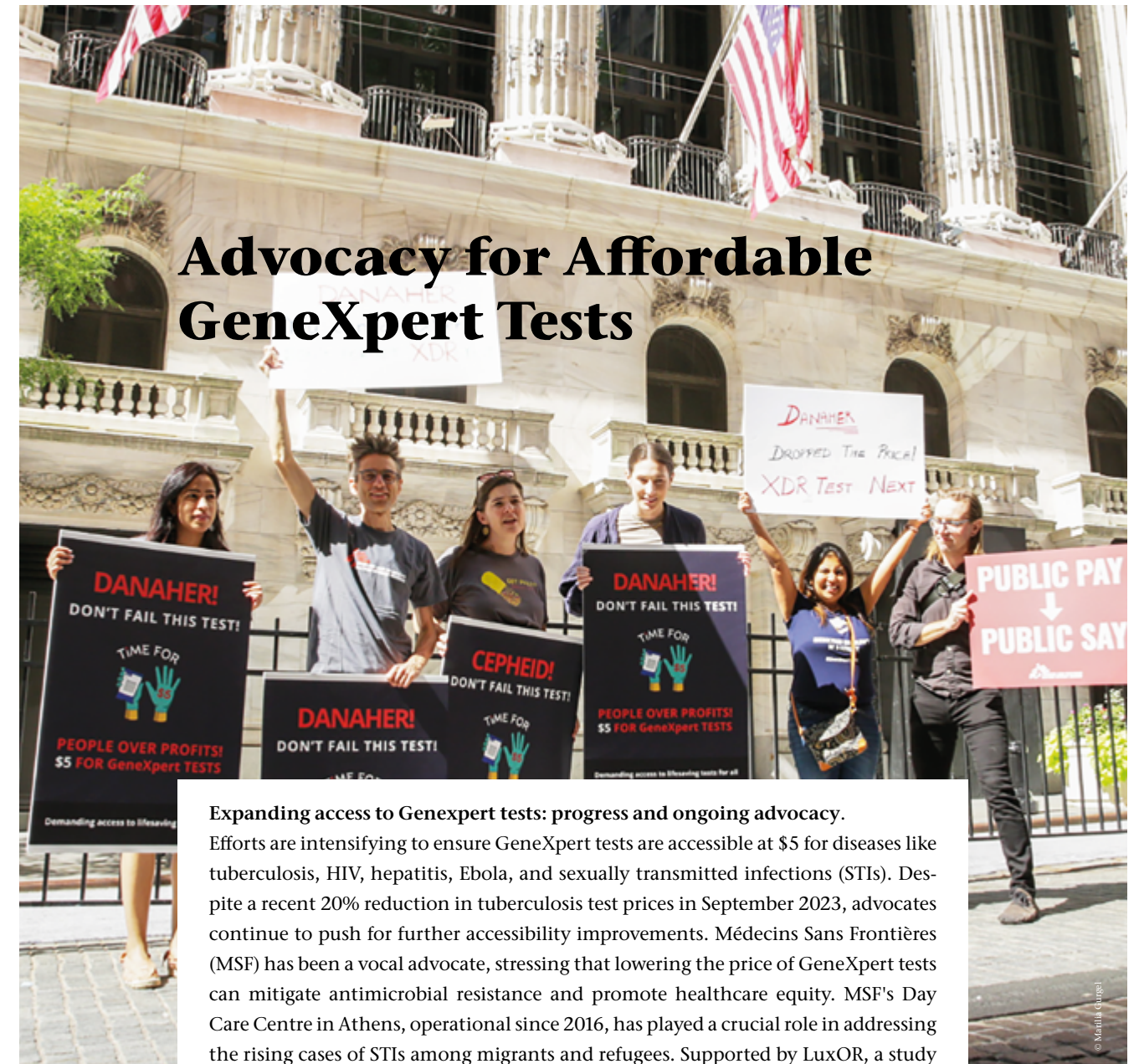
By April 2024, MSF's team in Maiduguri admitted 1,250 severely malnourished children with complications, doubling admissions from April 2023. The center expanded to accommodate 350 patients by May, surpassing its initial capacity for the peak malnutrition season. MSF has tripled bed capacity in the Northeast and adjusted admission criteria to prioritize the most vulnerable (6 months to 5 years). Operational challenges include potential shortages of essential nutritional supplies from UNICEF, expected in August. To enhance healthcare delivery, MSF opened a 30-bed Comprehensive Emergency Maternity and Newborn Care (CEMONC) facility in Maiduguri, managed with support from the Ministry of Health.

"Children are at risk of dying, emphasizing the urgent need for immediate action to save lives and prevent the dire consequences of malnutrition."

Dr. Simba Tirima, MSF's Country Representative



A doctor examines a patient in a spill over tent at the MSF Nilefa Keji Hospital in Maiduguri.



Advocacy for Affordable GeneXpert Tests

Expanding access to Genexpert tests: progress and ongoing advocacy.

Efforts are intensifying to ensure GeneXpert tests are accessible at \$5 for diseases like tuberculosis, HIV, hepatitis, Ebola, and sexually transmitted infections (STIs). Despite a recent 20% reduction in tuberculosis test prices in September 2023, advocates continue to push for further accessibility improvements. Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) has been a vocal advocate, stressing that lowering the price of GeneXpert tests can mitigate antimicrobial resistance and promote healthcare equity. MSF's Day Care Centre in Athens, operational since 2016, has played a crucial role in addressing the rising cases of STIs among migrants and refugees. Supported by LuxOR, a study has underscored the effectiveness of point-of-care diagnostics in these vulnerable populations, highlighting the urgent need for accessible testing to enhance health outcomes.

"Affordable and accurate diagnostics are crucial not only for managing diseases but also for combating the threat of antimicrobial resistance globally."

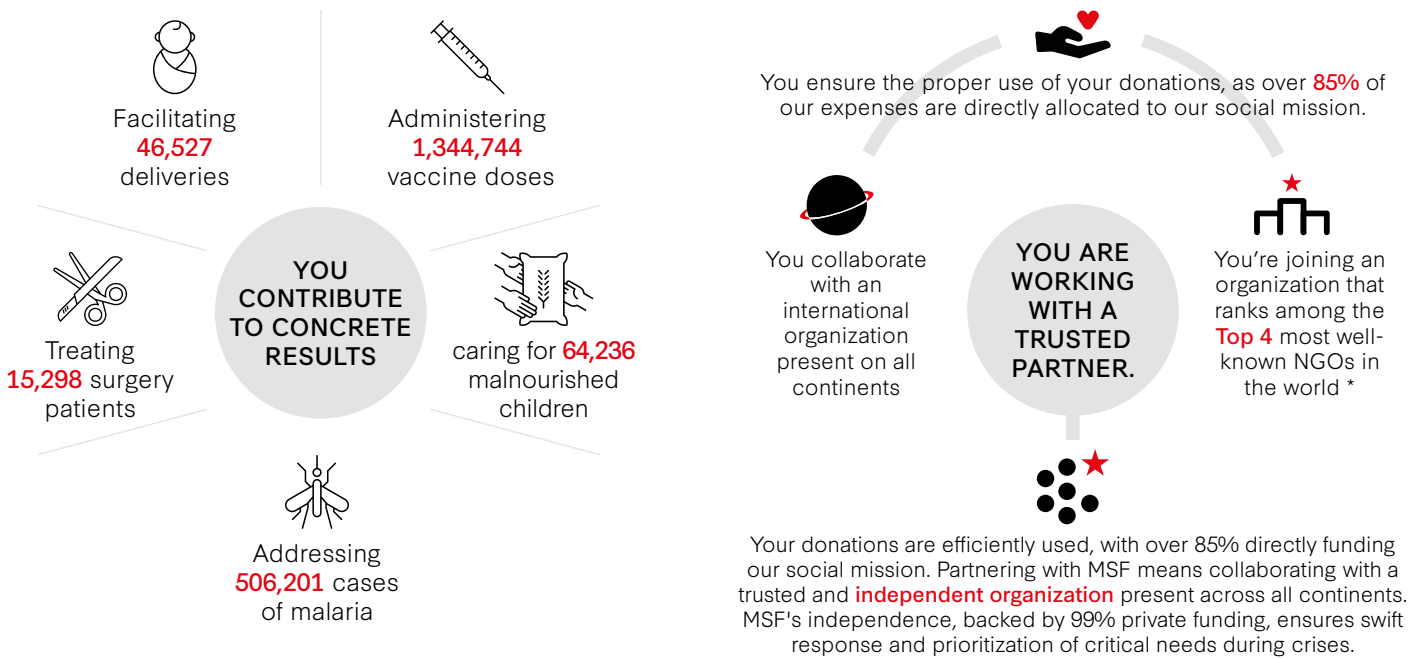
MSF's call for action.

Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) urges Cepheid and its parent company, Danaher, to commit to pricing GeneXpert tests at \$5 across all diseases in low- and middle-income countries. Affordable and accurate diagnostics are critical not only for disease management but also for combating global antimicrobial resistance. MSF emphasizes that equitable access to diagnostics is a fundamental right and a crucial determinant of health outcomes. The organization's call to action comes at a time of increasing recognition of the impact of diagnostic costs on healthcare delivery and the pressing need to save lives. By advocating for affordable GeneXpert tests, MSF aims to ensure that no one is left behind in the fight against infectious diseases.

Battery Park Picture The 'Time for \$5' campaign calls on US diagnostics corporation Cepheid, and its parent company Danaher, to drop the price of its lifesaving GeneXpert tests to US\$5 a test, so that many more people can get access to fast and accurate disease diagnosis.

By supporting MSF,

you align your efforts with the UN's 3rd Sustainable Development Goal, contributing to global sustainable development. Your partnership drives tangible outcomes:



Do you want to know more about our missions? Support a particular project? Let's talk about it!



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