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## Médecins Sans Frontières

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In 1999, MSF was awarded the International Nobel Peace Prize "In recognition of the organization's pioneering humanitarian work on several continents."

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Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) is an international, independent, medical humanitarian organisation that delivers emergency aid in approximately 65 countries.

### Medical Care and Assistance

Médecins Sans Frontières provides assistance to populations in distress, to victims of natural or man-made disasters and to victims of armed conflict. MSF's goal is to save lives and alleviate suffering by working directly with those in need.

### Humanitarian Principles of MSF

#### Impartiality

MSF brings quality medical care to people caught in crisis regardless of race, religion or political affiliation.

#### Neutrality

MSF does not take sides in armed conflicts and provides care on the basis of need.

#### Independence

Over 80 percent of MSF's overall funding comes from private sources, allowing interventions on the ground to be independent of economic, political, military or religious agendas.



# MÉDECINS SANS FRONTIÈRES





## MSF In Myanmar

MSF has been working in Myanmar since 1992 and is currently providing healthcare in Shan, Rakhine, and Kachin states as well as in Yangon and Thanintharyi divisions. Over 1,200 international and national staff work closely together to provide high-quality care and treatment through a network of health centres, health posts and mobile clinics. The teams are made up of highly qualified medical staff, coordinators and experts in various medical fields, logistics, water and sanitation.

## HIV/AIDS

Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) has extensive experience treating HIV/AIDS around the world. Medical care includes the provision of antiretroviral (ARV) treatment as well as symptomatic and palliative treatment and management of common opportunistic infections. In 2010, MSF provided ARV treatment to more than 18,300 patients across the country.

While focusing on direct medical care for people living with HIV/AIDS, MSF also offers general health education and helps prevent the transmission of the HIV virus through voluntary testing and counselling and mother-to-child-transmission prevention programmes. Other services include the treatment of sexually transmitted diseases (STDs) as well as the provision of psychological and social support to patients.

MSF also offers technical assistance and training for HIV/AIDS care programmes in hospitals, health clinics and homes. Programs are implemented in cooperation with the Ministry of Health.

## HIV/TB and MDR-TB

Tuberculosis (TB) is the most common opportunistic infection and the main cause of death for people living with HIV. To address the challenges of TB and HIV co-infection, MSF provides TB treatment in the context of its HIV programmes and is currently giving free diagnosis, treatment and counselling to around 2,540 TB patients across the country, most of whom are also HIV positive.

In 2009, MSF launched a multidrug-resistant TB (MDR-TB) pilot project in partnership with the Ministry of Health in Yangon, aimed at integrating MDR-TB treatment into the existing healthcare system. It is currently the only programme offering such treatment and diagnosis in the country.

## Primary Healthcare and Mother and Child Healthcare

MSF strives to provide quality medical treatment and free care to populations in rural and urban areas who do not have access to healthcare. Working closely with local communities, MSF offers basic healthcare, health education and reproductive healthcare, including antenatal and postnatal care. In 2010, MSF teams conducted nearly 660,000 primary healthcare consultations.

## Emergency response

MSF is a humanitarian organisation with extensive experience in emergency relief response. In 2008, MSF responded within 48 hours of cyclone Nargis hitting Myanmar and assisted more than 550,000 people with medical care, shelter, food distribution and water as well as sanitation activities.

In the aftermath of cyclone Giri in November 2010, MSF conducted around 17,000 medical consultations through its mobile and fixed clinics and distributed food as well as construction kits to help rebuild affected communities.

## Malaria

Malaria is one of the leading causes of mortality in Myanmar. MSF clinics provide free treatment and prevention in areas where the disease has high prevalence rates. In Rakhine state alone, MSF tested more than 400,900 patients and treated more than 122,380 malaria patients in 2010.

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