

**MEDECINS SANS FRONTIERES – OCBA (Operational Centre Barcelona Athens), for its projects in Africa, is looking for a**

## **EPIDEMIOLOGIST BASED IN DAKAR**

### Description:

The successful applicant will provide requested support for the documentation of identified MSF OCBA medical activities in West and Francophone Africa as for scanning the epidemiological contexts of the countries of the region to identify situation of concern. S/he will be based in Dakar and give support in this domain to the polyvalent medical staff in the cells and the teams in the field.

### Detailed Description:

The MSF Medical Department of the Operational Centre Barcelona-Athens (MSF-OCBA) is composed of: the Director of the Department, a Deputy Director in charge of the medical –operations; the medical referents advisor of different areas and specialties, the Assistant of the department and few Mobile positions devoted to support the field program implementation.<sup>1</sup>

**The Dakar Operational Support Unit is a decentralised structure within MSF OCBA which role is to support operations within the region (West and Francophone Africa). This is done through providing technical (paediatrics and epidemiology), operational (emergencies scanning, exploratory /missions opening), representation and advocacy support to field missions and the Cells in HQ where are managing them.**

The Dakar office structure is currently made of one Head of Office, one Emergency Coordinator (70% in the field), one administrator and one driver. By early 2014, to develop the capacity of support mentioned above the office will host three additional positions: one paediatrician, one epidemiologist and one humanitarian affairs advisor.

### **MANAGEMENT LINE**

S/he will work under the hierarchy of the Head of Dakar office while S/he shall work under the technical supervision of the Medical Deputy Director and functionally with Medical Coordinator (missions) and Medical polyvalent (TESACO/ Desk HQ).

While in the field, he/she works under the regular hierarchical and functional structures of the missions, while keeping communication with the Dakar and Medical Department.

### **JOB PROFILE**

The successful applicant will be in charge to support and enhance better documentation of MSF OCBA medical activities in the region (Francophone and West Africa) as to scan the epidemiological context to identify situation that could evolve in emergencies. S/he will be based in Dakar where s/he will participate to representation and networking activities in front of institutions working in research / supporting programs concerning overall medical issues related to epidemiology and epidemics as to provide requested supports to the polyvalent medical staff in the cells and the teams in the field in epidemiology / documentation of medical activities.

### **Principal Activities**

S/he provides the requested support to the fields / cells to enhance better documentation of MSF OCBA medical activities:

- Support or directly undergo capitalisation of medical activities in the fields in order to report there outcomes / lesson learns in agreed format and share those, including through presentations, with Cells / Missions / Medical departments;

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<sup>1</sup> The Medical Department is based in Barcelona. Out of an agreement signed in October 2009 with OCB & MSF-Brazil, the Medical Department it is also managing the Brazil Medical Unit -BRAMU-. This decentralized medical unit is located in Rio Janeiro within MSF-Brazil. This unit is a referent for Chagas disease, Dengue & other emergent diseases, and Paediatrics In January 2012, the Medical Referent Advisor positions are: Laboratory; Pharmacy Quality Procurement; Tropical & Neglected Diseases; Nutrition; Vaccination & Hygiene; Pharmacy Management & Isystock; Epidemiology; HIV-AIDS & TB; Surgery; Sexual & Reproductive Health; Mental Health; Hospital Management; Telemedicine and medical e-learning.

- Support or directly provide methodology and / or setting up of data collection system to monitor / document programs, including operational research;
- Support or directly undergo the writing and edition of deliverables format adapted to internal / external diffusion of medical programs outcomes adapted to the audience targeted (Powerpoint, report, articles);
- Support or conduct survey / studies when requested by the fields / cells (KAP, nutrition or mortality surveys);
- Assessed data based and documentation systems used in the fields and report on findings / recommendations;
- Provide technical expertise to the fields missions / cells on epidemiological issue;
- Formalised and passed proposal and budget estimation to the Cells / missions / Head of Dakar office for any activities requesting such exercise.

S/he undergoes regular scanning of the epidemiological context in the region:

- Conducts weekly scanning of the epidemiological context of the region and fill the alert system form for the Emergency Unit accordingly;
- Support exploratory missions / assessment concerning epidemics outbreaks.

S/he is member of the medical department and work in tight relation with the other epidemiologists of MSF OCBA in Barcelona as with Epicentre:

- S/he is participating and contributing to MSF OCBA medical department activities through providing propositions concerning the enhancement of improved documentation of medical activities;
- S/he participates to training initiatives or technical meeting when needed / requested, including out of Dakar and its region.

S/he represents MSF OCBA at Dakar level on issues related to epidemics and epidemiology:

- Participate to relevant forum / events related to epidemiology / epidemics in Dakar and the region and use those, when relevant, to diffuse medical activities outcomes;
- Network with relevant actors involved in the field of medical research / epidemiology / epidemics in Dakar and the region;
- Regularly reports on networking / representation activities to the Head of Office, polyvalent medical from the Cells, fields mission in the regions and the medical department;
- Follows up and passes on the scientific literature in the domains that interest MSF OCBA (Cells med/ Field missions/ Med Dept / Head of Dakar).

## SELECTION CRITERIA

### ➤ Education and experience

- Degree in epidemiology or in public health with extensive experience in epidemiology
- Medical doctor is an asset.
- Knowledge of and interest in Public Health and infectious disease control.
- Experience and / or interest in research desirable.
- One-year MSF / Epicentre experience or a similar organisation.
- Basic knowledge of standards in terms of health in MSF projects, including emergencies and epidemics.
- Good knowledge and experience with regards to IT software for processing texts, graphics and statistics (Microsoft Word, Excel, ). Knowledge of Epi-info series is a must.
- Experience in field epidemiology contexts of acute epidemics (meningitis, cholera, measles...) desirable.
- Fluent English and French a must. Portuguese and Spanish an asset.
- Tracked records on publication (presentation, reports, articles) and in leading study / survey

### ➤ Competences

- Teamwork.
- Analysis capacity, initiative and autonomy.
- Quality and result-driven.
- Capacity for interrelating with people and communication skills.

- Flexibility and adaptability.
- Good communication and pedagogic skills to work as an advisor.

## **CONDITIONS**

- Position based in Dakar (Senegal) with regular field visits (estimated to up to 50% of time)
- 12 months of temporary contract with possible extension at the end of the period according to internal analysis
- Salary conditions are referred to country of residence of candidates and experience level according to MSF reward policy + secondary benefits.
- Position on level 13 of a 15 level function grid (highest level is 15)
- Commitment one year
- Starting date: Mid February 2014

**Applicants please send cv and motivation covering letter under the reference “Epi.Dakar.” to:**

**Médicos Sin Fronteras / Dpto. RRHH**

**C/ Nou de la Rambla, 26**

**08001 Barcelona**

**[recruitment-bcn@barcelona.msf.org](mailto:recruitment-bcn@barcelona.msf.org)**

**Closing date: 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2014.** Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted