



# BORDERLINE

無疆

2026 June Issue



**A CLOSER LOOK:  
HOW WE MAKE IT HAPPEN**





# THE UNSEEN FORCES OF LIFESAVING WORK



# WHENEVER "MÉDECINS SANS FRONTIÈRES" IS MENTIONED, WHAT COMES TO YOUR MIND?

**Professional doctors** working on the front lines,  
**field hospitals** running around the clock  
or the selfless, courageous,  
**lifesaving actions** amid crises?

Medical staff and healthcare facilities are undoubtedly a vital part of MSF's work. Yet behind every response, there are people and forms of work that rarely make it into the picture. It is their presence, alongside the doctors and nurses, that makes it possible to keep a consistent commitment: **providing medical humanitarian assistance to those most in need, wherever they are in the world.**

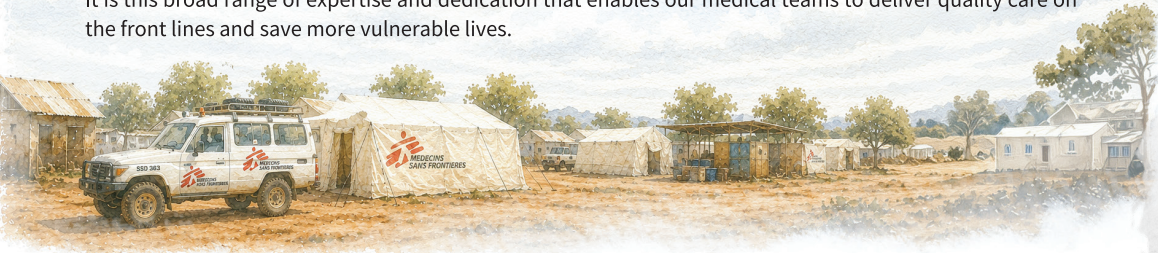
As global instability intensifies, those stepping onto the front lines are not heroes, just aid workers who continue to do their utmost despite immense challenges. **What sustains MSF's work is people: medical and non-medical staff from diverse backgrounds and professions who remain committed in difficult places,** supported by the donors and supporters who make that possible. **Together, we enable MSF's medical humanitarian work to continue, and to save more lives.**

# MSF IS MORE THAN DOCTORS

According to a recent survey we commissioned, many respondents felt that "a professional male doctor working on the front lines" best represented the image of MSF. That image captures something real: professional medical doctors are essential to our lifesaving work. But it tells only part of the story. Providing medical humanitarian assistance takes far more than medical staff alone. It takes a whole team with diverse professionals.

More than 65,000 staff work for MSF movement worldwide, supporting medical humanitarian projects and international offices in roles ranging from healthcare professionals to logisticians and administrative staff. While locally recruited personnel make up the majority of our workforce, thousands of international mobile staff are deployed on assignments each year. In 2024, 45% of our teams were medical and paramedical staff, including midwives, epidemiologists, and psychologists. The remaining were non-medical staff: project coordinators, supply chain officers, water and sanitation specialists, and others.

It is this broad range of expertise and dedication that enables our medical teams to deliver quality care on the front lines and save more vulnerable lives.



## DRIVER

Vehicles are the backbone of any field operation. My job is to get medical staff and emergency supplies to where they are needed, on time, and to transport patients to hospital. But because we are constantly moving through communities, we are also MSF's visible presence on the ground. People see the vehicle and recognise the organisation.



## HEALTH PROMOTER

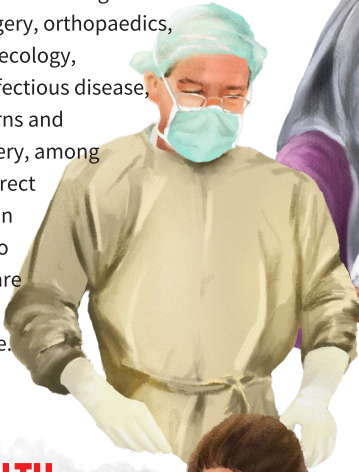
I design and run community health education activities covering vaccination, cholera, HIV, malaria, and other priority health issues. The goal is to raise awareness of health risks and help prevent disease from spreading in the first place.

## EPIDEMIOLOGIST

When an outbreak happens, I collect and analyse field health data to map how a disease is moving and spreading. I assess where it is, track where it is going, and advise on how we should respond and where to direct resources.

## DOCTOR

MSF doctors work across a range of specialisations: surgery, orthopaedics, obstetrics and gynaecology, anaesthesiology, infectious disease, paediatrics, and burns and reconstructive surgery, among others. Alongside direct patient care, we train local medical staff to strengthen healthcare capacity that will outlast our presence.



## MIDWIFE

I provide obstetric care to pregnant women and newborns across the full continuum: antenatal, delivery, and postnatal. Ensuring the health of both mother and child is my primary responsibility. I also care for survivors of sexual violence and support prevention programmes for HIV and sexually transmitted infections.



## MENTAL HEALTH SPECIALIST

I manage mental health programmes for populations affected by emergencies such as natural disasters, sexual violence, HIV, and other chronic conditions. Supporting people through trauma and helping them cope are at the core of the work. We also train local counsellors so that communities have ongoing access to psychological and psychosocial support.

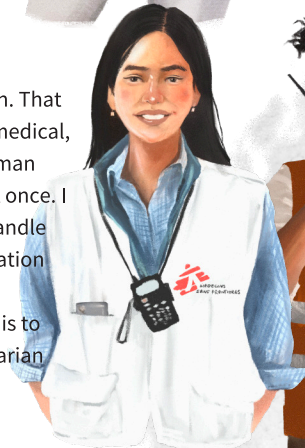


## WATER AND SANITATION SPECIALIST

I set up and maintain reliable water supply systems and waste management facilities and distribute clean water to communities where basic services have broken down. Alongside this, I put in place rigorous hygiene and infection prevention measures to stop disease outbreaks before they take hold.

## PROJECT COORDINATOR

I oversee the entire operation. That means coordinating across medical, logistics, administration, human resources, and finance, all at once. I also manage security, and handle negotiations and communication with local authorities and all project stakeholders. My job is to ensure the medical humanitarian response running.



## LOGISTICIAN

In environments where infrastructure has collapsed, I make sure field operations have what they need to function: setting up field hospitals, managing cold chains for medicines, coordinating vehicle fleets, and moving supplies. Everything the medical team needs to do their work, I work to make possible.



# MSF WORKS FAR BEYOND HOSPITALS

When conflict erupts, disaster strikes, or disease spreads, MSF remains on the front lines, providing emergency assistance to people in need. As an international medical humanitarian organisation, healthcare is at the core of what we do, and hospitals are often where our efforts are anchored. However, our response has never been confined to treating patients within four walls.

In 2024, 14.3 million children had never received a single dose of routine vaccines, with more than half of them living in conflict or crisis-affected areas.

Over **4.6 million\*** routine vaccinations are provided annually



©Mohamed Mara/MSF

©Mariia Nahorna/MSF

These activities may not carry the same immediacy as emergency surgery, but they are no less urgent. In many cases, they save even more lives. Hospitals may serve as important bases for our medical work, but they are never the limit of our action.

## VACCINATION

**Vaccination is one of the most effective ways to prevent disease outbreaks.** However, in conflict zones and low resource settings, supply chains are fragile, cold storage is unreliable, and reaching dispersed communities is a logistical challenge. Each year, MSF vaccinates millions of people against diseases, as well as delivering routine immunisation programmes. In addition, we also push for equitable vaccine distribution globally, so that vaccines reach the people who need them rather than remaining concentrated where supply is easiest.



©Guliza Urustambek kyzy/MSF

## MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT

**People caught in humanitarian crises face more than physical health issues, they also experience a psychological toll, including anxiety and trauma.** MSF provides mental health and psychosocial support through individual counselling, group sessions, and community-based activities. This helps people manage trauma, distress, and the weight of what they have been through.



©Mariia Nahorna/MSF

Over **500,000\*** individual mental health consultations

MSF carries out health promotion activities in regions affected by Ebola, HIV/AIDS, multidrug-resistant TB, and malaria.

## HEALTH PROMOTION

**Health promotion serves as a vital bridge between medical teams and communities.** Through group talks, individual conversations, posters, and community events, we share information on hygiene, disease prevention, transmission, and treatment. Our aim is to improve health knowledge and behaviour in crisis-affected areas over the long term.



©Léa Gillibert/MSF

## ACCESS TO MEDICINES

The campaign advocates for medicines to be accessible, reasonably priced, and distributed, so that the patients we treat can actually receive the care that exists for them.

©Marial Nahorna/MSF

## WATER, SANITATION AND HYGIENE

Clean water and adequate sanitation are not optional. When water sources are contaminated, communities face the immediate risk of waterborne diseases such as cholera. Our water and sanitation projects include identifying or purifying safe water sources during outbreaks, repairing damaged water infrastructure or building temporary facilities after natural disasters, and managing emergency drinking-water supplies. On the sanitation side, we build latrines, showers, and waste management systems in affected areas and refugee camps.

©Ante Bussmann/MSF

e-CARE  
is currently used in  
MSF projects across  
**6 countries**

## TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION

MSF enhances the capacity and quality of frontline medical care through innovative technologies. These include the development of the mobile application Antibioigo, which uses image processing and AI to read antibiotic susceptibility tests and assess antibiotic resistance; the e-CARE application, which applies clinical algorithms to improve paediatric diagnosis and treatment; and AI-powered image recognition software—supported by a database of 380,000 snake images—helps healthcare workers rapidly identify venomous snakes, enabling appropriate treatment for snakebite patients.

## SEXUAL VIOLENCE SUPPORT

Sexual violence is particularly prevalent in conflict and other humanitarian crises, and it is a medical emergency. The 72 hours following an assault are critical for preventing HIV transmission and unwanted pregnancy. MSF provides survivors with comprehensive medical care including treatment of physical injuries, emergency contraception, psychological first aid and referrals for further support.

Over  
**730,000\***  
survivors of  
sexual violence  
treated annually

©MSF

©MSF

Over  
**580,000\***

severely malnourished  
children received  
treatment worldwide

## NUTRITIONAL ASSESSMENT AND TREATMENT

Malnutrition weakens a child's immune system, leaving them vulnerable to illness and infection. MSF begins with simple mid-upper arm circumference (MUAC) screening to quickly assess nutritional status. Then, we distribute ready-to-use therapeutic food and provide outpatient or inpatient feeding programmes based on the severity of malnutrition.

©Gul Nayab/MSF



©Paula Casado Aguirregabiria/MSF

# MSF IS NOT A HERO

Lifesaving work has its limits. So do the aid workers who carry it out. In more than 70 countries where MSF provides assistance, we constantly encounter challenges and constraints that cannot simply be overcome by effort or commitment alone.

First, there are security concerns. We can only work where we can operate safely and where all parties and relevant authorities extend us at least a basic level of respect. When violence becomes too intense, or when humanitarian operations are restricted, we are unable to enter to provide assistance. In some cases, healthcare is targeted to such an extent that we must suspend our operations and evacuate.

Second, there are capacity constraints. We have also faced shortages of staff or medical supplies while responding to multiple crises at once. We also cannot meet the enormous humanitarian needs on our own or fill every gap in healthcare.



©MSF



©Julien Dewarichet/MSF

Additionally, our action remains independent, neutral and impartial, free from political or religious powers. While this may sometimes give the impression that our lifesaving work is "not going far enough", it is precisely these boundaries that enable us to preserve one of the few remaining humanitarian spaces between all parties, allowing us to continue providing assistance.

MSF has never been the protagonist of a heroic story, but rather a group that acknowledges its limits and chooses to act anyway.

Most of the time, all we can do is our utmost.

And we need every supporter and donor alongside us, to keep life breathing.



©Ante Bussmann/MSF

## RESTRICTIONS ON HUMANITARIAN ACTION

In recent years, as global conflicts have escalated, the medical humanitarian needs have grown significantly. Yet the humanitarian space continues to shrink.

MSF's operations are often restricted by the blockade of humanitarian aid, administrative barriers, bureaucratic obstruction or mass evacuation orders



©Nour Alsaqqa/MSF

### GAZA

In 2025, Israel implemented strict new registration rules and MSF declined to provide staff information because of safety concerns. As a result, since January this year, we have been blocked from bringing international staff and additional supplies to Gaza. After that, all international staff were forced to leave. MSF's medical facilities are facing severe shortages of medicine and medical equipment.

## SOUTH SUDAN

Since late 2025, South Sudanese authorities have continuously restricted humanitarian operations in parts of Jonglei State. This has prevented the delivery of medical supplies to MSF Hospital in Lankien and primary healthcare centre in Pieri. Operations were later suspended following the attacks on medical facilities.



©Stefan Pejovic/MSF

## ATTACKS ON MEDICAL CARE

Recorded attacks on healthcare in armed conflict have reached the highest levels in recent years. In 2025, the World Health Organization's Surveillance System for Attacks on Health Care recorded 1,348 attacks on medical facilities, resulting in 1,981 deaths. Healthcare workers also face injuries, abductions and threats of violence. Over the past decade, 21 MSF staff members were killed in 15 incidents.

In the long term, communities lose access to the life-saving care.

## RECENT INCIDENTS OF ATTACKS ON MEDICAL CARE:

### 2024 MYANMAR NORTHERN RAKINE STATE

An MSF-supported hospital was hit by a drone strike.



©Frederic Seguin/MSF



©Didier Rigole/MSF

### HAITI PORT-AU-PRINCE

At least two patients were ejected after an MSF ambulance was stopped by members of a self-defence group and police officers. MSF staff in the ambulance were violently attacked and held against their will.

### SUDAN EL FASHER

Over 80 days, 10 attacks on hospitals were recorded, resulting in at least nine deaths and 38 injuries.



©Dukhan Ahmed Salih/MSF

### 2025 GAZA NASSER HOSPITAL

Israeli forces targeted the hospital's inpatient surgical department, killing two people, injuring several others, and causing severe damage to the building.



©MSF

### 2026 SOUTH SUDAN LANKIEN

MSF hospital was hit in an airstrike by the government of South Sudan forces during February. The hospital's main warehouse was destroyed during the attack, and MSF lost most of the critical supplies for providing medical care.



©Stefan Pejovic/MSF

# A-Z OF MSF

## Academy for Healthcare

# A

The MSF Academy for Healthcare is a training initiative that aims at strengthening the skills and competencies of local healthcare workers in MSF projects, with the will to have a long-term impact on the quality of care. It is present in 8 countries with in-person programmes and the participants in its distance learning programmes are based in over 25 countries around the world.



# D

## Diversity, Equity, Inclusion (DEI)

MSF is committed to **diversity, equity, and inclusion**. When providing medical and humanitarian aid worldwide, we promise to ensure that everybody receives fair and respectful treatment.



# B

## Bearing Witness

Témoignage – translated from French as "**bearing witness**" – is the act of raising awareness, either in private or in public, about what we see happening in front of us. This is also one of the organisation's core principles.

# E

## International Emergency Fund

The **International Emergency Fund** allows us to move fast when a crisis erupts. It gives us the ability to mobilise resources immediately, so we can reach people in need and save lives without delay.



## Chopper

Starting from March 2026, **Tony Tony Chopper**, the beloved character from "ONE PIECE", has become an official supporter of MSF.

©Eiichiro Oda/Shueisha ©MSF

# C

# F

## France

Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) was founded in 1971 in Paris, **France**.

## Geneva

The international headquarters of MSF is located in **Geneva**, Switzerland.

# G



## H Humanitarian Action

**Humanitarian action** is more than simple generosity or charity. Beyond offering material assistance, we aim to enable individuals to regain their dignity as human beings.

## I Impartial/ Independent/ Neutral

Our actions are guided by the principles of **impartiality, independence and neutrality**, and we provide assistance based solely on medical need.



## J Journalist

MSF was established by a group of 300 volunteers. Among the 13 founding members were doctors and **journalists**.

## L Logo

Beyond the organisation's name, the **logo's** running figure symbolises our spirit.



## M Medical Ethics

Our medical work is grounded in **ethical principles**: respect for patient autonomy, confidentiality and the right to informed consent.



## N Nobel Peace Prize

MSF was awarded the **Nobel Peace Prize** in 1999.

## O Operation Centre

MSF currently has 6 **operational centres** responsible for the management and decision-making around field projects, supported by 24 sections and 18 branch offices around the world.

## P Plumpy'Nut

It is a **ready-to-use therapeutic food** made from peanut paste enriched with milk powder and essential nutrients. An effective tool to combat malnutrition, providing essential nutrients to severely malnourished children.



# R Resilient

MSF (Hong Kong) defines its five identity traits as **resilient, professional, pragmatic, principled and compassionate.**



# T Transparency and Accountability

We strive to be as **open and transparent** as possible about the work we do and the funds we spend. We regularly evaluate the effectiveness of our activities, and hold ourselves accountable for our actions to our patients and donors.



# S Supply centre

Three **supply centres** in Brussels, Bordeaux, and Amsterdam provide the medical and non-medical supplies and equipment that keep our global field operations running.

# V Rescue Vessel

MSF has been engaged in search and rescue activities in the Central Mediterranean since 2015, working on 9 different **rescue vessels**. We were forced to halt rescue activities of the Geo Barents in late 2024 due to restrictive Italian laws and policies. In November 2025, we resumed operations by deploying a new vessel named Oyvon — a word meaning "hope for the island."



# W Without Frontiers

Dr. James Orbinski, the then MSF International President, said in his speech accepting the Nobel Peace Prize: "Humanitarian action is by definition universal. Humanitarian responsibility has **no frontiers.**"



# Y Yearly Report

Every year MSF publishes a detailed **Yearly Report** documenting the medical humanitarian activities, along with our annual financial statements.



# Z Zero Reserve policy

MSF Hong Kong has adopted a **Zero Reserve Policy**. All donations received after deducting fundraising, management and general administration financial expenses and exchange differences - are fully allocated to our social mission.

# VOICES OF FRONTLINE WORKERS

**"Wherever you come from, you deserve basic medical care. That is a human right and at the core of humanitarian work."**

Krystal has worked in challenging environments such as conflict zones, refugee camps, providing care to vulnerable pregnant women and newborns. The front-line rarely goes to plan. Even when the team gives everything, not every birth ends safely. The weight of that stays with her.

But Krystal's response to difficulty is not to turn away. When outcomes fall short, she sits with what happened and reviews it honestly to improve next time.

During her assignments, she has also faced danger—especially in Gaza. "Once, while I was traveling in a vehicle, explosions struck along the route and the car almost overturned — at that moment, it felt like my heart had been violently jolted."

She is an ordinary person, just like every aid worker. So why stay? Her answer does not reach for drama. "If we leave those places, a lot of people will simply have no access to medical care at all. And the world won't even know what they're going through."



**MIDWIFE**  
Krystal So



**HEALTH PROMOTER**  
Asta Man

**"Humanitarian work is alleviating suffering whilst ensuring more harm is not being done and patients are still respected as humans."**

During the cholera outbreak response in South Sudan in 2025, Asta went into the affected communities to understand how communities seek medical care, their hygiene practices, and their willingness to receive vaccinations. "We can provide vaccines and treatment," she says. "But it is wasted if the communities do not utilise it."

By listening to community members' concerns, what she found out really mattered. Many people in the community felt that being ill was something to be ashamed of, and that shame was keeping them away from care. There was also some hesitation about the cholera vaccine. "We needed to make it clear that MSF certainly does not discriminate against patients because of their illness. And we must walk the talk. Taking the oral vaccine ourselves in front of the community."

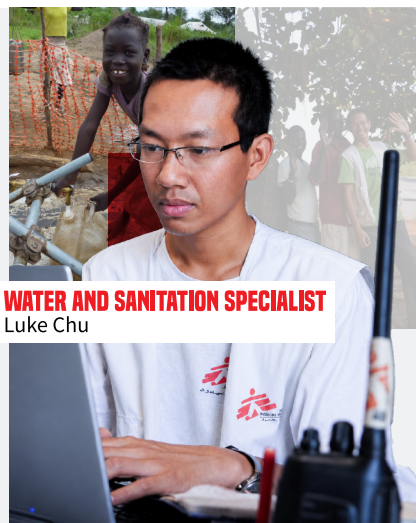
Outreach work helps bridge medical teams and communities. By stepping outside hospitals, healthcare efforts can become much more effective.

**"Before a patient can receive any treatment at all, the most basic condition for keeping them alive is water."**

Luke studied civil engineering. He has been with MSF for more than 15 years. His work includes building water supply for a medical facility, setting up sanitation systems in refugee camps.

The work is far from easy. He once built large-scale water systems from nothing in a matter of months: sourcing water, treating it, storing it, and distributing it across several kilometres to tens of thousands of displaced people. But the moment that has stayed with him longest was not the completion of any system. "When clean water flowed from the taps, villagers were so happy that they started dancing. At that moment, I knew it was all worth it."

Luke is clear that non-medical staff are just as important as medical professionals. Most of the time, logisticians and WASH specialists arrive before the doctors to set things up. "We hold the back so that the medical teams can hold the front. Everyone plays their part."



**WATER AND SANITATION SPECIALIST**  
Luke Chu

# VOICES OF SUPPORTERS

MSF's lifesaving stories become possible thanks to the driving force behind it—the trust of all the supporters.

The words below are theirs — unedited, unfiltered, written by people who have placed years of trust in our work, motivating all our colleague to stay committed to delivering emergency care based solely on people's needs. They are also a reminder that what MSF achieves has never been ours alone.

I am deeply touched by the unreserved dedication and bravery of the workers of MSF. Their work means so much to the victims of wars and the weak who went through tremendous brutal torture. MSF's work must continue and though my donation is meagre, I shall keep it up in the years to come do as to express my approval to MSF.

I really appreciate your work and would continue to donate to show my support.

Keep your mission to provide humanitarian support to the needed people over the world! Thanks!!!

A high profile, well-respected humanitarian organisation which has global influence.

**With your support,  
we can help the people most in need.**



**7.7 MSF DAY**  
無國界醫生日

# Keep Life Breathing

In recent years, conflicts and crises have threatened countless vulnerable people. Even the ability to breathe safely—or to keep breathing at all—has become uncertain. On **MSF Day** this year, we are launching the "Keep Life Breathing" roving exhibition, offering public an in-depth look at the daily struggles faced by people in crisis. We also encourage everyone to donate one day's income and wear the MSF day bracelet — joining MSF frontline staff in safeguarding every breath of those in need.



**Dr. Ben Ng**  
MSF aid worker  
(Emergency/Anesthesiology Doctor)

**Lucy Lau**  
MSF aid worker  
(Project Coordinator)

## MSF Day 2026 "Keep Life Breathing" Roving Exhibition

The welcoming ceremony of this roving exhibition will take place on July 5 at The Wai, Tai Wai, officially kicking off this three-stop public event. During the exhibition, we will showcase real stories of people who are under threat. Sensory elements will be added to invite visitors to step into difficult situations faced by vulnerable communities and learn more about MSF work. Aid workers from Hong Kong will also share their frontline stories of protecting lives and breaths. Exclusive souvenirs will also be available for visitors. Join us at the exhibition!

**Donate A Day's Income**  
to Support MSF's Medical Work



**Support Now and  
Wear MSF Day Bracelet**

<b>E</b>	POSTAGE PAID HONG KONG CHINA 中國香港 郵資已付	Permit No. 特許編號 01600
----------	--	-----------------------------



**Please share this Borderline with others who may want to learn about unacceptable suffering in crisis situations.**

**View online**

"Borderline" is online at [msf.hk/en](http://msf.hk/en)  
 To unsubscribe the printed version, please email to [donation@hongkong.msf.org](mailto:donation@hongkong.msf.org) with your name, postal address and donor number (if applicable).

**Médecins Sans Frontières - Hong Kong**

22/F, Pacific Plaza, 410 - 418 Des Voeux Road West, Sai Wan, Hong Kong  
 Donation hotline: (852) 2338 8277  
 Fax: (852) 2337 5442  
 Email: [office@hongkong.msf.org](mailto:office@hongkong.msf.org)

**Please Support Us Now. With Just A Little, We Can Save More Lives.**

- I would like to make a ONE-OFF gift of
  - HK\$500 can help MSF to buy enough emergency health kits include basic supplies such as oral and topical medicines to treat 30 patients.
  - HK\$1,300 can help MSF to send doctors to provide medical care for people in urgent need, and to train local medical staffs.
  - Other amount HK\$ \_\_\_\_\_

If you are an EU citizen, or if you are residing or currently located in an EU Member State, please go to our webpage ([msf.hk/eudonationform](http://msf.hk/eudonationform)) to download another form for submission. If you are not, please fill in the form below. Thank you.

**Donation Method**

- By credit card     Visa     MasterCard     American Express  
 (Credit card donors may return the form by fax: (852) 2304 6081 or email: [donation@hongkong.msf.org](mailto:donation@hongkong.msf.org))  
 Issuing Bank: \_\_\_\_\_ Card No.: \_\_\_\_\_ Expiry Date (mm/yy): \_\_\_\_\_  
 Cardholder's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_
- By cheque    Cheque No.: \_\_\_\_\_ (payable to "MEDECINS SANS FRONTIERES")
- By bank transfer    Please make a direct deposit to MSF's HSBC account 002-7-413004 or Bank of China account 012-566-1-001818-3 and send the original bank transfer receipt with this form to us.

By mobile app

PayMe



AlipayHK



Octopus Wallet



**Donor's Information**

RET-26-BUL1-XXX-FORM-XXX

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Donor No.: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact No.: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Our promise to protect your privacy: Médecins Sans Frontières Hong Kong (MSF) promise not to sell, share or swap your personal information with any other company/ organisation. The information you provide will be treated as strictly confidential and used in accordance to our prevailing Privacy Policy, found on our website <https://msf.hk/en> In order to stay in contact with you, we may use your personal information to inform you about MSF's relief work and activities, and conduct fundraising appeals and surveys. You may opt out to receive such information by contacting us via post or email: [unsubscribe@hongkong.msf.org](mailto:unsubscribe@hongkong.msf.org)

I do not wish to receive such materials and communications from MSF-HK.