

3D Printing for All

Project Summary

Problem

The quality and scope of care provided by MSF are impacted by difficult and costly import of logistical and medical equipment, unavailability of spare parts in the field and options for customizations - especially in the remote areas with disrupted supply chains.

Proposed Solution

Democratize the availability of 3D printing capacity in MSF field projects through provision of printers, procedures, protocols and technical support. Establish a repository of downloadable and printable medical and non-medical products such as prosthetics, humeral braces and adaptors. Includes a service to model new custom-made objects on request and explores rapid local manufacturing in emergencies.



Potential Impact

- Enhances the quality and availability of care through access to rapidly manufactured devices in the field.
- Enables customization at patient level or mission level e.g., prosthetics.

Viability

- Develops solutions based on field needs.
- Relies on evidence and result-based monitoring approach.

Risk Mitigation

- Identifies field requirements and barriers through onsite feasibility and needs assessment in multiple locations.

Scalability

- Final solution incl. Print set-up, procedures, protocols, support and training available to all MSF through SharePoint.

Area/Type: Operations Improvement/Technology

Sponsor/Support: MSF Germany

Length/Project Status: 14 months; **ONGOING**