

# Transforming the Role of Field Epidemiologists

## Project Summary

### Problem

MSF coordination teams currently lack the epidemiological expertise to address new diseases and ongoing challenges with infectious diseases that overlap with high intensity humanitarian crises. Field teams require flexibility in operational responses matched with high-level epidemiological expertise, including significant technical knowledge to make evidence-based, scientifically rigorous, public health driven decisions.

### Proposed Solution

Increase MSF's **field capacity** to implement **evidence-based decision-making** and use high quality, **robust scientific data** by **transforming the role of field epidemiologists** trained specifically in the skills and competencies in MSF project contexts. Includes field epidemiologist training fellowship, statistical software program, surveillance, epidemiological surveys, and outbreak investigation.



### Potential Impact

- Increases field project capacity in epidemiology to achieve operational objectives and strategy
- Addresses the challenge in surveillance, analyses, and control health risks in populations MSF serves

### Viability

- Leverages OCP and Epicentre's expertise in this area
- Builds upon a pilot training, including lessons learned

### Risk Mitigation

- Launched 'Call of interest' through bi-lateral meetings with **all OCs/L&D and/or Epidemiology-Public Health departments** demonstrating strong interest

### Scalability

- Produces and **shares training materials** and **support tools** across MSF, including website, library and resources, curriculum, syllabus and module teaching material, e-learning modules

**Area/Type:** HR / Learning and Development

**Sponsor/Support:** *OCP; Epicentre implementation*

**Length/Project Status:** 18 months; **ONGOING**