

## Terms of Reference

Doctors Without Borders/Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) is an international medical humanitarian organization determined to bring quality medical care to people in crises around the world, when and where they need regardless of religion, ethnical background, or political view. Our fundamental principles are neutrality, impartiality, independence, medical ethics, bearing witness and accountability.

The Stockholm Evaluation Unit (SEU), based in Sweden, is one of three MSF units tasked to manage and guide evaluations of MSF's operational projects. For more information see: [evaluation.msf.org](https://evaluation.msf.org).

Name of evaluation:	Evaluation of Primary Health and Sexual and Reproductive Health Project in Anzoátegui (Venezuela)
Starting date:	January 2023
Duration:	Final report to be submitted <i>by latest 31<sup>st</sup>. May 2023</i>
Requirements:	Interested applicants should submit: 1) A proposal describing how to carry out this evaluation (including budget in a separate file), 2) a CV, and 3) a written sample from previous work
Deadline to apply:	Sunday 8 <sup>th</sup> January 2023
Send application to:	<a href="mailto:evaluations@stockholm.msf.org">evaluations@stockholm.msf.org</a>
Other:	Anything that might affect the process; e.g. COVID-19 restrictions etc (TBC).

## BACKGROUND

Since 2015, the socioeconomic, political and health situation in Venezuela has deteriorated leading almost 5 million Venezuelans to leave their homes in recent years<sup>(1)</sup>. This represents the region's largest exodus in recent history and one of the largest displacement crises in the world. In response to the crisis, MSF-Operational Centre Brussels (OCB) initiated several projects to provide health assistance in the region, including health interventions in neighboring countries for refugees fleeing the country and in Venezuela for those who did not leave<sup>2</sup>.

<sup>1</sup> UNHCR Global Report 2021.

<sup>2</sup> OCB activities initiated in this period include an intervention in Roraima (Brazil) offering health services to Venezuelan refugees, and a malaria project in Sifontes (Bolívar State, Venezuela).

In late 2018, MSF-OCB opened a project in Anzoátegui state providing primary health services in a health facility together with the organization *Fe y Alegria* and support to three health structures run by the Minister of Health (MoH): Guanire, El Rincon, and San Diego. Since then, the project has evolved and expanded to cover new geographical areas and medical domains.

The general objective of the project is to contribute to the reduction of mortality and morbidity of the population in the municipalities of Sotillo, Guanta and Bolivar<sup>3</sup>.

Project plans include interventions in the following locations:

- One (1) primary health center, “Amigos para la Salud” managed exclusively by MSF
- Seven (7) primary and secondary health facilities, run by the MoH with the support of MSF<sup>4</sup>
- One (1) maternity center, “Nazareth Clinic” run by the MoH with the support of MSF<sup>5</sup>
- Multiple community settings, such as schools and community centers

Medical domains addressed by MSF includes:

- Primary and secondary health services,
- Sexual and reproductive health care, including obstetric care, antenatal care, post-natal care, family planning, and sexual violence,
- Malaria and environmental health, notably through the community interventions.

The specific activities conducted by MSF are as follows:

- Direct provision of health care services
- Provision of technical advice and on-job training to MoH staff (medical, infection prevention control, pharmacy, and data management)
- Teaching of medical, nursing and pharmacy university students
- Donations of supplies
- Rehabilitation work to improve the infrastructure of some of the facilities

A team of 115 MSF staff members is currently deployed in the area (including coordination and support departments). Since the inception of this project, more than 130.000 medical consultations have been conducted.

## PURPOSE AND INTENDED USE

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**PURPOSE** is to assess the worth of the MSF intervention in Anzoátegui (since its start in late 2018) and to identify the necessary adaptations for the next years, with a special emphasis on the strategic design and the quality of care provided.

**INTENDED USE** of this evaluation is primarily aimed at informing MSF-OCB discussions (to take place at a round table/strategic meeting during the third quarter of 2023) about the project’s main orientations for the next years, including potential necessary adaptations. It may also be used by MSF

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<sup>3</sup> MSF-OCB Anzoátegui Project Document, 2022

<sup>4</sup> These facilities include: Two primary health centers in rural areas (San Diego and El Rincón) and five primary and secondary health centers in urban areas (Ali Romero, Guanire, Mesones, Naricual, and Chorrerón)

<sup>5</sup> The clinic has a capacity of 9 beds for second level.

and other actors potentially interested in reflecting on how to adequately address primary and secondary health in similar projects.

## EVALUATION QUESTIONS

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- How relevant is the project when considering the needs and demands of the population and the principles and priorities of the organization?
- How appropriate is the strategic design of the project when considering the overall objective and the context?
- How effective is the project in achieving its objectives, including quality of medical care achieved?
- How efficiently are the human, material and financial resources being used in the project?
- How does the project identify, connect, and engage with the local capacities and resources?

## EXPECTED DELIVERABLES

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### 1. Inception Report

As per SEU standards, after conducting initial document review and preliminary interviews. It will include a detailed evaluation proposal, including methodology. SEU values a thorough understanding and description of the evaluand as a result of this inception phase.

### 2. Draft Evaluation Report

As per SEU standards. It will answer to the evaluation questions and will include conclusions, lessons learned and recommendations.

### 3. Working Session

With the attendance of commissioner and consultation group members. As part of the report writing process, the evaluator will present the findings, collect attendees' feedbacks and will facilitate discussion on lessons learned.

### 4. Final Evaluation Report

After addressing feedbacks received during the working session and written inputs.

### 5. Webinar Session

Online session presenting and discussing the evaluation results, targeting MSF-OCB audience.

### 6. Other dissemination deliverables

Including summary report (English and Spanish), and dissemination material for the patients and communities (Spanish).

## TOOLS AND METHODOLOGY PROPOSED

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In addition to the initial evaluation proposal submitted as a part of the application (see requirement chapter), a detailed evaluation protocol should be prepared by the evaluators during the inception

phase. It will include a detailed explanation of proposed methods and its justification based on validated theory/ies. It will be reviewed and validated as a part of the inception phase in coordination with the SEU.

## RECOMMENDED SECONDARY SOURCES

- Routinely collected medical data (raw data from medical databases)
- Project documents (project proposals, logframes, strategies, situational reports, annual reports, project visit and end of mission reports, organigrams, project budgets, assessments reports)
- Documentation regarding the ongoing operational research initiatives in the project
- National and regional documentation and guidelines
- External literature and documentation of similar experiences

## PRACTICAL IMPLEMENTATION OF THE EVALUATION

Number of evaluators	One or several evaluators. A team can come to be suggested by the SEU of individual applicants where necessary.
Timing of the evaluation	January 2023 to May 2023

## PROFILE/REQUIREMENTS FOR EVALUATOR(S)

- **Requirements:**
  - Proven competencies in evaluation
  - Academic background in public health
  - Experience in global health programming, preferably in sexual and reproductive health
  - Experience in Venezuela or other countries from the region
  - Fluent in English and Spanish
- **Assets:**
  - Experience in primary and secondary health
  - Experience in community engagement
  - MSF experience and/or understanding

## APPLICATION PROCESS

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The application should consist of a technical proposal, a budget proposal, CV, and a previous work sample. The proposal should include a reflection on **how adherence to ethical standards for evaluations will be considered throughout the evaluation as well as specific attention to vulnerable and hard-to-reach populations**. In addition, the evaluator/s should consider and address the sensitivity of the topic at hand in the methodology as well as be reflected in the team set-up. Offers should include a separate quotation for the complete services, stated in Euros (EUR). The budget should present consultancy fee according to the number of expected working days over the entire period, both in totality and as a daily fee. Travel costs, if any, do not need to be included as the SEU will arrange and cover these. Do note that MSF does *not* pay any per diem.

Applications will be evaluated on the basis of whether the submitted proposal captures an understanding of the main deliverables as per this ToR, a methodology relevant to achieving the results foreseen, and the overall capacity of the evaluator(s) to carry out the work (i.e. inclusion of proposed evaluators' CVs, reference to previous work, certification et cetera).

Interested teams or individuals should apply to [evaluations@stockholm.msf.org](mailto:evaluations@stockholm.msf.org) referencing **ANVEN** no later than **SUNDAY 8<sup>th</sup> JANUARY 2022**, **23:59CET**. We would appreciate the necessary documents being submitted as separate attachments (proposal, budget, CV, work sample and such). Please include your contact details in your CV. Please indicate in your email application on which platform you saw this vacancy.

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