



## **MEDECINS SANS FRONTIERES/DOCTORS WITHOUT BORDERS (MSF) UK**

### **JOB DESCRIPTION**

**Job Title:** Anthropology Advisor

**Department:** Manson Unit

**Hours:** 40 hours per week

**Reports to:** Social Science Team Lead

**Location:** London

**Duration:** Fixed Term until January 2025

**Salary Grade:** 5.1

**Salary:** £51,856.84 per annum (non-London weighting £48,356.84 p/a)

### **MEDECINS SANS FRONTIERES UK**

Médecins Sans Frontières/Doctors Without Borders (MSF) provides life-saving emergency relief and longer-term medical care to some of the most vulnerable and excluded communities around the world. As an international medical humanitarian organisation, we deliver care based only on need, regardless of ethnic origin, gender, religion or political affiliation.

MSF has around 40,000 local and international staff working in over 70 countries, in some of the most challenging places in the world. Our medical humanitarian projects are supported by teams in 32 countries, including the UK, spread across Europe, North and South America, Asia, Africa and Australasia.

At MSF UK, we support MSF's operations by building relationships with our supporters, increasing awareness of our work, raising funds, providing specialist medical expertise, catalysing change on medical humanitarian issues and recruiting field staff. MSF UK personnel are dynamic, hard-working, enthusiastic and committed to MSF's values and aims.

### **THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT**

The Public Health Department (PHD) of Operational Centre Amsterdam (OCA) supports the overall purpose of MSF, providing medical and public health leadership for the organisation. The department is responsible for providing strategic direction and integrated advice on medical and public health issues to the field and headquarters. The PHD plays a key role in developing and maintaining the medical humanitarian identity and image of MSF-OCA, and in continuing to develop and improve intervention strategies so as to be relevant and effective.

The PHD is made up of health programme managers and clinical and public health specialists, mostly based in the MSF offices in Amsterdam, Berlin and London. In addition to providing medical management of MSF's field operations, the PHD gives technical and strategic guidance across a range of fields including infectious diseases, non-communicable diseases, mental health, nutrition, paediatrics, and vaccination as well as epidemiology, health promotion, laboratory, pharmaceutical quality/medical supply, and water/sanitation.

### **The Manson Unit (MU)**

The MU is a multi-disciplinary medical team within MSF UK and is the London based part of the PHD. We aim to improve the quality of MSF's medical programmes worldwide, so the best possible care is delivered to our patients.

The MU is a team of 30 comprised of medical doctors and specialists in infectious diseases, non-communicable diseases, health information systems, epidemiology, geographical information systems, medical editing and research communication. We also have a clinical trial team working towards improved treatments for patients with drug-resistant tuberculosis. We provide direct support to our field programmes through specialist advice on medical issues, implementing new ways of working, supporting research studies and outbreak response.

### **JOB PURPOSE**

Working within the social science team the Anthropology Advisor will focus on leading social science research methods to explore thematic areas prioritised such as person-centred care; community engagement; environmental health; maternal health and palliative care, among others. The role will provide mentorship to field teams and supervision for implementation of anthropological assessments and resultant findings.

### **MAIN DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

#### **Medical and Operational Engagement:**

- Critique and provide reflection analysis as member of Medical Support Teams regarding humanitarian medical operations related to social science, including community approaches.
- Support a multi and interdisciplinary approach using social science methods in MSF operations: specifically, OCA.
- Lead on improvement of collaborative dissemination of assessment or study findings with participating population, local collaborative partners, MSF operations and relevant audiences.
- Integrate anthropology in support of medical innovation and e-health strategies.

#### **Analysis and Initiative:**

- Work with field epidemiologists and field anthropologists to lead and support the development of an outreach response to epidemics including interpretation of data from a social perspective.

- Oversee documentation, analysis, and write up of findings and implementation of anthropological knowledge.
- Apply anthropological analysis to social characteristics and meanings for medical activities.
- Contribute to current OCA and MSF UK/IE strategic plans.
- Share expert social science knowledge through documentation, publication, trainings and workshops within MSF and to external academic audiences.
- Provide expertise to improve understanding of population perceptions on health including their engagement with models of care that MSF proposes to implement for example infectious disease control; outbreaks; access to health care.

#### **Planning and Organising:**

- Provide tools to support the process of the anthropological assessment or study: identification or improvement of concept; development and planning, background literature review; development of participatory approach and method design.
- Leading on a topical aspect of the OCA PHD strategic plan.
- Leading as focal point for project teamwork across the department.
- Give expert advice and technical support to colleagues in the department (Health Advisors and relevant Specialists) and to other departments (e.g. Operations) on interdisciplinary issues to enhance programme quality.
- Maintain regular communication with Social Science Team Lead on progress against annual plan activities.

#### **Resources:**

- Develop content for support tools (including online) for knowledge dissemination.
- Lead on diversification of social science pool for field projects.
- Manage the financial resources of the area of work; preparing financial forecasts for the activities; managing expenditure to obtain best value for money for MSF and in accordance with MSF's financial and procurement policies and procedures.

#### **Develop Others:**

- Be Responsible for matching of social scientists from pool for field projects and providing continuous support.
- Mentor and guide field anthropologists / social science researchers and field epidemiologists from the social science and epidemiology pool.
- Support content development and deliver anthropology modules or research methods for MSF training courses and the LEAP programme in person and online.
- Support MSF UK's educational programmes.
- Provide support to the MSF Scientific Days.

#### **Build Relationships:**

- Lead effectively using negotiation skills to strengthen relationships with key partners within MSF UK and OCA to further the social science team purpose.
- Influence existing external networks that contribute to the strategic direction of social sciences in MSF.

*This job description is not intended to be all-inclusive. Employee may perform other related duties to meet the ongoing needs of the organisation. This job description does not form part of the contract of employment.*

## **PERSON SPECIFICATION**

### **Essential:**

- Anthropology or Social Science related master's degree level or equivalent experience.
- Extensive experience of working in field operations in a humanitarian setting.
- Great interpersonal skills with willingness and ability to communicate effectively with senior operational management and international organisations.
- Demonstrable communication, listening and negotiation skills.
- Ability to work in a fast paced multidisciplinary, multilocation team.
- Excellent relevant analytical, written skills.
- Proficient in use NVivo software or equivalent.
- Previous knowledge and authorship of articles related to ethnographic work.
- Ability to meet specified deadlines.
- Proven experience of working independently under minimal supervision.
- International field experience in humanitarian settings with MSF or equivalent
- Fluency in written and spoken English: minimum C2 level.
- Previous mentoring or supervisory experience.
- Good presentation skills/ Public speaking experience.
- Strong MS Office skills including Word, Excel and O365.
- Ability and willingness to travel extensively and work overseas.
- Commitment to the aims and values of MSF.

### **Desirable:**

- Public health degree or equivalent.
- Proven experience on design and field implementation of mixed methods research or assessments. Working knowledge B1 level French or Arabic language.

**Candidates must have right to work in the UK.**

**MSF UK is an equal opportunities employer. We are committed to diversity and creating an inclusive environment for all employees. We encourage applications from all sections of our diverse community.**

## **HOW TO APPLY**

Please apply on our website by submitting a copy of your **CV** together with a **letter of motivation (please upload as one document)** by the closing date.

### **Application checklist**

Please check that you have included the following in your application:

- An up-to-date CV
- Letter of Motivation, which is a supporting statement demonstrating how you meet the key requirements of the role

**Recruitment timetable:**

- **Closing date for applications: 12 May 2022**
- **Interviews: TBC**