



Project Cargo Network
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Supporter number: 673689

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Dear Supporters,

Médecins Sans Frontières gratefully appreciate your efforts in raising £2,338 in support of our work. I heard a story a few weeks ago that I wanted to share. It made me realise the long-running impact that MSF's presence has on people's lives here in South Sudan – currently one of the most troubled countries in the world. The medical benefits of MSF's presence are so visible, so tangible, but the positive impact that MSF has on the ordinary lives of the community where I work is often left out of the limelight.

I have been in South Sudan for six months now; during that time, we have teetered from conflict to a peace deal and then back over the edge into conflict. Caught in the middle are the ordinary people who need peace to be able to continue with their lives in safety.

There is a man I know in Lankien, the village where I work. He is one of the most honest, hard-working and intelligent people I have ever come across.

He told me that he was born in South Sudan, but moved to Khartoum during the Sudanese war, where he attended school. When independence came in 2011, he felt it was safe to return. For two days, he walked south with friends, family and the cows he owned, towards his newly founded home nation. A few hours after crossing the border into South Sudan, armed robbers confronted the group. The cows were stolen, two family members and a friend were injured, and he was shot in the arm.

He was taken to a hospital in the nearest town, but after two days he realised that he and his friend's conditions were worsening. There was such a dearth of resources that there was no doctor to treat them. The bullet had still not been taken from his arm, while his friend was getting weaker by the minute.

He had heard rumours of a health facility run by MSF, four days' walk away. So he walked for four days, a bullet lodged in one arm and supporting his wounded friend with the other. By the time he arrived at the hospital he was severely dehydrated, malnourished and exhausted. He and his friend both received treatment and recovered to full health. At the time he said he'd be forever thankful to MSF. He said he wanted to be part of an organisation that did so much for people who had so little.



Francesca O'Hanlon in
Lankien, South Sudan ©MSF

A year later he returned to Lankien and applied for a position with MSF. That was five years ago. He is now a supervisor of the department – the department that he and I run together. He says he knows what MSF did to help him, and he wants to be part of a team that does the same to help others.

I feel proud to work with this man, and I feel proud to be part of this team that is doing so much to help these vulnerable people. Without your support, his story would be very different. Without your support, the South Sudanese people who want to turn the prospects of their country around would not have the opportunity to do so. Thank you for supporting MSF.

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Francesca".

Francesca,
MSF Water and Sanitation advisor