

Project Summary Sheet

Our reference: P079

Organisation: Medecins Sans Frontieres Operational Centre Amsterdam

Project location: Cox's Bazar, Bangladesh

Fieldwork required: Yes

Groundwater Relief is an organisation (Charity Number 1167458) whose aim is to support people, anywhere in the world, who live in poverty, or lack access to sufficient, safe, acceptable, physically accessible and affordable water. The support is delivered through providing remote and field based technical support to humanitarian and development organisations engaged in groundwater supply via an international membership of over 200 hydrogeologists and groundwater experts.

Background

Since the outbreak of violence in Rakhine State of Myanmar on 25 August 2017 over 600,000 Rohingya have crossed the border into Cox's Bazar, Bangladesh. New arrivals fled with very few possessions and are living in spontaneous settlements, almost wholly reliant on humanitarian assistance to meet their needs. This includes shelter, water, health and food.

The biggest of these camps is the so called 'Mega Camp' between Balukhali and Ukhia. MSF-OCA have been operating in the mega camp since the start of the crisis. Over the last four months two Groundwater Relief volunteers have supported MSF-OCA's drilling programme. The water and sanitation (WatSan) programme for 2018 includes the drilling of 200 tubewells to be fitted with handpumps and some deeper production boreholes to supply water networks in certain areas of the camp.

MSF-OCA WatSan team is seeking to engage a hydrogeologist to support the on-going groundwater activities and follow on from the work carried out by the previous Groundwater Relief volunteers.

The map below showing the general area and camps where MSF-OCA is working:

Scope of Work

This assignment will be (90%) field-based consultancy to support MSF-OCA's contracted well drilling activities.

The mission aim is to assist MSF-OCA with on-going water provision efforts through:

- 1) Monitoring of well construction and pumping tests;
- 2) Improving collection and interpretation of hydrogeological and water quality data;
- 3) Coaching of MSF staff in improved well construction practices and logging standards, and water quality sampling and analysis.

The candidate will act as focal point with other actor/agencies hydrogeologists.

MSF-OCA has planned to drill tube wells equipped with hand pumps and production boreholes for pressurized distribution. Management and supervision of these drilling contracts will remain the responsibility of MSF-OCA. The Groundwater Relief consultant will provide on-site monitoring and technical support to drilling operations.

Output

Work to be undertaken might include (but is not limited to) the following:

1. Supervising and providing technical support for the drilling operations. Providing well design recommendations (placement and installation of casing, screen, gravel pack, and sanitary seals). Advise on pump selection and placement based on pumping tests results.
2. Writing up and analysing data collected and producing well completion reports.
3. Collecting, compiling, mapping and reviewing existing information on groundwater infrastructure including drilling logs, pumping tests and water quality data.
4. Producing a final report incorporating work done and recommendations

Skills Required

We are seeking a highly motivated junior hydrogeologist with a minimum 2 years field experience and an MSc in hydrogeology.

They hydrogeologist will need to be adaptable, practical and creative; have good communication skills; be able to problem solve in the field; be able to work and live in basic to difficult conditions.

Time Scales

We are seeking someone who is able to start in the field ASAP and who is willing to commit between 2 – 3 months of time.

Limitations

Working in a difficult environment with local contractors who have a low technical capacity. Availability to be deployed immediately to the field.

Payment

This is a voluntary assignment. All travel, insurance and living costs will be covered by either MSF-OCA or Groundwater Relief and a generous daily stipend will also be provided.

How to apply

Please email an expression of interest and your CV to help@groundwater-relief.org. This post will be filled as soon as a suitable candidate is found.