International Geneva
Directory of Swiss Global Health Actors

Medair

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BACKGROUND AND MISSION
Founded in 1989, Medair is an NGO that provides emergency relief and rehabilitation in disasters, crises and conflict areas by working alongside the most vulnerable. Its emergency relief and recovery services expertise is in healthcare and nutrition, water and sanitation, and shelter and infrastructure. Medair's mission is to respond to human suffering in emergency and disaster situations by implementing multisectoral relief and rehabilitation projects. Although inspired by Christian faith and values, the organisation serves those in need regardless of race, gender, religion or ethnicity. Medair is a signatory to the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement's code of conduct.

AREAS OF INTEREST
- Emergency response, humanitarian assistance
- Health and nutrition
- Water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH)
- Shelter and infrastructure

HEALTH-RELATED ACTIVITIES
Medair’s work on health, nutrition, water, hygiene and sanitation issues deliver benefits for families and communities in the event of crisis and disaster, as well as long term in the aftermath. As a humanitarian organisation Medair responds to conflicts and disasters rapidly and thus prevents the spread of diseases in unstable conditions. The organisation supports health-clinics year-around, provides preventative care, in particular vaccinations, and trains local health workers. In terms of water and sanitation Medair in particular invests in constructing latrines and wells, always based on local needs assessment. It also provides education and training on safe sanitation practices and treatment, collection and preservation of safe drinking water to communities and families.

GOVERNANCE AND STAFF
The CEO of Medair is David Verboom. Medair employs over 130 people in its headquarters, and over 1,300 nationally and internationally recruited staff in its field locations. The organisation is headquartered in Ecublens, Switzerland, and has regional offices in France, Germany, Netherlands, United Kingdom and United States. The Executive Leadership team is overseen by a 11-member International Board of Trustees, chaired by Klaas van Mill.
FUNDING SOURCES AND BUDGET
Medair is financed by donations from UN agencies, governments and intergovernmental agencies, NGOs, corporate foundations, gifts-in-kind and private foundations. Operating income in 2017 was USD 72.5 million.

PUBLICATIONS
See annual reports at: ch.medair.org/en/our-accountability/
See other publications and campaigns at: ch.medair.org/en/stories/

Last update: 19.07.2019