



*Last Updated: January 2024*

## **Job Title**

# **Climate Adaptation Specialist for Infectious Diseases, Humanitarian Action on Climate and Environment (HACE)**

## **Impact Statement**

HACE/MSF-Canada recognizes the escalating humanitarian needs driven by climate change and environmental degradation. As a result, HACE/MSF Canada is committed to a leadership and support role, guiding the organization in adjusting its methods and practices. This adaptation is in response to the shifting dynamics of the climate and the emerging health challenges it presents.

The HACE Climate Adaptation Specialist for Infectious Diseases (CAS-ID) reports directly to the HACE Lead and is responsible for co-developing, supporting, and managing, depending on needs, MSF's climate adaptation programs which have an infectious disease component. The CAS-ID role includes helping MSF integrate and scale adaptation to climate change with the end objective to mitigate or prevent climate-driven outbreaks, the resurgences or worsening status of infectious disease incidence and prevalence. The CAS-ID work is intended to facilitate evidence-based action, inform operational choices and advocate on climate change/environmental degradation and their health and humanitarian consequences to catalyze and speed the adaptation of operations and safeguarding MSF beneficiaries and staff.

## **Key Areas of Responsibility**

- Co-develop, support and scale MSF's climate adaptation through analysis of relevant infectious diseases and climate information (information synthesis, time series analysis spatial analysis, etc.) product creation (briefing notes, scoping reviews, seasonal calendars, disease outlooks, maps, etc.) for both internal and external communication
- Support response to ad-hoc requests from MSF employees re early warning, seasonal climate preparedness for infectious diseases, climate change adaptation, and awareness raising/advocacy that are strategically aligned in MSFC and HACE
- Help in building climate adaptation capacity at regional and national levels
- Analyse and synthesize information, write on climate and environmental factors impacting MSF beneficiaries' health (today and future) as well as country and regional specific analysis

## **Job responsibilities**

### **Communications and Advocacy**

- Promote HACE products, services, and tools.
- Advocate for the integration of climate adaptation and anticipatory initiatives into the MSF movement.

- Leverage and contribute to resources across MSF for applying the climate change lens to operational adaptation and anticipatory action.
- Develop advocacy strategies for internal and external audiences regarding climate, environment, and infectious diseases.
- Write scientific articles/abstracts for MSF Scientific Days, the Lancet Countdown, and other relevant platforms.
- Ensure tools, materials, messages, and activities are needs-based, evidence-based, action-focused, community-centered, and inclusive.
- Foster ongoing awareness and proactivity in decolonizing humanitarian and climate action, engaging MSF colleagues, communities, Indigenous knowledge, and youth in climate hotspots and those most impacted by climate change in research, witnessing, and storytelling.
- Communicate climate and environmental knowledge through collaborations with communications on témoignage/storytelling, assisting Human Resources (HR) and Fundraising (FR) with basic materials for onboarding and key messaging.
- Participate in strategic webinars, workshops, and other MSF discussions to contribute to capacity building, knowledge exchange, and public and external narrative building.
- Contribute relevant adaptation content to the MSF Climate Hub platform.

### Technical support

- Offer technical comments, support, and feedback on climate and infectious diseases questions to MSF teams as needed.
- Propose and spearhead HACE initiatives that enhance climate adaptation efforts tailored for infectious diseases with an evidence-based and action-driven focus.
- Assist MSF teams in constructing sustainable frameworks to integrate climate adaptation action seamlessly into current approaches and other priorities.
- Identify and establish connections with relevant national and international actors working at the intersection between climate and infectious diseases.

### Strategic Planning

- Communicate and collaborate with HACE team members, MSF colleagues, and related initiatives for complementarity of work.
- Share knowledge, tools, and resources on climate crisis-related adaptation issues within MSF and external networks.
- Engage and collaborate with external partners, including academia and other NGOs
- Support responsible and environmentally sustainable action based on field experiences, data, and scientific evidence, emphasizing the health impacts on marginalized populations.
- Contribute to the development and dissemination of climate adaptation tools/products, building on comparative analysis and harmonizing methods.
- Coordinate and develop resources, training, and guidance as needed to enhance organizational climate adaptation action capacity with respect to infectious diseases.

### Risk management

- Support in mitigating legal, financial, reputational, and duty of care risks to MSF related to climate change and environmental degradation impact on health.

### Transversal Core Competencies

- **A Commitment to MSF's Principles;** Proficiency Level 1: Acts towards the fulfilment of MSF's Social Mission
- **Cross-cultural Awareness;** Proficiency Level 3: Demonstrates an integrating attitude
- **Strategic Vision;** Proficiency Level 3: Plans actions geared towards achieving objectives
- **Analytical Thinking;** Proficiency Level 3: Identifies complex relationships

- **Teamwork and Cooperation;** Proficiency Level 3 : Encourages, engages and motivates people to work as a team
- **Initiative and Innovation;** Proficiency Level 3: Looks ahead and creates opportunities for improvement within the MSF Framework

### Knowledge and Experience

- Strong background in infectious diseases epidemiology and climate sciences, climate adaptation and humanitarian and development sector
- Demonstrable experience in climate-related research, including data analysis, data visualization, communication, information synthesis, and copywriting.
- Demonstrable familiarity with unique challenges in humanitarian settings related to infectious diseases and climate change.
- Demonstrable knowledge and experience in at least three of the following areas: climate adaptation, environment/climate change impacts, public health programming, emergency preparedness and response, and humanitarian anticipatory action.
- Demonstrable experience engaging with multiple stakeholders and partnerships, complex coordination, diplomacy, and working transversally and cross-sectorally on interdisciplinary issues.
- Familiarity with contemporary approaches and frameworks to climate action, such as Planetary Health, climate change adaptation/anticipation, seasonal preparedness, early warning, resilience-building, mitigation, environmental sustainability, and mainstreaming climate and environmental lenses into humanitarian action.
- Background in spatial analysis and Geographic Information System (GIS) applications for epidemiological research and health applications.
- Excellent interpersonal, verbal and written communication skills.
- Proficient in navigating virtual work environments with remote colleagues heavily dependent on email communication.
- Proven track record of collaboration, facilitation, problem solving, and partnership management.
- Proficient in statistics with the capability to analyze data effectively.
- Track record of designing and conducting training sessions.
- Demonstrated advanced level of proficiency in Microsoft Suite products
- Moderate proficiency in at least one programming language, such as R or Python
- Demonstrable skills in translating evidence into actionable operational strategies, preferably in the context of humanitarian aid
- Strong project management skills with the ability to design and execute operational plans to address infectious disease challenges in changing climates.
- Excellent communication and interpersonal skills to effectively convey the importance of addressing infectious diseases in the context of climate change to diverse audiences.
- Excellent community engagement skills, with proven success in engaging and mobilizing communities in the context of infectious diseases and climate change.

### Education, Certification and Languages

- Bachelor's or Master's degree in Epidemiology, Public Health, Medicine, Climate Science or related field, or equivalent working experience. Candidates with degrees with an infectious disease component will be favored.
- Fluency in written and spoken English is essential

### Working Conditions

- Work is generally carried out during the day, Monday to Friday (9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.)
- Flexible work hours and hybrid work model available based on policies of the local MSF section
- Work requires long hours in front of a computer/laptop screen

**Travel Requirements** (according to MSFC's updated Travel Guidance and with rationale for going and carbon reduction commitments and reporting):

- 5-10% to project countries
- 5 % to other MSF offices/events

## Job Information

**Position Level:** Individual Contributor

**Department:** Humanitarian Action on Climate and Environment (HACE) Program

**Position Status:** Temporary, March 2024 to December 2025

**Activity Rate:** 100%, 37.5 hours per week

**Location:** Any country in proximity to an MSF office/operation. To ensure ease of collaborative work with the HACE team, location between UTC -7 (Pacific Time) and UTC +1 (Central European Time) will be favoured.

**Status:** The successful candidate will be offered a contract from one of global MSF offices depending on their resident status. The person must be legally authorized to work in that country. MSF is not in the position to support with any work permit process.

**Salary & Benefits:** A local salary and compensation package based on experience and internal salary grid is offered for this role and will be discussed during the selection phase.

## Additional Information

MSF Canada is a people-focused humanitarian organization that is proud to offer a diverse, collaborative, and inclusive work environment. We strongly believe this approach enhances our work and we're committed to equity in employment. The organization seeks to attract and engage the best professionals to join and maintain meaningful, productive, and lasting work relationships. We embrace diverse motivations and backgrounds of people working together to exhibit their passion in action for the social mission of MSF.

MSF Canada acknowledges the existence of systemic racism and oppression and is committed to sustaining and strengthening its anti-racism and anti-oppression (AOAR) efforts. As MSF Canada continues to grow and strive to remove barriers in its offices in Canada and in MSF work environments abroad, we welcome applications from individuals with unique experiences of intersectional oppression on the basis of their social markers such as their ethno-racial identity, age, gender identity, education, socio-economic status or place of origin. We encourage Black, Indigenous, People of Colour, LGBTQIA2S+ people, individuals living with disabilities and any individual experiencing vulnerable circumstances to apply.

In line with MSF's December 2021 pledge to reduce our carbon emissions by 50% by 2030, compared to our 2019 baseline, we encourage everyone to embrace and embed sustainable and climate-friendly practices. Applying a climate and planetary health lens will help us improve our operational impact. Facing climate change and environmental degradation through our operational activities by focusing on mitigation and adaptation will decrease our dependency on fossil fuels, reduce our ecological footprint and help protect human health. Everyone, at all levels, with all skill sets is needed to address the global threat of climate change.