

OCB MEDICAL INFRASTRUCTURE CATALOGUE

A USER-FRIENDLY, INTERACTIVE TOOL FOR CATALOGUING AND SEARCHING



BACKGROUND AND AIM

MSF staff faces several challenges in the field due to the use of infrastructure solutions often maladapted to the ongoing medical activities. This is related to the fact that suppliers are often not aware of the contextual characteristics of MSF's work, but also to the fact that the selection and evaluation processes of MSF are currently performed ad-hoc, being highly dependent on the individual choices of the person responsible. The logistic department of MSF OCB and MSF Sweden innovation unit are collaborating to define ways to tackle this problem. This project aims to improve the way medical infrastructure is organized, evaluated and selected by MSF. We are designing an easy-to-use catalogue with clear links to needs and practice in the field. Such a catalogue will enable MSF to identify gaps and needs and proactively search for solutions rather than being dependent on the approach of commercial partners. In addition, this project should help enable a more effective communication between MSF and its suppliers by establishing a mutual understanding of needs and capabilities.

VISION

The catalogue concept being developed belongs to a larger vision of field support, built up of different steps:

OOPS library[†]: The catalogue should start as an open access repository of information, updatable by construction specialists, which provides an easy-to-search compilation of what OCB has already validated and what is in use. Further, it provides access to standard templates and criteria to enable more coherent and comparable evaluations.

Integration with field support tool: It is important that the catalogue being developed matches the needs of not only MSF OCB specialists at headquarters but also of other operational sections and the field. We are looking into the preferred tools used by MSF staff and to the platforms of field support currently being developed in order to align our efforts and ensure future compatibility.

Go intersectional: The catalogue will embed evaluation documents (e.g. word, ppt, videos) from different OCs and promote their reuse in presentations or other documents, allowing field staff to avoid double work and use lessons learned through a user-friendly interface and search-filter function.

Grow the family: The same platform will be extended to other technical families, tapping on work that had been done by different people at HQ and MSF Supply.

Learn and plan is a future vision in which the field is supported with interactive and real-time planning by means of simulations with different contextual and operational parameters.

Notes for simulation and test of visual mock-up

The visual mock-up will include overview, registration and validation functions for a few products. It will not include yet a link to MSF supply codes. The aim of this mock-up is to demonstrate and pilot the concept at a small scale, to collect feedback from the main users about content (i.e. field log/logco, construction referend, quality insurance referend, MSF supply, suppliers). The feedback received will then be used as input for further discussions with MSF Supply, Log and ICT departments at MSF OCB.

Impressions and considerations for further developments

We suggest that piloting a simple tool, fast to deploy, being informed about current and future systems and interoperability that allows direct experimentation based on feedback is better. As soon as pilots are carried out, further steps in development can be made. This ensures that we keep the tool close to the needs of MSF staff while progressing without great investments that might be lost in time.

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