
MSF Science Portal Roadmap

MSF Scientific Days International 2022

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What is the Science Portal?



THE IDEA

To replace the MSF Field Research website with an engaging 'one-stop-shop' for *all* MSF's public med/research outputs



THE GOAL

To make MSF research knowledge more visible & easily consumed → → to help expand MSF's medical voice & impact

Objectives for a new MSF research content platform



Provide an easy-to-use tool that can expand and democratize access to MSF research & knowledge →

- Strengthen evidence base for context analysis, program design, decision-making at field/regional level for MSF, partners and other external actors
 - Help inform medical advocacy, policy, communications
 - Help communicate MSF's role in driving evidence-based practice & policy and filling evidence gaps that impede patient care
 - Help expand the reach and impact of MSF's evidence, perspective and voice
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Some use cases for the Science Portal (from user survey)



**A comprehensive
MSF research
hub would
help me...**



GATHER

medical background &
describe MSF activities
for advocacy work



SEARCH

for solutions
relevant to context I
work in, support or
follow



PLAN

my program or
research—understand
context & similar MSF
activities



LEARN

about other medical
projects, research,
actors in my country/
region



GATHER

background material
for events, promotions,
social media



SHARE

information with relevant
external/internal networks
inc. association members



LEARN

about new MSF topics;
stay up to date

Core requirements for platform version 1



Make a wide range of MSF public research content discoverable and accessible through a single search interface

Provide good user experience in low-bandwidth settings (incl. tablet, mobile)

Create home page that can be easily, frequently updated with new and featured content

Develop via intersectional collaboration and under Medical Director auspices, with oversight by an intersectional Steering Committee*

→ Build ‘proof of concept’ platform that meets these requirements

Steering Committee:

Bern Nyang’wa (chair; OCA DirMed); Catherine Overloop (OCB DirMed); Greg Elder (Access Campaign Medical Coordinator); Chibuzo Okonta (President, WaCA); Céline Giustranti (Epicentre DirCom); Avril Benoit (Executive Director, MSF-USA)

MSF Science Portal content



Scientific papers — Peer-reviewed articles with one or more MSF-affiliated co-authors

MSF Scientific Days conference materials — Videos (talks, demos, panels); slide presentations, posters, abstracts, meeting reports

Protocols — MSF research study protocols; standardized survey protocols

Toolkits and other MSF study/project-related resources for sharing publicly

Research support resources — MSF Ethics Review info; research guidance

Research-related MSF policies — e.g., open access publication

Research study info — via link to ReMIT repository (planned; not yet scheduled)

Selected technical reports — coming in 2022

Project milestones (2018 - 2022)



Established US project team (Spring 2018)

Conducted user research and analyzed results (Summer/Autumn 2018)

Online survey >200 respondents (MSF HQ, field; external) + 20 qualitative interviews

Collaborated with Google → 4-day workshop → project vision, roadmap & prototype (June 2019)

Participants: 11 MSF (global) + 7 Google designers, user experience experts, engineers

Established high-level MSF intersectional Steering Committee; project proposal approved by Steering Committee (March 2020) and endorsed by DirMed platform (April 2020)

Completed user research, technical requirements → Steering Committee approved final project scope, timeline, budget and selected vendor (Nov 2020)

Built platform and migrated data from MSF Field Research Database (Q1-Q3 2021)

The Portal in 2022



Fulfill ambitions for current version

- Expand user base, especially in countries where MSF works → make access to MSF medical knowledge more inclusive
- Expand range of content
- Build on editorial vision for news-y content collections and featured articles that highlight MSF research across topics and countries

Develop new model of ownership: work towards new partnerships, funding & governance by 2024, and ideally towards a next-generation version of the Portal



Thank you!

We'd love to hear your feedback and keep in touch

Email us at MSFSciencePortal@newyork.msf.org

Follow us on Twitter—we're merged with [@MSFSci](https://twitter.com/MSFSci)
