

A glimmer of hope in Afghanistan as MSF opens clinic two years after hospital bombing



Nearly two years after a series of US airstrikes destroyed their hospital in Kandahar, Medicines Sans Frontiers (MSF) has reopened a small clinic to treat acute trauma injuries and ailments. While it comes as welcome news for Kandahar's overwhelmed medical authorities, it is nothing close to the capacity that MSF once offered in the region.

The US still maintains troops in the October 2013 bombing of MSF's Kandahar facility destroyed "human care" and communication facilities were the cause for the attack.

Some 42 people were killed in the strikes, including 14 members of MSF's medical staff. Human rights groups at the time, including the United Nations Human Rights Office and MSF, called the bombing of the hospital a "war crime".

In the days following the attack, Christopher Stokes, MSF's general director, said the statements coming from both Afghan and US authorities implied the hospital had been fully functioning before.

Shah Djalilzayem, head of programs for MSF in Afghanistan, said Reuters that the opening of this clinic is the first step toward providing more medical assistance in Kandahar.

MSF had more than 100 members with US military and government officials. Djalilzayem said, and was in talks with all sides of the ongoing conflict in Afghanistan to reach an agreement that another attack on their facility would not occur.

In phone interviews with three correspondents at Kabul, MSF said the New Ash that the new clinic in Kandahar has far less capacity than its previous facility. It will not admit patients overnight, nor will staff their night injuries.

MSF was hopeful, however, about opening a new trauma center in Kandahar early in next year. Although MSF has received some assurances from the US military that the facilities will not be targeted in the future, this has not stopped the US military from either bombing air raids or simply occupying Afghan hospitals with tanks and drone strikes - with two such incidents occurring in the past two weeks alone.

On 21 July, US warplanes mistakenly attacked Afghan security forces in Helmand in a "friendly fire" incident. The air raid killed at least 16

Nigerian company to develop e-wallet solution for Afghan government

An indigenous technology firm, Cellular, has been named by the Ministry of Agriculture Irrigation and Livestock, in Afghanistan, to commence the process of establishing a mobile-based open distribution technology for a range of benefits to Afghan, the development is testimony of Nigeria's innovation and country is providing IT solutions not only for the Nigerian market but also for export.

The technology had enabled Nigeria to increase its food production by an average of 23 million metric tonnes annually between 2012 and 2015. Cellular had previously exposed the technology to other African countries in Francophone and Anglophone Africa, with a focus on Uganda, and a host of others.

Speaking on the partnership with the Afghan Government, the Co-Founder, Cellular Corporation, Bodeji Akintola, said technology originating from Nigeria, "is a gift from Cellular to humanity".

"Afghanistan is beautiful to us and we are glad to come all the way from Africa, Nigeria to make life better for the mobile farmers in Afghanistan," he stated. According to him, the Agri-

technology gives smallholder farmers access to agricultural inputs of improved varieties, fertilizers and agro-chemicals, enabling a the backbone of increased productivity and profitability.

"This technology allows the best available seeds and fertilizers to get into the hands of hundreds of thousands of smallholder farmers to raise crop yields," he said. Akintola appreciated the government and the people of Afghanistan for giving the company the opportunity, and the speed to purchase in making life better for smallholder farmers.

He said, "Cellular is driven to solve difficult problems on our part of persons technology, we will work with the government of Afghanistan to get input to one million farmers in the next 90 to 120 days.

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Invitation for Tenders

Name of Country: Islamic Republic of Afghanistan
Name of Project: Essential Package for Hospital Services (EPHS) Invitation Title: Invitation for Provision of Medical Supplies

Number: AF/27/AMO - 2017- 501, 502, 503, 504, 505, 506, 507, 508, 509, 510, 511, 512, 513, 514, 515, 516, 517, 518, 519, 520, 521, 522, 523, 524, 525, 526, 527, 528, 529, 530, 531, 532, 533, 534, 535, 536, 537, 538, 539, 540, 541, 542, 543, 544, 545, 546, 547, 548, 549, 550, 551, 552, 553, 554, 555, 556, 557, 558, 559, 560, 561, 562, 563, 564, 565, 566, 567, 568, 569, 570, 571, 572, 573, 574, 575, 576, 577, 578, 579, 580, 581, 582, 583, 584, 585, 586, 587, 588, 589, 590, 591, 592, 593, 594, 595, 596, 597, 598, 599, 600, 601, 602, 603, 604, 605, 606, 607, 608, 609, 610, 611, 612, 613, 614, 615, 616, 617, 618, 619, 620, 621, 622, 623, 624, 625, 626, 627, 628, 629, 630, 631, 632, 633, 634, 635, 636, 637, 638, 639, 640, 641, 642, 643, 644, 645, 646, 647, 648, 649, 650, 651, 652, 653, 654, 655, 656, 657, 658, 659, 660, 661, 662, 663, 664, 665, 666, 667, 668, 669, 670, 671, 672, 673, 674, 675, 676, 677, 678, 679, 680, 681, 682, 683, 684, 685, 686, 687, 688, 689, 690, 691, 692, 693, 694, 695, 696, 697, 698, 699, 700, 701, 702, 703, 704, 705, 706, 707, 708, 709, 710, 711, 712, 713, 714, 715, 716, 717, 718, 719, 720, 721, 722, 723, 724, 725, 726, 727, 728, 729, 730, 731, 732, 733, 734, 735, 736, 737, 738, 739, 740, 741, 742, 743, 744, 745, 746, 747, 748, 749, 750, 751, 752, 753, 754, 755, 756, 757, 758, 759, 760, 761, 762, 763, 764, 765, 766, 767, 768, 769, 770, 771, 772, 773, 774, 775, 776, 777, 778, 779, 780, 781, 782, 783, 784, 785, 786, 787, 788, 789, 790, 791, 792, 793, 794, 795, 796, 797, 798, 799, 800, 801, 802, 803, 804, 805, 806, 807, 808, 809, 810, 811, 812, 813, 814, 815, 816, 817, 818, 819, 820, 821, 822, 823, 824, 825, 826, 827, 828, 829, 830, 831, 832, 833, 834, 835, 836, 837, 838, 839, 840, 841, 842, 843, 844, 845, 846, 847, 848, 849, 850, 851, 852, 853, 854, 855, 856, 857, 858, 859, 860, 861, 862, 863, 864, 865, 866, 867, 868, 869, 870, 871, 872, 873, 874, 875, 876, 877, 878, 879, 880, 881, 882, 883, 884, 885, 886, 887, 888, 889, 890, 891, 892, 893, 894, 895, 896, 897, 898, 899, 900, 901, 902, 903, 904, 905, 906, 907, 908, 909, 910, 911, 912, 913, 914, 915, 916, 917, 918, 919, 920, 921, 922, 923, 924, 925, 926, 927, 928, 929, 930, 931, 932, 933, 934, 935, 936, 937, 938, 939, 940, 941, 942, 943, 944, 945, 946, 947, 948, 949, 950, 951, 952, 953, 954, 955, 956, 957, 958, 959, 960, 961, 962, 963, 964, 965, 966, 967, 968, 969, 970, 971, 972, 973, 974, 975, 976, 977, 978, 979, 980, 981, 982, 983, 984, 985, 986, 987, 988, 989, 990, 991, 992, 993, 994, 995, 996, 997, 998, 999, 1000.

1. The Invitation for Tenders follows the Procurement Notice for this Project that appeared in the website, news papers, and other media outlets for the purpose of providing information to potential bidders for the provision of medical supplies as per technical specifications and standards set forth in the tender documents.

2. Tendering will be conducted through the procedures specified in the Special and General Instructions to bidders mentioned in the Tender Documents.

3. Bidders are invited to submit their bids to the address below at or before 12:00 PM (local time) on Monday, August 13, 2017. Electronic tenders will not be permitted. Late tenders will be rejected. Tenders will be opened in the presence of the bidders' representatives who choose to attend a pre-opening on the day of the bid.

4. A complete set of Tender Documents in English may be requested by interested bidders on the submission of a fee (refundable) to the address below at or before 12:00 PM (local time) on Monday, August 13, 2017. The Tender Documents are only available in electronic version.

5. Qualification requirements include: to be eligible to bid, a firm should be registered with AUSA, Ministry of Commerce, supply performance from the AUSA & having past experience in the medical supplies.

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