# EMERGENCY DESK NEWSLETTER WHO IS WHO AND WHO DOES WHAT?

At the beginning of March, Léa Gibert was promoted to Emergency Operations Manager. Congratulations! Reporting directly to Joël Weiler, she is responsible for the operational management of the Emergency Desk.

We are also saying **GOODBYE** to **Fahmy Ahmed**, logistics intern, **Rafik Bedoui**, medical advisor, **Etienne Fosse**, flying administrative officer, who are embarking on new adventures!

## **CAR**

### Feedback on a field visit

By Aurélie Leroyer, Desk Officer



With the improvement of the security situation in CAR, handing over monitoring of Emergency Desk projects to the African area department is planned for 2016. The response phase for the acute crisis having passed, incorporating the CAR project into MdM's strategic plan involves strengthening the SRH/GBV component. The medical treatment of GBV survivors will therefore be extended to all six health facilities supported by MdM. The development of a mental health and psychosocial support component, which will be added to the medical and legal components, will provide multi-sector treatment.

Plenty of challenges for the super CAR team to rise to!

We also visited an exhibition in homage to Camille Lepage, the freelance journalist killed while she was covering the clashes between ex-Seleka and anti-Balaka fighters in May 2014. Here is a photo of one of her photos.



SYRIAN CRISIS

YEMEN CRISIS

IRAQ

CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

UKRAINE



### Account by Hairan Bajo Khalifa, recorded by Ahlem Cheffi, Mental Health Coordinator

A poignant account from this young 26-year old Iraqi woman who had to flee with her family when Daesh arrived, leaving everything behind and taking to the road as a displaced person. Upon her arrival at a temporary centre, Hairan improvised psychological support workshops. A few months later, not without sacrifice but with a great deal of joy and pride, she joined the MdM team.

"After two months, my cousin Ezzat contacted me to tell me that a French organisation called MdM wanted to launch a psychosocial project, that he had spoken to them about me and that a doctor from the organisation named Doctor Emmanuel wanted me to go for an interview. After a few days, they called me and invited me to sign my first employment contract with MdM. I will never forget that day.

To begin with, we worked through mobile clinics in six villages with a medical team promoting health and hygiene, led by my cousin Ezzat, and with me as psychologist. We provided care and support to displaced people. Most beneficiaries of our activities were suffering from post-traumatic stress, depression and anxiety. The children were developing more and more problems with incontinence and aggression, reconstructing everything they had witnessed through play and drawing.

After almost three months, MdM opened a primary care centre in the Chamisku displaced persons camp. I therefore moved with my entire family from Batoufa to Chamisku to live and work there. The camp was large, hosting 27,000 people. The work was very interesting, despite the harrowing nature of the accounts and the daily challenges, but I was passionate about what I was doing and I continue to be so.

This MdM adventure has lasted nearly 18 months and every day is for me an ode to life, to freedom. Thanks to my work I have achieved financial independence and my family could live in the camp with dignity. I have also achieved personal and professional recognition, allowing me to feel fulfilled every day."

Read the full article in <u>la Boussole</u>

### **Our ACTION**

Médecins du Monde is working in the camps of the Dohuk region, in Iraqi Kurdistan. In the Dawodia and Chamisku camps, medical teams offer primary and sexual and reproductive healthcare, paediatric care, psychosocial support, nutritional screening and health education sessions to displaced and extremely vulnerable populations.

Further south, in Kirkuk Governorate, Médecins du Monde set up three mobile clinics in 2015 to respond to the massive influx of newly displaced people and to meet the needs of host populations. Primary healthcare (including sexual and reproductive healthcare) and psychosocial support are offered to them.



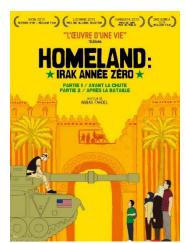
Text and photos by Ahlem Cheffi

### FILM OF THE MONTH

### Homeland: Iraq Year Zero (Part 1 and 2)

This 5 hour 30 minute-long saga (divided into two parts) plunges us into the daily life of a family - the director's - in Iraq, before and during the American intervention of 2003. Understand and experience how parents, teenagers and children prepare for the war, then once it takes place, how they live through the fall of Saddam Hussein and the presence of Americans in their country. A major work that provides keys to understanding the Iraq of yesterday and today.

One to watch.. more than once.



# **BUT WHERE ARE THEY?**

Chloé Roger, Medical Coordinator, has returned from Calais and will take up the Medical Advisor post at Head Office from the beginning of May - Myriam

Pomarel, Medical Coordinator, Jacky Perrudin, Logistics Coordinator and Mélanie Rondeau, Administrative Coordinator, have returned from Yemen - Pascal Simon, Logistics Coordinator, is returning from an exploratory mission to Greece - Marius Musca, is at Head Office as Iraq and Yemen Desk Officer to cover maternity leave - Charlotte Goetschy, Pharma Coordinator, has returned from Yemen - Gurpreet Singh, Logistics Coordinator, is in Yemen - Marie Burton, Medical Coordinator, has returned from Iraq - Mimi Richard, nurse, has returned from CAR - Alessio Zampetti, Logistics Coordinator, has returned from Iraq - Marine Goby, Field Coordinator, is in Ukraine

SAVE THE DATE 9 May for the next Interdepartmental / Emergency Desk meeting, where we will talk to you about CAR and Turkey/Syria