Prof. Nebiyu Lera Alaro

Public Health Specialist | Humanitarian Health Programme Leadership | Research, Quality & Capacity Building

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PROFESSIONAL PROFILE

Public-health and humanitarian health professional with more than 17 years of progressive experience across public, private and international NGO settings. Experience spans programme leadership and management, health-service management, clinical services (HIV, STI, reproductive health and family planning, TB and nutrition), referral and linkage, commodity supply chains and health-systems strengthening, with a record of planning, leading and managing programmes in several countries.

Known for building solutions-driven, cross-cultural teams; defining technical programme strategy and measurable benchmarks; and working with internal and external stakeholders to turn needs into practical action. Experience includes MSF, UNICEF, WHO, Rescue Life of Children (RLC), THESO, Doctors with Africa CUAMM and COSV.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Professor of Public Health
From November 2026

University of Central Nicaragua (UCN) / Texila American University

Academic appointment in public health, held alongside field and programme leadership.

Project Medical Coordinator
March 2026 – present

MSF WaCA · Kano, Nigeria

- Works with the Project Coordinator, the Medical Coordinator and Ministry of Health partners to define, implement and monitor medical activities in line with MSF project plans, standards and protocols.
- Takes part in exploratory missions and situation assessments, and contributes to the project policy, annual plan, budget review, proposals and donor reports; keeps regular contact with the Ministry of Health and other local medical actors.
- Leads medical data collection, analysis and reporting to the capital-level Medical Coordination for programme monitoring.

Project Medical Coordinator (SRH)
August 2025 – January 2026

MSF OCB · Abuja, Nigeria

- Led a health-needs assessment in Southeast Nigeria (Anambra State) to identify health and humanitarian gaps, set operational priorities and propose a medical strategy aligned with the MSF OCB strategic vision.
- Produced and validated a detailed assessment report (findings, needs and gap analysis) and a concept note with an implementation plan for the proposed medical package.
- Worked through a functional working group with the Country Medical Coordinator, the medical department and designated referents, so that data collection, analysis and validation were complete before the ARO 2026 presentation.

Technical Medical Advisor (TMA)
June 2025 – July 2025

Rescue Life of Children (RLC) · Juba, South Sudan

- Provided clinical, technical and strategic guidance for the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of health programmes, ensuring quality of care, adherence to medical protocols and evidence-based decisions.
- Developed and updated clinical guidelines and SOPs based on WHO, Ministry of Health and organisational standards.
- Supported outbreak preparedness and response (surveillance, case management, infection prevention and control) and gave rapid technical support during outbreaks and humanitarian crises, including triage, referral pathways and mass-casualty planning.

Project Medical Referent (HIV/TB, NCD, ICCM)
May 2025 – June 2025

MSF OCG · Twic, South Sudan

- Provided day-to-day follow-up, oversight and supervision of medical activities at all sites: ICCM, Gomgoi health post, and Mayen Abun hospital (HIV/TB, paediatric and adult care).
- Focused on quality of care at the hospital, ICCMs and health post supported by MSF under the two-year COPRO.
- Assessed priorities in the medical departments and followed up improvements, while keeping the emergency and contingency plan for 2025 current with other departments.

Project Medical Referent / E-MEDCO (Nutrition & Paediatrics)
February 2024 – April 2025

Médecins Sans Frontières OCP · Katsina, Nigeria

- Defined, monitored and updated the medical content of the MSF country policy, strategy, annual plan and budget, translating identified health needs into medical objectives, priorities and resources.
- Held overall responsibility for the appropriateness and quality of medical interventions, patient safety and patient-centred care across projects.
- Monitored medical and humanitarian needs through exploratory missions, health information systems and proposal review, and supervised technical and material aspects through regular field visits.

Project Medical Referent, E-pool (Paediatrics, Nutrition)
February 2023 – December 2023

Médecins Sans Frontières OCB · Afar, Ethiopia

- Defined, implemented and monitored medical activities with the Medical Coordinator and Ministry of Health partners, in line with MSF plans, standards and protocols.
- Took part in exploratory missions, assessments, the project policy, annual plan, budget review and donor reporting, and kept regular contact with the Ministry of Health and local actors.
- Led medical data collection, analysis and reporting; gave technical support, coaching and performance evaluation to the medical team.

Medical Activity Manager, E-Pool (Paediatrics, Nutrition)
June 2022 – January 2023

Médecins Sans Frontières OCB · Afar, Ethiopia

- Oversaw MSF emergency health, health-systems-strengthening and research projects, with technical oversight of all health projects and support to partners.
- Built quality-assurance methods and checks with staff and the M&E team, and supported programme design, proposals and reporting driven by data and learning.
- Ensured health activities followed Federal Ministry of Health and WHO standards and best practice.

Medical Activity Manager (Health, Nutrition, CeMoC)
January 2021 – June 2022

Médecins Sans Frontières OCB · Maiduguri, Nigeria

- Defined, coordinated and monitored care and medical activities, including day-to-day management of human resources according to MSF nursing protocols, standards and procedures.
- Gave technical support to the infection prevention and control nursing activity manager and nurse supervisors.
- Oversaw emergency health, health-systems-strengthening and operational-research programmes of MSF Nigeria, and supervised projects and implementing partners.

Medical Director
May 2019 – December 2020

The Health Support Organization (THESO) · Juba, South Sudan

- Provided vision and guidance in developing the country programme’s multi-year strategic and annual plans, including narrative, action plans and budgets.
- Contributed to national and international organisational strategic planning, and directed and supported direct reports in delivering annual plans.
- Ensured programme and research activities met organisational standards, best practice and commitments, and that THESO remained accountable to beneficiaries, the Ministry of Health and partners.

Medical Coordinator
January 2016 – February 2019

Doctors with Africa CUAMM · Juba, South Sudan

- Contributed to national and international strategic planning, and ensured PHCC and PHCU reporting to CUAMM and the Ministry of Health information system.
- Gave technical support to health departments on programme design, proposals, reporting, and monitoring and evaluation; provided supportive supervision to county officers and programme staff.
- Oversaw community health activities, including monitoring Boma Health Worker selection criteria and maintaining GIS maps of service coverage.

Deputy Medical Coordinator
March 2015 – December 2015

Doctors with Africa CUAMM · Juba, South Sudan

- Held overall responsibility for developing and implementing the community health work plan, ensuring quality outputs; oversaw outreach and community-based activities and supported county management.
- Led and line-managed the community health team through weekly stream meetings and monthly and quarterly performance reviews.
- Strengthened referral from community to PHCC, PHCU, county and state hospitals; trained nurses and midwives; ensured essential drug supply, infection prevention and nursing standards; supported analysis of routine data and reports.

Advisor (Consultant), Medical Proposal February 2012 – March 2012

Hold the Child · Juba, South Sudan

- Gave technical assistance to the head of programmes on proposals, donor-funding applications and project budgets; advised on malnutrition solutions; managed the project team and liaised with government departments.

Health Project Coordinator October 2010 – February 2012

UNICEF · Juba, South Sudan

- Oversaw planning, coordination, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of health projects, and managed six clinical-services network coordinators and field-based officers.
- Prepared health service guidelines, manuals and training materials and high-quality donor reports; strengthened the capacity of regional UNICEF and government health bureau staff.
- Led and developed local and international health staff, supervised resource allocation within approved spending levels, and aligned organisational objectives with the Sudanese context.

EDUCATION

PhD in Public Health March 2016 – December 2018

Texila American University · Guyana · Honours

MSc Tropical Medicine February 2019 – December 2021

Institute of Tropical Medicine, Antwerp · Honours

MSc Medical-Surgical Nursing March 2013 – January 2015

The Tamil Nadu Dr. M.G.R. Medical University · Chennai · Honours

BSc

Hawassa University · Ethiopia

RESEARCH AND PUBLICATIONS

- Healthcare Providers in Africa Face HIV and AIDS Challenges in Providing Services to a Key Population: Infant and Young Child Feeding — *Texila International Journal of Public Health*, 9(4), 2021. DOI: 10.21522/TIJPH.2013.09.04.Art005.
- Assessment of Patient Satisfaction in an Out Patient Department of Rumbek East County, South Sudan — *Texila International Journal of Public Health*, 7(3), 2019. DOI: 10.21522/TIJPH.2013.07.03.Art002.
- Measles Immunization Research, Western Lake State, South Sudan — *Texila International Journal of Public Health*, 7(2), 2019. DOI: 10.21522/TIJPH.2013.07.02.Art007.
- Brave Hero: His Excellency Former Prime Minister Haile Mariam Dessalegn — opinion article listed on public profile, 2 August 2018.
- Research on acute and moderate malnutrition among under-five children in Western Lakes State, South Sudan.

BOOKS

Author of **From Gondar to the World** (a memoir of resilience, purpose and global healing) and **Ethiopia Rising** (a journey through progress and promise). Copies are available by enquiry; see the Books page.

CORE AREAS OF EXPERTISE

Public health · Humanitarian response · Health-systems strengthening · Nutrition · MNCH · HIV/TB · SRH/family planning · EPI/immunisation · Clinical quality & audit · Monitoring & evaluation · Operational research · Programme & project management · Partnerships & donor management · People management · Budget oversight · Strategic planning · Supply-chain coordination · Capacity building · Emergency preparedness

LANGUAGES

English (Fluent) · **Arabic** (Elementary) · **French** (Beginner)

RESEARCH INTERESTS

International public health; maternal, newborn and child health; reproductive health; nutrition and infant feeding; vaccine-preventable diseases and immunisation; HIV prevention and service access; evaluation of humanitarian health interventions; health-system performance; programme quality; and disaster and emergency management.