

# Medecins Sans Frontieres and the Afghanistan Crisis

We are going to look into what the MSF are doing in Afghanistan about the crisis and child malnutrition

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LLPvzieC7rw>



## Afghanistan Crisis

### What is the situation for people in Afghanistan?

- August 2021 - Afghanistan was taken over by the Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan (IEA, also known as the Taliban)
- Key international donors suspended aid to Afghanistan following the takeover.
- COVID-19 pandemic
- Drought
- People are displaced as they try and get to places where they are safe and can be cared for

The healthcare system is now on the edge of collapse



## Médecins Sans Frontières/Doctors Without Borders (MSF)



Their teams are delivering life-saving medical care to people caught in the crisis.

What is MSF doing?

- Running five projects, including hospitals, in some of the largest cities to provide both emergency and everyday medical care

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2OAEHz0I1U>

## Malnutrition: Afghanistan's silent emergency

- Afghanistan has one of the world's highest rates of **stunting** in children under five: **41 percent**
- The rate of **wasting**, in Afghanistan is extremely high: **9.5 per cent.**
- MSF support the paediatric department at Herat Regional Hospital
- MSF run the Inpatient Therapeutic Feeding Centre (ITFC)
- Employ more doctors to deal with increasing patient numbers
- MSF set up containers to increase beds - 50 children in 20 beds



## Fund Raising Ideas



What can we do as a Troop to raise some funds to help the MSF?





## Troop Night Activities

Kite Making – a traditional game played by children in Afghanistan



Cook Gosh-e-Feel (Elephant Ear Pastries) a favourite sweet food eaten in Afghanistan

## Activity:

You have 2 minutes to decide your questions in your patrol and then the leaders are going to come around to each patrol, you will have 1 minute to interview them.

You need to try and find out which leaders work within the NHS or within the UK Health Sector?

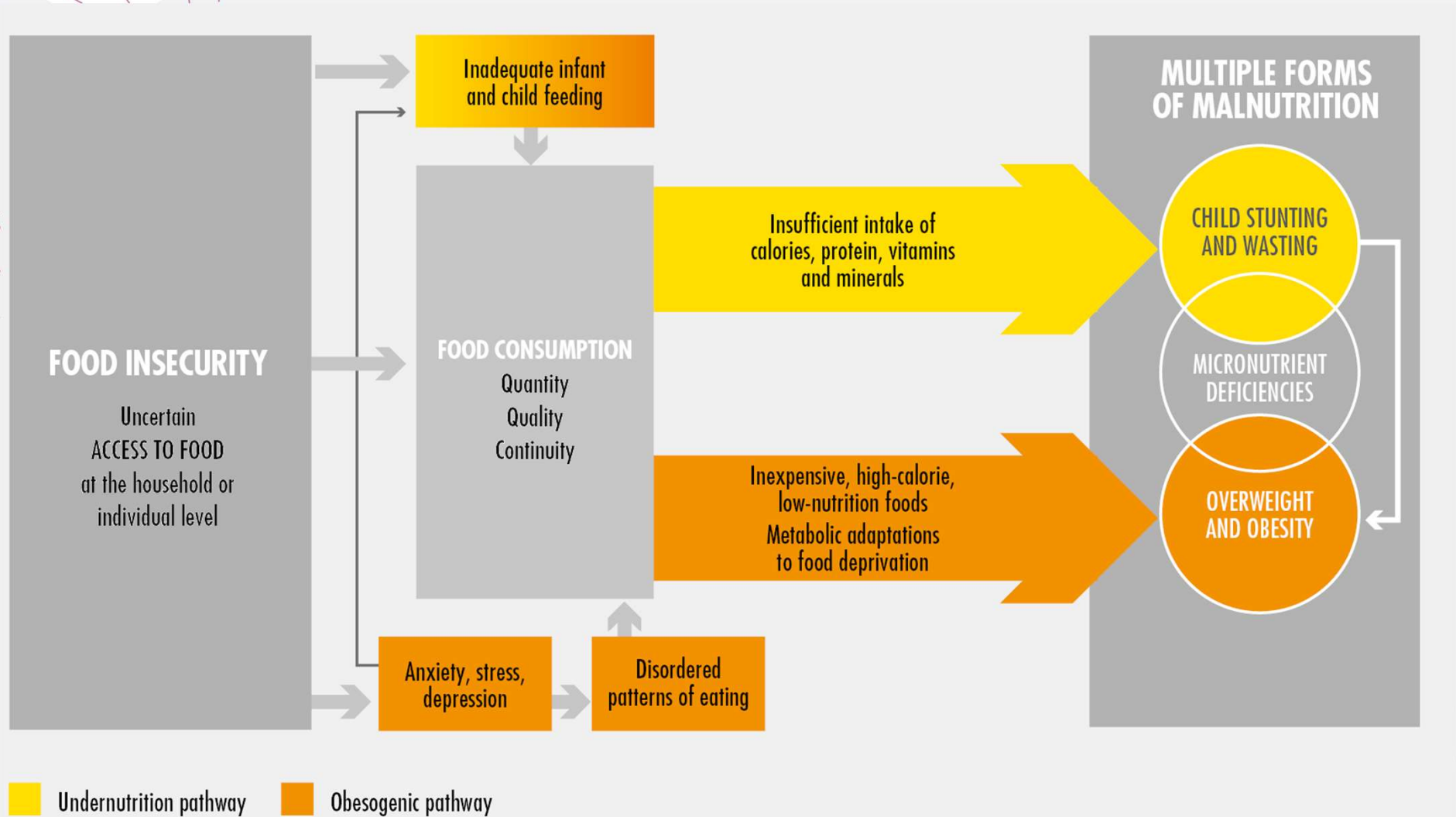
Find out who they are?

What role do they play in the health sector?

What role to the other leaders play?

Answers on a Whiteboard







## Statistics for child malnutrition in the UK;

In 2017-2020

1:10 4-5 year olds were obese

1:5 10-11 year olds were obese

In 2017 UNICEF found that 1:5 children under 15 years of age live with an adult is 'food insecure'. This was the worst figure in Western Europe.

In 2019 approximately 2-3 million people in the UK were estimated to be undernourished.

### Questions:

What are the factors we have in the UK that could cause child malnutrition?

What are we doing about malnourished children in this country?

What can we do?



We could also do our bit to help with the access to food issues we have in the UK by popping 1 to 2 items in the food bank each week (at the Supermarket)

On a particular week we will ask all Scouts and Leaders to bring two appropriate items to go in a food bank to a troop night and will ask 2 Scouts to volunteer to come along with a leader to deliver the items to a local food bank

