# FES SA Voiles Sans Frontières (Sailing Without Borders) presentation

Dr Jean-Baptiste Vasse, Co-President, in charge of medical projects

#### Who are we?

- French NGO founded in 1997
- Principle: to combine
  - The know-how of sailors and longddistance travellers
  - With the know how of french professionnals
- Goal: Help populations living in isolated maritime areas
- In cooperation with local professionnals
- Today: ≈350 members, all volonteers

#### Where are we?

- Previous projects in Haïti, Madagascar, Casamance (Senegal)
- Current field experience: Sine-Saloum (Senegal):
  - Delta of the saloum river
  - Population living on islands
  - Limited access (only by boat)
- In the future: development program (eg Caribbean islands...), but more ressources are needed



### VSF fleet

- Yobalema, 42 ft trimaran own by VSF, operating in Senegal from november to may.
- Sailing boats of long distance travellers (eg: atlantic tour)
- Why do we use sailing boats?
  - Supervize local projects
  - Logistical support:
    - To accommodate VSF staff
    - To transport material



> 100 sailing boats participated to VSF's missions

#### What do we do?

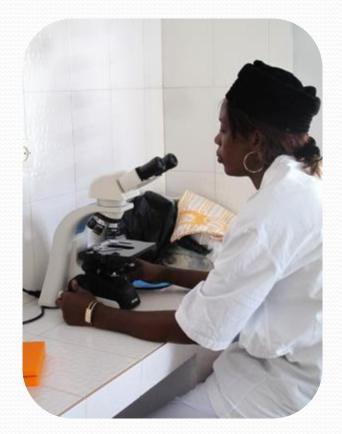
- Humanitarian projects:
  - Medical
  - Dental
  - School
- Projects are managed in cooperation with local correspondants
- Missions on the ground: 6-7 per year in Senegal

### **VSF** medical projects

- Support and development of humans ressources and health facilities (eg: education of health workers, repair of clinics...)
- Organisation of prevention and screening, health education of the local population
- Creation of screening lab for tuberculosis
- Creation of an eye clinic
- Mother and child health project
- Support of the local albino population







#### **VSF** dental projects

- Travelling consultations in villages of Sine Saloum (5 to 6 / year)
- Creation of a dental clinic (opening november 2014)







## **VSF** school projects

- Partnerships between french and senegalese schools to develop a spirit of solidarity and cultural exchange
- Improvement of working conditions
  - For students: building of classrooms
  - For teachers: creation of housing
  - Creation of computer rooms
- Improvement of health standards:
  - Construction of toilets
  - Access to safe drinking water
  - Construction of food storage





## VSF project for access to drinking

#### water

- Saloum is a maritime zone, water is salty
- Raining season between june and september (no water shortage, wells are full) however dry season between december and may.
- Solution: to set up rain water tanks program for:
  - Health facilities
  - Schools







#### VSF contribution to Argo project

- Since 2012
- 19 Argo Floats deployed
- 2014/2015: the deployement of 10 further Argo Floats is planed
- Why do we participate? To contribute to a scientific program which helps understanding climate changes affecting island populations

