

- TRIBUTES -

On 21 December 2024 and 30 March 2025, Solthis mourned the death of two key figures in our organisation's history. They each in their own way represent the soul of Solthis and played a part in its development and evolution. We would like to pay tribute to their careers, their commitment and their generosity.

Their families, their loved ones and those from the international solidarity community who had chance to work with them are all in our thoughts.



Etienne Guillard,
former health services and
systems strengthening focal point

Etienne worked at Solthis for 16 years. It was part of his soul. He embodied the spirit of our NGO.

Etienne was a pharmacist by training and joined Solthis in 2007. He was very open-minded and curious, and he initiated and developed many different topics. Treatment education and care provider-client relationships were particularly dear to him, and he worked to put patients back at the heart of care provision. He was passionate about environmental issues and steered Solthis towards its work on health and climate and One health.

He joined MSF in 2023 as focal point for patient treatment education, and in parallel was writing a thesis on involving peer helpers and patient-experts in humanitarian contexts.

Étienne was bright, generous and always quick to help. We will continue to take forward the topics that were so close to his heart.



Dr. Sanata Diallo,
former Senegal Country Director, who was appointed
to the Board of Directors in June 2024

Sanata worked at the organisation for 17 years and was the backbone of Solthis. Sanata was a clinical dermatologist and a pioneer in the HIV and AIDS response. She created the NGO "Mieux Vivre avec le SIDA" in Niger, then led the National AIDS Programme for several years before joining UNFPA. She also initiated the «husband school» with the aim of involving men in the prevention of mother-to-child transmission of HIV.

In 2008, she joined Solthis in Niger as a medical coordinator. She held several positions both at the head office as Head of Health Services, and in Senegal as Head of Mission, during which time the ATLAS HIV self-testing project started up.

When she retired, she continued her commitment to Solthis by becoming a board member. We owe a lot to Sanata.