

Job Description

REACH TECHNICAL WASH SPECIALIST

(Reference:20/ROVE/WASHS01)

BACKGROUND ON IMPACT AND REACH

IMPACT Initiatives is a humanitarian NGO, based in Geneva, Switzerland. The organization manages several initiatives, including the REACH Initiative. The IMPACT team comprises specialists in data collection, management and analysis, GIS and remote-sensing. IMPACT was launched at the initiative of ACTED, an international NGO whose headquarter is based in Paris and is present in thirty countries. The two organizations have a strong complementarity formalized in a global partnership, which allows particularly IMPACT to benefit from ACTED's operational support on its fields of intervention.

REACH was born in 2010 as a joint initiative of the two International NGOs (IMPACT Initiatives and ACTED) and the United Nations Operational Satellite Applications Programme (UNOSAT). REACH's purpose is to promote and facilitate the development of information products that enhance the humanitarian community's decision making and planning capacity for emergency, reconstruction and development contexts, supporting and working within the framework of the humanitarian reform process. REACH facilitates information management (IM) for aid actors through three complementary services: (a) need and situation assessments facilitated by REACH teams; (b) situation analysis using satellite imagery; (c) provision of related database and (web)-mapping facilities and expertise.

We are currently looking for a REACH technical WASH specialist to improve the WASH engineering technical quality of the information products developed for the WASH sector by REACH. The position can be based in any of the IMPACT field offices, except France and Switzerland.

Department: Cluster Support Unit
Position: REACH technical WASH specialist
Contract duration: 12 months with potential for renewal
Location: Any of IMPACT field offices, except France and Switzerland
Starting Date: ASAP

FUNCTIONS

Under the supervision of the REACH WASH assessment specialist in Geneva, the REACH technical WASH specialist is responsible for improving the WASH engineering technical quality of the information products developed for the WASH sector by REACH.

In his/her mission, the REACH technical WASH specialist will be hosted by one of [IMPACT's field missions](#), except France and Switzerland. In the field, IMPACT is hosted by ACTED or any another operational partner of IMPACT and will fall under the responsibility of ACTED's Country Director and his/her delegates or equivalent with other

partners. S/he and will fully abide to ACTED or other partner's Security, HR, Administration and Logistics rules and regulations.

The REACH technical WASH specialist interacts on regular basis with the WASH assessment specialist, the GWC, NHCWPs and will work closely with the GWC partners and IMPACT HQ. These relations will also extend to ACTED country staff including Project Development, AMEU and Area Coordinators.

POSITION PROFILE

As pointed out by the Grand Bargain (GB), noticeable achievements have been made in the past few years to strengthen the quality and coordination of humanitarian needs assessments. Still, to build upon this progress there is the need to better capture and capitalize lessons learned on how to use evidence to inform strategic decision-making. In accordance with the GB Commitment number 6, REACH wants to commission a Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH) technical specialist to strengthen and strategize its activities regarding the sector.

REACH has been a long-lasting partner of the Global WASH Cluster (GWC), and of National Humanitarian WASH Coordination Platforms (NHCWPs), since 2014. In 2019 alone, it has implemented assessment activities to support NHCWPs in nine countries, including Nigeria, Whole of Syria, Niger, Yemen, Somalia, Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Democratic Republic of Congo and South Sudan.

During the past few years REACH has built its technical knowledge in humanitarian WASH to complement its strong expertise on survey and assessments. Still, room for further improvement on technical aspects specific to the WASH sector was noted both by its partners and internally. REACH is seeking a REACH technical WASH specialist in order to improve its capacity to support NHCWPs in their mission world-wide.

The purpose of this position is to improve the quality of the information products developed for the WASH sector by REACH through assessments, infrastructure mapping, remote data sensing and other techniques already used.

The position will have two specific objectives:

- Review current practices within REACH from a technical WASH perspective
- Advise on how to technically improve the quality of assessment tools, methodology and outputs developed by REACH to better inform NHCWPs

The REACH technical WASH specialist will respond to requests for support from IMPACT, REACH's country offices and their partners. He/she will maintain regular interactions and reporting with key technical WASH partners including cluster lead agencies, UN agencies, NGOs and technical partners.

RESPONSIBILITIES

In coordination with the WASH assessment specialist and the Cluster Support Unit, the REACH technical WASH specialist is responsible for (1) review current practices within REACH from a technical WASH perspective and (2) advise on how to technically improve the quality of assessment tools, methodology and outputs developed by REACH to better inform NHCWPs; (3) build REACH's capacity to produce technically-sound information products; (4) engage in external relations as judged fit by supervisors and (5) other tasks.

1. Review of current practices:

- Carry out a critical review of the relevance and the quality of the tools and approaches used and products generated by REACH;

- Appraise the current level of WASH expertise within REACH;
- Identify the expectations from GWC partners, NHCWPs where REACH is active, and REACH staff in relation of the role REACH can play in the WASH sector
- Carry out a stakeholder analysis in the humanitarian WASH sector with the aim at identifying opportunities, challenges and possible added value for REACH

2. Setup of a strategy to strengthen institutional capacity within REACH in the WASH sector

- Based on the results of the review exercise and in close collaboration with REACH Management, identify the scope of Humanitarian WASH expertise that REACH can develop in the future to improve its WASH outputs and meet the expectations of the WASH sector partners
- Advise on how to improve the technical quality of assessment tools, methodology and outputs developed by REACH through guidance notes and other documents
- Identify key areas where REACH should develop its activities in order to better inform the NHCWPs
- Identify related capacity development needs and develop an action plan to strengthen the institutional capacity of REACH in the humanitarian WASH areas based till 2025

3. Build REACH's capacity to produce technically-sound information products

- Contribute to the implementation of the action plan to strengthen the institutional capacity of REACH
- Review information products produced by REACH's field teams from a technical WASH perspective
- Provide REACH with technical back stopping on WASH technical problems
- Create technical briefs and other documents to help REACH assessment teams to better understand key issues and how to effectively measure them in their work

4. External relations

- In coordination with the assessment specialist, ensure that relevant partners are consulted and involved at all stages of IM activities
- In coordination with the assessment specialist, represent REACH/IMPACT in technical external engagements if required

5. Other tasks

- Support the assessment specialist in drafting of relevant project narrative and financial reports
- Maintain an oversight of budget availability and expenditure for activities for which s/he is responsible
- Other tasks as requested by supervisors.

ACCOUNTABILITY TO COMMUNITIES AND BENEFICIARIES

The staff member is responsible for ensuring that all relations with the communities IMPACT and partners work are conducted in a respectful and consultative manner. Due attention must be paid to ensuring that communities are adequately consulted and informed about IMPACT programme objectives, activities, beneficiary selection criteria, and methodologies. This is the responsibility of every IMPACT staff member.

CONFIDENTIALITY AND DATA PROTECTION

The REACH technical WASH specialist will maintain the strictest confidentiality on all data collected and related processes. He/she will actively take measures to prevent the unauthorized sharing of any information and data belonging to IMPACT and its partners, or collected during his/her assignment with IMPACT

REQUIREMENTS

- An advanced university degree (Masters' or equivalent degree) in water and sanitation engineering or equivalent.
- Minimum 5 years of experience in humanitarian WASH project implementation
- Experience as a senior position (preferably coordinator) in a WASH coordination platform
- Strong understanding of humanitarian coordination within the cluster system and needs assessments
- Previous work experience with UNICEF WASH is an advantage
- Demonstrated excellent analytic skills
- Excellent communication and drafting skills for effective reporting
- Strong network in the humanitarian WASH sector and networking capacities
- Proficiency in English is required; a second UN language preferably French or Spanish is desirable.
- Ability to operate in a cross-cultural environment requiring flexibility
- Familiarity with the aid system, and understanding of donor and governmental requirements
- Ability to use Microsoft Word, Excel and Project Management Software.
- Advanced skills in Excel, SPSS, R or related statistical programming is desirable
- Ability to work independently

CONDITIONS

- Salary defined by the IMPACT salary grid; educational level, expertise, hardship, security, and performance are considered for pay bonus
- Additional monthly living allowance
- Free food and lodging provided at the organization's guesthouse/or housing allowance (depending on contract length and country of assignment)
- Transportation costs covered, including additional return ticket + luggage allowance
- Provision of medical, life, and repatriation insurance + retirement package
- Part-time work can be discussed