REACH GIS-ASSESSMENT OFFICER
(HUMANITARIAN SITUATION OVERVIEW IN SYRIA)
(Reference: 21/SYR/GISAO01)

BACKGROUND ON IMPACT AND REACH

REACH was born in 2010 as a joint initiative of 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. REACH facilitates information management 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.

IMPACT Initiatives is a humanitarian NGO, based in Geneva, Switzerland. The organisation manages several initiatives, including the REACH Initiative. The IMPACT team comprises specialists in data collection, management and analysis and GIS. 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, enabling IMPACT to benefit from ACTED’s operational support on its fields of intervention.

We are currently looking for a REACH dual GIS/Assessment Officer to support our team in Syria.

Department: REACH
Position: GIS-Assessment Officer
Contract duration: 6 months
Location: Amman, Jordan
Starting Date: ASAP

COUNTRY PROFILE

Into its tenth year of conflict, conditions in Syria remain highly volatile and marked by intense violence and limited humanitarian access. The scale, complexity, and severity of humanitarian needs in Syria emphasizes the necessity for up to date, timely, and accurate information. Evidence-based planning and programming remains paramount to ensure that the response adequately meets the needs of the most vulnerable people and is tailored to different realities across communities and over time. However, informing operational and strategic planning remains highly challenging, as accessibility and security issues impede systematic data collection. A lack of predictable and consistent data undermines the ability of humanitarian actors to review their approach in light of the dynamic context. REACH has been conducting assessments on the humanitarian situation in Syria since 2013 and has over the years grown significantly both in size and in influence as an actor in the Syria response. REACH works in opposition-controlled parts of Syria and coordinates closely.
with OCHA, nearly all clusters, key working groups (IM and technical) within the Syria coordination system, and various NGO fora in order to identify, address, and raise awareness of key information gaps, as well as to uphold the quality of data used to inform the response.

POSITION PROFILE

REACH Syria is currently seeking a professional with a background in geographic information systems and research to support the REACH Humanitarian Situation Overview in Syria (HSOS) research cycle. HSOS is a monthly assessment that provides comprehensive, multi-sectoral information about the humanitarian conditions and priority needs inside Syria. Under the line management of the HSOS team lead, the GIS-Assessment Officer is responsible for the application of geographic information systems and supports the implementation of the HSOS research cycle in northern Syria in close coordination with other team members. Past experience working on large multi-sectoral needs assessments in the humanitarian system is preferred, but not essential. At minimum, experience with geo-spatial analysis, familiarity with the humanitarian sector, quantitative and qualitative analysis skills, effective communication, and an interest in research are required.

In his/her mission, the REACH Assessment Officer will be hosted by ACTED and will fall under the responsibility of ACTED’s Country Director and his/her delegates. S/he and will fully abide to ACTED’s Security, HR, Administration and Logistics rules and regulations.

RESPONSIBILITIES

The GIS-Assessment Officer is responsible for:

- **Research design**: indicator drafting and review in coordination with clusters and working groups, assessment methodology, data collection tool development;
- Oversight of **data processing**, including implementation of data cleaning and analysis plans, and conducting analysis, in close collaboration with the in-country data team;
- **Conducting spatial analysis** on collected data and drafting of timely and accurate GIS products, which comply with IMPACT’s guidelines;
- **Drafting of timely and accurate outputs** such as factsheets, reports, briefs, presentations, etc.;
- Provision of **technical and information management support** to other team members within HSOS, other units within REACH Syria, or humanitarian stakeholders;
- **Leading on thematic assessments** within the HSOS research cycle;
- Other tasks falling within his/her functions as requested by supervisors.

The GIS-Assessment Officer will maintain the strictest confidentiality on all data collected and related processes, ensuring full compliance with IMPACT’s data protection policy and SOPs. 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

- Excellent academic qualifications, preferably including a Master degree in relevant discipline (Computer Science, Information Management Systems, Statistics, Mathematics, Geo-informatics, Social science, etc.);

- Proficiency and proven experience with research methods and demonstrable experience with geo-spatial information management and analysis. Excellent analytical skills, including the ability to identify outliers and key trends, and to situate findings in a wider context. Good English drafting skills;

- Advanced knowledge of ArcGIS and strong skills in Excel. Knowledge of R an advantage. Experience with InDesign an asset;

- At least 1 years of relevant working experience. Experience in humanitarian settings desirable;

- Ability to work independently;

- Good attention to detail, and commitment to producing high quality work;

- Flexibility and adaptability to ever-changing needs and responsibilities;

- Ability to multitask with tight deadlines;

- Fluency in English required.

CONDITIONS

- Salary defined by the IMPACT salary grid; educational level, expertise, hardship, security, and performance are considered for pay bonus

- Additional monthly living allowance provided in country by IMPACT’s partner ACTED

- Food and lodging provided at the organisation’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