

## REACH SENIOR ASSESSMENT OFFICER CASH AND MARKETS

(Reference: 21/SYR/SAO01)

### 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 Senior Assessment Officer to support our REACH Syria team.**

**Department:** REACH  
**Position:** Cash and Markets Senior Assessment Officer  
**Contract duration:** 12 months  
**Location:** Amman, Jordan  
**Starting Date:** ASAP

### COUNTRY PROFILE

Into its ninth 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 extends 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.

Through these engagements, REACH has identified that the following key challenges remain: (1) the lack of a needs tracking system that brings together and shares timely and regular information on changes in needs from a variety of sources; (2) the ability to conduct coordinated large scale data collection on a more regular basis – particularly critical in the highly volatile context, and during key humanitarian milestones such as the HNO; (3) the lack information from harder to reach areas with some of the most acute needs (4) lack of ability to quickly mobilise data collection in areas experiencing sudden escalations in conflict, due to accessibility, operational and security constraints; (5) the lack of more granular and detailed information on needs and response capacity on specific newly accessible geographic areas. Broadly speaking, REACH Syria implements assessments within four key streams:

- Monitoring of the humanitarian situation in Syria, through monthly assessments covering over 1,600 communities in Syria, market monitoring to track prices of goods as per the survival minimum expenditure basket (SMEB), and ad hoc rapid assessments in times of sudden escalations in conflict or natural disasters.
- Displacement tracking, through tracking the movement of IDPs and Returnees down to a 24-48 hour basis, as well as monitoring the humanitarian situation inside IDP camps and informal settlements.
- Area-Based Assessments to support humanitarian actors in the coordination to identify key response gaps by comparing humanitarian needs data with response data, in a set locality – often one that has recently become accessible and/or that is recovering for instance from besiegement.
- Technical support to clusters, for example in the form of coordination and implementation of sector and multisector assessments to inform the HNO, production of thematic assessments, presentations of findings, and capacity building.

For an example of REACH Syria information products, please see below:

- [REACH: Southern Idlib and Northern Hama Rapid Needs Assessment, Factsheet - May 2019](#)
- REACH: Humanitarian Situation Overview in Syria, March [Northeast regional factsheet](#) and [Northwest regional factsheet](#)

## POSITION PROFILE

REACH Syria is seeking a Senior Assessment Officer (SAO) to provide support to the Cash & Markets Unit. In this role, the SAO will be responsible for leading REACH's Third-Party Monitoring (TPM) assessments, leading on thematic market assessments, technically supporting other ongoing and ad-hoc market assessments in the Cash & Markets Unit, and responding to ad-hoc analysis requests from external partners. The SAO will work closely with REACH's TPM partners, other cash & market assessment focal points, and the Cash Working Groups (CWG) and Food Security and Livelihoods (FSL) coordination bodies.

## FUNCTIONS

### Objective 1: Leading TPM Assessments

Under the supervision of the Cash & Markets Research Manager (RM), and in consultation with REACH's TPM partners, the SAO will be responsible for the following tasks:

- Manage all large-scale TPM data flows including processing data from collection, cleaning, to analysis.

- Managing programmatic deliverables for TPM assessments including development of monthly analysis reports on processing of TPM data.
- Manage REACH TPM assessment team

### Objective 2: Leading Thematic Market Assessments

Under the supervision of the Cash & Markets RM, and in collaboration with CWG and FSL coordinators and the IMPACT Data Unit, the SAO will conduct be responsible for the following tasks:

- Independently designing and implementing REACH assessment strategy and methodology and corresponding analytical frameworks
- Coordinating and ensuring timely data collection, analysis and, in partnership with GIS team, mapping of datasets and ensuring that all collected data is geo-referenced
- Manage assessment schedules and work with field staff to design and implement REACH assessment procedures
- Ensuring the writing of timely and accurate assessment reports, briefs and factsheets with integration of cluster and/or partner feedback

### Objective 3: Supporting Cash & Market Unit Assessments

Under the supervision of the Cash & Markets RM, and in collaboration with other Cash & Markets staff, the SAO will be responsible for supporting other Cash & Market Unit assessment leads on assessment design and implementation including indicator development, technical tool development, coordination of data collection, data analysis, and output production.

### Objective 4: Ad-Hoc Analysis and Information Requests

Under the supervision of the Cash & Markets RM and in collaboration with other members of the Cash & Markets Unit or other REACH Syria units, the SAO may be asked to carry out ad-hoc analysis of existing data at the request of cluster or working group partners. This may include more targeted analysis of Cash & Markets assessment data or may include supporting in targeted or trends analysis of data from other related projects.

### REQUIREMENTS

- Master degree in relevant discipline: development studies, economics, social science, political sciences, international relations or equivalent;
- At least 3 years' experience in leading assessments and research cycles independently;
- Previous experience in research and/or assessments in third party monitoring
- Previous experience in survey tool design and implementation;
- Proficiency of Microsoft Word, Excel and PowerPoint;
- Proven excellent analytical skills;
- Excellent communication and drafting skills for effective reporting in English;
- Ability to operate in a cross-cultural environment requiring flexibility;

## DESIRABLE

- Previous experience in working experience humanitarian settings;
- Previous experience in research on economics, and cash and markets;
- Previous work experience in MENA region
- Ability to operate SPSS, STATA, R or related statistical software
- Knowledge of the Adobe Suite, particularly Illustrator and InDesign;
- Knowledge of the humanitarian coordination structure;
- Knowledge of the Syrian context;

## 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.