

REACH DATA / GIS SPECIALIST

(Reference: 21/HQ/WSCDGISS)

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 organization 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 GIS/Data Specialist to support the WASH Severity Classification team in Jordan.

Department:	REACH
Position:	Data / GIS Specialist
Contract duration:	6 months
Location:	Jordan
Starting Date:	ASAP

COUNTRY PROFILE

Under the supervision of the WSC Assessment Manager, the Data / GIS Specialist will support the development of an "IPC-style" system for classifying the severity of water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) conditions – the WASH Severity Classification (WSC).

The WASH Severity Classification (WSC) is a set of tools and protocols designed to classify the severity and drivers of WASH needs and vulnerabilities based on recognized standards. The WSC uses a five-phase approach to quantify the number of people in need by severity level, while assessing likely situational changes and monitoring key risk factors. The WSC combines an array of data from different sources coupled with contextual expertise of practitioners on the ground to guide and validate the process. Through this approach, it

allows for the classification of geographic areas, estimates the population in each severity phase and provides a comparison of findings over time and across countries.

Currently, the project is in Phase One, focused on the development of the alpha version of the WSC. The role of the Data / GIS Specialist is to manage development and maintenance of the WSC data ecosystem during Phase Two of the project, which will see the WSC be implemented in full in five contexts and a light version rolled out in fifteen contexts. To support these objectives, the Data / GIS Specialist will be responsible for developing tools to efficiently pre-process multiple and varied data sources and automating the transformation of the data into a standardized set of outputs, including worksheets, tables and charts.

The Data / GIS Specialist will also be responsible for map production, a central element of the WSC information product suite, as well as testing WSC computation methods and finding the optimal calibration of the calculation model. The role will also include supporting the wider WSC Development team of Assessment, WASH, Public Health, and IPC Specialists on the research and development aspects of the WSC, by providing inputs for the analytical tools and protocols used to classify the severity of WASH needs,

FUNCTIONS

The Data / GIS Specialist will fulfill the following functions:

- Under the line management of the WSC Assessment Manager in Geneva, the Data / GIS Specialist ensures the validity and strengthens the quality and efficiency of all WSC research efforts, in accordance with IMPACT's standards, partner expectations, and IMPACT's ethos of facilitating an evidence-based response.
- In coordination with the WSC Development Team, the Data / GIS Specialist will provide technical inputs at all stages of WSC activities, including WSC research and development (e.g. model calibration, model testing) and WSC implementation (e.g. workshop preparation, pre-processing, data support during workshops, production of information products including maps and reports).
- S/he will be involved in partner coordination, donor reporting, presentations, and will be required to provide input to the strategic development of the WSC. The Data / GIS Specialist will also be responsible for developing and implementing a continuous capacity building program for national and international team members, and for providing trainings to partners.

RESPONSIBILITIES

Strategy development & implementation

- Contribute to WSC strategy development with relevant technical and thematic contents;
- Support the development/revision of WSC activities including reports or new proposals;
- Identify data gaps across contexts and develop a WSC global data strategy;
- Ensure that data analysis strategies are implemented in a structured and coherent manner in line with project and strategic objectives and with IMPACT's guidelines and processes;
- Ensure the WSC global data strategy is integrated and actioned across WSC sub-teams;
- Ensure synergies with other data and IM actors;
- Develop dissemination strategies to strengthen the impact of WSC data and IM work;

- Engagement with IMPACT HQ in global level data priorities.

Research planning and implementation

- Identification of available data to inform secondary data review, in coordination with the WSC implementation sub-team;
- Develop data cleaning processes and scripts as is relevant;
- Keep track of progress and delays of all relevant data- and information-management tasks throughout the WSC implementation cycle. Ensure that delays or identified problems are reported by writing and orally in a timely manner.

Data management, cleaning and analysis

- Ensure that all collected data is stored in line with IMPACT's Data Management Guidelines, and with the ToRs (data management plan Annex);
- Ensure that data is revised and cleaned, and that all revisions are recorded;
- Ensure data analysis conducted on collected data as per ToRs;
- Validate and verify analysis conducted in country implementations;
- Ensure that data and its analysis do not contain personal information and are validated by IMPACT HQ before sharing to external parties;
- Ensure the quality and accuracy of technical information provided as well as the confidentiality and protection of collected information.

Drafting of products

- Ensure that the data products meet the requirements of IMPACT and concerned partners;
- Maintain regular communication with the WSC team on progress and deadlines for data analysis products;
- Ensure the drafting of timely and accurate products (including factsheets, graphics, web maps and dashboards), which comply with IMPACT's guidelines;
- Ensure that products are validated by IMPACT HQ before external release;
- When relevant, in close coordination with IMPACT HQ, support the regular maintenance and update of web products.

Internal Knowledge sharing, Learning and Capacity Building

- Identify capacity gaps, and resolve to bridge these through targeted capacity building, training, performance monitoring, and backstopping where needed;
- Support to the line managers and specialists in the development and implementation of capacity training plans for data, assessment and other team members;
- Conduct and support regular training to WSC country sub-teams, including regular updates on WSC guidelines, adapted (to context) training modules, learning on the job;
- Complement in house training material with external resources, if and as relevant;
- Ensure impact of trainings and progression of staff is monitored;
- Pro-actively provide regular technical support and backstopping to data and assessment teams;

- Pro-actively monitor risks on data quality across all WSC implementations and ensure any issues flagged to the WSC development team and HQ Research design and data unit.
- Contribute to generating and documenting robust lessons learned at the end of relevant Research implementations and phases;
- Ensure knowledge and learning processes are shared across the WSC Community and with HQ;
- Able and available to engage with Global Units and global learning processes, such as methodology notes, lessons learnt, Communities of Practice, etc;
- Continuously seek to improve and innovate IMPACT assessments, information products and processes to identify and meet information gaps in the WSC approach in order to support in the facilitation of an evidence-based response;
- Work closely with other specialists globally to develop, implement and monitor a multi-disciplinary training and learning plan for IMPACT teams and external stakeholders;
- More generally, contributes to creating a culture of rigour, innovation and learning within IMPACT's operations.

External Engagement

- Under the coordination of the WSC Development Team Lead, ensure that relevant partners are consulted and involved in the preparation of data products;
- In coordination with the WSC Development Team Lead, engage in relevant technical fora in country (e.g. IM/data working groups);
- In support of the WSC Development Team Lead, engage with other organisations engaged with the maintenance of data in various WSC implementation countries, ensuring IMPACT databases are up-to-date and in line with Common Operational Datasets (CODs) and Fundamental Operational Datasets (FODs);
- In coordination with the WSC Development Team Lead, support the presentation of data products to relevant third parties, to enhance their use and impact.

Dissemination

- Ensure the strictest confidentiality of data and data processes. The Data / GIS Specialist will actively take measures to prevent the unauthorized sharing of information and data;
In coordination with IMPACT HQ, ensure that data products are uploaded on relevant data portals, as specified in Research ToRs.

Data Confidentiality and Protection

- The Data / GIS 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.

Support the Global Cluster Support Unit

- Contribute to the development and review of other global assessment toolkits and guidance.
- Provide remote support to REACH missions implementing sector-specific assessments.

- Deploy globally to support assessment activities in the event of sudden onset crises or during key HPC milestones.

REQUIREMENTS

Data Specialist

- Excellent academic qualifications in the field of data science;
- Excellent research and analytical skills required, including a sound understanding of sampling frameworks and their application, an ability to analyze large data sets, as well as conduct temporal or spatial trend analysis. Demonstrable experience of data science. Excellent data analysis skills.
- Advanced knowledge of R, Python or equivalent statistical software. Proven knowledge of Microsoft office including Word, Excel, and PowerPoint. Knowledge of ArcGIS an advantage.

Extra Requirements

- Familiarity with the aid system and with the research community;
- At least 4 years of relevant working experience
- Experience working in WASH sector an asset;
- Ability to conduct trainings and mentor IMPACT teams and partners on assessment skills;
- Excellent communication and drafting skills for effective reporting;
- Ability to multitask with tight deadlines, on numerous research cycles;
- Strong existing ability to work independently in support of colleagues and partners;
- Ability to operate in a cross-cultural environment requiring flexibility;
- Fluency in English required, competency in French an asset;
- Ability to operate in a complex and challenging security environment

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