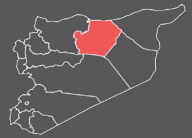




Camp Profile: Tel Samen

Ar-Raqqa governorate, Syria
March 2021



Background and Methodology

Tel Samen is an informal internally displaced person (IDP) camp in Ar-Raqqa governorate. This profile provides an overview of humanitarian conditions in Tel Samen camp. Primary data was collected through household surveys from 15-16 March 2021. Households were randomly sampled to a 95% confidence level and 10% margin of error based on population figures provided by camp management. A key informant (KI) interview with camp managers in March 2021 have been used to support and triangulate some of the findings collected through household surveys. At the time of data collection, the camp was managed by a non-governmental organisation (NGO).

Location Map



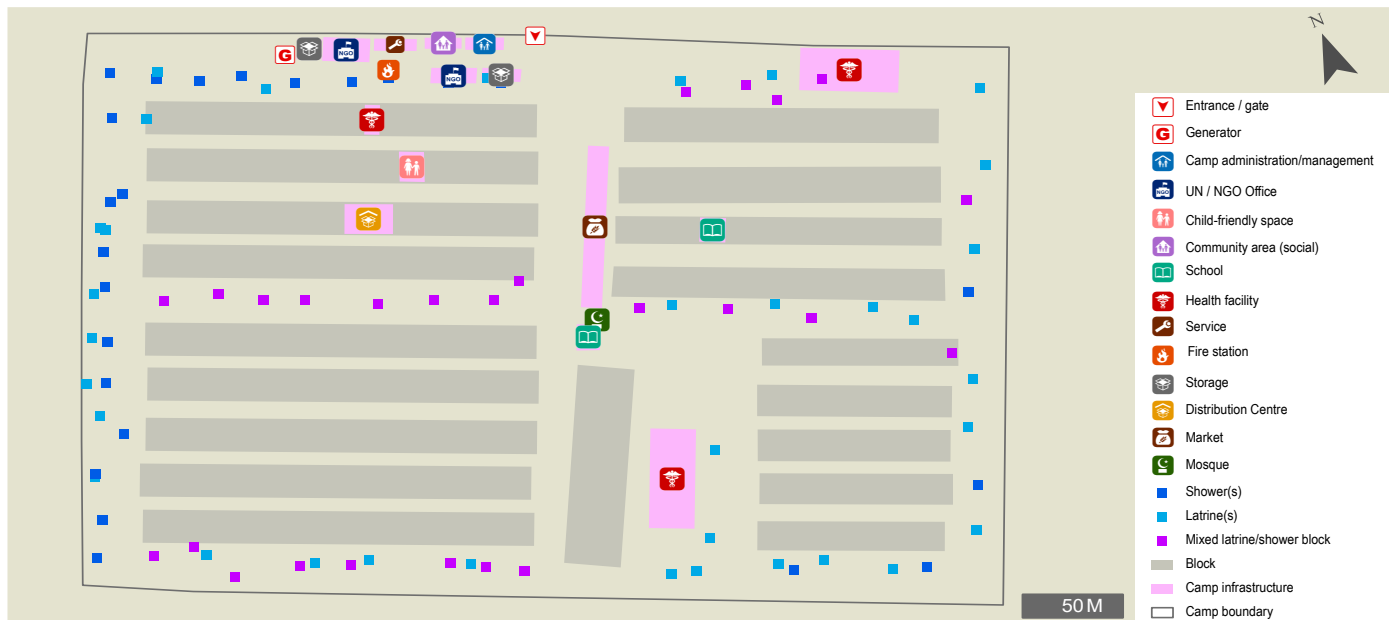
Camp Overview¹

Number of individuals: 3,701
Number of households: 727
Number of shelters: 802
First arrivals: November 2019
Camp area: 0.14 km²

Demographics

Men		Women
1%	60+	5%
16%	18-59	13%
17%	5-17	16%
11%	0-4	18%

Camp Map



Camp mapping conducted in March 2021. Detailed infrastructure map available on [REACH Resource Centre](#).

Sectoral Minimum Standards²

		Target	Result	Achievement
Shelter	Average number of individuals per shelter	max 4.6	4.5	●
	Average covered area per person	min 3.5 m ²	5.3 m ²	●
	Average camp area per person	min 35 m ²	37.8 m ²	●
Health	% of 0-5 year olds who have received polio vaccinations	100%	99%	●
	Presence of health services within the camp	Yes	Yes	●
Protection	% of households reporting safety/security issues in past two weeks	0%	49%	●
Food	% of households receiving assistance in the 30 days prior to data collection	100%	100%	●
	% of households with acceptable food consumption score (FCS) ³	100%	42%	●
Education	% of children aged 6-17 accessing education services	100%	70%	●
WASH	Persons per latrine	max. 20	13	●
	Persons per shower	max. 20	21	●
	Frequency of solid waste disposal	min. twice weekly	Every day	●

1. As reported by camp management KIs in March 2021.

2. Targets based on Sphere and humanitarian minimum standards.

● Minimum standard met ● 50-99% minimum standard met ● 0-49% of minimum standard met

[Sphere Handbook, Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Humanitarian Response, 2018](#)
[UNHCR Emergency Handbook](#)

3. FCS measures households' current food consumption status based on the number of days per week a household is able to eat items from nine standard food groups, weighted for their nutritional value.

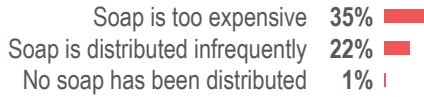


COVID-19

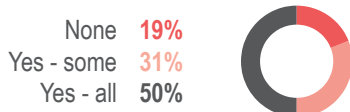
Response infrastructure¹

Isolation area:	No
Sufficient handwashing facilities:	Yes

Of the 42% of households that reported experiencing difficulties in obtaining hand/body soap, the following issues were reported most frequently:⁴

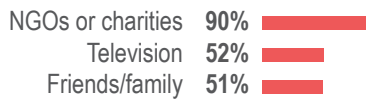


Percentage of households reporting that communal latrines have handwashing facilities



COVID-19 Information

Main information sources about COVID-19 as reported by households:⁴



4% of households reported having difficulties understanding information about COVID-19.

The most commonly reported difficulties understanding information about COVID-19 were:

- Information is not clear (3%)
- There are not enough materials (2%)

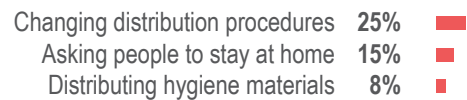
Prevention measures¹



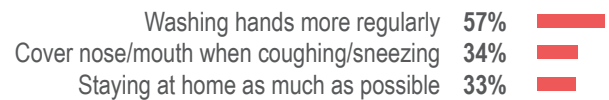
Camp staff training:	Yes
Quarantine for new arrivals:	No
Temperature check for people entering:	No

Camp management KIs reported that **soap and cleaning products (e.g. bleach) have been distributed** to the population, and that aid distributions have not been modified.

Top measures taken by camp management in response to the pandemic as reported by households:⁴



Top measures reportedly taken by households in response to the pandemic:⁴



Attitudes and behaviors of camp population¹



Awareness of COVID-19:	Everyone (around 100%)
COVID-19 perceived as important issue:	Most (around 75%)
Awareness of social distancing:	Most (around 75%)
People engaging in social distancing:	About half (around 50%)

Camp management KIs reported that **living conditions not allowing for social distancing** was the main issue the population experienced related to social distancing.

HEALTH



Number of healthcare facilities: 2

Types of facilities: Public hospital/clinic and NGO clinic

Of the 68% of households who required treatment in the 30 days prior to the assessment, 86% reported that they had faced **barriers to accessing medical care**.

Of those that faced barriers, the most commonly reported barriers to accessing medical care were:⁴

- Cannot afford to pay for health services (93%)
- High cost of transportation to health facilities (80%)

Households reporting that a member had given birth since living in the camp:



Of the 20% reporting a birth in their household, 95% reported that the women delivered **in a health facility**.

Households reporting members in the following categories:⁵

Person with serious injury		19%	
Person with chronic illness		20%	
Pregnant or lactating woman		32%	

87% of households with a pregnant or lactating woman while living in the camp had reportedly been able to access obstetric or antenatal care.

99% of children under five years old were reported to be **vaccinated against polio**.

Camp management KIs reported that **no infant nutrition items** had been distributed. The following nutrition activities have reportedly been undertaken:¹

Screening and referral for malnutrition:	Yes
Treatment for moderate-acute malnutrition:	Yes
Treatment for severe-acute malnutrition:	Yes
Micronutrient supplements:	Yes
Blanket supplementary feeding program:	No
Promotion of breastfeeding:	No

4. Households could select as many options as applied, meaning the sum of percentages may exceed 100%.
5. As reported by households themselves.

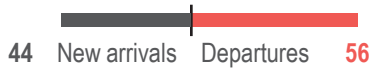


MOVEMENT

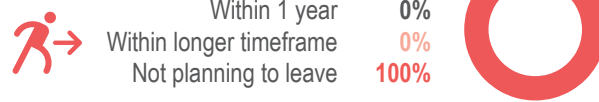
Top three household areas of origin:

Country	Governorate	Sub-district	
Syria	Ar-Raqqa	Tell Abiad	60%
Syria	Ar-Raqqa	Ein Issa	25%
Syria	Ar-Raqqa	Suluk	15%

Movements reported in the 30 days prior to the assessment:¹



Households planning to leave the camp:



On average, households in the camp had been displaced **2.8** times before arriving to this camp, and **98%** of households in the camp had been displaced longer than one year.

PROTECTION

Protection concerns

49% of households reported being aware of safety and security issues in the camp during the two weeks prior to the assessment.

The most commonly reported security issues among those reporting issues were:⁴

- Danger from snakes, scorpions, mice (70%)
- Theft (47%)

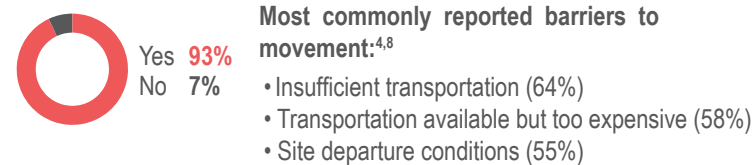
24% of households reported at least one member suffering from **psychosocial distress**.⁶

22% of households with children aged 3-17 reported that at least one child had exhibited **changes in behaviour**⁷ in the previous two weeks.

Freedom of movement

KIs reported that all residents who needed to **leave the camp temporarily** were able to do so at the time of data collection. However, **8%** of households reported not being able to leave without disclosing the medical reason for leaving.

Households reporting barriers when leaving the camp in the two weeks prior to data collection:



Vulnerable groups

Proportion of total assessed population in vulnerable groups:⁹

Chronically ill persons	3%	Single parents/caregivers	3%
Persons with serious injury	4%	Pregnant/lactating women	6%
Female-headed households	27%		

Elderly and persons with disabilities

At the time of data collection, no interventions targeting elderly populations were reported in this camp. Interventions targeting persons with disabilities were reported.¹

Documentation

14% of households reported having at least one married person who was not in possession of their **marriage certificate**.

26% of households with children reported that at least one child did not have **birth registration documentation**.

Gender-based violence

Households reporting knowing about any designated space for women and girls in the site:



Of the 97% of households who reported knowing about any designated space, **7%** reported that a girl or woman from their household attended one in the last 30 days prior to data collection.

Most commonly avoided camp areas by gender:^{4,8}

Men and boys (0%)

Women and girls (2%)
Outskirts of camp (100%)

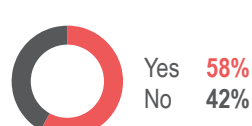
Child protection

Households reporting knowing about any child-friendly space in the site:



Of the 97% of households who reported knowing about any child-friendly spaces, **52%** reported that a child from their household attended one in the last 30 days prior to data collection.

Households reporting the presence of child protection concerns within the camp (in the two weeks prior to data collection):



Most commonly reported child protection concerns:^{4,8}

- Child labour (89%)
- Early marriage (below 18 years old) (53%)

Most commonly reported types of child labor by gender:^{4,8}

Boys (100%)

Domestic labour (51%)

Work for others (41%)

Transporting people or goods (29%)

Girls (97%)

Domestic labour (92%)

Work for others (8%)

Harsh or dangerous labour (8%)

41% of households reported that they were aware of **child labour** occurring among **children under the age of 11**, most commonly reporting domestic labour (67%) and working for others (14%).^{4,8}

6. As reported by households themselves. Assessed symptoms included: persistent headaches, sleeplessness, and more aggressive behaviour than normal towards children or other household members.
7. Changes in sleeping patterns, interactions with peers, attentiveness, or interest in other daily activities.

8. Question applies to subset of households who reported experiencing a given issue.

9. Self-reported by households and not verified through medical records.



EDUCATION



At the time of data collection, there was **1** educational facility in the camp.

Age groups: Mar-17
Service providers: Local Authorities
Certification available: Yes

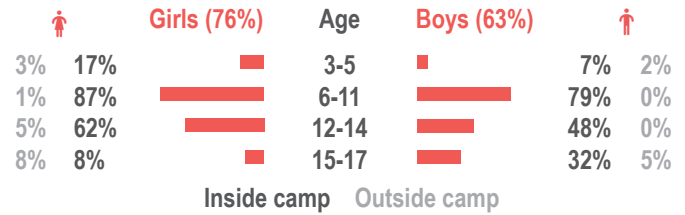
Barriers to education

18% of households reported that their children are receiving **no education**, and **47%** reported that they faced **barriers to education**. The most commonly reported barriers were:^{4,8}

- No education for children of a certain age (72%)
- Child does not want to attend (28%)
- Children have to work (13%)

71% of households reported that their school-aged children **receive education**. Additionally, **0%** of households reported that their school-aged children receive education through **remote learning**.

Proportion of school-age children attending education



Available WASH facilities in educational facilities

Latrines: ¹	Yes (gender-segregated)
Handwashing facilities: ¹	Yes
Safe drinking water: ¹	Yes

WATER, SANITATION AND HYGIENE (WASH)

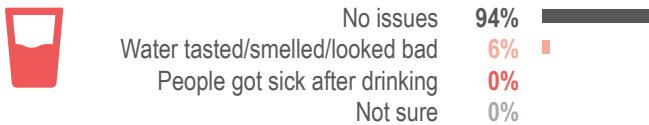
Water



Public water tank was the primary source of water at the time of data collection. The public tap/standpipe was reportedly used by 100% of households for drinking water.

3% of households reported they spent at least two consecutive days without access to drinking water over the two weeks prior to data collection.

Drinking water issues, by % of households reporting:⁴



9% of households reported that they treated their drinking water over the past two weeks prior to data collection using use chlorine tablets, powder or liquid (8%) and boiling the water (1%).

Proportion of households that reported using negative strategies to cope with a lack of water (potable and not potable) in the two weeks prior to data collection:



Most commonly reported strategies:⁴

- Rely on drinking water stored previously (8%)
- Modify hygiene practices (2%)

5% of households reported someone suffered from diarrhoea; **19%** of households reported someone suffering from respiratory illnesses; and in **2%** of households someone was reported to be suffering from leishmaniasis in the two weeks prior to data collection.¹⁰

Hygiene

99% of households reported having **hand/body soap** available at the time of data collection.

Proportion of households that were able to access all assessed hygiene items in the last two weeks prior to data collection:¹¹



The most commonly inaccessible items included **washing powder, and detergent for dishes**. Hygiene items were most commonly inaccessible because respondents could not afford to buy them.

10. Self-verified by household and not medically confirmed.

11. The assessed hygiene items included: hand/body soap, sanitary pads, disposable diapers, washing powder, jerry cans/buckets, toothbrushes (for adults and children), toothpaste (for adults and children), shampoo (for adults and babies), cleaning liquid (for house), detergent for dishes, plastic garbage bags, washing lines, nail clippers, combs, and towels.

Sanitation



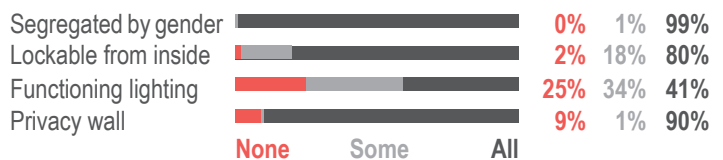
Number of communal latrines: **279**

Defecation facility usage

- Household:¹² 0%
- Communal:¹² 99%
- Open defecation 0%

2% of households reported that some members **could not access latrines**, with people living with disabilities (2%) being most frequently reported by households.

Communal latrine characteristics, by % of households reporting:¹⁴



Communal latrine cleanliness, by % of households reporting:



Very clean	17%
Mostly clean	66%
Somewhat unclean	14%
Very unclean	3%



Number of communal showers: **179**

Shower/bathing places availability and usage:⁴

	Available	Used
• Household: ¹²	8%	0%
• Communal: ¹²	77%	0%
• Bathing in shelter: ¹³		97%

Waste disposal



Primary waste disposal system: Garbage collection (NGO)¹

Disposal location: A garbage dump 4 km from camp¹

Sewage system: Sewage network¹

The primary issues with garbage reported by households was an **insufficient number of bins/dumpsters (3% of households)**.

12. Communal latrines and showers are shared by more than one household. Household latrines and showers are used only by one household. This may be an informal designation that is not officially enforced.

13. A shower is defined as a designated place to shower as opposed to bathing in shelter (i.e using a bucket).

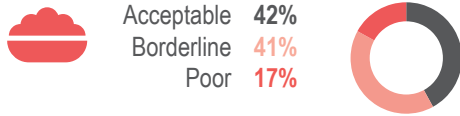
14. Excluding households who answered 'not sure'.



FOOD SECURITY

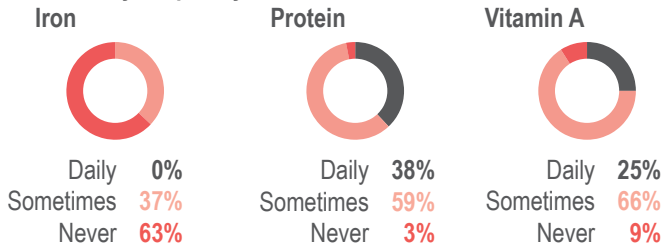
Food consumption

Percentage of households at each FCS level:³



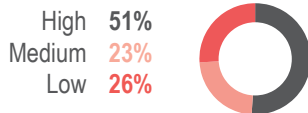
Nutrition

Percentage of households consuming iron, protein and vitamin A-rich foods by frequency:¹⁵



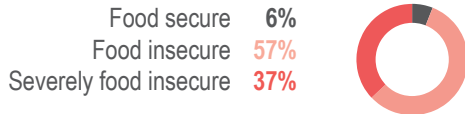
Dietary diversity

Percentage of households by Household Dietary Diversity score level:¹⁶

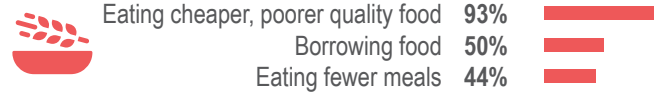


Food security

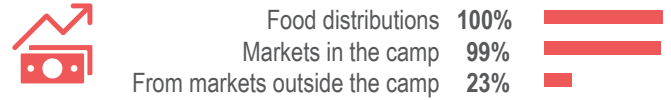
Percentage of households at each Arab Family Food Security Scale level:¹⁷



Top three reported food-related coping strategies:¹⁸

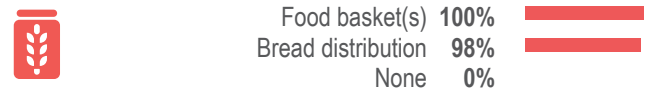


Most commonly reported main sources of food:^{4,19}



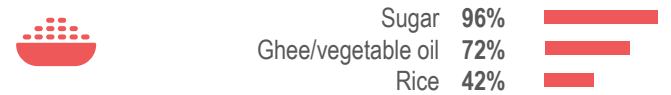
Food distributions

Type of food assistance received,¹⁹ by % of households reporting:⁴



100% of households had received a food basket, bread distribution, cash, or vouchers in the 30 days prior to data collection.

Top three food items households would like to receive more of:²⁰

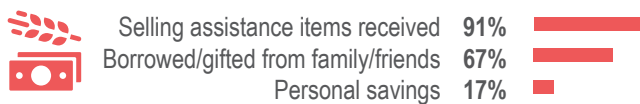


LIVELIHOODS

Household income

Average monthly household income:¹⁹ **314,137 SYP** (82 USD)²¹

Top three reported primary income sources:^{19,22}

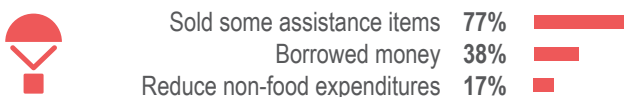


Most commonly reported employment sectors:^{4,19,22}



Coping strategies

Top three reported livelihoods-related coping strategies:^{19,20}



Households reported that **needing cash for more urgent spending** (80%) and **the item/assistance not being the first priority** (22%) were the main reason for selling assistance items they received.

15. Households were asked to report the number of days per week nutrient-rich food groups were consumed, from which nutrient consumption frequencies were derived. World Food Programme (2015) [Food Consumption Score Nutritional Quality Analysis - Technical Guidance Note](#).

16. Households were asked to report the number of days per week they consume foods in different food groups, which was used to derive a Household Dietary Diversity score. UN Food and Agriculture Organisation (2011) [Guidelines for Measuring Household and Individual Dietary Diversity](#).

17. Households were asked to respond to a series of questions which were used to derive a food security rating. Sahyoun et al. (2014) [Development and Validation of an Arab Family Food Security Scale](#).

Household expenditure

Average monthly household expenditure:¹⁹ **278,837 SYP** (72 USD)²¹

Top three reported expenditure categories:^{19,22}



Household debt

38% of households reported that they had **borrowed money** in the 30 days prior to data collection; on average, these households had a debt load amounting to **211,505 SYP** (55 USD).²¹

Top three reported reasons for taking on debt:^{8,20}



Top reported creditors:^{4,8,20}



18. Households were asked to report the number of days they employed each coping strategy, graph only shows the overall frequency with which a coping strategy was reported.

19. In the 30 days prior to data collection.

20. Households could select up to three options.

21. The effective exchange rate for Northeast Syria was reported to be 3,855 Syrian Pounds to the dollar in March 2021 ([Reach Initiative_NES Marke Monitoring Exercise](#) March 2021).

22. Percentage of households reporting income/expenditure in each category; households could select as many options as applied.



SHELTER AND NON-FOOD ITEMS (NFIs)

Average number of people reported per shelter: **4.6**

Average number of shelters reported per household: **1.3**

Average reported household size: **5.8** individuals



Tent status

In assessed households, **71%** of tents were in new condition.²³

Flood susceptibility

Camp management KIs reported that **0%** of tents are prone to flooding, and there are **drainage channels** between shelters.

Sources of light

Most commonly reported sources of light inside shelters:⁴



Public electricity network	99%	<div style="width: 99%;"></div>
Light powered by solar panels	20%	<div style="width: 20%;"></div>
Cell phone light	8%	<div style="width: 8%;"></div>

NFI needs

Top three reported anticipated NFI needs for the next three months:²⁰



Carpet/mat for the floor	60%	<div style="width: 60%;"></div>
Mattresses/sleeping mats	52%	<div style="width: 52%;"></div>
Bedding items (sheets, pillows)	46%	<div style="width: 46%;"></div>

Shelter adequacy

Reported shelter adequacy issues:¹



- Security (intruders, theft)

Top three most commonly reported shelter item needs:²⁰



Tarpaulins	51%	<div style="width: 51%;"></div>
Plastic sheeting	51%	<div style="width: 51%;"></div>
Shading material	40%	<div style="width: 40%;"></div>

0% of respondents reported they had access to a communal kitchen.

Fire safety



Camp management KIs reported that **fire extinguishers were available on each block** and that actors in the camp **provided residents with information on fire safety** in the three months prior to data collection.

93% of respondents reported that their household had received information about fire safety and **1%** reported having **difficulties understanding** the information with the main difficulty being that there were **not enough materials**.

CAMP COORDINATION AND CAMP MANAGEMENT

Camp management and committees

74% of households reported that they did not know the camp management, with **25%** saying that they were not sure.

Committees reported by camp management KIs to be present in camp:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Camp management	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Youth committee
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Women's committee	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Maintenance committee
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> WASH committee	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Distribution committee
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Health committee	

95% of households reported that they knew who to contact to raise issues or concerns.

Information needs

Top three reported sources of information about services:²⁰



Word of Mouth	59%	<div style="width: 59%;"></div>
Local authorities	59%	<div style="width: 59%;"></div>
NGO	43%	<div style="width: 43%;"></div>

Top three reported information needs:²⁰



How to find job opportunities	75%	<div style="width: 75%;"></div>
Information on returning to area of origin	53%	<div style="width: 53%;"></div>
Sponsorship programs	28%	<div style="width: 28%;"></div>

23. Enumerators were asked to observe the state of the tent and record its condition.

About REACH's COVID-19 response

As an initiative deployed in many vulnerable and crisis-affected countries, REACH is deeply concerned by the devastating impact the COVID-19 pandemic has on the millions of affected people we seek to serve. REACH is currently working with Cash Working Groups and partners to scale up its programming in response to this pandemic, with the goal of identifying practical ways to inform humanitarian responses in the countries where we operate. Updates regarding REACH's response to COVID-19 can be found in [a devoted thread](#) on the REACH website. Contact geneva@impact-initiatives.org for further information.

About REACH Initiative

REACH Initiative facilitates the development of information tools and products that enhance the capacity of aid actors to make evidence-based decisions in emergency, recovery and development contexts. The methodologies used by REACH include primary data collection and in-depth analysis, and all activities are conducted through inter-agency aid coordination mechanisms. REACH is a joint initiative of IMPACT Initiatives, ACTED and the United Nations Institute for Training and Research - Operational Satellite Applications Programme (UNITAR-UNOSAT).