

# Research Terms of Reference

National Household Survey on Community Perceptions and Recent Changes in Humanitarian Assistance in Syria

SYR2508

Syria

August 2025

V01

**REACH** Informing more effective humanitarian action

## 1. Executive Summary

<b>Country of intervention</b>	Syria						
<b>Type of Emergency</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Natural hazard	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Conflict	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other ( <i>specify</i> )	
<b>Type of Crisis</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Sudden onset	<input type="checkbox"/>	Slow onset	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Protracted	
<b>Mandating Body/ Agency</b>	REACH						
<b>IMPACT Project Code</b>	16BIB						
<b>Overall Research Timeframe</b> ( <i>from research design to final outputs / M&amp;E</i> )	01/07/2025 to 31/11/2025						
<b>Research Timeframe</b> <i>Add planned deadlines (for the first cycle if more than 1)</i>	1. Pilot/ training: 03/08/2025			6. Preliminary presentation: TBD – Ad-hoc			
	2. Start collecting data: 28/07/2025			7. Outputs sent for validation: 19/10/2025			
	3. Data collected: 28/08/2025			8. Outputs published: 09/11/2025			
	4. Data analysed: 18/09/2025			9. Final presentation: TBD – Ad-hoc			
	5. Data sent for validation: 18/09/2025						
<b>Number of assessments</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Single assessment (one cycle)					
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Multi-assessment (more than one cycle) <i>[Describe here the frequency of the cycle]</i>					
<b>Humanitarian milestones</b> <i>Specify what the assessment will inform and when</i> <i>e.g. The shelter cluster will use this data to draft its Revised Flash Appeal;</i>	<b>Milestone</b>			<b>Deadline (can be tentative)</b>			
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Donor plan/strategy			TBC		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Inter-cluster plan/strategy			TBC		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Cluster plan/strategy			TBC		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NGO platform plan/strategy			TBC		
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other (Specify):					
<b>Audience Type &amp; Dissemination</b> <i>Specify who the assessment will inform and how you will disseminate to inform the audience</i>	<b>Audience type</b>			<b>Dissemination</b>			
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Strategic			X General Product Mailing (e.g. mail to NGO consortium, HCT participants, Donors)		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Programmatic			X Cluster Mailing (Education, Shelter and WASH) and presentation of findings at the next cluster meeting		
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Operational					
	<input type="checkbox"/>	[Other, Specify]			<input type="checkbox"/> Presentation of findings (e.g. at HCT meeting; Cluster meeting)		

		X Website Dissemination (Relief Web & REACH Resource Centre) <input type="checkbox"/> [Other, Specify]		
<b>General Objective</b>	This study seeks to assess the perceived and experienced impacts of the U.S. funding suspension on Syrian communities by documenting changes in aid access, household coping mechanisms, and information needs, to inform principled humanitarian planning, community engagement, and advocacy efforts.			
<b>Specific Objective(s)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Evaluate the changes faced by Syrian households in accessing humanitarian assistance following the funding suspension.</li> <li>To identify household-level coping mechanisms adopted in response to reduced or changed aid availability.</li> <li>To assess community information needs, preferences, and feedback mechanisms, with a focus on accountability and participation in humanitarian programming.</li> </ul>			
<b>Research Questions</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>How has access to humanitarian assistance changed for Syrian households since the funding suspension?</li> <li>What coping strategies are households employing to manage the impacts of reduced or inconsistent aid?</li> <li>What are the current information needs, communication preferences, and perceptions of accountability by the affected communities?</li> </ul>			
<b>Geographic Coverage</b>	Nationwide Assessment			
<b>Secondary data sources</b>	REACH, Community consultations on impact of US funding cuts on communities and humanitarian coordination structures, South Sudan, Mali <a href="#">Evaluating the impact of two decades of USAID interventions and projecting the effects of defunding on mortality up to 2030: a retrospective impact evaluation and forecasting analysis</a> , Cavalcanti, Daniella Medeiros et al. <i>The Lancet</i> , Volume 406, Issue 10500, 283 – 294 <a href="#">What USAID does, and the impact of Trump’s cuts on foreign aid</a> , Oxfam America, 2025 <a href="#">Policy Analysis: USAID Funding Freeze and Its Impact on The Humanitarian Response in Syria</a> , NWS NGO Forum, February 2025 <a href="#">Effects of US foreign-assistance reductions in the Middle East</a> , The International Institute for Strategic Studies UNHCR <a href="#">Accountability to Affected Population</a> , Emergency Handbook			
<b>Population(s)</b>	X	IDPs in the camp	X	IDPs in informal sites
Select all that apply	X	IDPs in host communities	<input type="checkbox"/>	IDPs [Other, Specify]
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Refugees in the camp	<input type="checkbox"/>	Refugees in informal sites
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Refugees in host communities	<input type="checkbox"/>	Refugees [Other, Specify]
	X	Host communities	<input type="checkbox"/>	[Other, Specify]
<b>Stratification</b>	X	Geographical #: 13	<input type="checkbox"/>	Group #: _ _ _
			<input type="checkbox"/>	[Other Specify] #: _ _

Select type(s) and enter the number of strata		Population size per strata known? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	Population size per strata is known? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Population size per strata is known? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
<b>Data collection tool(s)</b>	X	Structured (Quantitative)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Semi-structured (Qualitative)
		<b>Sampling method</b>		<b>Data collection method</b>
<b>Structured data collection tool # 1</b> Select sampling and data collection method and specify target # interviews		<input type="checkbox"/> Purposive <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Probability / Simple random <input type="checkbox"/> Probability / Stratified simple random <input type="checkbox"/> Probability / Cluster sampling <input type="checkbox"/> Probability / Stratified cluster sampling <input type="checkbox"/> [Other, Specify]		<input type="checkbox"/> Key informant interview (Target #):_____ <input type="checkbox"/> Group discussion (Target #):_____ <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Household interview (Target #): 1158 <input type="checkbox"/> Individual interview (Target #):_____ <input type="checkbox"/> Direct observations (Target #):_____ <input type="checkbox"/> [Other, Specify] (Target #):_____
<b>Target level of precision if probability sampling</b>		95% level of confidence		10+/- % margin of error
<b>Disaggregation by gender and age</b> Are you planning to conduct sex/age disaggregated analysis?		Gender		Age
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes
	X	No	X	No
<b>Data management platform(s)</b>	X	IMPACT	<input type="checkbox"/>	UNHCR
	<input type="checkbox"/>	[Other, Specify]		
<b>Expected output type(s)</b>	X	Situation overview #: __	<input type="checkbox"/>	Report #: __
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Presentation (Preliminary findings) #: __	<input type="checkbox"/>	Presentation (Final) #: __
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Interactive dashboard #: _	<input type="checkbox"/>	Webmap #: __
	<input type="checkbox"/>	[Other, Specify] #: __		
<b>Access</b>	X	Public (available on REACH resource center and other humanitarian platforms)		
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Restricted (bilateral dissemination only upon agreed dissemination list, no publication on REACH or other platforms)		
<b>Visibility:</b> Specify which logos should be on outputs		<b>REACH</b> [By default, unless specified otherwise]		
		<b>Donor:</b> SDC		

## 2. Rationale

### 2.1 Background

In light of recent shifts in the humanitarian funding landscape in Syria, most notably the suspension of funding by the United States for humanitarian programming, there is an urgent need to understand the implications for crisis-affected communities. Historically, the United States has been among the largest humanitarian donors to Syria, contributing a substantial share of total humanitarian funding across key sectors such as food security, health, WASH, and protection. In 2024 alone, US foreign assistance to Syria amounted to approximately USD 524.6 million, supporting large-scale emergency operations implemented by UN agencies and NGOs. In 2025, however, this figure dropped sharply to USD 42.8 million, marking a significant reduction in available resources for humanitarian actors.

This funding suspension represents a major shock to the humanitarian system in Syria, particularly in the context of a protracted crisis marked by high levels of vulnerability, limited livelihood opportunities, and constrained access to basic services. Given the scale of historical reliance on US funding, the sudden decrease is expected to disrupt ongoing programmes, reduce the coverage of critical services, and heighten the risk of unmet humanitarian needs.

Against this backdrop, REACH is launching a nationwide household-level assessment to capture both perceived and experienced impacts of this development on Syrian communities. The assessment will document changes in access to aid, household coping mechanisms, and information needs and preferences, with a specific focus on community feedback and accountability. The evidence generated will support humanitarian actors, donors, and coordination bodies in understanding the scale and nature of the impacts, strengthening advocacy efforts, and adapting response strategies in a constrained funding environment.

## 2.2 Intended impact

The findings of this assessment will provide critical evidence to guide principled humanitarian planning and strengthen advocacy efforts aimed at restoring and sustaining funding for the Syria response, including the mobilization of alternative funding sources from other bilateral and multilateral partners. By clearly documenting the effects of the funding suspension on access to humanitarian assistance, the results will equip coordination bodies, NGOs, and donor representatives with a robust evidence base to make informed decisions on resource allocation and programme prioritization. In addition to influencing funding decisions, the assessment will inform operational planning by highlighting the extent to which Syrian households are able to meet their basic needs, the coping strategies they adopt, and how these have evolved in response to reduced aid availability. This will enable humanitarian actors to design and adapt interventions that are responsive to the realities faced by affected communities, and to safeguard the humanitarian principles of impartiality and needs-based assistance in a constrained funding environment. Findings will also support targeted community engagement efforts by providing insight into how communities experience and perceive recent developments, helping to shape more inclusive and transparent communication with affected populations. While the assessment will not directly feed into the HNO or HRP cycles, it will inform the implementation of ongoing programmes and contribute to discussions on funding priorities at inter-agency coordination forums, donor briefings, and advocacy platforms. Ultimately, the assessment aims to ensure that humanitarian response actors have timely, context-specific data to guide action, mitigate risks of service gaps, and advocate for sustained, equitable, and needs-driven support to crisis-affected Syrians.

## 3. Methodology

### 3.1 Methodology overview

This assessment employs a quantitative methodology through a nationwide household-level structured survey designed to capture Syrian communities' perceptions of and experiences with recent changes in humanitarian assistance, particularly following the suspension of major funding streams. The population of interest covers the entire territory of Syria, encompassing all 14 governorates and aiming to represent both urban and rural populations in accessible areas.

### 3.2 Sampling Strategy and Approach

The sampling approach follows a probability-based, stratified random sampling design to ensure statistical validity and geographic coverage. The sampling frame is based on the Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) March 2025 Baseline population data. A 95% confidence level with a 10% margin of error at governorate level was applied, resulting in a target sample size of 96 households per governorate. As-Sweida and Quneitra governorates were excluded from the sample due to current security constraints. Within each governorate, the sample was proportionally distributed to accessible sub-districts based on population size and subsequently allocated to communities according to each community's share of the sub-district population. This proportional allocation ensures that the final dataset is representative of the population distribution in accessible areas, while adhering to the assessment's logistical and security constraints.

#### Table 1: Planned sample size distribution:

Community	Governorate	District	Sub district	Community sample
C1001	Damascus	Damascus	Damascus	96
C3480	Lattakia	Lattakia	Lattakia	63
C5710	Ar-Raqqa	Ar-Raqqa	Ar-Raqqa	62
C2528	Homs	Homs	Homs	53
C2987	Hama	Hama	Hama	42
C5086	Deir-ez-Zor	Deir-ez-Zor	Deir-ez-Zor	42
C5221	Tartous	Tartous	Tartous	40
C4360	Al-Hasakeh	Al-Hasakeh	Al-Hasakeh	38
C1007	Aleppo	Jebel Saman	Jebel Saman	35
C4564	Al-Hasakeh	Quamishli	Quamishli	30
C5993	Dar'a	Dar'a	Dar'a	29
C2304	Rural Damascus	Rural Damascus	Jaramana	26
C4129	Idleb	Harim	Dana	21
C5929	Ar-Raqqa	Ath-Thawrah	Al-Thawrah	21
C3585	Lattakia	Jablah	Jablah	19
C3871	Idleb	Idleb	Idleb	19
C3367	Hama	Masyaf	Masyaf	18
C5192	Deir-ez-Zor	Al Mayadin	Al Mayadin	18
C3244	Hama	As-Salamiyeh	As-Salamiyeh	17
C1564	Aleppo	A'zaz	A'zaz	15
C1202	Aleppo	Al Bab	Al Bab	14
C5472	Tartous	Safita	Safita	14
C6058	Dar'a	As-Sanamayn	As-Sanamayn	13
C1767	Aleppo	Menbij	Menbij	11
C2762	Homs	Tall Kalakh	Tall Kalakh	11
C5360	Tartous	Banyas	Banyas	11
C2341	Rural Damascus	Duma	Harasta	10
C4881	Al-Hasakeh	Al-Malikeyyeh	Al-Malikeyyeh	10
C6124	Dar'a	Izra'	Nawa	10
C5586	Tartous	Dreikish	Dreikish	9
C2501	Rural Damascus	Darayya	Sahnaya	8
C2882	Homs	Ar-Rastan	Talbiseh	8
C3145	Hama	As-Suqaylabiyah	Tell Salhib	8
C4278	Idleb	Ariha	Ariha	8
C5175	Deir-ez-Zor	Abu Kamal	Hajin	8
C1366	Aleppo	Afrin	Afrin	7
C2395	Rural Damascus	At Tall	At Tall	7
C2457	Rural Damascus	Qatana	Qatana	7
C2500	Rural Damascus	Darayya	Sahnaya	7
C3809	Lattakia	Al-Qardaha	Al-Qardaha	7
C4199	Idleb	Jisr-Ash-Shugur	Jisr-Ash-Shugur	7
C5404	Tartous	Qadmous	Qadmous	7
C2328	Rural Damascus	Rural Damascus	Qudsiya	6
C2705	Homs	Al-Qusayr	Al-Qusayr	6
C2915	Homs	Al Makhrim	Al Makhrim	6

C4130	Idleb	Harim	Dana	6
C3453	Hama	Muhradah	Muhradah	5
C3671	Lattakia	Al-Haffa	Al-Haffa	5
C5638	Tartous	Sheikh Badr	Sheikh Badr	5
C5905	Ar-Raqqa	Tell Abiad	Ein Issa	5
C6051	Dar'a	As-Sanamayn	As-Sanamayn	5
C3949	Idleb	Idleb	Maaret Tamsrin	4
C4121	Idleb	Harim	Dana	4
C4126	Idleb	Harim	Dana	4
C4131	Idleb	Harim	Dana	4
C4140	Idleb	Harim	Salqin	4
C4688	Al-Hasakeh	Quamishli	Amuda	4
C5210	Deir-ez-Zor	Al Mayadin	Ashara	4
C5226	Tartous	Tartous	Tartous	4
C5942	Ar-Raqqa	Ath-Thawrah	Mansura	4
C6030	Dar'a	Dar'a	Da'el	4
C6111	Dar'a	Izra'	Jasim	4
C6116	Dar'a	Izra'	Hrak	4
C1946	Aleppo	Ain Al Arab	Ain al Arab	3
C2227	Aleppo	Jarablus	Jarablus	3
C2299	Rural Damascus	Rural Damascus	Babella	3
C2300	Rural Damascus	Rural Damascus	Babella	3
C2327	Rural Damascus	Rural Damascus	Qudsiya	3
C2394	Rural Damascus	Al Qutayfah	Raheiba	3
C2419	Rural Damascus	An Nabk	An Nabk	3
C2450	Rural Damascus	Az-Zabdani	Madaya	3
C2870	Homs	Ar-Rastan	Ar-Rastan	3
C3947	Idleb	Idleb	Maaret Tamsrin	3
C3985	Idleb	Al Ma'ra	Ma'arrat An Nu'man	3
C6389	Idleb	Harim	Dana	3
C4409	Al-Hasakeh	Al-Hasakeh	Tal Tamer	3
C4446	Al-Hasakeh	Al-Hasakeh	Shadadah	3
C5202	Deir-ez-Zor	Al Mayadin	Thiban	3
C5211	Deir-ez-Zor	Al Mayadin	Ashara	3
C6002	Dar'a	Dar'a	Busra Esh-Sham	3
C6034	Dar'a	Dar'a	Mzeireb	3
C6101	Dar'a	Izra'	Izra'	3
C6126	Dar'a	Izra'	Sheikh Miskine	3
C6131	Dar'a	Izra'	Tassil	3
C1022	Aleppo	Jebel Saman	Atareb	2
C1139	Aleppo	Jebel Saman	Daret Azza	2
C1664	Aleppo	A'zaz	Suran	2
C2154	Aleppo	As-Safira	As-Safira	2
C2301	Rural Damascus	Rural Damascus	Babella	2
C2319	Rural Damascus	Rural Damascus	Kafr Batna	2

C2401	Rural Damascus	At Tall	At Tall	2
C2416	Rural Damascus	Yabroud	Yabroud	2
C2541	Homs	Homs	Taldu	2
C2556	Homs	Homs	Taldu	2
C2547	Homs	Homs	Taldu	2
C2663	Homs	Homs	Qaryatein	2
C2689	Homs	Homs	Shin	2
C3114	Hama	As-Suqaylabiyah	As-Suqaylabiyah	2
C3180	Hama	As-Suqaylabiyah	Shat-ha	2
C3180	Hama	As-Suqaylabiyah	Shat-ha	2
C3457	Hama	Muhradah	Muhradah	2
C3625	Lattakia	Jablah	Qteilbiyyeh	2
C4115	Idleb	Harim	Harim	2
C6692	Idleb	Harim	Dana	2
C4176	Idleb	Harim	Armanaz	2
C4519	Al-Hasakeh	Al-Hasakeh	Hole	2
C4751	Al-Hasakeh	Quamishli	Qahtaniyyeh	2
C4841	Al-Hasakeh	Al-Malikeyyeh	Al-Malikeyyeh	2
C4919	Al-Hasakeh	Al-Malikeyyeh	Jawadiyah	2
C5110	Deir-ez-Zor	Deir-ez-Zor	Basira	2
C5119	Deir-ez-Zor	Deir-ez-Zor	Basira	2
C5157	Deir-ez-Zor	Deir-ez-Zor	Sur	2
C8365	Deir-ez-Zor	Abu Kamal	Hajin	2
C5173	Deir-ez-Zor	Abu Kamal	Hajin	2
C5174	Deir-ez-Zor	Abu Kamal	Hajin	2
C5186	Deir-ez-Zor	Abu Kamal	Susat	2
C5207	Deir-ez-Zor	Al Mayadin	Ashara	2
C5206	Deir-ez-Zor	Al Mayadin	Ashara	2
C5236	Tartous	Tartous	Tartous	2
C5661	Tartous	Sheikh Badr	Qumseyyeh	2
C5661	Tartous	Sheikh Badr	Qumseyyeh	2
C5390	Tartous	Qadmous	Anaza	2
C5747	Ar-Raqqa	Ar-Raqqa	Sabka	2
C5766	Ar-Raqqa	Ar-Raqqa	Karama	2
C6039	Dar'a	Dar'a	Mzeireb	2
C6043	Dar'a	Dar'a	Jizeh	2
C6044	Dar'a	Dar'a	Mseifra	2
C6048	Dar'a	As-Sanamayn	As-Sanamayn	2
C6083	Dar'a	As-Sanamayn	Ghabagheb	2
C6107	Dar'a	Izra'	Izra'	2

### 3.3 Key Definitions

**Accountability:** Designing and delivering programming in a way that is transparent, participatory and inclusive of affected populations, ultimately treating them as key stakeholders, alongside traditional humanitarian partners and donors.<sup>1</sup>

**Community:** IMPACT recognises that “the community” is a fluid construct which can cover multiple geographies and population groups. Whilst communities may be grouped by common factors, such as race, location, and language, they are not homogenous groups and should not be treated as such. IMPACT uses the term ‘affected communities’ to describe groups which are impacted by both protracted and emergency crises and which may be the recipients of humanitarian assistance

**Coping Mechanisms:** The strategies employed by individuals or households to manage the impact of reduced resources or services. These can be positive (e.g., finding alternative income sources) or negative (e.g., reducing meals, child labour).<sup>2</sup>

**Participation:** Participation is understood as the involvement of crisis-affected people in one or more phases of a humanitarian project or programme.<sup>3</sup>

**Protracted crises and conflicts:** Protracted crises and conflicts are challenging contexts in which to fight hunger and malnutrition – the most serious and common consequences – and poverty. Protracted crises are where a significant proportion of the population is acutely vulnerable to death, disease, and disruptions in livelihoods over a prolonged period of time.<sup>4</sup>

### 3.4 Secondary Data review

The assessment will draw on existing reports, funding data, and sectoral analyses from humanitarian partners and coordination structures to contextualise the primary findings and validate observed trends. This includes review of:

- REACH, *Community consultations on impact of US funding cuts on communities and humanitarian coordination structures, South Sudan, Mali*
- [\*Evaluating the impact of two decades of USAID interventions and projecting the effects of defunding on mortality up to 2030: a retrospective impact evaluation and forecasting analysis\*](#), Cavalcanti, Daniella Medeiros et al. *The Lancet*, Volume 406, Issue 10500, 283 – 294
- [\*What USAID does, and the impact of Trump’s cuts on foreign aid\*](#), Oxfam America, 2025
- [\*Policy Analysis: USAID Funding Freeze and Its Impact on The Humanitarian Response in Syria\*](#), NWS NGO Forum, February 2025
- [\*Effects of US foreign-assistance reductions in the Middle East\*](#), The International Institute for Strategic Studies
- UNHCR [\*Accountability to Affected Population\*](#), Emergency Handbook

### 3.5 Primary Data Collection

Data will be collected from July 28, 2025 to August 28, 2025, through structured, face-to-face interviews conducted by trained enumerators under the direct supervision of the REACH operations team, and, where relevant, trusted local data collection partners will support the completion of the data collection in their operational zones. The data collection structured tool has been carefully designed to ensure simplicity (approximately 10 minutes to complete) and cultural appropriateness, especially in situations where the local communities are currently facing reduced essential assistance.

Overall, the data collection tool contains four sections:

<sup>1</sup> IMPACT, [\*Participation of affected communities in the research cycle: a toolkit\*](#)

<sup>2</sup> High level expert forum on food insecurity in protracted crisis, [\*Resilience in protracted crises: exploring coping mechanisms and resilience of households, communities and local institutions\*](#)

<sup>3</sup> ALNAP. 2009. Participation Handbook

<sup>4</sup> FAO, KORE – [\*Knowledge platform on Emergencies and Resilience\*](#)

- respondent's household profile and general demographics.
- access to aid and perceptions of changes.
- accountability to affected populations (AAP).
- Community feedback and trust in the humanitarian fund flow.

This survey will be conducted in across 14 governorates in Syria, using stratified random sampling to achieve representative findings for host, IDP and returnee populations. Data collection will be conducted face-to-face with the head of the household, or above 18 years old member of the household, and before the start of each interview, informed consent will be obtained from the respondents, following a structured verbal introduction on the activity, including the purpose of the assessment and sections and areas that will be asked about. The respondents will be assured of the confidentiality of data and asked to provide voluntary consent prior to participation. The methodology adheres to humanitarian ethical principles, including do no harm, neutrality, and safeguarding of respondents' data and dignity

REACH enumerators will utilise a quantitative assessment tool (created as an ODK xls form) on the KoBo Collect and KoBo Server platforms, where enumerators will access the tool and submit their survey forms directly. Data will be triangulated through follow-ups conducted between assessment staff and field teams.

### **3.6 Data Processing and Analysis**

The analysis of data collected through this household survey will be performed quantitatively, which reflects the perceptions, experiences, and priorities revealed by the assessed communities affected by recent shifts in the humanitarian assistance landscape. Throughout the data collection period, the raw dataset will be continuously downloaded by authorised REACH staff for checking and cleaning using specialised R scripts. Through the data checking, any spotted data quality issues will be communicated progressively with the data collection team to avoid making them again. The full data cleaning usually takes place in two batches: A first batch in the middle of data collection, and a second final batch when data collection is completed.

The collected data will be cleaned, checked for validity and reliability, and analysed using the R Studio statistical analysis software to ensure accuracy, consistency, and reliability. Once the data is cleaned, the data is aggregated and analysed at the appropriate geographic levels, mainly aggregating the sub-district level data to the governorate level, with the required correction waiting is performed, to produce an output that provides the audiences with an output on the governorate and national levels.

Following the cleaning, a descriptive statistic (e.g., frequencies, proportions, means) will be used to summarise key indicators across the full sample and disaggregated by relevant variables such as governorate, assistance status and other relevant variables.

The analysis will be performed with a key focus on the impacts of funding suspension on the assessed households and their communities, to identify whether and how communities are perceiving aid reductions, changes in service quality or quantity, and shifts in trust or expectations. Also, the analysis will assess the type of impact, whether direct or indirectly experienced by the responding households. Responses related to accountability to affected populations

(AAP), including the reported access to information, understanding of aid processes, and preferred communication channels to remain informed on the assistance status and availability, will be analysed and used to inform programmatic adjustments and improve two-way engagement between communities and humanitarian actors.

The assessment findings will be structured and presented in a factsheet document, combining visual data representations (charts, disaggregation tables, and selected maps where relevant) with an analytical narrative of secondary data and interpretation.

### 3.7 Limitations

While this assessment aims to evaluate the impact of funding cuts and broader changes in the humanitarian landscape in Syria, several limitations should be noted when interpreting the findings. Due to the protracted conflict, humanitarian access has varied significantly across the country and may be limited by security conditions, administrative restrictions, and other operational constraints. Northern Syria has generally been more accessible to humanitarian actors, whereas access and funding for interventions in central and southern governorates have been more restricted. As a result, the geographic coverage of this assessment does not fully reflect the experiences of hard-to-reach populations, and findings may underrepresent their perspectives.

In addition, some households may have limited awareness of the funding suspensions themselves. Consequently, their responses may capture indirect impacts shaped by other factors such as seasonal variations, shifts in aid modalities, or broader changes in the humanitarian context. These constraints should be considered when interpreting the assessment results.

## 4. Key ethical considerations and related risks

The proposed research design meets/does not meet the following criteria:

<i>The proposed research design...</i>	<b>Yes/ No</b>	<b>Details if no (including mitigation)</b>
... Has it been coordinated with relevant stakeholders to <b>avoid unnecessary duplication</b> of data collection efforts?	Yes	
... <b>Respects respondents, their rights and dignity</b> ( <i>specifically by: seeking informed consent, designing the length of survey/discussion while being considerate of participants' time, ensuring accurate reporting of information provided</i> )?	Yes	
... Does not <b>expose data collectors to any risks as a direct result</b> of participation in data collection?	Yes	
... Does not <b>expose respondents / their communities to any risks as a direct result</b> of participation in data collection?	Yes	
... Does not involve <b>collecting information on specific topics which may be stressful and/ or re-traumatising</b> for research participants (both respondents and data collectors)?	Yes	

... Does not involve <b>data collection with minors</b> i.e. anyone less than 18 years old?	Yes	
... Does not involve <b>data collection with other vulnerable groups</b> e.g. persons with disabilities, victims/ survivors of protection incidents, etc.?	Yes	
... Follows IMPACT SOPs for management of <b>personally identifiable information</b> ?	Yes	

## 5. Roles and responsibilities

<b>Task Description</b>	<b>Responsible</b>	<b>Accountable</b>	<b>Consulted</b>	<b>Informed</b>
Research design	POM	POM	SRM	CC
Supervising data collection	POM	POM	SRM	CC
Data processing (checking, cleaning)	POM	POM	SRM	CC
Data analysis	POM	POM	POM	CC
Output production	POM	POM	SRM	CC
Dissemination	POM	POM	POM	CC
Monitoring & Evaluation	POM	POM	SRM	CC
Lessons learned	POM	POM	SRM	CC

**Responsible:** the person(s) who executes the task

**Accountable:** the person who validates the completion of the task and is accountable of the final output or milestone

**Consulted:** the person(s) who must be consulted when the task is implemented

**Informed:** the person(s) who need to be informed when the task is completed

## 6. Data Analysis Plan

### RESEARCH QUESTIONS ADDRESSED WITH STRUCTURED TOOL

[REACH SYR DAP National Household Survey on Community Perceptions and Recent Changes in Humanitarian Assistance in Syria.xlsx](#)

## 7. Data Management Plan

### Administrative Data

Research Cycle name	[National Household Survey on Community Perceptions and Recent Changes in Humanitarian Assistance in Syria		
Project Code	SYR2508		
Donor	SDC		
Project partners	-		
Research Contacts	Ghada Ben Aissa, SAO ( <a href="mailto:ghada.benaissa@impact-initiatives.org">ghada.benaissa@impact-initiatives.org</a> ) Majid SHDAIFAT, POM ( <a href="mailto:Majid.shdaifat@reach-initiative.org">Majid.shdaifat@reach-initiative.org</a> ) Dion MCDOUGAL, SRM ( <a href="mailto:dion.mcdougal@impact-initiatives.org">dion.mcdougal@impact-initiatives.org</a> )		
Data Management Plan Version	Date: 11/08/2025	Version: 1	
Related Policies	N/A		
<b>Documentation and Metadata</b>			
What documentation and metadata will accompany the data? <i>Select all that apply</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Data analysis plan	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Data Cleaning Log, including: <input type="checkbox"/> Deletion Log <input type="checkbox"/> Value Change Log
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Code book	<input type="checkbox"/> Data Dictionary
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Metadata based on HDX Standards	<input type="checkbox"/> [Other, Specify]
<b>Ethics and Legal Compliance</b>			
Which ethical and legal measures will be taken?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Consent of participants to participate	<input type="checkbox"/> Consent of participants to share personal information with other agencies
	<input type="checkbox"/>	No collection of personally identifiable data will take place	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gender, child protection and other protection issues are taken into account
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	All participants reached age of majority	[Other, Specify]
Who will own the copyright and Intellectual Property Rights for the data that is collected?	REACH/ IMPACT		
<b>Storage and Backup</b>			
Where will data be stored and backed up during the research?	<input type="checkbox"/>	IMPACT/REACH Kobo Server	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Kobo Server: SAO's personal server to enable ease of updating tools as necessary and in case last minute changes are needed
	<input type="checkbox"/>	IMPACT Global Physical / Cloud Server	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Country/Internal Server
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	On devices held by REACH staff	<input type="checkbox"/> Physical location [specify]
	<input type="checkbox"/>	[Other, Specify]	
Which data access and security measures have been taken?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Password protection on devices/servers	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Data access is limited to REACH staff
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Form and data encryption on data collection server	<input type="checkbox"/> Partners signed an MoU if accessing raw data
	<input type="checkbox"/>	[Other, Specify]	
<b>Kobo Access Rights</b>			
Account Name(s)	Person(s)	Type of Kobo access	
gba1_impact000	Ghada Ben Aissa	x View x Edit	
[Example for enumerators] enumeratorsaccount@impa	Enumerator	X View <input type="checkbox"/> Edit	X Submit Data <input type="checkbox"/> Download Data

ct-initiatives.org			
evelyn.gakinya@impact-initiatives.org responsibleanalyst@impact-initiatives.org	Evelyn Gakinya	x View x Edit	x Submit Data x Download Data
<b>Raw Data Access Rights</b>			
Raw Data Access	Reason	Person	
Accountable	Accountable	Ghada Ben Aissa	
Access	Data cleaning and analysis	Evelyn Gakinya	
Access	Spatial Analysis and Mapping	Nida IBRAHIM	
<b>Preservation</b>			
Where will data be stored for long-term preservation?	<input type="checkbox"/> IMPACT / REACH Global Cloud / Physical Server	<input type="checkbox"/>	OCHA HDX
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> REACH Country Server	<input type="checkbox"/>	[Other, Specify]
<b>Data Sharing</b>			
Will the data be shared publically?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No, only with mandating agency / body
Will all data be shared?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No, only anonymized/ cleaned/ data will be shared
	<input type="checkbox"/> No, [Other, Specify]		
Where will you share the data?	<input type="checkbox"/> REACH Resource Centre	<input type="checkbox"/>	OCHA HDX
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> HumanitarianResponse	<input type="checkbox"/>	[Other, Specify]
<b>Data protection risk assessment</b>			
Have you completed the Indicators Risk Assessment table below?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No, no information that potentially allows identification of individuals is to be collected.
<b>Responsibilities</b>			
Data collection	Ghada Ben Aissa, SAO ( <a href="mailto:ghada.benaissa@impact-initiatives.org">ghada.benaissa@impact-initiatives.org</a> )		
Data cleaning	Evelyn GAKINYA, Data Specialist, <a href="mailto:Evelyn.GAKINYA@impact-initiatives.org">Evelyn.GAKINYA@impact-initiatives.org</a>		
Data analysis	Evelyn GAKINYA, Data Specialist, <a href="mailto:Evelyn.GAKINYA@impact-initiatives.org">Evelyn.GAKINYA@impact-initiatives.org</a>		
Data sharing/uploading	Ghada Ben Aissa, SAO ( <a href="mailto:ghada.benaissa@impact-initiatives.org">ghada.benaissa@impact-initiatives.org</a> )		

## 8. Monitoring & Evaluation Plan

IMPACT Objective	External M&E Indicator	Internal M&E Indicator	Focal point	Tool	Will indicator be tracked?
<b>Humanitarian stakeholders are accessing IMPACT products</b>	Number of humanitarian organisations accessing IMPACT services/products  Number of individuals accessing IMPACT services/products	# of downloads of x product from Resource Center	Country request to HQ	User_log	x Yes
		# of downloads of x product from Relief Web	Country request to HQ		X Yes
		# of downloads of x product from Country level platforms	Country team		x Yes
		# of page clicks on x product from REACH global newsletter	Country request to HQ		x Yes
		# of page clicks on x product from country newsletter, sendingBlue, bit.ly	Country team		x Yes
		# of visits to x webmap/x dashboard	Country request to HQ		x Yes
<b>IMPACT activities contribute to better program implementation and coordination of the humanitarian response</b>	Number of humanitarian organisations utilizing IMPACT services/products	# references in HPC documents (HNO, SRP, Flash appeals, Cluster/sector strategies)	Country team	Reference_log	x Yes
		# references in single agency documents			x Yes
<b>Humanitarian stakeholders are using IMPACT products</b>	Humanitarian actors use IMPACT evidence/products as a basis for decision making, aid planning and delivery	Perceived relevance of IMPACT country-programs	Country team	Usage_Feedback and Usage_Survey template	x Yes
		Perceived usefulness and influence of IMPACT outputs			x Yes
		Recommendations to strengthen IMPACT programs			x Yes
		Perceived capacity of IMPACT staff			
		Perceived quality of outputs/programs			x Yes

	Number of humanitarian documents (HNO, HRP, cluster/agency strategic plans, etc.) directly informed by IMPACT products	Recommendations to strengthen IMPACT programs			
<b>Humanitarian stakeholders are engaged in IMPACT programs throughout the research cycle</b>	Number and/or percentage of humanitarian organizations directly contributing to IMPACT programs ( <i>providing resources, participating to presentations, etc.</i> )	# of organisations providing resources (i.e.staff, vehicles, meeting space, budget, etc.) for activity implementation	Country team	Engagement_log	x Yes
		# of organisations/clusters inputting in research design and joint analysis			x Yes
		# of organisations/clusters attending briefings on findings;			x Yes

