

# Research Terms of Reference

Syria

Research Cycle: Ar-Raqqa / Deir-ez-Zor Response (SYR1705)

November 2017  
v.2

**REACH** Informing  
more effective  
humanitarian action

## 1. Summary

Country of intervention	Syria					
Type of Emergency		Natural disaster	X	Conflict	X	Emergency
Type of Crisis		Sudden onset		Slow onset	X	Protracted
Mandating Body/ Agency	REACH					
Project Code	16CRE, 13CZH					
REACH Pillar	X	Planning in Emergencies	X	Displacement		Building Community Resilience
Research Timeframe	Dependent on conflict, from December 2016					
General Objective	Provide timely and relevant information on the humanitarian situation in and around Ar-Raqqa governorate, on populations in conflict-affected areas as well as those fleeing to other locations.					
Specific Objective(s)	<p>Provide timely, relevant, and digestible information on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Displacement patterns:</b> provide an overview of displacement patterns of populations in Ar-Raqqa governorate and the surrounding areas.</li> <li>• <b>Intentions:</b> detailed assessment of intentions prior to and during large displacement patterns, to assist with response planning.</li> <li>• <b>Locations affected by direct conflict:</b> provide timely updates on the humanitarian situation and primary needs of people remaining in locations affected by direct conflict (e.g. Ar-Raqqa city, Deir-ez-Zor governorate), and enable ongoing monitoring of how the humanitarian situation is affected as the conflict develops.</li> <li>• <b>Locations which people are fleeing to (IDP sites):</b> provide timely updates on the humanitarian situation and primary needs of people who have fled areas affected by direct conflict.</li> <li>• Provide consolidated information and an overall overview of displacement patterns and needs across the governorate (including crisis overviews and support to the North-East Syria Forum).</li> </ul>					
Research Questions	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) What are the displacement patterns and dynamics observed in Ar-Raqqa governorates and neighbouring areas (Deir-ez-Zor governorate, eastern Aleppo governorate and Al-Hasakeh governorate)?</li> <li>2) What are the intentions and preferences of people regarding future movement?</li> <li>3) What is the humanitarian situation and priority needs in locations affected by direct conflict in terms of: access to food and markets, cash, basic WASH services, basic health services, shelter, NFIs and protection?</li> </ol>					

	4) What is the humanitarian situation and priority needs in locations which people are fleeing to (IDP sites) in terms of: access to food and markets, cash, basic WASH services, basic health services, shelter, NFIs and protection?				
Research Type		Quantitative		Qualitative	X Mixed methods
Geographic Coverage	Ar-Raqqa governorate, as well as Deir-ez-Zor, eastern Aleppo and Al-Hasakeh governorate where relevant				
Target Population(s)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Populations remaining in areas affected by direct conflict in and around Ar-Raqqa governorate</li><li>Populations fleeing areas affected by direct conflict in and around Ar-Raqqa governorate, seeking safety and assistance elsewhere in north-east Syria (focusing on locations in Ar-Raqqa and Al-Hasakeh governorates, as well as Deir-ez-Zor and Aleppo governorates if relevant and feasible)</li></ul>				
Audience					
	Audience type			Specific actors	
	X	Operational			
	X	Programmatic			
	X	Strategic			
		Other			
Access	X	Public (available on REACH research center and other humanitarian platforms)			
		Restricted (bilateral dissemination only upon agreed dissemination list, no publication on REACH or other platforms)			
		Other			
Visibility	REACH branding, plus SRN branding where assessments have been conducted in partnership				
Dissemination	All outputs disseminated through REACH Syria mailing list (over 500 people from 70 different organisations) via Sendinblu platforms, as well as through the North-East Syria Forum mailing lists (operational actors in North-East Syria) and Raqqa response skype groups.				

## 2. Background & Rationale

On 6th November 2016, the Syrian Democratic Forces (SDF) announced the start of an operation to retake Ar-Raqqa city from the group known as the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL). Following this, conflict around the city led to complex displacement across Northern Syria and a high concentration of people in need within Ar-Raqqa governorate. On 6th June, following four phases of conflict to isolate the city, the battle for Ar-Raqqa city officially commenced, comprising a ground incursion supported by airstrikes.

Humanitarian access to Ar-Raqqa governorate is limited and actors face multiple challenges. It is not possible to reach ISIL-held areas, and security and access constraints also hinder access to populations in areas under SDF control. Currently, response planning is organised from two main hubs in Turkey and North-East Syria/Iraq. The response in the North-East has previously been led primarily by NGOs on the ground in Al-Hasakeh and Ar-Raqqa governorates, with increasing involvement of UN agencies, whilst across the north-west there are multiple actors in northern Syria and operating cross-border from Turkey.

Given the limited humanitarian access to parts of the affected areas, there are large information gaps relating to movement and intentions of people, primary needs and the humanitarian situation in conflict-affected areas. Furthermore, given the

fragmented nature of the response managed from multiple different hubs, there is a lack of consolidation of various information sources and actors often have different levels of information.

### 3. Research Objectives

Based on the information gaps outlined above, research objectives fall into the following categories:

- **Displacement patterns:** provide an overview of displacement patterns of populations in Ar-Raqqa governorate and the surrounding areas.
- **Intentions:** detailed assessment of intentions prior to and during large displacement patterns, to assist with planning the response.
- **Locations affected by direct conflict:** provide timely updates on the humanitarian situation and primary needs of people remaining in locations affected by direct conflict (e.g. Ar-Raqqa city, Deir-ez-Zor governorate), and enable ongoing monitoring of how the humanitarian situation is affected as the conflict develops.
- **Locations which people are fleeing to (IDP sites):** provide timely updates on the humanitarian situation and primary needs of people who have fled areas affected by direct conflict.
- Provide consolidated information and an overall overview of displacement patterns and needs across the governorate (including crisis overviews and support to the North-East Syria Forum).

### 4. Research Questions

- 1) What are the displacement patterns and dynamics observed in Ar-Raqqa governorates and neighbouring areas (Deir-ez-Zor governorate, eastern Aleppo governorate and Al-Hasakeh governorate)?
- 2) What are the intentions and preferences of people regarding future movement?
- 3) What is the humanitarian situation and priority needs in locations affected by direct conflict in terms of: access to food and markets, cash, basic WASH services, basic health services, shelter, NFIs and protection?
- 4) What is the humanitarian situation and priority needs in locations which people are fleeing to (IDP sites) in terms of: access to food and markets, cash, basic WASH services, basic health services, shelter, NFIs and protection?

## 5. Methodology

### 5.1. Methodology overview

Methodology will be adjusted depending on the particular assessment conducted. Given the research objectives and questions outlined above, there are three main components to this:

- Displacement and intentions assessments
- Rapid situation overviews
- IDP site assessments

A detailed methodology note for each component is available in Annex 2.

### 5.2. Population of interest

Population of interest comprises those affected by conflict in and around Ar-Raqqa governorate (including neighbouring Deir-ez-Zor and eastern Aleppo governorates). This can be largely divided into two groups:

- Populations remaining in areas affected by direct conflict
- Populations fleeing areas affected by direct conflict, seeking safety and assistance elsewhere in north-east Syria (focusing on locations in Ar-Raqqa and Al-Hasakeh governorates, as well as Deir-ez-Zor and Aleppo governorates if relevant and feasible)

### 5.3. Secondary data review

Due to tight controls on information flows and restricted freedom of movement of populations in Ar-Raqqa governorate by ISIL, secondary data sources on the pre-November 2016 situation are extremely limited. Pre-offensive secondary data sources are limited to community level data from REACH market monitoring and Humanitarian Situation Overview in Syria (HSOS), collected on an ad-hoc basis with sparse coverage across the governorate, as well as Urban Community Profiling data on Ar-Raqqa city collected in August 2016 and other information collected for the Humanitarian Needs Overview (HNO).

Secondary data will be collected and used for triangulation throughout the research cycle. The main sources of information comprise:

- OCHA / Whole of Syria updates on Ar-Raqqa governorate, including Situation Overviews and Flash Updates.
- NPM and CCCM displacement data collected on a regular basis.
- NGO ad-hoc assessments, primarily focusing on IDP sites.

### 5.4. Primary Data Collection

REACH currently has access to three main networks across the area that can be utilised to collect data:

- Syria Relief Network (SRN) network – REACH's partner SRN has a network of Key Informants (KIs) across Ar-Raqqa and Deir-ez-Zor governorates, managed remotely from Turkey.
- REACH Turkey – REACH teams based in Turkey have developed remote networks of Key Informants (KIs) across northern Syria, including certain locations in Ar-Raqqa and Deir-ez-Zor governorates.
- REACH NE Syria – REACH teams based in North-East Syria (Al-Hasakeh governorate and northern Ar-Raqqa governorate) can directly access SDF-controlled areas. Networks will be developed both in directly accessible locations as well as remotely, through existing contacts and developing relationships with people who have recently fled conflict-affected areas.

The network used for primary data collection will depend on the aim and scope of each individual assessment. Details of primary data collection for each type of assessment are available in Annex 2.

### 5.5. Data Analysis Plan

Data analysis for each type of assessment is outlined in Annex 2.

## 6. Product Typology

Table 1: Type and number of products required

<b>Type of Product</b>	<b>Number of Product(s)</b>	<b>Additional information</b>
<i>Displacement and intentions overviews (under CCCM ISMI agreement)</i>	3- one on Ar-Raqqa, one on eastern Aleppo, one on Deir-ez-Zor	To be released immediately after commencement of displacement in the area; other outputs to be considered as the conflict develops
<i>IDP sites overview + factsheet profiles on each site assessed</i>	1, to be updated bi-weekly	Regularity of output to be assessed as the conflict develops
<i>Situation Overview reports on conflict-affected areas</i>	1, to be updated bi-weekly	Regularity of output to be assessed as the conflict develops, as well as targeted location

Maps – standalone	1 detailed reference map of Raqqa city and governorate	
Maps – in outputs	Participatory mapping maps of conflict affected areas, displacement maps, indicator maps, site maps	
Crisis overview report(s)	1	Regularity of output to be assessed as the conflict develops
Presentation – overview of findings	1 presentation	Presentation to be updated as and when requested by NES actors

## 7. Management arrangements and work plan

### Roles and Responsibilities, Organogram

- REACH Syria Regional Coordinator / Assessment Managers
  - Overall oversight
  - Review of tools, methodology, plans and outputs
  - Dissemination and coordination with partners
- REACH Assessment Officers x 2
  - Coordinate data collection processes
  - Coordinate with SRN where relevant
  - Develop research design, methodology, workplans, assessment implementation plans
  - Create data collection tools and training materials
  - Create outputs
- REACH GIS Officer x 2
  - Mapping and analysis support for information products
  - Lead mapping components
- REACH Senior Field Coordinator – North-East Syria / Field Coordinator - Turkey
  - Obtain approvals for conducting assessment
  - Translations of tools and training materials
  - Conduct training for enumerators
  - Management of enumerators, communication point between enumerators and assessment teams
- SRN Focal point
  - Coordinate SRN data collection processes
  - Focal point between SRN enumerators and REACH assessment teams
- Enumerators – SRN and REACH
  - Locate Key Informants
  - Conduct data collection directly and remotely through contacting KIs

### Work plan

Workplans will be created for each assessment component as and when necessary. The aim will be to produce an output on IDP sites on a bi-weekly basis, as well as an output on conflict-affected locations on a bi-weekly basis, at minimum.

## 8. Risks & Assumptions

Table 3: List of risks and mitigating action

<b>Risk</b>	<b>Mitigation Measure</b>
Enumerators on the ground in North-East Syria are not able to contact people in conflict affected areas	Alternative networks will be mobilised: remote networks from REACH staff based in Turkey, and

due to security and access issues (particularly if the security situation escalates)

It will not be possible to find KIs from all conflict affected neighbourhoods or communities to conduct participatory mapping.

KIs do not have relevant information across all sectors to answer the entire questionnaire accurately.

It will not be possible to find KIs from all camps / sites with sufficient information across all sectors to answer the entire questionnaire accurately.

through the existing REACH partnership with Syria Relief Network (SRN).

The KI questionnaire will be conducted at a higher administration level where necessary (rather than the neighbourhood level) in order to ensure there is usable information.

Contact multiple KIs where necessary to gather the required information, include the option to state when not sure, and continue to build networks as the assessment is ongoing.

Contact multiple KIs where necessary to gather the required information, include the option to state when not sure, and continue to build networks as the assessment is ongoing.

## 9. Monitoring and Evaluation

Table 4: Monitoring and evaluation matrix

<b>IMPACT Objective</b>	<b>External M&amp;E Indicator</b>	<b>Internal M&amp;E Indicator</b>	<b>Methodology</b>	<b>Focal point</b>	<b>Tool</b>	<b>Research specific information</b>
<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	User monitoring	Country request to HQ	User log	Applicable
		# of downloads of x product from Relief Web		Country request to HQ		Applicable
		# of downloads of x product from Country level platforms		Country team		NA
		# of page clicks on x product from REACH global newsletter		Country request to HQ		Applicable
		# of page clicks on x product from country newsletter, sendingBlue, bit.ly		Country team		Applicable
<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)  # references in single agency documents	Usage monitoring and evaluation	Country team	Referencing log	WoS Raqqa response plans, HNO 2018  OCHA Flash Updates

<b><i>Humanitarian stakeholders are using IMPACT products</i></b>	Humanitarian actors use IMPACT evidence/products as a basis for decision making, aid planning and delivery  Humanitarian actors use IMPACT evidence/products as a basis for decision making, aid planning and delivery	Perceived relevance of IMPACT country-programs Perceived usefulness and influence of IMPACT outputs Recommendations to strengthen IMPACT programs Perceived capacity of IMPACT staff Perceived quality of outputs/programs  Recommendations to strengthen IMPACT programs	Usage M&E	Country team	Usage Feedback and Usage Survey template	REACH Syria general feedback survey conducted on a bi-annual basis, targeting all mailing list recipients, requests for further information, requests for Raqqa / DeZ presentations and participation in workshops
<b><i>Humanitarian stakeholders are engaged in IMPACT programs throughout the research cycle</i></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 # of organisations/clusters inputting in research design and joint analysis  # of organisations/clusters attending briefings on findings;	Engagement Monitoring	Country team	Engagement log	NA  Presence at joint analysis workshops conducted before release of response plans; requests for inclusion of specific indicators / targeted areas Applicable-NES coordination meetings, Jordan / Turkey hub WoS meetings

## 10. Documentation Plan

- Terms of reference
- Methodology notes
- Indicator lists
- Data collection tools – KI questionnaires, participatory mapping surveys, Kobo xls forms
  
- Raw datasets and cleaning log
- Clean datasets
- Situation overviews / profiles
- Maps



## 11. Annexes

### Methodology Notes

#### Displacement and intentions assessments

##### Primary data collection

Primary data collection will be preceded by an initial coverage mapping exercise to determine the exact communities in Deir ez Zor and Raqqa governorates in which it is possible to contact Key Informants with sufficient community level knowledge on the displacement situation and intentions of those in their communities. The aim is to cover as many communities across the targeted area as possible. The size of the targeted area will depend on the specific aim of the assessment, though will typically be across a governorate, with the aim to have at least one KI per community.

Once coverage has been established, data collection will be conducted through the use of two tools, utilising the appropriate networks:

- Structured, closed-question community level KI questionnaire administered to purposively sampled KIs in each accessible community of Raqqa and Deir ez Zor) to provide qualitative data on current displacement and intentions. One form per accessible community will be completed through interviewing at least one KI, covering as many communities in the targeted location as possible. KIs will be selected on the basis of having sufficient community-level knowledge on current displacement patterns and community intentions, such as those working in local authorities, local relief workers, community and religious leaders, as well as involved members of the community.
- Semi-structured, open-question sub-district level KI questionnaire administered to one purposively sampled KI per accessible sub-district of Raqqa and Deir ez Zor, to provide in-depth qualitative information to assist in explaining the data gathered. One form per accessible sub-district will be completed through interviewing at least one KI, covering as many sub-districts in the targeted governorate as possible. KIs will be selected on the basis of having sufficient knowledge of communities across the sub-district and the ability to explain patterns and intentions; this will require a high level of education and preferably a position of authority within the community.

##### Indicators and tools

Indicators will focus on displacement and intentions, with intentions indicators designed with the aim to gather information on movement dependent on potential scenarios. Indicators and tools will be shared with OCHA and the CCCM cluster based in Turkey, and the NGO coordination group based in North-East Syria for comments and feedback.

##### Data analysis

Data will be aggregated to the governorate level (or entire area assessed) as follows:

- Continuous variables (e.g. #, %): average across all communities.
- Categorical variables (select one): most commonly selected option reported across all communities, with proportion of communities reporting each option.
- Categorical variables (select multiple): top 3 or top 5 most commonly selected options across all communities with proportion of communities reporting each option.
- Open text questions: translated and reported on qualitatively.

Displacement data will be analysed through consolidating multiple sources of population figures and movement to produce best estimates of movement trends and patterns. This will be presented visually with maps.

#### Rapid situation assessments

##### Primary data collection

Primary data collection will be preceded by initial coverage mapping exercises to determine coverage in the targeted area affected by conflict, for example, the exact neighbourhoods across Ar-Raqqa governorate that can be assessed. The exact method of data collection will depend on the area being assessed, but will use one or both of the following:

- The 'Area of Origin' (AoO) methodology, through which Key Informants (KIs) who have recently left the affected area e.g. Ar-Raqqa city (ideally within the past week, but up to one month ago) are interviewed about the situation in the specific area that they were living in by REACH enumerators.
- Remote data collection, through which people remaining in conflict affected areas are contacted remotely via phone or whatsapp and interviewed about the specific area they are currently living in.

The aim will be to interview KIs about the lowest administration level possible; for example, at the neighbourhood level for an assessment of Ar-Raqqa city, or the community level for an assessment of a particular sub-district. One form per neighbourhood (or community) will be completed, potentially with multiple KIs reporting on the area.

Once coverage has been established, data collection will be conducted through the appropriate networks using the following tools:

- Semi-structured closed and open question KI interviews at the lowest administration level possible with people either currently residing in the area (if network and coverage permits) or who have left the area in the month prior to data collection (ideally within the last week), to gather detailed qualitative information on the situation in the area.
- Participatory mapping with KIs who have left the area in the month (ideally within the last week) prior to data collection, using printed maps and a separate paper form.

#### Indicators and tools

Indicators will be based on the primary information gaps identified during the secondary data review, covering the following topics: demographics and intentions, food and markets, cash, shelter, NFIs, WASH, health and protection.

Indicators and tools will be designed to gather priority sector-specific information. Indicators and tools will be reviewed internally within REACH, based on the following key indicators:

- **Food:** Food quality, food quantity (availability and affordability), reported coping mechanisms, market functionality, challenges to accessing markets, aid availability
- **Health:** access to healthcare facilities, access to services, staff and equipment availability, availability of vaccinations
- **Shelter:** availability of safe shelter (presence of people in vulnerable shelter types), overcrowding, price and affordability of shelter, damage to shelter
- **NFIs:** access to electricity, accessibility of core NFIs
- **WASH:** public water availability, sufficiency of water supply, drinking water quality / safety, reported coping mechanisms, sanitation issues
- **Protection:** protection situations, women-specific issues, IDP / host community tensions

After the first round of data collection and the first output production, indicators and tools will be amended depending on further information gaps identified and to ensure ongoing monitoring of key indicators. This includes adding in additional topics as well as adjusting existing indicators.

#### Data analysis

Data will be collected at the lowest administration level possible (for example, at the neighbourhood level within a city). Data will be then aggregated to the appropriate level (for example, the city) and reported as follows:

- Continuous variables (e.g. #, %): average across all entries; summed where relevant (e.g. total population figures).
- Categorical variables (select one): most commonly selected option reported or proportion of KIs reporting each option across all records.

- Categorical variables (select multiple): top 3 or top 5 most commonly selected options with proportion of KIs reporting each option across all records.
- Open text questions: translated and reported on qualitatively.

Maps will be created at the lowest administration level possible from the results of both the participatory mapping exercises as well as the Key Informant tools to identify disparities between different areas assessed.

## IDP camp / site assessments

### Primary data collection

Primary data collection will be preceded by initial coverage mapping exercises to determine which areas can be assessed through REACH and SRN networks. Whilst the ultimate aim will be to assess and provide updates on all camps and sites in Ar-Raqqa governorate, initially it may be necessary to exclude certain areas whilst networks are being established and expanded to cover the whole governorate. This exercise will start in Ar-Raqqa governorate, though could potentially be expanded as the situation develops to include locations in neighbouring Al-Hasakeh, Aleppo and Deir-ez-Zor governorates which receive people displaced due to the conflict in Ar-Raqqa.

Once coverage has been established, primary data collection will be conducted by a combination of REACH enumerators in Ar-Raqqa governorate visiting sites and remotely contacting KIs in hard-to-reach locations, and SRN enumerators based in Turkey and northern Ar-Raqqa able to contact KIs across Ar-Raqqa governorate remotely.

Data will be collected using structured closed-question KI interviews requesting information at the camp/site level with one Key Informant per site, who will preferably be:

- Camp/site management member
- Community or religious leader either living in the camp/site or assisting with management
- Humanitarian actors working in the camp/site
- Resident of the camp/site, preferably for a period of greater than one week (if not possible to access one of the three KI types listed above)

For each camp/site, a number of KI interviews will be conducted to produce one entry in the dataset per camp/site. Ideally, multiple KIs with sectoral specific knowledge will be selected, with each inputting on different sections relevant to their area of knowledge. In the case that it is not possible to find multiple KIs with relevant knowledge per sector, fewer KIs with good general knowledge will contribute to the record for each camp/site.

### Indicators and tools

Indicators will be based on CCCM global standards and previous camp/site profiling conducted by REACH and North-East Syria, aiming to fill key information gaps identified during the secondary data review. Indicators will cover: demographics, movement, shelter, NFIs, WASH, health and protection. Indicators will be shared with humanitarian actors operating in North-East Syria for their feedback, to ensure that information gaps are identified and responded to.

### Data analysis

Data will be analysed and reported on at the camp level, to detail the situation within each camp/site assessed, and maps and visualisations will be used to demonstrate key indicators such as population numbers and locations of camps/sites.. Data will also be aggregated for a few select indicators across camps and sites to give an overview of the general situation of populations living in camps and sites. This will be done as follows:

Variable type	Indicator	Aggregation
Continuous variables (#, %)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Number of camps/sites in Ar-Raqqa</li> <li>• IDP population in camps/sites in Ar-Raqqa</li> </ul>	Total across all entries
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Average site population</li> </ul>	Average across all entries
Categorical variables	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sites with insufficient shelter</li> <li>• Sites without access to latrines</li> </ul>	% of 'yes' or 'no' answers (depending on indicator) across all entries

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sites drinking untreated water</li> <li>• Sites without access to medical facilities</li> <li>• Sites without access to CFS / education facilities</li> </ul>	
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## Deir-ez-Zor Governorate Situation Overview

### Research Objectives

- Identify displacement trends in Deir-ez-Zor governorate, including locations of inward and outward displacement, push and pull factors, and triggers for further displacement
- Assess the humanitarian situation and identify priority needs for both host populations and IDPs in Deir-ez-Zor governorate with regards to: shelter, food and markets, NFIs, WASH, health, and protection.
- Analyse changes in the humanitarian situation within sectors and across Deir-ez-Zor governorate since the escalation of conflict in September by conducting a comparison to assessed situation in April 2017.

### Research Questions

- What is the level and nature of displacement within and out of Deir-ez-Zor governorate, including IDP sites and push and pull factors?
- What is the current humanitarian situation in Deir-ez-Zor governorate and how does it vary across sub-districts?
- How does the current humanitarian situation differ from the previously assessed situation in April 2017?

### Outputs

Governorate level factsheet containing:

- Displacement overview map, with summary of changes in areas of control over time and subsequent flows of displaced persons.
- Displacement site map, with details on site type (collective centre, informal tented site) and estimated population.
- Sectoral humanitarian overview (with maps per sector comparing sub-districts), highlighting sub-districts in which needs are most significant, and changes observed since the previous assessment of Deir-ez-Zor in April 2017.

### Primary data collection

Primary data collection will be preceded by an initial scoping exercise to determine potential coverage. The scoping exercise will be conducted in Al-Hol, Mabruka (Al-Hasakeh) and Ein Issa (Ar-Raqqa) camps, and will identify accessibility, availability, and suitability of selected IDP KIs arriving in managed camps in NE Syria. The scoping exercise will also be used to identify additional KIs that remain inside Deir-ez-Zor (such as the families of IDPs) to supplement the REACH remote KI network. With regards to assessment coverage, the goal is to cover as many of the 135 communities in Deir-ez-Zor as possible. According to the REACH data collection team, a number of communities across western and northern Deir-ez-Zor are completely empty due to displacement, active conflict, and limitations on freedom of movement enforced by armed actors. Once coverage has been established, primary data collection will be conducted using structured closed-question KI interviews at the community level. KIs will be accessed through two methods:

1. REACH enumerators remotely contacting identified KIs in communities across Deir-ez-Zor governorate (in-person visits are not possible within Deir-ez-Zor given current access constraints) about the situation in the community in which they are currently living and/or nearby accessible communities on which they have sufficient knowledge.
2. REACH enumerators directly interviewing KIs in formal IDP camps in Ar-Raqqa and Al-Hasakeh governorates about the situation in their community of origin and/or nearby accessible communities on which they have sufficient knowledge. Proposed sites include: Ein Issa (Aqtan), Mabruka, Al-Hol and Areesh.

Where possible and necessary, multiple KI interviews will be conducted to produce one entry in the dataset per community. Ideally, multiple KIs with sectoral specific knowledge will be selected, with each inputting on different sections relevant to their area of knowledge. In the case that it is not possible to find multiple KIs with relevant knowledge per sector, fewer KIs with good general knowledge will contribute to the record for each community.

#### Indicators and tools

Indicators will focus on displacement and multi-sectoral needs, designed to capture the current humanitarian situation in each community as well as the scenarios that could trigger further displacement. Indicators will also, to the greatest extent possible, align with those used in the previous REACH assessment in April, allowing for comparisons across time. A full list of indicators can be found in the supporting indicator matrix file.

#### Data analysis

Data will be aggregated to the sub-district and governorate levels as follows:

- Continuous variables (e.g. #, %): average across all communities.
- Categorical variables (select one): most commonly selected option reported across all communities, with proportion of communities reporting each option.
- Categorical variables (select multiple): top 3 or top 5 most commonly selected options across all communities with proportion of communities reporting each option.
- Open text questions: translated and reported qualitatively.

Displacement data will be analysed through consolidating multiple sources of population figures and movement to produce best estimates of movement trends and patterns. Sources will include NPM and CCCM ISMI displacement and baseline population figures. This will be presented visually with maps.

Table 5: Population and number of communities in the sub-districts of Deir-ez-Zor governorate, Syria

Sub-district	Baseline population**	Communities in sub-district
Deir-ez-Zor	140,415	16
Al Mayadin	132,291	8
Abu Kamal	117,326	9
Ashara	116,479	7
Kisreh*	90,560	14
Hajin	84,091	5
Susat	76,771	5
Thiban	76,377	10
Tabni*	69,038	11
Khasham	47,459	8
Basira	46,104	14
Sur*	38,136	15
Muhasan	30,243	7

Jalaa	29,146	6
<b>Total</b>		<b>135</b>

\* According to the REACH data collection team, these sub-districts have a significant number of communities that are virtually abandoned or designated as military zones by armed actors.

\*\* Population figures from NPM Syria as of 23 May 2017