

Research Terms of Reference

Action Contre la Faim (ACF) Climate Motivated Displacement Baseline in al-Bara, Maysan and Thi Qar, Iraq

IRQ2112

Iraq

January 2022
Version 1

REACH Informing
more effective
humanitarian action

1. Executive Summary

Country of intervention	Iraq			
Type of Emergency	☒ Natural disaster	☐ Conflict		
Type of Crisis	☐ Sudden onset	☒ Slow onset	☐ Protracted	
Mandating Body/ Agency	Action Contre la Faim (ACF)			
IMPACT Project Code	10ATP			
Overall Research Timeframe (from research design to final outputs / M&E)	01/01/2022 to 30/04/2022			
Research Timeframe Add planned deadlines (for first cycle if more than 1)	1. Start collect data: 08/02/2022		5. Preliminary presentation: 27/03/2022	
	2. Data collected: 02/03/2022		6. Outputs sent for validation: 05/04/2022	
	3. Data analysed: 10/03/2022		7. Outputs shared/published: 20/04/2022	
	4. Data sent for validation: 13/03/2022		8. Final presentation sent for validation: N/A	
Number of assessments	☒ Single assessment (one cycle)			
	☐ Multi-assessment			
Humanitarian milestones Specify what will the assessment inform and when e.g. The shelter cluster will use this data to draft its Revised Flash Appeal;	Milestone	Deadline		
	☒ Donor plan/strategy: Informing ACF's programme intervention plan in 2022	27/03/2022		
	☐ Inter-cluster plan/strategy	__/__/__		
	☐ Cluster plan/strategy	__/__/__		
	☐ NGO platform plan/strategy	__/__/__		
	☐ Other (Specify):	__/__/__		
	Audience type	Dissemination		

Audience Type & Dissemination <i>Specify who will the assessment inform and how you will disseminate to inform the audience</i>	X Programmatic: Action Against Hunger X Operational: Action Against Hunger		X General Product Mailing: REACH Iraq SendInBlue Mailing Lists X Presentation of findings: for donor planned meetings X Website Dissemination: Relief Web & REACH Resource Centre	
Detailed dissemination plan required	☐	Yes	X	No
General Objective	The general objective of the assessment is to provide information on climate motivated displacement in Southern Iraq, specifically in Al-Basra, Maysan and Thi Qar governorates where the marshlands have been a critical source of livelihood for the community ¹			
Specific Objective(s)	- Understand the geographic and economic profile of marshland residents. - Assess linkages between water levels in the marshlands, livelihoods opportunities, and displacement. - Identify push and pull factors which might influence current residents in the marshlands to leave the area. - Gauge perceptions of displaced migrants in Basra city to understand what factors led to their decision to displace, and what factors would influence a decision to return to their homes in the marshlands.			
Research Questions	Marshland residents at risk of displacement in Thi Qar, Basra, and Maysan: - What effect has the reduction in water level/marshland area had on resident livelihood opportunities? - Do residents intend to relocate from this area in the future? Why or why not? - What factors or changes would cause residents to decide to leave or to stay in the area? Migrants who have relocated to Basra city: - What factors do migrants consider when deciding to leave the marshland areas? To what extent have these factors have improved, deteriorated, or stayed the same in the time since leaving the area? - Do migrants intend to return to the marshlands or to relocate elsewhere in the future? - What factors would influence the migrant community's decision to end their displacement?			
Geographic Coverage	Marshland districts in Basra (Qurna), Thi Qar (Chibayish) and Maysan (Mejar al Kaber) governorates, as well as Basra city where migrant households originating from these governorates and neighbouring governorates like Thi Qar and Maysan are displaced due to climate factors.			
Secondary datasourcesⁱ	- General background and context research on areas being targeted for assessment; - Geo-spatial data (e.g. UNOSAT satellite imagery)			

¹ [Classification of The Key Functional Diversity of the Marshes in Southern Iraq](#). Journal of Physics: Conference Series. 2019.

Population(s) <i>Select all that apply</i>	☐	IDPs in formal camps	☐	IDPs in informal sites		
	☐	IDPs in host communities	☐	IDPs [Other, Specify]		
	☐	Refugees in camp	☐	Refugees in informal sites		
	☐	Refugees in host communities	☐	Refugees [Other, Specify]		
	☐	Host communities	☒	Climate affected communities²		
Stratification <i>Select type(s) and enter number of strata</i>	☐	Geographical #: Population size per strata is known? ☐ Yes ☐ No	☐	Group #: ___ Population size per strata is known? ☐ Yes ☐ No	☐	[Other Specify] #: ___ ☐ Yes ☐ No
Data collection tool(s)	☐	Structured (Quantitative)	☒	Semi-structured (Qualitative)		
Semi structured data collection tool # 1 (Basra City) <i>Select sampling and data collection method and specify target # interviews</i> Semi structured data collection tool #2 (Maysan, Thi Qar, northern Basra) Semi structured data collection tool #3 (Basra City) Semi structured data collection tool #4 (Maysan, Thi Qar, northern Basra)	Sampling method		Data collection method			
	☒ Purposive ☒ Snowballing ☐ [Other, Specify]		☒ Key informant interview (Target#): 2 ☐ Focus Group discussion (Target #): ___ ☐ Individual interview (Target #): ___ ☐ [Other, Specify] (Target #): _____			
	☒ Purposive ☒ Snowballing ☐ [Other, Specify]		☒ Key informant interview (Target#): 8 ☐ Focus Group discussion (Target #): ___ ☐ Individual interview (Target #): ___ ☐ [Other, Specify] (Target #): _____			
	☒ Purposive ☒ Snowballing ☐ [Other, Specify]		☐ Key informant interview (Target#): ☒ Focus Group discussion (Target #): 4 ☐ Individual interview (Target #): ___ ☐ [Other, Specify] (Target #): _____			
☒ Purposive ☒ Snowballing ☐ [Other, Specify]		☐ Key informant interview (Target#): ☒ Focus Group discussion (Target #): 12 ☐ Individual interview (Target #): ___ ☐ [Other, Specify] (Target #): _____				
Data management platform(s)	☒	IMPACT				

² Climate affected communities refer to households whose livelihoods are being affected by the ongoing climate change crisis. For the purposes of this assessment, the term will be used to reference households located around the marshlands of southern Iraq, which are shrinking due to the damming of rivers, lack of rainfall, and pollution.

	☐	[Other, Specify]			
Expected output type(s)	☐	Situation overview #: __	☒	Report #: 1 Final Report	☐ Profile #: __
	☒	Presentation (Preliminary findings) #: 1 Preliminary findings shared	☐	Presentation (Final) #: __	☐ Factsheet #: _ _
	☐	Interactive dashboard #: _	☐	Webmap #: __	☒ Map #: 1 Map of Marshlands
Access	☒	Public (available on REACH resource center and other humanitarian platforms)			
	☐	Restricted (bilateral dissemination only upon agreed dissemination list, no publication on REACH or other platforms)			
Visibility Specify which logos should be on outputs	REACH				
	Donor: ACF				

2. Rationale

2.1. Background

The marshlands of Southern Iraq account for just under half of the inland waters for the country, and have historically been a critical source of livelihoods for households located in al-Basra, Maysan, and Thi Qar Governorates.³ In the early 1990s Saddam Hussein drained the once-thriving marshes when Shiite rebels sought refuge there, and by the early 2000s less than 10% of the original marshland was still functioning.⁴ Despite efforts to restore the marshes in the intervening years, the area is once again at risk of drying up completely. This is due to a combination of low levels of rainfall in the region, reduced water flows from both Turkey and Iran, and poor infrastructure including aging pipes, leaking infrastructure, and illegal siphoning.⁵ The worsening conditions of these marshlands have a negative effect for the populations who rely on them for income from fishing, agriculture, livestock rearing, handicrafts production, shelter construction, and other economic livelihoods.⁶

As far back as 2015, National Geographic reported instances of households migrating due to the deteriorating livelihoods situation in the marshlands. Reasons for this displacement included decreasing water quality, increases in waterborne diseases, worsening tribal relations, and lowering water levels leading to decreased ability to fish.⁷ IOM also recently conducted a survey in Basra city where they interviewed migrants from rural parts of neighbouring governorates in Southern Iraq. It was reported that the two main drivers for migration to Basra city, the largest urban city in the South, were the lack of economic opportunities (52%) and water scarcity (49%), followed by death of livestock (16%), lack of access to services (13%), and crop failures (10%).⁸ Most migrants surveyed moved to the city with their family, with a few cases of individuals moving on their own.

While these reports are useful in providing insight on the major drivers for migration into the city and the integration challenges faced by migrants, they do not provide analysis on how changes in water level have impacted the livelihood of marshland residents in Southern Iraq, and thus their decision to displace. As conditions in the marshlands continue to deteriorate in the short and medium term, additional climate-motivated displacement is likely to occur. However, there is limited information available on the scale of displacement in these areas and the specific drivers which motivate households to move from the area. This in turn limits the ability of actors to consider programmes and activities designed to address these drivers.

2.2. Intended Impact

The purpose of the research will primarily be to inform ACF's strategic and programmatic goals for the next year, ideally to be shared with other implementing organizations and local authorities. The study will provide a better picture for the drivers and scope of displacement in southern Iraq, which will serve to better inform ACF's overall programming as climate change continues to be a strategic priority. The goal for the assessment is to provide the basis for future climate change projects in southern Iraq, which would serve to bring about a positive change for people living in the affected areas.

Based on the information outlined above, REACH proposes to conduct a qualitative study of climate-motivated displacement in al-Basra, Maysan and Thi Qar Governorates.

3. Methodology

3.1. Methodology overview

³ [Classification of The Key Functional Diversity of the Marshes in Southern Iraq](#). Journal of Physics: Conference Series. 2019

⁴ [Drought and Abundance in the Mesopotamian Marshes](#). New York Times. April 2021.

⁵ [As its rivers shrink, Iraq thirsts for regional cooperation](#). Thompson Reuters. September 2021.

⁶ [Land Cover Change and Livelihoods in the Mesopotamian Marshes](#). Reach Initiative. September 2020.

⁷ [Iraq's Famed Marshes are Disappearing – Again](#). National Geographic. July 2015.

⁸ [Migration into a Fragile Setting](#). International Organization for Migration. October 2021.

The assessment will employ a qualitative approach that combines the analysis of secondary data with qualitative primary data collection in the form of semi-structured key informant interviews (KIIs) and gender-specific focus group discussions (FGDs). These interviews and discussions will highlight the livelihood conditions of affected populations in the marshlands in Basra, Thi Qar and Maysan Governorates, as well as climate displaced migrants in Basra City to identify whether low water levels in the marshlands have or will affect their intention to leave their area. There will be four tools used – a KII questionnaire and FGD framework for Basra city, and a separate KII questionnaire and FGD framework for affected populations in Basra, Thi Qar, and Maysan Governorates.

KII participants will be identified through discussions with partner and stakeholder organizations, as well as through coordination with local authorities like the Governor's office. Emphasis will be placed on community leaders, such as mukhtars, and subject matter experts with knowledge of the marshlands. Snowball sampling will be utilized during the interviews to identify additional KII participants (as necessary), as well as participants for FGDs in each governorate. Snowball sampling will also be used as necessary during FGDs to identify other participants.

Key informant (KI) interviews and FGDs will be conducted with a questionnaires prepared in English, translated by Field Officers into Arabic; data collection will start (tentatively) on December 5, 2021. Semi-structured interviews will be comprised of open-ended questions to identify the socio-economic profile of climate affected communities livelihood linkages with water levels in the marshlands, and movement intentions. Data collection will be conducted in person by REACH Enumerators who will follow restrictions imposed by local authorities will be guided by [IMPACT Standards of Operations for Data Collection](#). After KIIs and FGDs have been completed, there will be a debrief with the enumerator team to address any issues.

Additionally, a geographic information system (GIS) approach will be utilized via satellite imagery to map the change in the water levels and marshland density around northern Basra/southern Thi Qar and Maysan since 1985, with the ultimate goal of identifying the scope and impact of climate change as a driver for displacement in the region.

3.2. Population of interest

The population of interest includes communities at risk of displacement in the marshlands of Basra, Thi Qar and Maysan governorates, specifically those households who utilize the marshlands for their livelihoods (agriculture, livestock, fishing, etc.) and migrant communities who have moved to Basra city in the last ten years from the marshlands. Basra, Thi Qar, and Maysan governorates have been targeted because they are the governorates with the largest amount of marshland territory in southern Iraq. The assessment will primarily focus on community level data to examine drivers for displacement, particularly caused by climate change. More specifically through the KIIs we will be focusing on community level data with some questions at the household level, and for FGDs we seek to collect data at the community level, however, participants will be answering questions about their own households and households like theirs in community.

3.3. Secondary data review

This assessment will make use of secondary data to understand the cultural and socio-economic context and its linkages to the marshlands in the south of Iraq, namely in Basra, Thi Qar, and Maysan Governorates. Furthermore, the secondary data sources will facilitate the narrowing of locations we will assess for primary data collection. The secondary data being referenced includes:

- General background and context research on areas being targeted for assessment including IOM report: [Migration into a fragile setting: Responding to Climate- Induced Urbanization and Inequality in Basra, Iraq](#)
- Geo-spatial data (e.g. UNOSAT satellite imagery)

3.4. Primary Data Collection

3.4.1. Sampling

Purposive sampling methods will be employed to identify KIs and FGD participants. For the identification of KIs, REACH

will try to locate local Mukhtars who have knowledge of the area and its residents, be it in the marshland villages and/or Basra City, to participate in the ten KIIs planned (two in Basra city, two in northern Basra, three in Thi Qar, three in Maysan governorates). Once a few initial Mukhtars have been selected, snowball sampling will be used to identify further participants for the remaining KIIs, as well as the sixteen FGDs, which will each have approximately four to five participants. Thus, in the four locations where the assessment is to take place, the Mukhtars will ideally suggest around six to eight FGD participants. The profile for KIIs will include:

- Community leaders e.g. mukhtars, tribal or religious leaders
- Subject matter experts e.g. climate scientists, WASH coordinators, etc.

The profile for FGD participants will be:

- Residents of marshland areas identified by KIIs as likely to be impacted by climate change
- Climate displaced migrants from the marshland areas in the target governorates who have settled in Basra City since 2011
- Male and female participants from different age groups.

3.4.2 Primary Data Collection

REACH's enumerator team based in Basra will begin the assessment by identifying local mukhtars in marshland villages in Basra, Thi Qar and Maysan Governorates, as well as Basra city. Initially, the team will conduct approximately ten in-person KIIs using a semi-structured questionnaire around the changing environmental landscape and the levels of displacement that have occurred as a result of reduction in water levels in the marshland. The interviews will also be used for snowball sampling, in which people willing to participate in FGDs will be identified, including both residents of the marshland areas of Basra, Thi Qar and Maysan Governorates, and people that have already been displaced to Basra city as a result of environmental degradation. KIIs will continue until enough participants for 16 FGDs have been identified (roughly 65-80 people).

REACH's enumerator team will then conduct four semi-structured FGDs in each of the three marshland governorates with families at risk of displacement, as well as four in Basra city with already displaced families originating from these areas. The discussion format for families at risk of displacement will revolve around key questions, such as: (1)What effect has the reduction in water level/marshland area had on resident household livelihood opportunities? 2) Do residents intend to relocate from this area in the future? Why or why not? 3)What factors or changes would cause residents to decide to leave or to stay in the area? The discussion format for families already displaced in Basra city will revolve around similar key questions, such as: (1)What factors did you migrants consider when deciding to leave the marshland areas? To what extent have these factors improved, deteriorated, or stayed the same in the time since leaving the area? (2) Do migrants intend to return to the marshlands or to relocate elsewhere in the future? (3) What factors would influence the migrant community's decision to end their displacement

During each KII and FGD, enumerators will record answers on the questionnaire sheets that have been prepared by the SAO which will then be translated and transcribed onto a Word document to be shared. Prior to data collection, all enumerators will have received a comprehensive training covering the purpose of the assessment, the tool, and the key information to be captured. The training will be conducted via Skype or in person, facilitated by the REACH SAO, in coordination with field officer. Data collection will take place in 15 days. Once data collection is finalized, 5 days will be considered to evaluate the process, capture lessons learned and collect feedback from the enumerators.

3.5 Data Processing and Analysis

Following the interviews, a debrief will be held between the REACH Field Officer and the enumerators to consolidate the data gathered. Feedback will be shared with the REACH SAO in person, or via Skype or email as an alternative, with the Field Officer to discuss identified gaps and flag issues of concern, as well as identified technical issues with the tool. If information requires additional clarification, especially for KIIs, follow-up calls or interviews will be made by REACH

enumerators to ensure feedback to SAO. Throughout the data collection process, the notes from previous debriefs will be safely kept with enumerators following data protection protocols and will be consulted later in order to help identify contradictions or inconsistencies within the responses, so that these issues can be addressed in follow-up calls where necessary. In addition, the debrief notes will be regularly reviewed to determine when data saturation has been reached.

The contact information of KIs and FGD participants will be shared directly with the involved enumerators, such that they can conduct the interviews. It is proposed sharing the information with the following steps in place to minimize risk linked to data protection policies:

- A limited number of enumerators (10) will be contracted to collect data for the assessment;
- KI and FGD participant contact details will only be shared with the 3 contracted project staff who have been working with REACH in previous projects;
- Only the necessary KIs' and FGD participants contact information will be shared by REACH SAO with REACH Field officer who will provide each enumerator with information required for them to do their job;
- KIs' and FGD participants' contact information will be sent digitally in a secure format, such as in an encrypted and password protected Excel documents;
- KI and FGD lists will be deleted after the end of the research cycle for each location, unless they have provided explicit consent to be contacted for future assessments;
- Enumerators and the Field Officers will be trained in the use of the tools, and briefed about data management and data collection principles;

Once data is collected, on a daily basis, the REACH SAO will proceed with the data cleaning. This process will take place following [IMPACT Data Cleaning Minimum Standards](#) and [Standards of Operation for Management of Personally Identifiable Data](#). Data cleaning will be guided by the data cleaning plan designed to monitor the assessment metadata for uniqueness of KIs, identify incorrect or contradictory information, monitoring of enumerators, and follow up on sensitive questions. It will also highlight if any modifications or additions to the tool need to be done to facilitate the data collection and analysis. To track any changes in the data, the SAO will use IMPACT data cleaning logbook in excel.

As this assessment will primarily consist of qualitative data collection with open ended questions (for which identification of options is not possible -e.g. How has changes in water level [if relevant] affected livelihood opportunities?) qualitative data will be synthesized and organized using the [Data Saturation and Analysis Grid](#) in line with [IMPACT Minimum Standards Checklist for Semi-Structured \(Qualitative\) Data Processing and Analysis](#). The data saturation grid will directly feed into the write up of the narrative component. For the analysis, emphasis will be given to factors/themes that were raised most frequently or where there were notable variations in the different KI and FGD profiles' answers. Quotes will be used where relevant. The findings yielded by the assessment will not be generalizable to the area of interest and therefore will be treated as indicative only. Data generated from the assessment will be corroborated with secondary data sources to minimize contradictory data.

The assessment will also examine the change in water levels and marshland density around Basra, Thi Qar, and Maysan through an analysis of satellite imagery between the 1980s and the present day. By using UNOSAT to capture high resolution imagery of the area as it is today, REACH's GIS team will design infographic maps to illustrate the change over the last 36 years. These maps will ultimately provide physical evidence of the ongoing changes in the environment and will serve to triangulate and supplement the qualitative information collected throughout the KIs and FGDs.

4. Key ethical considerations and related risks

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

<i>The proposed research design...</i>	<i>Yes/ No</i>	<i>Details if no (including mitigation)</i>
... Has been coordinated with relevant stakeholders to avoid unnecessary duplication of data collection efforts?	Yes	

... Respects respondents, their rights and dignity (specifically by: seeking informed consent, designing length of survey/ discussion while being considerate of participants' time, ensuring accurate reporting of information provided)?	Yes	
... Does not expose data collectors to any risks as a direct result of participation in data collection?	Yes	
... Does not expose respondents / their communities to any risks as a direct result of participation in data collection?	Yes	
... Does not involve collecting information on specific topics which may be stressful and/ or re-traumatising for research participants (both respondents and data collectors)?	Yes	
... Does not involve data collection with minors i.e. anyone less than 18 years old?	Yes	
... Does not involve data collection with other vulnerable groups e.g. persons with disabilities, victims/ survivors of protection incidents, etc.?	Yes	
... Follows IMPACT SOPs for management of personally identifiable information ?	Yes	

5. Roles and responsibilities

Table 1: Description of roles and responsibilities

Task Description	Responsible	Accountable	Consulted	Informed
Research design	Senior Assessment Officer	Research Manager/Deputy Country Coordinator	Research Manager / GIS Officer / IMPACT Research Design and Data Unit (HQ)	Deputy Country Coordinator / Country Coordinator
Supervising data collection	Field Managers	Senior Assessment Officer	REACH Field Coordinator / REACH Assessment Officer / Research Manager	Deputy Country Coordinator / Country Coordinator
Data processing (checking, cleaning)	Senior Assessment Officer	Senior Assessment Officer	IMPACT Research Design and Data Unit (HQ)	Research Manager
Data analysis	Senior Assessment Officer	Senior Assessment Officer	Research Manager / IMPACT Research Design and Data Unit (HQ)	Deputy Country Coordinator / Country Coordinator
Output production	Senior Assessment Officer/GIS Officer	Senior Assessment Officer/GIS	Research Manager / GIS Officer / IMPACT Reporting Unit (HQ) / GIS Unit (HQ)	Deputy Country Coordinator / Country Coordinator

	Officer/ Research Manager			
Dissemination	Senior Assessment Officer	Senior Assessment Officer/Research Manager	Research Manager / IMPACT Communications Officer (HQ)	ACF and other relevant organisations
Monitoring & Evaluation	Senior Assessment Officer	Senior Assessment Officer/ Research Manager	Research Manager / IMPACT Research Department (HQ)	Deputy Country Coordinator / Country Coordinator
Lessons learned	Senior Assessment Officer	Senior Assessment Officer	Research Manager / IMPACT Research Department (HQ)	Deputy Country Coordinator / Country Coordinator

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

7. Data Analysis Plan

KII questions for residents in the marshlands

Research Questions	SUBQ#	Sub-questions	Questionnaire QUESTION	Probes
What effect has the reduction in water level/marshland area had on marshland resident livelihood opportunities?	1.1.a	What are the sources of income and livelihoods for households?	What are the main sources of income for most people in the community? [list]	• In which activities are the majority of people in the community employed? Fishing? Agriculture? Livestock rearing? Handcraft production? Other? If other, please explain.
	1.1.b		What are the reasons behind most people in the community selecting these specific sources of income?	• Are these activities rooted in culture/tradition/family business? • Are these income sources linked to the marshlands? How? • Are these activities determined by the availability of resources? • Other? If other, please explain.
	2.1	Have there been changes in water level?	Could you tell us more about the water level (underground and in the marshlands) in the area over the past five years?	• Has the water level increased, decreased or has it stayed the same in the last five years? • If there has been a change in water level, what are the reasons: change in rainfall? Building of dams? Draining of marshland? Other? If Other, please explain. • Has the marshland increased, decreased or stayed the same in the last five years? Please explain
	2.2.a	How have livelihood opportunities been affected by changes in water level?	Have changes in water levels [if relevant] affected livelihood opportunities for most of people in the community in the past five years?	• Has there been an increase, decrease or no change in livelihood opportunities in the last five years? • If there has been a change in livelihood opportunities, do you believe that it is because of change in water level? Please explain why? Why not? • If there has been a change in livelihood opportunities because of changes in water level, which sector has been most impacted? Why? Please explain.

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	2.2.b	How has income level been affected by changes in water level?	Has there been a change in average income level for most households in the community in the past five years?	•Has income level increased, decreased or stayed the same? Please explain. •If there has been a change in income level, do you believe it is due to changes in water level in the marshlands? Please explain why? Why not?
	2.2.c	How has daily life been affected by changes in water level?	Has there been a change in daily life terms of access to food, water and schooling for children for most people in the community in the past five years?	•Has access to sufficient quantity and quality of food improved, worsened or stayed the same for majority of the people in the community? How? Please explain. •Has access to quantity and quality of water for drinking and domestic purposes improved, worsened or stayed the same for majority of people in the community? How? Please explain. •Are most children able to access functioning schools? Are most children in the community attending school? Why? Why not? •If there has been a change in these three areas for most people, do you believe it is linked to changes in water level/marshland? Please explain why? Why not?
	2.2.d	What strategies are employed due to change in water level?	What coping strategies have any or most people in the community employed as a result of impacted livelihood opportunities [if any]?	•Are people in the community working or considering working multiple jobs, the same number of jobs, or fewer jobs? •Are people in the community changing or considering changing job occupation? If yes, what kind of job opportunities are being considered? •Are people in the community planning to relocate as a coping strategy?
	2.2.e		What coping strategies have any or most people in the community employed as a result of impacted daily life [if any]?	•Have people in the community changed their spending on basic needs e.g food, clothing, housing, medical expenses etc. ? In what way? How frequent are the main expenses? •Do people in the community take out loans? If yes, how many people? •Do multiple individuals in a household in the community work to support the family? If yes, is this common practice? •Are people in the community planning to relocate as a coping strategy?

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Do marshland residents intend to relocate from this area in the future? +What factors or changes would cause marshland residents to decide to leave or to stay in the area?	3.1	Movement intentions	Based on your knowledge, approximately how many households have left the area in the last 5 years?	•How many people have left in the last five years? •Why did they move? Please explain.
	3.2.a		Based on your knowledge, could you tell us a bit more about the movement intentions and plans to relocate for households in the community?	•Do people in the community plan to relocate? •If not, why not?[list top three] •If yes, how many households plan to relocate? What are the reasons to relocate? [list top three] •How many households plan to relocate in 3-6 months? •How many households plan to relocate in over 12 months? •Where do they plan/intend to relocate? Why?
	3.2.b		What factors/changes do you believe would make people in the community who plan to leave stay?	•What are the reasons people who intend to leave would stay? [list top three] •What changes need to happen in order for people who intend to leave, stay?[list top three] •Are there goods or basic services that can be provided to persuade people who intend to leave to stay? If so, what are they? [list]

KII questions migrant in Basra city

Research Questions	SUBQ#	Sub-questions	Questionnaire QUESTION	Probes
What factors would influence migrants' decision to end their displacement?	1.1.a	What are the sources of income and livelihoods for community households?	What are the main sources of income for most migrants from the marshlands, in your Basra city community?	• In which activities are the majority of people in the community employed? Construction? Transportation? Business? Government? Other? If other, please explain.
	1.1.b		What are the reasons behind most migrants in the community selecting these specific sources of income?	•Are these activities rooted in culture/tradition/family business? •Are these activities determined by the availability of resources? •Are these activities limited to skills of the migrant community? •Other? If other, please explain.

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	2.1	What are the migrants AoO?	What are the areas of origin for majority of the migrants displaced in the community? [list]	•Where do majority of migrants in the community come from?
	2.2	What factors influenced migrant households' to displace?	Can you please explain what circumstances/ conditions have influenced the displacement decision from the marshlands for majority of migrants in the community?	•What caused the decision for most migrants to leave the marshlands? [list top three reasons] •Have these conditions stayed the same, improved or worsened in the marshlands? Please Explain.
	2.3		What pull and push factors (reasons) influenced the decision for majority of migrants to displace/relocate to Basra city?	•Why did people in the migrant community decide to displace from their area of origin? •Did people move to Basra city for better livelihood opportunities/stable income source? •Did people move to Basra City to reunite with family? •Other? If other, please explain.
Do migrants intend to return to the marshlands or to relocate elsewhere in the future?	2.4	Movement intentions	Do majority of migrant households in the community intend to stay in Basra city, return to their area of origin in the marshlands, or move to another location?	•How many migrant households intend to stay in Basra city? - o What are the reasons for this decision? [list top three] •How many migrant households intend to return to their area of origin in the marshlands? - o What are the reasons for this decision [list top three reasons for yes and no] - If yes: - o How many migrant households intend to return in the next 3-6 months? - o How many migrant households intend to return after 12 months? - If no: - o What support and conditions are needed to facilitate return to area of origin for migrant households? • How many migrant households intend to move to another location? - o List location migrant households are intending to move to, and why? - o How many migrant households intend to relocate to this area in the next 3-6 months? - o How many migrant households intend to relocate to this area over 12 months?

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	2.5		What are the main conditions or needs to facilitate a safe and dignified return for migrants in the community planning/intending to return to their areas of origin?	• What are the basic household and livelihood needs in the marshlands for migrants in your community to return? • How can those needs be addressed? Please explain.
What factors did migrants consider when deciding to leave the marshland areas? Do you think that these factors have improved, deteriorated, or stayed the same in the time since households left the area?	3.1	Have there been a change in water level?	Could you tell us about the water level (underground and in the marshlands) in the area you used to live in before you left?	• Before you left, did the water level in the marshland area where you used to live increase, decrease or stay the same? • If there were changes in water level, what were the reasons: change in rainfall? Building of dams? Draining of marshlands? Other? If Other, please explain. • Has there been an increase, decrease, or no change in water levels in the area since you left? • If there has been changes in water level, what are the reasons: change in rainfall? Building of dams? Draining of marshlands? Other? If Other, please explain. • Before you left, has the marshland area where you used to live increase, decrease, or stay the same? • Has there been an increase, decreased or no change in the marshland area since you left the area?
	3.2.a	How have livelihood opportunities been affected by changes in water level?	How did changes in water level [if relevant] affect livelihood opportunities for residents in your marshland community?	• What were the main livelihood opportunities in the marshland community where you are from? Fishing? Agriculture? Livestock rearing? Handcraft production? Other? If other, please explain. • To your knowledge, did these livelihood opportunities increase, decrease, or stay the before you left? • If there was a change in livelihood opportunities, do you believe it was because of change in water level? Please explain why? Why not? • If there was a change in livelihood opportunities because of changes in water level in marshland area, which sector was most impacted? Why? Please explain. • Has there been an increase, decrease or no change in these livelihood opportunities since you left? • If there is still a change in livelihood opportunities, do you believe it was because of change in water level? Please explain why? Why not?

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3.2.b	How has income level been affected by changes in water level?	Before you left, was there change in income level for most households in your marshland community?	•Did income level increase, decrease or stay the same? Please explain. •If there was a change in income level, was it due to changes in water level in the marshlands? Please explain why? Why not?
3.2.c	How has daily life been affected by changes in water level?	Before you left, was there change in daily life in terms of access to food, water and schooling for children for most residents in your marshland community?	•Did access to sufficient quantity and quality of food improve, worsen or stay the same for majority of the people in the community? How? Please explain. •Did access to quantity and quality of water for drinking and domestic purposes improve, worsen or stay the same for majority of people in the community? How? Please explain. •Were most children in the community able to access functioning schools? did most children in the community attend school? Why? Why not? •If there was a change in daily life for people in the community in these three areas, do you believe it was linked to changes in water level/marshland? Please explain.
3.2.d	What strategies are employed due to change in water level?	What coping strategies did any or most residents in the community employ as a result of impacted livelihood opportunities [if any]?	•Did people in the community work multiple jobs, the same number of jobs, or fewer jobs? •Did people in the community change job occupation? If yes, what kind of jobs did they change to? •Did people in the community plan to relocate as a coping strategy?

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3.2.e		What coping strategies did any or most residents in the community employ as a result of impacted daily life [if any]?	• Did people in the marshland community change their spending on basic needs e.g clothing, food, housing, medical expenses etc.? In what way? How frequent are the main expenses? • Did people in the marshland community take out loans? If yes, how many people? • Did multiple individuals in a household in your marshland community support the family? If yes, was this common practice in the community? • Did people in the community plan to relocate as a coping strategy?
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FGD questions for residents in the marshlands

Research Questions	SUBQ#	Sub-Questions	Questionnaire QUESTION	Probes
What effect has the reduction in water level/marshland area had on marshland resident livelihood opportunities?	1.1.a	What are the sources of income and livelihoods for households?	What are the main sources of income for your household and households like yours?	• Do participant households work in fishing? Agriculture? Livestock rearing? Handcraft production? Other? If other, please explain. • How many individuals are income earners in your household and households like yours?
	1.1.b		What are the reasons behind your household or household like yours selecting these specific sources of income?	•Are these activities rooted in culture/tradition/family business? •Are these income sources linked to the marshlands? How? •Are these activities determined by the availability of resources? •Has your household or household like yours developed skills for this type of activity? •Other? If other, please explain.

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	2.1	Have there been a change in water level?	Could you tell us more about the water level (underground and in the marshlands) in the area over the past five years in the village?	•Has the water level increased, decreased or has it stayed the same in the last five years? • If there has been a change in water level, what are the reasons: change in rainfall? Building of dams? Draining of marshlands? Other? If Other, please explain. •Has the marshland increased, reduced or stayed the same in the last five years? Please explain
	2.2.a	How have livelihood opportunities been affected by changes in water level?	Have changes in water level [if relevant] affected livelihood opportunities for your household or household like yours in the past five years?	•Has there been an increase, decrease or no change in livelihood opportunities for your household or household like yours over the last five years? If yes, in what way? Please explain. •If there has been a change in livelihood opportunities, do you believe that it is because of change in water level? Please explain why? Why not?
	2.2.b	How has income level been affected by changes in water level?	Has there been a change in income level for your household or household like yours in the past five years?	•Has income level increased, decreased or stayed the same? Please explain. •If there has been a change in income level, is it due to changes in water level in the marshlands? Please explain why? Why not?
	2.2.c	How has daily life been affected by changes in water level?	Has there been a change in daily life for your household or household like yours in the past five in terms of access to food, water and schooling for children?	•Has your household or households like yours' access to sufficient quantity and quality of food improved, worsened or stayed the same? How? Please explain. •Has your household or households like yours' access to quantity and quality of water for drinking and domestic purposes improved, worsened or stayed the same? How? Please explain. •Do you have children who are school age? How many? Are they going to school? Why? Why not? •If there has been a change in daily life in these three areas that have been discusses, do you believe it is linked to changes in water level/marshland? Please explain why? Why not?

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	2.2.d	What strategies are employed due to change in water level?	What coping strategies has your household or household like yours, if any, employed as a result of impacted livelihoods opportunities [if any]?	• Is your household or households like yours working or considering working multiple jobs, the same number of jobs, or fewer jobs? • Is your household or households like yours changing or considering changing job occupation? If yes, what kind of job opportunities are being considered? • Is your household or household like yours considering to relocate as a coping strategy?
	2.2.e		What coping strategies has your household or household like yours, if any, employed as a result of impacted daily life [if any]?	• Has spending for your household or household like yours increased, decreased or stayed the same for basic needs e.g clothing, food, housing, medical expenses etc.? In what way? How frequent are the main expenses? • Has your household or household like yours had to take out loans? If yes, what are the loans being used for? • Do multiple individuals in your household or household like yours work to support the family? Who? • Is your household or household like yours planning to relocate as a coping strategy?
Do marshland residents intend to relocate from this area in the future? + What factors or changes would marshland residents to decide to leave or to stay in the area?	3.1.a	Movement intentions	We are interested to know about future movement intentions of your household and households like yours) in the area.	• Does your household or households like yours intend to relocate? • If not, why not? [list top three] • If yes, what are the reasons for your household or households like yours to relocate? [list top three reasons] - o If yes, would you expect everyone in your household to relocate, or just certain individuals? - o Does your household or household like yours plan to relocate in 3-6 months? - o Does your household or household like yours plan to relocate after 12 months? - o Where does your household or household like yours plan/intend to relocate? Why

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	3.1.b		If your household or household like yours intend to relocate, what factors/changes do you believe would persuade your household or household like yours to stay?	• What reasons would your household or household like yours have to stay? [list top three] • What changes need to happen in order for your household or household like yours in the area to stay? [list top three] • Are there goods or basic services that can be provided to persuade your household or household like yours to stay? If so, what are they? [list]
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FGD questions for migrants in Basra city

Research questions	SUBQ#	Sub questions	Questionnaire QUESTION	Probes
What factors would influence migrants' decision to end their displacement?	1.1.a	What are the sources of income and livelihoods for participant households?	What are the main sources of income for your household and households like yours in Basra city?	• Do participant households work in construction? Transportation? Business? Government? Other? If other, please explain. • How many individuals are income earners in your household and household like yours?
	1.1.b		What are the reasons behind your household or household like yours selecting these specific sources of income?	• Are these activities rooted in culture/tradition/family business? • Are these activities determined by the availability of resources? • Has your household or household like yours developed skills for this type of activity in the area? • Other? If other, please explain.
	2.1	What are the migrant's AoO and how long have they been in displacement?	Where is your household or household like yours from?	• How long has your household or households like yours been displaced in Basra city? • Did your household or household like yours arrive separately or together?
	2.2	What factors influenced migrant households' to displace?	Can you please explain what circumstances/ conditions influenced the displacement decision from the marshlands for your household or households like yours?	• What caused the decision for your household or household like yours to leave the marshlands? [list top three reasons] • Have these conditions stayed the same, improved or worsened in the marshlands? Please Explain.

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	2.3		What pull and push factors (reasons) influenced the decision for your household or households like yours to displace/relocate to Basra city?	• Did your household or household like yours move to Basra city for access to better livelihood opportunities/stable income source? - o If so, what was your household or household like yours' main income source in your area of origin? • Was this source of income enough for your household or household like yours' basic needs e.g food, housing, clothing, medical expenses etc. in the area? • Did your household or household like yours move to Basra city to reunite with family? • Are there other reasons why your household or household like yours moved to Basra city?
Do migrant intend to return to the marshlands or to relocate elsewhere in the future?	2.4	Movement intentions	Does your household or household like yours intend to stay in Basra city, return to your area of origin in the marshlands, or move to another location?	• Does your household or household like yours intend to stay in Basra City? - o What are the reasons for this decision? [list top three] • Does your household or household like yours intend to return to their area of origin in the marshlands? - o What are the reasons for this decision [list top three reasons for yes and no] - If yes: - o Does your household or households like yours intend to return in the next 3-6 months? - o Does your household or household like yours intend to return after 12 months ? - If no: - o What support and conditions are needed to facilitate your return to your area of origin? • Does your household or household like yours intend to move to another location? - o Which location is your household or household like yours intending to move to, and why? - o Does your household and household like yours intend to relocate to this area in the next 3-6 months? - o Does your household or households like yours intend to relocate to this area after 12 months?

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	2.5		If your household or household like yours plan or intend to return to their areas of origin, what do you think are the main conditions or needs to facilitate a safe and dignified return?	• What are the basic household and livelihood needs in the marshlands for your household or households like yours to return? • How can those needs be addressed? Please explain.
What factors did migrants consider when deciding to leave the marshland areas? Do they think that these factors have improved, deteriorated, or stayed the same in the time since they left the area?	3.1	Have there been a change in water level?	Could you tell us about the water level (underground and in the marshlands) in the area your household used to live in before you left?	• Before you left, did the water level in the marshlands increase, decrease or stay the same? • If there were changes in water level, what were the reasons: change in rainfall? Building of dams? Draining of marshlands? Other? If Other, please explain. • Has there been a increase, decrease, or no change in water levels since you the area left? • If there has been changes in water level, what are the reasons: change in rainfall? Building of dams? Draining of marshlands? Other? If Other, please explain. • Before you left, had the marshland area where you used to live increase, decrease, or stay the same? • Has there been a increase, decreased or no change in the marshland area since your household or household like yours left?
	3.2.a	How have livelihood opportunities been affected by changes in water level?	How did change in the water levels [if relevant] affect livelihood opportunities for your household or household like yours in the marshlands?	• What was your household or household like yours' main income source in the marshlands? Was your household or households like yours' livelihood linked to the marshlands? • Was there an increase, decrease or no change in livelihood opportunities for your household or household like yours before you left? What kind of livelihood opportunities were available?
	3.2.b	How has income level been affected by changes in water level?	Before your household left, was there change in income level for your household or household like yours in the marshlands?	• Did income level increase, decrease or stay the same? Please explain. • If there was a change in income level, was it due to changes in water level in the marshlands? Please explain.

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	3.2.c	How has daily life been affected by changes in water level?	Before your household left, was there change in daily life for household or household like yours in the marshlands in terms of access to food, water and schooling for children?	• Did your household or households like yours' have access to sufficient quantity and quality of food improv, worsen or stay the same? How? Please explain. • Did your household or households like yours' have access to quantity and quality of water for drinking and domestic purposes improve, worsen or stay the same? How? Please explain. • Does your household or household like yours have children who are school age? Did they go to school? Why? Why not? • If there has been a change in daily life in these three areas that have been discusses, is it linked to changes in water level/marshland? Please explain why? Why not?
	3.2.d	What strategies are employed due to change in water level?	What coping strategies did your household or households like yours, if any, employ as a result of impacted livelihood opportunities [if any]?	• Did your household or households like yours work multiple jobs, the same number of jobs, or fewer jobs? • Did your household or households like yours changing job occupation? If yes, what kind of job did your household or households like yours change to? • Did your household or household like yours plan to relocate as a coping strategy?
	3.2.e		What coping strategies did your household or households like yours, if any, employ as a result of impacted daily life [if any]?	• Did spending for your household or household like yours increase, decrease or stay the same for basic needs e.g clothing, food, housing, medical expenses etc.? In what way? How frequent are the main expenses? • Did your household or household like yours take out loans? If yes, what were the loans being used for? • Did multiple individuals in your household or household like yours work to support the family? Who? • Did your household or household like yours plan to relocate as a coping strategy

9. Monitoring & Evaluation Plan

IMPACT Objective	External M&E Indicator	Internal M&E Indicator	Focal point	Tool	Will indicator be tracked?
Humanitarian stakeholders are accessing IMPACT products	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, sendinBlue, bit.ly	Country team		X Yes
		# of visits to x webmap/x dashboard	Country request to HQ		☐ Yes
IMPACT activities contribute to better program implementation and coordination of the humanitarian response	Number of humanitarian organisations utilizing IMPACT services/products	# references in HPC documents (HNO, SRP, Flash appeals, Cluster/sector strategies)	Country team	Reference_log	NA
		# references in single agency documents			
Humanitarian stakeholders are using IMPACT products	Humanitarian actors use IMPACT evidence/products as a basis for decision making, aid planning and delivery Number of humanitarian documents (HNO, HRP, cluster/agency strategic plans, etc.) directly informed by IMPACT products	Perceived relevance of IMPACT country-programs	Country team	Usage_Feedback and Usage_Survey template	

		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			
Humanitarian stakeholders are engaged in IMPACT programs throughout the research cycle	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	☐ Yes
		# of organisations/clusters inputting in research design and joint analysis			☐ Yes
		# of organisations/clusters attending briefings on findings;			☐ Yes

ⁱSecondary data sources consulted include:

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