
2017

ACTIVITY REPORT

Informing
more effective
humanitarian action

REACH

Contents

	Foreword	1
	Looking back on 2017	2
	Program Highlights from 2017	4
	1. Multi-Sectoral Planning	5
	2. Sector-Specific Planning	10
	2. People on the Move	12
	REACH Partners	18
	REACH Founding partners	18
	Bi-lateral and multi-lateral donor agencies	18
	UN agencies and international organisations	18
	Cluster partners	19
	Humanitarian 2 Humanitarian (H2H)	19
	Media Partners	19
	REACH in Numbers	20
	People	20
	Budget	21

Foreword

The global trend of escalation in humanitarian crisis has continued in 2017, with an unprecedented 135 million people in need of humanitarian support according to UN-OCHA. Among them are over 65 million forcibly displaced, of which over 22 million refugees and 10 million stateless persons. The majority of those in need of humanitarian assistance are victims of conflict, particularly of protracted conflict such as in Syria, Yemen, South Sudan, Somalia and Nigeria. In addition, 2017 saw the emergence of new crises, including the rapid escalation of needs in the Kasai region of the Democratic Republic of Congo, as well as the sudden influx of over 600,000 Rohingya refugees fleeing violence in Myanmar into South East Bangladesh.

At over 24 billion USD, consolidated funding requirements to meet humanitarian needs in 2017 were at record high, representing a four-fold increase since 2008. Although also at record high, donor funding did not increase at the same rate as funding requirements. As 2017 drew to a close, just over half of global humanitarian financial requirements had been met, creating significant strain in the ability to meet the increasing needs of crisis-affected populations.

In this context, the availability and use of robust evidence is paramount to support prioritisation, coordination and decision making by humanitarian actors. The importance of needs assessment was singled out in 2016 at the World Humanitarian Summit and the ensuing Grand Bargain Commitments, and continues to be a priority area of focus for humanitarian actors. As mentioned in the 2018 Global Humanitarian Overview, humanitarian actors *'must continue to improve the quality of the evidence that informs planning and transparency around the way we prioritize response actions'*.

In the course of 2017, REACH has further extended and strengthened its ability to support evidence-based response by humanitarian actors. With teams established in 22 countries across Africa, the Middle East, Asia, Europe, and Central America, and a growing number of global partnerships, REACH has supported multi-sectoral and sector-specific response planning, as well as continuing its work on displacement and migration. With a production of over 3000 products that have directly supported over 100 humanitarian actors in 2017, REACH affirms its role as a leading global initiative in the collection and analysis of information in contexts of crisis.

This Annual Report provides a quick overview of REACH's activities in 2017, illustrating them through some examples of our work in a variety of contexts. Behind the success of our work is a team of over 300 permanent staff and 800 temporary staff, and a growing network of over 100 partners, who we would like to thank for their dedication, professionalism, and support.

We look forward to continue working together in 2018 to inform evidence-based decision making and enable more effective aid responses across the world.

Luca Pupulin
Executive Director
IMPACT Initiatives

Einar Bjorgo
Manager
UNOSAT/UNITAR

Marie Pierre Caley
Chief Executive Officer
ACTED

A IN 2017 REACH HAS....

INFORMED...

15 HUMANITARIAN NEEDS OVERVIEW & HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE PLANS

7 REFUGEE RESPONSES

PROGRAMS IN

500 camps 

60 cities 

MIGRATION POLICIES & PROGRAMS IN **9** COUNTRIES

THROUGH +3,000 PUBLICATIONS...



2,045 Factsheets



95 Reports



42 Profiles



108 Situation Overviews

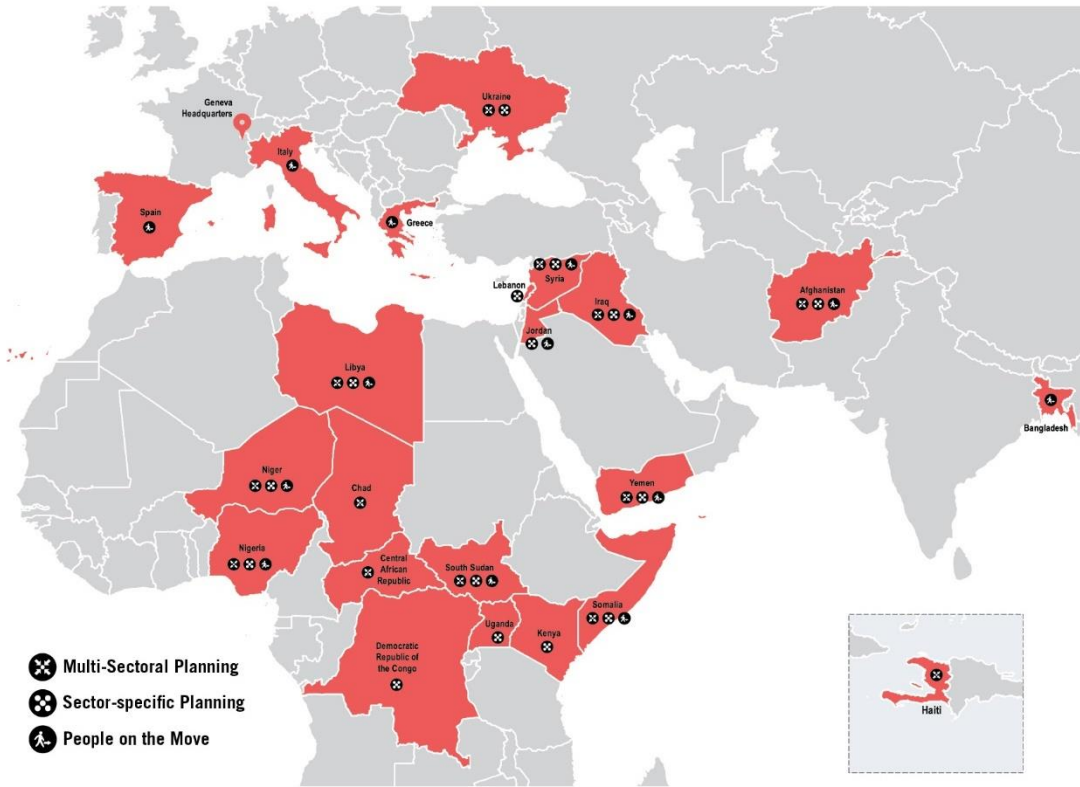


861 Maps



23 Webmaps & Dashboards

IN 22 COUNTRIES...



THANKS TO...



110,349 Household interviews



+300 Assessments



72,373 Key informant interviews



+400 Staff



+100 Partners



22 Donors

Program Highlights from 2017

B

In 2017, REACH supported evidence-based decision making and planning by humanitarian stakeholders in 22 countries across the Middle East, Asia, Africa, Europe and Central America.

This report presents highlights from REACH 2017 programmes, structured around our three pillars of intervention: Multi-sectoral planning; Sector-specific planning; and People on the Move.





1. Multi-Sectoral Planning

MULTI SECTOR ASSESSMENTS

With the aim of ensuring that response planning is based on robust and legitimate evidence and analysis, in 2017 REACH facilitated a series of inter-agency multi-sector assessments in **Somalia, Iraq, Ukraine and Libya**.

In line with Grand Bargain commitments, these Multi-Sector Assessments were:

- > **Inter-agency:** under the umbrella of the HCT and in partnership with clusters ;
- > **Multi-sector:** enabling a solid analysis of needs across sectors, and informing prioritisation;
- > **Country-wide** and across all population groups (displaced, refugees and host communities);
- > **Actionable:** Directly informing Humanitarian Needs Overviews and Response Plans.

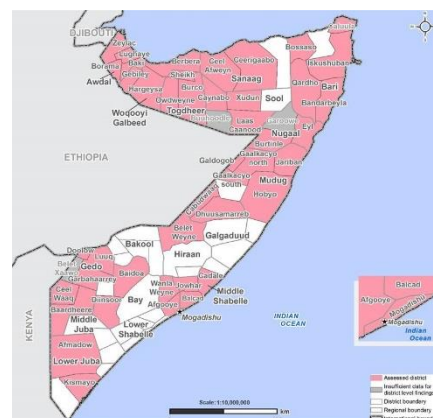


SOMALIA: Joint Multi Cluster Needs Assessment

The Somalia Joint Multi Cluster Needs Assessment (JMCNA) is a nationally representative study conducted on behalf of the Somalia Inter-Cluster Coordination Group, to inform the 2018 Humanitarian Needs Overview. Over 22 partners, including UN Agencies, international and national NGO, participated in the data collection and analysis of the JMCNA.

The assessment, conducted between June and October 2017, comprised of over 5,000 household surveys, covering two thirds of Somalia's districts. It constitutes the first inter-agency assessment of its size to be successfully conducted in Somalia.

Findings, representative at district level, drew particular attention to the impact of the ongoing drought on humanitarian needs, such as food security and livelihoods, nutrition, health, water, sanitation and hygiene, education, shelter and protection.



IRAQ: Multi Cluster Needs Assessment

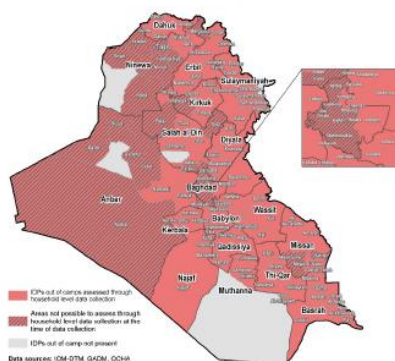
2017 marked a shift in the conflict and resulting internal displacement crisis in Iraq, as the Iraqi Security Forces regained control over Mosul and other strongholds of the so-called Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant. With the emergence of newly accessible conflict-affected groups such as returning and non-displaced populations, humanitarian planning and programming was constrained by a lack of data regarding their priority needs and how their needs compared with one another.

To address these information gaps, REACH, on behalf of the Assessment Working Group, Clusters and Humanitarian Country Team, facilitated a Multi-Cluster Needs Assessment (MCNA) in August

2017. With nearly 8,000 household interviews covering the entire country and all population groups, the MCNA constitutes a major comprehensive and coordinated need assessment, designed and implemented with inputs from all clusters and partners.

Cluster-specific briefings and a culminating joint analysis workshop were held in autumn 2017, to ensure that humanitarian actors were able to use the data as a basis of the 2018 HNO/HRP planning.

Map 2: Data collection coverage for out-of-camp IDP population group (household surveys)

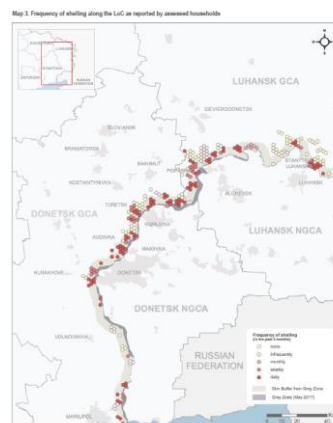




UKRAINE: Analysing trends of Multi-Sector Needs Assessments

In 2017, building on the 2016 Multi-Sector Needs Assessments (MSNA), REACH teams in Ukraine implemented a trend analysis of the MSNA. Conducted under the umbrella of the humanitarian country team, this trend analysis informed directly the humanitarian needs overview for 2018, enabling partners prioritization and evidence-based planning.

Using comparable indicators and samples, the assessment enabled the aid community to evaluate changes in humanitarian needs of populations living close to the 467 km contact line who experience daily ceasefire violations. The results showed that restrictions in movement of goods and peoples in the regions of Donetsk and Luhansk continue to negatively affect the economic security of households living in active conflict areas by disrupting access to employment and basic services.



LIBYA: Multi-Sector Needs Assessment

Since the resurgence of Libya's armed conflict in 2014, political instability, ongoing violence and economic collapse have left 1.15 million people in need of humanitarian assistance, according to UN OCHA estimates. Between June and August 2017, REACH Libya, in partnership with the Humanitarian Country Team, the Inter-Sector Coordination Group and all sectors of the Libya response, conducted a multi-sector needs assessment via 2,978 household surveys across 8 of Libya's 22 districts.

Key findings from the MSNA highlight ongoing protection issues related to contamination from explosive hazards, as well as the deterioration of the country's healthcare system and a severe economic crisis that left households struggling to meet their basic needs. IDP households were particularly vulnerable, with almost half affected by multiple displacements. The data collected as part of this MSNA was one of the primary sources for the 2018 Libya Humanitarian Needs Overview.

LIBYA

- 11** assessment
- 14** partners
- 46** publications
- 3,651** households interviews
- 1,684** key informants interviews

REACH FORMALISES A GLOBAL PARTNERSHIP WITH UNDAC

The United Nations Disaster and Assessment Coordination (UNDAC) was established in 1993 to help the United Nations and governments of disaster-affected countries during the first phase of a sudden-onset emergency. UNDAC assists incoming international relief at national level and/or at the site of the emergency, notably through needs assessment, support to coordination and logistics. UNDAC teams operate worldwide and have – since their creation – been deployed over 250 times

Building on previous experiences in sudden onset disasters (Philippines, Nepal, Haiti, Vanuatu), REACH is joining the UNDAC network to provide support both at Global level and through emergency response deployment. REACH will provide technical and operational support to (a) strengthen systems and tools related to rapid assessment and analysis and (b) support UNDAC assessment and analysis cell activities and outputs production through the deployment of assessment coordinators and/or specialists as well as data analysts. In addition to analysis and information management support, REACH will provide a dedicated field data collection capacity to operationalize, when relevant, rapid multi-sector needs assessments. All assessment activities will be conducted under UNDAC coordination architecture and in liaison with relevant aid stakeholders at global and country level.

“REACH's work will be a significant support to UNDAC for the strengthening and deployment of assessment capacity, systems and tools”

Jesper Holmer Lund, Chief, Emergency Response Support Branch - OCHA

UNDAC MISSION SUPPORT PARTNERS

HUMANITARIAN SITUATION MONITORING

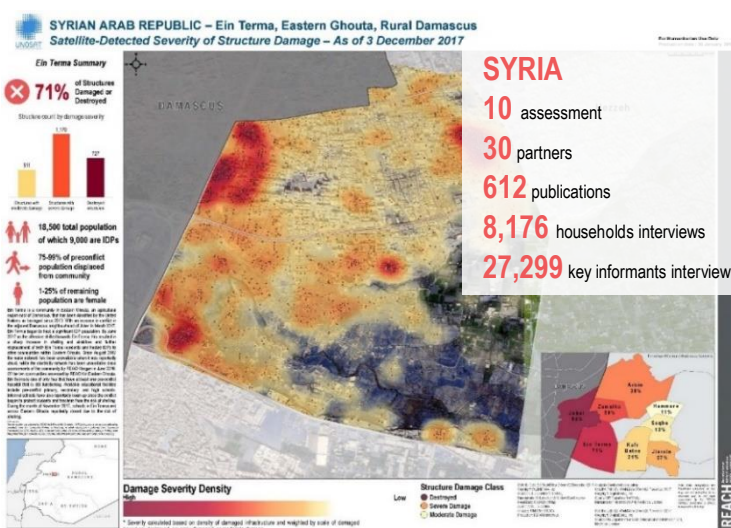
In volatile and shifting contexts, especially those characterised by access constraints, it is key to regularly monitor the needs and vulnerabilities of crisis-affected populations in order to mitigate further deteriorations of the situation and provide emergency assistance.

REACH conducts Humanitarian Situation Monitoring in such contexts, enabling aid actors to have updated information on the humanitarian situation, even in hard to reach areas.

SYRIA: Assessing humanitarian needs in besieged and hard to reach areas

Since 2015, in partnership with OCHA and the Syria INGO Regional Forum, REACH has conducted monthly situation monitoring of communities classified as besieged or hard-to-reach via its Community Profiles program. These communities are characterised by unique access restrictions that affect the inward and outward flow of people and goods, as well as humanitarian assistance.

The monthly community profiles published by REACH throughout 2017 provided updated and regular information to humanitarian actors, informing their decisions about how to advocate for increased assistance and humanitarian access to populations in besieged and hard to reach areas of Syria.



As an example, REACH's regular situation monitoring in Eastern Ghouta throughout 2017, pointed to severe levels of food insecurity, insufficient access to drinking water and healthcare, and a critical lack of access to life-saving humanitarian assistance.

SOUTH SUDAN: Using the Area of Knowledge methodology for monthly situation monitoring

The dynamic and multi-faceted nature of the South Sudan crisis, including access restrictions due to conflict and poor infrastructure, create significant challenges for humanitarian information management in the country. To fill information gaps on needs and vulnerabilities in hard-to-reach areas in a systematic manner, REACH has been using the Area of Knowledge (AoK) methodology since 2016, representing a flexible means of collecting primary data adapted different access levels.

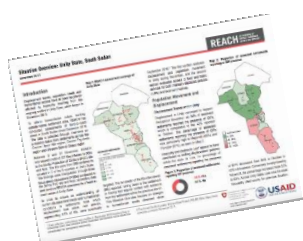
AoK data is collected on a monthly basis, using multi-sector interviews with key informants in static IDP sites, who have recently come from/visited a remote settlement, or phone calling to participants in remote settlements. The use of standard, sector-specific questions enables to monitor over time changes in service access and needs.

In 2017 REACH expanded its AoK bases to 12 field sites, collecting data on 45 counties on a monthly basis, taking an increasingly critical role feeding evidence into the planning and prioritization of the humanitarian response in South Sudan. The data is used by both operational and strategic actors, including the Inter Cluster Working Group, the Needs Analysis Working Group and IPC Analysis workshops to identify priority communities and inform priorities in the Humanitarian Needs Overview.



“REACH products have provided detailed data, analysis and trends in areas where few partners operate and where civilian populations face high barriers to access basic services. As such they have provided invaluable information on communities and markets for the benefit of the humanitarian community to inform programming and advocacy.”

Ivo Freijssen, Head of Office, OCHA Syria



Improving Information Management and Assessment capacities of national and international humanitarian stakeholders:

REACH's aim is to improve the availability of humanitarian data and provide robust analysis for decision making. This can't be done only through our work, but requires an active engagement by the humanitarian community as a whole.

To support this at crisis-level, REACH provides international and local humanitarian actors with assessment, information management and GIS trainings and support.

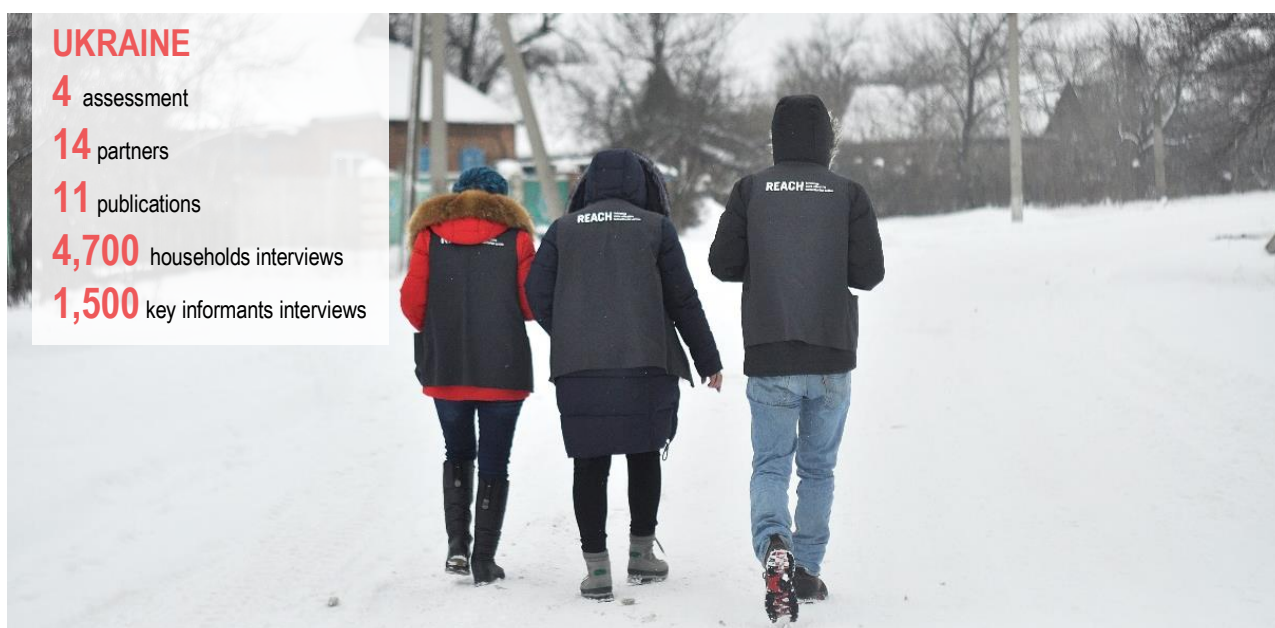
In **Niger**, REACH established an Information Management hub, called 'Centre d'Appui à la Gestion de l'Information' (CAGI), which provides trainings and direct technical support to humanitarian partners, while also pro-actively assisting to resolve structural issues in the area of humanitarian information management. In 2017, REACH provided direct support to staff from UN-agencies, international NGOs, national NGOs and governmental actors – strengthening their IM capacities and ultimately contributing toward a more effective humanitarian response.

In **Central African Republic**, REACH provides Information Management capacity to the UNICEF-coordinated Rapid Response Mechanism (RRM). In 2017, RRM NGO partners have reacted to shocks across the country, conducting rapid Multi Sector Assessments (MSA), providing WASH and Non-Food Items assistance, and conducting Post-Distribution Monitoring (PDM). REACH has been a key stakeholder in both the design and review of RRM assessment tools. REACH also tracks RRM activities progress, centralising reporting among partners and providing periodic updates to the humanitarian community through monthly factsheets and an interactive dashboard. Resulting products are widely used by RRM partners and for broader inter-sectoral response planning.

In **Ukraine**, REACH runs three IM hubs across the country, through which over 100 staff of local authorities, NGOs and UN Agencies have been trained so far. To address capacity gaps in IM, shares our expertise with local organizations and promote the sustainability of our programs, our teams conduct classroom trainings and provide technical support on mobile data collection, data analysis on excel and GIS. By promoting open source or widely available software (Kobo, QGIS, Excel) REACH ensures the trainings can be applied immediately in the work of our partners.

"The work of REACH in Ukraine is very useful for the humanitarian community and donors to have a precise understanding of humanitarian needs and gaps, a critical condition for good humanitarian programming"

Samuel Marie-Fanon, Head of Office, ECHO Ukraine



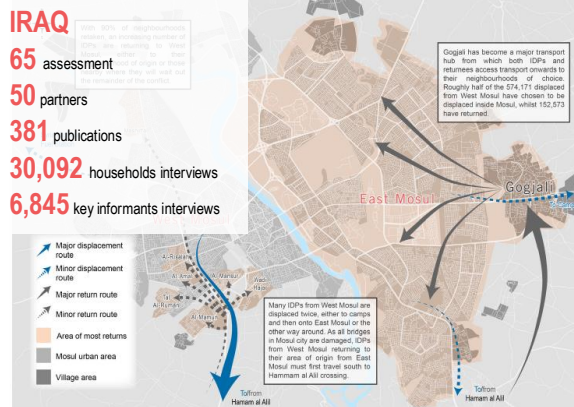
RAPID ASSESSMENTS

Most humanitarian crises are characterised by sudden shocks and shifts in context, requiring a capacity to quickly understand such changes to plan a tailored and effective response.

REACH supports operational partners, donors and policy makers in gathering accurate and timely evidence, informing aid responses, funding allocations and policy decisions.

IRAQ: Establishing rapid assessment mechanisms to inform timely aid responses

Map 3: Neighbourhood level displacement and return routes between 26 February and 28 May



IRAQ
65 assessment
50 partners
381 publications
30,092 households interviews
6,845 key informants interviews

In the course of 2017, REACH facilitated and conducted a series of Rapid Assessments to support the humanitarian response to the displacement crisis sparked by the Government of Iraq (GoI) military offensive to regain control of territory from the so-called Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant (ISIL).

The Rapid Assessments were launched in partnership with OCHA, in the framework the Iraq Assessment Working Group. Where possible, data was collected by

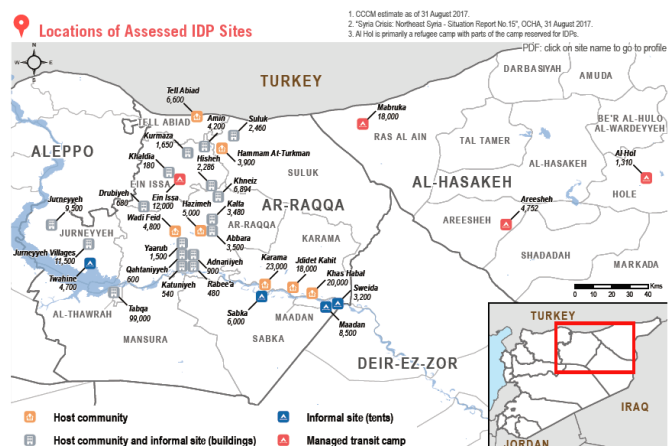
humanitarian partners through the use of an harmonized tool and methodology, with REACH also directly engaging in data collection when required.

The Rapid Assessments enabled partners to determine displacement patterns, return intentions, key needs of IDPs as well as the humanitarian situation in areas that had been reclaimed from ISIL, in areas still under ISIL control or in camps hosting IDPs from Mosul and surrounding areas.

SYRIA: Informing rapid aid responses in Raqqa

Throughout most of 2017, the campaign to expel the group known as the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant from Ar-Raqqa governorate led to an escalation of conflict across the area. This resulted in multiple phases of significant displacement, as well as a deterioration in the humanitarian situation of those remaining in conflict affected areas.

Throughout the conflict, REACH conducted a series of rapid assessments in two streams: the first aimed to provide rapid updates on the locations and humanitarian situation of those displaced, and the second aimed to monitor the deterioration in the situation of those remaining in conflict-affected areas. Given the access and security challenges faced by humanitarian actors in the area, the rapid assessments became a primary source of information used for their planning and decision making throughout the conflict.



1. OCHA estimate as of 31 August 2017.
 2. Syria Crisis Northeast Syria - Situation Report No. 15', OCHA, 31 August 2017.
 3. Al Hol is primarily a refugee camp with parts of the camp reserved for IDPs.



2. Sector-Specific Planning

“The partnership with REACH has become a key pillar of the GWC strategy to strengthen evidence-based planning”

Dominique Porteaud, Global WASH Cluster Coordinator

CLUSTER & SECTOR SUPPORT

Since its beginning, support to clusters and sector-planning has been a key component of REACH programming. As global WASH and Shelter Cluster Assessment focal point, co-chair of the Food Security Cluster Program Quality Working Group, and partner of key cluster-lead agencies, REACH plays a central role in providing in-depth, sector-specific information to inform cluster and sector response planning and decision-making.

SHELTER: Assessing shelter conditions and needs across Syria

To strengthen shelter evidence-based response planning by humanitarian actors in Syria, in July 2017 REACH led a comprehensive shelter and NFI assessment on behalf of the Shelter/NFI Cluster. Accessible areas in the governorates of Idlib, Hama, Homs, Aleppo, Ar-Raqqa, Deir Ez-Zor, Dar'a and Quneitra were assessed through over 7,000 household interviews.

Findings from this assessment constituted a key source of information for the 2018 HNO and more broadly for the shelter strategy in Syria. This assessment built on a previous Shelter Cluster/REACH assessment from December 2016, enabling for comparison of findings over time.

FOOD SECURITY: Informing famine declaration in South Sudan

As a result of ongoing conflict, multiple years of below-average crop production, and a-typical livestock losses, households across South Sudan continue to face severe levels of food insecurity and disruption of livelihoods. The IPC analysis estimated a total of 1,010,000 (48%) of people were facing Crisis, Emergency, or Catastrophe (IPC Phase 3, 4 and 5) levels of acute food insecurity.

Populations most at risk of acute food insecurity live in hard-to-reach areas. To monitor these populations and track changes in food insecurity, REACH conducts monthly remote-monitoring. According to REACH data, 58% of settlements in South Sudan reported inadequate access consistently over 2017. REACH also identified which shocks historically have resulted in Famine or severely acute food insecurity. All this data has been crucial to inform the IPC analysis in 2017, providing a strong evidence for the declaration famine.

WASH: Evaluating access to water and sanitation in Borno state, Nigeria

Over 1,4 million people are displaced in Nigeria, across Borno State. These people live under harsh conditions, scattered across cities and informal settlements, with poor access to water or sanitation. To better understand the extent of WASH vulnerabilities, REACH supported the Nigeria and Global WASH Clusters to carry out an assessment in Borno state, targeting eight LGA capitals.

Based on 2,748 households surveys and 14 Focus Group Discussions, REACH findings highlight extremely limited access to functioning latrines, and the widespread usage of improved water sources for drinking and cooking. These findings supported the WASH Cluster and its partners in their sector prioritisation and response planning in Nigeria.

EDUCATION & CHILD PROTECTION: Understanding vulnerabilities in Afghanistan

As a result of conflict, natural disasters and widespread displacement, Afghanistan faces a gradually worsening humanitarian situation. To understand the implications on children, REACH conducted the Joint Education and Child Protection Needs Assessment, in collaboration with OCHA, the Education in Emergency Working Group, the Protection Cluster and the Child Protection in Emergency Working Group. This assessment, conducted through 9,400 household interviews, shed light poor enrolment rates as well as widespread child labor among boys and child marriage among girls.



“REACH AOK methodology has greatly enriched the understanding of hard-to-reach areas, which often host the most food insecure populations. Using these data in IPC has led to better quality analysis and greater confidence that the classifications are reflective of the overall populations.”

Kamau Wanjohi, IPC Regional Coordinator



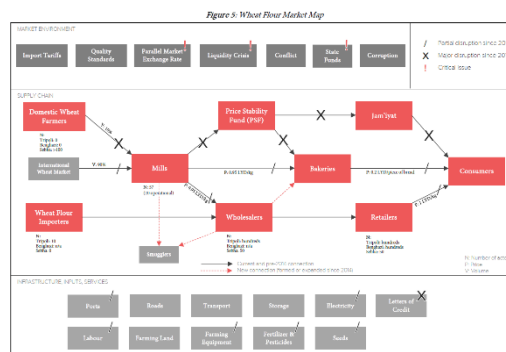
CASH AND MARKETS:

In recent years, REACH played an increasingly central role in addressing information gaps in support of cash-based responses, in partnership with cash working groups, UNHCR, WFP, NGOs, and donors.

Our work on cash-based responses has revolved around two major activities, conducted through the relevant national Cash Working Groups: 1. Coordinated, inter-agency price monitoring frameworks and 2. Coordinated, inter-agency cash feasibility and market studies.

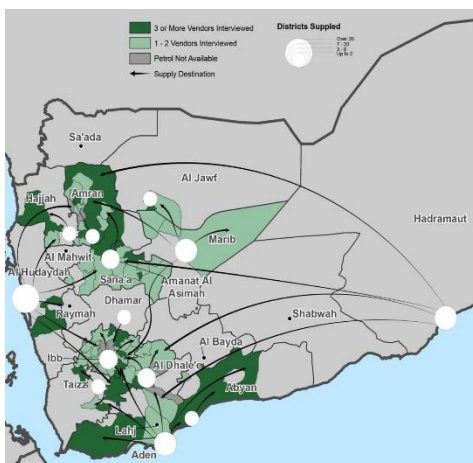
LIBYA: Understanding supply chains and market functionality

In support of the Libya Cash & Markets Working Group, REACH conducted an in-depth market assessment in 2017, informing cash responses by providing an understanding of the dynamics shaping four crucial supply chains in Tripoli, Benghazi and Sebha.



Qualitative data was collected through key informant interviews with producers, importers, wholesalers, retailers, and other stakeholders in the wheat flour, insulin, tomato and soap supply chains, as well as through focus group discussions with consumers. Findings enabled humanitarian cash actors to understand which supply chains remained functional and which supply chains have been affected by the conflict, such as wheat flour and insulin.

YEMEN: Identifying appropriate methods for cash responses



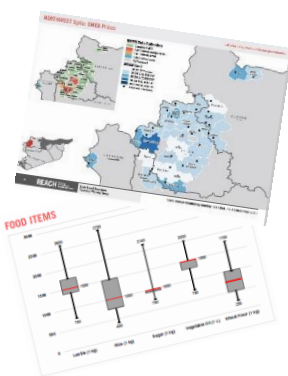
In summer 2017, REACH supported the Cash and Market Working Group (CMWG) to conduct a Joint Cash Study in 13 governorates in Yemen in order to build an understanding of the current market systems and the perceptions of the Yemeni population towards cash transfer programmes.

The study identified the most appropriate method of cash based interventions to be used by humanitarian actors based on an understanding of market functionality, the perceptions of communities towards cash based assistance mechanisms, and how household access to markets and financial services has changed since the onset of the conflict in 2015.

IRAQ and SYRIA: Monitoring Market Prices for tailored cash responses

Within the framework of the Iraq and Syria Cash Working Groups and with the aim of informing the programming of cash and market actors operating in these two countries, REACH facilitates monthly Price Monitoring initiatives.

Over 11 partners in Iraq and 17 partners in Syria collect market prices of food and non-food items on a monthly basis, using harmonised tools and methodologies and covering most areas of the two countries. REACH facilitates the analysis and dissemination of findings, in close collaboration with Cash Working Groups coordinators, to ensure such data is used by operational partners to adjust their transfer values and define response priorities.





2. People on the Move

CAMP

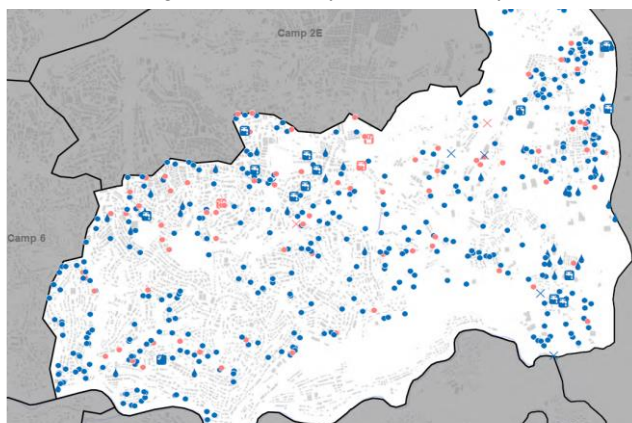
Millions of refugees and IDPs live in camp and camp-like settings across countries in crisis. REACH works closely with the Camp Coordination and Camp Management Cluster, with UNHCR, as well as other local and international aid actors to support evidence-based response planning and delivery.

BANGLADESH: Mapping infrastructures, shelters and flood risks in Rohingya settlements

Since August 2017, conflict in Rohingya villages across the north of Myanmar's Rakhine state have driven nearly 1 million refugees across the border into Cox's Bazar, Bangladesh. Within the space of a few weeks 2017, the hilly region of reserved forest adjacent to the border was rapidly transformed into the Kutupalong-Balukali "mega-camp"—the world's largest refugee settlement.

The rapid growth of the camp left limited opportunity for aid actors to plan and properly respond, as refugees established temporary shelters on steep hillsides and built WASH infrastructure. To inform aid planning and responses of UNICEF, UNHCR and other partners, REACH tracked shelter footprints and WASH infrastructure development through satellite analysis and monthly censuses of the availability and functionality of latrines and water points (see map on the right), highlighting how deficiencies in the functionality and safety of infrastructure remain significant gaps.

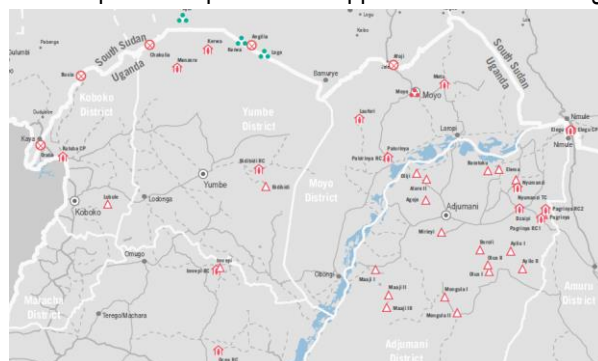
In preparation for the monsoon season, REACH also conducted a secondary analysis of exposure to flooding and landslide risk, enabling monsoon preparedness planning.



UGANDA: Identifying response gaps and priorities in refugee settlements

Uganda hosts around 1.4 million refugees, of which one million from South Sudan. As the refugee influx increased, REACH started operations in Uganda in July 2017 to support humanitarian response planning. REACH's first activity was to conduct a gap analysis across refugee settlements of Uganda in order to fill information gaps, improve response coordination, and provide advocacy tools to support funding requests and programmatic decision making.

In close partnership with and support to UNHCR and Uganda's Office of the Prime Minister, REACH



collected data across 11 refugee hosting districts, focusing on refugees' biggest needs and challenges, partner activities, and strengths of the response. Settlement factsheets were published in late 2017, identifying service gaps by sector. Additionally, REACH published 6 maps of the West Nile region to support partner activities and coordination.

HOST

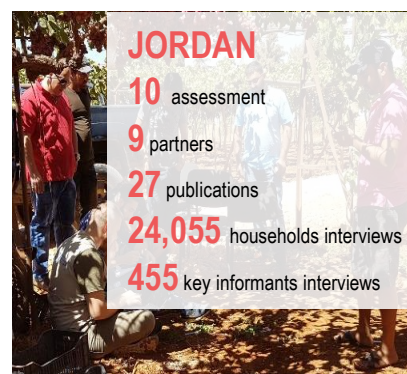
The number of displaced people living in rural or urban areas is rapidly increasing, as refugee and internally displaced populations seek opportunities which are otherwise limited in camps. For an effective response, aid actors require a robust understanding of the location and priority needs of displaced populations, while also looking at the needs of their host communities, as well as at social cohesion between displaced and host populations.



JORDAN: Informing resilience programming for refugees and host communities

In Jordan's host communities, REACH continues to support the humanitarian and resilience response for Syrian refugees, while in parallel informing livelihoods and development programs for vulnerable Jordanians.

Among REACH Jordan's activities in 2017 was a research into women's livelihoods in the agricultural sector, which explored innovative approaches to assessing urban livelihoods for refugees, and supported a consortium of several NGOs monitoring the impact of their work on the legal and documentation needs of Syrians.



“The surveys conducted by REACH in support of the Protection Working Group in Diffa were the milestones in protection humanitarian planning in the region.”

Valerie Svobodova, UNHCR, Lead Protection Cluster

NIGER: Enabling the inclusion of host communities in aid responses

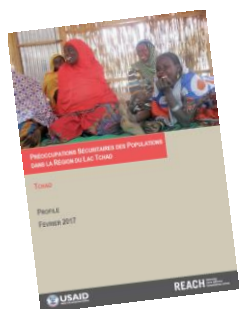
In Diffa region in south-east Niger, over 250,000 displaced persons live alongside impoverished host communities. REACH, in partnership with UNHCR and in close cooperation with the Protection Working Group, conducted four assessment on protection needs of displaced and host populations.

Whereas it is commonly believed that displaced populations are more vulnerable than host communities, REACH findings show that the latter face similar concerns, including physical and psychological violence, widespread lack of legal documentation and limited access to basic services.

CHAD: Understanding vulnerabilities of displaced and host communities

The Lake Chad humanitarian crisis, coupled with instability and restrictions imposed by the state of emergency, has caused massive displacement in the Lake region since January 2015. Close to 160,000 IDPs were registered by end of 2017, who had fled insular areas towards the mainland and are living close to host populations, in an environment where resources are scarce.

To provide a better understanding of how this crisis has affected various population groups, including displaced and host communities, REACH carried out a multi-sector needs assessment in 2017. This research shed light on the levels of access to basic services and the needs and priorities of various population groups, enhancing humanitarian action in the Lake region.



CHAD and NIGER

10 assessment
 55 partners
 364 publications
 2,933 households interviews
 6,100 key informants interviews



MIXED MIGRATION

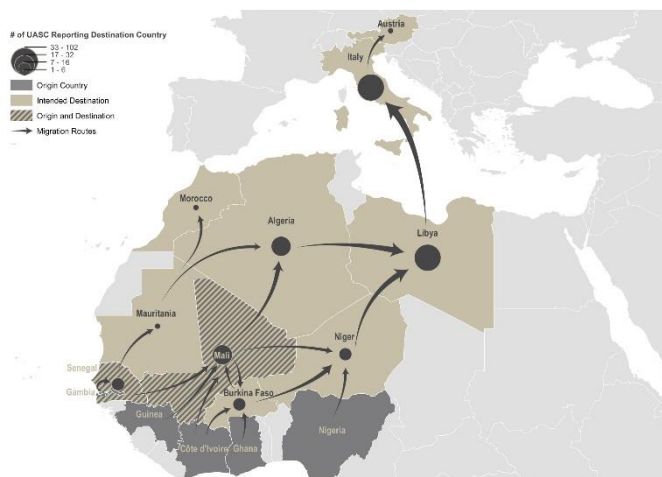
More than a million people on the move, including refugees, asylum seekers and other migrants, crossed into Europe in 2015 and 2016, sparking a humanitarian crisis as European countries struggled to cope with this large influx of people. With three main entry points into Europe, including the Eastern Mediterranean via Turkey and Greece, the Central Mediterranean via Libya and Tunisia to Italy and the Western Mediterranean via Morocco to Spain, mixed migration flows to the continent are inherently complex, leading to unmet needs among vulnerable population groups on the move in countries of origin, transit and arrival.

In response to this, REACH conducted several studies to monitor mixed migration trends and dynamics towards Europe, shed light on the experiences of vulnerable people on the move and explore return movements of refugees and other migrants to their areas of origin.

ITALY and GREECE: Understanding migration routes and needs of children on the move

In partnership with UNICEF, REACH conducted an assessment on the profiles and experiences of children who arrived in Italy and Greece in 2016 and 2017. The assessment shed light on their situation and vulnerability, increasing the understanding on what led them to travel to Europe, the risks they encountered on their journey, and their intentions once in Europe.

In total, 850 children were interviewed across the two countries between December 2016 and May 2017, the most comprehensive refugee and migrant children profiling exercise administered in either country in the past several years. This assessment was widely used by UNICEF and other UN Partners, as well as by media and policy makers to gather a better understanding of push and pull factors, risks along the route and challenges once in Europe, informing their programming and policy.



REACH MIGRATION FINDINGS IN THE NEWS:

Le Monde

« Une étude bouleverse les idées reçues sur les raisons conduisant les mineurs africains à rejoindre l'Europe »

« Lo confirma el informe de REACH. Señala que España no es de tránsito "a priori" sino destino aunque a su llegada, los sirios no cuentan con demasiada información sobre el país. »

LA VANGUARDIA

IRIN

« We found that people's awareness of policies affecting migration – such as who is eligible for family reunification – was relatively high, but that their understanding of how these policies worked in practice was much lower » said REACH

« Sono circa 12 mila i minori arrivati nei primi sei mesi del 2017: il 19% ha viaggiato solo. «Gran parte dei 720 intervistati voleva vivere in Nord Africa», il rapporto della Ong Impact/REACH »

LA STAMPA

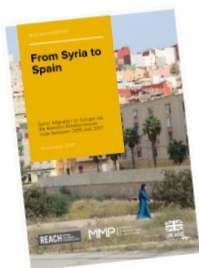




MIXED MIGRATION PLATFORM

As a member of the Mixed Migration Platform, REACH conducted in 2017 five assessments covering Italy, Spain, Iraq, Afghanistan, Syria, Jordan and Lebanon. These assessments aimed to explore changes in migration trends, decision making and intentions of migrants transiting from the Middle East towards Europe, informing policy-making and aid responses.

As an example, in response of an increase in migrant arrivals in 2017 REACH conducted a study on Syrians arriving in Spain between 2015 and 2017, with a focus on routes, decision-making and protection risks faced en route, as well as on understanding individuals' choice of Spain as entry point to Europe. The study examined the experiences of Syrians who arrived in the country irregularly and through legal pathways.



IRAQ: Profiles, Drivers and Returns from Europe

In 2016, more than 27,000 Iraqis arrived irregularly via sea to the EU, a substantial increase to the same period the previous year. At the same, since 2014, returns from Europe to Iraq have increased tenfold (from 1,280 to 12,776).

As policy responses in Europe, as well as the situation in Iraq and associated migration drivers, kept shifting, the aim of this study was two-fold: (a) to gain an overall understanding of the migration profile and drivers of Iraqis who migrated to Europe in 2016; and (b) to gain an in-depth understanding of what shapes the return of Iraqis from Europe to Iraq, as well as of what facilitates reintegration in Iraq in the long-term.



LIBYA: shedding light on mixed migration trends and dynamics

Libya constitutes one of the key transit and destination hubs for migrants in Africa. To shed light on mixed migration patterns in Libya, with a particular focus on the south of the country and on communities of concern to UNHCR, REACH participated in a study across Libya, Tunisia, Algeria, Italy, Niger, Chad and Italy – released early 2017.

The objectives of this research were twofold: to track the evolution of mixed migration trends and routes to and within Libya; and to map out refugee and migrant concentrations in southern Libya, determining their vulnerabilities and protection needs.



MOVEMENTS & INTENTIONS

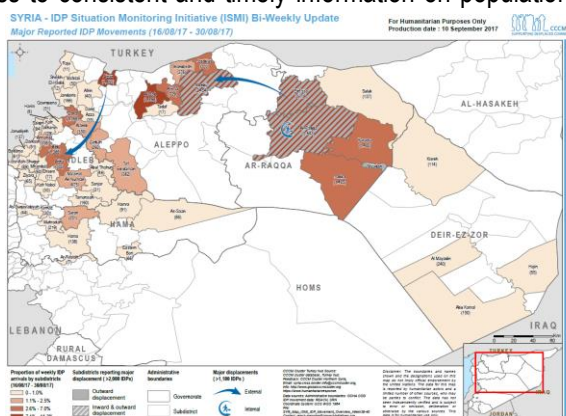
Conflicts, poverty and natural disasters are generating large scale forced displacements. Understanding factors pushing people to move, their routes, intentions, and needs is key to address the vulnerabilities of forcibly displaced populations.

REACH works closely with a variety of partners, such as Clusters, OCHA and UNHCR, to track displacement, and gather a qualitative understanding to inform aid responses and policy decisions across Africa, Asia and the Middle East.

SYRIA: Tracking displacement and returns

In 2017 there were approximately 6.1 million IDPs in Syria – almost a third of the country's pre-war population. While the conflict's longevity has meant that many civilians live in protracted displacement for years, its violence and volatility have resulted in millions of people being displaced in continuous, repetitive cycles. Within this context of mass displacement and population flux, REACH implements the IDP Situation Monitoring Initiative (ISMI), in support of the CCCM Cluster.

ISMI provides humanitarian actors with access to consistent and timely information on population numbers, internal displacements and returns, through hundreds of regular, bi-weekly, ad hoc and thematic assessments. With a permanent data collection structure of 40 enumerators across northern Syria, the ISMI network provides regular and methodologically-sound information on population movements, as well as quickly adapting to the Syrian conflict's changing context and to the humanitarian system's dynamic information needs.



EAST AFRICA: Monitoring Regional Displacement across South Sudan, Kenya and Uganda

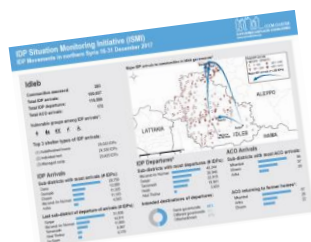
As renewed fighting spread across South Sudan, large numbers of refugees poured into neighboring countries, enlarging an already significant displacement crisis. By the end of 2017, 2.4 million people were displaced out of the country, nearly all of whom women and children.

To understand and address this complex regional displacement, REACH conducted numerous cross-border assessments, creating regional information streams in support of humanitarian and development partners across South Sudan, Uganda and Kenya. Our teams monitored displacement routes, such as ports and major roads, and refugee settlements, such as Kenya's Kalobayei Refugee Settlement and numerous settlements in Uganda. REACH analysis indicated that, while outward movement from South Sudan reduced during 2017, large-scale returns would not occur until there are robust signs of peace and stability at home.

NIGERIA: Understanding intentions of displaced people in Borno State

To better understand future displacement dynamics and provide an evidence base for planning by humanitarian actors, REACH, in partnership with the Protection Sector, conducted an assessment of IDPs' intentions to return to their homes, relocate or integrate in their current place of displacement.

The assessment covered 12 cities in Borno State, where REACH surveyed 3,455 household and conducted 46 focus group discussions. Findings indicate that displacement is likely to continue and that the shift to longer-term solutions to support protracted displacement needs to be accompanied by response planning to prepare for and accompany returns.



“The findings of the report are indisputable. When 86 per cent of people tell us they aren't ready to go home yet, we must listen. This cannot fall on deaf ears”

Jan Egeland, NRC Secretary General



MAPPING SHELTERS THROUGH SATELLITE IMAGERY

A case study from Bangladesh Rohingya refugee crisis

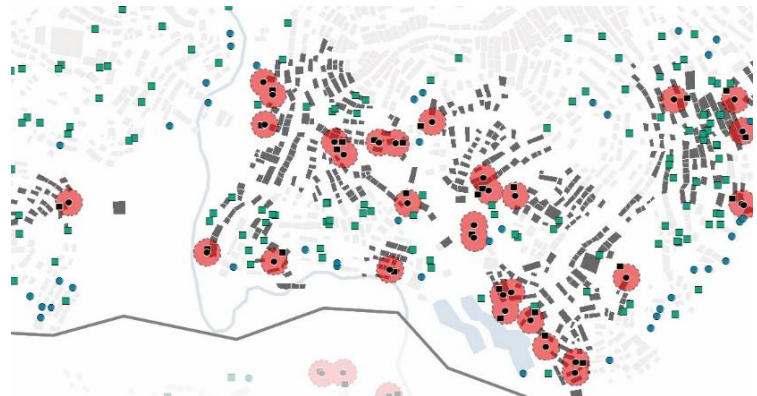


In late September 2017, REACH deployed to Bangladesh following the cross-border displacement of 500,000 Rohingya from Myanmar.

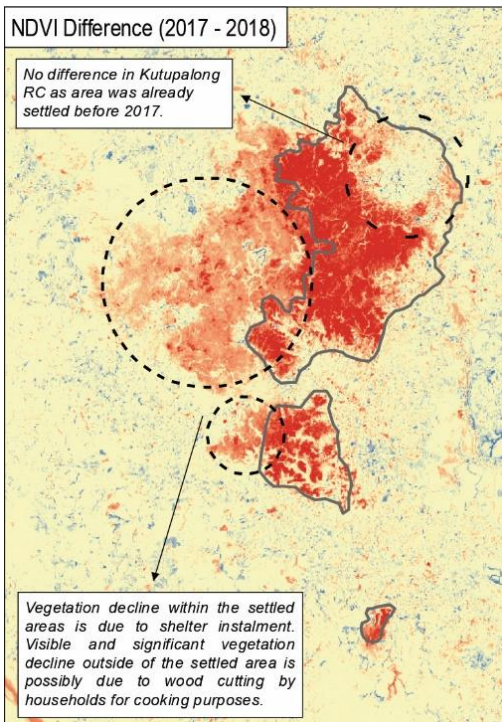
Few, if any, detailed camp maps existed at that time for response actors to utilize. REACH immediately leveraged the UNOSAT expertise to deliver the first detailed maps, providing a clear picture of the scale and complexity of the newly formed and rapidly expanding camps.

Using very high resolution satellite imagery, REACH was able to digitize shelter footprints in all of the camps. In just a matter of days, an initial dataset comprised of over 36,000 shelters was produced for the greater Kutupalong Expansion area, allowing for the production of the first set of shelter maps. Shortly thereafter, nearly 20,000 more shelters were digitized covering all of the camps in Cox's Bazar. The shelter dataset was updated twice more in 2017, with the total shelter count exceeding 90,000 by early December.

Initial Shelter Map of Hakimpara (now Camp 14)



Shelters with nearest water point too close to latrine



The shelter analysis later served as a base for comprehensive infrastructure mapping of the camps and had the added benefit of allowing for detailed spatial analysis of service provision within the camp that is not typically possible, enabling the use of actual household shelters to measure emergency standards for the provision of water and sanitation.

Through further satellite imagery analysis, REACH was also able to highlight the environmental impact of camp development. By looking at the normalized difference vegetation index (NDVI), the consequence of settlement and expansion, decline of vegetation in this case, becomes clear.





REACH Partners

All REACH work is conducted within a partnership framework. In 2017 alone, REACH collaborated with over 100 partners across 24 countries, including local and international NGOs, Clusters, UN Agencies and Donors.

As global level, among others, REACH is the global assessment focal point for the Global Shelter and WASH Clusters, the co-chair of the Food Security Cluster Program Quality Working Group, and officialised in 2017 a partnership with UNDAC.

REACH Founding partners



Bi-lateral and multi-lateral donor agencies



UN agencies and international organisations



Cluster partners



Humanitarian 2 Humanitarian (H2H)



Media Partners





REACH in Numbers

People

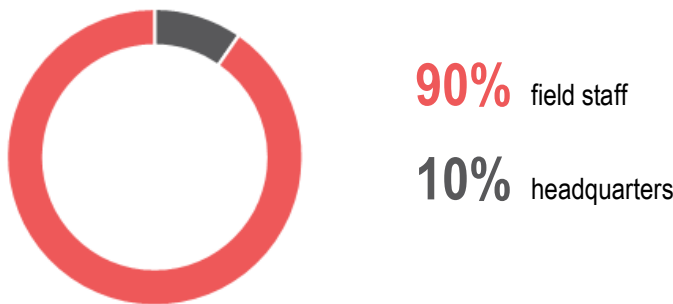
By the end of 2017, REACH had a total of 295 permanently contracted staff worldwide, supported by almost 800 temporary staff while conducting large-scale assessments.

1,061 national staff

129 international staff

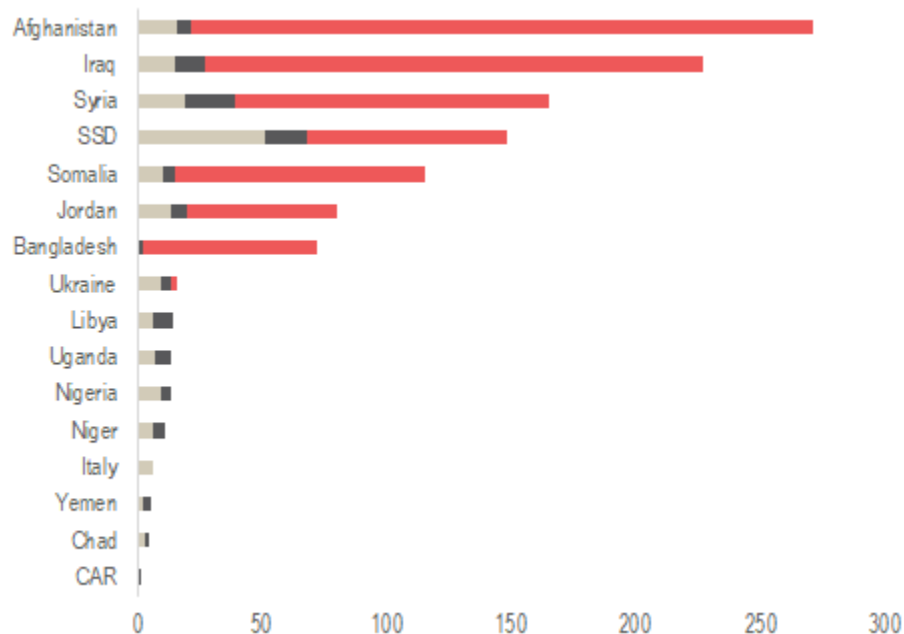
Location of staff

The vast majority of REACH staff are located in field operations.



Field staff by country, December 2017

Most of our field staff are employed locally. Some field staff travel regularly to support programmes in other countries of operation.



Field staff by contract type, December 2017

172 national staff **100** international staff **889** temporary staff¹

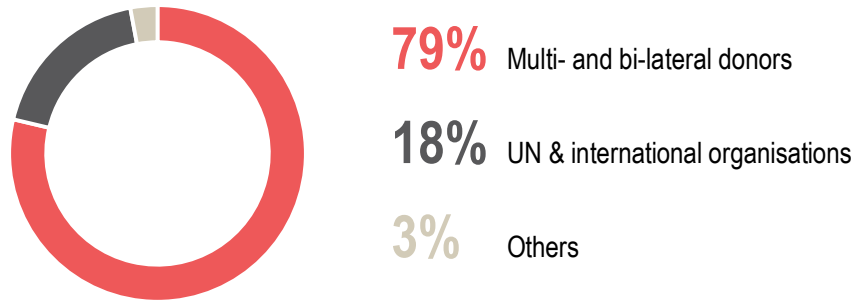
¹ REACH takes on a large number of temporary staff to conduct large assessments. This number therefore fluctuates throughout the year. The figure above represents the maximum employed in each country at any one time.

Budget

REACH's budget for 2017 comes to a total of 14,060,455 Swiss Francs (CHF).

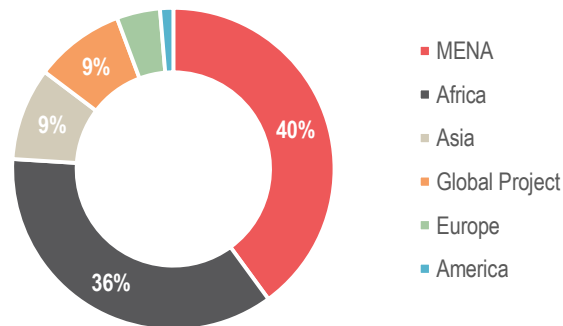
Annual budget, by donor

REACH's work was primarily funded by bilateral donors and United Nations agencies.

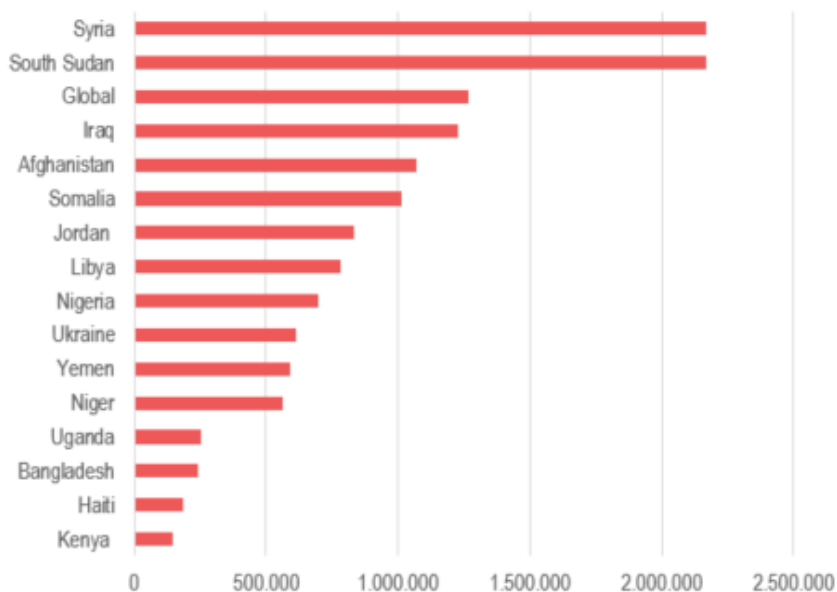


Annual budget, by region

Over half of REACH's global budget was for the Middle East and North Africa region.



Annual budget, by country (CHF):





www.reach-initiative.org



+41 22 566 29 63



geneva@reach-initiative.org



Geneva, Switzerland



@REACH_info



@IMPACT.init