

Call for Applications: Local Research Assistants / Enumerators - South Sudan

About the Assessment

A Multi-Sectoral Humanitarian Needs Assessment (MSNA) will be conducted across selected counties in South Sudan to better understand the needs, priorities, and vulnerabilities of communities affected by conflict, displacement, and food insecurity. The assessment will gather both quantitative and qualitative data across sectors such as food security, livelihoods, protection (including GBV and child protection), WASH, shelter, education, health, and nutrition.

The findings will help IC's clients to design more responsive and inclusive programmes, ensuring that the voices of communities are heard and their needs are addressed in a coordinated manner. To support this effort, experienced and motivated Local Research Assistants / Enumerators will be engaged to carry out high-quality data collection in collaboration with the technical assessment team.

Key Responsibilities

Local Research Assistants / Enumerators will play a central role in gathering reliable and accurate information directly from affected populations. They will be responsible for:

- Conducting household surveys, key informant interviews, and focus group discussions with internally displaced persons, returnees, and host community members.
- Ensuring that data collection is accurate, consistent, and carried out using mobile-based tools such as Kobo Toolbox.
- Facilitating discussions that enable equal participation of women, men, youth, and persons with disabilities, and ensuring gender-sensitive approaches throughout the process.
- Taking detailed notes, documenting findings accurately, and submitting daily updates on progress and challenges.
- Providing translation and interpretation between English and local languages when required.
- Upholding the highest ethical standards, including informed consent, confidentiality, and respect for the dignity and safety of all participants.
- Participating in pre-assignment training on data collection tools, research ethics, and security protocols.
- Providing contextual insights to the assessment team on local dynamics, access challenges, and community sensitivities.
- Supporting data entry, verification, and quality control as requested by the field coordinator or team lead.

Required Qualifications

Candidates should demonstrate strong motivation, reliability, and a commitment to humanitarian values. Essential qualifications include:

- Minimum of two years of experience in data collection for humanitarian, development, or research projects.
- Proven ability to conduct household surveys, key informant interviews, and/or focus group discussions in South Sudan.
- Fluency in English and at least one major local language such as Dinka, Nuer, Shilluk, Bari, or Arabic Juba.
- Strong understanding of local cultural, social, and conflict dynamics in at least one of the target counties (Baliet, Panyikang, Pibor, Nasir, Ulang, or Pigi Canal).

- Excellent interpersonal and communication skills, with the ability to build trust and engage sensitively with diverse communities.
- Strong organizational and documentation skills, with attention to accuracy and detail.
- Understanding of gender sensitivity, protection principles, and ethical research standards.
- Familiarity with digital data collection tools such as Kobo or ODK is an advantage.
- Ability and willingness to travel to remote areas and work under challenging field conditions.
- Previous experience working with humanitarian or development actors in South Sudan is an asset.

Team Composition and Inclusion

Enumerators will be selected to ensure:

- Balanced gender representation (minimum 50% women).
- Geographic representation from target counties.
- Inclusion of team members with prior experience in protection/GBV, food security, and livelihood assessments to ensure thematic coverage.

Duration and Level of Effort

The engagement will last approximately **4-5 weeks**, including training, data collection, data cleaning, and validation. The exact schedule will depend on field access, logistics, and security conditions.

Ethical Standards and Safeguarding

All research assistants will be required to adhere to humanitarian principles, data protection standards, and safeguarding policies. Comprehensive training on ethical research conduct, informed consent, and participant safety will be provided before field deployment.

Application Procedure

If you meet the requirements and have motivation to contribute to sustainable development, please apply through our jobs page. Only shortlisted applicants will be contacted for interviews. Recruitment is subject to funding availability.