

## INTRODUCTION AND GENERAL CONTEXT

Action Against Hunger is implementing the project “Improvement of Solid Waste Management for host communities and Syrian Refugees in Azraq Town (Azraq Municipality, Zarqa Governorate (Jordan)” in partnership with Disaster Waste Recovery and thanks to a donation of Taiwan ICDF.

The **duration** of the project is **24 months**  
Department: **Food Security & Livelihood (FSL)**

The overall objective of the project is the improvement of solid waste management in Azraq Municipality. This will be achieved by reaching five results: (1) The nature of and the structure of the waste sector and its value chains are studied and understood; (2) A cooperative offers its solid waste and composting services to Azraq Municipality and creates local jobs; (3) The technical and managerial capacities of sector actors are strengthened; (4) A sorting and composting unit is set up; (5) Information and awareness raising information and campaigns are carried out among key actors and the general population

**Azraq town** is located in the Zarqa Governorate in the North East of Amman. Its population is 15,753 inhabitants according to the latest census of 2015. Although Azraq had long been known as a haven of peace and an oasis on the desert routes and a site of salt production for the whole of the Middle-East, today it is better-known for the Syrian refugee camp to which it gave its name. The oasis of Azraq has dried up during the last 20 years due to over-exploitation of the water table to supply the capital. The Syrian refugee camp is situated few kilometres away from the town (26 km). There are also many Syrian families in town (several thousand according to the local authorities). As a consequence, considerable pressure is put on all the public services provided by the town. So far no current interventions address this issue - all efforts are focused on the Azraq refugee camp and the priority needs of Syrian families.

The town of Azraq is composed of 3 distinct populations: the Druze who came from a migration which took place at the end of the 18th century; the Chechens who arrived during the 20th century and the nomadic Bedouins who have always inhabited the region. The 3 populations get along well, whilst forming 3 very distinct communities. The arrival of the Syrians presents a new challenge in terms of the social balance.

Access to the job market remains a challenge for refugee families, even though the London conference (February 2016) allowed a notable softening in the Government’s approach. The main economic activity in the region is agriculture, rendered relatively complex by soil and a part of the water table salinity and a desert climate (less than 20mm of rain per annum). The Jordanian Government and the United Nations agencies consider the Azraq region to be a pocket of poverty where effort must be made to improve citizens’ living conditions.

In Jordan, **solid waste management** is supervised by the Ministry of Environment. Local waste management is normally under the direct responsibility of the Municipality and a local advisory

service called the Joint Service Council (JSC) under the supervision of the Ministry of Municipal Affairs (MoMA). Municipalities are responsible for the collection and transportation of waste, whilst the JSCs manage the operation of dumpsites.

The institutional roles and responsibilities are well defined, but the legal framework which regulates waste management is fragmented and has gaps: there is no clear mandate for the treatment of waste nor mechanisms to monitor the performance of municipalities and JSCs. A framework law has been expected for several years, but the draft proposition has not yet been approved by the Jordanian parliament. The application of the environmental standards is weak, with a lack of data collection and sharing between institutional parties, and absence of appropriate sanctions and their systematic application. This weakness is often accompanied by a lack of waste management technical staff in local institutions.

The production of waste per person in Jordan is estimated to be 0.9kg in 2015. According to the same source<sup>1</sup> nearly 60% of solid waste is organic matter. The national rate of recycling is estimated to be 7% but the participation of the informal sector and the absence of a proper data collection system do not allow the real level of recycling to be measured.<sup>2</sup>

Azraq Town Council has premises for maintenance, a garage for collection vehicles (5 bin lorries) and a dumpsite, which is situated 7 kilometres from the town. The military airbase of Azraq also generates domestic waste. It has its own bin lorry which often supports the town council fleet. The charges and taxes levied by the town council hardly cover the costs of waste collection and treatment.

The proposed projects mainly include equipping and managing a dumpsite situated 25 kilometres from the town (the Governate of Mafraq) as well as the production of compost from domestic and agricultural waste. A study of the solid waste value chain is proposed within the framework of the project. It should allow for waste characterisation, identification of the stakeholders in the value chain and the proposal of technical and social solutions which are best adapted to the context.

## JOB DESCRIPTION AND RESPONSIBILITIES

It is needed a **better understanding of the business of compost, including legislation, environment, technology, and competition**. This is aimed at **identifying the appropriate target market**, communicating the benefits of product to stimulate the demand, **ensuring the safe of products at a price and quantity that ensure profitability and sustainability for the composting site** itself.

It is, furthermore, essential that any perspective of investment (private or public) will consider marketing as part of the feasibility assessment. Market research can help understanding the marketplace, the potential customers and the competitors. A **market analysis will lead the project strategy, the production and a business plan in order to secure a market**. A marketing assessment will finally shed a light on the marketing communication strategy as well.

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<sup>1</sup><http://www.ecomena.org/tag/al-ghabawi-landfill/>

<sup>2</sup> SWEEP-NET/GIZ 2014. Country Report on Solid Waste Management in Jordan (April 2014)

To that end Action Against Hunger is looking for a volunteer to cover the below reported expertise.

**Line manager:** Food Security and Livelihood Program Manager

**Functional manager:** Food Security and Livelihood Head of Department

### **ECONOMIC/MARKETING EXPERTISE**

Sh/he will assist the personnel in charge of carrying out a study aimed at examining the existing market demand and potential market demand for compost of various qualities (based on the quality control of solid waste inputs and the composting, screening, bagging, and compost amendment techniques available). The study will also examine willingness and ability of the market to cover the costs of composting. Sh/he will support in coaching the project staff and the responsible of the composting site on business plan making.

### **JOB RESPONSIBILITIES (in support of project staff and assisting experts in charge)**

- To collect and analyse the existing secondary data on composting market
- Draft the primary data collection design and tools as per project target
- Share the design with the project staff and agree on the data collection plan
- Carrying out the analysis on different aspect affecting the market (environment, legal, social, technical) at local, governorate and if possible national level
- Identify and segment the local market (Zarqa Governorate) and national one (other Governorate), current and potential
- Identify the better product for the market for positioning and branding
- Mapping potential market locations
- Developing a business plan for the composting site

### **REQUIRED QUALIFICATIONS**

Sh/he has a master in Economy or Agriculture

Sh/he has two years of field research experience;

Sh/he has two years of working experience in the sector in country or abroad;

Sh/he has very good knowledge of spoken and written English;

She/he able to train and or coach people

Sh/he is available to work intensively and under pressure;

Sh/he is available to travel daily from Amman to the project area and other areas if needed.

### **Assisting in following output and deliverables**

Secondary and primary data collection and analysis

Final report and composting site business plan

### **LIVING CONDITIONS AND TIMEFRAME**

Sh/he will be staying in Amman and living at Action Against Hunger guest house

Sh/he will travel daily to Azraq Town and working areas coordinating with the project staff

Sh/he will receive a monthly stipend of 550\$

Sh/he will be accommodated in Action Against Hunger guest house in Amman and her in country working movements covered by the INGO

She/he will join the mission for three months(from December 2017)