

Background information

Since June 2013, UNHCR has been piloting a system to assess spontaneous returns in the Southeast of Myanmar, a process that may start in the absence of an organized Voluntary Repatriation operation. A **verified return village**, therefore, is a village where UNHCR field staff have confirmed there are refugees and/or IDPs who have returned since January 2012 with the intention of remaining permanently. During the assessments, communities are also asked whether their village is a **refugee village of origin**, by definition a village that is home to people residing in a refugee camp in Thailand. A village where UNHCR completes an assessment can be both a verified return village and a refugee village of origin, as the two are not mutually exclusive.

Using a “do no harm” approach based around community level discussion, the return assessment collect information about the patterns and needs of returnees in the Southeast. The project does not, however, attempt to represent the total number of returnees in a state, or the region as a whole. The returnee monitoring project has been underway in Kayah State, Mon State and Tanintharyi Region since June 2013, and expanded to Kayin State in December 2013.

Total Assessments

89

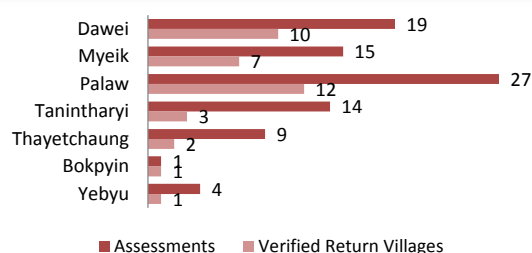
Verified Return Villages

36

Refugee Villages of Origin

50

Verified Return Villages by Township



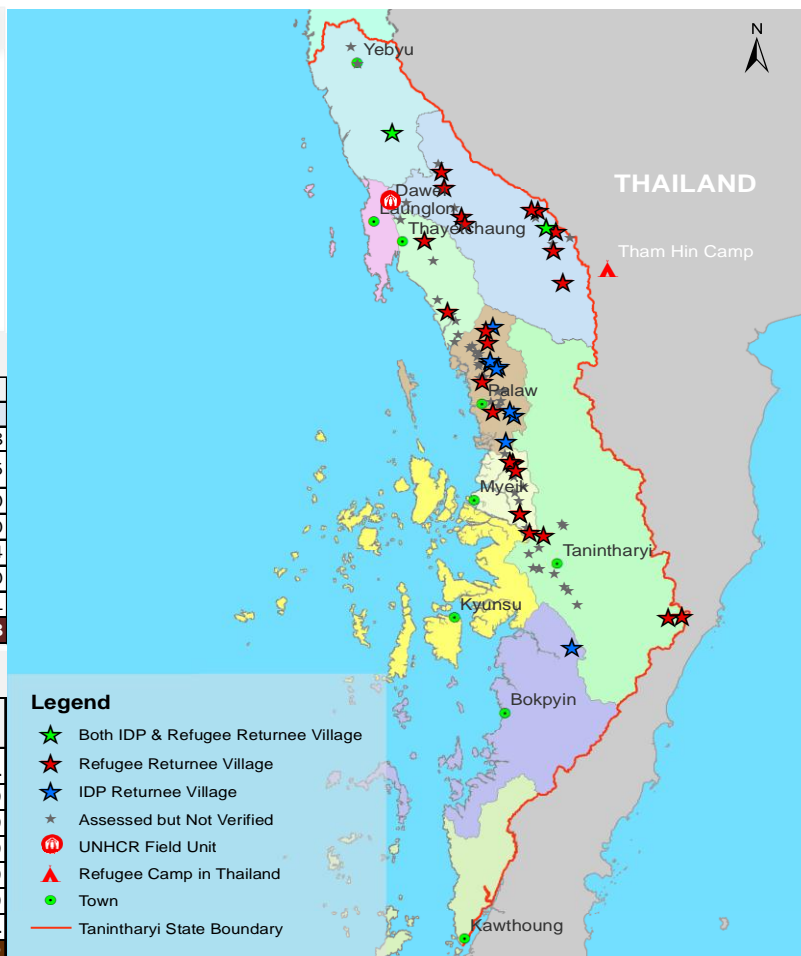
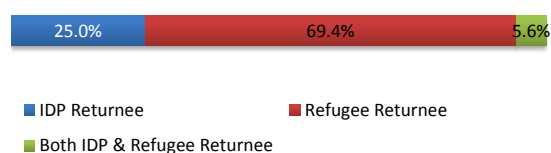
No. of Returnees in assessed villages by Township

Township	IDP Returnee		Refugee Returnee	
	HH	Individuals	HH	Individuals
Dawei	10	40	106	388
Myeik	0	0	13	55
Palaw	535	3060	12	30
Tanintharyi	0	0	35	160
Thayetchaung	0	0	2	4
Bokpyin	26	173	0	0
Yebyu	8	25	1	1
Grand Total	579	3298	169	638

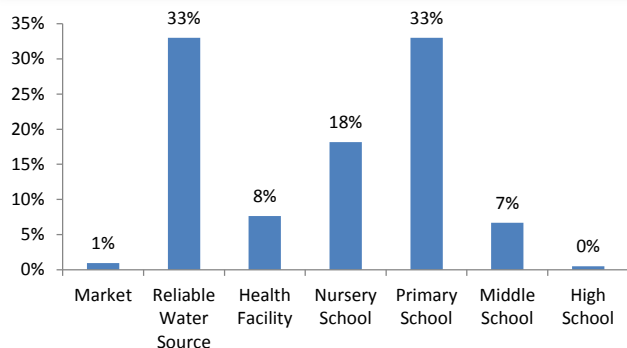
No. of Verified Return Villages by Type

Township	IDP Returnee	Refugee Returnee	Both IDP & Refugee
Dawei	0	9	1
Myeik	0	7	0
Palaw	8	4	0
Tanintharyi	0	3	0
Thayetchaung	0	2	0
Bokpyin	1	0	0
Yebyu	0	0	1
Grand Total	9	25	2

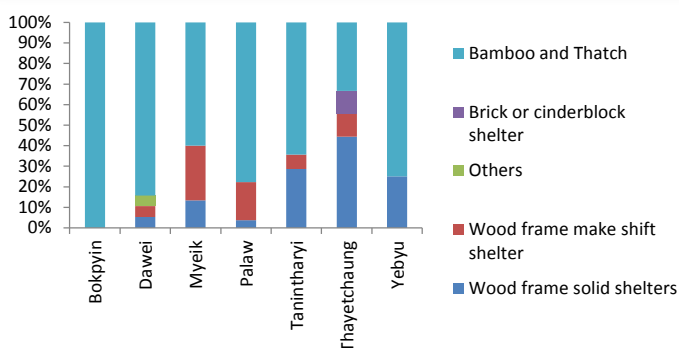
Verified Return Villages by Type



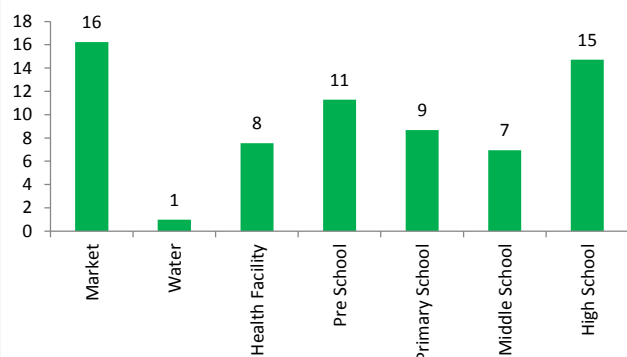
% of Assessed Villages in which key Services are available



% of Shelter Types available in Assessed Villages

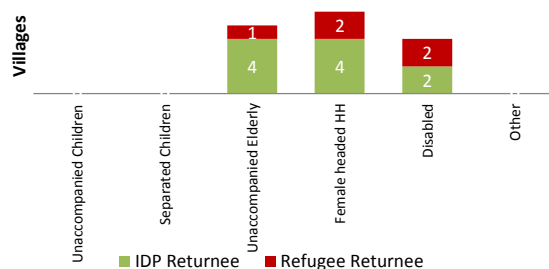


Average Distance to Services (Miles)

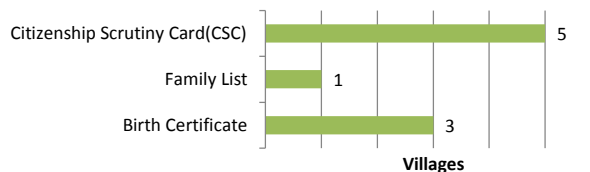


Overview in Verified Return Villages

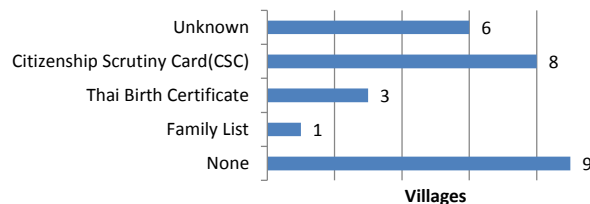
Presence of Vulnerable Returnees



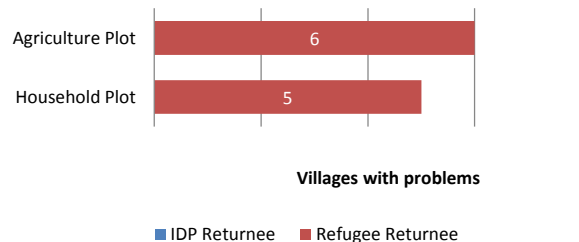
Identity Documents held by IDP Returnee



Identity Documents held by Refugee Returnee

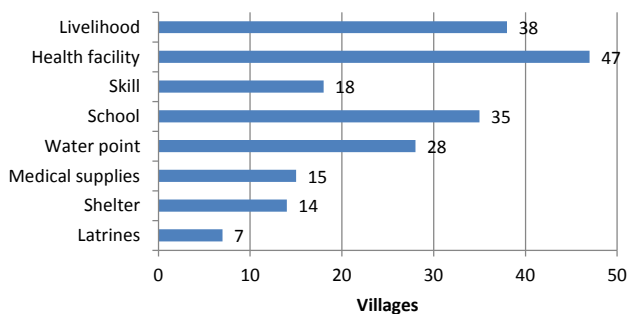


Problems in re-occupying Land & Property



Needs

Community (Assessed Villages)



Returnee (Verified Return Villages)

