

Myanmar Situation

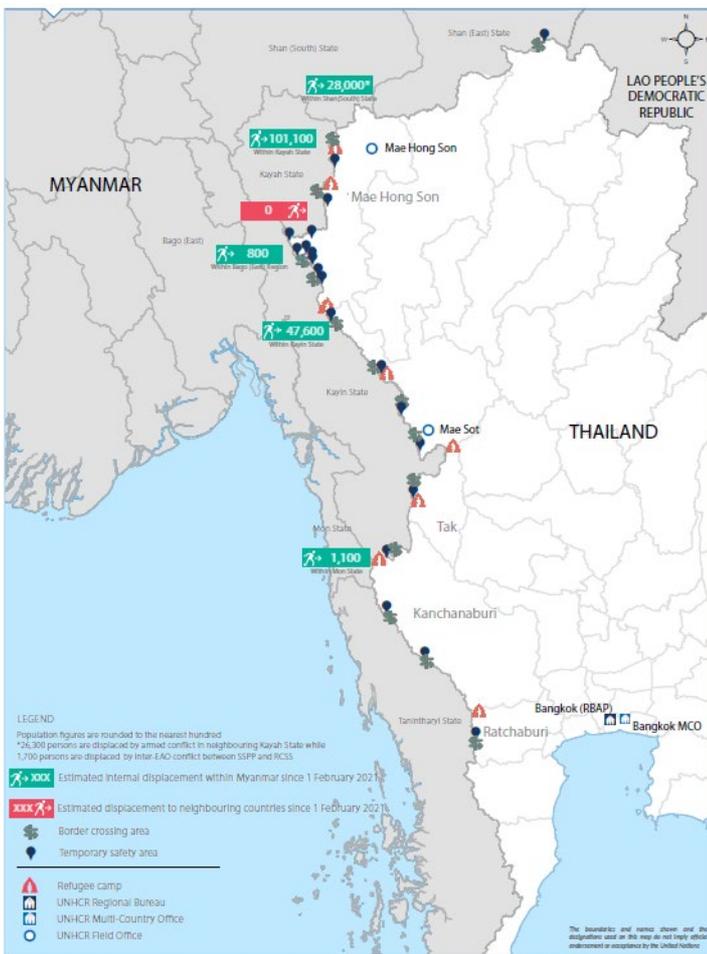
Thailand, 29 June 2021

The volatile situation in Myanmar following the 01 February 2021 coup has **resulted in increased displacement** both within the country and across borders, including into Thailand

Humanitarian actors stand ready to **support the Royal Thai Government (RTG)’s efforts** to receive Myanmar refugees fleeing at this time to ensure that they receive the protection they need

Agencies have taken a number of **key preparedness actions** to ensure that complementary activities are delivered in a timely and coordinated manner

Latest Situation Overview



The security situation in southeast Myanmar continues to be tense due to clashes between the Tatmadaw and the Ethnic Armed Organizations (EAOs), with indiscriminate mortar shelling and deployment of armed forces reported in various locations. **Access to humanitarian assistance remains challenging in the context of an increase in displacement in southern Shan State to an estimated 28,000 people, in addition to some 101,100 displaced in Kayah State and 47,600 displaced in Karen State, which continues to highlight the need for preparedness measures on the Thai side by humanitarian actors in coordination with the RTG in Bangkok and in the border provinces.** A ceasefire announced on 15 June by the Karenni Nationalities Defense Force (KNDF) in Kayah State reportedly enabled the delivery of some community-led assistance in some border areas where internally displaced persons (IDPs) remain. While other groups in the Thai-Myanmar border areas have reportedly returned to the inner areas of Myanmar, they have not necessarily been able to return to their villages and therefore continue to be displaced. Regarding the group of some 400 individuals who returned to Pa Lu in Karen State during 03-06 June after being temporarily hosted in Mae Sot District, it has been reported that all individuals have been able to return to their homes.

Myanmar Border Command Center (Mae Hong Son Province) on 12 June there continues to be 0 individuals remaining in temporary safety areas in MHS Province. A request submitted by several CSOs to the Thai authorities to provide material support in the temporary safety areas via the Royal Thai Army (RTA) remains pending and as of 29 June and humanitarian actors have not yet formally been granted access. Meanwhile, according to various media reports, the arrest by Thai authorities of Myanmar nationals attempting to enter Thailand irregularly through Tak and Kanchanaburi provinces continue to take place on a regular basis with no systematic identification of people in need of international protection.

TOTAL DISPLACED POPULATION IN THAILAND

0 persons*

TOTAL DISPLACED POPULATION IN MYANMAR

210,600 persons**

* As per official RTG statistics, 12 June 2021

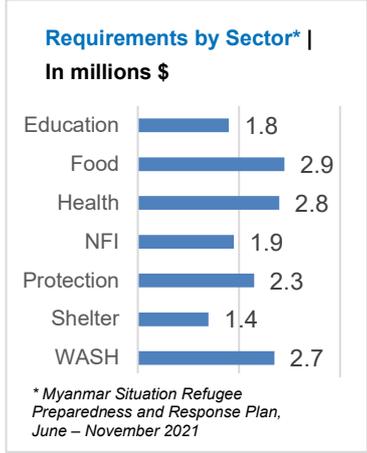
** As per UNHCR estimated figure, 28 June 2021

INTER-AGENCY OPERATIONAL UPDATE

Humanitarian Agency Preparedness Activities

Education

Partners are prepared to distribute prepositioned learning materials such as books and pens to at least 150 school-aged children and are preparing play kits including tracing books, crayons, playdough and finger puppets for around 380 children aged 2-5 years, in the event of a sudden influx of refugees from Myanmar into Thailand. **Technical resources such as manuals and IEC materials on areas such as COVID-19 prevention, Social and Emotional Learning (SEL), Explosive Ordnance/Mine Risk Education (EORE) are available and ready for immediate deployment.** Partners are also ready to conduct group activities for children such as storytelling, puppet shows and arrange community libraries in holding areas. Planning with a wide range of education partners to prepare for a potential refugee influx is ongoing.



Food

The Border Consortium (TBC) continues to support and work collaboratively with the Border Emergency Relief Team (BERT) – a network of local CSOs - to provide essential food for refugees in Mae Sariang proximal to the border. **TBC is prepositioning essential food ration items for potential holding areas**, and specific food for nutrition of children and pregnant/breastfeeding women, with established suppliers for the four provinces of its current operation. Currently TBC is closely monitoring the massive displacement of people in Kayah State, and a number of groups on the other side close to the border derived from both ethnic and Civil Disobedience Movement (CDM) groups comprising some 400 people opposite Tak, Ratchaburi and Kanchanaburi provinces.

Health

Health sector agencies have planned essential activities for an influx scenario of 4,000 arrivals/month over 6 months to include the following essential response categories: Communicable Disease, Child Health, Sexual/Reproductive Health, Injury/Trauma Care, Mental Health, Non-Communicable Disease, and Rehabilitation. **Response includes COVID-19 screening and quarantine management** with referral to Government District Hospitals for case management. Health sector agencies currently working to identify additional partner organizations capable of responding in areas where current agencies do not have or cannot ensure operational presence. MI and the IRC have participated in short informal visits to government identified holding areas for cursory informal site reviews.

NFI

The NFI sector continues to collaborate with partners for a NFI response plan at provincial and national levels through consultations with partners. Cross-sector coordination efforts continue, focusing on **distribution of guidance, plans and information sharing on core relief items (CRIs) and specialized kits coordinated by other sectors** such as hygiene kits (WASH), dignity kits (Protection), shelter kits (Shelter) and Education kits (Education). NFI sector IM platforms and 4Ws have been established to streamline information sharing practices and aid coordination. UNHCR stands ready to complement efforts with pre-positioned CRIs in Mae Sot.

Protection

The Protection Sector has developed a **Guidance Note on Assistance in Temporary Safety Areas**, providing minimum standards to humanitarian actors to uphold humanitarian principles and mitigate the risks to do harm when operating in temporary safety areas. The Protection Sector mapping of capacity building needs highlighted as priority areas emergency needs assessments, child protection in emergencies, and identification of persons with specific needs, and will inform future trainings organised by partners.

Shelter

TBC continues to collaborate with the Border Emergency Relief Team (BERT) to help support the shelter needs of newly-arrived refugees in various locations in Mae Sariang. **TBC will complete delivery of the initial order of 1,200 pieces of durable plastic roofing sheets (5mx6m) to border sites by the end of June** and is prepositioning bamboo and other building materials with established local suppliers. These are in readiness for construction of houses for refugees in holding areas. In accordance with SPHERE standards, this initial procurement will house up to 6,000 refugees (five per household).

WASH

Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH) sector agencies have planned essential activities for an influx scenario of 4,000 arrivals/month over 6 months to include the following essential response categories: Water Supply, Hygiene Promotion, Excreta Management, Vector Control and Solid Waste Management. **The WASH sector has started to work on a sectoral operational plan to identify additional partner organizations capable of responding in areas where current agencies do not have or cannot ensure operational presence.** This will also help in mapping contingency stocks including construction materials and hygiene kits. IRC has distributed 412 hygiene kits and construction materials for 5 toilets to refugees hosted in a temporary safety area in Mae Kone Kane village in Mae Sot District, while ICRC distributed 24 ceramic filters, 100 x 6L. water bottles and 100 family mosquito nets in the Huay Kang Kud (MHS Province) area to approximately 40 IDP Thai families.