Myanmar SE Operation - Return Assessments

UNHCR Hpa-An | 31 March 2018

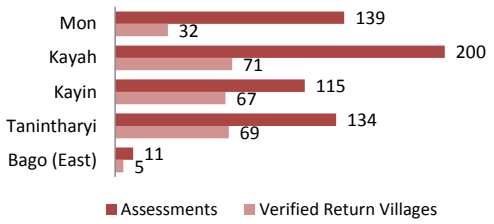
Background information

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	599
Verified Return Villages	244
Refugee Villages of Origin	375

Verified Return Villages by State/Region



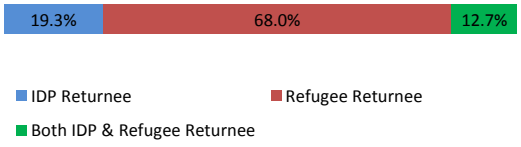
No. of Returnees in assessed villages by State/Region

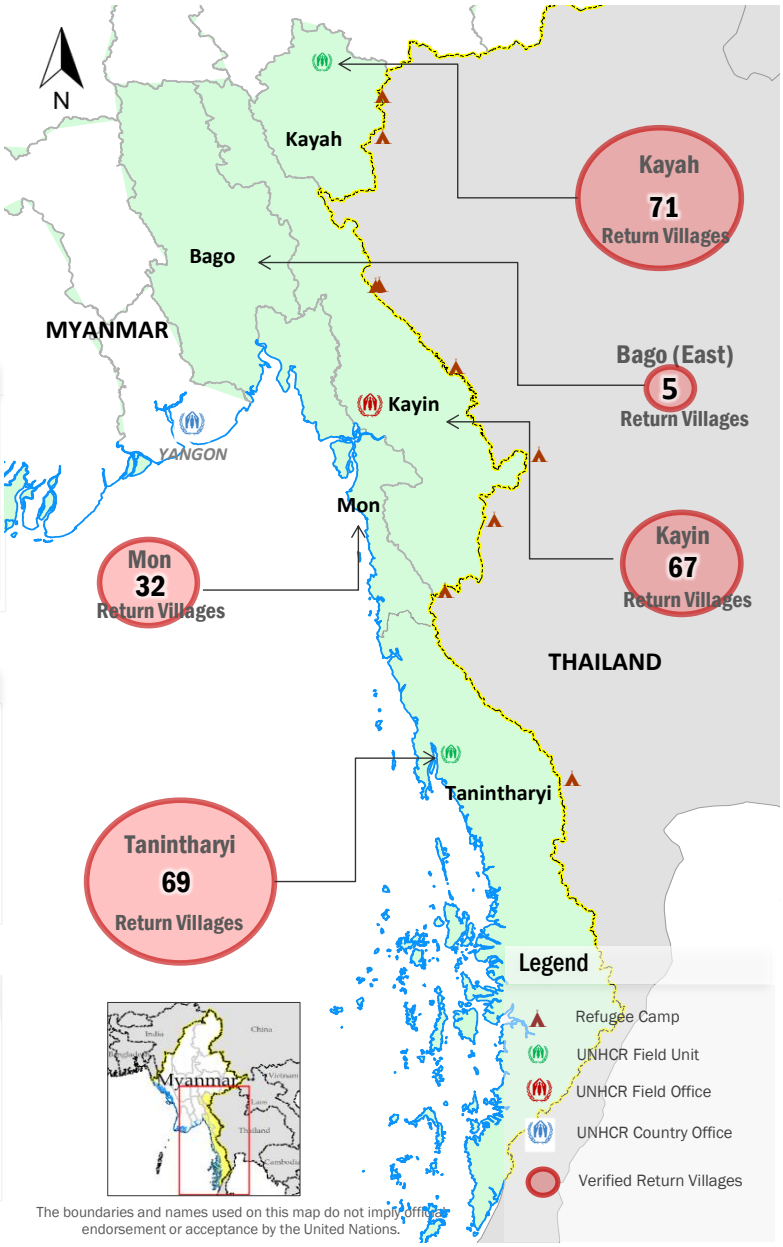
State	IDP Returnee		Refugee Returnee	
	HH	Individuals	HH	Individuals
Mon	258	1411	26	87
Kayah	401	2143	146	306
Kayin	433	2187	415	2011
Tanintharyi	901	5011	457	1371
Bago (East)	76	394	3	23
Grand Total	**2069**	**11146**	**1047**	**3798**

No. of Verified Return Villages by Type

State	IDP Returnee	Refugee Returnee	Both IDP & Refugee
Mon	18	10	4
Kayah	10	49	12
Kayin	3	56	8
Tanintharyi	14	48	7
Bago (East)	2	3	0
Grand Total	**47**	**166**	**31**

Verified Return Villages by Type





The boundaries and names used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.

Source UNHCR