Myanmar SE Operation - Return Assessments

UNHCR Hpa-An

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UNHCR The UN Refugee Agency

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.

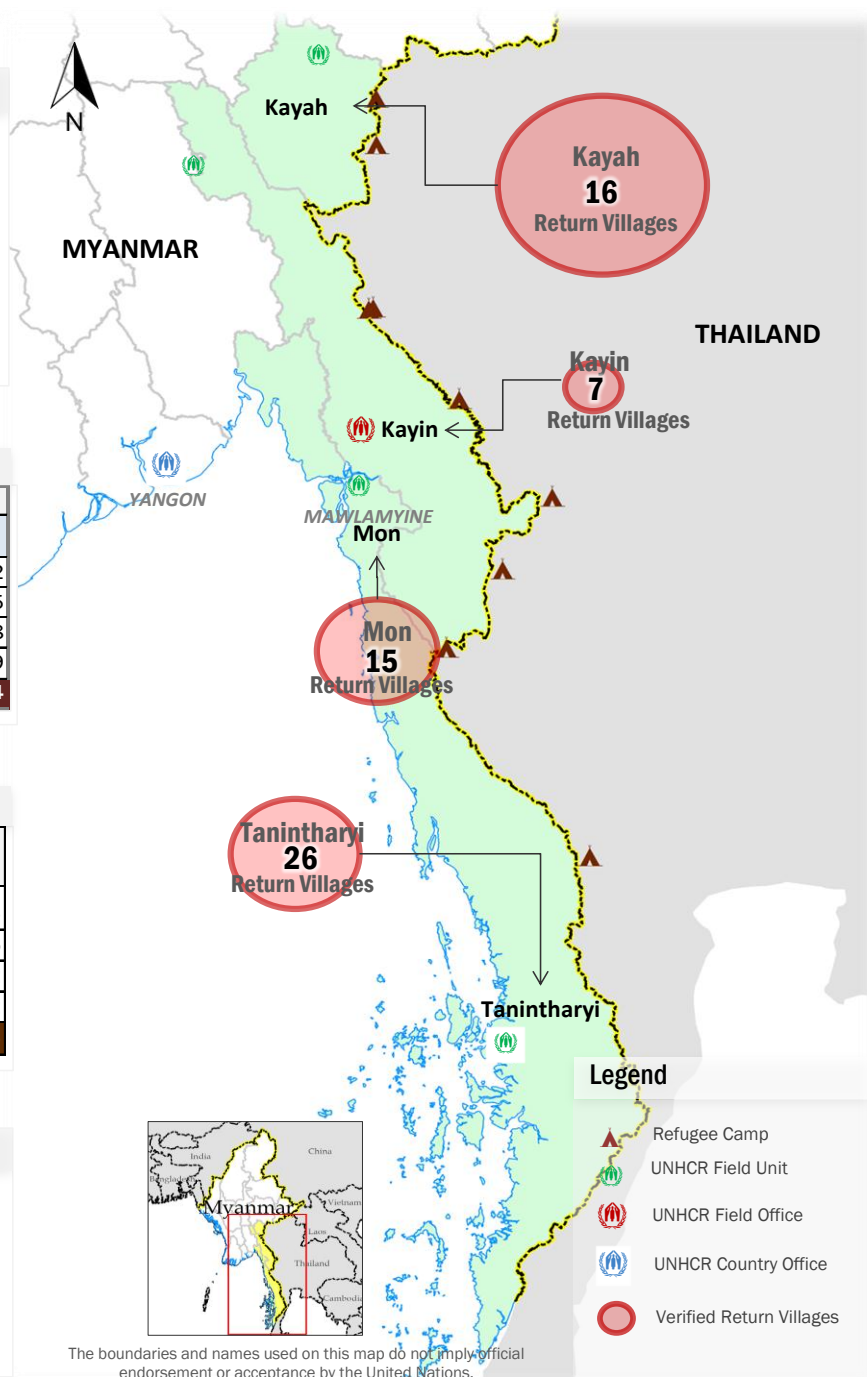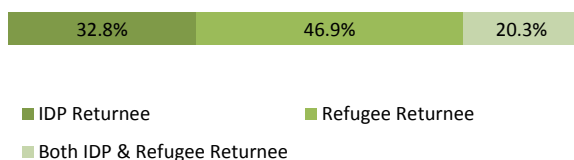|	
Total Assessments	227
Verified Return Villages	64
Refugee Villages of Origin	128

Verified Return Villages by State/Region

Mon — Assessments 98, Verified Return Villages 15
Kayah — Assessments 38, Verified Return Villages 16
Kayin — Assessments 20, Verified Return Villages 7
Tanintharyi — Assessments 71, Verified Return Villages 26

■ Assessments ■ Verified Return Villages
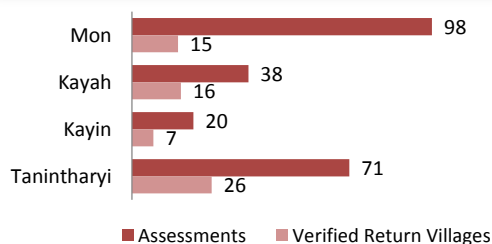
No. of Returnees in assessed villages by State/Region

State	IDP Returnee		Refugee Returnee	
	HH	Individuals	HH	Individuals
Mon	98	495	13	32
Kayah	261	1407	46	65
Kayin	23	137	33	128
Tanintharyi	376	2345	61	249
Grand Total	**758**	**4384**	**153**	**474**

No. of Verified Return Villages by Type

State	IDP Returnee	Refugee Returnee	Both IDP & Refugee Returnee
Mon	7	5	3
Kayah	5	5	6
Kayin	1	4	2
Tanintharyi	8	16	2
Grand Total	**21**	**30**	**13**

Verified Return Villages by Type

32.8%	46.9%	20.3%

■ IDP Returnee ■ Refugee Returnee
■ Both IDP & Refugee Returnee

MYANMAR

Kayah
16
Return Villages

Kayin
7
Return Villages

THAILAND

Mon
15
Return Villages

Tanintharyi
26
Return Villages

YANGON

MAWLAMYINE

Legend

▲ Refugee Camp
(m) UNHCR Field Unit
(m) UNHCR Field Office
(m) UNHCR Country Office
◯ Verified Return Villages

For more information, contact KEOGH@unhcr.org

% of Assessed Villages in which key Services are available

Bar chart with categories: Market, Reliable Water Source, Health Facility, Nursery School, Primary School, Middle School, High School (y-axis 0%–35%)
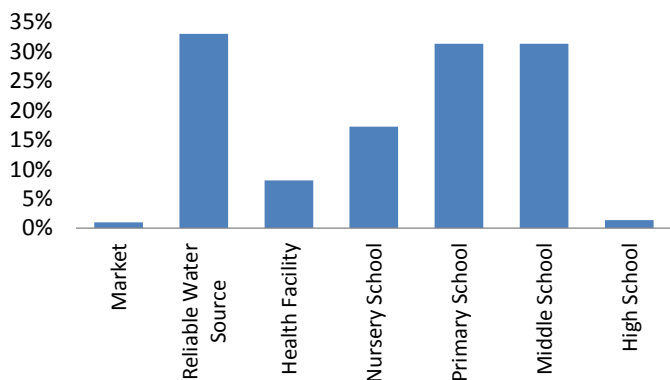
% of Shelter Types available in Assessed Villages

Stacked bar chart by region: Mon, Kayah, Kayin, Tanintharyi (y-axis 0%–100%)

Legend:
- Bambo and Thatch
- Brick or cinderblock shelter
- Others
- Wood frame make shift shelter
- Wood frame solid shelters
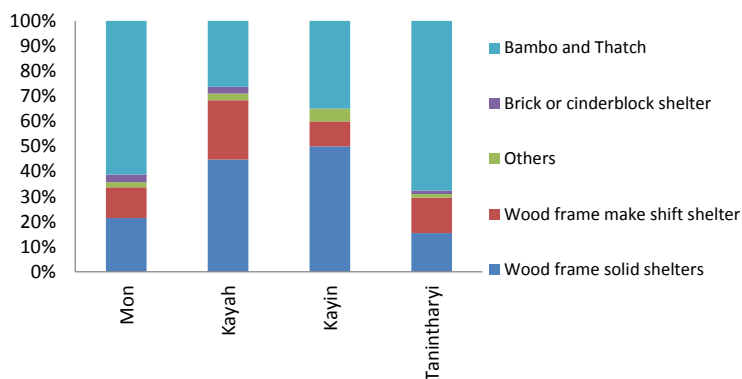
Average Distance to Services (Miles)

Market	Water	Health Facility	Pre School	Primary School	Middle School	High School	Court	Police Station
14	1	7	9	8	7	11	19	16
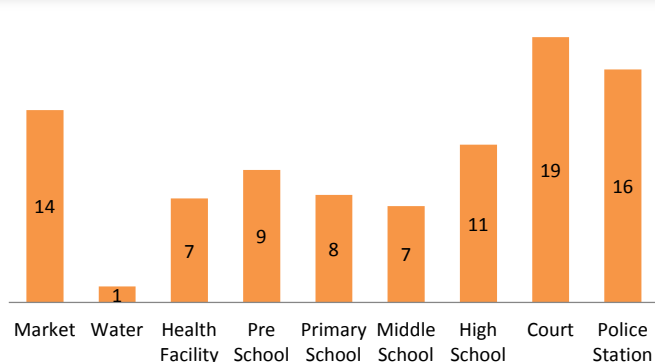
Overview in Verified Return Villages

Presence of Vulnerable Returnees

Stacked bar chart (y-axis Villages 0–30) with categories: Unaccompanied Children, Separated Children, Unaccompanied Elderly, Female headed HH, Disabled, Other

Legend:
- IDP Returnee
- Refugee Returnee
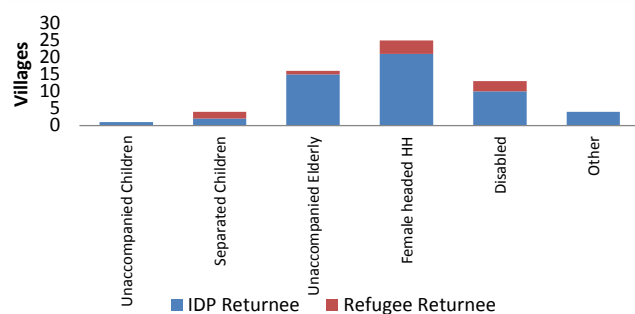
Identity Documents held by IDP Returnee

- Citizenship Scrutiny Card(CSC): 21
- Family List: 19
- Birth Certificate: 3

(x-axis Villages 0–25)
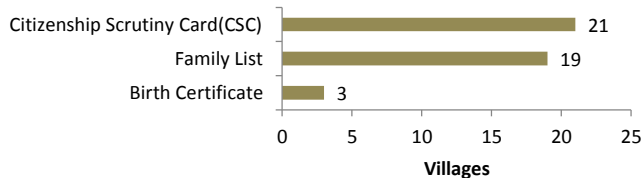
Identity Documents held by Refugee Returnee

- Unknown: 18
- Citizenship Scrutiny Card(CSC): 10
- Thai Birth Certificate: 2
- Family List: 5
- None: 10

(x-axis Villages 0–20)

Needs

Community (Assessed Villages)

Categories (top to bottom): School, Health facility, Water point, Livelihood, Skill, Medical supplies, Latrines, Teachers, Shelter, Cash, Medical staff, Food

(x-axis Villages 0–120)
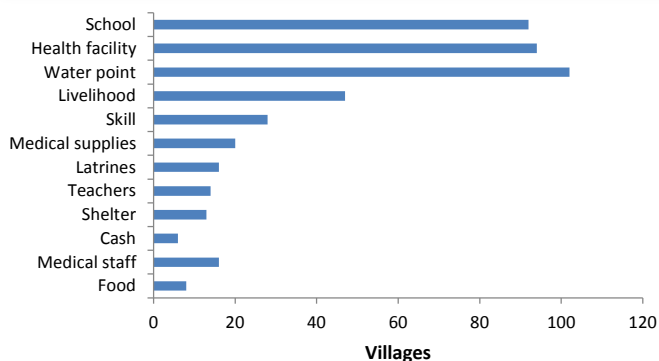
Returnee (Verified Return Villages)

Categories (top to bottom): Shelter, Livelihood, Kitchen sets, School, Food, Waterpoint, Medical supplies, Health facility, Farming tools

(x-axis Villages 0–25)

Problems in re-occupying Land & Property

- Agriculture Plot
- Household Plot

(x-axis Villages with problems 0–6)

Legend:
- IDP Returnee
- Refugee Returnee

Source: UNHCR

For more information, contact KEOGH@unhcr.org