

Mae Ra Ma Luang Temporary Shelter



May 2016

Profile

Verified Population - May 2016

11,330 *

Population profile

Gender

Female 51% Male 49%

Age

18 years and above: 50%

5-17 years: 36%

Below 5 years: 14%

Ethnicity

Karen 99% Other 1%

Religion

Christian 73% Buddhist 23% Animist 2%

Other 2%

*According to Verification Exercise conducted from Jan-Apr 2015 and subsequent changes in population

Background

Mae Ra Ma Luang was opened in February 1995 to host the influx of ethnic Karen refugees displaced into Thailand following the fall of Karen National Union Headquarter in Manerplaw. The camp population is largely of agrarian background, and from Hpa-pun Township of Kayin State, Myanmar.

Mae Ra Ma Luang and Mae La Oon are the most remote of all nine camps along the Thai-Myanmar border.



Location

Mae Ra Ma Luang camp is in Sob Moei District, Mae Hong Son Province, approximately 10 km. from the Thai-Myanmar border and 76 km. from Mae Sariang. It has a surface area of 316 acres (1.28 sq.km.).

Although part of the camp falls in Tak Province, it is under the administrative authority of Mae Hong Son.

UNHCR Activities

- Ensure access to asylum, legal, material and physical protection.
- Work towards the elimination of sexual and gender-based violence and improve the quality of response.
- Ensure child protection through the promotion and application of a Child Protection Framework.
- Strengthen self-reliance and help secure livelihood opportunities.
- Secure durable solutions for all refugees from Myanmar.

Governance

The Ministry of Interior (MOI) is responsible for administration in nine camps. Mae Ra Ma Luang Camp Commander is the Deputy District Officer of Sob Moei District. A refugee Camp Committee is directly involved in camp governance, and received support from the Karen Refugee Committee.

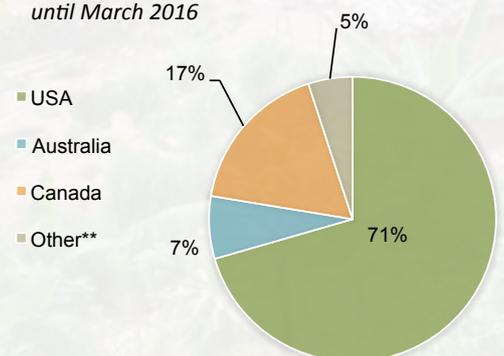
Territory Defense Volunteers, known as Or Sors, are employed and trained by the MOI to provide internal camp security.

Resettlement Statistics

Total (persons)
until May 2016



Departures by Country of Resettlement until March 2016



**Norway, New Zealand, Sweden, Netherlands and Japan

Access to Asylum

Thailand is not a signatory to the 1951 Refugee Convention and its 1967 Protocol and does not have legislation regulating the status of refugees. In accordance with MOI regulations, admission to the camps and access to asylum in Thailand is the responsibility of the Provincial Admission Boards (PAB); Mae Ra Ma Luang falls under the jurisdiction of the Mae Hong Son PAB.

With UNHCR support in 2012, RTG started conducting a "Fast Track" procedure that provides access to the PAB to the unregistered camp residents in the nine temporary shelters if they are immediate family members of those who were already resettled and/or of the registered camp residents who are in process of resettlement. There have also been submissions for persons with protection and medical concerns. This is not a general registration PAB exercise and the conditions are strict.

Humanitarian Organizations

 Health	
• Health services	Malteser International (MI)
• Reproductive health services	Planned Parenthood Association of Thailand (PPAT)
 Water, Hygiene & Sanitation	
• Sanitation	Malteser International (MI)
 Protection and Community Services	
• Drug and alcohol abuse prevention	Drug and Alcohol Recovery and Education Network (DARE)
• Life development skills for children	Right to Play (RTP)
• Child protection, assistance for vulnerable individuals 	Catholic Office for Emergency Relief and Refugees (COERR)
• Prosthesis, disability social inclusion and mine risk education	Handicap International (HI)
• SGBV prevention and response	American Refugee Committee (ARC)
 Registration	
• Registration and Status Determination 	Ministry of Interior (MOI)
 Shelter	
• Repair materials for shelters	The Border Consortium (TBC)
 Non-Food Items (NFIs)	
• NFI distribution	The Border Consortium (TBC)
 Food and Nutrition	
• Food distribution	The Border Consortium (TBC)
 Livelihoods	
• Agriculture and marketing for preparedness	The Border Consortium (TBC)
• Livelihood and rehabilitation 	Handicap International (HI)
• Agricultural project	Catholic Office for Emergency Relief and Refugees (COERR)
 Education	
• Education and vocational training	Adventist Development & Relief Agency (ADRA)
• Education	Save The Children (STC)
• Educational libraries	Shanti Volunteer Association (SVA)
 Resettlement	
• Post-approval resettlement services	International Organization for Migration (IOM)
• The US resettlement service	IRC Resettlement Support Center (IRC-RSC)
 UNHCR financially supported	
For updated sectorial information from Mae Ra Ma Luang Camp, please consult: https://www.unhcr.or.th and http://www.commonservice.info	