

Myanmar Situation

Thailand, 15 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



Ongoing civil unrest and conflict, including intensification of clashes resulting in an estimated 13,400 people displaced in Myanmar's southern Shan State, in addition to some 97,100 displaced in Kayah State who are facing challenges with accessing humanitarian assistance, continue to highlight the need for preparedness measures by humanitarian actors in coordination with the RTG in Bangkok and in the border provinces. **The most affected area in Thailand in recent days has been Tak Province, where during 01-02 June some 400 individuals crossed into Mae Sot, the majority of whom had fled from Pa Lu and surrounding villages after conflict broke out between the Tatmadaw, Border Guard Forces (BGF) and Democratic Karen Buddhist Army (DKBA).** This group was hosted in a temporary safety area in Mae Kone Kane village, located on the Moei River on the Thai border and a short distance from Pa Lu on the Myanmar side, where they were provided with assistance by humanitarian agencies, CSOs and the local community before returning to Myanmar during 03-06 June, reportedly on a voluntary basis. On 08 June it was reported by local media that a group of some 100 individuals were experiencing challenges in returning to their homes due to Tatmadaw presence.

Meanwhile in Mae Hong Son (MHS) Province, all individuals from the group of 1,700+ who crossed into Thailand on 13 May have since returned to Myanmar, while the latest arrivals comprising a group of 58 individuals from areas bordering Sob Moei District and Sao Hin Sub-District who arrived in Thailand during 02-06 June and were hosted in 3 temporary safety areas returned to Myanmar during 11-12 June, representing a lengthier stay compared to previous groups. As per the latest official figure reported by the Thai-Myanmar Border Command Center (MHS Province) there are currently 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. As of 15 June, humanitarian actors have not yet formally been granted access to the temporary safety areas. **In Tak, humanitarian actors are planning to conduct several site assessments together with the local authorities in the coming weeks, while in Kanchanaburi/Ratchaburi provinces, humanitarian actors continue to follow up with local authorities on potential site assessments.** Meanwhile, according to various media reports, the arrest by Thai authorities of Myanmar nationals reportedly attempting to enter Thailand through Kanchanaburi Province for the purpose of fleeing unrest in Myanmar and seeking employment opportunities continue to take place on a regular basis.

TOTAL DISPLACED POPULATION IN THAILAND
0 persons*

TOTAL DISPLACED POPULATION IN MYANMAR
200,000 persons**

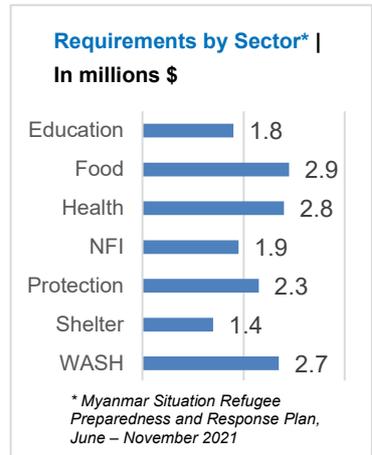
* As per official RTG statistics, 12 June 2021
 ** As per UNHCR estimated figure, 14 June 2021

INTER-AGENCY OPERATIONAL UPDATE

Humanitarian Agency Preparedness Activities



Education partners are prepared to **distribute prepositioned learning materials** such as reading books, notebooks and pens to at least 150 school-aged children 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 story-telling, 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.



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 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.



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.



The Protection Sector has initiated several activities to strengthen preparedness. **On 31 May, partners were trained on the use of 4Ws, which is a standardized reporting tool capturing who does what, where, and when.** On 02 June, a consultation was held with national protection partners to inform the development of inter-sector rapid needs assessment tools. Finally, a mapping of capacity building needs within the protection sector is being undertaken to support the development and implementation of training activities.



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).



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.