



KAREN REFUGEE COMMITTEE

NEWSLETTER

&

MONTHLY REPORT

OCTOBER, 2009

Karen Refugee Committee
Newsletter & Monthly Report
October, 2009

The unstable economic and political situation in Myanmar has caused unrest throughout the country even to the camps in the border and some neighboring countries. For instance not long ago in the northern part of Myanmar of China border ,the Konkang group under the ceasefire agreement had conflict with SPDC and there were refugee fleeing to China.

Now there are many armed ethnic groups settling in their respective area with arms under the ceasefire agreement along the Thai Myanmar border. The SPDC government has intention to turn those armed groups into “Burma security force”. It is likely that if some of the group refused to become border security force according to the will of the SPDC government and fighting flare up there is a possibility of new arrivals increase in camps, moreover the yearly government’s policy of collecting and destroying grains during the harvest season is carried out, we can expect to have new more arrivals. In this dry season the SPDC government has intention to carry out offensive against the KNU’s No- 5 brigade Papum area and the consequences can impact the camp.

Regardless of the fact that the refugee from the camp had left in large number to third country starting from 2006, there was no decrease of the refugee number in the camps. There is an increase of new arrivals every month. According to the 7 camps under the KRC management report for September 2009, the unregistered new arrival numbers come to 35,000. This figure is not much different from the number of refugee leaving for third country.

As there is an increase of population in the camps, there is an increase of ethnic nationalities, speaking different languages, having different cultures, belief and faith making the camp management slightly difficult. But the KRC together with the camp management committee were able to overcome the difficulties. Prior to the year 2000, the majority of the refugees in the camps were from the eastern part of Myanmar, especially from the Karen state. As of now we can see people from all over Myanmar taking refuge in the camps. Since June 2009, the DKBA with the assistance of the SPDC launched offensive against the KNU (7) brigade area causing 3000 villagers fleeing from fighting to Thai side, taking temporary refuge in the Hta Song Yang area close to Mae la camp. Now they are under district administration supervision. The Thai government allowed the NGO to access. But until now there is no clear policy for them whether they will enter to the camp or repatriate.

The KRC is making arrangement for the management of the camp to become easier and effective. It is making amendment to the camp committee structure and the KRC committee structure. It is trying for all the camp to have the camp committee election at the same time in February 2010. There is no way for us to avoid the problems arising from the

resettlement program. We are having insufficient staff in administration program. In some of the camps we are bound to appoint new arrivals for the vacant posts.

Anyhow, there is no way for us to go back to our country. For all of us to go and seek a new life in third country is not possible. It is for us, KRC to do the best we can for those who remain in the camps with the help and support of the NGOs and INGOs.

K.R.C – Activities – Report. October– 2009

- 1/10/09 – KRC attended Law Reform meeting at Maela camp. The participants involve LAC, camp justice and security committee..
- 2/10/09 – Social affair coordinator attended a cooperative meeting; the participants were ZOA, ADRA, KRC-EE and future vocational Training (VT) activities were discussed.
- 7/10/09 – KRC held a meeting with UNHCR in KRC office about resettlement to Japan.
- 8/10/09 – KRC Chair person, Coordinator of Social affair, and the Secretary attended TBBC workshop at Mae Sariang; on refugee camp management and preparation of next five year strategy planning were discussed.
- 14/10/09 – KRC meeting with Handicap International (HI) officer, discussed HI staff issue in Ban Dong Yang camp, and as well for the HI poster activities in Unphiem camp.
- 15/10/09 – KRC social affair team met with Umphiem community and formed livelihood committee.
- 19-20/10/09 – KRC's secretary and Social affair coordinator together with TBBC capacity building officer provide camp management training in Htam Hin camp.
- 20/10/09 – KRC Social affair coordinator met with nursery committee and head teachers; simultaneously distribute food for children and provide training on monthly financial and report forms in Htam Hin camp.
- 21-22/10/09 – KRC's secretary, Social affair Coordinator together with TBBC's capacity building officer provide camp management training in Ban Dong Yan camp.

- 21/10/09 – KRC held a meeting with PSAE for future plan.
- 22/10/09 – KRC together with LAC attended law reform meeting in Maela Camp.
- 22/10/09 – KRC Social affair team met with nursery school committee, distribute food for the children and provide training on monthly and financial report forms in Ban Dong Yan camp.
- 28/10/09 - KRC's secretary, social affair coordinator, office in charge and CMSP manager attended COC confirmation and consulting about action taking on COC violation, workshop in Maesarinag.

We shall always be grateful to the Thai people and Government for their sympathy and understanding in allowing us safe refuge. We are also indebted to the NGOs for their Supports and Services.

TBBC – Support in Food and Shelter Material. TBBC is also supporting with warm clothing for all the camps. TBBC is Supporting with Camps Management program to help with Administration, Management Stability improvements in all (7) Camps.

TBBC - Has been providing **KRC** with administrative & organizational Support.
It has also supported with remuneration for **KRC** members and workers.

MSF – Support in Medical and Health facilities.

AMI – Support in Medical and Health facilities.

ARC – Support in Medical and Health facilities.

M.I (Malteser International) formerly MHD – Support in Medical and Health facilities.

ZOA (ABW aid) – Support in Educational facilities Teachers' Training.

World Education / Consortium – Support in Educational facilities, Teachers' Training and Education for Deaf / Mute / Blinds.

TOPS – Support in Educational facilities Nurseries.

ICS – Asia – Support in Educational facilities, Teaching, Learning Aid.

COERR – Rice and Educational support. **EVI** – To be involved with Extremely Vulnerable people, care and support.

H.I – Support for Refugee Handicaps with Prosthesis and rehabilitation and also year – end sporting events for Handicaps.

UNHCR – For Registration Process Protection and Ultimate Safe Repatriation. Now helping with Resettlement.

SMRU – Support with Malaria Control, Prevention and Treatment.

SVA – To support with Libraries in the camps.

PPAT – Parenthood Planning Association Thailand – Supporting with Family Planning and Preventive/ Education in Refugee Camps.

SOLIDARITES – Support the Burmese refugees in the camp addressing sanitation issues.

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Monthly Population Report in Camps (October - 2009)

Number of Registered people in camp

Camp	No.families	Over-12 Yrs		6 - 12 Yrs		Under 5 Yrs		Total
		M	F	M	F	M	F	
Mae La	5846	8603	9054	2804	2652	2234	2031	27,378.00
Umphiem	2804	4729	4693	1108	1018	939	875	13,362.00
Nu Po	2388	3139	3083	871	897	845	775	9,610.00
Htam Hin	919	1299	1384	470	418	375	347	4,293.00
Ban Dong Yang	708	1010	1092	275	252	280	299	3,208.00
Mae Rama Luang	2309	4031	4107	1464	1316	882	960	12,760.00
Mae La Oon	2615	4317	4280	1408	1306	1004	939	13,254.00
Total	17,589.00	27,128.00	27,693.00	8,400.00	7,859.00	6,559.00	6,226.00	83,865.00

Number of PAB, POC, PRE-SCREENING in camps

Camp	No.families	Over-12 Yrs		6 - 12 Yrs		Under 5 Yrs		Total
		M	F	M	F	M	F	
Mae La	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Umphiem	3	180	121	11	10			322.00
Nu Po	2633	2410	2003	453	427	376	421	6,090.00
Htam Hin	783	1049	930	203	184	258	248	2,872.00
Ban Dong Yang	119	323	321	61	60	60	61	886.00
Mae Rama Luang	152	660	528	102	99	99	56	1,544.00
Mae La Oon	23.00	272.00	190.00	15.00	14.00	12.00	8.00	511.00
Total	3,713.00	4,894.00	4,093.00	845.00	794.00	805.00	794.00	12,225.00

Number of new arrival in camps

Camp	No.families	Over-12 Yrs		6 - 12 Yrs		Under 5 Yrs		Total
		M	F	M	F	M	F	
Mae La	6540	7094	6248	1710	1621	768	689	18,130.00
Umphiem	3750	4162	3564	1243	997	659	533	11,158.00
Nu Po	120	70	94	24	21	17	18	244.00
Htam Hin	109	173	152	51	44	30	29	479.00
Ban Dong Yang	109	109	108	15	6	19	19	276.00
Mae Rama Luang	496	957	1094	309	298	237	195	3,090.00
Mae La Oon	287	529	443	178	166	123	115	1,554.00
Total	11,411.00	13,094.00	11,703.00	3,530.00	3,153.00	1,853.00	1,598.00	34,931.00

Number of Outside Student in Camps

Camp	No.families	Over-12 Yrs		6 - 12 Yrs		Under 5 Yrs		Total
		M	F	M	F	M	F	
Mae La		2247	1260	418	335	17	22	4299
Umphiem	16	280	191	44	27	2	0	544
Nu Po		433	389	56	42	4	0	924
Htam Hin		14	22	1	0	0	0	37.00
Ban Dong Yang		68	69	21	14	0	0	172.00
Mae Rama Luang		335	335	63	40	3	0	776.00
Mae La Oon		519	432	34	16	0	0	1,001.00
Total	16.00	3,896.00	2,698.00	637.00	474.00	26.00	22.00	7,753.00

Feeding Figure in Camps

Camp	No.families	Over-12 Yrs		6 - 12 Yrs		Under 5 Yrs		Total
		M	F	M	F	M	F	
Mae La	9183	14318	13757	3133	2701	2292	2149	38,350.00
Umphiem	3897	5283	4973	1498	1383	860	800	14,797.00
Nu Po	3914	4778	4587	1516	1392	962	982	14,217.00
Htam Hin	1722	2448	2428	695	618	624	580	7,393.00
Ban Don Yang		3576	0	0	0	0	507	4,083.00
Mae Rama Luang	2899	5475	5688	1838	1669	1034	1059	16,763.00
Mae La Oon	2929	5515	5242	1641	1504	1159	1082	16,143.00
Total	24,544.00	41,393.00	36,675.00	10,321.00	9,267.00	6,931.00	7,159.00	111,746.00

General Population in Camps

Camp	No.families	Over-12 Yrs		6 - 12 Yrs		Under 5 Yrs		Total
		M	F	M	F	M	F	
Mae La	12386	17944	16562	4932	4630	2990	2737	49,795.00
Umphiem	7100	10195	9233	2499	2144	1678	1472	27,221.00
Nu Po	5087	6052	5569	1404	1386	1241	1216	16,868.00
Htam Hin	1811	2521	2466	724	646	663	624	7,644.00
Ban Dong Yang	923	1510	1591	372	329	359	381	4,542.00
Mae Rama Luang	2954	5983	6064	1938	1753	1217	1211	18,166.00
Mae La Oon	2925	5637	5345	1635	1502	1139	1062	16,320.00
Total	33,186.00	49,842.00	46,830.00	13,504.00	12,390.00	9,287.00	8,703.00	140,556.00