



កម្ពុជា អភិវឌ្ឍន៍
ក្រុម
បណ្តុះបណ្តាល និង អភិវឌ្ឍន៍

MON RELIEF AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

MONTHLY REPORT

July

2008

Aim and Objectives of Mon Relief and Development Committee

Aim:

Provide temporary shelters, basic needs and development assistance to refugees and the displaced persons who homeless and helpless situation due to the oppression of Rangoon military regimes in Mon territory along Thailand-Burma border.

Objectives:

1. To help the welfares of the refugees in border areas and IDPs who are displaced inside the country, with foods, shelter and possible protection.
2. To coordinate with local Mon people in developing the grassroots community in the fields of health, education, literacy, agriculture and other rural development projects.
3. To empower the local community for the participation of decision making processes for their own lives and communities.
4. To struggle for the human rights.

The Organization of Mon Relief and Development Committee

- | | |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. Nai Wongsa Pala | - Chairman |
| 2. Nai Kasauh Mon | - Vice Chairman |
| 3. Nai Kem Kom Kao | - General Secretary |
| 4. Mi Wing Ah Bloa | - Join Secretary |
| 5. Nai Hong Janu | - Administrator |
| 6. Mi Seik Jyanda | - Member |
| 7. Nai Bayar Nwe | - Member |
| 8. Nai Ong Htaw Mon | - Member |
| 9. Nai Kon Tala Bloa | - Member |

Monthly Report of Mon Relief and Development Committee

(July 2008)

Needs Assessment of Cyclone Nargis Victims In Southwestern Islands of Irrawaddy Delta Area

Recently, in order to learn the situation of Cyclone Nargis victims in Irrawaddy area, especially the most southwestern part of Irrawaddy Division. In these areas, there are two big islands called – Heingyi Island and Pyin-kha-yaing Island in the administration of Ngaputaw Township in Bassein District, and located west of Luputta Township.

Since there has been difficult communication to these two islands, less International Aid Agencies has arrived into the area and only the **Community to Community** supports have reached to the area and the victims in the area have demanded many types of assistance: foods; sheltering; school building; basic health cares and medicines; educational materials; livelihood materials; etc.

Food Assessment:

The victims only little amount of food assistance rice from the local communities especially from the donors from Bassein through Buddhist monks soon after the Cyclone in May and then additional one sack of rice for each family from a community to community program in June. All of these foods will be eaten by the end of July. During the cyclone Nargis, all of their foods kept in rice stores were totally destroyed and they could not make the paddies to be drought due to the continuous rainy season.

For some families those have some amount of money can purchase at a high price in Bassein, 24000 Kyat for 50 Kilograms per sack and many of them could not afford to purchase. They had to sell their valuable gold ware and other materials in order to purchase rice. About 25000-30000 victims in these islands demanded foods especially rice until the end of rainy season or they need another 3 months of rice supplies for their survival.

Sheltering Assessment:

Accordingly to the information from the victims, they have received some plastic sheets from the authorities and built up temporary shelters in their villages or in higher locations. But in June, many families said that the authorities will take back all plastic sheets and temporary tents in the Island very soon and all of them might need to build temporary huts for their families. The authorities or NGOs should plan to support them to build temporary houses in which the family members can stay safely, which means these houses should protect from winds and rain water. Similarly, in the relocation sites, the people needed to build houses.

More problematic in the area was, many monasteries those could provide sheltering to hundreds of people, were ruin about 80%, and so that they could not prove safe sheltering for them. The people worried about the forced relocation to the locations, where the authorities and reconstruction companies built new houses for the cyclone victims with the aids received from international aid agencies. The people do not want to move from their home villages and farms, as they do not want to change their livelihoods.

The people in these islands demanded for iron sheets for roofing, some building wooden materials. However, most victim families already built their temporary houses with bamboo and thatches which are not totally safe. They worried even the speedy wind even not a cyclone come, it could destroy their houses or huts.

School Building Assessment:

The communities without any outside supports had to repair these schools temporarily and started schools in early June, accordingly to the order by Ministry of Education. But many children could not join, because their parents moved or disappeared and some of them moved to orphan centers. However, most the repairs could not provide safe sheltering to the children in the rainy season, as the students could be wet and roof were not strong enough.

In Kan-seik village in Pyin-kha-yaing Island, a made-shift school was built by the community supports and labour for the displaced children from Kyin-kaw village who moved close into Kan-seik village. The community people also found 2 teachers for the school. Save the Children also provided plastic sheets for that school. But there is no furniture like desks, tables, A school in Chaung-wa High School in the same island was totally destroyed and only temporarily re-built. Since there are too many students for this school, no sufficient classes were set up, and so that the students in each class can learn only 2 hours per day.

Over 50 schools in these two islands needed to build up with the outside supports. The school might need to build up the foundation with concrete cements, set with wooden walls and roof with iron sheets. The community people only can help them with labour.

Health Care Assessment:

The State's health care system is still operating. TIn Chaung-wa village of Pyin-kha-yaing Island, there are two private clinics and they have provided medical care on a daily basis for many hours. These hospitals and clinics also received medicines and medical equipment from some NGOs.

However, many communities do not receive any good system of getting clean water, safe toilets and keeping rubbishes. The victims also have to set it up in building community's toilets and help each other in getting clean water. The community people made awareness of drinking boil water and used community toilets.

Children Education's Assessment:

Majority of the schools in the Island already re-opened and some number of kids attended the school while some of their friends disappeared. Some made-shift schools in the relocated areas are built, because of the order, but the community people could not find teachers. In some community established schools, the community teachers voluntarily involve in teaching the kids. Good school building and teachers are required by all communities.

Most students did not get textbooks and reading materials. When they get to the school, they faced insufficient teachers and had to sit in west class rooms. Many students even do not belong an umbrella in order to protect from rain.

Livelihood Assessment:

In order to start the paddy cultivation in this rainy season, the people in Island demand for cattle (especially water buffaloes), ploughing machines, paddy seeds or seedlings, fertilizers, and invested money. No farmers can start paddy cultivation yet, because they left nothing and some of them

relocated in the new places which are far from their farms. Many cattle died and there is a scarcity of the animals to help the farmers in farming. The authorities in the area have announced that they would provide cattle and seedling for the farmers. But no farmers received any assistance to start paddy cultivation until the end of June.

Fishermen in the coastal communities lost all of their fishing equipment – fishing nets, boats, propeller engines, etc. – when the Cyclone Nargis wasted away. Fishermen became jobless. Most farmers could not afford to buy new boats and other fishing equipment. They also could not change the livelihood that they did not familiar with. They demands for fishing equipment and boats.

Most gardens in the area which includes orchid plantations of coconut, mango and cashew-nut were destroyed. Some gardeners cleared out all fallen trees and branches in the gardens and prepared to create new orchid plantations, however, they need seedlings of orchid plants. They said, even they tried to find the seedlings in Bassein, many are not available. Many of them, they will have any opportunity to re-create the plantations this year.

THE REFUGEE POPULATION OF THE THREE RESETTLEMENT SITE

(July, 2008)

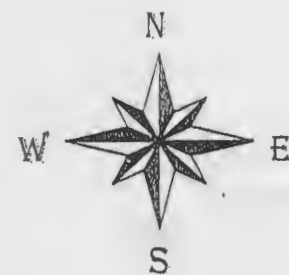
No	Camp	Numpr of Family	Over 5 years		Under 5 years		Total
			M	F	M	F	
1	Halockhai	669	1591	1406	116	133	3246
2	Che-daik	139	250	259	44	46	599
3	Bee Ree	633	1488	1506	194	158	3346
4	Tavoy	451	1055	997	148	122	2322
TOTAL		1892	4384	4168	502	459	9513

THE MATERIALS RECEIVED

BY THE MON RELIEF AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

(July, 2008)

No	Organization	Rice	Fish Paste (kg.)	Salt (kg.)	Bean (kg.)	Remark
1	TBBC	-	-	-	-	
2	TBBC (for Halockhani)					
TOTAL		-	-	-	-	



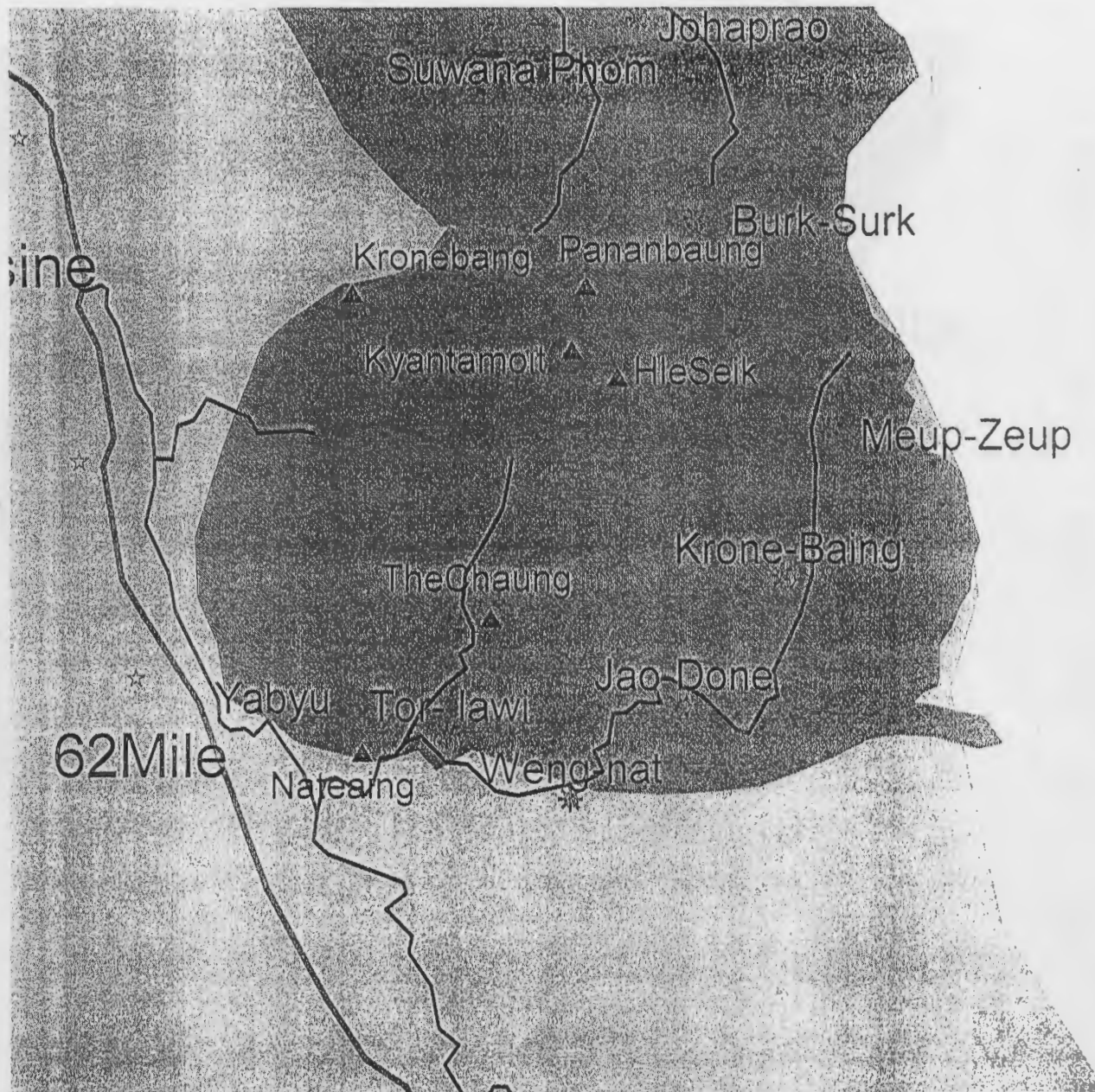
- * Resettlement site,shp.shp
- ▲ Idps villages.shp
- ~ Rivers.shp
- ⑤ Villages.shp
- ~ Roads_bbc.shp
- Cities_bbc.shp
- Railroads.shp
- ☆ Spdc06.shp
- Ceasefire06.shp
- Ks area.shp
- Country.shp

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5

10 Miles

Map of Tavoy District and Tavoy Resettlement Site (Feb, 2008)



- * Resettlement site,shp.shp
- ▲ Idps villages.shp
- ~ Rivers.shp
- Villages.shp
- ⋈ Roads_bbc.shp
- Cities_bbc.shp
- +— Railroads.shp
- ☆ Spdc06.shp
- Ceasefire06.shp
- Ks area.shp
- Country.shp

