

Overall, as of 10 January 2021, 181,400 people remain internally displaced in southeast Myanmar (89,300 in Kayah, 74,400 in Kayin, 7,200 in Mon, and 1,500 in Tanintharyi). IDPs are in urgent need of humanitarian assistance. Local partners have been providing critical assistance to the extent possible. Several humanitarian partners have suspended their operations since last December due to the security situation. Others, who are still operating are still facing access constraints which are stopping them reaching IDPs and other affected people in these contested areas due security and military checkpoints and lack of travel authorizations.

Humanitarian Needs & Response

Kayah – Loikaw, Demoso, Shadaw

- Essential needs for those newly displaced include shelter, food, water, non-food items including warm clothes, sanitation services and medicine. More than 2,000 of the IDPs who were displaced into southern Shan need food. Women and girls need dignity kits and clean delivery kits.
- IDPs and civilians remaining in Loikaw are in need of physical safety and protection services. Partners are coordinating to provide essential relief items in areas that can be reached by humanitarian agencies, primarily those displaced in Taunggyi township, southern Shan, as well as some limited assistance to those in other nearby townships. Small quantities of food, shelter, NFIs and dignity kits have already been provided. The majority of the assistance provided to date in southern Shan has come from local communities, civil society or community-based organizations (CSOs and CBOs), churches and monasteries.
- An emergency Kayah Interagency Coordination Group meeting will be held in the coming days to gather a greater understanding of needs, gaps and response capacities.

Kayin – Myawaddy and Kawkeriek

- Newly displaced people need food, clean water, warm clothes, shelter materials, sanitation facilities including latrines, and psychosocial support.
- Displaced people in Thailand are in urgent need of protection.
- Some limited support is being provided by CSO and CBO networks in terms of basic shelter, non-food items, and food.

Gaps & Challenges

Kayah

- Most of the UN and NGO community has been forced to evacuate their staff from Loikaw city to safety in southern Shan and elsewhere in Kayah.
- Many CSOs and CBOs that are normally based in Loikaw have been displaced along with local residents.
- While agencies have managed to respond to some IDPs in southern Shan, there is extremely limited access to IDPs in Loikaw and Demoso townships due to insecurity.

Kayin

- There is very limited access to displaced and conflict-affected communities in Myawaddy and Kawkeriek townships due to insecurity and lack of travel authorizations from Hpa-An. To date, most of the assistance has been provided by CSO and CBO networks only which have limited resources.
- Mobile networks have been disabled across the area, hindering communication with affected communities and response efforts more generally.

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