**COVID-19 Outbreak Response Coordination Group for the 9 temporary shelters along the Thai-Myanmar border (Provincial Level) Tak**

**11th Meeting, 11 May 2020 10:00 – 11:30**

**Participants**: Madalena Hogg, Nikola Errington (UNHCR), Somsak Thanaborikan (Chair), Preeyaluk Thanaborikon, Atchara Chan-O-Kul (IRC), Maggi Quadrini (KWO), Kelly Labrorekkasuk (ADRA), Art Srikeeratikarn (TBC)

1. Review of Action Points

* See updated Action Item Tracker

1. Situation Overview (UNHCR/IRC)

* 146 Thai nationals have returned from Myanmar through the 2nd Friendship Bridge as of 8 May.
* Some reports that migrant workers are still crossing despite the border still remaining closed- 290 repoted in the media, 100 on 8 May, the first movements took place 1-2 May and was halted pending bilateral GOUM-RTG discussions. Some other rumours of migrant workers who had already returned to Myanmar coming back to Thailand unofficially.
* Situation of COVID-19 in Thailand- 5 new cases as of yesterday - in Bangkok and southern Thailand, three foreigners amongst them.
* Tak is one of 45 provinces with no new cases in the last 28 days.

1. Surveillance, Case investigation and Outbreak Rapid Response (IRC)

* No suspected or confirmed cases in any camps along the border.
* Number of ARI cases is going down, 31 Umpium, 46 Nupo and 78 Mae La.
* Working with CDC/SMRU for testing in MHS. With support from CDC, IRC will be working closely with SMRU to strengthen COVID-19 Surveillance and Case Management for Thailand’s Burmese Myanmar Refugee Population. The activities including testig and management of isolation capacity in the camps which will be first piloting in MHS and TAK
* Community surveillance remains a challenge - particularly in Mae La, people are still going out for daily work and don’t want to disclose when they return for health screenings. CWHs know generally when someone is not in their house as they are constantly updating their demographic data. The last two weeks there has been an ongoing issue but numbers are not high.
  + AP: IRC to share numbers of these types of cases.

1. Infection Prevention Control (IRC)

* No update

1. Risk Communication and Community Engagement (ADRA)

* IRC requested updated information on the content of hygiene kits and whether they contain soap. Noted that bleach was included in MHS, but has now been removed for 7 camps. ADRA confirmed that the hygiene kits will contain soap.
* It was noted that SCI is also going to distribute hygiene kits but it is not clear who is coordinating the distribution plan (use of TBC warehouse has been requested by SCI and they need to inform staff/camp committee).
* IRC has projected some funding for soap distribution for all population. However, the quantity of soap is only 1 soap bar of 80 grams per person. Since RCCE WG is taking leading roles for hygiene kits distribution which soap is incuidng, IRC would like to collaborate with RCCE WG but there was not clear about distribution plan and focal person. Therefore, IRC would like to discuss in detail on the plan and how does IRC can collaborate.
  + AP: For follow-up at national level, overview of composition of hygiene kits, numbers and distribution plans and the focal point to be clarified at local level.
* ADRA is conducting training for teachers on prevention messaging and will be involved in hygiene kit distribtution, inline with home visit guidance.
* Masks update - SVA is distributeing to their staff 800.
* Distribution done last week in Mae La and Nupo by ADRA - by VT and other sewers and KWO.
* IRC requested a timeline to be inserted into the RCCE workplan to ensure implementation.
  + AP: Feedback to be given to RCCE WG for workplan to be updated with a timeline.

1. Food Assistance

* No issue of food shortage of food, things continuing as normal.
* In Mae La price of rice has increased - last month 18THB and now 19THB, Umpium and Nupo remain the same price as last month for broken rice.
* FCSWGs are monitoring closely the conduct of food card vendors following reports of some unscrupulous business practices, all complaints followed up.
* TBC is still doing COVID-19 awareness prevention, producing video to send to the camps asked a famous Karen actress to do a video about what is COVID-19 and how the community can work together. Will broadcast over the loudspeaker and use Youtube, TBC website.
* People, especially youth feel stressed about not being able to leave the camps - Camp Committee is organizing a drawing competition in Mae La.
* The 3+6 months supply of food should be in place by the end of May. 6,000 sacks of rice have been delivered to to Mae La and there is another 6,000 being delivered this week.

5. Protection & Advocacy (UNHCR)

* Quarantine issue in Umpium remains pending - still over 100 individuals outside of the camp and the capacity of suitable quarantine areas is shrinking given the heavy rain that has set in. UNHCR will follow-up with Palad for more flexible approach in the first instance and then further as needed with DO/Governor.

Feedback from the PWG:

* COERR presented on the situation of the Elderly in the Tak camps during the PWG meeting of 8 May highlighting that access to food was a key challenge during the COVID-19 period – for those who live alone they rely on friends/family/neighbours to bring food to them which is a challenge with some mobility restrictions in the camps. Others may rely on food being supplemented by others, the lack of income coming into their extended network due to the restrictions on livelihoods is also affecting this additional support being provided.
* KSNG highlighted the concerns of youth regarfing education and when the school year will start. They are continuing to share information through the Messenger via the Camp Information Teams (CIT) and through online radio.
* The need for strengthened psycho-social support has been raised by multiple agencies in the last week particularly as it pertains to frontline workers (security/health) and NGO staff – it is understood that the Psycho-social WG has been active and IRC will be developing tools and guidance to support refugees, camp-based staff and NGO staff.
* UNHCR shared an overview of Protection monitoring and Hotline Activities for the past 6 weeks through the dashboard – 685 individuals reached, approximately around 100 per week. The key issues raised are related to freedom of movement, food, quarantine, safety and security, awareness of COVID-19, child protection and other assistance/services issues.
* Concerns were raised related to livelihood as refugees cannot go out of the camp to work, increments in school fee, an increment on food prices, shortage of water and food, problems at the quarantine centres due to rainfall were raised through the focal points.
* For joint protection monitoring – the draft SOP is finalised and agreement that the PWG will be the forum for sharing any relevant updates on the key topics on the impacts of livelihoods and the impact on children/youth. UNHCR ‘s remote protection monitoring will also feed into this. The findings can then be compiled.

 Other protection issues:

* Reports of SGBV  - same in Mae La, but decreasing in Umpium and Nupo – this doesn’t mean not happening (in fact may not be) means reporting may be more of a challenge
* Rules in camps related to people gathering are being strictly monitored still - fines implemented for those gathering for a wedding last week.
* Prevention/awareness raising with camp security/MAT members is done, handwashing station being installed at detention/MAT office.

**Next meeting: Monday 18 May @ 10:00am**