

# Mae Ra Ma Luang Temporary Shelter

Profile



September 2017

## Verified Population\* - September 2017

10,541

## Population profile

### Gender

Female 50% Male 50%

### Age

18 years and above: 53%

5-17 years: 34%

Below 5 years: 13%

### Ethnicity

Karen 99% Other 1%

### Religion

Christian 73% Buddhist 23% Animist 2% Other 2%

*\*According to Verification Exercise conducted from Jan-Apr 2015 and subsequent changes in population*

## Governance

The Ministry of Interior (MOI) is responsible for administration in nine camps. Mae Ra Ma Luang Camp Commander is the Deputy District Officer of Sob Moei District. A refugee Camp Committee is directly involved in camp governance, and received support from the Karen Refugee Committee.

Territory Defense Volunteers, known as Or Sors, are employed and trained by the MOI to provide internal camp security.

## Background

Mae Ra Ma Luang was opened in February 1995 to host the influx of ethnic Karen refugees displaced into Thailand following the fall of Karen National Union Headquarter in Manerplaw. The camp population is largely of agrarian background, and from Hpa-pun Township of Kayin State, Myanmar.

Mae Ra Ma Luang and Mae La Oon are the most remote of all nine camps along the Thai-Myanmar border.

## Location

Mae Ra Ma Luang camp is in Sob Moei District, Mae Hong Son Province, approximately 10 km. from the Thai-Myanmar border and 76 km. from Mae Sariang. It has a surface area of 316 acres (1.28 sq.km.).



## Voluntary Repatriation

Given the significant political and security changes taking place in Myanmar, preparedness for voluntary repatriation (VolRep) began in early 2012. Planning for VolRep has steadily increased following positive events such as the signing of the Nationwide Ceasefire Agreement in October 2015 and the General Election in November 2015 which led to the formation of the new civilian government led by National League for Democracy (NLD). In order to support the preparedness for voluntary repatriation of refugees who reside in the nine temporary shelters, various tools and activities have been developed and carried out in close consultation with NGOs and the refugee community.

## UNHCR Activities

- Facilitate the repatriation of persons who voluntarily want to return to Myanmar
- Ensure access to asylum, legal, material and physical protection
- Work towards the elimination of sexual and gender-based violence and improve the quality of response
- Ensure child protection through the promotion and application of the Child Protection Framework

## Key Repatriation Activities

- Facilitated return including protection counseling support for persons with specific needs, mine risk education, organized transport, cash and NFI assistance
- Outreach activities e.g. focus group discussions, public forums and film screening
- Physical dissemination of information materials
- Stakeholders meetings
- Support for "Go and See" visit among the refugee community
- Cross-border dialogue through joint workshops, meetings and "Come and Tell visits"

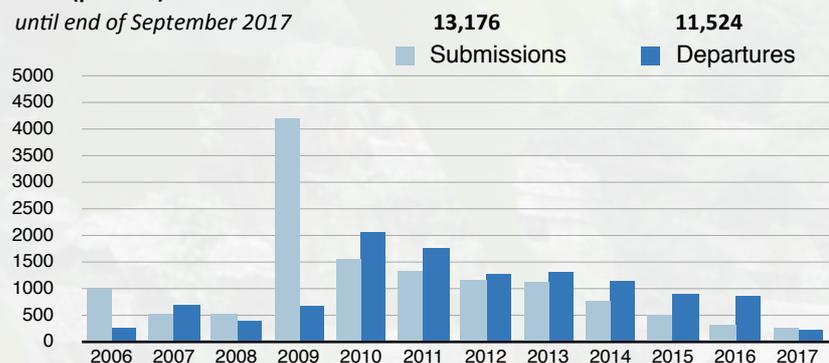
## Facilitated return figures as of September 2017

| Departed    |          | Pending Departure |          |
|-------------|----------|-------------------|----------|
| Individuals | Families | Individuals       | Families |
| 0           | 0        | 0                 | 0        |

## Resettlement Statistics

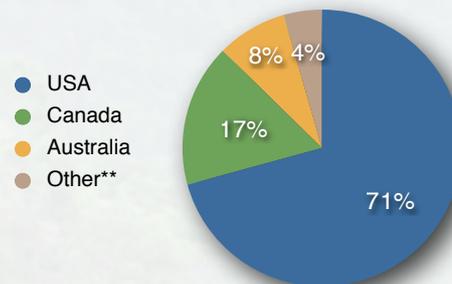
### Total (persons)

until end of September 2017



## Departures by Country of Resettlement

until end of September 2017



\*\*Norway, New Zealand, Netherlands, Sweden and Japan

## Humanitarian Organizations

|  |   |
|--|---|
| <b>Health</b>  |   |
| • Health services  | Malteser International (MI)                               |
| • Reproductive health services                                 | Planned Parenthood Association of Thailand (PPAT)         |
| <b>Water, Hygiene &amp; Sanitation</b>                         |   |
| • Sanitation   | Malteser International (MI)                               |
| <b>Protection and Community Services</b>                       |   |
| • Drug and alcohol abuse prevention                            | Drug and Alcohol Recovery and Education Network (DARE)    |
| • Life development skills for children                         | Right to Play (RTP)                                       |
| • Child protection, assistance for vulnerable individuals      | Catholic Office for Emergency Relief and Refugees (COERR) |
| • Prosthesis, disability social inclusion                      | Handicap International (HI)                               |
| • Mine risk education for voluntary repatriation               |   |
| • SGBV prevention and response                                 | American Refugee Committee (ARC)                          |
| <b>Registration</b>  |   |
| • Registration and Status Determination                        | Ministry of Interior (MOI)                                |
| <b>Shelter</b>   |   |
| • Repair materials for shelters                                | The Border Consortium (TBC)                               |
| <b>Non-Food Items (NFIs)</b>                                   |   |
| • NFI distribution   | The Border Consortium (TBC)                               |
| • NFI distribution for voluntary repatriation                  | International Organization for Migration (IOM)            |
| <b>Food and Nutrition</b>                                      |   |
| • Food distribution  | The Border Consortium (TBC)                               |
| <b>Livelihoods</b>   |   |
| • Agriculture, entrepreneurship and marketing for preparedness | The Border Consortium (TBC)                               |
| • Livelihood and rehabilitation                                | Handicap International (HI)                               |
| • Agricultural and animal raising project                      | Catholic Office for Emergency Relief and Refugees (COERR) |
| <b>Education</b>   |   |
| • School supplies, infrastructure                              | Adventist Development & Relief Agency (ADRA)              |
| • Education, in-service teacher training                       | Save The Children (STC)                                   |
| • Educational libraries  | Shanti Volunteer Association (SVA)                        |
| • Non-formal learning class (NFL)                              | Right to Play (RTP)                                       |
| • Awareness raising  | Film Aid  |
| <b>Resettlement</b>  |   |
| • Post-approval resettlement services                          | International Organization for Migration (IOM)            |
| • The US resettlement service                                  | IRC Resettlement Support Center (IRC-RSC)                 |

UNHCR financially supported

For updated sectoral information from Mae Ra Ma Luang Camp, please consult: <https://www.unhcr.or.th> and <http://www.commonservice.info>