

CAMBODIA

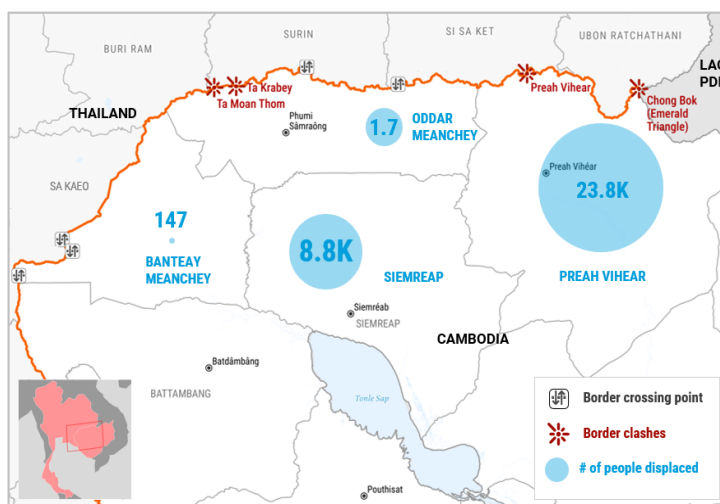
Situation Report 4: Cambodia-Thailand Border Situation

Cambodia Humanitarian Response Forum – 22 August 2025

This report is produced by Humanitarian Response Forum (HRF) in collaboration with humanitarian partners. It covers the period from 15 to 22 August. The next report is scheduled to be published on 29 August.

Situation and Impact

Four weeks after the escalation of hostilities between Cambodia and Thai armed forces on 24 July, the number of displaced people continues to fluctuate due to ongoing insecurity, with a slight increase in the number of displaced people reported the past week. According to the National Committee of Disaster Management (NCDM), from a low of 29,699 displaced people on 13 August, following the 8 August General Border Committee meeting and subsequent 13-point cease-fire agreement, on 21 August the number of displaced people increased to 34,552 people, representing a 14 per cent increase. Of the total number of those displaced, 28,442 people are in 51 remaining displacement sites, while 6,110 people are hosted with friends and family. Most displacement sites are in Siem Reap province (29 sites), followed by Preah Vihear (19 sites), Oddar Meanchey (two sites) and Banteay Meanchey province (one site), Preah Vihear hosts the highest number of displaced people (23,840), followed by Siem Reap (8,807). Meanwhile, according to the National Committee for Counter Trafficking, the number of economic migrants returning to Cambodia from Thailand increased to 870,521 people; a concern as a primary source of income is cut, and savings and family support dwindle, leading to possible negative coping mechanisms by household members.



The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations. Sources: Humanitarian partners, Key figures – Ministry of Defense | <https://response.reliefweb.int/cambodia>

With some displacement likely to continue, humanitarian partners are taking a two-pronged approach; 1) continued support to vulnerable households in remaining displacement sites and, 2) early recovery response planning and implementation for displaced families returning to areas of origin and those households of economic migrants returning from Thailand. Early recovery will focus on households returning to damaged or destroyed homes, schools, health centers and livelihood assets.

In the coming week, with the situation likely to remain fluid, humanitarian partners will continue to work with national and subnational authorities in monitoring population movements, identifying where the most critical needs remain and in ensuring all efforts by humanitarian partners complement the wider response effort of the Government. Meanwhile the focus will shift to early recovery and needs assessments and interventions, with continued support to vulnerable households that remain displaced.

34,552

Total people
Displaced
(NCDM - 21 Aug)

28,442

People in 52 evacuation
centres
(NCDM - 21 Aug)

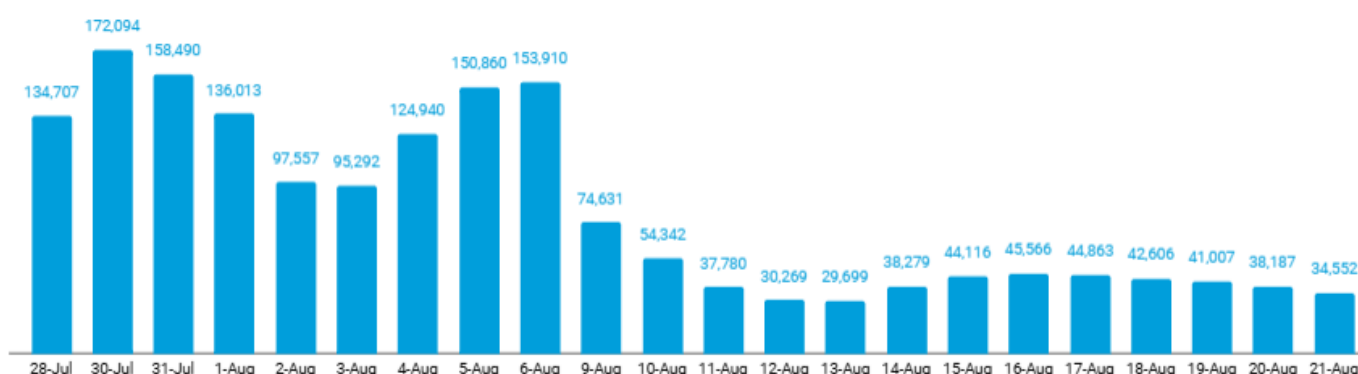
6,110

People hosted
with families
(NCDM - 21 Aug)

870,521

Total people
returned from Thailand
(NCCT - 21 Aug)

Number of people displaced from 28 July to 21 August



Humanitarian Needs and Response

Humanitarian partners, under the overall coordination of the HRF, are mobilizing a humanitarian response to complement efforts by the NCDM. Needs assessments were launched to fill key information gaps necessary to develop a response, with a joint multi-sectoral early recovery needs assessment expected to begin on 26 August. In the meantime, partners are using in-country stocks to meet immediate needs of remaining displaced households and mobilizing external resources to focus on displacement and early recovery interventions.

According to the 5W monitoring tool, as of 21 August, some 147,500 people received some assistance from 24 July by 27 member organizations of the HRF. Most people were reached through WASH interventions, followed by Food Security and Nutrition, and Shelter. The majority of people who received assistance were in Preah Vihear province (69,875 people), followed by Oddar Meanchey (49,019) and Banteay Meanchey province (13,030 people).

Education

Needs

- As of 18 August, 94 schools, including pre-schools, primary and secondary schools remain closed, affecting 785 teachers and 19,631 girls and boys in communities across Preah Vihear, Oddar Meanchey and Banteay Meanchey provinces.
- Despite some schools reopening, only some 70 per cent of students have returned to classes.
- Seven school buildings, five in Oddar Meanchey and two Preh Vihear, were severely damaged by artillery during border hostilities.

Response

- World Vision (WVI) continues to run reading camps and recreational activities facilitated by youth volunteers in 20 displacement sites in Preah Vihear and Siem Reap provinces.
- WVI, in collaboration with Fountain of Wisdom, distributed 936 children's reading books to displacement sites in Preah Vihear.
- WVI, in collaboration with the Provincial Office of Education in Preah Vihear, is supporting 15 child-friendly spaces, where children aged 3 to 5 receive designated early childhood lessons under the guidance and support of a preschool teacher.
- To support learning recovery and address learning loss caused by school closure, UNICEF is printing Home Learning Package (HLP) and other learning materials to distribute to affected schools benefiting 9,000 grade 1-3 students. The HLP materials will help students' self-learning during the school holiday and prepare them to attend their classes in the coming school year starting on 1 November.

- Caritas Cambodia established 10 classrooms, 12 libraries and 12 child friendly spaces in displacement sites in Preah Vihear, Oddar Meanchey and Siem Reap provinces.

Food Security, Nutrition and Livelihoods

Needs

- No immediate food shortages, but continued availability of food, including nutritious food, is a concern,
- Food and hygiene needs for over 1,000 prisoners evacuated from a prison along the border in Oddar Meanchey province to a prison in Siem Reap.

Response

- World Vision, together with Dr Heus and the Coca Cola Foundation, distributed 535 food and non-food kits and 1,200 cases of Dasani water to families in displacement sites in Preah Vihear.
- UNICEF, together with the National Nutrition Program and MCH program, provincial health departments in Preah Vihear, Oddar Meanchey, and Siem Reap provinces will extend the screening children with acute malnutrition in displacement sites (2 sites in Oddar Meanchey, 15 in Preah Vihear, and 10 in Siem Reap) from 22-27 August. The number of sites may be reduced in some areas due to ongoing returns.
- On 28-31 August, DCA will conduct Post Distribution Monitoring with some of the 153 households who received unconditional cash assistance on 4-7 August.

Health

Needs

- 21 public health care facilities remain non-operational.
- Though health facilities and services are established in many sites, health promotion activities and Information, Education and Communication (IEC) materials are lacking, including those for communicable diseases, reproductive health, environmental hygiene, mental health, and immunization.
- Coordination of data (information management) and service gap tracking within and across provincial health departments remains a challenge.
- Provision of early rehabilitation services and assistive products in Ministry of Health (MoH) health facilities for people who were injured during hostilities.
- Systematic referral of cases from MoH hospitals to the Ministry of Social Affairs, Veterans and Youth Rehabilitation (MosVY) Physical Rehabilitation Centres for long term rehabilitation and provision of assistive products such as prosthetics, wheelchairs and orthotics.
- Sexual and reproductive health and rights, maternal and newborn healthcare.
- Psychological and mental health services for displaced people, healthcare and other frontline workers.
- Restoration of essential health services in affected communities as part of early recovery.
- Identification of immediate and long-term needs for the large number of economic migrants who returned.
- Capacity assessment of the health system to absorb additional demand on services of returning migrants and affected families.
- On 20 August, the National Immunization Programme (NIP) and WHO received a report from Preah Vihear Provincial Health Department (PHD) about six suspected measles cases (2 cases are under 15 years of age) detected in the Wat Toul Andeth displacement site. The cases are being managed at the onsite primary care clinic. NIP and PHD conducted contact tracing in 15 displacement sites in Preah Vihear province and no additional suspected measles cases detected as of 20 August.

Response

- On 20 August, under the leadership of NIP/MoH and Preah Vihear Provincial Health Department (PHD), 538 children (6 months to 15 years) were vaccinated with the MR vaccine at the Wat Por 5000 and Wat Toul Andeth

displacement sites. There are also plans to support mass measles vaccinations in the remaining sites in the province.

- UNICEF printed over 45,800 copies of SBC materials on maternal, new-born and child health and immunization in progress for health education sessions at sites in Preah Vihear and Oddar Meanchey.
- UNICEF conducted capacity building on Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS) to social service providers (120 district social workers and monks) through TPO followed by on-going MHPSS support for level 1 (self-care) and level 2 (informal care) in sites in Preah Vihear and Siem Reap. There are ongoing capacity building plans for health staff and mental health counselors to provide Psychological First Aid and Primary Health Care (PHC) support in Preah Vihear and Siem Reap provinces.
- Exceed Cambodia delivered 30 pairs of axillary crutches for inpatient rehabilitation in two provincial hospitals in Preah Vihear and Oddar Meanchey provinces.
- In coordination with the Department of International Cooperation and the MoH, a rapid rehabilitation care needs assessment for casualties related to border hostilities was conducted by Exceed Cambodia with support from DFAT's ACCESS2 and technical input from WHO.
- Caritas Cambodia held awareness raising sessions in displacement sites on PHC and psychosocial health and produced IEC materials on PHC, guidelines on child friendly space, and psychosocial health in the three provinces of Preah Vihear, Oddar Meanchey and Siem Reap. It also conducted a Psychosocial Assessment, counselling sessions and referral support to mental health services for severe trauma cases.

Protection

Needs

- Systematic follow-up on the needs and challenges of children returning from Thailand. Urgent assessment is required to better understand their situation and provide an appropriate response.
- Continued provision of counseling and trauma services to displaced people, including children.
- Enhance gender-based violence referral pathways and awareness on available support.
- Early recovery activities to support people who have returned home.
- Preparedness for any subsequent secondary displacement.
- Enhanced safeguarding mechanisms in displacement sites.

Response

- World Vision, through its volunteers in 18 active Child-Friendly Spaces in the provinces of Preah Vihear and Siem Reap led interactive sessions on the principle of “Safety for All” for children and caregivers to raise awareness about safeguarding practices and encourage respectful behavior in all interactions.
- Plan International Cambodia provided psychoeducation sessions to 70 parents and caregivers, including 57 women, in displacement sites. These sessions aimed to enhance the understanding of mental health, emotional well-being, and positive parenting practices to contribute to a more supportive and nurturing environment for children affected by displacement.
- The child friendly spaces run by Plan International Cambodia continue to operate in displacement sites, having created a safe and engaging environment for 755 children, including 376 girls. Through activities such as drawing, storytelling, physical exercises, and games, the spaces support children's psychosocial well-being, encourage creative expression, and foster a sense of normalcy amid displacement.
- From 19-21 August, UNICEF provided Psychological First Aid training in Siem Reap province to 36 monks from Oddar Meanchey province to provide emergency PSS to children and families.
- UNICEF is working with the Ministry of Women's Affairs, the Ministry of Interior and MoSVY to co-create messages on MHPSS, Safeguarding, PSEA and reporting channels. Educational materials will be distributed to government partners and CSOs partners in displacement sites and affected communities in Preah Vihear, Oddar Meanchey, Banteay Meanchey and Siem Reap provinces.
- In response to the border dispute and displacement of vulnerable households, UNICEF supported the continuity of the National Social Assistance Family Package Programme. Key interventions included facilitating the cash-out process and implementing the relaxed conditionalities for two core schemes: the Cash Transfer for Pregnant Women and Children under 2 and the Cash Transfer for School Children, critical to maintaining access to financial assistance for affected households, especially those facing disruptions in

their living conditions and access to services. As a result of these efforts, the programme successfully reached 50,805 households, benefiting a total of 78,661 individuals.

- Caritas Cambodia provided orientation on the important topic such as security, inclusion, Sphere standard, child protection guideline, safeguarding and complaint handling policy, Humanitarian and Accountability, Support Prevention materials and first aid kit and Consolidate feedback mechanism.

Shelter/ NFIs

Needs

- A more comprehensive package, beyond the provision of a single waterproof roofing sheet. Additional supplies are needed to set up proper walls and waterproof ground matting, including NFIs, cooking utensils and hygiene kits.
- Understanding of the number of displaced people to remain in displacement sites in the medium and long term, to better tailor the response.

Response

- IOM provided 300 emergency kits containing shelter materials, NFIs and hygiene supplies to 100 internally displaced families in displacement sites in Siem Reap province and plans to distribute the same essential relief kits to an additional 100 displaced families residing in displacement sites.
- Caritas Cambodia provided emergency shelter items in Preah Vihear, Oddar Meanchey and Siem Reap provinces including 750 plastic sheets (4mx6m), 200 plastic sheets, (3.50m x6.20m), 700 small mobile tents, and installed 62 site shelters (5m x6m x3m) and 120 solar lights in displacement sites.

WASH

Needs

- Appropriate sanitation facilities, safe drinking water/water containers, hygiene supplies and community awareness in remaining displacement sites.

Response

- WVI continues to support maintenance checks for all mobile latrines, water treatment systems, and water storage tanks installed at 56 displacement sites. These are benefiting 11,727 families (51,236 people) in Preah Vihear, Siem Reap, and Banteay Meanchey provinces. WVI has also updated its WASH response plan to cover a longer stay of 60 to 90 days in displacement sites and to support the early recovery of families returning home.
- World Vision, in collaboration with youth volunteers at 20 displacement sites in Preah Vihear and Siem Reap, continues to conduct awareness sessions focused on hygiene promotion. Children and caregivers receive guidance on personal hygiene, including proper handwashing techniques, safe sanitation practices, and the importance of maintaining clean living environments to prevent illness.
- Plan International Cambodia, in partnership with Unilever Cambodia, and in collaboration with the Provincial Governments and Provincial Departments of Rural Development, distributed 5,000 personal care and hygiene kits (containing six items per kit) to 5,000 families across 12 IDP sites in Preah Vihear and Siem Reap provinces. Additionally, Plan International Cambodia provided six portable “life straw” water filters with 25-liter capacities, constructed two water stands, and three handwashing stations in three sites in Preah Vihear province. Plan continues to monitor the functionality of these temporary latrines, handwashing stations, and water filters.
- FH Cambodia provided 1,447 bars of soap, 722 units of shampoo, 722 packs of sanitation pad, and 250 water filters, to displaced families in Wat Phnom Kambaor site in Banteay Ampil district, Oddar Meanchey province.

- Caritas Cambodia installed 16 mobile latrines and 10 handwashing stations and provided 4,000 hygiene kits (body soap-4 pieces, women sanitary pad-1 box, washing soap-1/2 kg) and 4,495 water containers in Preah Vihear, Oddar Meanchey and Siem Reap provinces.
- UNICEF is preparing to procure additional WASH supplies and plans to support WASH in communities, schools, and healthcare facilities. Oddar Meanchey and Preah Vihear provinces will be prioritized. To prepare for intervention at the ground, UNICEF is registering a new partnership with PDRD Oddar Meanchey and PDRD Siem Reap (an existing partnership with PDRD Preah Vihear is in place).

Coordination

The humanitarian response is coordinated under the HRF, co-led by WFP and DCA, with the leadership of the NCDM and provincial authorities. Ad-hoc HRF Sector Co-Leads and Sector meetings are taking place on a weekly basis, with [5W response monitoring tools](#), assessment and requests for assistance registries in place to track the ongoing response. When required, the Humanitarian Country Team equivalent meets to provide strategic direction to the HRF.

As part of early recovery efforts and the need to gain a better understanding of the humanitarian needs of displaced people returning to their areas of origin, the HRF and sector co-leads are finalizing a multi-sectoral early recovery needs assessment form to identify needs and design response activities. In coordination with the NCDM, joint assessment teams will launch the assessments in Oddar Meanchey and Preah Vihear provinces from 26-30 August. This assessment is expected to complement a wider and more in-depth socio-economic assessment being developed by development partners for affected areas and communities.

As part of early recovery efforts, the Cash Working Group, co-led by WVI and UNICEF, was also reactivated, and will include organizations that are currently implementing, or plan to, cash-based interventions. The group will look at harmonizing transfer values, monitor market prices and ensure linkages with authorities, as cash distributions are being considered via social protection mechanisms.

Assessments

- 19-21 August, UNICEF and the Child Protection Department of the Ministry of Social Affairs Veterans and Youth Rehabilitation conducted a joint Child Protection Assessment in Banteay Meanchey, Oddar Meanchey and Preah Vihear provinces. Different protection partners contributed to and joined the assessment, including Save the Children, WVI, Plan International, UNFPA, Friends International, Caritas Cambodia, Chap Dai, and ADRA.
- On 19–20 August, People in Need conducted a remote assessment with local authorities of Oddar Meanchey and Preah Vihear provinces to gather their perspectives and understanding of the needs of displaced people in sites, as well as those who have returned to their villages, from a recovery standpoint.
- 19-21 August: UNICEF supported child protection assessment on the impact of border hostilities on children in Preah Vihear, Oddar Meanchey, and Banteay Meanchey provinces. Finding will be used to inform the response.
- 22-23 August, The Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MoFA) and International Cooperation is conducting a field visit to Banteay Meanchey, Oddar Meanchey and Siem Reap provinces with the Diplomatic Corps and international NGOs involved in demining activities. This follows a briefing held by MoFA on demining on 21 August in Phnom Penh.
- **Upcoming:** 26-30 August, the joint “Early Recovery Multi-Sectoral Rapid Assessment for IDPs” will assess areas of return with HRF members to identify needs and service delivery gaps, inform coordinated GEDSI response plans and mobilize resources. Compared to sectoral assessments, the added value of a Multi-Sectoral Rapid Assessment is to provide a shared understanding of the situation and guide strategic decision-making, benefiting from different expertise, and capitalizing on mutual resources.

For further information, please contact: HRF secretariat, cambodia.hrf@wfp.org. Product developed with support from UNOCHA