

DURABLE PEACE PROGRAMME

Baseline Report



Kachin, Myanmar
June 2016

Cover Photo: Dustin Barter, Oxfam & Nang Seng, KBC

This report is produced by the Durable Peace Programme Consortium.

Acknowledgements:

First and foremost, thank you to all interviewees that participated in the survey. Their willingness to give their time and discuss sensitive issues made this research possible. This research was achieved through the extensive contributions and expertise from the entire Durable Peace Programme consortium, including Kachin Baptist Convention, Karuna Myanmar Social Solidarity, Metta Development Foundation, Nyein Foundation, Oxfam, SwissAid and Trocaire, in addition to their partners for the Durable Peace Programme, namely Airavati, BRIDGE, Candlelight Mobile Library Team, Kachin Development Group, Kachin Relief and Development Committee, Kachin Urban Rural Mission, Kachin Women's Peace Network, Kachin Women's Association, Mingalar Development Foundation, Myitkyina Lisu Baptist Association, Pyoe Community Based Organisation, Namkyeo Prahita Foundation, Naushawng Education Network, RANIR, Sindun Network Group, Uak Thon Local Social Development Organisation, Women's Group and Wunpawng Ninghtoi.

Thank you to all staff and volunteers for all of your extensive contributions and commitment.

Contact:

Oxfam

No. 34 Corner of Aung Taw Mu Lane & Golden Hill Avenue.

Bahan Township. Yangon, Myanmar.

Ph. (95) 01539986

www.oxfam.org.uk/myanmar

worldcitizenspanel@oxfamnovib.nl

This publication has been produced with the assistance of the European Union. The contents of this publication are the sole responsibility of the Durable Peace Programme Consortium and can in no way be taken to reflect the views of the European Union.



Contents

Acronyms	3
Key Definitions	3
Executive Summary	4
Introduction	5
Kachin Context	6
Programme Context	8
Survey Results	9
General Overview	10
Socioeconomic Situation	12
Food Security	14
Conflict and Security	15
Peace Process: Opportunity, Participation and Influence	18
Gender-Specific Questions	24
Return and Resettlement	26
Linkages to Authorities	29
Trust	29
Future: Peace and Development	30
Shelter	31
Health	32
Conclusions	33
Implications and Discussion Points	35
Annex One: Methodology	35
References	37

Acronyms

DPP	Durable Peace Programme
Fem	Female
GBV	Gender-based Violence
GCA	(Myanmar) Government controlled area
IDP	Internally-displaced person
KCA	KIO controlled area
KIO/A	Kachin Independence Organisation/Army
NGCA	non (Myanmar) Government Controlled Area
NGO	Non-government organisation
UXO	Unexploded ordinance
WCP	World Citizens Panel

Key Definitions

KCA/NGCA and GCA

There is some contestation over the terms used to describe areas controlled by the Kachin Independence Organisation (KIO) with some preferring 'KIO-controlled' and others preferring 'non-government-controlled.' Throughout this report, the term 'GCA' refers to Government (of Myanmar)-controlled areas and 'KCA/NGCA' refers to KIO-controlled / non-government-controlled areas. Although unwieldy, KCA/NGCA is utilised for neutrality.

Non-IDP

Non-internally-displaced person (IDP) refers to both host communities (those that are hosting IDPs) and conflict-affected communities – essentially those who have not been displaced.

Youth

Youth are defined as 15-24 years old, in accordance with the United Nations' definition, and for the ease of disaggregating data. However, only people aged above 18 were involved in the survey.

Executive Summary

The topics of this baseline survey and report are guided by the activities of the programme that it forms a part of, namely the Durable Peace Programme (DPP). As the DPP delivers a broad range of activities, this report also covers many topics, outlined in the table of contents. The consortium has decided to share the results of this baseline, as it provides insights into the Kachin context for interested stakeholders, and also to encourage cooperation and information sharing. Considering the large amount of collected data, we have adopted a highly visual approach to the presentation to this report.

Main findings of the baseline include:

- IDPs are substantially worse off than non-IDPs across nearly all indicators, such as socioeconomic status, access to information and overall wellbeing indicators. For example, 88.6% of non-IDPs respond positively about their level of happiness compared to only 32.4% of IDPs. Overall, the data suggests that displacement is connected to negative outcomes.
- There is acute inequality between IDPs, highlighting the extreme vulnerability of the poorest IDPs. This is particularly evident in breakdowns of income, food savings and monetary savings. For example, the monthly income of the wealthiest quartile of IDPs is over 25 times the monthly income of the poorest quartile of IDPs. Inequality is also high, but less pronounced, for non-IDPs.
- Both IDPs and non-IDPs have very limited information about the peace process and even more limited opportunities to participate in and influence the peace process.
- KCA/NGCA IDPs consistently report better linkages with local (KIO) authorities than GCA IDPs with Myanmar Government authorities, such as in terms of service delivery and including community issues in the peace process. There are other notable differences between KCA/NGCA IDPs and GCA IDPs throughout many survey questions, such as KCA/NGCA IDPs feeling safer.
- Although the situation experienced by IDPs is reported as largely negative, there appear to be some positives such as IDPs indicating a better understanding of gender-based violence (GBV) than non-IDPs.
- There is a trend of female IDPs being worse off than male IDPs. Attitudes towards and prevalence of GBV are of particular concern.
- There are minimal differences in the results between youth IDPs and non-youth IDPs, except for some areas, such as income.
- Overall, IDPs are very uncertain about the future, both in terms of peace and their own household's future development, whereas non-IDPs are more confident about a positive future.

Through the baseline research process, some key recommendations have emerged:



IDPs most often stated preference is to return home rather than resettle; advocacy and processes for durable solutions should reflect that preference. Peace and a safe environment are critical for return.



Responding to high levels of inequality, concerted effort must be made to support the most vulnerable IDPs. The poorer quartiles of IDPs show extreme vulnerability.



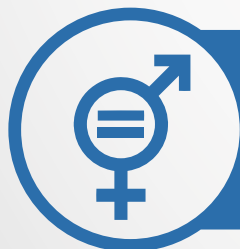
IDPs (and to a lesser degree non-IDPs) urgently require greater access to information about the peace process, in addition to opportunities for participation and influence in the peace process.



There is an urgent need to increase the role of local authorities in supporting the needs of IDPs, particularly in GCA, as responses to multiple survey questions indicates limited connections with local authorities.



Non-IDPs fear of losing land/resources is a prominent concern in Kachin that requires a concerted response. Respondents view companies and illegal logging as the primary sources of this threat. This will likely be a major issue for IDPs when/if they start returning home.



The continual trend of disadvantage for women throughout many survey questions indicates the need to design interventions to specifically address gender inequality.

Introduction

Delivered as part of the European Union-funded DPP, this baseline report provides an insight into the current situation facing both IDPs and conflict-affected non-IDP communities in Kachin. It is based on a comprehensive and systematic research process involving just over 2,200 interviews conducted in 12 townships across Kachin. Further details of the methodology are included in annex one.



2,200+
interviews



12
townships

The research provides data and analysis on the socioeconomic situation, attitudes towards peace and conflict, gender dynamics, return and resettlement, and other areas outlined in the contents. The DPP hopes that this report will help enhance understanding of the current situation in Kachin and ultimately support interventions that are better tailored to community needs, particularly for IDPs.



Socioeconomic
situation



Attitudes towards
peace and conflict



Gender
dynamics



Return and
resettlement

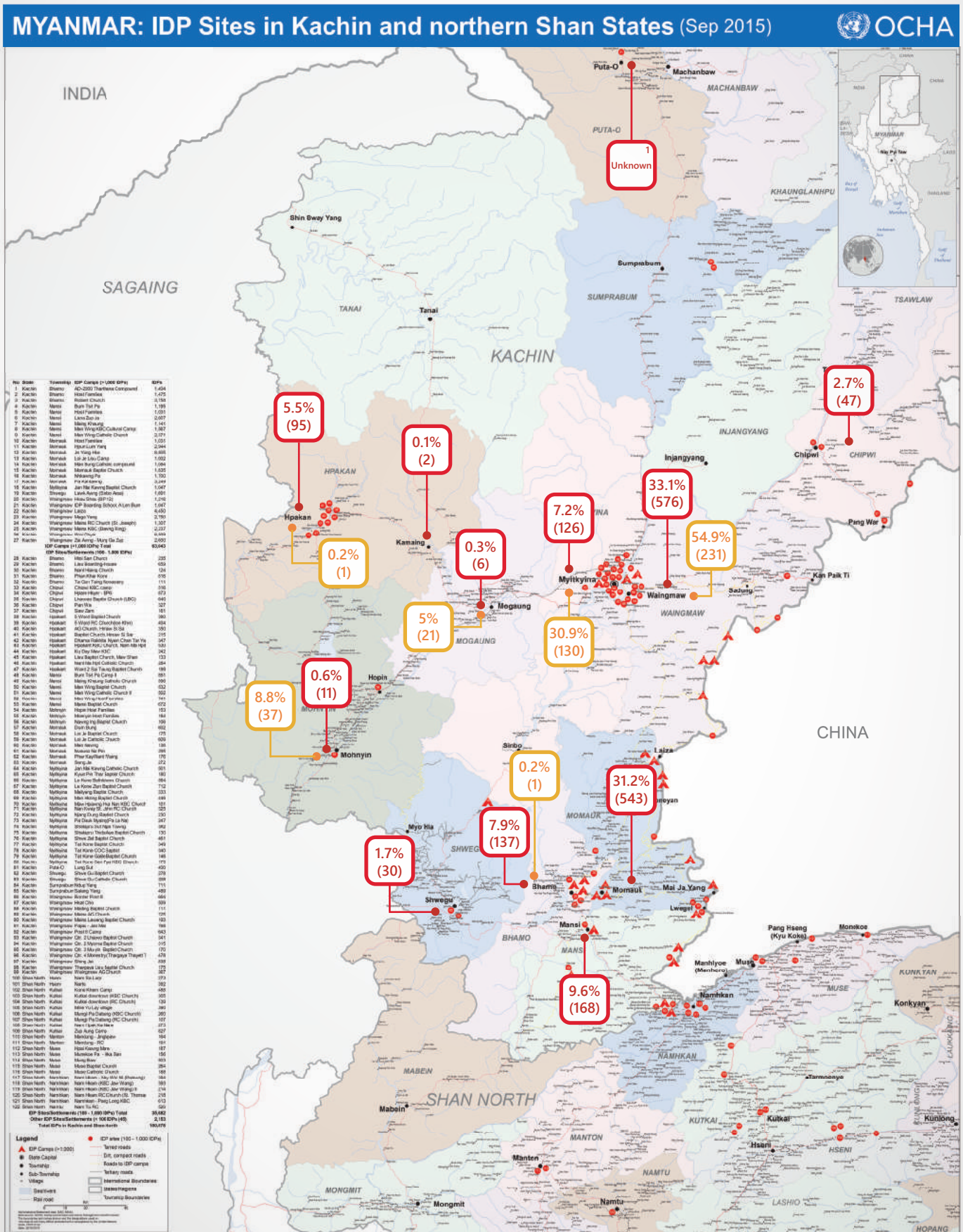


Other
areas

Before engaging with the results, it is important to recognise the complexity and diversity of the Kachin context, which poses a challenge for analysis and presentation of results. Rural, urban, GCA, KCA/NGCA, presence of natural resources, proximity to conflict, and countless other variables create many micro contexts in Kachin. This has two main implications. Firstly, all results must have the caveat that the situation may be significantly different according to the various micro contexts in Kachin compared to the broader results. Secondly, presentation of the collected data becomes a matter of prioritisation, as there are many different options on how to present the data. As such, this report aims to present findings that are both relevant to the DPP and the overall peace process in the current context.

Kachin Context

Location of Interviewees:



¹ Puta-O was not an original project location (or option for interviewers to select), but was included after recent IDP movements. Approximately 10-30 interviews were conducted there.



Geographically, Kachin is highly diverse, including lowlands, vast river basins, mountains and densely forested areas, matched with abundant resources, particularly jade, gold, timber and water (potential and realised hydropower) resources².



Ethnically, Kachin has a large population of people who identify as ethnic 'Kachin' (including six main sub-groups: Jinghpaw, Lisu, Lhaovo, Zaiwa, Lachid and Rawang) as well as populations of Shan, Bamar and other ethnic minorities. Ethnicity tends to be more mixed in GCA than KCA/NGCA areas, in which people predominantly identify as Kachin. Most ethnic Kachin are Christian (the main denominations are Baptist and Catholic), while most Bamar and some Shan are Buddhist.



Current day Kachin is very much shaped by decades of civil war. Since the 1960s, the KIO/A and Myanmar Armed Forces (Tatmadaw) have been engaged in armed conflict, albeit a ceasefire existed from 1994 to 2011. Drivers of the conflict include, but are not limited to, political determination, ethnicity and control over resources. The civil war affects everyone in Kachin, but the fighting since 2011 is generally concentrated in specific areas, particularly Hpakant, Mansi, Momauk, Bhamo, Sumprabum and Waingmaw townships. The KIO has a significant presence in south-eastern Kachin, and Hpakant and Tanai townships, controlling substantial areas. Through the Kachin Independence Council, the KIO runs administration departments delivering services in areas such as health and education, in addition to revenue collection³. The Myanmar Government generally controls the rest of Kachin state, as part of the broader Union of Myanmar.



Since the resumption of armed conflict in 2011, the humanitarian situation in Kachin is increasingly dire. Currently, over 100,000⁴ IDPs remain scattered across more than 120 camps in Kachin and neighbouring northern Shan state. At the time of writing, IDP numbers in Kachin and Northern Shan continue to increase as the armed conflict intensifies⁵. Since 2011, the Joint Strategy Team, consisting of nine Kachin-based and national NGOs, are leading the humanitarian response, providing timely, critical support to IDPs. All nine members are part of the DPP.



Despite continuing need, international support for the humanitarian response is in decline. Addressing these needs requires sustainable peace and a broader political settlement. Yet as becomes evident from the findings presented in this report, IDP hopes and expectations for peace are low.

² Global Witness 2015. *Jade: Myanmar's "Big State Secret"*.

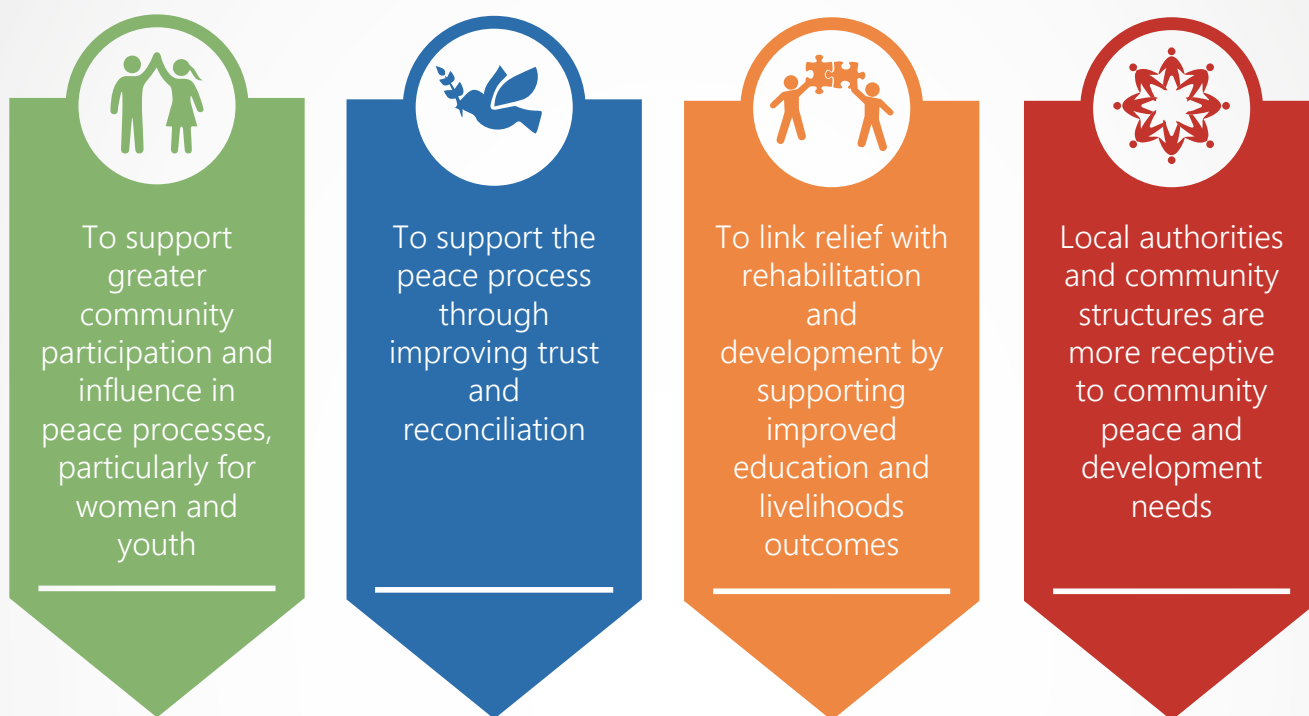
³ Joliffe, K. 2015. *Ethnic Armed Conflict and Territorial Administration in Myanmar*, The Asia Foundation.

⁴ OCHA 2015. *MYANMAR: IDP Sites in Kachin and northern Shan States*.

⁵ Wa Lone and Thu Thu Aung 2016. *Shan Fighting Leaves up to 1000 Homeless*, Myanmar Times.

Programme Context

The DPP was designed by a consortium of seven national and international NGOs⁶, and a further 17 partner organisations, to complement the existing humanitarian response in Kachin through providing support for peace, reconciliation, rehabilitation and development. The DPP has the following four specific objectives:



Underpinning these objectives is the DPP's theory of change, which identifies active citizens, combined with a strong, vibrant, gender-just civil society and responsive governance systems as critical drivers of change in Kachin. The DPP supports women and men to have greater awareness of their rights and responsibilities, and increased capacity and motivation to participate in key peace and development processes. Civil society will be supported in their crucial role to encourage the voices and priorities of women and men of all ethnicities in Kachin being heard. Government and KIO officials will be engaged to better understand and address the needs and priorities of people living in Kachin.

The DPP is a 42-month programme, running from February 2015 to July 2018, funded through a seven million Euro grant from the European Union.

⁶ Consortium members include KBC, KMSS, Metta, Nyein, Oxfam, SwissAid and Trocaire.

Survey Results

The complex and varied context of Kachin poses a significant challenge for any research. Geography, ethnicity, different governance systems and levels of conflict vary substantially, creating many micro contexts. Ultimately, two main streams of disaggregation were chosen. One column of results shows the difference in responses between conflict-affected non-IDPs and IDPs, both to illuminate some of the impacts of displacement and also because these are the two main target groups of the DPP. The second major disaggregation is between KCA/NGCA IDPs and GCA IDPs. This disaggregation was selected because there is a lack of data and research on KCA/NGCA and as the results show, there are distinct differences between the two areas. Finally, gender and youth⁷ IDP disaggregation is included where responses varied more than five percentage points between female and male IDPs, or youth IDPs and the overall IDP population. Often there were not large differences in responses between female and male IDPs or youth IDPs and the general IDP population, which would benefit from further investigation.

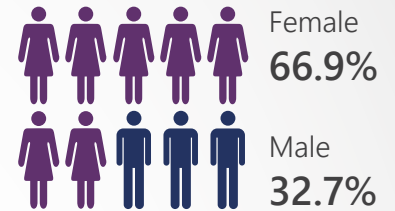
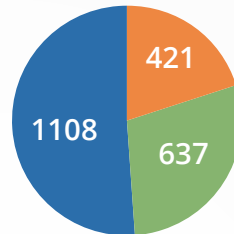
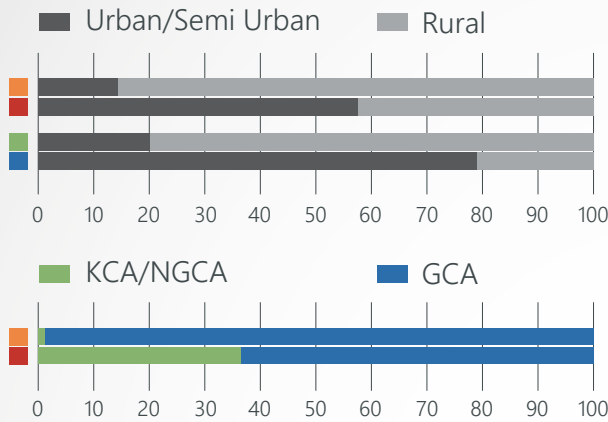
The baseline was implemented across a diversity of locations, including KCA/NGCA, GCA, urban, rural, and geographically diverse areas. Further details are available in the methodology section. The following presentation of findings gives primacy to visualisation of the data with some text to provide guidance and explanation. The exact survey question is provided in English (Jinghpaw and Myanmar were used for survey implementation), followed by the results. The results are listed as they appeared in the survey, not in ascending or descending order. Throughout the report there are many instances where percentages do not total 100. This is because A) some respondents may not have answered; B) some miniscule percentages are not included (for ease of streamlining the presentation of significant data); and C) interviewees were able to provide multiple responses for certain questions. Notes are included where necessary.

There must also be some qualifications before interpreting the presented data. Firstly, the issue of micro contexts (as explained earlier) means that although results may be indicative, broader generalisations should be approached carefully. Secondly, it is important to recognise that the survey data is drawn from perceptions, attitudes and self-reflection, which is appropriate for the focus topics, but may not be as precise as formal data, such as school attendance or hospital records. Most importantly, this means that all data should be understood as 'reported by' survey respondents. Finally, this report forms the first stage in the DPP's monitoring, evaluation and learning process, and is thus focusing solely on the collected data. Qualitative data collection in the upcoming years will aim to expand upon and enrich some of the emerging themes in this report.

⁷ Youth are defined as 15-24 for this report.

General Overview

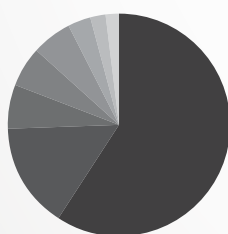
Percentage breakdown of main subgroups featured throughout the analysis:



Key points on subgroups:

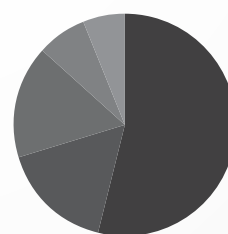
- Despite seeking a gender balance, more women were interviewed than men during the survey process. This is a result of far more women being available during the data collection times (approximately 9am to 5pm), while men were often away from home.
- KCA/NGCA IDPs are nearly 80% rural, while GCA IDPs are nearly 80% urban/semi urban. Although it may be argued that differences between the two groups are due to rural-urban divides, KCA/NGCA and GCA remains a valid distinction because IDPs in KCA/NGCA are far more likely to be located in rural (and remote) areas.
- Related to the above point, GCA urban/semi urban IDP interviews were conducted across 12 townships with the largest numbers in Bhamo, Chipwi, Hpakant, Momauk, Myitkyina and Waingmaw. GCA rural IDP interviews were conducted in nine townships with the largest numbers in Mansi, Momauk, Myitkyina and Waingmaw. KCA/NGCA IDP interviews were primarily collected in Mansi, Momauk and Waingmaw.
- The DPP works primarily with non-IDPs in non-urban settings, hence 85.8% of non-IDP respondents being located rurally.

Ethnicity:



1.8%	Rawang (Kachin)
2.1%	Zaiwa (Kachin)
3.5%	Bamar
5.5%	Lachin (Kachin)
6.0%	Lhaovo (Kachin)
6.2%	Shan
15.2%	Lisu (Kachin)
58.5%	Jingphaw (Kachin)

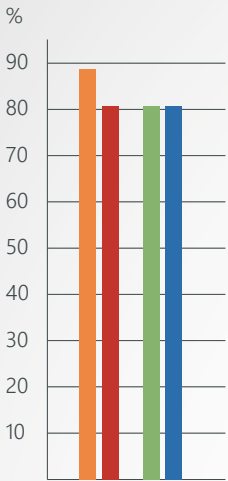
Religion:



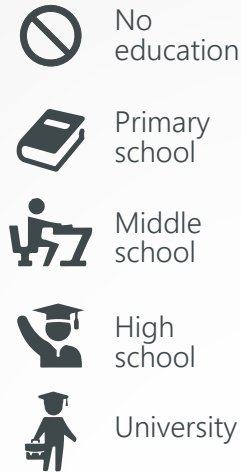
53.7%	Christian
16.5%	Baptist
16.2%	Catholic
7.4%	Buddhist
6.2%	Other

■ Non IDPs ■ KCA/NGCA IDPs ■ Female IDPs
■ IDPs ■ GCA IDPs ■ Male IDPs
■ Youth IDPs

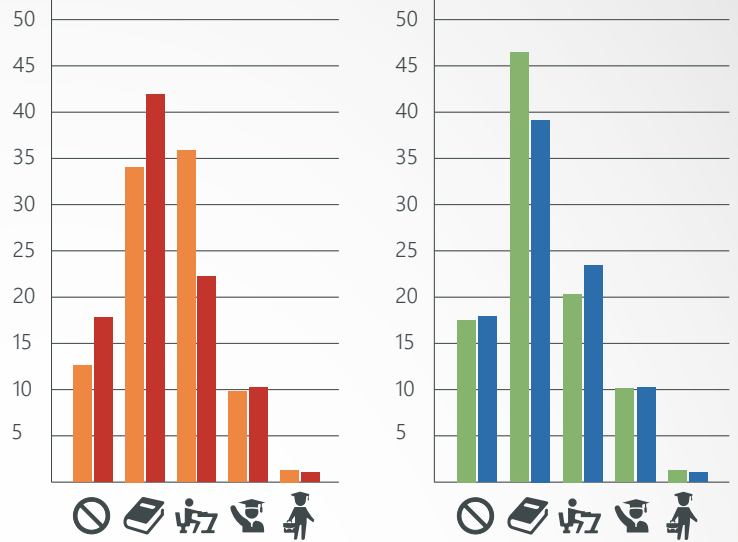
Literacy:



Education:



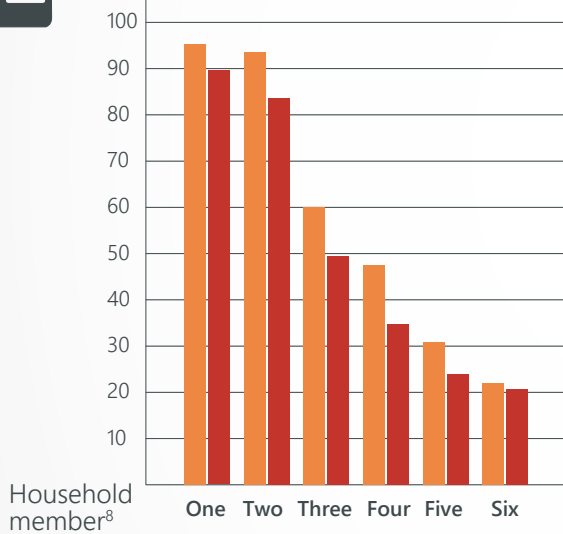
% reporting highest level of completion



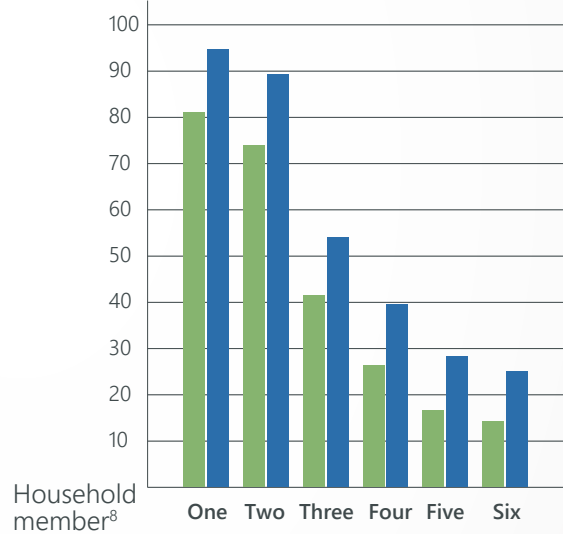
National Identity Card:



% possessing national identity card



% possessing national identity card



National identity cards are critical for accessing citizen rights, such as Myanmar Government health, education and passport services, and voting. These results imply varying levels of access to these rights, although it should also be noted that the KIO provides some of these services.

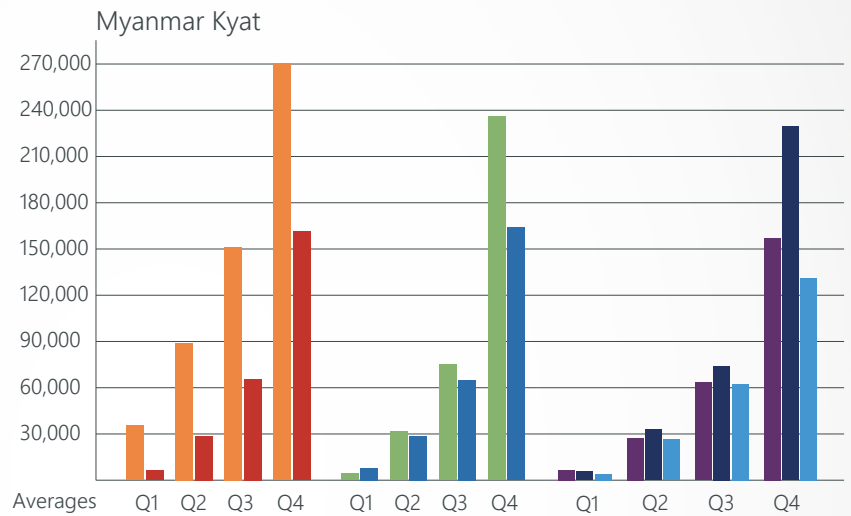
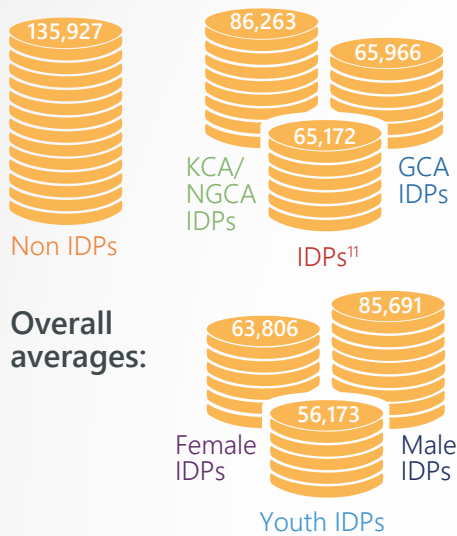
⁸ Member one indicates interviewee, with other family members usually listed from oldest to youngest.

Socioeconomic situation

Monthly income⁹:

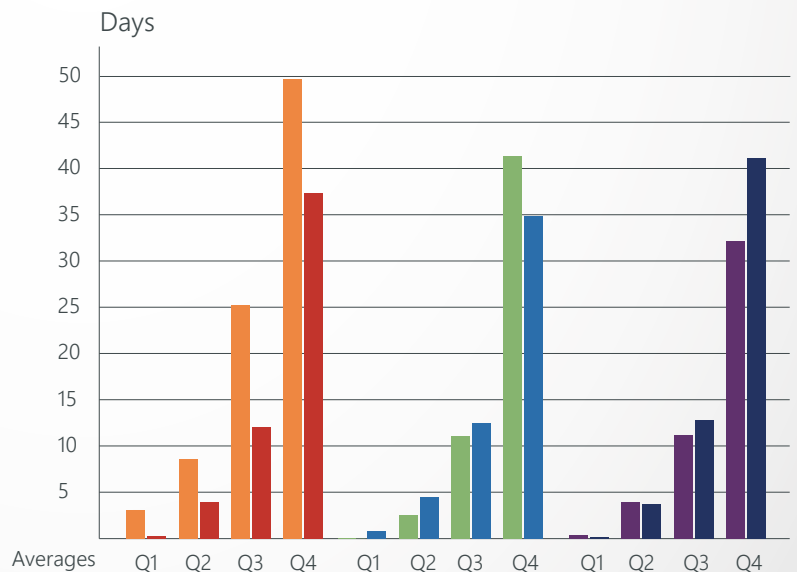
Over the past 12 months, what has been your average monthly income (in Myanmar Kyat¹⁰)?

For monthly income, cash savings and (in a later section) food savings, major outliers were removed using the standardised mathematical formula where major outliers are defined as less than $Q1 - (IQR * 3)$ and greater than $Q3 + (IQR * 3)$. Q = quartile and IQR = inter quartile range. Quartile averages were then calculated after the removal of major outliers. This approach was utilised to provide what was deemed to be more realistic figures.



Savings:

Imagine that your savings and cash were all that your household had to live from. Approximately, how many days would your household be able to survive?



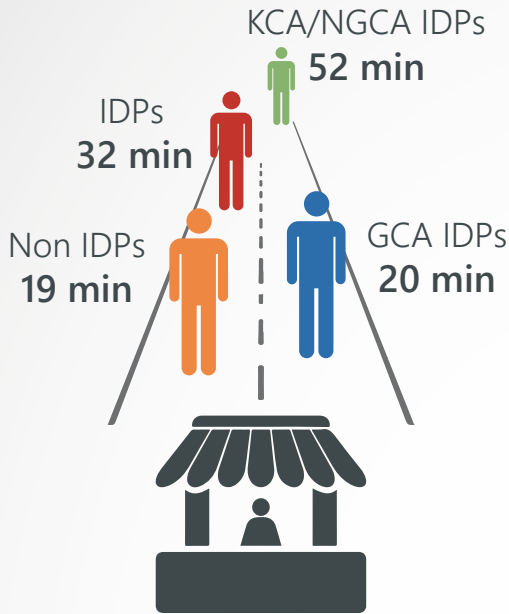
Both income and savings show high levels of inequality across all groups, particularly for IDPs. These results indicate the extremely vulnerability for IDPs in the lower quartiles, whom have close to no income and no savings. There are also substantial gender differences, with women earning substantially less than men and possessing fewer savings.

⁹ Note: self-reporting of monthly income is often inaccurate, but inaccuracies are likely similar across all groups, thus making the comparative results still valid.

¹⁰ \$1US = approximately 1,200-1,300 Kyat at the time of writing.

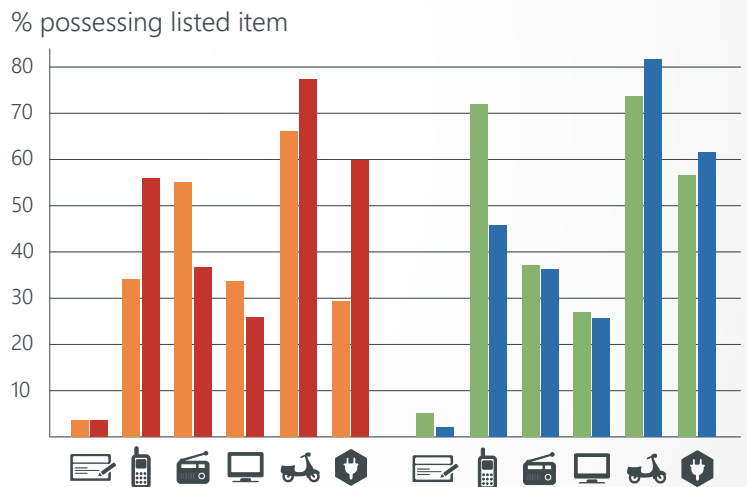
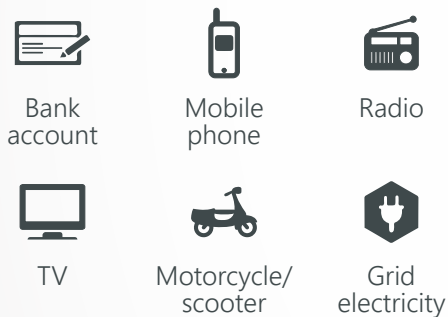
¹¹ The IDP overall average is lower than KCA/NGCA and GCA IDPs because the major outliers are different, due to different quartiles and IQR.

How long does it take to walk to the nearest market? (Average in minutes)



These results correlate with KCA/NGCA IDPs often being located more rurally and remotely than GCA IDPs. This remoteness can cause challenges for accessing goods (particularly food) and economic opportunities. The results also indicate that non-IDPs have better access to markets than IDPs.

Do you or anyone else in your household have?



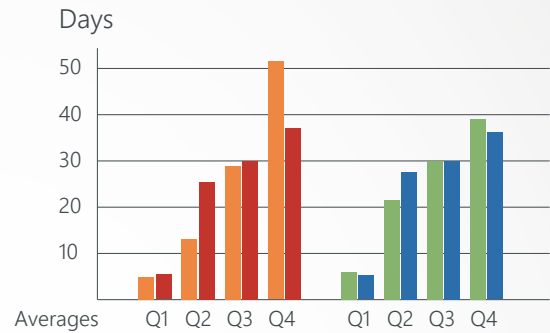
Non-IDPs substantially lower access to grid electricity may be due to 85.8% of non-IDPs being located rurally, compared to only 42.7% of IDPs. However, 79.9% of KCA/NGCA IDPs are located rurally and much further away from markets, but still report far greater access to grid electricity than non-IDPs.

Food Security

Imagine that your current food supplies were all that your household had to live from. Approximately, how many days would your household be able to survive?



The issue of inequality is again very pronounced across all subgroups. However, compared to income and savings, where IDP inequality was highest, here non-IDP inequality is far higher.

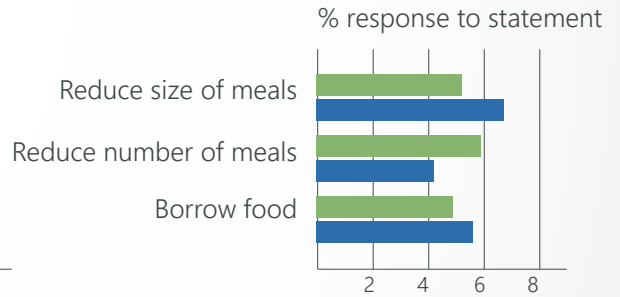
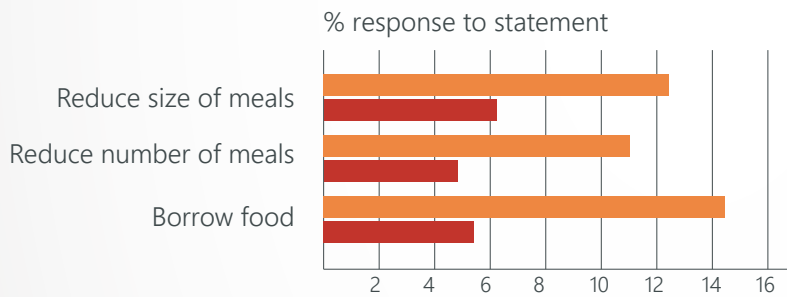


Nutritional Diversity¹²

(7 = high diversity, 1 = low diversity)



In the past seven days, did anyone in your house have to:

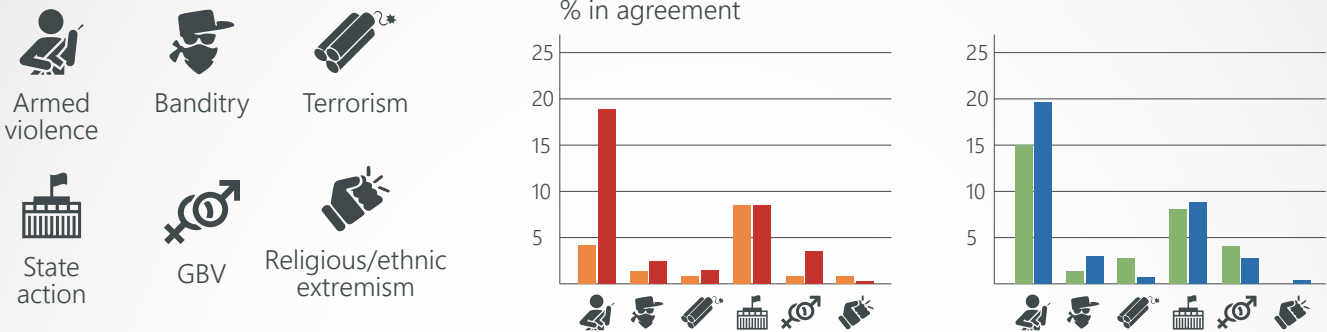


Taken together, these two data sets indicate IDPs are less likely to reduce the size or quantity of meals than non-IDPs, but non-IDPs have a significantly more diversified diet. This is perhaps indicative of IDPs accessing basic food supplies, such as rice, but having less diverse diets than non-IDPs. There is also a dynamic that deserves further exploration, where IDPs have less income and savings than non-IDPs, but are less likely to reduce the size of their meals.

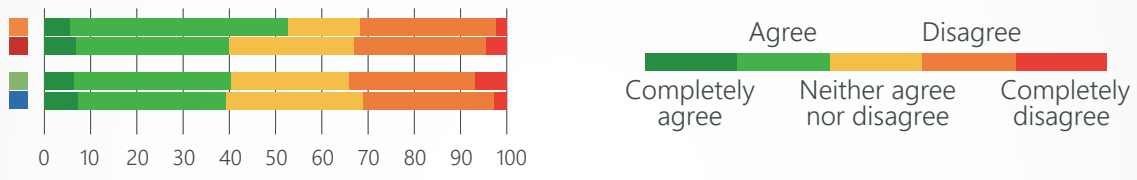
¹² Based on reported consumption of different food groups over the past seven days, grouped by nutritional value, such as protein and vitamins.

Conflict and Security

In the last 12 months, have you experienced physical damage to yourself or your belongings because of¹³:

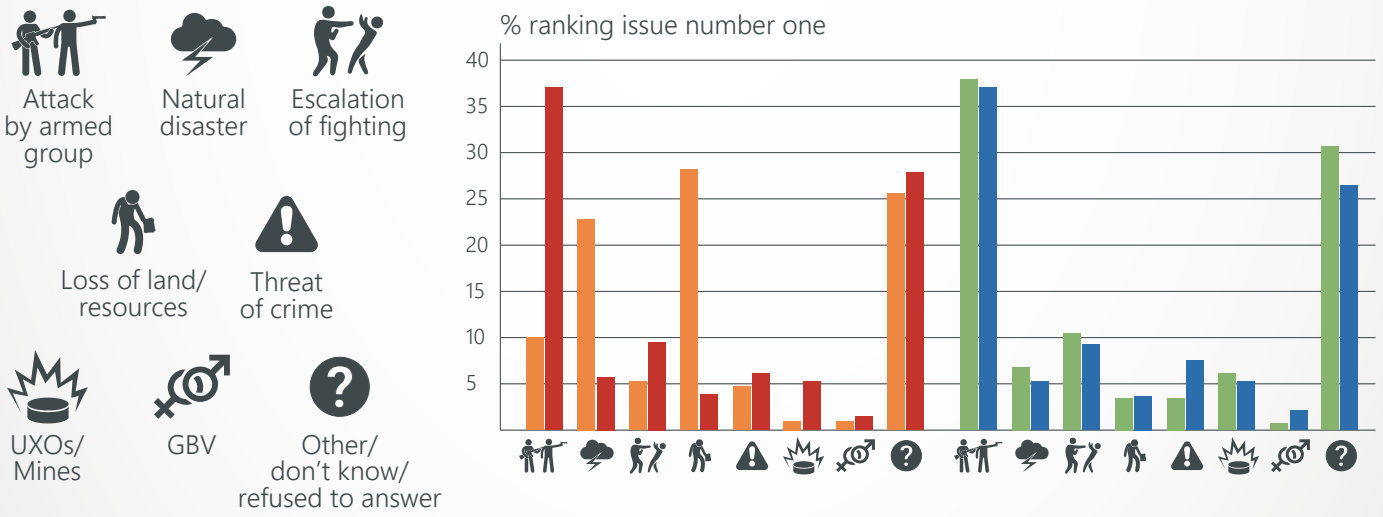


I feel a threat to myself or my belongings as a result of man-made disaster¹⁴:



These two tables show that IDPs may be facing the more direct impacts of armed violence, but non-IDPs feel just as great, if not greater, threat of 'man-made' disaster.

In your opinion, what are the most serious safety and security issues that your community faces? Please rank the three most serious issues.

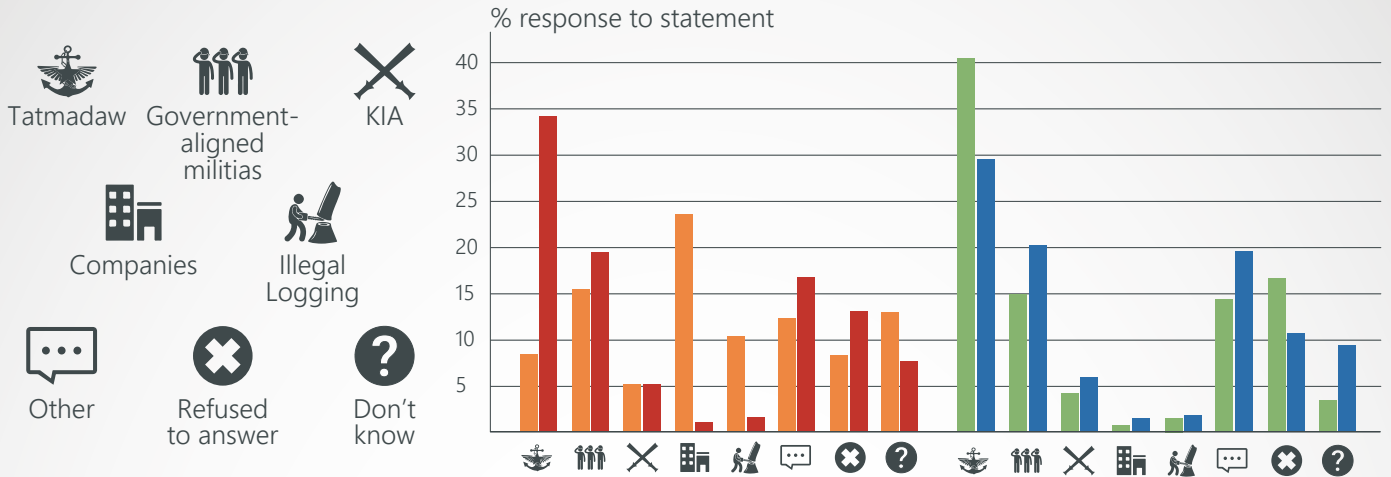


These results show a striking difference between non-IDPs and IDPs, with non-IDPs perceiving loss of land/resources and natural disaster as by far the major threats, while IDPs perceive attack by armed groups as the major threat. This is a clear indication of the different contexts for non-IDPs compared to IDPs. Additionally, this data may partly explain the results from the previous question where non-IDPs feel more threatened by 'man-made' disaster than IDPs because it is linked to fear of losing land/resources.

¹³ Note: the terms used, such as terrorism or state action, were explained during data collector training to ensure consistent usage when data was collected.

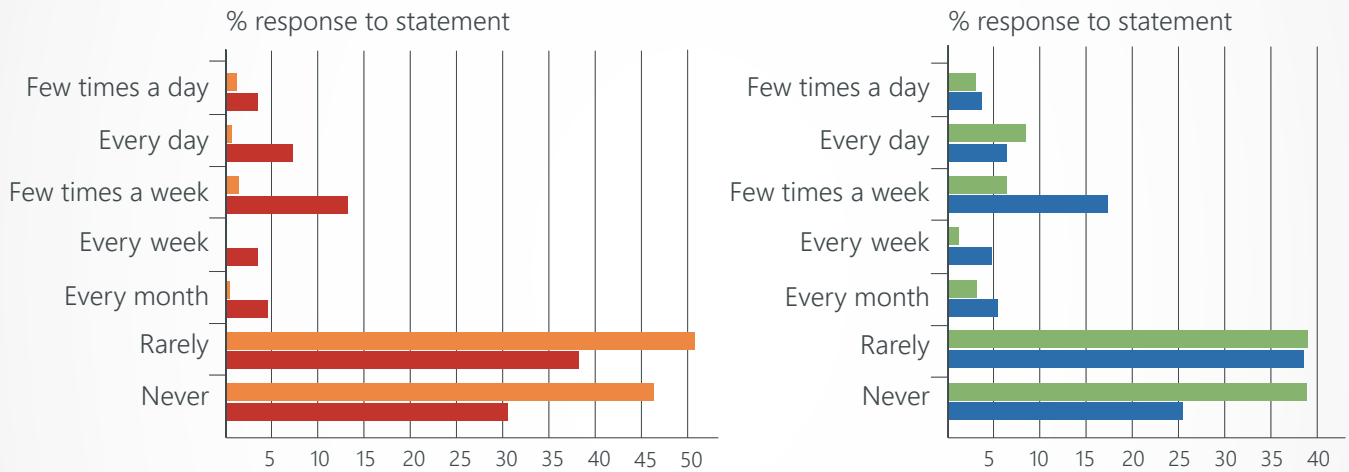
¹⁴ Note: man-made disaster refers to disasters resulting from human activity, such as armed conflict and logging. Data collector training included definitions and methods for explanation.

Where do these threats come from?

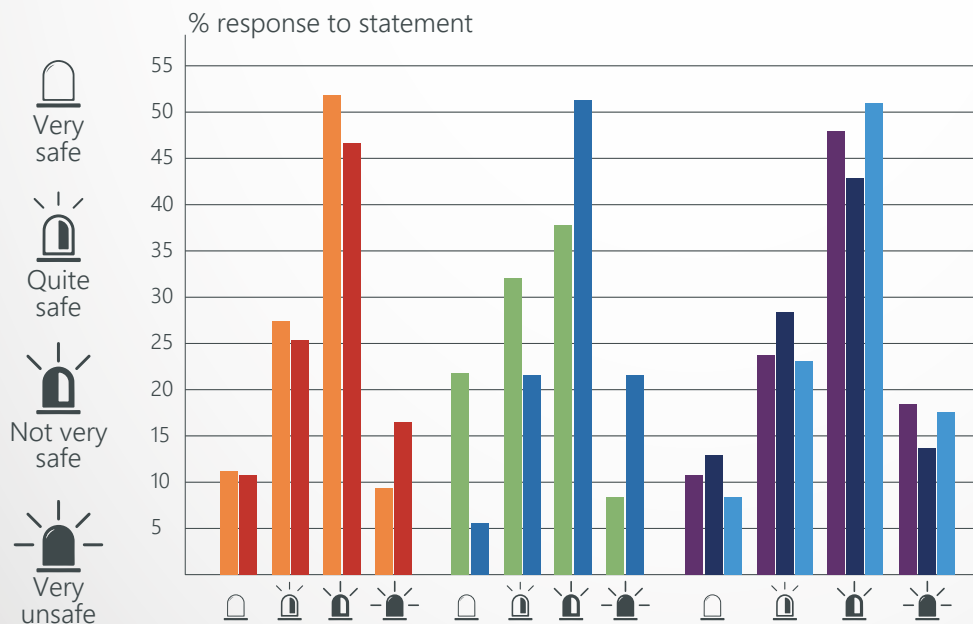


These results have distinct linkages with the previous question on the most serious security and safety issues.

How often do you hear gunshots in or near your area?

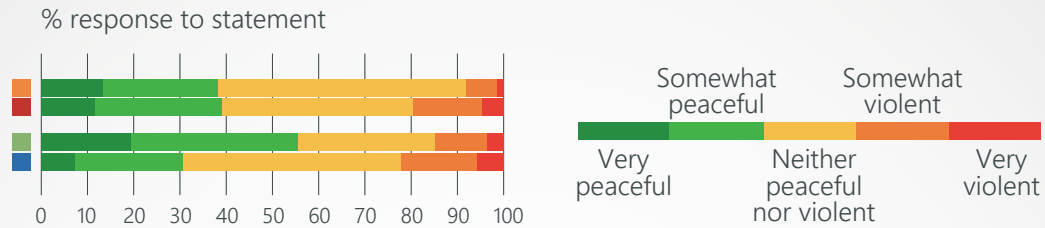


How safe do you feel to walk alone at night where you live?



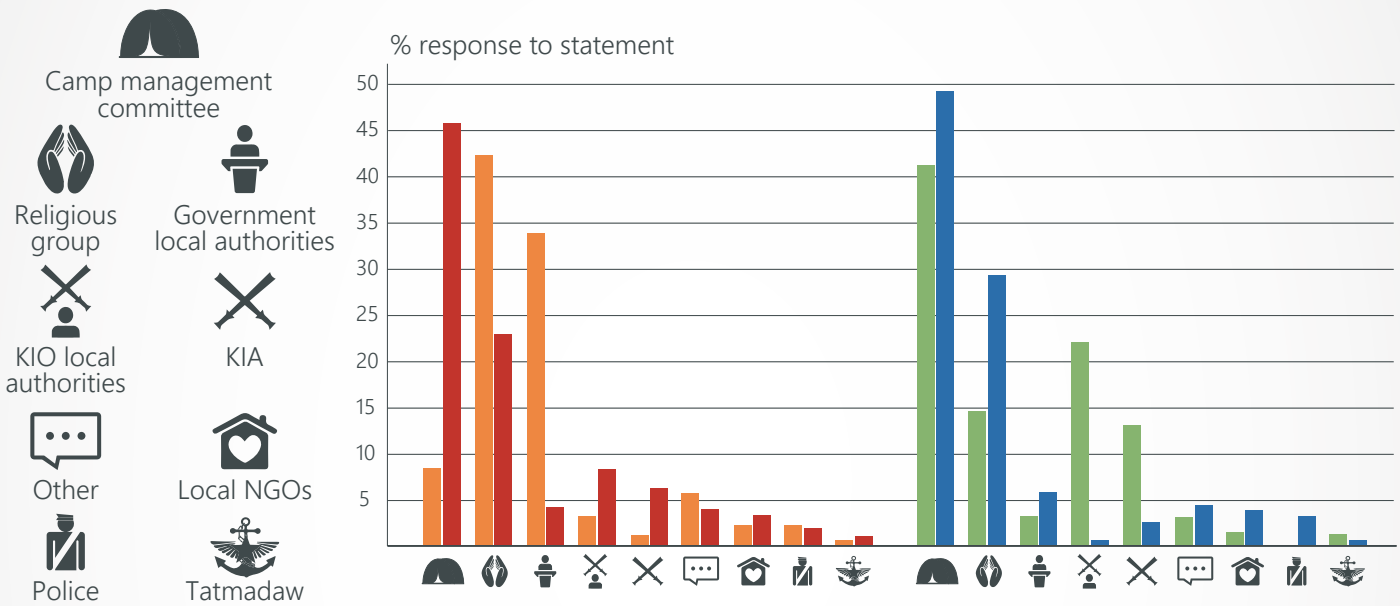
These results indicate that IDPs in KCA/NGCA feel safer than IDPs in GCA, which could also be linked to hearing gunshots less often, amongst other factors. However, IDPs hear gunshots far more often than non-IDPs, yet both groups report feeling similar levels of safety. It is also worth noting that female and youth IDPs also feel somewhat less safe than male IDPs.

In your opinion, is this community generally peaceful or marked by violence?



This data shows a striking difference with KCA/NGCA IDPs far more likely to view their community as peaceful compared to GCA IDPs. IDPs are also significantly more likely to view their community as violent or somewhat violent compared to non-IDPs.

Who would you turn to if you felt threatened or unsafe?



These results stand out for a number of reasons. For GCA IDPs, the results indicate that Camp Management Committees and religious groups are the primary groups people would turn to if they felt threatened or unsafe. Very few GCA IDPs would turn to the police or Government local authorities. In contrast, for KCA/NGCA IDPs, they also indicated that they would turn to Camp Management Committees and religious groups, but many respondents also indicated that they would turn to the KIO/A. Taken together, the data suggests significantly different levels of service provision by local authorities in GCA compared to KCA/NGCA in relation to safety.

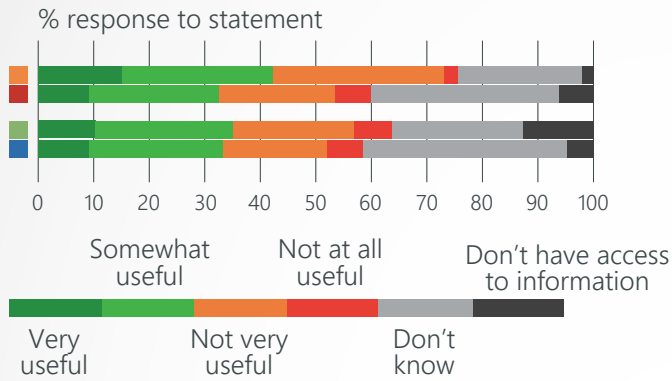
For non-IDPs, it is important to note that 98.8% of respondents are in GCA, which explains the weak connections with KIO/A. However, non-IDPs report far greater connection with Myanmar Government local authorities than GCA IDPs. This may suggest a higher level of presence/service provision by Myanmar Government local authorities in villages (non-IDP areas) than in IDP camps. Field monitoring also suggests this is the case. This contrast indicates potential and need to improve linkages between GCA IDPs and Myanmar Government local authorities. These dynamics require further research.

These results have important implications for actors trying to improve access to security and justice services, given that very few respondents indicated they would turn to police to resolve safety/security issues.

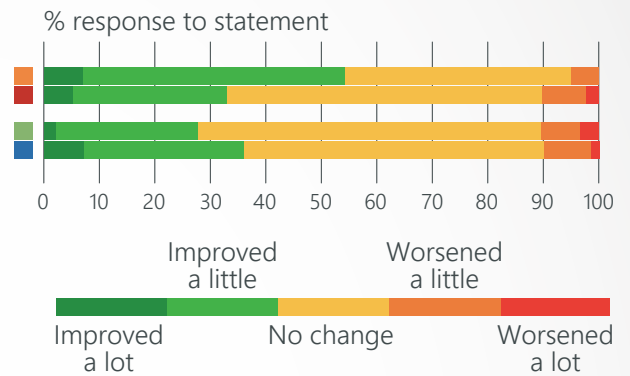
Finally, considering the significant roles of local authorities, religious organisations and Camp Management Committees, all of which tend to be male dominated, increasing women's representation (and influence) in these institutions should be considered a priority to improve services and accessibility for women.

Peace Process: Opportunity, Participation and Influence

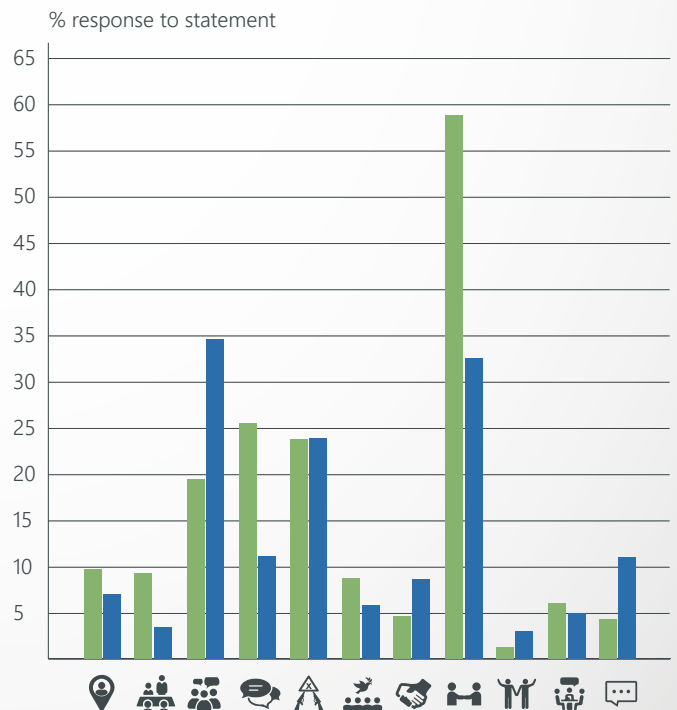
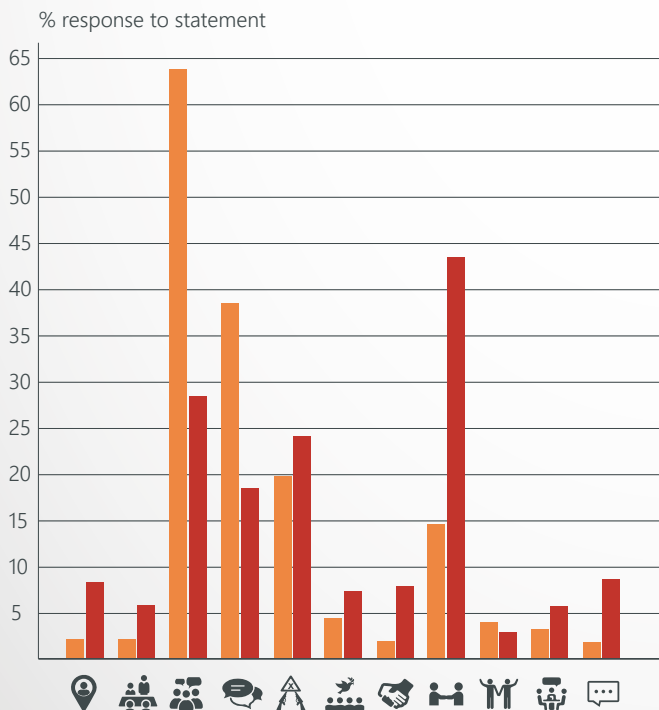
How useful do you feel that the received information about the current peace process is?



How do you feel your level of being informed has changed in the past 12 months?

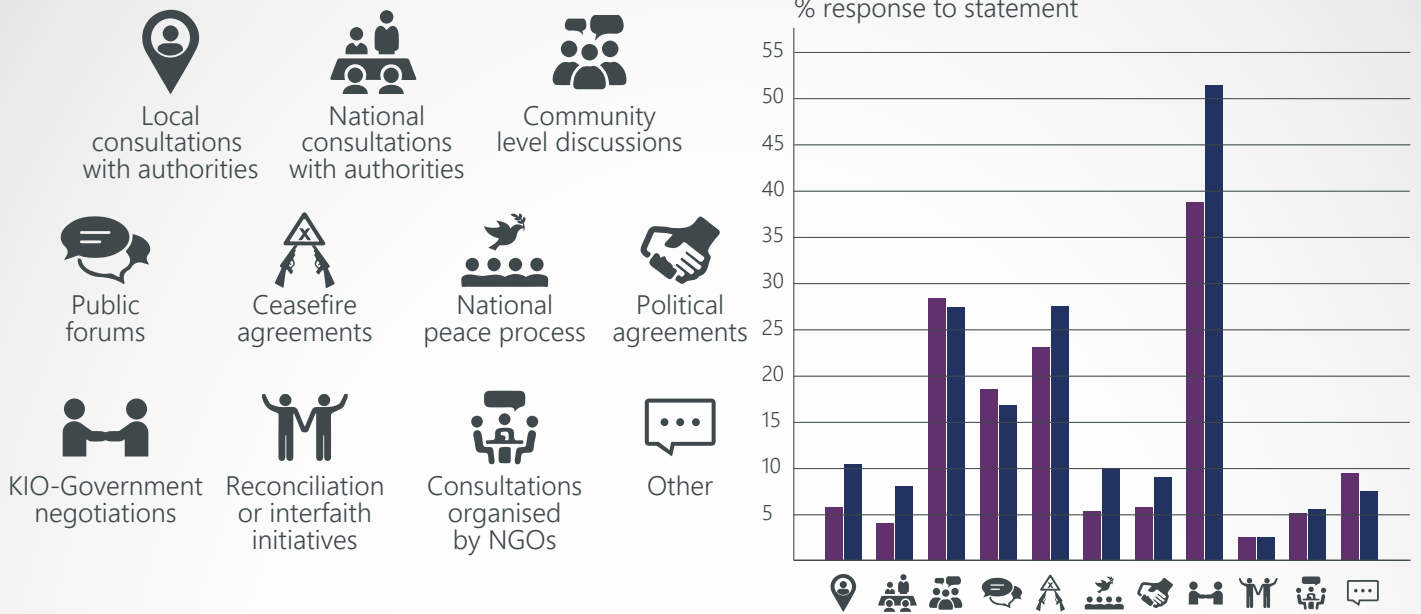


What peace processes do you have information about?¹⁵



¹⁵ Total percentage greater than 100, as respondents can provide more than one response.

What peace processes do you have information about? (Continued)



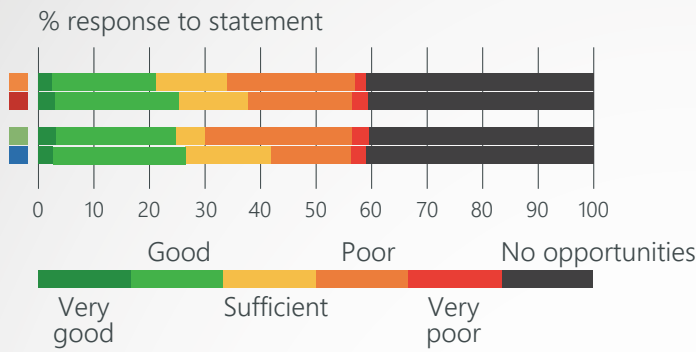
These data sets have many implications. Far more non-IDPs report having information about community level discussions and public forums than IDPs, although the discussions and forums rank highly across all groups. One key implication is that if discussions and forums are key mechanisms for people’s engagement with the peace process, it is important that:

- A) These discussions and forums have connections to more formalised and higher level peace processes;
- B) People engaging in these discussions and forums are accurately informed; and
- C) The discussions and forums are well facilitated to maximise the ability of community members to articulate their priorities and concerns within the peace process.

On another note, IDPs are much more aware of KIO-Government negotiations than non-IDPs, with negotiations likely an important process for when IDPs will consider returning home. Despite data collection occurring during the peak of negotiations over the National Ceasefire Agreement (including widespread media attention), awareness of ceasefire agreements ranks far lower than Government-KIO negotiations.

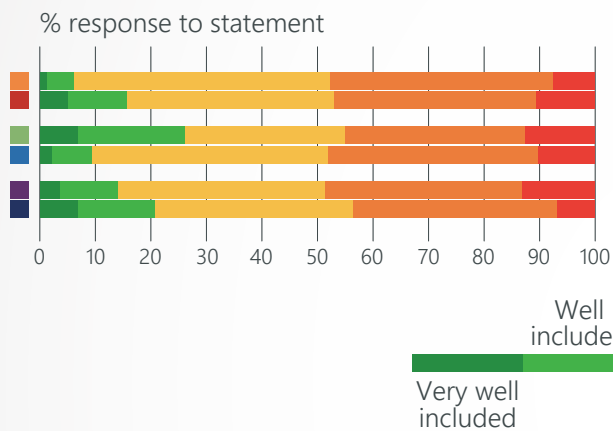
In relation to gender, there is a significant difference, with women reporting having less information about different peace processes than men, despite similar responses to ‘feeling informed’ and ‘usefulness of information.’

How would you rate your current opportunities to participate¹⁶ in the peace process?

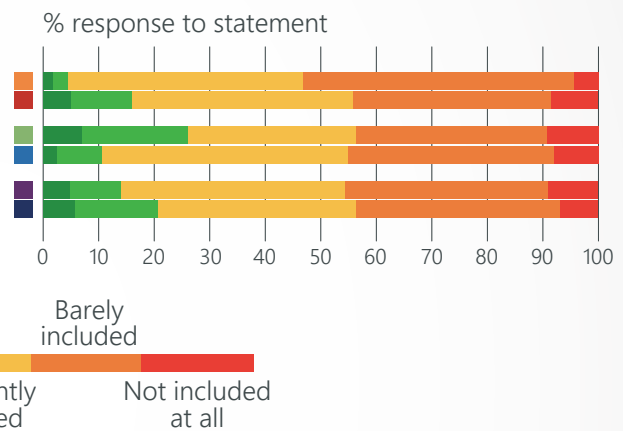


While earlier data showed that non-IDPs reported far greater awareness of community level discussions and public forums than IDPs, it is interesting that both groups rate their opportunities similarly. In contrast, KCA/NGCA and GCA IDPs reported similar awareness of community level discussions and public forums, but here GCA IDPs rate their opportunities noticeably higher.

How do you feel priority community issues are included in current peace processes?



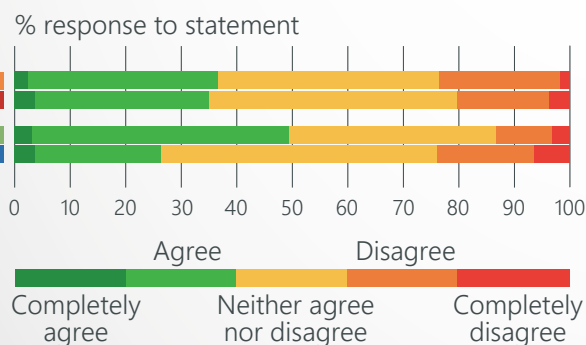
How do you feel women's priority issues are included in current peace processes?



Across both datasets, there is a small, but notable gendered difference with men responding more positively about the inclusion of community and women's issues than women.

Reading these results in conjunction with previous data in this section, it is important to note that although non-IDPs identify more opportunities to participate in peace processes (discussions and forums), this has not necessarily translated to a better rating for opportunities to participate or a feeling that community/women's priority issues are included in the peace process than IDPs.

I feel that authorities (Government and non-Government) reflect community priorities and needs in peace processes.

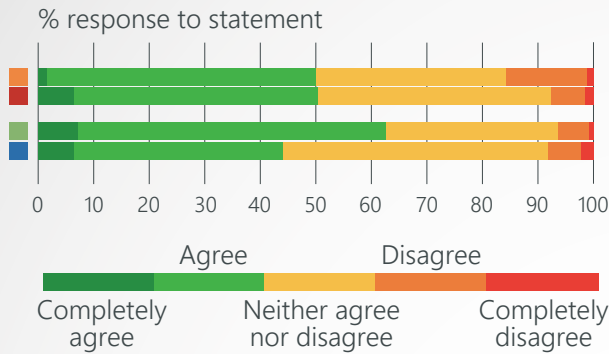


These results indicate that KCA/NGCA IDPs perceive authorities to better reflect and include community priorities and needs in peace processes than GCA IDPs, despite KCA/NGCA IDPs ranking opportunities for participation lower than other groups. Thus, while participation is important, these results indicate that the responsiveness of authorities is also critical.

As a whole, this set of results indicates the need to improve opportunities for community participation and influence in the peace process, and improving the responsiveness of authorities to increased participation and influence.

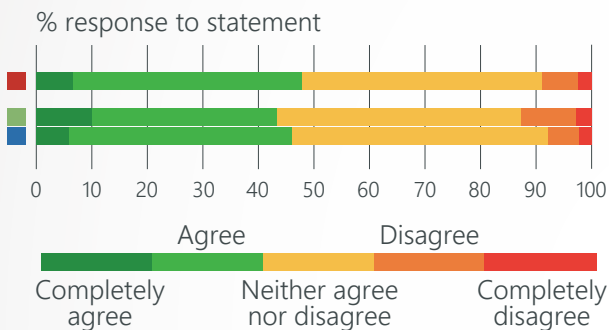
¹⁶ Participation was explained to interviewees as any peace process related activities from the micro to the macro level, such as consultations and forums, not only formal peace processes.

Women leaders represent my interests in the peace process.



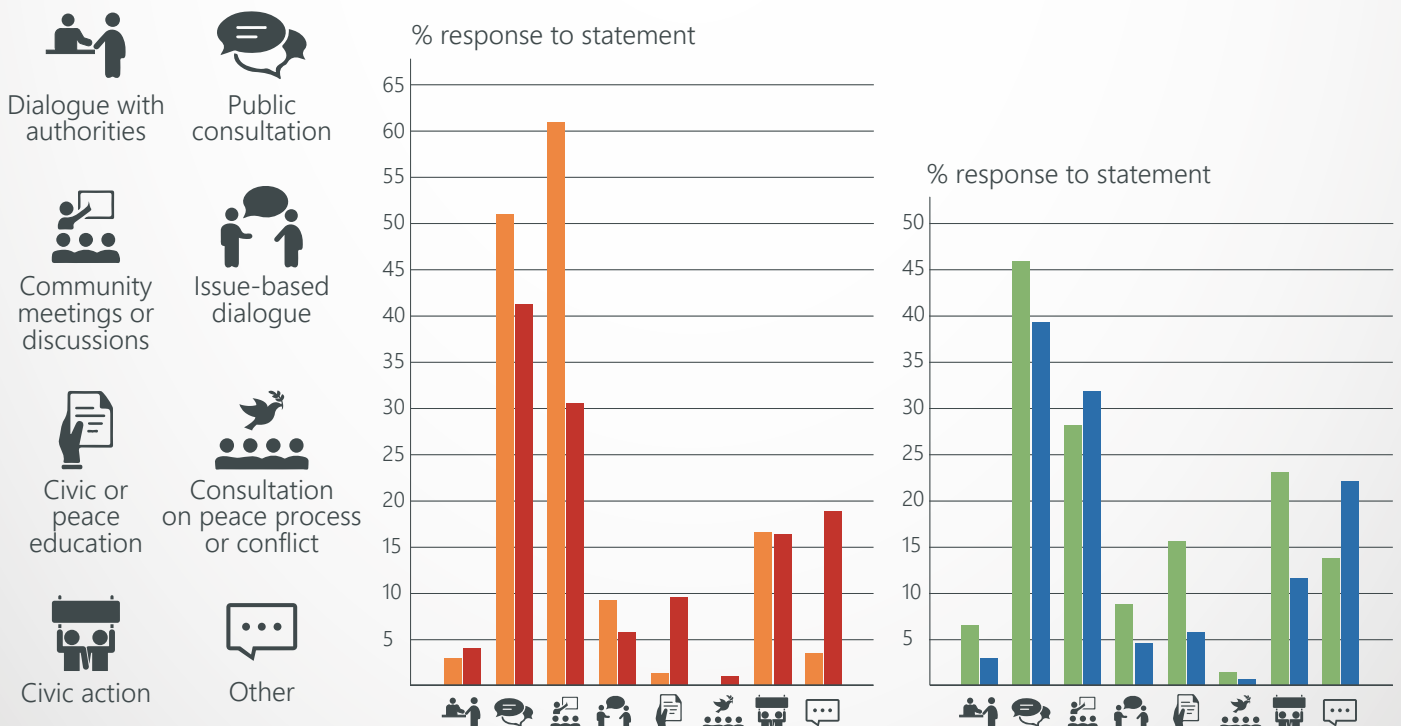
Responses to this question from male IDPs totalled only 34, so the results are not statistically significant, thus a gender comparison is not valid. The lack of responses is itself significant and possibly an indicator of disinterest in the question, the lack of women leaders in the peace process and/or a lack of awareness of women leaders involved in the peace process.

Youth leaders represent my interests in the peace process.



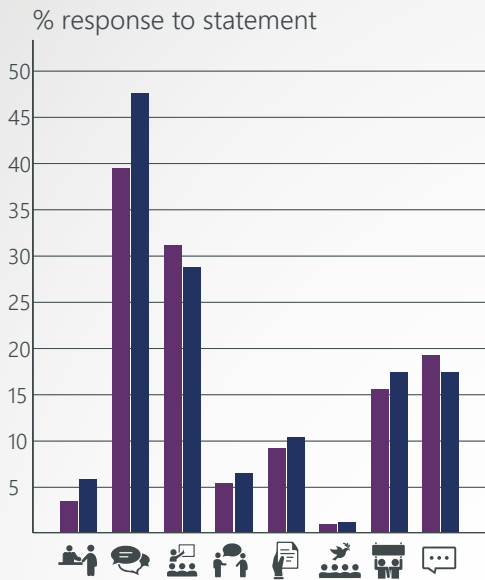
Responses to this question from non-IDPs totalled only 34, so the results are not statistically significant. As with the question on women leaders, the lack of non-IDP responses is itself significant and possibly an indicator of disinterest in the question, the lack of youth leaders in the peace process and/or a lack of awareness of youth leaders involved in the peace process. Additionally, there is no youth or gender IDP disaggregation because the results were nearly identical to the overall IDP results.

During the past 12 months, what peace process activities have you participated in?¹⁷



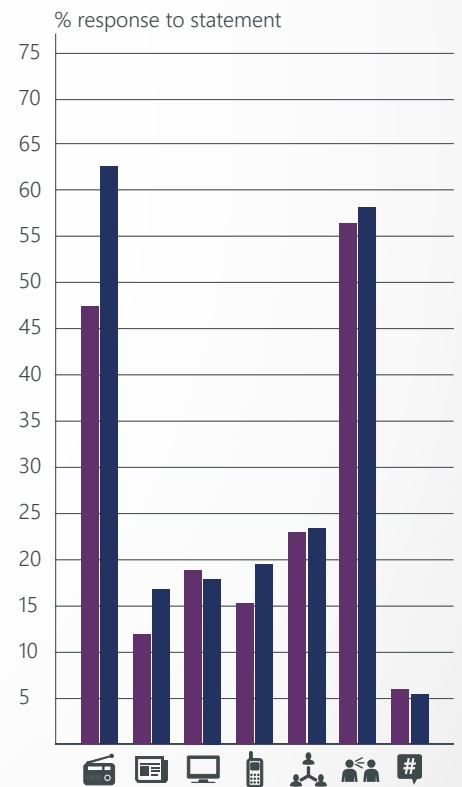
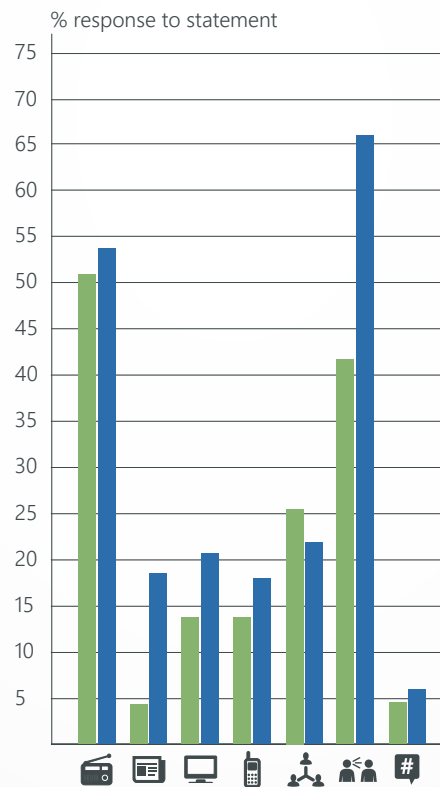
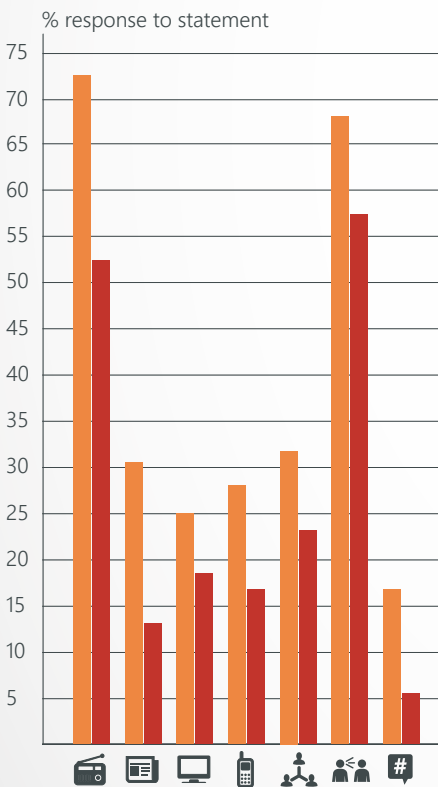
¹⁷ Percentages over 100, as respondents can provide more than one response.

■ Non IDPs ■ KCA/NGCA IDPs ■ Female IDPs
■ IDPs ■ GCA IDPs ■ Male IDPs
■ Youth IDPs



Compared to the perceptions towards opportunities to participate, where all groups rated similarly (except for KCA/NGCA IDPs that were somewhat lower), these results show non-IDPs participating far more in peace process activities than IDPs, while IDPs in KCA/NGCA report greater participation in activities than IDPs in GCA. These results also correlate with the earlier table on awareness of opportunities – non-IDPs are much more aware of opportunities than IDPs. The results indicate a need to prioritise the creation of peace process participation opportunities for IDPs.

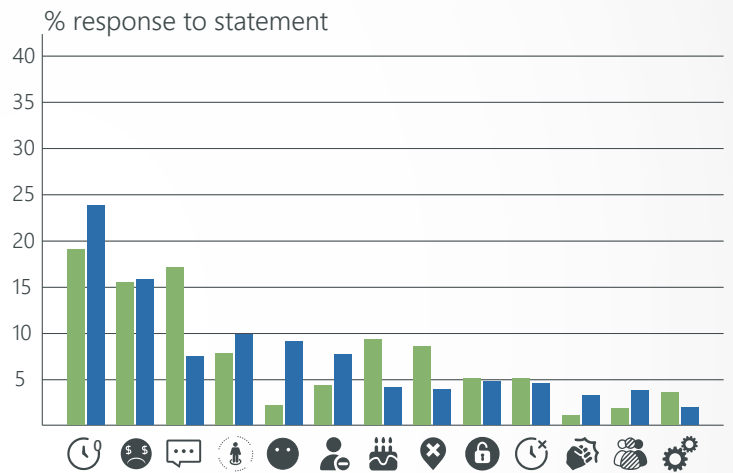
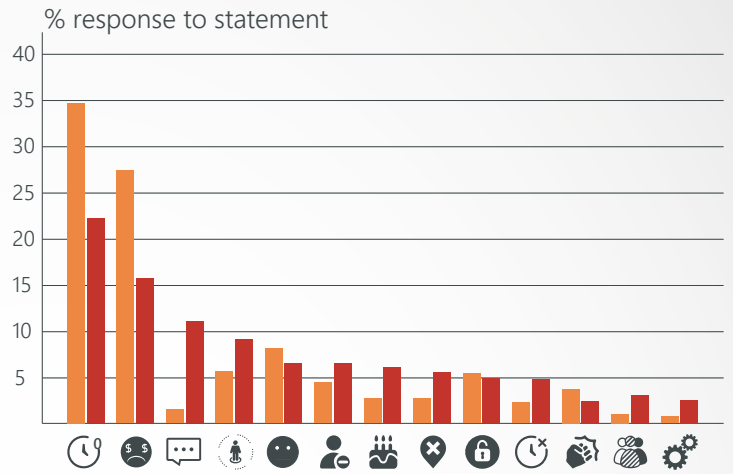
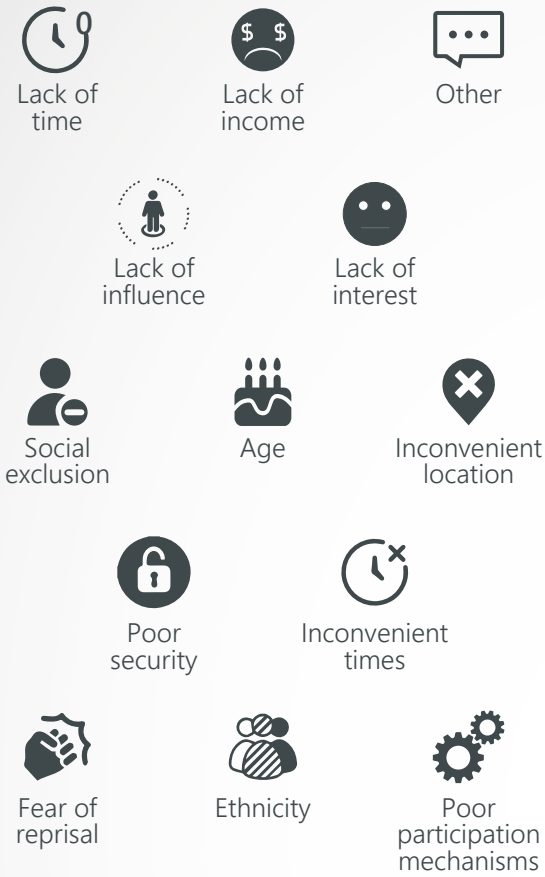
For each type of media, indicate how often you get information on public issues



Although these results focus on accessing information (thus involving individual motivations, etc.), it is a good proxy for availability of information and capacity (such as time and literacy) to access information.

In terms of improving access to information, these results highlight the importance of radio and word of mouth (which is generally informed from other sources). Non-IDPs are accessing information far more regularly than IDPs, while GCA IDPs are accessing information somewhat more regularly than KCA/NGCA IDPs. There is also a noticeable gender difference with more men gaining information through radio, newspaper and telephone than women.

In your opinion, what are the main barriers to participation in the peace process?



These results indicate that lack of time and income rank most commonly as the number one barrier to participation in the peace process. However, this can also be linked to the location and type of participation mechanisms, in which these mechanisms may require significant amounts of time and/or money to access. This indicates that participation mechanisms must take a holistic approach, ensuring not only inclusive mechanisms, but also that IDPs pre-conditions are met in order to engage with such mechanisms. For example, participation mechanisms should not require significant time or money to access, while concurrent activities, such as income generation, can also help alleviate time and money constraints.

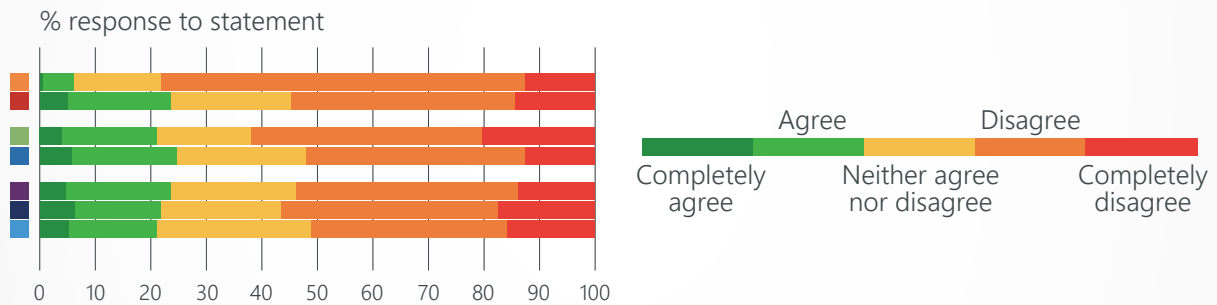
Gender-Specific Questions

Within your household, who decides on the use of household expenditures?

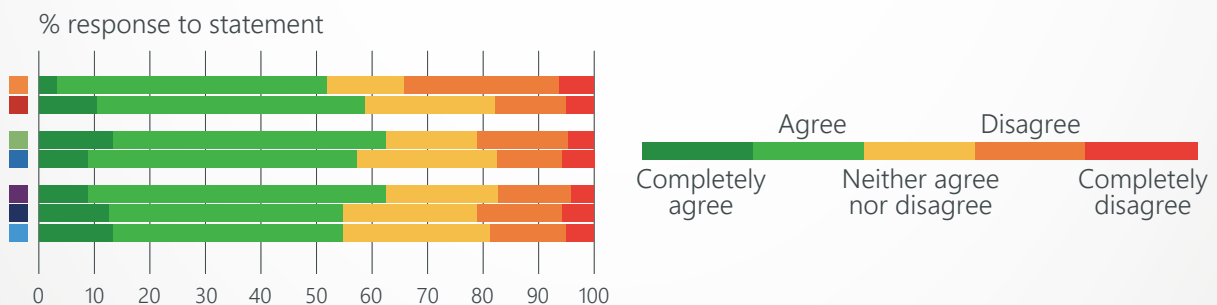


Although these figures look quite positive for women, it should also be noted that often men might control the money coming into the house. Thus, control over household expenditures does not necessarily mean control over household income. Additionally, as women make up two thirds of respondents, the non-gender-disaggregated results are somewhat skewed. This makes the gender-disaggregated results important, as they show clear differences between male and female IDPs.

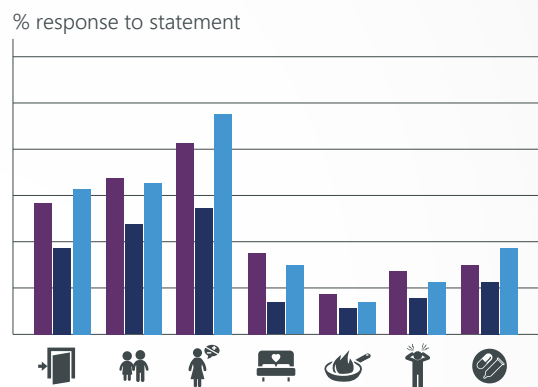
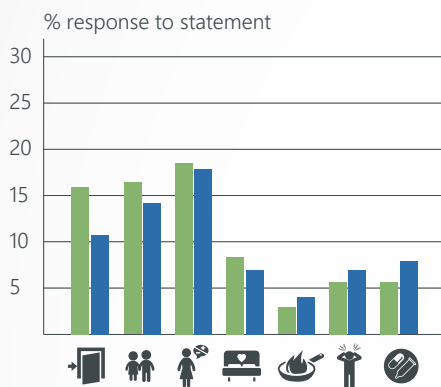
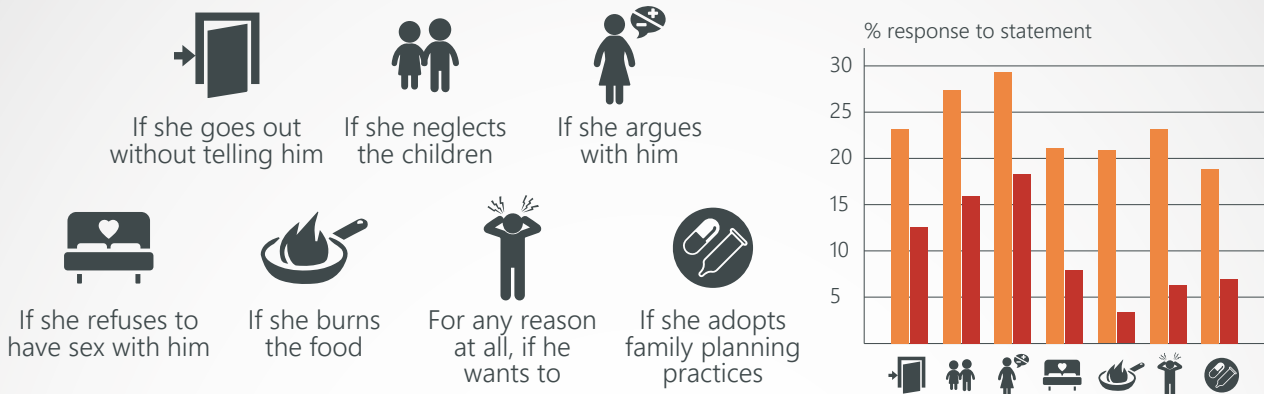
Domestic violence against women is a problem in my community:



I can speak out against violence against women in my community:



In your opinion, is a husband justified in hitting or beating his wife in the following situations:



Analysing these data sets together creates some possible explanation for variances. Namely, non-IDPs are far more likely than IDPs to think domestic violence is justified, which possibly explains why fewer non-IDPs than IDPs report GBV as being a problem in the community. These results should also be understood in the global context, where under-reporting of GBV is widespread, while improved understanding of GBV can lead to improved reporting of GBV and thus higher prevalence¹⁸.

A key question is why are there are such divergent results between non-IDPs and IDPs. The data can not provide a definitive answer, but one possible explanation is that IDPs have a stronger religious and civil society presence in camps than exists in non-IDP areas, and thus exposure to anti-GBV initiatives, while IDPs also live in close proximity to each other, which can make GBV more visible.

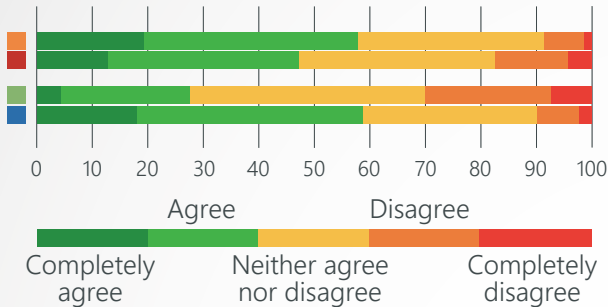
Furthermore, it stands out that female (and youth) IDPs report higher levels of justification for a husband beating his wife than male IDPs. The data cannot provide a clear explanation, but it suggests a need to increasingly target female (and youth) IDPs with GBV education.

¹⁸ Palermo, T, Bleck, J and Peterman, A 2013. *Tip of the Iceberg: Reporting and Gender-Based Violence in Developing Countries*. American Journal of Epidemiology.

Return and Resettlement

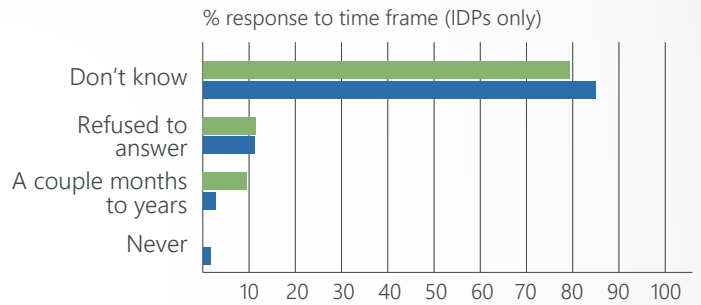
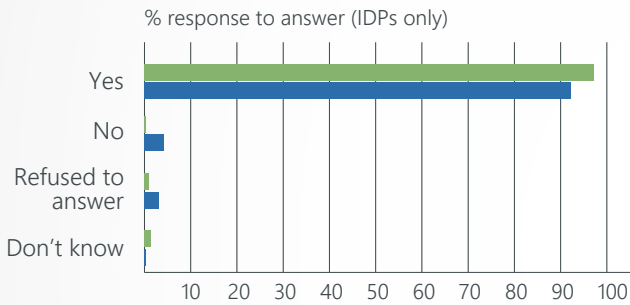
Authorities (Government and non-Government) are failing to effectively support return and resettlement processes

Across all groups, the results are a strong indication that respondents believe authorities are failing to effectively support return and resettlement processes, albeit KCA/NGCA IDPs are three times more likely to disagree with the statement than GCA IDPs. It is also important to recognise that the actions of authorities are somewhat constrained by the ongoing armed conflict. However, it remains possible for authorities to currently support return and resettlement, such as through IDP consultations, preparatory work and advocating for durable solutions with relevant stakeholders.



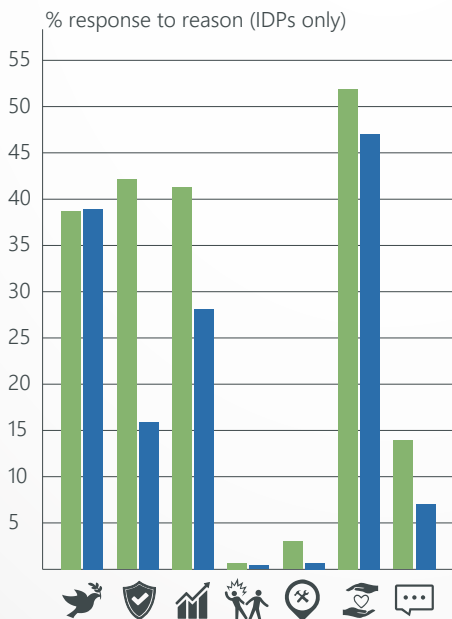
Do you want to return to your home/land?

When do you expect to return?



What are the reasons for wanting to return?¹⁹

- End of conflict
- Safe to return
- Better economic opportunities
- Forced return
- Lack of assistance at current location
- Hope for future
- Other



¹⁹ Respondents can provide more than one answer, hence the percentages totalling over 100 per cent. Not all respondents provided reasons

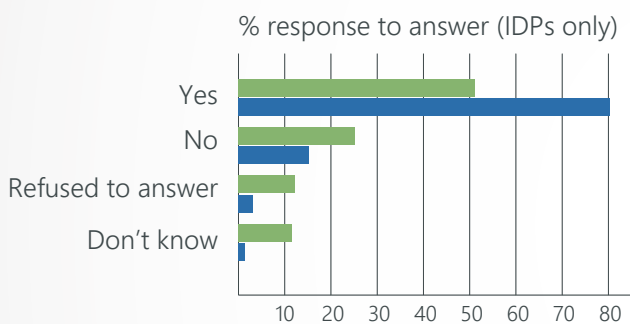
These responses indicate the end of conflict as a primary requirement for IDPs to return home, but safety is also a critical issue beyond just the conflict. For example, the conflict may have ended, but it may be unsafe to return due to landmines, close proximity to military bases and/or ongoing skirmishes. Therefore, addressing safety issues is paramount for supporting returns.

The responses also indicate the importance of better economic opportunities as a condition for return. The low rate of responses for 'lack of assistance' are a testament to the effectiveness of the humanitarian response.

What are the reasons for not wanting to return?

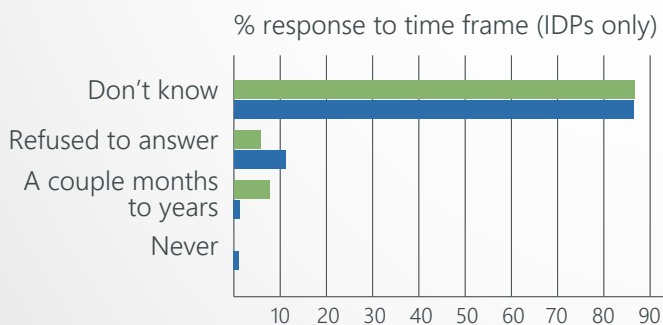
Due to nearly all IDPs wanting to return, only 13 IDPs responded to this question. Thus, the responses hold no statistical significance for any broader representation of the IDP population in Kachin. Nonetheless, the 13 responses indicated reasons such as lack of safety, limited livelihood opportunities, lack of social services and being settled in their current location as the main reasons for not wanting to return.

Do you want to be resettled?²⁰



These results highlight the preference towards return rather than resettlement, particularly for IDPs in KCA/NGCA. This means that creating the conditions for safe, dignified returns is an issue of paramount importance. The fact that many IDPs also indicated they want to be resettled is likely indicative of the difficulty of living in cramped IDP camps, thus making resettlement also an attractive option. However, it is important that these results are understood in the broader context, where IDP preference is clearly for return rather than resettlement, which is backed up by other research²¹. Thus, relevant stakeholders should focus on supporting IDP returns rather than resettlement.

When do you expect to resettle?



²⁰ 'Resettled' in Kachin generally refers to resettlement to a new location in Kachin state, not resettlement internationally or in another state/division of Myanmar.

²¹ Joint Strategy Team 2015. *Assessment on Internally Displaced Persons' Needs and Perspectives*.

What are the reasons for wanting to resettle?



End of conflict



Safe for resettlement



Better economic opportunities



Forced resettlement



Lack of assistance at current location

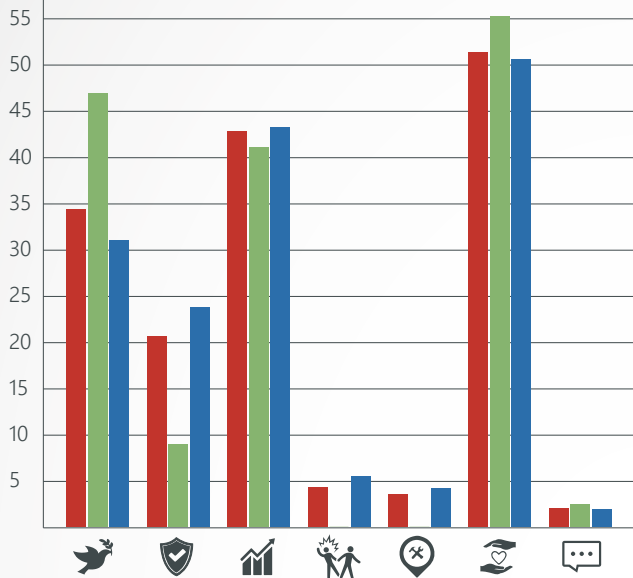


Hope for future

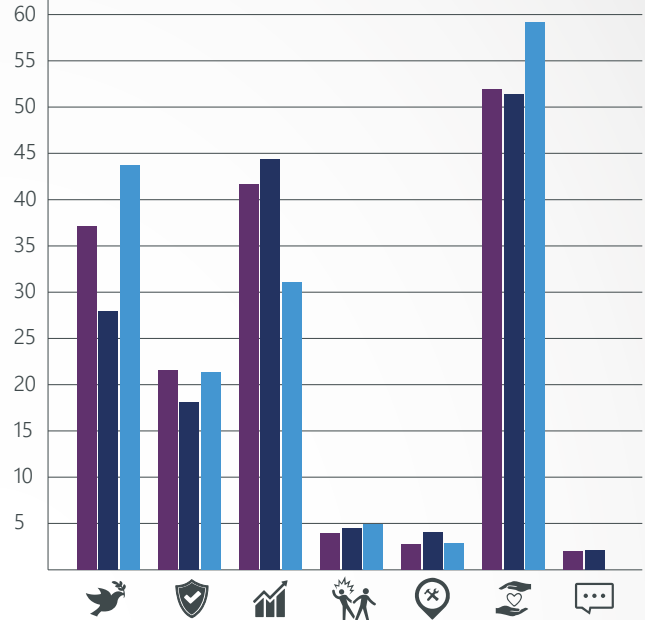


Other

% response to reason (IDPs only)



% response to reason (IDPs only)



What are the reasons for not wanting to resettle?



No trust in peace



Land mines



Unsafe



No/limited livelihood opportunities



Too remote



Safer here



Settled here

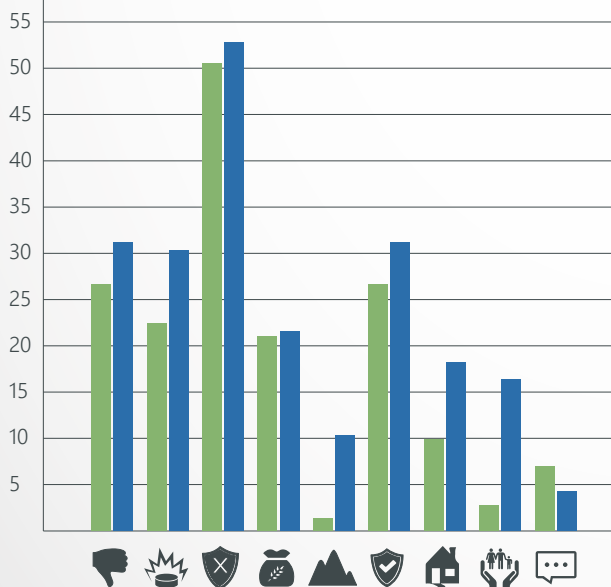


Lack of social services

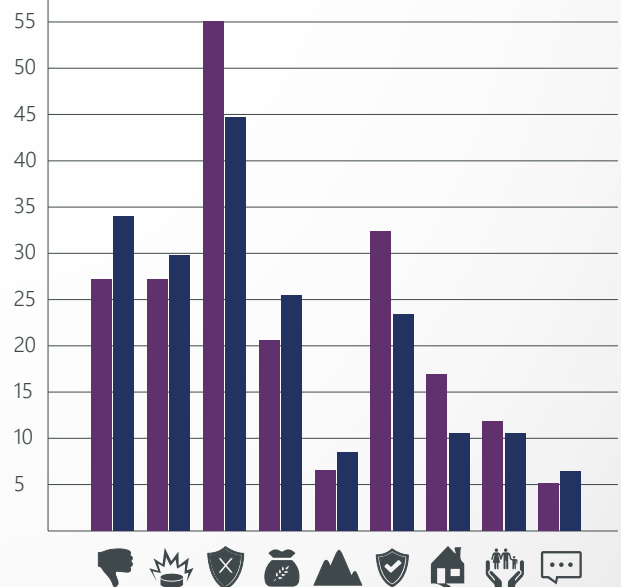


Other

% response to reason (IDPs only)



% response to reason (IDPs only)

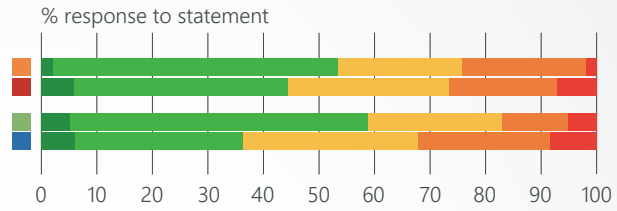
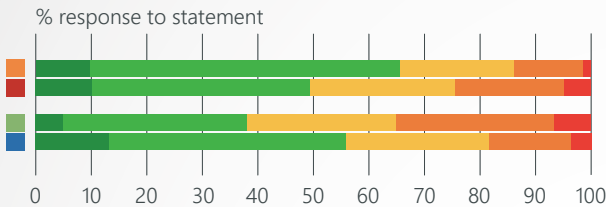


The reasons for not wanting to resettle once again reinforce the importance of safety and the need for a robust peace agreement, while the reasons for IDPs wanting to resettle are similar to those for wanting to return.

Linkages to Authorities

My community's needs are not understood by authorities.

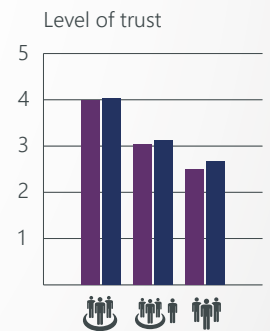
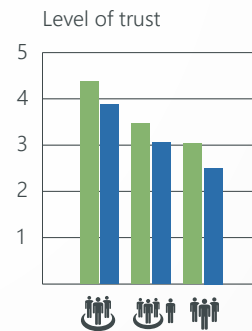
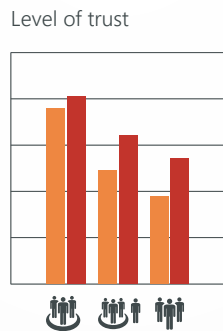
Authorities (Government and non-Government) have improved delivery of social services as a result of community requests.



These two data sets show that KCA/NGCA IDPs are more likely to feel that authorities understand their needs and are responsive to community requests compared to non-IDPs and GCA IDPs. While both non-IDPs and GCA IDPs report low levels of authorities' understanding community needs, non-IDPs are far more positive about authorities responsiveness to community requests. This reiterates a common theme that GCA IDPs appear more disconnected from local authorities when compared to both KCA/NGCA IDPs and non-IDPs.

Trust

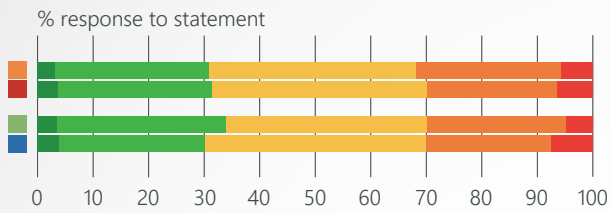
Trust (1-5 point scale developed from multiple questions, 1 = low, 5 = high)



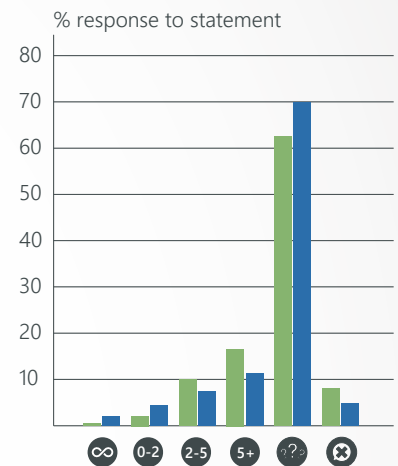
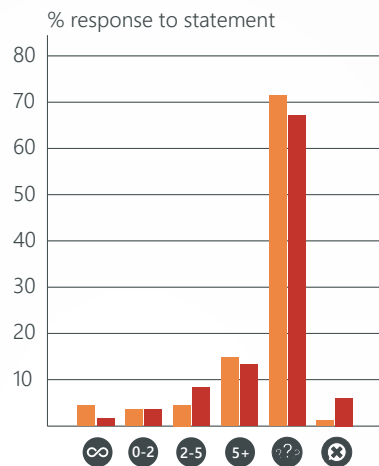
This scale was developed according to multiple questions asking respondents how much they trust different groups (indicated in the brackets above). The results show that IDPs express higher levels of trust across all groups than non-IDPs, while KCA/NGCA IDPs also express higher levels of trust across all groups than GCA IDPs. Non-IDPs' low levels of trust of 'others' correlates with earlier concerns about loss of land/resources from businesspeople and others. IDPs' higher levels of trust may relate to strong linkages with camp management committees and may even be a sign of solidarity within camps. Finally, the difference between KCA/NGCA and GCA correlates with other trends throughout the survey, such as KCA/NGCA IDPs feeling safer and more likely to turn to local authorities when feeling threatened or unsafe than GCA IDPs.

Future: Peace and Development

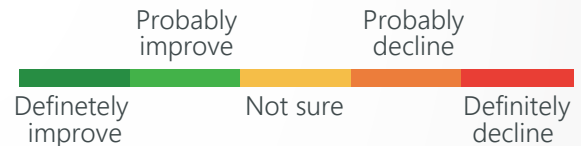
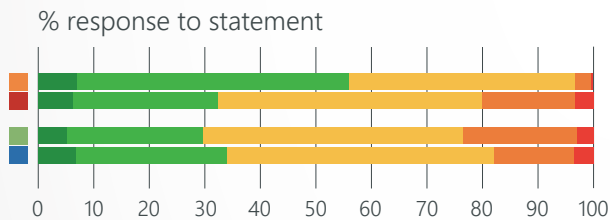
I am confident that the current peace process will result in lasting peace



How long do you think it will be until there is lasting peace in Kachin?

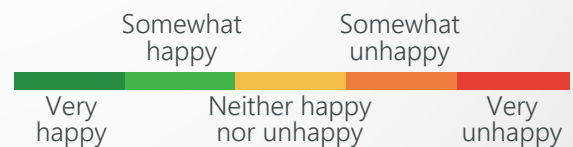
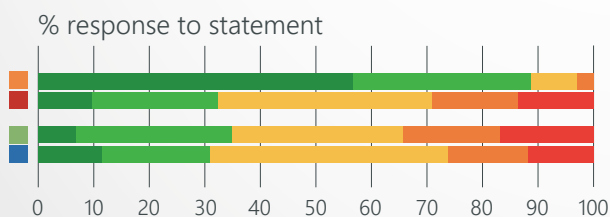


How do you feel about your household's future development opportunities?



A common theme throughout all of the data is the uncertainty over the future, particularly in terms of peace, and return and resettlement for IDPs, which flows through to perceptions towards future development. Considering most data indicates non-IDPs are in a better situation than IDPs, this likely explains why they are more positive about their household's future development.

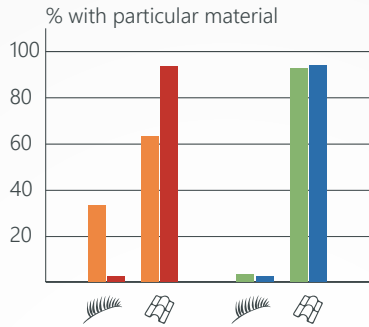
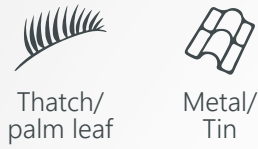
Taking all things together, would you say you are very happy, somewhat happy, neither happy nor unhappy, somewhat unhappy or very unhappy?



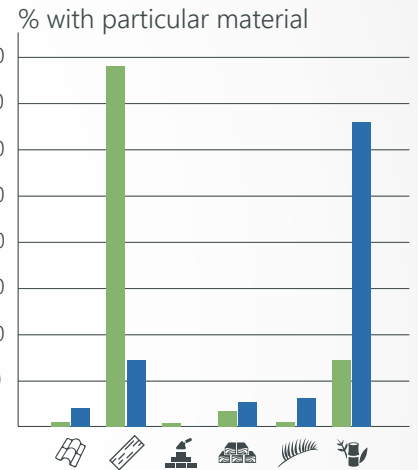
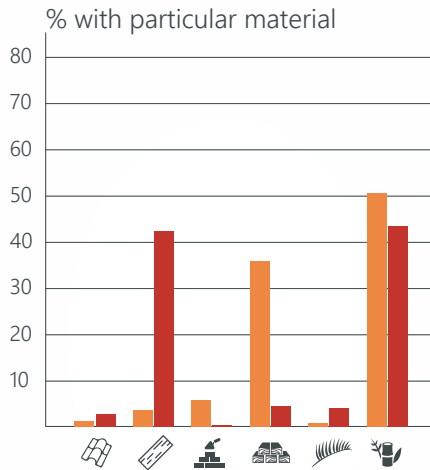
Despite being a highly subjective question, the results are indicative of the overall differences recorded in this survey, where non-IDPs are faring much better than IDPs.

Shelter

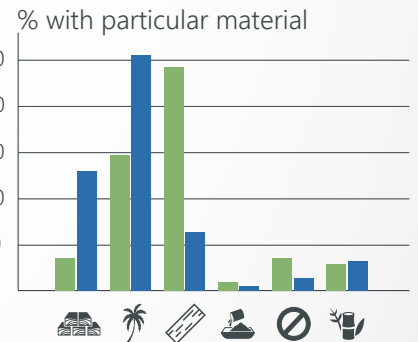
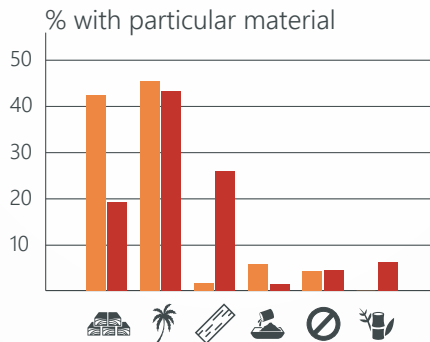
What is the main material of the roof?



What is the main material of the walls?



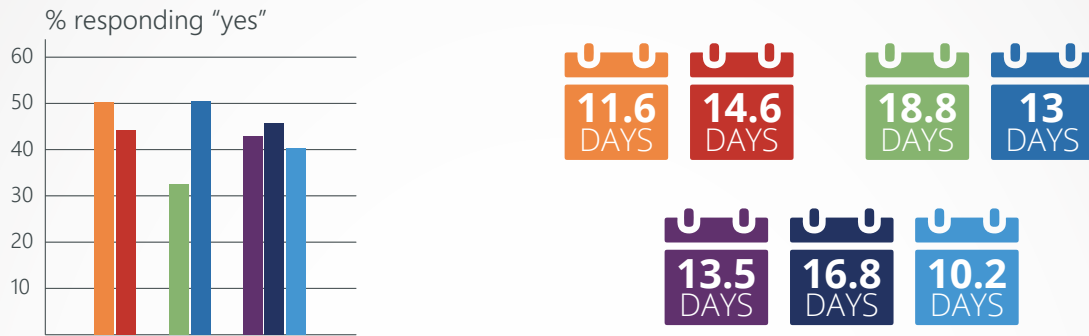
What is the main material of the floor?



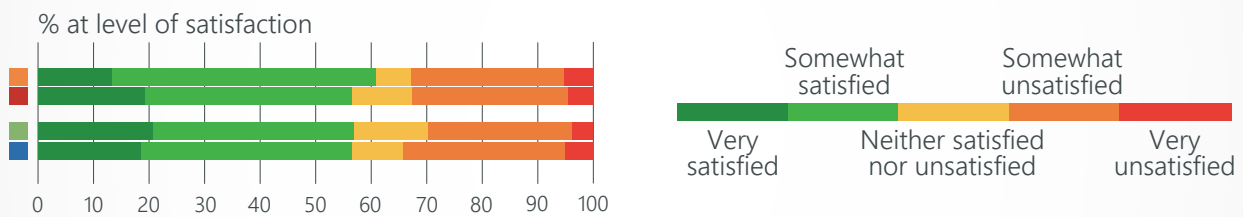
It should be noted that the high prevalence of tin roofs for IDPs does not necessarily indicate better housing than non-IDPs. This is due to IDPs generally being accommodated in mass blocks of approximately 2.5m by 2.5m rooms per family. Additionally, whilst housing quality for non-IDPs may seem poorer, they often live in standalone housing compared to blocks of rooms.

Health

In the last 3 months, have you been ill to the extent that you were unable to participate in normal daily activities? If yes, for how many days?

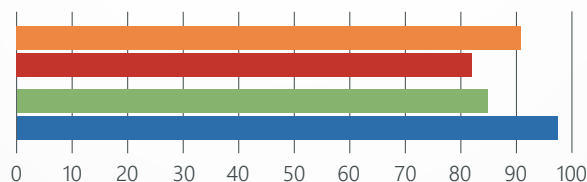


How satisfied are you with your health?



Overall, these results indicate poor health across all interviewed groups with sickness being common and prolonged, suggesting a strong need to address health issues.

% of births attended by a skilled birth attendant



Conclusions

This section provides some key overall conclusions, followed by conclusions on comparisons of respondents across the three paired groupings in this report: (a) IDPs and non-IDPs, (b) KCA/NGCA and GCA IDPs, and (c) gender, with a small note on youth.

- The socioeconomic situation for all groups is precarious, but particularly so for IDPs and the poorest of each group, which is at least the bottom 50%, but may in fact be a higher percentage.
- IDPs preference is for return rather than resettlement with peace and safety critical to IDPs considering return.
- Inequality is a major issue for all groups. Inequality is highly pronounced in terms of income, savings and food reserves.
- There are consistent differences between KCA/NGCA IDPs and GCA IDPs with the former generally reporting better linkages with authorities, feeling safer, more likely to view their community as peaceful and more trusting of different groups.
- Overall, IDPs are very uncertain about the future, both in terms of peace and their own household's future development, whereas non-IDPs are more confident about a positive future.
- Non-IDPs fear of losing land/resources is a prominent concern in Kachin that requires a concerted response. Respondents view companies and illegal logging as the primary sources of this threat. This will likely be a major issue for IDPs when/if they start returning home.
- Reporting on health shows poor health across all groups.
- IDPs view the threat of armed conflict as the primary threat, while non-IDPs are more concerned about loss of land/resources and natural disasters.
- Non-IDPs are generally faring better than IDPs across many results, such as socioeconomic areas, information access, happiness and positivity about the future. Essentially, there's a strong argument that displacement is connected with many negative outcomes.
- Both IDPs and non-IDPs indicate a distinct lack of information about and opportunities to participate in the peace process.
- There is a general trend indicating women are at greater disadvantage than men across the survey results, in terms of participating in the peace process, socioeconomic indicators and other areas. Attitudes towards and prevalence of GBV are of particular concern.
- Despite the above point, there are minimal gendered variances across many survey questions.
- There is no discernible trend across the various indicators for youth IDPs compared to non-youth IDPs.

IDPs and non-IDPs

Taken as a whole, the survey paints a clear picture of the volatile and precarious situation for IDPs in Kachin and to a lesser degree for non-IDPs. This situation is characterised by a poor socioeconomic situation, widespread fears of armed violence, uncertainty about the future, lack of engagement with authorities (particularly in GCA), exclusion from the peace process and a strong desire to return home. This situation is only likely to deteriorate as the armed conflict continues.

At the same time, the effectiveness of the humanitarian response to date is evident in responses on shelter, food consumption (but not long-term food security) and trust between IDPs and Camp Management Committees and religious organisations.

For non-IDPs, the situation is significantly better and likely indicative of the situation in which IDPs would find themselves if they had not been displaced. Non-IDPs are wealthier, have greater opportunities to participate in the peace process, are more positive about the future and have better linkages with local authorities than IDPs. However, the results also show non-IDPs have lower levels of trust than IDPs, high levels of income inequality, and still face many challenges, including the very real possibility of displacement.

KCA/NGCA IDPs and GCA IDPs

When comparing the results from KCA/NGCA and GCA IDPs, there is a substantial contrast. The most prominent finding is that KCA/NGCA IDPs appear significantly better connected to and served by local authorities than GCA IDPs. This is particularly evident in responses to questions about local authorities reflecting community interests in peace processes, who IDPs would turn to for safety/security issues and local authorities improving social services, due to community requests. The results also indicate KCA/NGCA IDPs feel safer, feel their community is more peaceful and have higher levels of trust than GCA IDPs, amongst other indicators.

Overall, the situation is substantially different for GCA IDPs, where multiple results indicate a disconnect from local authorities, which is also evident when compared to non-IDPs that are located in GCA. One possible conclusion is that local Government authorities have minimal presence and service delivery in GCA IDP camps. However, GCA IDPs do rate their opportunities to participate in peace process better than KCA/NGCA IDPs, while they also have far better access to markets and thus related benefits.

Ultimately, the situation for all IDPs is extremely precarious, particularly in terms of food security and income, with the poorest quartile (and second quartile) having close to no savings or food reserves.

Gender (and Youth)

The final main comparison of results was between female and male IDPs. As explained at the beginning of the report, gender (and youth) disaggregation was only included where there was a difference of at least five percentage points. As can be seen by the lack of gender (and youth) disaggregated data, there were often minimal differences. The lack of differences deserves further examination.

Nonetheless, there is a general trend of disadvantage for female IDPs across different areas, particularly in terms of income, safety, reporting less access to information about the peace process and feeling less positive about the inclusion of women/community issues in the peace process. The gender-specific questions also revealed problematic attitudes towards GBV and likely substantial prevalence of GBV. Ultimately, although gendered differences may not have been overtly evident across all areas, there does appear a trend of disadvantage, suggesting the need to prioritise support for female IDPs and ensure interventions address gender inequalities. Meanwhile for youth, there were subtle differences across some survey questions, but not enough to draw major conclusions.

Implications & Discussion Points

Although this baseline report is not designed as a needs assessment, there are some key implications and discussion points from the data, as follows:

- There is a clear need for both non-IDPs and IDPs to have improved information about, greater participation in and more influence in the peace process.
- The inequality across all groups is striking, highlighting the extremely vulnerable situations of the poorest people across all groups. This must be a key consideration for all actors in Kachin.
- Efforts focusing on durable solutions should prioritise return over resettlement, as that reflects the preference of IDPs, in addition to ensuring safety for returns, which goes beyond any ceasefire, and must form part of any peace agreement.
- Camp Management Committees and religious organisations are turned to by IDPs for insecurity (and likely other) issues, thus representing an important conduit for supporting IDPs.
- For non-IDPs, loss of land/resources is seen as a major threat and should be a priority issue to be addressed by stakeholders in Kachin, with companies identified as the key source of this threat. This issue should also be proactively addressed for IDPs.
- Better understanding and improving the poor or non-existent linkages between GCA IDPs and local authorities should be a priority focus.
- The poor health indicators across all groups suggest a need for increased focus on improving health outcomes.
- Supporting female IDPs and addressing gender inequality should be a key consideration for all interventions given the general trend of disadvantage for female IDPs compared to male IDPs.

Annex One: Methodology

This baseline report forms an initial stage of Oxfam's World Citizens Panel²² (WCP) approach to impact measurement, which is being used for the DPP.

WCP consists of a quantitative baseline (this report), Stories of Change and end line, together forming the overall impact analysis. Oxfam and partners (in this case, the DPP consortium members) develop the baseline and end line surveys. Survey questions include standardised questions used globally by Oxfam, such as those related to socioeconomic and nutrition indicators, along with other questions that specifically link to the DPP's activities and log-frame, such as attitudes towards peace, gender, return and resettlement. The baseline and end line form the quantitative basis of the WCP, which is enriched with Stories of Change to provide more qualitative and open-ended information.

Based on the Most Significant Change interviewing/evaluation methodology, Stories of Change are gathered throughout the programme cycle to capture the depth of impact that quantitative data may fail to capture. For example, whereas the baseline and end line may quantify improved knowledge related to peace and civic education, Stories of Change can capture how those involved possibly became leaders, started peace initiatives and so on. As such, this baseline report is designed to focus entirely on quantitative data, which will then be enriched by Stories of Change.

²² More information available at www.worldcitizenspanel.com

The following are key elements of the baseline methodology.

The Survey

The survey was designed by the consortium to measure impact related to the DPP's activities and broader social indicators. The survey underwent a thorough review process, particularly in relation to gender, conflict sensitivity, programme relevance and evaluation standards. The survey was also field tested in Kachin. The finalised survey was translated into Jinghpaw (Kachin) and Myanmar languages.

Interviewers

- Two workshops were held in Myitkyina for approximately 70 data collectors, covering interviewing techniques (particularly related to sensitivities, such as trauma and gender), informed and voluntary consent of interviewees, and implementation processes.
- Data collectors were staff and volunteers associated with the seven consortium members and their partners for the DPP.
- Approximately 45% of interviews were conducted by women and 55% by men.

Interviewees

- 2206²³ interviews were conducted in approximately 80 IDP camps and villages across 12 townships of Kachin, namely Bhamo, Chipwi, Hpakant, Kamaing, Mansi, Mogaung, Momauk, Mohnyin, Myitkyina, Puta-O, Shwegu, and Waingmaw.
- Sample sizes were calculated according to the number of people each consortium member aims to reach through the DPP, with samples ranging from 200-400.
- For each consortium member, the total number of interviewees were divided across towns/IDP camps in proportion to population size. Interviewees were then randomly, but systematically selected in each location. For example, if 10 interviews were required across 30 households, every third household would be interviewed.

Data Collection

- Locations were selected to get a balance of Kachin's diversity, such as including lowland and highland areas, KCA/NGCA and GCA, rural and urban, and differing proximities to conflict. All locations are target areas of the DPP.
- Data was collected between late August and early November. This timeframe was the during the peak of negotiations over the National Ceasefire Agreement and just prior to the November 8th national elections.
- All data was collected digitally, utilising tablets.

Data Analysis

- Data cleaning was conducted by Oxfam to remove anomalies and inconsistent answers, thus making the data more reliable. For example, if an interviewee indicates four children in the household, but then six attending school. In such cases, the data is either adjusted or removed.
- Substantial amounts of data were processed automatically through the Fluid Surveys tablet application.
- Oxfam conducted further data processing, such as compiling aggregated data and disaggregating results according to certain variables.
- All subgroups provide statistically significant results, due to large enough sample sizes. However, the micro contexts of Kachin require caution when generalising any results.

²³ Note: discrepancies in numbers throughout the report are due to some surveys not having all questions answered. 2206 refers to the total interviews, but some questions may have been answered by less than this total.

References

Global Witness 2015. *Jade: Myanmar's "Big State Secret"*.

Joint Strategy Team 2015. *Assessment on Internally Displaced Persons' Needs and Perspectives*.

Joliffe, K. 2015. *Ethnic Armed Conflict and Territorial Administration in Myanmar*. The Asia Foundation.

OCHA 2015. *MYANMAR: IDP Sites in Kachin and northern Shan States*.

Palermo, T, Bleck, J and Peterman, A 2013. *Tip of the Iceberg: Reporting and Gender-Based Violence in Developing Countries*. American Journal of Epidemiology.

Wa Lone and Thu Thu Aung 2016. *Shan Fighting Leaves up to 1000 Homeless*. Myanmar Times. Available at:
<http://www.mmmtimes.com/index.php/national-news/19427-shan-fighting-leaves-up-to-1000-homeless.html>



OXFAM



SWISSAID

trócaire
Working for a just world.

Contact:

Oxfam

No. 34 Corner of Aung Taw Mu Lane & Golden Hill Avenue.

Bahan Township. Yangon, Myanmar.

Ph. (95) 01539986

www.oxfam.org.uk/myanmar

worldcitizenspanel@oxfamnovib.nl