

Information Management in South East Myanmar

Duncan McArthur

Partnership Director, The Border Consortium

12 November 2014, Yangon



Refugee Population Monitoring

Refugee and IDP Camp Populations: August 2014



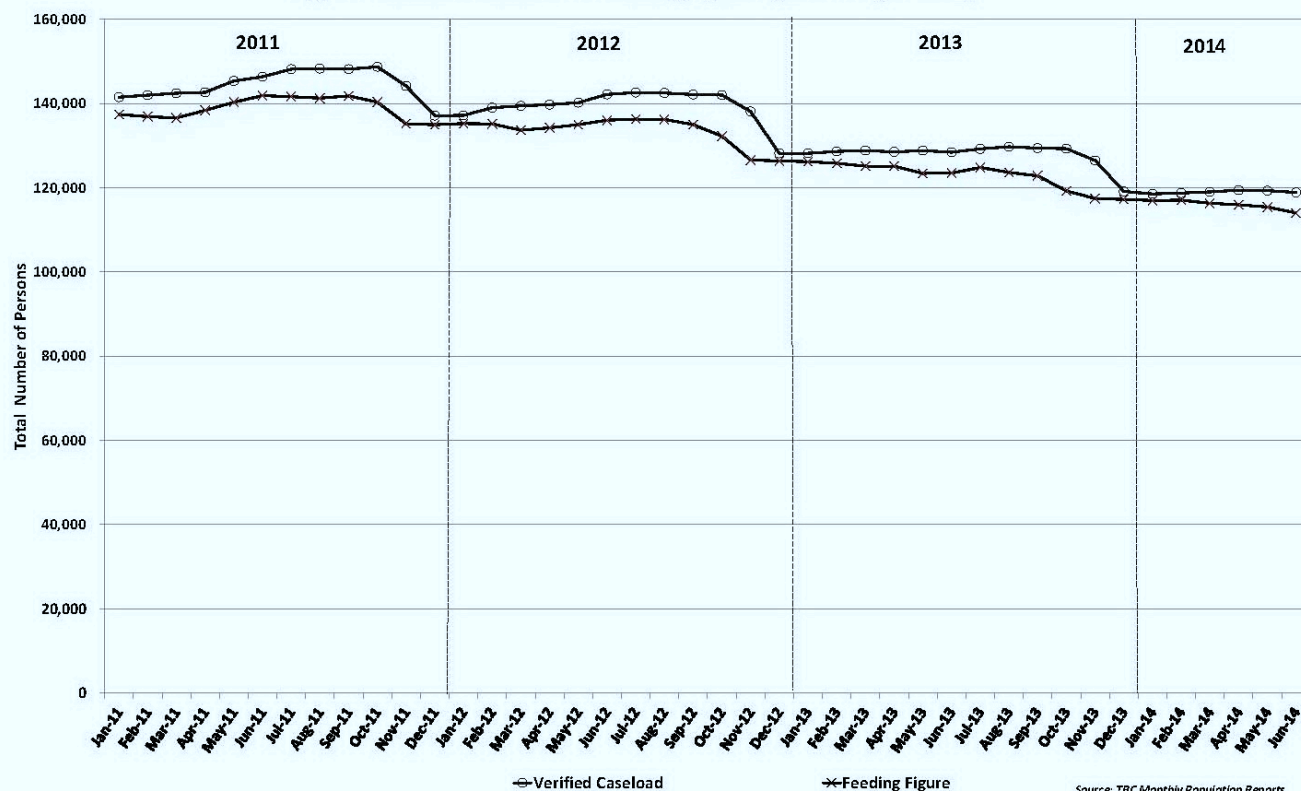
Refugee Camp Figures	Verified Caseload ¹			Feeding ² Figure	DoMUNHCR Population ³
Province/Camp	Female	Male	Total	Total	Total
CHIANG MAI					
Kuang Jor ⁴	265	252	517	517	
MAE HONG SON					
Ban Mai Nai Soi	5,722	6,081	11,803	11,677	9,157
Ban Mae Surin	1,450	1,458	2,908	2,800	1,249
Mae La Oon	5,922	5,956	11,878	11,581	8,171
Mae Ra Ma Luang	6,789	6,566	13,355	12,863	7,838
Subtotal:	19,883	20,061	39,944	38,921	26,415
TAK					
Mae La	22,635	22,136	44,771	42,187	24,634
Umphang Mai	6,520	6,444	12,964	11,557	9,334
Nu Po	6,440	6,038	12,478	11,671	7,471
Subtotal:	35,595	34,618	70,213	65,415	41,439
KANCHANBURI					
Ban Don Yang	1,676	1,597	3,273	3,200	2,443
RATCHABURI					
Tham Hin	3,543	3,201	6,744	6,243	4,275
Total Refugees	60,962	59,729	120,691	114,296	74,572

DP Camps ⁵	Female	Male	Total	Refugees by Ethnicity	
Loi Kaw Wan	1,327	1,514	2,841	Karen	78.0%
Loi Sam Sio	186	233	419	Karenni	11.6%
Loi Lam	134	133	267	Burman	2.9%
Loi Tai Leng	1,202	1,451	2,653	Mon	0.8%
Ee Tu Hta	1,799	1,899	3,698	Other	6.7%
Halockhant	1,462	1,453	2,915		
Total:	6,110	6,683	12,793		

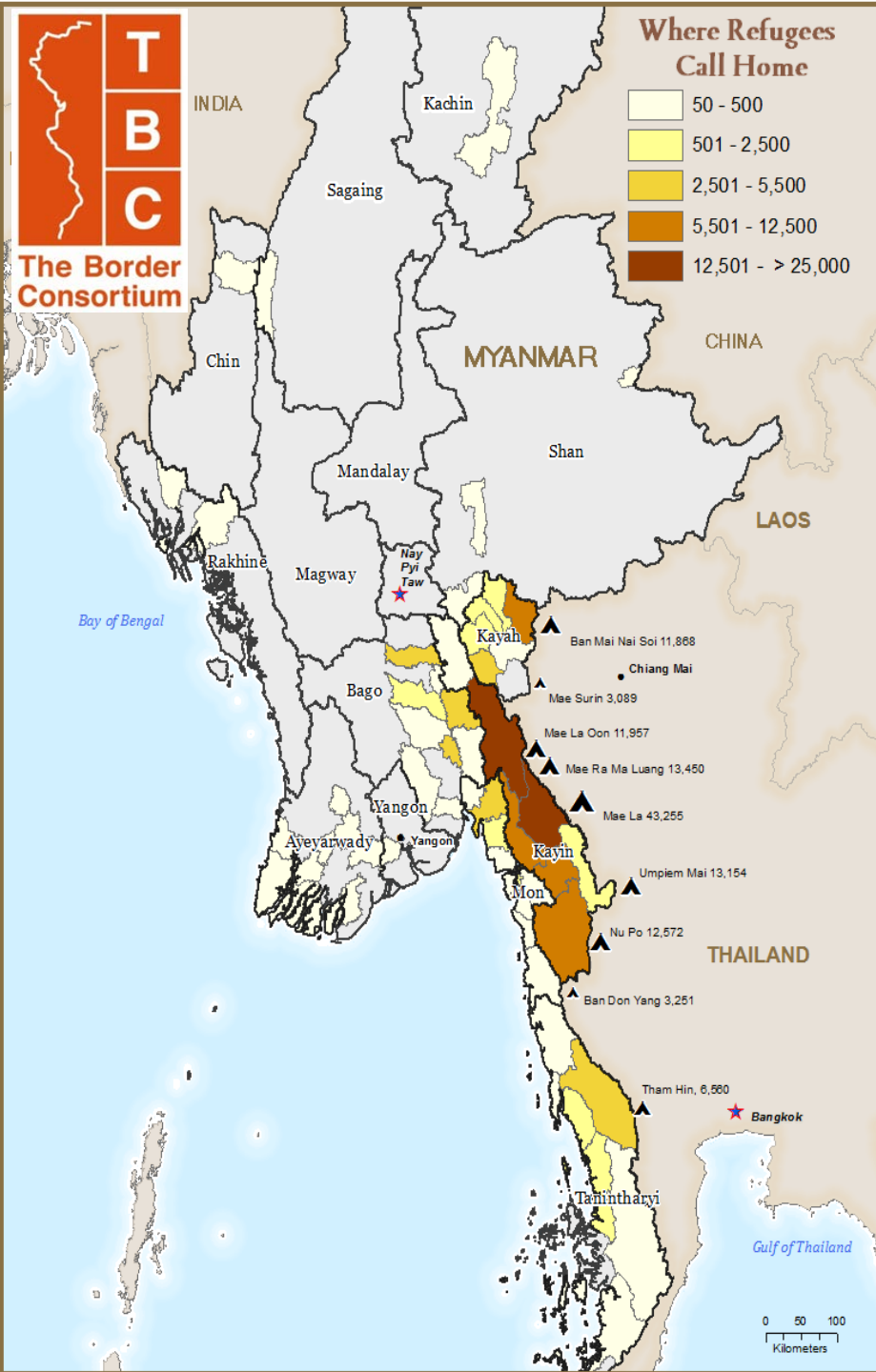


Refugee Situation Monitoring

Fig 1.1: Verified caseload and feeding figures (Jan 2011-Jun 2014)

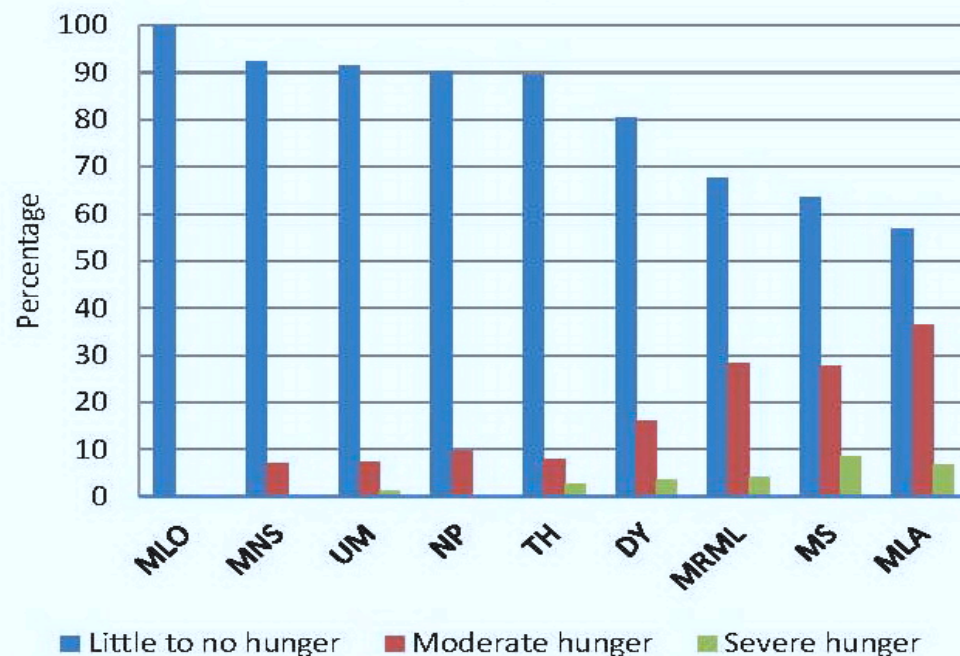


Source: TBC Monthly Population Reports



Refugee Situation Monitoring

Fig 2.6: Household hunger scale category frequency by camp (2013)



Township and household surveys of poverty and displacement (2012):

- * semi-structured interviews with key informants in 36 townships to assess displacement
- * questionnaires with over 4,000 households in 21 townships to assess poverty

2012

Changing Realities,

Poverty and Displacement
in South East Burma/Myanmar

2 0 1 3

POVERTY, DISPLACEMENT AND LOCAL GOVERNANCE IN SOUTH EAST BURMA/MYANMAR



Village-level survey of poverty, displacement & local governance (2013)

- Focus group discussions in 209 significant villages across 22 townships in June & July 2013

2014

PROTECTION & SECURITY CONCERNS

in South East Burma / Myanmar

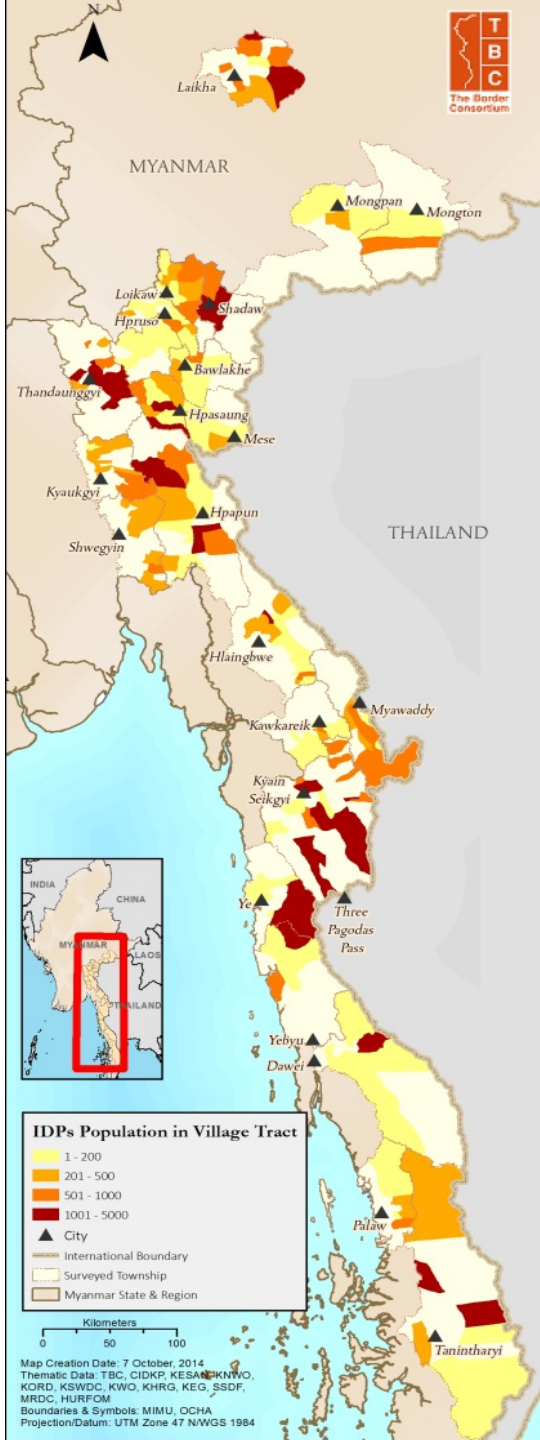
Village tract survey of protection & security concerns (2014)

- 222 out of 665 village tracts in 23 townships surveyed
- Over 2,600 participants in focus group discussions, with average of 12 people per village tract.

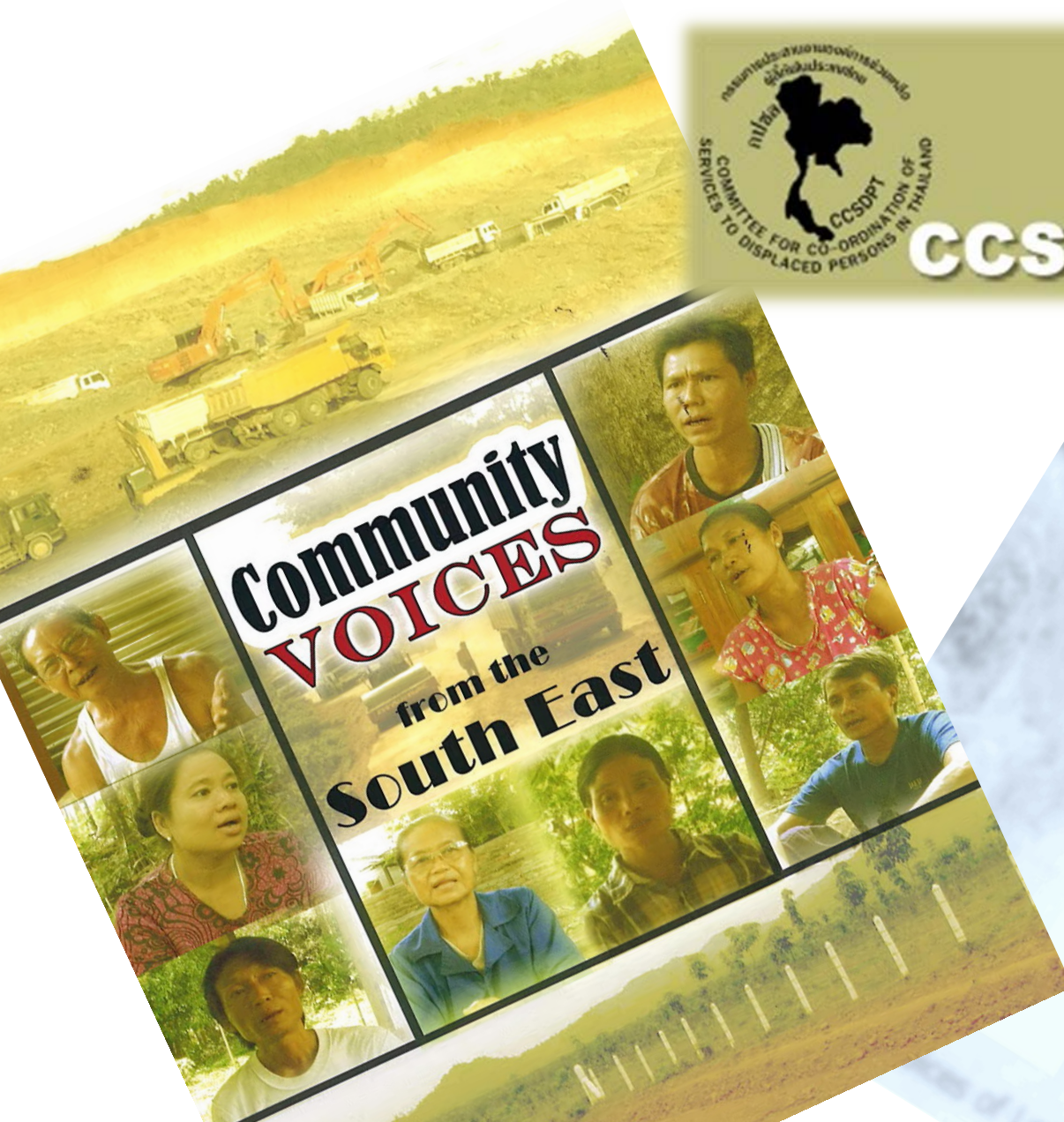


Internal Displacement

- * IDP population estimates are more precise but cover a smaller area than previous surveys.
- * 2012 survey: 400,000 IDPs in 36 townships
- * 2014 survey: 110,000 IDPs in 23 townships (but only 33% of village tracts surveyed)
- * The estimates are proportionately similar and suggest no significant reduction in IDPs.



Information Sharing Centers in Refugee Camps



What Villagers
in the South East
Say...

WHAT REFUGEES SAY...

COMPARATIVE PERSPECTIVES OF
TEMPORARY RETURNEES
ON THEMES RAISED IN
"WHAT VILLAGERS SAY..."

Mapping Programme Reach

PLE in SOUTH EAST MYANMAR

HEALTH:

- Beneficiaries: 468,000
- Maternal & child health; communicable diseases
- 7 CBO partners

FOOD SECURITY:

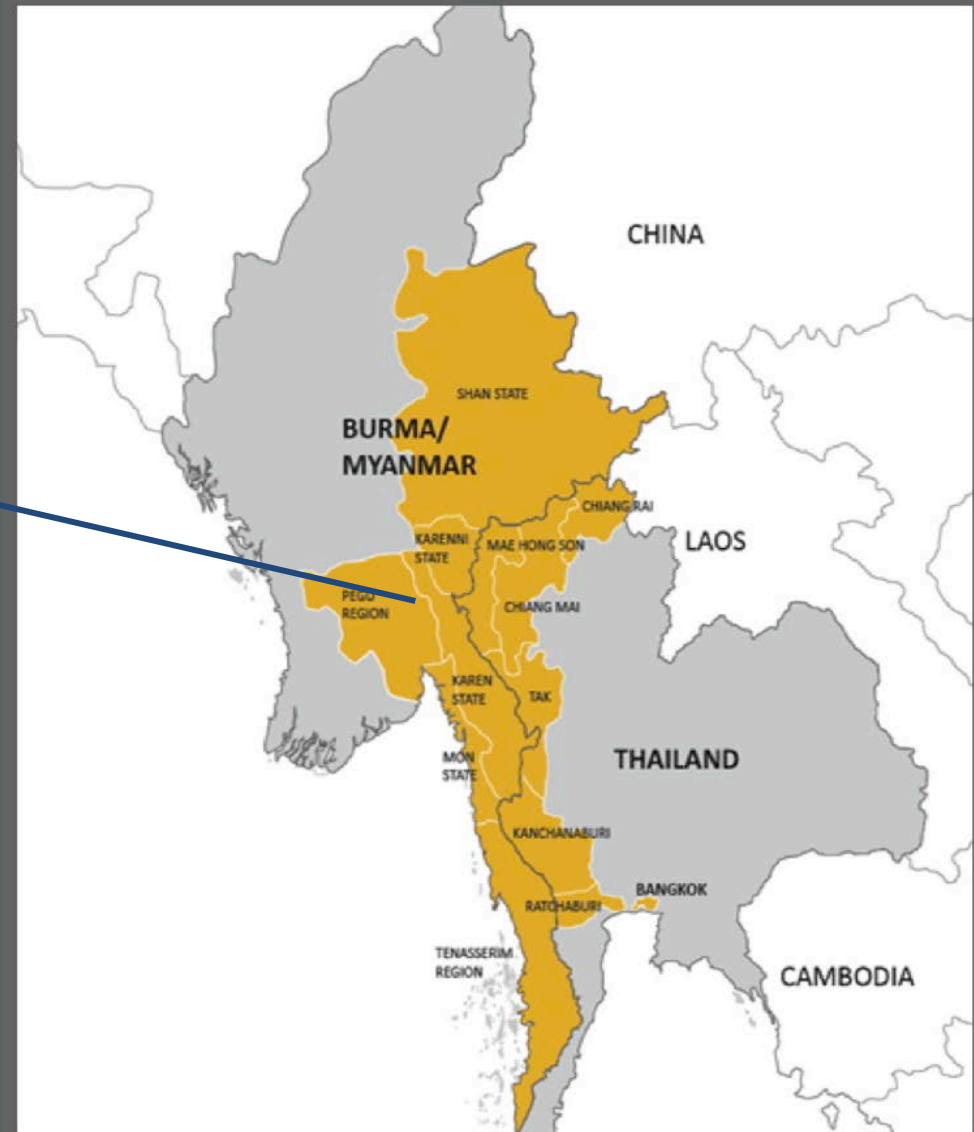
- 42,000 receiving cash transfers
- 10,000 receiving food aid in 7 IDP camps
- Pilot community rehabilitation projects
- 7 CBO partners

EDUCATION:

- 1,460 schools, 9,700 teachers & 176,000 students
- 5 CBO partners

PROTECTION

- Self-protection
- Gender based violence prevention & response
- 2 CBO partners



Gaps, Constraints and Weaknesses

- Legal and security constraints impede information flows
- Information dissemination remains targeted at international agencies
- Survey fatigue: agencies ignore local knowledge & findings.
- Research agendas are driven by government or foreign interests
- Context & policy options for national dialogue topics yet to be compiled
- Reputational risk of promoting premature refugee return

Recommendations / Priorities

- **Affirmative action** in favour of civil society prioritising and driving research agendas and analysis.
- Information management **support for ethnic armed groups**, and not just government agencies, in contested areas.
- **Township profiles** to inform refugees, relief and development agencies alike about existing social services and protection concerns.
- **Common mapping platforms** to encourage peer-review, promote accountability and build on analyses.