

# FUNDING APPEAL FOR REFUGEES/IDPS ON SHAN-THAI BORDER DURING COVID-19 LOCKDOWN

MAY 2020

## RICE SHORTAGES

In October 2017, monthly rice support from The Border Consortium to the Shan refugee/IDP camps was cut completely. Since then, only a small amount of aid has been raised from local communities and private donors for the food needs of the refugees/IDPs, who remain unable to return home, due to ongoing Burma Army expansion and attacks.

### RICE NEEDS FOR 6 MONTHS

NEED



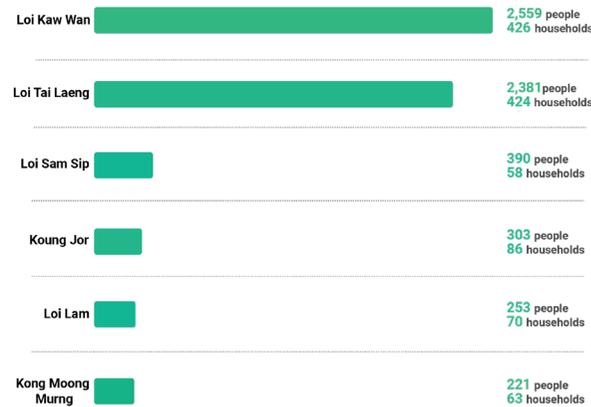
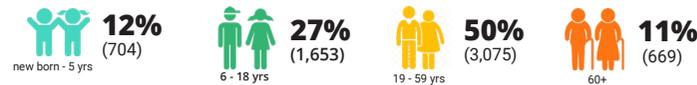
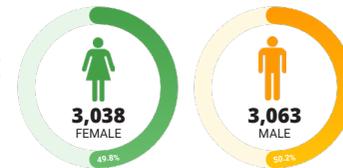
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(by SSRC FROM 1 JAN 2020 - 30 APR 2020)



Burma Army attacks against RCSS/SSA in Mong Ton, Eastern Shan State on March 25, 2020.

TOTAL POPULATION  
**6,101** PEOPLE



## IMPACT OF BORDER LOCKDOWN ON FOOD SECURITY

On March 26, 2020, Thailand locked down the entire border to prevent the spread of COVID-19, including opposite the IDP camps. IDPs have been unable to cross into Thailand to do wage labour, which has enabled them to survive since food aid was cut off over two years ago.



**40%** of IDPs in Loi Kaw Wan IDP camp, who used to earn about 1,400 Baht (USD 44) each per month, for approx. 10 days work in tea plantations, no longer have this income to feed their families.

## HEALTH SITUATION

IDP camp committees and medics have been raising awareness about Covid-19 prevention in the camps, and monitoring IDPs' health. Any newcomers have been quarantined. Fortunately, until now, there have been no suspected cases of COVID-19 in any of the camps.

IDP camp clinics have no facilities to treat seriously ill patients, and have always referred emergency cases to Thai hospitals. Now, under the lockdown, medical emergency cases have been blocked from crossing at border checkpoints. Food shortages will impact the IDPs' health, and increase vulnerability to serious illness, with no access to hospital treatment.

## SSRC APPEALS FOR DONATIONS TO PROVIDE EMERGENCY FOOD FOR THESE REFUGEES/IDPS

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