



Migrants arriving in Poipet on board Thai Military trucks ©Joe Lowry/IOM 2014

## SITUATION OVERVIEW

The total number of Cambodian migrants returning from Thailand has reached 170,000 by early evening (local time) of 16 June. This massive exodus showed a steep increase over the weekend with more than 110,000 migrants returning over the weekend alone. Poipet remains to be the main return border check point with more than 149,710 returnees as of 17:00 local time on 16 June 2014. The other three border crossings, namely Phsar Prum, O'Smarch and Laem Duong, recorded a combined total of 20,220 returnees as of 15 June.

## HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE

More than 100 trucks were mobilized by the Cambodian Army on the evening of 12 June to transport thousands of migrants stranded at the Poipet border. These military trucks transported the bulk of young migrants without children to their home provinces located in far distances, while IOM provided transportation to vulnerable

## HIGHLIGHTS

- Number of Cambodian migrants who have returned from Thailand from 7-16 June through Poipet: 149,710
- Number of returnees arriving through other border points (Phsar Prum, O'Smarch and Laem Duong) from 7-15 June: 20,220 (including 6,087 females and 1,158 children)
- IOM has provided transport assistance to 4,839 vulnerable migrants to return to their families.

migrants, such as women with young infant children and accompanied family members. IOM has dispatched 27 buses and assisted more than

4,800 of the most vulnerable migrants to-date to their homes in the provinces of Siem Reap, Battambang and Pursat, as requested by the District Governor.

IOM continues to work closely with the UN Resident Coordinator's Office, WFP, UNICEF, Cambodian Red Cross, Samaritan Purse, Wold Vision as well as with Immigration authorities and local government authorities.

The Ministry of Social Affairs Veteran and Youth Rehabilitation (MoSAVY), Cambodian Red Cross, Poipet Immigration, and the Provincial Governor and Mayor are actively on the ground, facilitating the response and holding coordination meetings.

Samaritan Purse (SP) have distributed approximately 74,000 meals, 5,119 pork bread rolls, 27,328 bags of dry noodles and more than 163,000 bottles of water. SP have also distributed 900 hygiene kits.

World Vision is supporting small children, pregnant and lactating women, and those who are ill by getting them into IOM buses, providing protection monitoring for children, and providing milk to 1,500 small children.

Local authorities reported that migrants who arrived during the earlier part of the day were

those who were already stranded overnight on the other side of the border. The situation continues to be desperate as many migrants await their belongings and other family members who are still on the other side of the border. The increasing incidences of family members who have become separated amplifies the issue of family tracing.

Additional needs identified during the past few days are shelter and latrines for stranded people as well as "rest points" along return routes to allow migrants who are travelling long-distances to eat, drink and rest.

## FUNDING

The Australian Embassy in Cambodia has pledged USD 40,000 to IOM to meet critical transport assistance to returning migrants. In order to address the growing needs of returning migrants, IOM requires an additional USD 100,000 to provide migrants with safe return transportation, humanitarian assistance, and pre-embarkation health checks over the next 10 days.

IOM will conduct continuous assessment of the situation, and provide estimates of additional funding requirements for other essential services, such as medical referrals and other acute requirements.

IOM migration health staff administering fitness-to-travel checks to Cambodian returnees ©IOM 2014



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