

Situation Report #12

Displacement Caused by Cambodia–Thailand Border Conflict

World Vision International in Cambodia

Updated on 30th July 2025

Situation Updated

Background

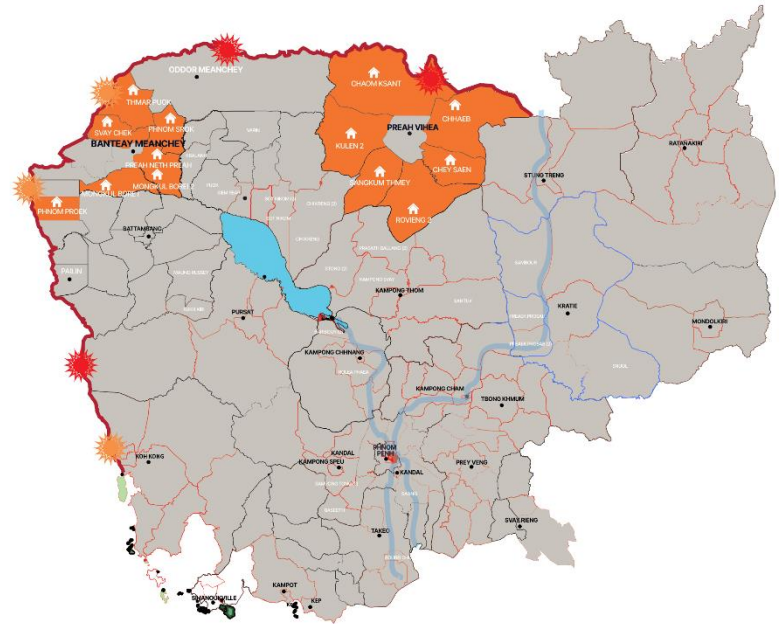
Cambodia and Thailand have been locked in a decades-long disagreement over the jurisdiction of various non-demarcated areas along their shared land border, which stretches more than 800 kilometres (500 miles). The conflict escalated in May 2025, when a Cambodian soldier [was killed](#) in a brief exchange of gunfire with Thai soldiers at a disputed border area, prompting a diplomatic crisis and the reinforcement of military presence along the border by both sides. Cambodia submitted [a request](#) to the International Court of Justice (ICJ) on June 15 to resolve its border dispute with Thailand. Tensions further heightened because of two incidents, on 16 and 23 July, in which Thai soldiers patrolling along the border were injured by landmines. Both sides accused each other of provocation, leading to increased military presence and further skirmishes along the border. The tension escalated to the most serious military confrontation on 24 July 2025.

Latest Developments

On 28 July, a special [meeting](#) hosted by Malaysia brought together leaders from both countries with participation from the United States and China. Both leaders expressed willingness for an immediate ceasefire and return to normalcy. The meeting produced a joint understanding that included an immediate and unconditional ceasefire effective from 24:00 hours on 28 July 2025.

As part of ongoing ceasefire monitoring efforts, the Ministry of National Defense is currently leading a delegation—including diplomats, foreign military attachés, and other stakeholders—to observe and assess the situation along the Cambodia–Thailand border.

Looking ahead, Cambodia will collaborate closely with all relevant parties to establish a monitoring mechanism to verify and ensure the full, strict, and sustained implementation of the ceasefire agreement.



Returned Migrants

Over 400,000 Cambodian migrant workers returned from Thailand within a five-day period following the outbreak of conflict on July 24, 2025, as intense border clashes severely disrupted safety and livelihoods, according to the Ministry of Labour and Vocational Training (MoLVT).

Internally Displaced Persons


As of 6:00 PM on July 29, a total of **168,946** internally displaced persons (IDPs)—primarily children, women, the elderly, and persons with disabilities—have sought refuge in 180 temporary shelters across Oddar Meanchey, Preah Vihear, Banteay Meanchey, Pursat, and Siem Reap provinces, according to the Ministry of National Defense.


Emergency Response Plan


World Vision International in Cambodia (WVI-C) has activated a Category I National Emergency Response to address the humanitarian needs resulting from the Cambodia-Thailand border conflict. Our immediate intervention focuses **56 safety centers with 15,306 families, comprising of 53,352 individuals, in Preah Vihear, Banteay Meanchey, and Siem Reap** with the flexibility to expand into Battambang as displacement increases.


Response to Date

Our efforts have supported 35 safety centers, benefiting **8,675 families, comprising 27,755 individuals**. This includes 3,512 women, among them 43 pregnant women; 12,962 children, including 14 children with disabilities (CWDs), of whom 7,610 are girls; and 66 persons with disabilities (PWDs), of whom 28 are female.

 To protect children and address their psychosocial needs, **24 Child Friendly Spaces** were established across temporary shelters, offering safe environments for play, learning, and emotional recovery.

 To improve hygiene and reduce the risk of disease outbreaks, **4,076 hygiene kits** were distributed, alongside **95 sets of materials for latrine installation**, complemented by hygiene promotion awareness sessions conducted in all safety centers.

 Living conditions in shelters were further supported through the distribution of **4,721 sets of non-food items**, including tents, mosquito nets, blankets, light bulbs, electric wire, and fans, helping families cope with overcrowding and exposure risks.

 To ensure food security, **20 tons of rice, 900 boxes of instant noodles, 8,000 packs of soy and fish sauce, and 6,000 canned fish** were distributed, providing vital nutrition to affected households.



Coordination & Partnership

WVI-C is actively engaging with the Humanitarian Response Forum (HRF) at the national level and participating in sector-specific coordination groups. Current efforts are focused on conducting assessments and sharing critical information to guide the response. World Vision will join selected joint assessments alongside HRF members and contribute to the development of a shared action plan, ensuring a coordinated and efficient response while minimizing duplication of efforts.

In partnership with Plan International Cambodia, WVI-C will deliver coordinated support in seven safety centers where both organizations are active. The complaints mechanism will be introduced as an additional intervention in these centers to help ensure psychological safety for internally displaced persons (IDPs). There is potential to expand this initiative to all safety centers currently supported by WVI-C.

Call for Action

The total estimated budget for this initial **three-month response is USD 300,000**. World Vision International in Cambodia urgently calls for support to deliver this child-focused, life-saving intervention. Timely funding will enable us to protect lives, restore dignity, and sustain hope for families displaced by the conflict.

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