# REFUGEE TRENDS

Bob Montgomery, Executive Director
International Rescue Committee San Diego

# BHUTANESE (NEPAL)

## Bhutanese (Nepal)

- 1990s: Ethnic Persecution
- 1990: Flee to Nepal

# Bhutanese: Refugee Camps

- 107,000 in camps E. Nepal
- 55,000 considered for USRP
- 15,000 in US since FY08

# Bhutanese

- 60% Hindus
- Nepali Language

# Bhutanese: California Concentrations

# Bhutanese: Health Concerns

## Poor Diet

- Vitamin A Deficiency
- Malnutrition
- Anemia
- TB

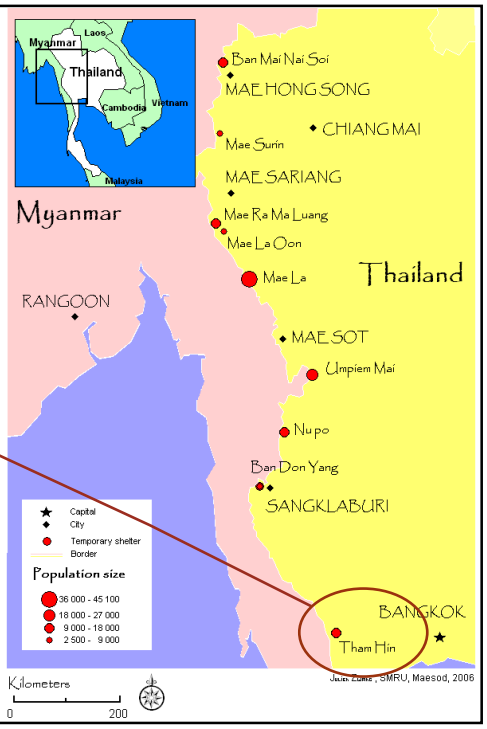
# BURMESE (THAILAND/MALAYSIA)

## Burmese (Thailand/Malaysia)

- 3.5 million displaced
- 140,000 in border camps
- 1.5 outside camps at border
- 450,000 internally displaced

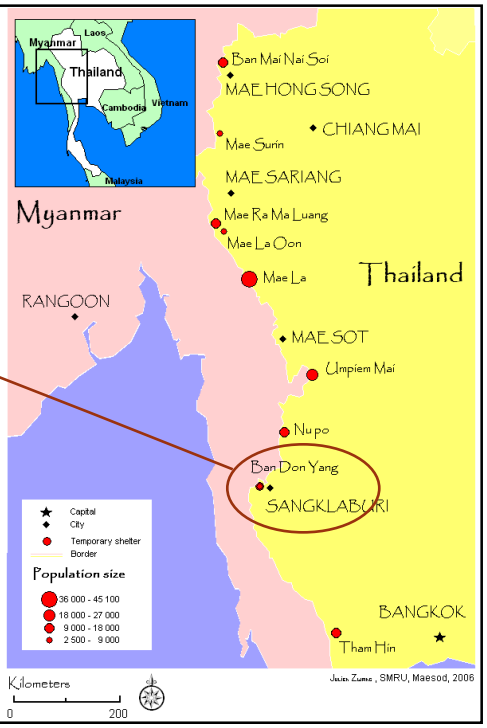
# Thailand

**Ratchaburi Province**
- Tham Hin Camp (Karen)
- Most have already arrived
- FY10 processing will wind down




# Thailand

**Kanchanaburi Province**
- Ban Don Yang
- Karen (3,500)
- 300 in US since '06
- FY10- 400+ departures



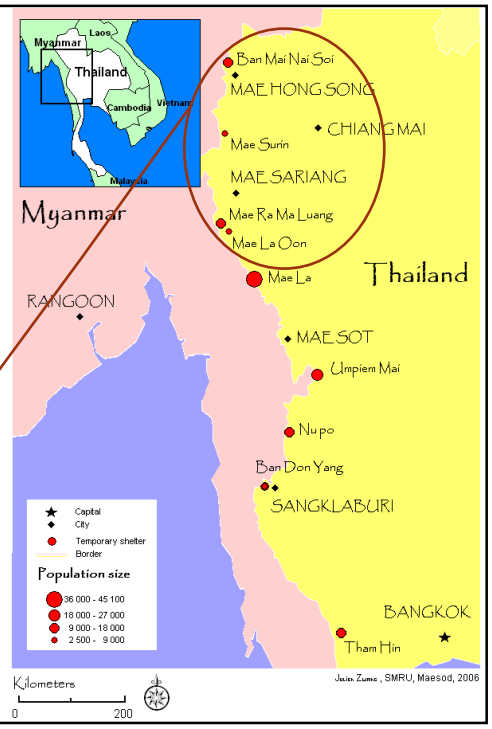
# Thailand

**Mae Hong Song Province**
**Ban Mai Nai Soi:**
•Karenni (20K)
•7,800 departures to date
• FY10: 200

**Mae Surin:**
•Karen (3k)
•No departures

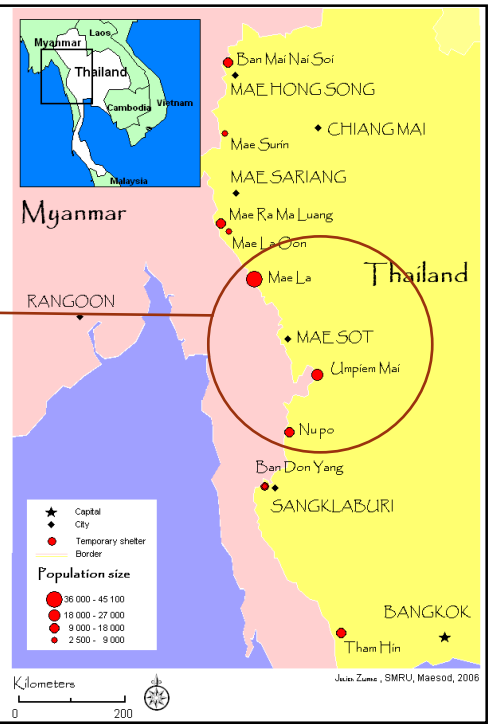
**Mae Ra Ma Luang:**
•Karen 13.5K

**Mae La Oon:**
•Karen 14K




# Thailand

**Tak Province**
•Mae La: Karen 32K
•Umpiem: Karen 13.5 K
•Nupo: Karen 13.8K



# Malaysia

- Urban refugee population
- Mostly Chin

# Burmese Refugees

- 49,500 in US since FY05
- FY10: 4,800 expected

# Burmese: California Concentrations

**Bay Area:**
Alameda, San Mateo (Daly City)

Bakersfield

San Diego

# Burmese: Health Concerns

- Highest malaria & HIV in SE Asia
- Malnutrition/vitamin deficiency
- Trauma
- Alcohol & Substance Abuse

# SOMALIA

# Somalis

- P3 Program on hold
- 2,600 FY09 arrivals
- Conditions deteriorating

# Somalis: Dadaab Camp, Kenya

- 3 camps
  - Hagadera
  - Ifo
  - Dagahaley
- Over croweded conditions
  - 230k in 90k capacity
  - 5k/month arriving
- UNHCR: 70K for resettlement

# Somalis: California Concentrations

# Somali: Health Concerns

- Water borne diseases: Cholera/Diarrhea
- Maternal/Prenatal Care
- Malnutrition = Low birth weights
- Iron Deficiency in children

# IRAQ

# Iraqis

**4.5 million displaced**

- 2 - Jordan, Syria Lebanon, Turkey
- 2.5 – inside Iraq

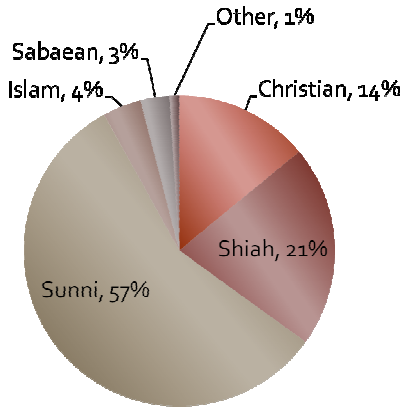
251,000 UNCHR registrations

# Iraqis: US bound

72,000 referrals for resettlement

54,000 (76%) to US

# Iraqis: Religious breakdown



# Iraqis: California Concentrations

**Turlock**:
Assyrians

**San Diego:**
Chaldeans
Sabaeans-Mandaeans
Assyrians
Muslims

# Iraqis: Health Concerns

- **Poor healthcare**
  - 2,000 doctors killed
  - 18,000 fled
- **Trauma**
- **War Injuries**
- **Maternal/child Malnutrition**

# IRAN (D-VISA PROGRAM)

## Iran

**Religious Minorities**

- Jews
- Baha'is
- Zorostrians
- Christians (Assyrians & Armenians)

D Visa acquired via US relative

Year long process

# Iran: California Concentrations

**Turlock:** Assyrians

**Glendale:** Armenians

# Iran: Health Concerns

- Heart disease
- Depression/anxiety
- Expensive in Iran

# SUDANESE (DARFURIS)

## Sudanese

- 250,000 in camps
- Processing dangerous
- Screenings beginning

# Sudanese: California Concentrations

# Sudanese: Health Concerns

- Water borne diseases
- Respiratory tract infections
- Jaundice
- Maternal/Prenatal care
- Diet is meager

# FUTURE TRENDS

FY 2010

## Arrivals to California

**Sacramento**
Moderate arrivals of Iraqis & Iranians, Bhutanese

**Bay Area:**
Moderate arrivals of Burmese, Bhutanese, Iraqis & Iranians

**Los Angeles**
Strong arrivals of Iranians

**San Diego**
Strong arrivals of Iraqis
Moderate arrivals of Burmese

Somalis (P-3)?
Darfuris?

INTERNATIONAL RESCUE COMMITTEE

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