

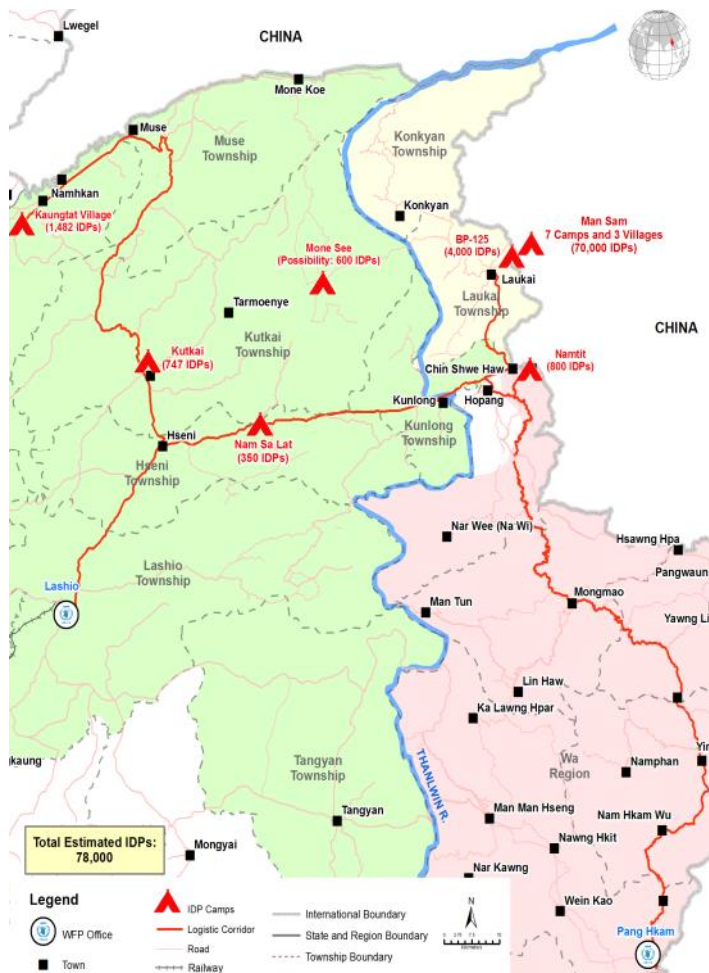


Context

- Since February 9, Kokang Self-Administered Zone has been severally affected by continuous armed conflict between the Government forces and Myanmar National Democratic Alliance Army (MNDAA) supported by Ta'ang National Liberation Army and Arakan Army. A state of emergency, declared by the President, is still in place.
- Ongoing clashes have resulted in a massive displacement of people from Kokang to adjacent northern Shan State, Wa Self-Administrative Division, and Yunnan Province of China, where several camps were formed.
- The Myanmar Red Cross Society (MRCS) arranged convoys to transport conflict-affected people, who were mostly Bamar migrant workers, from Laukkai, the capital of Kokang, to Lashio city in northern Shan, where transit camps were set up. Food and other assistance was provided by local civil society organisations and private donors. The convoys have been suspended after repeated ambushed attacks, causing injuries and a death of MRCS staff.
- Depending on location of and access to the camps for internally displaced people (IDPs), humanitarian assistance has been provided through various channels and by different actors.

Response

- WFP has been closely monitoring the situation from the onset of the conflict but no needs assessments could be completed inside Kokang itself due to recurrent fighting. Food distributions to IDPs, consisting of rice, chickpeas, oil and salt, have therefore been limited to accessible areas of northern Shan and Wa.
- In northern Shan, WFP distributed food rations in two locations. In **Namsalat**, 350 IDPs received three-week food rations in March and one-month rations in April. In **Namkham**, two week-rations were distributed to 1,414 IDPs in end-March. These IDPs intend to return to their places of origin in April. In **Kutkai**, WFP has assessed the food security situation and plans to start food distributions to 747 IDPs in April. IDPs in Namkham and Kutkai are of Palaung and Kachin origin and were displaced within northern Shan as a result of the Kokang conflict spillover.
- In **Namtit** of Wa, 575 IDPs received one-month food rations in April, and distributions are ongoing as new IDPs arrive. Food assistance in March was provided by the Wa Women Association.
- Inside the conflict affected **Kokang**, 4,000 IDPs remain in the 125 border point camp with restricted access for WFP, other UN agencies and NGOs. Humanitarian assistance to IDPs has been provided by the Government through local youth volunteer groups. WFP regular operations in Kokang are also suspended, affecting 4,800 people, benefiting from food assistance.
- It is estimated that 70,000 people from Kokang fled to **Nam San** in China. The refugees are sheltered in seven camps and three villages. The Chinese authorities and local Red Cross have been providing food and other necessary assistance.
- WFP with its humanitarian partners works with the Government of Myanmar for access to Kokang. WFP has prepositioned enough food in its Lashio Area Office and Pangkham Sub-Office and stands ready to respond in conflict-affected areas of Kokang once access is granted.
- The response to IDPs in northern Shan and Wa has been made possible thanks to funding support from the governments of the United Kingdom and United States.



In numbers



Estimated **78,000** people displaced
2,339 people in northern Shan and Wa received WFP food rations
27 mt of food distributed



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Contact us 

WFPMYANMAR.PI@WFP.ORG

