

Report on Joint Relief Assistance to Affected Thai villagers
at Temporary Shelter on Thai-Cambodian border

Last month Thai people especially the border villagers in Kantaraluk district of Srisaket Province had been affected by the military clashes on Thai-Cambodia border. Tens of thousands of affected Thai villagers had evacuated from their villages to temporary shelters. Ubonratchathani Diocese under the leadership of Bishop Banchong Chaiyara and Ubonratchathani Diocesan Social Action Center assessed the situation and immediately made an appeal to many organizations for emergency assistance.

No.	Name of Organizations Providing Assistance	Type of Assistance
1.	Ubonratchathani Diocese	-Emergency cash assistance, dry food and other supplies
2.	Caritas Thailand	
3.	Catholic Office for Emergency Relief and Refugees (COERR)	-Work labour
4.	Catholic volunteers	
5.	Congregation of the Sisters of the Sacred Heart of Jesus of Bangkok	-Free food for affected villagers: lunch and dinner
6.	Congregation of the Sisters Servants of Mary, Ubonratchathani	
7.	Ubonratchathani Diocesan Social Action Center (Lenten Campaign Fund)	
8.	Association of Major Religious Superiors of Men, Thailand	
9.	All benevolent people	

Management Strategies

- On 8 February 2011 Mr. Boonniti Namboon and Mr. Watanachai Thongsri, officers of Ubonratchathani Diocesan Social Action Center (DISAC) conducted the situation and needs assessment
- During 9-10 February 2011 Ubonratchathani DISAC staff coordinated with Khun Nattaya Cherdchuen, COERR's Emergency Relief Program Manager, for urgent assistance
- Joint assistance coordination meeting was held. The participants included officers from Caritas Thailand, COERR and Catholic Bishops' Conference of Thailand.
- Approval was made by the joint committee for Ubonratchathani Diocesan Social Action Center to advance an emergency fund for procurement of relief supplies to be distributed to affected Thai villagers in Kantaraluk district.
- COERR Surin field office provided 1,000 blankets to affected Thai villagers to prevent them from cold spell

- Ubonratchathani DISAC staff purchased emergency supplies comprising instant noodle, mosquito repellents, toothbrushes and toothpastes, soaps, desserts for kids, sanitary napkins, toilet papers and candles
- On 10 February 2011 officers from Ubonratchathani Diocesan Social Action Center, Catholic youth council, Mary Upatham School in Kantaralak district of Srisaket Province and COERR Surin field office jointly packed emergency relief kits
- On 11 February 2011 distribution of emergency relief kits to affected Thais at evacuation site in Tha Sawang school, Tha Sawang sub-district, Kantaralak district of Srisaket Province was made by the leadership of Bishop Philip Banchong Chaiyara, Bishop of Ubonratchathani Diocese and other members such as
 - Fr. Samrid Saengvong, Ubonratchathani DISAC Director
 - Fr. Anucha Chao Paek Noi., Catholic Volunteer Spiritual Director
 - Fr. Akaradej Wong Anand, Abbot of St. Peter’s Church, Tha Sawang
 - Congregation of the Sisters Servants of Mary, Ubonratchathani Diocese
 - Diocesan Social Action Center of Ubonratchathani
 - Catholic Youth Council of Ubonratchathani Diocese
 - Catholic social communication commission of Ubonratchathani Diocese
 - Ave Maria school, Ubonratchathani Province
 - Mary Upatham school, Srisaket Province
 - And all benevolent people

Results

- Affected Thai villagers of all religions receive much encouragement and are able to cope with the harsh situation
- Cooperation to address emergency situation are strengthened both in the regional and national level
- Donors and receivers are happy with this mission

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Mr. Boonniti Namboon and Mr. Watanachai Thongsri, officers of Ubonratchathani Diocesan Social Action Center were seen assessing the situation on 8 February 2011

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- 4.1 Packing of emergency relief kits for distribution to affected Thai villagers at Tha Sawang evacuation site
- 4.2 Distribution of emergency relief kits to affected Thais by Bishop Banchong Chaiyara and colleagues

