



### Why are IOM's MNCH activities important in Myanmar?

IOM's activities strengthen the health and community-based systems for the promotion and delivery of quality maternal, newborn and child health care. The project aims to establish and promote technical policy guidance and provide support for activities related to health promotion and assistance to migrants; promote health-seeking behaviors of migrants and facilitate their access to diseases prevention and care in all phases of the migration process; and develop and strengthen migrant-inclusive and sustainable health systems, through public health and rights-based health programme, encouraging a migrant-sensitive health workforce.



#### IOM Myanmar's MNCH activities:

- Undertake joint supportive supervision visits and support for planning and coordination with township health departments
- Facilitate trainings for Basic Health Staff and Voluntary Health Workers
- Strengthen the Health Management Information System (HMIS)
- Revitalize village tract health committees and village health committees
- Establish step-wise referral mechanism
- Procure essential supplies for health facilities

### Research on Migrants Health Access in the delta

In partnership with Department of Public Health and Department of Medical Research, IOM carried out studies on accessibility of maternal and child health care services among mobile and migrant population in Bogale and Mawlamyinegyun townships in the delta region during 2014.

Findings from the studies provided the size of the vulnerable population which has to be taken into consideration for health system strengthening, universal health coverage, promoting equity and enhancing the understanding of demand side interventions, and providing possible mechanisms to promote the health care utilization among migrant mothers and children.





## IOM's demand side initiative on emergency referral

*"During her first visit, I could examine that she was pregnant with more than one child. So, I explained to her about IOM's emergency referral support system and referred to the township hospital to seek further treatment. The mother took an examination and it was confirmed that she had triplets. She successfully gave birth at the hospital and the babies were 3 pounds each at birth. Because of IOM's emergency referral support for medical and investigations charges, transportation and meal allowances, she could give birth to these healthy triplets at the hospital without any difficulty."*

Daw Myo Myo Htwe, Midwife from Mawlamyinegyun Township

## MNCH Programme in the delta

The Ayeyarwaddy delta is remote, presenting numerous challenges to the delivery of health services. Transportation is only available by boat and is expensive and slow. As a result people present late at health clinics with conditions having already deteriorated, leading to avoidable mortality. Since 2011, IOM has been implementing MNCH activities in Bogale and Mawlamyinegyun townships in the delta region where many seasonal migrants and itinerant boat people live, particularly by supporting the township health departments of the two townships in the delivery of maternal and child health services.



## MNCH Programme in Kayah State

Kayah State has a varied population with over nine ethnic groups and more than six active languages. The region is burdened with conflict and challenges with governance, natural resource development and recognition of the rights of the state's ethnic minorities. Many, as a result, have relocated to Thailand. A substantial proportion of those who have remained in Kayah State have been forced to relocate. Since late 2014, IOM has been implementing MNCH activities in 7 townships (Loikaw, Demawso, Hpasawng, Hpruso, Shadaw, Bawlakhe, and Mese) in Kayah State in Eastern Myanmar.

**IOM's key partners for MNCH activities include Department of Public Health, Local Authorities, Voluntary Health Workers, Village Tract Health Committees, Community Based Organizations, and UN, INGO and LNGO partners.**

## International Organization for Migration (IOM)

### Mission in Myanmar

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