

In late July and the first week of August, soldiers looted and burned hundreds of homes in eastern Burma, forcing more than 1,400 villagers into hiding or across the border to Thailand in the midst of the monsoon season.

GHAP's local partner, the Karen Department of Health and Welfare (KDHW), responded immediately with medical teams, ensuring that refugees continue to receive vital public health services and medicine, as well as food and clean water, cooking utensils, plastic sheeting, clothing, blankets and mats, mosquito nets, and sanitation supplies.

Attacks against civilians are tragic examples of the intensifying violence and instability in Burma, stemming from controversial national elections scheduled for later this year. However, there is a welcome bit of good news:

Many of the communities under attack in eastern Burma are part of the Mobile Obstetric Medics (MOM) Project,\* a GHAP-supported program that demonstrated a ten-fold increase in access to maternal health services by utilizing local health workers who move with their villages in the event of displacement, continuing to provide care.

With our field staff monitoring critical health issues in Burma's eastern, northern and western border regions, GHAP is uniquely situated to aid local community-based organizations in maintaining and expanding vital health and development programs like the MOM Project. But we need your help—Burma's escalating human rights violations means that our partners will be requiring more resources than ever this year.

A donation from you will help us and our local partners to respond effectively to emergencies like the recent attacks in eastern Burma, and to continue essential health programs for internally displaced and conflict-affected communities. These programs provide the only access to health services for tens of thousands of vulnerable women, children and men.

We hope you can take a moment to [donate](#). We are grateful for any amount you can give—your support and continuing interest in our work makes all the difference.

\*For more information on the MOM Project:

[http://www.irrawaddy.org/article.php?art\\_id=19129](http://www.irrawaddy.org/article.php?art_id=19129), or read the [full paper](#), published in the August issue of PLoS Medicine.