

DISPLACEMENT TRACKING MATRIX (DTM)

# POPULATION MOBILITY MONITORING

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PROVINCE REPORT: SA KAEO

# INTRODUCTION AND METHODOLOGY

To better understand health and screening capacities in Thailand, IOM’s Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM), with support from the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), is implementing Population Mobility Monitoring (PMM) along the Lao-Thai and Cambodia-Thai borders. Border provinces selected for data collection include Nong Khai (Lao-Thai) and Sa Kaeo and Chanthaburi (Cambodia-Thai). The following report focuses on Sa Kaeo.

Points of Entry (POEs) include the following classifications:

- **Formal POEs:** Recognized by the Royal Thai Government as legitimate entry points to enter Thailand. Government officials including police are present to check and validate documents and monitor crossings.
- **Semi-formal POEs:** Presence of a few government officials to check and monitor the entry and exit of incoming migrants, but with less extensive infrastructure than in formal POEs.
- **Informal POEs:** Not recognized by the Royal Thai Government and crossings are irregular.

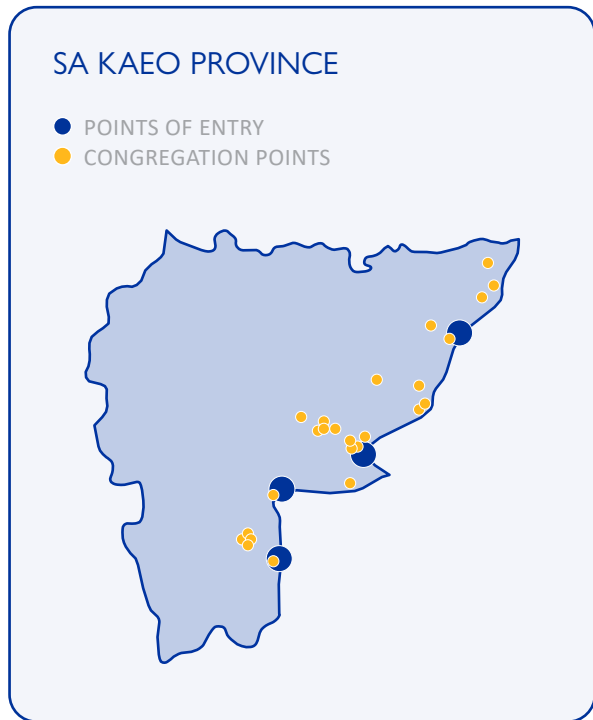
Congregation points are defined as sites where migrants congregate shortly after crossing the border into Thailand to access various services. These sites include markets, hotels, hospitals and taxi/bus stations, among others.

The PMM methodology, developed by IOM to help inform preparedness and response efforts during the 2014-2016 Ebola outbreak in West Africa, generates information about cross-border movements among mobile populations and supports the development of forecasting capacities in target locations. It consists of three phases: Phase I is a participatory mapping exercise with key informants to identify POEs and congregation points; Phase II is a site observation activity involving visits to POEs and congregation points identified in Phase I to generate more granular information on the presence of health screening mechanisms, WASH facilities, government and NGO personnel etc.; Phase III comprises Flow Monitoring surveys to better understand the volume, drivers and intention of people on the move at identified POEs. PMM has been adapted to suit the context in Thailand and help inform a better understanding about mobility dynamics along the borders of Thailand and its neighbouring countries.

The participatory mapping exercise (Phase I) in Sa Kaeo took place in August 2022. IOM’s DTM team began by identifying GPS coordinates of various POEs and congregation points in the province and plotting these locations on a map. Three focus group discussions with key informants were then organized to identify which of the mapped POEs and congregation points are the most significant. Key informants included representatives from the government, local and migrant communities. IOM DTM staff guided the focus group discussions using a set of questions targeted at two areas of interest: firstly, POEs and secondly, congregation points. For both, points were

ranked by volume of human mobility. Participants discussed their best estimates of number of entries per day, main destinations of the migrants moving through these points, primary modes of transportation, among other indicators. As a result of these discussions, DTM identified four POEs and 26 congregation points for further assessment in Sa Kaeo.

Site observation (Phase II) was conducted in October 2022. A mixed method approach using both direct observation and key informant interviews was used to implement site observation. The following report is an overview of the site observation data with insights from key informant input. Estimates of flows at the identified POEs have been verified by a complimentary flow counting activity.

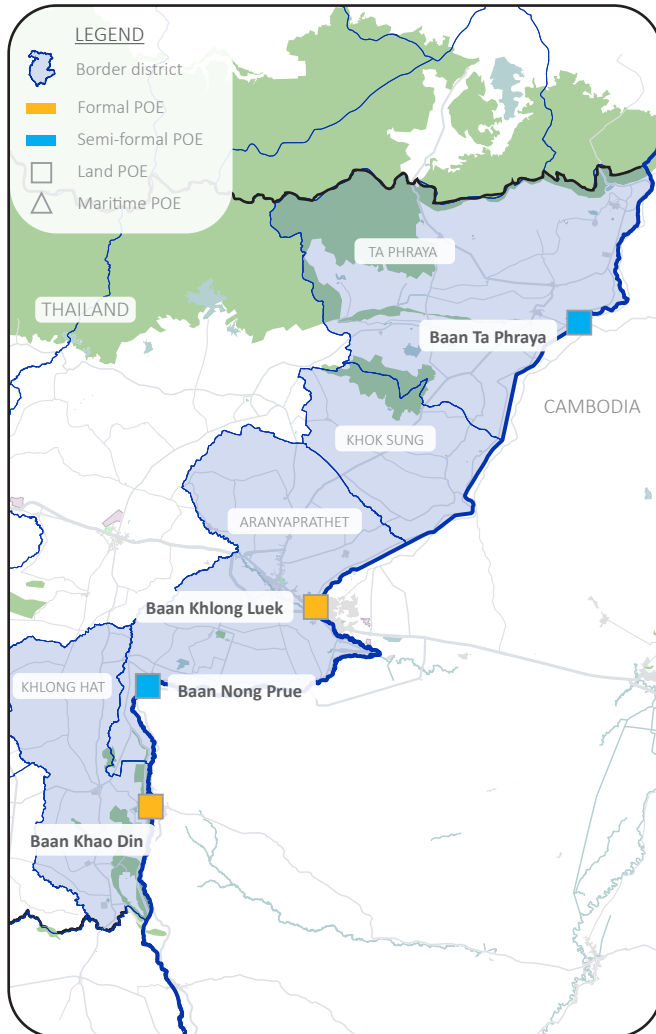


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POE PROFILES

4 IDENTIFIED POES

MAP 1: POE LOCATIONS AND TYPE



All four of Sa Kaeo’s identified POEs are classified as land border points, connecting Thailand to Banteay Meanchey and Battambang provinces in Cambodia. Baan Ta Phraya and Baan Nong Prue, located in Ta Phraya and Aranyaprathet districts, respectively, are the only formal POEs identified in Sa Kaeo. Meanwhile, Baan Khlong Luek and Baan Khao Din, located in Aranyaprathet and Khlong Hat districts, respectively, are considered semi-formal (see Map 1). During site observation, all POEs were fully accessible. In addition, all were located less than 1 kilometer away from the nearest village and were reachable by a paved road.

According to key informants, movements across the border mostly originated from local provinces in Cambodia, including Banteay Meanchey and Battambang. Destinations in Thailand, mainly included Bangkok and other central Thai provinces, as opposed to Sa Kaeo or surrounding border provinces.

All POEs had access to a functional water source and latrine around five minutes away. Three out of four POEs had more than 15 latrines nearby, with Baan Ta Phraya having fewer in comparison. Latrines were gender separated at all sites.

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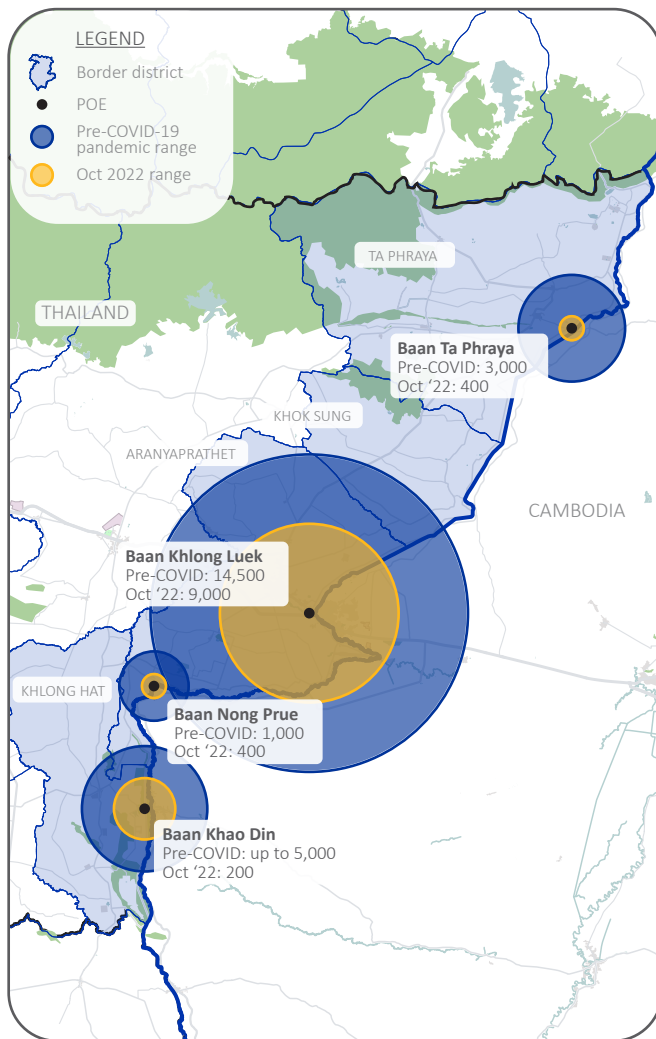
TABLE 1: ACCESSIBILITY AND MAIN PROVINCES OF ORIGIN AND DESTINATION (OCT 2022)

POE	ACCESSIBLE?	DISTANCE TO NEAREST VILLAGE	ORIGIN PROVINCES IN CAMBODIA	DESTINATION PROVINCES IN THAILAND
Baan Ta Phraya	Yes	<1 km	No response	Bangkok
Baan Khlong Luek	Yes	<1 km	Banteay Meanchey	Bangkok
Baan Nong Prue	Yes	<1 km	Banteay Meanchey	Bangkok, Samut Prakan, Samut Songkhram
Baan Khao Din	Yes	<1 km	Battambang	Bangkok

TABLE 2: WASH SERVICES (OCT 2022)

POE	FUNCTIONAL WATER SOURCE PRESENT?	DISTANCE TO WATER SOURCE BY FOOT	LATRINE PRESENT?	DISTANCE TO LATRINE BY FOOT	NUMBER OF LATRINES	LATRINES GENDER SEPARATED?
Baan Ta Phraya	Yes	5 min	Yes	5 min	2-5	Yes
Baan Khlong Luek	Yes	5 min	Yes	5 min	>15	Yes
Baan Nong Prue	Yes	5 min	Yes	5 min	>15	Yes
Baan Khao Din	Yes	5 min	Yes	5 min	>15	Yes

MAP 2: POE DAILY FLOW VOLUME ESTIMATES  
(PRE-COVID-19 PANDEMIC AND OCT 2022)



Map 2 illustrates fluctuations in the volume of crossings as recorded pre-COVID-19 and in October 2022. Numbers of crossings are based on key informant estimates and were verified by a complementary flow monitoring activity. At all POEs, the number of daily crossings is still low compared to pre-COVID-19 volumes. Baan Khlong Luek was Sa Kaeo’s highest volume POE prior to the pandemic and as of October 2022, followed by Baan Khao Din. Baan Ta Phraya and Baan Nong Prue saw similar flow volumes as of October 2022, though the former was more active pre-pandemic.

Thermometers, sanitizers, hand washing facilities, and COVID-19 risk information were available at all POEs. Baan Ta Phraya, Baan Khlong Luek, and Baan Nong Prue had other health screening measures such as using health declaration forms, antigen tests, and vaccine certificate. Health facilities were farther away for those at Baan Nong Prue and Baan Khao Din compared to the other POEs.

Over 20 law enforcement personnel were present at all POEs except Baan Ta Phraya, where there were one to five. Law enforcement included border police, army, and Thai Immigration Bureau personnel.

Baan Khlong Luek had the most health workers (5-10) while the others had one to five. Health personnel included government volunteers, community volunteers, nurses, and doctors.

There was no NGO/UN presence identified at any of the POEs.

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TABLE 3: HEALTH SERVICES (OCT 2022)

POE	SCREENING PRESENT?	WHAT TYPE OF SCREENING IS PRESENT?	HAND-WASHING AVAILABLE?	COVID-RISK INFO AVAILABLE?	DISTANCE TO NEAREST HEALTH FACILITY
Baan Ta Phraya	Yes	thermometer; sanitizer; declaration form; antigen test	Yes	Yes	1-5 km
Baan Khlong Luek	Yes	thermometer; sanitizer; declaration form	Yes	Yes	1-5 km
Baan Nong Prue	Yes	thermometer; sanitizer; vaccine certificate; declaration form	Yes	Yes	11-15 km
Baan Khao Din	Yes	thermometer; sanitizer	Yes	Yes	6-10 km

TABLE 4: PRESENCE OF VARIOUS PERSONNEL (OCT 2022)

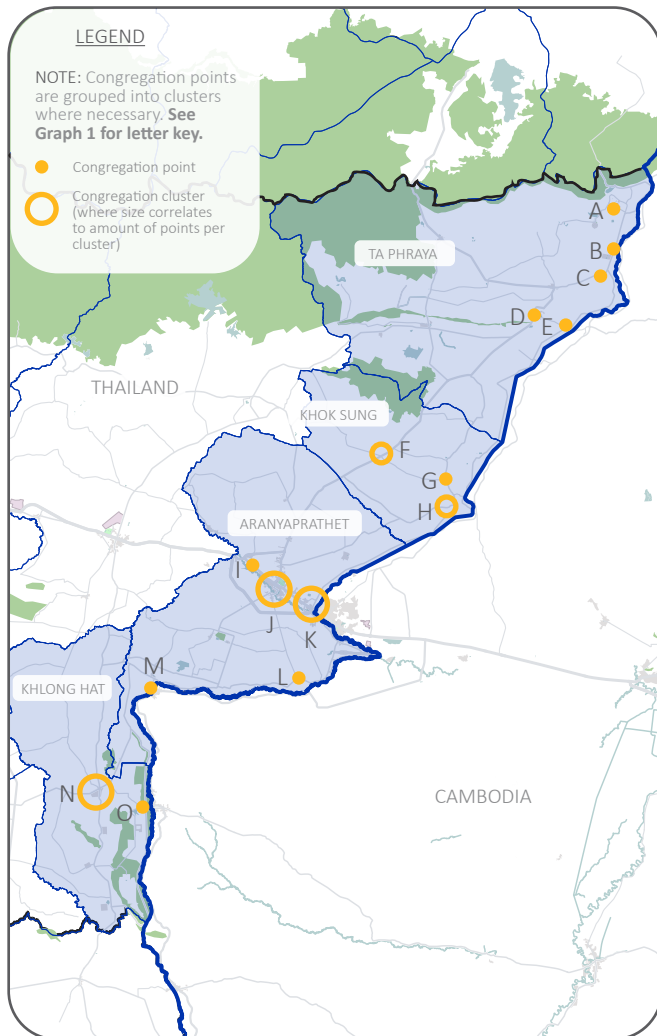
POE	PRESENCE OF LAW ENFORCEMENT?	NUMBER OF LAW ENFORCEMENT	PRESENCE OF HEALTH WORKERS?	NUMBER OF HEALTH WORKERS	PRESENCE OF NGO/UN AGENCIES?	NGO/UN ACTIVITY TYPE
Baan Ta Phraya	Yes	1-5	Yes	1-5	No	NA
Baan Khlong Luek	Yes	>20	Yes	5-10	No	NA
Baan Nong Prue	Yes	>20	Yes	1-5	No	NA
Baan Khao Din	Yes	>20	Yes	1-5	No	NA

## CONGREGATION POINT PROFILES



## 26 IDENTIFIED CONGREGATION POINTS

MAP 3: CONGREGATION POINT LOCATIONS

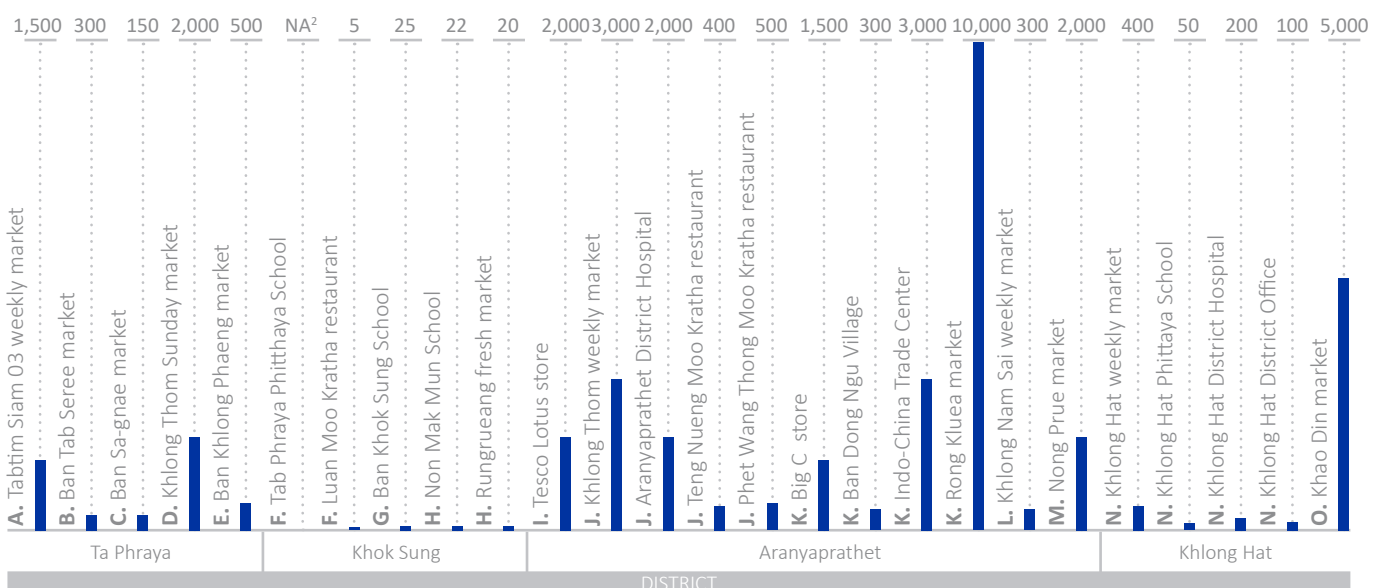


The 26 congregation points identified are located in Sa Kaeo's four border districts: Ta Phraya, Khok Sung, Aranyaprathet, and Khlong Hat. The largest flows were seen in Aranyaprathet, where the Rong Kluea market was the most frequented congregation point followed by the Indo-China Trade Center and the Khlong Thom weekly market. Khlong Hat and Ta Phraya also saw substantial flows, mainly at various markets such as Khao Din, Nong Prue, and Khong Thom Sunday market. Khok Sung district saw the lowest amount of flows, with all congregation points receiving fewer than 30 people per day according to key informants.

All congregation points were accessible as of October 2022 and are located relatively near to villages and paved roads. Primary modes of transportation to all congregation points included car, bus, motorcycle, bicycle and foot. Congregation points mainly consisted of health facilities, schools, and markets. Intended destinations included Sa Kaeo and Bangkok. Key informants noted that people often crossed for the purpose of visiting markets in Sa Kaeo. All congregation points included latrines, hand washing facilities, and health screening including thermometers and sanitizer. All had COVID-19 risk communication information, such as pamphlets, posters, and loud-speaker announcements. More than half included law enforcement personnel and health workers. None of the congregation points had active NGO/UN presence.

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GRAPH 1: CONGREGATION POINTS DAILY FLOW VOLUME ESTIMATES (OCT 2022)<sup>1</sup>



<sup>1</sup> It should be noted that, unlike for the POEs, key informants did not have concrete estimates of the flow volume at congregation points before the pandemic. Thus, no comparison between the two timelines is made in Graph 1. Also, among congregation points with flows that fluctuate throughout the week (i.e. weekday versus weekend volumes), the maximum estimated flow is reported in Graph 1.

<sup>2</sup> No estimate given by key informant.

## SUMMARY KEY FINDINGS

- 1 A total of four POEs and 26 congregation points were identified in Sa Kaeo. All POEs and all congregation points were accessible during site observation in October 2022.
- 2 POEs in Sa Kaeo are still experiencing decreased volumes of flows as of October 2022 compared to before the COVID-19 pandemic.
- 3 Baan Khlong Luek POE was the highest volume POE prior to the pandemic and as of October 2022. All open POEs are well-equipped with latrines, health screening and law enforcement personnel.
- 4 Congregation points in Aranyaprathet district experienced the highest flows as of October 2022, particularly at Rong Kluea market.

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