Access to Justice for refugee and displace population in Thailand

IRC Thailand
Context

- Refugee who live in 9 refugee camps in Thailand for more than 30 years.
- Newly displaced people who cross from Myanmar to seek safety along Thailand-Myanmar border.
- Operate 5 Legal Assistance Centers in 5 refugee camps.
- Provide legal assistance for displaced people along Thailand-Myanmar border.
Challenges

• Limited trust and not feminization with host country justice system (Thai Justice System)
• Undocumented of refugee and displace people in Thailand increase barrier and risk for people to access to justice services
• Strictly control by authorities > national security over humanitarian assistance
Good Practices

- Community base approach, investing capacity building for refugee, community volunteers
- Advocacy with Thai authorities and raising awareness > what benefit for host community.
- Balance community practice vs international standard
- Establish diverse option for access
- Cash for protection as solution
- Partnership with local organization who get acceptance from community, local authorities, gain capacity to access
Lesson learnt

• Long term funding is critical for continuation and success

• Integration with other services Health through primary health care, livelihood through safe employment and WPE

• Knowing context > who are influencers (community leader, ethnic leaders)

• Communication – power balancing – knowing what their concern in order to gain acceptance for change.