

LIVELIHOODS TRAINING FOR INTERNALLY
DISPLACED PERSONS (IDPS) IN KACHIN STATE,
MYANMAR: SUCCESS AND CHALLENGES
BENEFICIARIES



A Thesis Submitted in Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements
for the Degree of Master of Arts in International Development Studies
Common Course
Faculty of Political Science
Chulalongkorn University
Academic Year 2019
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การดำรงชีพของผู้พลัดถิ่นภายในประเทศในรัฐกะฉิ่น เมียนมาร์:
ความสำเร็จและอุปสรรคจากการฝึก



วิทยานิพนธ์นี้เป็นส่วนหนึ่งของการศึกษาตามหลักสูตรปริญญาศิลปศาสตรมหาบัณฑิต
สาขาวิชาการพัฒนาระหว่างประเทศ ไม่สังกัดภาควิชา/เทียบเท่า
คณะรัฐศาสตร์ จุฬาลงกรณ์มหาวิทยาลัย
ปีการศึกษา 2562
ลิขสิทธิ์ของจุฬาลงกรณ์มหาวิทยาลัย

Thesis Title	LIVELIHOODS TRAINING FOR INTERNALLY DISPLACED PERSONS (IDPS) IN KACHIN STATE, MYANMAR: SUCCESS AND CHALLENGES BENEFICIARIES
By	Miss Lucia Lujan
Field of Study	International Development Studies
Thesis Advisor	Professor SUPANG CHANTAVANICH
Thesis Co Advisor	Pyone Myat Thu

Accepted by the Faculty of Political Science, Chulalongkorn University in
Partial Fulfillment of the Requirement for the Master of Arts

..... Dean of the Faculty of Political
Science

()

THESIS COMMITTEE

..... Chairman
(Assistant Professor Assistant Professor JAKKRIT
SANGKHAMANEE)

..... Thesis Advisor
(Professor SUPANG CHANTAVANICH)

..... Thesis Co-Advisor
(Pyone Myat Thu)

..... External Examiner
(Jerry Huguet)

จุฬาลงกรณ์มหาวิทยาลัย
CHULALONGKORN UNIVERSITY

ลูเซีย ลูจัน : การดำรงชีพของผู้พลัดถิ่นภายในประเทศในรัฐกะฉิ่น เมียนมาร์:
 ความสำเร็จและอุปสรรคจากการฝึก. (LIVELIHOODS TRAINING FOR
 INTERNALLY DISPLACED PERSONS (IDPS) IN KACHIN STATE,
 MYANMAR: SUCCESS AND CHALLENGES BENEFICIARIES)
 อ.ที่ปรึกษาหลัก : สุภางค์ จันทวานิช, อ.ที่ปรึกษาร่วม : Pyone Myat Thu

บทคัดย่อ

คนกว่าหนึ่งแสนคนจากเมืองต่าง ๆ ในรัฐกะฉิ่นต้องกลายเป็นผู้พลัดถิ่น และเริ่มตั้งแต่ปี ค.ศ. 2015 เป็นต้นมา
 หน่วยงานต่าง ๆ เริ่มวางโครงการสนับสนุนเพื่อการพัฒนาคุณภาพชีวิตของผู้พลัดถิ่น
 วิทยานิพนธ์ชิ้นนี้จึงต้องการศึกษาโอกาสและความท้าทายของผู้พลัดถิ่นที่อยู่ในโครงการพัฒนาคุณภาพชีวิตที่จะทำให้มีโอกาสใน
 การทำงานที่คึกคักขึ้น

วิทยานิพนธ์ชิ้นนี้ใช้ระเบียบวิธีวิจัยเชิงคุณภาพโดยศึกษาโครงการพัฒนาคุณภาพชีวิตที่ประสบความสำเร็จมากที่สุด
 สองโครงการ กับโครงการที่ประสบความสำเร็จน้อยที่สุดสองโครงการ
 และศึกษาเปรียบเทียบกิจกรรมที่แต่ละโครงการจัดขึ้นเพื่อพัฒนาคุณภาพของบุคคลเพื่อให้เข้าถึงโอกาสในการถูกจ้างงานที่มากขึ้น
 ซึ่งจะนำมาสู่การมีรายได้ที่เพิ่มสูงขึ้นด้วย กิจกรรมต่าง ๆ
 ที่จัดขึ้นของโครงการพัฒนาคุณภาพชีวิตจะช่วยพัฒนาศักยภาพของบรรดาคนพลัดถิ่นผ่านการฝึกอบรมให้มีศักยภาพในการเข้าสู่
 ตลาดแรงงานได้มากขึ้น วิทยานิพนธ์ชิ้นนี้ยังเสนอข้อเสนอแนะสำหรับโครงการพัฒนาคุณภาพชีวิตต่าง ๆ
 ในการบรรลุเป้าหมายในระยะยาวของแต่ละโครงการ ผลการวิจัยพบว่า
 ปัจจัยที่ส่งผลต่อความสำเร็จของโครงการพัฒนาคุณภาพชีวิตต่าง ๆ มีอยู่ 4 ปัจจัย คือ
 เป้าหมายและการกำหนดระยะเวลาในการจัดการฝึกอบรม การช่วยเหลือทางเทคนิคในการพัฒนาทักษะ
 การกำหนดเนื้อหาที่สอดคล้องกับสภาพและความต้องการของแต่ละพื้นที่
 และการสนับสนุนทางการเงินให้กับคนพลัดถิ่นหลังจากได้รับการฝึกฝน โดยงานวิจัยชิ้นนี้ต้องการเสนอว่า
 โครงการพัฒนาคุณภาพชีวิตต่าง ๆ ควรจะดำเนินการโดยคำนึงถึงสิทธิมนุษยชน ความต้องการของผู้พลัดถิ่น
 และควรดำเนินการด้วยความตั้งใจจริง
 โดยคำนึงถึงความแตกต่างของแต่ละพื้นที่ในการวางสาระสำคัญของโครงการพัฒนาคุณภาพชีวิตต่าง ๆ
 และการพัฒนานโยบายที่เกี่ยวข้องกับผู้พลัดถิ่นควรให้รัฐบาลและเจ้าหน้าที่ของท้องถิ่นที่มีประสบการณ์ในแต่ละท้องถิ่นมีส่วนร่วม
 ร่วมด้วย แต่ละโครงการต่าง ๆ
 ควรเป็นโครงการที่มีความยืดหยุ่นที่ปรับเปลี่ยนไปได้ตามความต้องการและความสามารถของผู้พลัดถิ่น นอกจากนี้
 ควรมีความร่วมมือกันระหว่างองค์กรทั้งในระดับท้องถิ่น ระดับชาติ และระดับนานาชาติ และผู้มีส่วนได้ส่วนเสียต่าง ๆ
 ในการร่วมมือกันค้นหาวิธีการที่ดีที่สุดในการเพิ่มโอกาสในการจ้างงานให้กับผู้พลัดถิ่น

สาขาวิชา การพัฒนาระหว่างประเทศ
 ปีการศึกษา 2562

ลายมือชื่อนิติ
 ลายมือชื่อ อ.ที่ปรึกษาหลัก
 ลายมือชื่อ อ.ที่ปรึกษาร่วม

6181223724 : MAJOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT STUDIES

KEYWORD

D:

Lucia Lujan : LIVELIHOODS TRAINING FOR INTERNALLY DISPLACED PERSONS (IDPS) IN KACHIN STATE, MYANMAR: SUCCESS AND CHALLENGES BENEFICIARIES. Advisor: Prof. PhD SUPANG CHANTAVANICH Co-advisor: PhD Pyone Myat Thu

Abstract

Over 100,000 persons have been internally displaced from various towns within Kachin State, Myanmar. Starting in 2015, some agencies began providing livelihood support programs for the IDP population in many campsites. This research focuses on the opportunities and challenges faced by Kachin IDPs who receive support from livelihood programs in pursuit of better employment opportunities.

Drawing on a qualitative research approach, this research examines two of the most effective livelihood training activities and two less successful livelihood training activities which help IDPs to enhance their employment capacity, increasing their opportunities to receive an income. The livelihood support activities help IDPs to learn new skills and techniques through training. This paper also provides recommendations for livelihood support programs to achieve their long-term goals. There are four main factors that support the effectiveness of IDP livelihood training programs, including long- or short-term time frames to conduct trainings, technical support for skill development, provision of training that is both relevant in the local area and accessible to the local market, and sufficient financial support for trained IDPs after their training. The livelihood support programs must be implemented in consideration of human rights, needs, and strengths, also acknowledging the various contexts of service delivery. The development of policy related to IDP-specific issues needs to invite the participation of the local government and local staff who are experienced in the areas of operation. The livelihood support training programs should be designed as adjustable programs in order to better promote the capacity of IDPs. Furthermore, coordination should be established amongst national organizations, international organizations, local organizations, and other stakeholders to identify the best solutions for promoting employment opportunities for IDPs as each agency possesses different resources which need to be properly allocated for the purpose of IDP capacity building.

Field of Study:	International Development Studies	Student's Signature
	
Academic Year:	2019	Advisor's Signature
	
		Co-advisor's Signature
	

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

At first and foremost, thanks to almighty God for this privilege, for offering me the greatest knowledge and wisdom, granted me to pursue the higher level of education in the Master of Arts in International Development Studies Program successfully. I would like to acknowledge the steadfast support from my professors and staffs from faculty of Political Science, MAIDs program, Chulalongkorn University, and Heinrich Boll scholarship program for financial support throughout my academic lifetime to enhance knowledge in order contribute the best for my society after earning a degree.

I would like to take this opportunity to express my gratitude to my thesis advisor professor Supang Chantavanich and co-advisor Dr. Pyone Myat Thu for your guidance, encouragement, suggestions, patience, corrections in both academic and personal. My thesis chairperson, assistant professor Jakkrit Sangkhamanee and thesis external examiner, professor Jerry Huguet also deserve my deepest appreciation for their dedicated and gentle guidance, made this study complete.

I would like to express my sincere thanks to my beloved mother, friends and to my beloved former coworkers, my brothers, and sisters, all my other relatives, who always pray with all their hearts for my studies here at Chulalongkorn University. May the Lord bless all of them richly in their life.

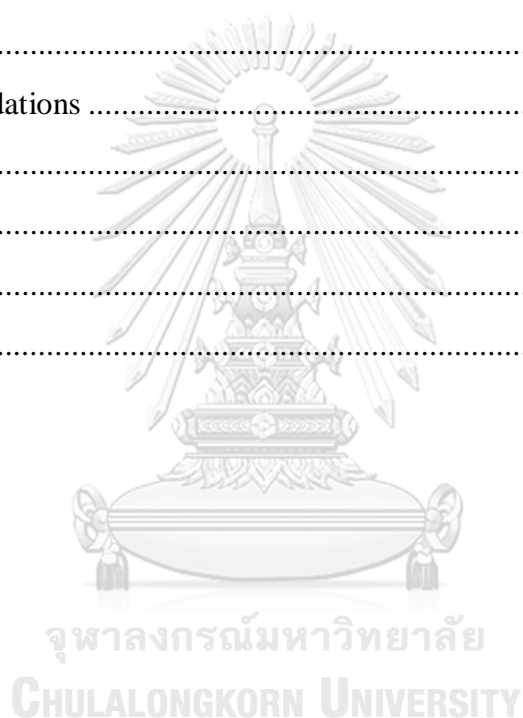
Finally, I am more than thankful to my dear friends whom I cannot mention their names here for their generous contribution, encouragements. My heartfelt thanks also go to all the participants who spent their valuable time and shared their experiences and knowledge. Without their cooperation and participation, this study could not be possible to accomplish.

Lucia Lujan

TABLE OF CONTENTS

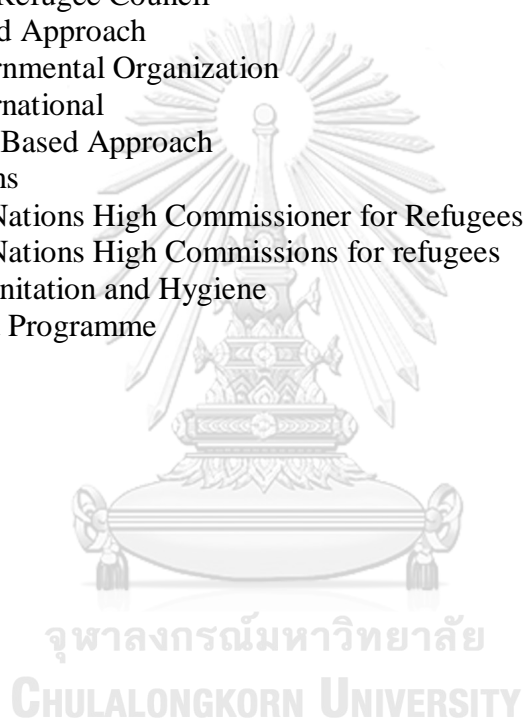
	Page
ABSTRACT (THAI)	iii
ABSTRACT (ENGLISH).....	iv
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS	v
TABLE OF CONTENTS.....	vi
Acronyms	8
Chapter- I.....	9
1.1 Introduction	9
1.2 Background	11
1.2.1 Rationale	15
1.2.2 General Livelihood Situation of Internally Displaced Persons in Kachin State	16
1.3 Research Questions and Objectives.....	20
1.4 Methodology	21
1.4.1 Research Location	21
1.4.2 Methods of data collection	24
1.5 Research Scope and Limitations	26
1.6 Ethical Issues.....	26
Chapter- II.....	27
2.1 Literature review	27
2.2 Conceptual Framework.....	43
2.3 Concepts of Rights Based Approaches, Need Based Approach and Strength Based Approach.	46
Chapter- III.....	50
3.1 Existing Livelihood Support Trainings for IDPs in Kachin State.....	50
3.2 Opportunities, Expectations, and Challenges in Pursuing Livelihood Improvement	54

Chapter- IV	63
4.1 Successful Livelihood Support Trainings	63
4.1.1 Most Successful Livelihood Support Trainings	63
4.1.2 Least Successful Livelihood Support Trainings.....	67
4.2 Types of Approaches Applied for the Four Selected Livelihood Trainings	70
4.3 Factors Leading to Successful Livelihood Trainings	74
Chapter –V	83
5.1.Conclusion	83
5.2.Discussion	87
5.3.Recommendations	99
Key definitions	1
Appendices.....	9
REFERENCES.....	15
VITA.....	17



Acronyms

DRC- Danish Refugee Council
FSN- Food Security Network
HRBA- Human Rights Based Approach
ICRC- International Committee of the Red Cross
IDP- Internally Displaced Persons
INGO – International Non- governmental Organization
KMSS- Karuna Mission Social Solidarity
KBC- Kachin Baptist Convention
Metta- Metta organization
MRCS- Myanmar Red Cross Society
NRC- Norwegian Refugee Council
NBA- Needs Based Approach
NGO- Non- Governmental Organization
SI- Solidarity International
SBA – Strengthen Based Approach
UN- United Nations
UNHCR- United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
UNHCR- United Nations High Commissions for refugees
WASH- Water, Sanitation and Hygiene
WFP- World Food Programme



Chapter- I

1.1 Introduction

People rely on various resources such as finances, skills, social relations, and employment to contribute to their well-being and standard of living. The livelihoods of rural dwellers and people from cities are different in many various ways. In almost every situation, people are pursuing better livelihoods, particularly those who have lost the resources that are essential to make their living. Unlike ordinary people, those avoiding conflict in Kachin State also struggle with many hardships in acquiring their basic needs for survival in the camp setting. They face many challenges and must pursue new types of livelihood activities in order to earn a daily basic income. Since June 2011, the internal conflict in Kachin State has led to over 100,000 IDPs having lost their property, assets, land plots and many other resources that help them to make a living (UNOCHA, 2014). As most IDPs originated from highland areas, the livelihood activities they are used to are very different from the city lifestyle where they are now being accommodated. IDPs have been living in the camps for almost eight years the camp management committee restricted on IDP movement outside of the camp areas for security purposes and protection from the risk of landmines. However, some adult IDPs depend on daily labor job opportunities that are available in the local areas where they are being hosted. According to the interview respondents, the maximum daily payment rate is in between 5000 and 6000 Myanmar Kyats, but this work is not available on a regular basis and the jobs are based on the agricultural seasons. While residing in the camp, all basic needs such as shelter, water, food, and non-food items have been provided by humanitarian agencies. In general, displaced Kachin households tend to have big family sizes and parents often encounter difficulty in paying for their children's education fees, health care, and other family expenses. During long periods of displacement, some adult IDPs have started receiving various types of training in order to help them acquire new skills and knowledge in order to generate household income and ensure financial security in the future. This research explores the opportunities provided to participate in assisted livelihood activities for IDPs and identifies the perceptions of service recipients who have participated in the training programs. Both the service providers and beneficiaries have their own concerns,

expectations, and lessons learned from the implementation of the program regarding the advancement of similar programs in the future. This thesis will conclude with the appropriate recommendations for the programs' future achievement of long-term goals, which can facilitate beneficiaries' sustainable access to regular income. The first chapter presents the overall displacement situation in Kachin State. The following chapter (II) presents the main research background with an international framework to provide universal understanding of the protection of internally displaced persons (IDPs) worldwide. Afterward, the third chapter (III) describes the existing livelihood conditions of IDPs in the target research areas. Chapter four (IV) explores the most successful, and less successful, programs amongst all those participated in by beneficiaries during displacement. The concluding chapter (V) outlines the research findings and provides recommendations for further research.

1.2 Background

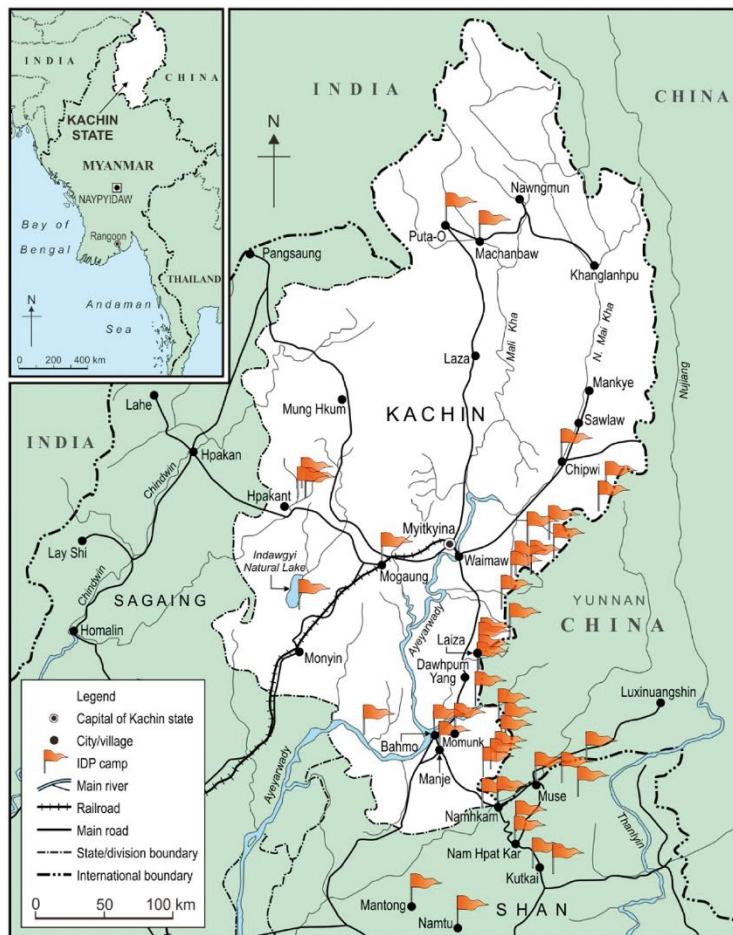


Figure 1. Map of IDP Camps in Kachin and Northern Shan State, Myanmar (February, 2018)

Sources from: <https://academic.oup.com/jrs/article/31/3/407/4952159>

The civil war conflict has continued in Myanmar since the major incident in which the Myanmar government's army ordered the ethnic armed forces to transform into the Border Guard Force (BGF) and People's Militias Force (PMF) to become a part of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar following the 2008 Constitution (HCT, 2015). The Kachin Independent Army (KIA) officially refused, leading to conflict with the Central Military Army (*Tatmadaw*) in both Kachin and Shan States. The conflict was instigated by the Central Government against the KIA in response to their withdrawal from the

1994 ceasefire agreement, which led to a further collapse of trust due to the long-lasting conflict between a large number of civilians and the Central Government (HPG, 2017). In Kachin State, the 17-year long breaking down of the ceasefire agreement caused severe and intense fighting to break out between the Myanmar government army (*Tatmadaw*) and the Kachin Independence Army (KIA) in June 2011. According to the UNHCR report from 2014, there are 100,000 Kachin IDPs inside Kachin State and throughout the Myanmar-China border area. The UNOCHA reported that there are 90,000 IDPs living in the camps based in government-controlled areas and KIA-controlled areas and in 2015, the Internal Displacement Monitoring Center (IDMC, 2014) reported that there are over 98,000 IDPs in Kachin State. The immediate consequence of the hostilities was an initial displacement of over 100,000 people into many urban areas, seeking to avoid the conflict. Even larger numbers of conflict-affected people have been displaced since June 2011 due to the intensifying conflict and over 100,000 people have taken shelter in monastery compounds, religious buildings, campsites, and in residential housing areas. They are all relying on limited food assistance from humanitarian agencies and must share this with many family members. Large numbers of villagers, including elderly people, pregnant women, disabled persons, and children have been forced to leave all of their belongings behind, as well as their plots of land, due to the severity of the civil war in their original village. Thousands of civilians lost their family members or have been separated from their family, some villagers are being forced to participate in the armed forces, and countless civilians have left behind their property, losing their citizenship documents and belongings. Some villagers must even hide out in the forest for a certain period of time before they reach a safe place. The only thing they can bring are the clothes that they are wearing when they flee from their original village. They typically flee to the nearest urban area, particularly to religious compounds, churches, and monasteries, to take refuge and seek safety. The IDPs who take refuge in religious compounds primarily do so in Roman Catholic religious compounds, Kachin Baptist compounds, and monasteries.

In the beginning of the period of displacement, IDPs were provided with emergency support, mainly in the form of shelter, non-food items, water, and food, from local faith-

based organizations, civil society groups, INGOs, and UN agencies. Mathais (2014) explained that humanitarian agencies respond to the basic needs of IDPs located in existing religious compounds, as well as some IDPs that are hosted in the local residence areas. During displacement, IDPs have been provided with their basic needs by many United Nations agencies, International NGOs, NGOs, local NGOs, Civil Society Organizations, and church-based organizations. Some IDPs have been displaced multiple times with no destination before taking refuge in the camps. Local civil society organizations, international humanitarian agencies, and the United Nations respond to the needs of IDPs, especially in provision of basic services such as food assistance, shelter, education, health, water and sanitation, and livelihood programs in the camps. The World Food Program (WFP) is responsible for assisting with basic food provisions including rice, oil, salt, beans, and in-kind assistance (monthly financial support) for IDPs in three townships in Kachin state. IDPs have relied on this life-saving assistance, though limited, for many years to survive. Since 2011 the conflict in Kachin State has constantly intensified between the KIA and *Tatmadaw* military force, causing additional numbers of IDPs to seek refuge in the existing IDP camps based in urban areas. As the continued conflict has led to increased numbers of newly displaced persons arriving in the local residencies, both communities have to share the already limited resources. IDP families face many difficulties, such as insufficient food assistance, medical help, and shelters, in addition to the lack of employment for income to spend on daily family needs. In an official meeting led by the Kachin State government in 2015, lawmakers discussed with Roman Catholic religious leaders the possibility of returning IDPs back to their original homes, and other faith-based organizations conducted an official meeting with the State Counselor to develop a plan for returning and resettling some IDP households (HCT, 2015).

As shown in Appendix C, IDPs impacted by conflict are taking refuge in 171 IDP sites, located in various districts and townships, particularly those close to the conflict areas throughout Kachin and Shan States (UNOCHA, 2019). This thesis focuses on IDPs in two townships, Momauk and Bhamo, which are close to the China-Myanmar border. The main service providers of livelihood trainings in the areas studied by this thesis since 2014 include the Danish Refugee Council (DRC), Norwegian Refugee

Council (NRC), Kachin Baptist Convention (KBC), Karuna Myanmar Social Solidarities (KMSS), Metta International, International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), and Myanmar Red Cross Society (MRCS). They implement several types of skills trainings, agriculture-based trainings, non-agricultural trainings, and vocational trainings for IDPs, funded by various donors. In 2014, humanitarian agencies started providing livelihood training programs and financial starter kits for trained IDPs to help them to better utilize the acquired skills in order to seek extra income. However, the agencies' approach and goals in response to IDPs' livelihood needs should be analyzed to cross check with the outcomes of the livelihood training programs. This research seeks primarily to identify the successes, expectations, and challenges of IDPs after receiving the livelihood training. The thesis further explores how various IDP households receive an income during the period of displacement in order to meet their basic needs including education fees, sufficient food, basic health care, social expenses, and other family needs.

1.2.1 Rationale

In 2014, the researcher was working for an organization that responded to the needs of conflict-affected communities, particularly Internally Displaced Person (IDPs), in Kachin and Shan states, Myanmar. Large numbers of the local population are seeking to avoid conflict and have been hosted in IDP camps since 2011. The majority of these people are originally from the highland areas and must now adjust to living in the city. It is often difficult to adapt their livelihoods in such a different environment. The researcher became interested in how IDPs find employment and how they are able to make a living in the camps. During work field trips, IDPs often informed the researcher about the livelihood training programs and activities provided by various humanitarian agencies in an effort to promote regular income for IDP households. There are some livelihood training opportunities and cash assistance services for IDPs in Kachin State, such as in 2017 when the DRC provided life skill trainings and income generating activities under their livelihood program for IDPs in Bhamo and Momauk townships. The researcher wanted to study the program's effectiveness and examine to what extent the given livelihood trainings had improved living standards of IDPs. There are many agencies that focus on providing livelihood promoting activities and trainings for IDPs. Often IDPs travel to find available jobs in the border areas and have often become migrant workers in China. This situation makes them more vulnerable to become victims of human trafficking and labor exploitation as they lack legal permission to work in China. The researcher, therefore, sought to study more about whether the livelihood training programs' objectives matched the long-term needs and expectations of IDPs. While some IDPs talked about the livelihood training programs in a positive way, others were not satisfied with the programs. Understanding the outcomes of these livelihood training programs would help to inform the research findings in order to provide recommendations for policy change in designing future livelihood training programs, as an important role of this research is to advance the programs' development. This research examines the factors that contributed to the success of some programs and the lack of success in others. Of the many program participants, some have applied the learned livelihood skills to identify opportunities to pursue regular, long-term income. Livelihood training has been identified as a need of IDPs for many

years and agencies have implemented programs in response since 2015. These agencies also seek to understand more about the importance of livelihood training for IDPs and how this service helps the beneficiaries to improve their living standards.

1.2.2 General Livelihood Situation of Internally Displaced Persons in Kachin State

This section describes the alternative livelihood activities for the income of IDPs during displacement. According to an informal interview with camp committee members, before the conflict period IDPs relied mainly on agricultural activities, including shifting cultivation and farming in the villages. The majority of IDPs are originally from highland villages where they practiced shifting cultivation in the hills, valleys, mountains, forest, as well as the farmland areas. However, as conflict in their home villages intensified, they were forced to flee and take refuge in urban areas where they no longer have access to farmland or the agricultural abundance of their original villages. In the areas of displacement, IDPs must seek out alternative ways of supporting their survival. In the host cities and towns, IDPs sought alternative income activities within their capacity, which can be divided into two main categories of livelihood options: self-initiated income activities and casual work outside of the local residential areas.

Self-Initiated Income Activities

Small amounts of financial support can be requested by IDPs from the donor agencies for business start-up assistance. This aid can be used as a stepping-stone to earn regular income and is targeted to individual IDPs who want to start a small business or are business entrepreneurs. The interested IDPs must first submit a business proposal to the agency in application for the financial package, as they are limited and there are typically a large number of applicants. One of the requirements of service providers is to ensure the viability of the proposal before providing the funds, including detailed analysis of the proposal's potential costs calculations and itemized budget. Using these funds, some IDPs have opened snack shops, hair salons, motorbike mechanic shops, noodle shops, and grocery shops, while others have raised livestock or produced cement blocks and copper fencing. The interview respondents explained that the business

activities they are participating in are not relevant to their past experiences and that it was hard for them to adjust to these alternative livelihood activities. According to the research findings, two thirds of IDP households raise pigs, which was one of the regular domestic responsibilities that they had in the village. These IDPs, mainly females, had submitted proposals to raise livestock and were provided the financial assistance from the donor agencies. The financial assistance was used to buy pigs, materials to build pigpens, food from the local market for their feed, medical treatment for the pigs, and rent for space in the local areas as sometimes the owners needed to be cautious to avoid transmitting animal-borne diseases. For many females that stay in the camps this is part time work and they feed the pigs with leftover food from the family's consumption. Some IDP households made profit but others expressed that raising pigs is not good business as many pigs die of transmitted diseases.

Casual Work in Local Residences

According to the respondents, at least one or two adult IDPs from each household, particularly males, seek available daily jobs outside of the camps. Depending on the family size of IDP households, some larger families need more financial assistance for family expenses, including education and health care. The daily labor jobs are available outside of the location of the camp and IDPs look for these jobs by themselves, or through social networks, peer job seekers, and brokers. The average wage for this type of labor ranges from 5000 to 6000 Myanmar kyats maximum per day, equal to \$5 USD per day, regardless of the type of work.

There are many kinds of daily labor jobs that exist in the local areas for IDPs. Typically, IDPs gain their income by working for local employers doing yard work, domestic work, working in plantations, baby-sitting, or working in shops and restaurants. Many local people own farmland and during both rainy season and harvest time their demand for labor is quite high. The majority of IDPs are experienced in farm work and the availability of daily jobs increases dramatically during harvest season. IDPs, then, work in the local owners' farmland harvesting crops as seasonal daily labor work. The types of available jobs also vary depending on the town where IDPs are hosted. For example, Bhamo town, the second capital city of Kachin State, has been famous for its ship transportation business for over a decade. This is due to its large harbor on the

Irrawaddy River, which is located close to the downtown area and local businesses rely on it for product transportation. Here, IDPs are working at the harbor to load goods and on road construction.

Although camp management officially restricts the movement of IDPs, adult IDPs still leave the camps in order to work and make money to cover family expenses. To do so, they must receive permission from the camp management to be allowed to leave the camp for a designated amount of time to look for available work. No job-placement services are provided, so IDPs must find work on their own. Due to the geographic proximity to China, some IDPs work in the border areas while some even cross the border to seek job opportunities in China. Some IDPs have found daily labor work inside China on the plantation fields, construction sites, sugar cane fields, cornfields, watermelon fields, and factories. Although these jobs have very dangerous working environments, these are the most accessible job opportunities for IDPs. Sometimes they even have to compete with local laborers in the field, as there are many other workers from the lower part of Myanmar. Furthermore, some respondents reported that temporary migrant workers face labor exploitation due to their lack of official documents.

The majority of IDPs' original highland villages are close to Bhamo and Momauk towns in which they are now living to avoid the intense conflict in their home villages. These areas are marked as prohibited from IDP movement and no one is allowed to visit, particularly the villages that were once designated as heavy conflict zones. While IDPs are being hosted in the camps, they can no longer access some empty villages as they have been contaminated with landmines. However, since 2015 some IDPs have visited their home villages to collect seasonal fruits. Some IDPs from Momauk camps often visit their original villages, located along the highway. However, some villages are located at a much further distance from the main roads and cannot be accessed very easily. Some sell harvested crops on the main road at the vegetable selling corner close to their original village where many travelers and commuters pass by. Sometimes, they sell seasonal goods in the local markets in an effort to make additional income. Depending on the seasonal changes, especially in the winter and rainy seasons, IDPs have been provided with temporary farmland work for a few weeks. Unfortunately,

some IDP seasonal workers who were harvesting in their original villages stepped on a landmine. Such incidents deemed the empty villages of origin as a dangerous threat to IDPs.

There are also some IDPs who choose to remain in the camp at all times, especially elderly persons, children, unaccompanied women with many children, and single-headed households, as they do not have time to look for work outside of the camps and many married female IDPs spend the majority of their time taking care of their children inside the camps. These vulnerable groups have depended on humanitarian assistance for their survival since 2011. There are two types of regular food aid and basic needs aid that are offered by the World Food Program for each individual IDP by way of a monthly ration of cash assistance. The first is full support of 150,000 MMK per person per month and the second is 130,000 MMK per person per month. Around 75% of IDPs receive the second type of financial support. According to some respondents, the provided cash assistance is not sufficient to cover domestic consumption and expenses in the camp, particularly for larger IDP families. The monthly financial allowance mostly covers the cost of education for children and health care for family members while other social expenses in the camps must be covered by the daily labor income.

1.3 Research Questions and Objectives

This research focuses on the livelihood training services provided by humanitarian agencies to Kachin IDPs in order to better understand the impact these training services have on their livelihood and income opportunities.

The following are research questions addressing each of the research objectives:

- 1) What are the existing livelihood activities of IDPs in Kachin State?
- 2) What approaches do humanitarian and development agencies apply in their programs to improve the livelihood conditions of IDPs in Kachin State?
- 3) What are the opportunities, expectations, and challenges of program beneficiaries?
- 4) What are the driving factors that lead to successful livelihood training programs?

The objectives of this research are as follows:

- 1) To better understand the existing livelihood activities of IDPs in Kachin State
- 2) To analyze whether the training programs provided by humanitarian and development agencies enable IDPs to pursue better livelihood opportunities
- 3) To examine the opportunities, expectations, and challenges of program beneficiaries
- 4) To analyze the factors that lead to the success of livelihood training programs for IDPs in Kachin State

1.4 Methodology

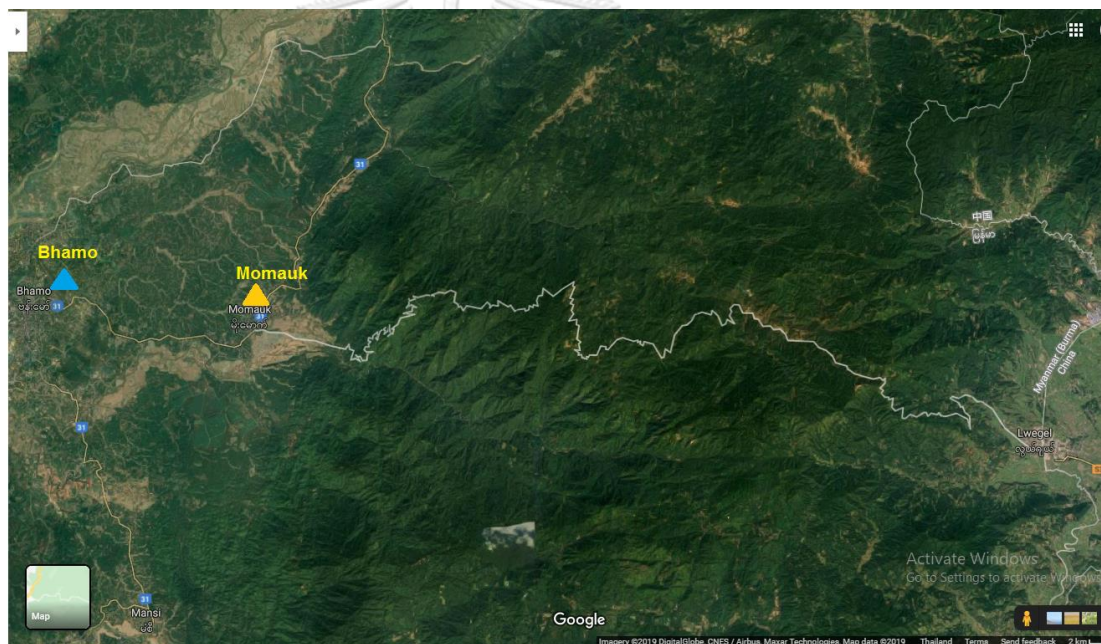
The data for this thesis were collected through interviews with IDPs who have participated in one of the four elected trainings, IDP management team leaders, key informants, and agency staffs from selected IDP camps in two townships. In addition to semi-structured interviews, the researcher visited the two selected camps and participated in informal conversations with IDPs during the data collecting period. For semi-structured interviews, each interview group was asked the prepared interview questions that correspond to the major thesis objectives. The researcher explored IDPs' perspectives regarding the methods of pursuing financial support in the camps, as well as their challenges, expectations, opportunities, and concerns regarding the livelihood training programs provided by service agencies. Conversations were conducted with the local staff from humanitarian agencies and locally-based organizations in order to learn about their objectives and to understand the goals of the interventions. The researcher selected the two camps based on both their geographic proximity and recommendations of key informants. The following paragraph describes more detail regarding interview data collection and the selected IDP camp locations.

1.4.1 Research Location

The IDP camps located in Momauk and Bhamo Townships, Kachin State, Myanmar were selected as the research sites for this thesis. They were built in 2011 during the beginning of the conflict in Kachin State. These townships are located in the north eastern part of Myanmar, along the border with Long Chouan Country, Yunan Province, China. The majority of the local population is Kachin, while other ethnicities include 10% Shan, 5% Indian and 5% Chinese. (UNOCHA, 2018). Currently, Mamauk township has around 3000-4000 IDPs, while Bhamo township has around 5000-6000. Among these populations, the most vulnerable group includes pregnant and lactating women, infants, children, teenagers, elderly persons, disabled persons, single parents, and widowers. Research data was collected from four camps as follows: Manbung, Agricultural Compound, and the Kachin Baptist Convention Compound, which are located in Momauk township and Robert camp. The Kachin Baptist Convention

Compound and Agricultural Compound camps are under the management of the Kachin Baptist Convention, which is based in Momauk township and is integrated with the local residence housing areas. IDPs in the religious compound originate from thirteen different villages and are allocated into three separate camps within the downtown area. The Robert Church Compound Camp is the biggest camp and was built in the Bhamo Kachin Church Compound, close to the downtown area. The IDPs in this camp originate from 50 different villages within Mansi township. The camp is further separated into three sections within the compound. IDPs have been allocated to each of these three sections but remain under one camp management committee.

Figure 2. Map of data collection areas: Momauk and Bhamo Townships.



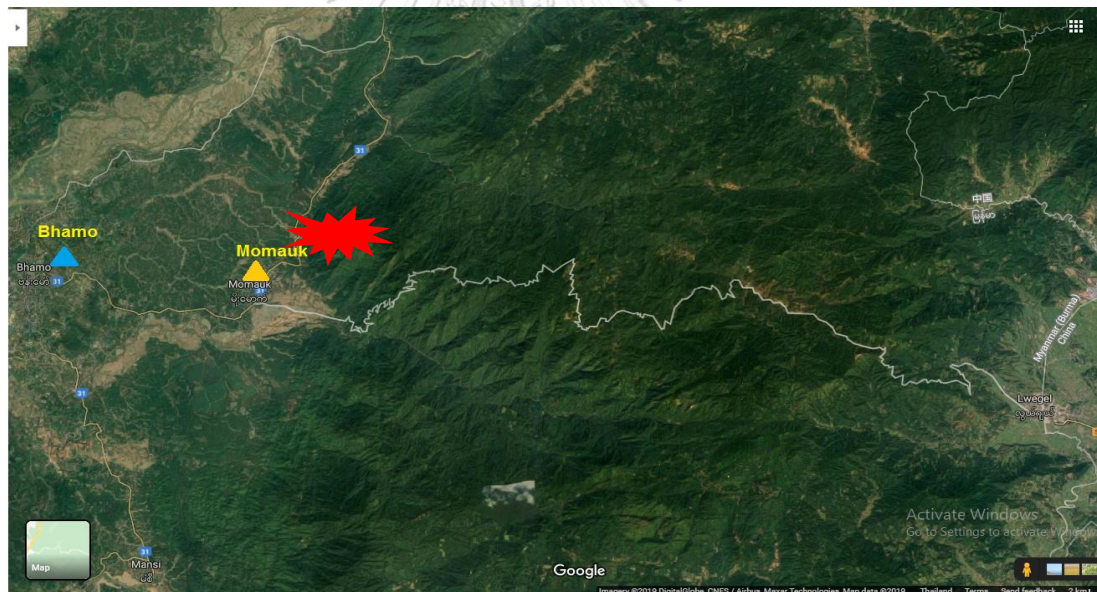
Source from google map:

<https://www.google.com/maps/@24.1458331,97.3634383,25019m/data=!3m1!1e3>

Current movement of IDPs: In 2011, the conflict in Kachin state began in the area of the Sang Gang hydropower dam, which is close to Seventeen Miles Village, or Gwoi Ga Htawng Village, located on the main road from Momauk to Myo Thit (see Figure 3). Beginning in 2015, some villagers permanently returned to two villages of origin.

These two villages are very close to Momauk township where a large number of IDPs are still remaining. Some IDPs often travel to and from their village of origin as some are close to the current IDP camp sites. These villages include Goi Ga Htawng, or Seventeen Miles Village, and Chyauk Sa Hkan, which are both located in Momauk township. While some have returned, Baptist villagers are still residing in the Momauk Baptist Camp. Some IDPs have moved back and forth between their village of origin and the IDP camp many times. In Goi Ga Htawng Village, people are primarily Roman Catholic or Baptist. The Roman Catholic villagers, who have been displaced since 2011, are being accommodated in Manbung Camp, which was built in the Roman Catholic religious compound located in Momauk township. Although the researcher visited Manbung Camp, this research is focused on IDPs who are currently living in the camps.

Figure 3. Location where conflict started.



Source from google

map:<https://www.google.com/maps/@24.1458331,97.3634383,25019m/data=!3m1!1e3>

Table. 1 Demographic Data of IDPs in Selected Camps

No	Township	Camp	No. of population	No. of household
1	Momauk	Manbung	300	104
2	Momauk	KBC compound	436	102
3	Momauk	Agriculture Compound	599	135
4	Bhamo	Robert	4000	240
Total			5335	581

1.4.2 Methods of data collection

Desk-Based Literature Review: First and foremost, the literature review was undertaken by collecting secondary data from a variety of relevant sources, mainly the most recently updated scholarly literature, along with grey literature including official reports, operational reports, annual reports, and needs and assessment finding reports published by the agencies working in IDP camps in Kachin state.

Field Work in Kachin State: Qualitative interviews were conducted in Bhamo and Momauk townships, Kachin State, Myanmar for three weeks between 9 April and 9 May 2019. The researcher also collected data through informal discussions with IDP community members in order to identify the most experienced individual beneficiaries and with other IDPs who are engaged in livelihood related activities within the camp. Through these informal discussions, the researcher was able to identify the two the most successful livelihood training activities as tailoring and carpentry, while the two least successful livelihood training activities provided by the agencies were soap making and bamboo chair making.

The researcher interviewed four successful beneficiaries (two female tailors and two male carpenters) and three less successful beneficiaries (two female soap makers and one bamboo chair maker). In depth interviews were conducted face-to-face with selected respondents, using the guided interview questions. An audio recorder was used for each interview in order to aid the researcher to recall the information. In depth interviews were conducted with four experts from service-providing organizations including local NGOs, Faith-Based Organizations, and other local organizations. The

key informant interviews (KIIs) were conducted with the leaders from the management teams, including camp managers and camp committee members, women leaders, and camp focal persons. The researcher also conducted informal conversations with the leaders from the camps, religious leaders, and IDP livelihood working group member

Table. 2 List of research participants who were interviewed.

No	Interviewees	Gender		Type of interview	Location
		Male	Female		
1	Trained IDPs	3	4	In -depth interview Semi- structured	Agriculture camp, KBC Church Camp, Robert Camp and Man Bung Camp
2	Camp management and committee members	3	3	In -depth interview Semi- structured	Agriculture camp, KBC Church Camp, Robert Camp and Man Bung Camp
3	Expert staff from local agencies and INGO agencies	2	2	In -depth interview Semi- structured	Bhamo and Momauk Townships.

Data Analysis

The researcher took notes during both the field visits and the interviews. All recorded interviews were transcribed and translated from Kachin to English. The interviews were conducted only in Kachin dialects and were translated into English after the interview. All of the recorded interviews were translated into English. The most important and recurring themes were then identified and extracted from the transcripts and combined with the main points from the field notes for data analysis. The final research findings are recorded and discussed broadly in Chapter V of this thesis. All collected information has been provided systematically in order to inform a wider discussion of the most important factors.

1.5 Research Scope and Limitations

During the fieldwork in Kachin state, the majority of respondents were working at a far distance from the camps' locations. The interview schedule often needed to be readjusted according to the informants' available time. The data was collected in three weeks, from 10 April to 03 May 2019 in the target areas. The data collection was conducted during the Thingyan Water Festival Holiday, as the IDPs are Baptist and Catholic so they do not celebrate the Buddhist New Year. However, this made it challenging to interview the international humanitarian and aid agencies since they were unavailable during the holiday period and some staff members were away for a longer period of time. The fieldwork was also conducted in rural areas so a lot of time was spent traveling on daily basis. The research findings only represent the situation of IDPs within the selected camps located within the two selected townships of Kachin State. The details of the selected townships are listed in Table 1.

1.6 Ethical Issues

At the beginning of every interview, the researcher explained to respondents about the objectives of this research and requested their informed consent. The respondents were given a translated informed consent form in Burmese language, which stated the rights of the informants to ask any questions, to not respond to questions if they did not want to, and to voluntarily withdraw from the interview process at any time. All personal information collected through interviews has been kept confidentially for the safety of the respondents. The interview transcripts have also been saved with separate code numbers in order to protect the security of respondents. The researcher only used an audio recorder after receiving a respondent's consent to be recorded for the entire conversation, explaining that it was for the purpose of data analysis. During the interviews, the researcher also asked for respondents' permission to use the provided information and photos taken in the completed thesis. An official interview invitation letter was sent a few weeks ahead of the actual meeting arrangement with experts, camp management committee members, key informants, and individual IDPs.

Chapter- II

2.1 Literature review

This research focuses on examining the effectiveness of provided livelihood training programs for IDPs. A large number of the population in Kachin state was displaced due to the onset of violent conflict. In many countries, IDPs are accommodated in camps or are hosted in the local residential housing areas domestically, while some cross international borders to seek refuge in neighboring countries. As IDPs were forced to leave their original villages, they are learning to survive in new environments and trying to cope with various challenges that come as a consequence of displacement. IDPs are recognized as some of the most vulnerable people and supporting agencies prioritize this group of people for protection through provision of basic needs assistance, as well as other activities aimed at protecting the rights of IDPs. The Guiding Principles on the Internally Displacement officially states that IDPs have the right to work, development, and participation in the economic activities of the place where they are being hosted (Deng, 1999, p.491). Though many years of displacement have passed by, IDPs have gained training and some opportunities for financial support in order to increase self-reliance and to help cope with their struggle for their own well-being.

The United Nations defines IDPs as “Persons or groups of persons who have been forced to flee or leave from their homes or places of habitual residence, in particular, as a result of or in order to avoid the effects of armed conflict, situations of generalized violence, violations of human rights or natural- or human-made disasters, and who have not crossed an internationally recognized state border” Deng (1999, p.484) . The meaning of livelihoods is defined in different ways by different scholars. Livelihood refers to “the capabilities, assets, and activities required for a means of living” “as constituting capabilities of people, tangible and intangible assets and activities undertaken to make a living” (Chambers& Conway, 1992). “Livelihoods” also refers to the means used to maintain and sustain life. In forced migration studies, Jacobsen (2002, p. 98) defines livelihood as the resources, household assets, capital, social institutions, networks, and strategies available to people through their local and transitional communities. Using the concept of livelihood in displacement, this thesis

examines the “means” in the form of skill development trainings, which promote the capacity of IDPs to help themselves and their family members. The meaning of “asset” is that which people depend on for their livelihood or well-being (Mattie and Cunningham, 2003). In the context of the IDP situation, livelihood is “the capacity and assets which help them to make a living during the period of displacement”. The terminology of sustainable livelihoods was used widely in the framework identified by the Department for International Development (DFID). Ashley and Carney (1999, p.31) claim that sustainable livelihood and human rights-based approach share similar values. The human rights-based approach prioritizes inclusiveness, equal participation, and absolute respect of the rights of people, highlighting equal rights among all people and empowering the needy. However, such values are not explicitly included in the sustainable livelihood framework (Ashley and Carney, 1999, p.32). Rather, it encourages the service provider to emphasize equitable distribution of all the available services among the beneficiaries. However, Jacobsen argued that sustainable development is only useful to apply in analysis of poverty for people and communities in politically stable environments. In the context of internal displacement, the security of IDPs must be prioritized to ensure that all livelihood trainings and activities do not put them at further risk. There is a definition of the concept of livelihood in displacement which explains: “*in communities facing conflict and displacement, livelihoods comprise how people access and mobilize resources enabling them to increase their economic security, thereby reducing the vulnerability created and exacerbated by conflict, and how they pursue goals necessary for survival and possible return*” (Jacobsen, 2002, p.99). The local concept of livelihoods, which is used in this thesis, is understood as “*the capacity or skill that helps an individual IDP or group of IDPs to apply in daily life for increasing chances of employment opportunities*”. In the local meaning, IDPs accept the livelihood training as “*the trainings that give IDPs skills to start earning money to solve the financial problem in the household*”. The agencies in Kachin State provide skills training for IDPs, which are officially called “livelihood training programs for IDPs”, in order to provide them an opportunity to learn and develop skills. The trainings involve many types of vocational skills, which are intended to support IDPs to enhance their knowledge and to earn an income utilizing the learned skills. IDPs from Kachin State understand the “livelihoods training” as

“skill or capacity building training”, which helps them to seek better employment opportunities for regular income. The trained participants who apply the learned skills and are able to increase their income then financially support their families’ costs of education, healthcare, and social expenditures.

Jaspars (2006) analyzed the history of livelihood training programs in Africa between the 1980s and 1990s, following the famine. People encountered extreme shortages of food supplies and the responding agencies initiated emergency livelihood promotion programs for the affected population. The emergency support agencies tried to improve the livelihood strategies of communities directly impacted by the disaster in order to preserve their assets. In the early stages of the emergency, the agencies focused on life-saving strategies to help prevent future suffering for survival, food security, health, and better living conditions. The humanitarian agencies took on the responsibility of protecting conflict-affected communities by implementing these programs. Providing emergency livelihood support training programs is also one of the main activities included in the humanitarian principles intended to prevent further difficulties. The agencies also set short-term and long-term objectives for the programs during the different stages of emergency conditions.

In the context of refugees, the meaning of livelihoods is defined by the global strategy for livelihoods as follows: “Livelihoods are activities that allow people to secure the basic necessities of life, such as food, water, shelter and clothing” (2014). The livelihood support programs for refugees are intended to promote long-term self-reliance for individual households. Through these programs, refugees are provided skill training, capacity building, financial support, microfinance, agriculture-based training, and business training. The major objective of these agencies is to help refugees earn money and enable them to cover their own family’s expenditures with their income. The agencies offer the livelihood support services in order to help refugees to realize their rights to work and participate in economic development so that they can help themselves and their families in the future. Agencies provide trainings for knowledge, vocational skills, and potential sources of income in order to help individual households to acquire their basic needs with dignity. The livelihood support programs, such as agriculture, livestock raising, small business activities, and employment in the local

sector, help refugees to earn money by supplying services. Some land was also allocated for refugees to continue agriculture-based and livestock raising livelihood activities as a primary means of production, further providing the opportunity for their products to be sold in the market helping families to earn an income that can cover their expenses and basic needs in the camps.

The global strategy for livelihood (2014) for the refugee camps in South Sudan outline many strategies for actors to provide capacity building for refugees to empower them to earn their own income. The agencies organized assessments and research to secure sufficient financial support for their programs, further promoting the protection of the right to work and encouraging self-reliance. Human rights law ensures that every refugee has the right to work and to enjoy the freedom to choose their own employment strategies that will allow them to generate their own incomes in order to cover the costs of basic needs without harassment, discrimination, exploitation, and/or intimidation from state authorities. The agencies conducted a systematic assessment of the employment opportunities available for refugees and engaged in refugee-focused policymaking with the respective governments. Agencies allocated a large budget to promote employment opportunities and livelihood program implementation in order to facilitate refugees' long-term self-reliance. Additionally, these agencies provided skill training, vocational training, and provision of grants for small business as forms of capacity building within the refugee camps.

The Thailand Migration Report (2011, p. 71) explains that a large number of people from Myanmar seeking to avoid conflict have been taking shelter along the Thai-Myanmar border for over twenty years. As these refugees have been in a situation of long-term displacement, they have relied on outside assistance for many years and began seeking external income opportunities in order to earn their own living. The Thai government, including the respective agencies, identified solutions to promote self-reliance and independence by initiating income-generating activities inside the camps to promote employment opportunities for refugees. The activities that generated the most income for IDPs were agriculture and livestock breeding. IDPs were also provided training in other income-generating activities such as basket making, construction, weaving, selling handmade goods and food, running shops, and small-scale trade. The

UN agencies and international agencies conducted systematic surveys and assessments to understand the relevance of certain livelihood-supporting activities that can help IDPs to develop self-reliance and become less dependent upon the agencies' support. In addition, such programs have helped to establish strong cooperation among the private sector, the United Nations, International NGOs, and the hosting government, particularly with employees from various Ministries who can further promote the improvement of the IDP situation. The joint agencies conducted a pilot project for agriculture-based activities in the local areas. The provision of land plot where displaced persons can do cultivation activities for domestic consumption and sell out the surplus in the local market. It was reported as a very successful project. Private companies also worked together with the local authorities to allocate employment opportunities for IDPs in an effort to help improve their livelihoods. The refugees were offered training opportunities to acquire new knowledge that could be useful in gaining employment in various local industries or other available working fields. The private sector and the Ministry of Labor arranged to provide necessary capacity building trainings to meet the required skills of the local labor market's demands. Chalamwong, Thabchumpon, & Chantavanich (2013) further discuss how the refugee population along the Thai-Myanmar border was also provided with programs focused on generating income, skills training, vocational training, agricultural training, and small business-oriented training activities. These programs were supported by many agencies to help individual refugees and groups of refugees to become more independent. The agencies also provided agricultural skill trainings by providing land for pilot projects from which the products could be sold in local markets. For vocational trainings, the agencies conducted market research before making decisions regarding the type of skills to be taught. A livelihood coordination committee was established in partnership between UN agencies, local NGOs, and the Ministry of Labor to allocate the programs according to refugees' needs and to consider the distribution of agency resources. A variety of livelihood-supporting activities, including training programs, were provided in cooperation between these agencies. However, many vulnerable groups were still left behind following the implementation of these programs as these people often spent a majority of their time inside of the shelter taking care of their family members, their children, and their households. This influenced livelihood-support service providers to

initiate income generating activities that could be done from inside the shelters, particularly to help single mothers and mothers with many children.

In the context of internal displacement, the relative conflict must be considered as a factor when determining best practices, as IDPs are vulnerable people who have suffered human rights violations and are displaced in a new environment with no financial or social assets (Jacobsen, 2002, p.98). They face many difficulties, insecurities, and vulnerability when seeking opportunities to improve their livelihoods. In the allocation of livelihood-related assistance, it is important to ensure safety and to reduce risks for IDPs. Jacobsen argued that in situations of displacement, the provided livelihood services should focus on reducing the vulnerability of beneficiaries and on helping them to establish economic prosperity rather than stability as they are facing economic shock and a complete lack of assets (Jacobsen 2002, p.98). IDPs encounter many difficulties in their new environment and unexpected risks contribute to their vulnerable status. Both female and male IDPs face different risks when seeking livelihood improvement. Often, IDPs become victims of human trafficking, military recruitment, rights violations, exploitation, and lack of access to resources. In this way, ordinary people's lives are safer and more privileged than the lives of IDPs and refugees. Conflict causes an environment of insecurity for IDPs and their displacement indirectly prohibits them from seeking livelihood opportunities in the areas where they lived, whereas people who do not live in conflict zones are able to enjoy regular livelihood activities. Therefore, Jacobson argued that the first priority should be to protect IDPs from the risks and factors that make them more vulnerable to conflict. In his article, Jacobsen explains the kinds of resources that have been discussed in the context of promoting the livelihoods of IDPs such as agricultural land, forest, cash, agency assistance, and income generation support (Jacobsen, 2002, p.98). All of these resources enable IDPs to participate in livelihood activities for future economic progress. For example, IDPs cultivate crops and vegetables in the available land plots to begin generating income by using their abilities. They find ways to extend their business of cultivation by selling surplus product in the local market for a small daily income. However, in order to allocate these kinds of resources, the host communities and the state government must provide special contributions. It was further discussed

that access to resources and freedom of movement encourage IDPs to explore the opportunities for economic activity, help them to become less dependent on the regular assistance, and greatly expand their social life.

Regarding the specific IDP situation in Kachin state, the only available literature includes agency reports, news in the local dialect, operational reviews of IDP cases, and working group reports that include a subtopic focused on livelihood under the general information on IDP affairs. Additionally, the literature utilized in this research included that on the displacement and economic situation of refugees in various countries. In general, the condition of refugees and IDPs is quite similar, other than crossing national boundaries. The Joint Strategy Team meeting (2015- 2016) reported on the humanitarian response to IDPs in Kachin and Shan state, describing the displacement situation in both government-controlled areas (GCA) and non-government-controlled areas (NGCA). Due to the unstable peace process and continuing conflict, it has been analyzed that the ongoing humanitarian assistance should be prepared for to support IDPs for the long-term future. The report highlighted many priority areas into which agencies should put more effort and donors should allocate more assistance. Among the priority areas, improvement of livelihood programs for IDPs was included, particularly income-generating skills trainings and cash assistance for innovative small business initiatives. For example, the Humanitarian Country Teams prepared guidelines and strategies seeking a durable solution for IDPs in Kachin state, further identifying the policies and principles relevant to planning for IDPs during displacement and during resettlement (HCT, 2015). The state government planned for the return of some IDPs and created a policy for resettlement, which provides that IDPs are entitled to access necessary information for the arrangement of their resettlement. Therefore, the guiding principles can be utilized as a handbook to refer to for the protection of IDPs during displacement.

Zaw Lut (2013) conducted thesis research on the overall issue of IDP protection in Kachin state, Myanmar. The research focused on IDPs in non-government-controlled areas where humanitarian agencies could not easily access to provide assistance. The thesis discussed the general situation of IDPs during the displacement period. The protection mechanisms for IDPs and the conflict in Kachin state were broadly

discussed, including the causes of conflict in and the living conditions of IDPs. However, this paper specifically covers the issues faced by IDPs in non-government-controlled areas under the management of the Kachin Independence Army's (KIA) Rescue Committee and mostly emphasizes security concerns for the protection of IDPs. In general, these included education, health, food, and security assistance cases for the IDPs in NGCA specifically. There is limited support for the creation of livelihood programs in non-government-controlled areas, so some IDP households receive assistance from agencies to plan activities and raise livestock inside the camp. IDPs in the targeted research areas suffered from unemployment and there was no solution provided by the responsible local government. IDPs began looking for available jobs outside of the camps, but movement in some areas was restricted due to landmines. The research stated that the lack of livelihood improvement policy made IDPs more vulnerable and that much more support was needed in the long-term. One of the most important highlighted issues was the need to adjust IDP livelihood support programs to account for the possibility of long-term continuation of conflict. This also includes proper planning in the sectors of basic services, food, shelter, water, non-food items, education, health, and livelihood training programs. During instability, humanitarian agencies pass their responsibilities to development programs. In this context, the livelihood of IDPs needs to be strengthened in order to for them to help themselves and to contribute to their family needs. To ensure and maintain security, IDPs are prohibited to leave the camp compound, which indirectly effects IDPs who are seeking available work in the local residential area. IDPs who are employed at a location further in distance from the camp need to get permission to take a three-month leave from the camp. Their monthly rations will be cut after a three-month absence from the camp. Therefore, IDPs working outside the camps are not allowed to do so longer than three months at a time. Other IDPs leave the camps in order to access natural resources such as firewood and seasonal plants in the forest areas. However, as these resources are located within a close proximity to the conflict area, it is quite dangerous to collect forest products.

Deng (1999, p.484) explains that the Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement is one of the most important resources to study for a better understanding of the overall

IDP situation. During the 1990s, the number of IDPs and refugees worldwide increased dramatically due to various conflicts and a lack of universal standards for the protection of these persons (IDMC , 2014). The Guiding Principles have become an official handbook, outlining 30 principles for the protection of IDPs before, during, and after displacement. Principle number 18 identifies the necessary provisions for IDPs to maintain a quality standard of living during displacement. Principles number 10 through 23 apply specifically to the period of displacement, ensuring that IDP rights are respected, that they are protected from any human rights violations, that legal support is accessible, just as it is for every citizen within the country, whenever necessary, and that their basic needs are provided (Deng,1999,p.490) The Guiding Principles on Displacement as a guideline to ensure the safeguarding of IDPs' lives and security in every aspect, including harassment and assault. In the context of displacement, IDPs are the most vulnerable people.

The remaining principles provide a general guide for all humanitarian agencies and state institutions to follow during their implementation of assistance programs. These principles were developed based on the International Humanitarian Law and the International Refugee Law. The book was published by the designated representative for IDP affairs after a coordinated meeting with many experienced humanitarian agencies and practitioners on the ground (Banerjee, Chaudhury, and Das, 2005). It is an international framework to be applied to the implementation of interventions by humanitarian agencies which ensure the provision of protection for IDPs. Deng (1999, p.485) further explained that all groups of vulnerable persons, including women, children, elderly persons, and disabled groups are not to be discriminated against from receiving assistance but rather should be treated as all other IDPs. The UN agencies, international agencies, and all local partner agencies that support IDPs do so through practical application of the guiding principles to the implementation of their programs, both during and after displacement. Many IDPs who seek work outside of the camps face many risks; many studies have shown that females often unintentionally become victims of labor exploitation due to their IDP status. Any human rights violations that occur must be handled with the proper legal procedures. This thesis is focused particularly on the role of local government and relevant agencies to promote the

wellbeing of IDPs and improve their livelihoods during the period of displacement. The Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement state that the relevant and responsible groups must engage with one another to coordinate provision of assistance for IDP affairs, especially considering that each institution has access to different resources. When forced to leave their original villages, IDPs must leave their property behind and upon arriving in the new host location, they are without social networks or other resources to rely on for opportunities of economic improvement. According to the Guiding Principles, local governments have the most responsibility to help IDPs and can seek help from international organizations to respond to the needs of IDPs. The respective government institutions have various resources to utilize in determining solutions for IDPs who are hosted in their region. IDPs' general needs have been supported by international agencies, national agencies, and local governments in Kachin State. According to the Guiding Principles, the state government's first responsibility is to protect the rights of IDPs during displacement, but they are also entitled to ask for help from international agencies to respond to the needs of IDPs. All institutions and agencies that engage with IDPs must ensure protection of their physical safety, legal safety, and material safety, as well as apply all of the principles set for IDPs.

Buchanan-Smith and Jaspars (2006) reported that over 200,000 displaced persons came to the northern eastern part of Darfur in Sudan from their original villages in rural areas. After arriving in the new city environment, they were only offered food assistance from the government and international agencies. Some IDPs tried to find seasonal crops in the forest, but often became vulnerable to military recruitment and violence perpetrated by armed forces. Conflict-affected communities lost their property and all public infrastructure was destroyed, including schools, health care centers, water resources, and agricultural land. The government, state authorities and development agencies made a concentrated effort to renovate and/or reconstruct public buildings to provide social services for civilians in Darfur after three years of conflict (Buchanan-Smith and Jaspars, 2007). Development agencies also began to offer training programs, but IDPs instead sought work outside of the IDP camp. Contrary to Darfur situation, IDPs in Kachin state were given the chance to learn new skills to pursue livelihood activities

even though the provided trainings were not aligned with the IDPs' interests. The types of activities to generate income generation that people requested were not easy to provide as the majority were waiting to return to their original villages and begin working again in the agricultural fields and cattle raising (Buchannan-Smith and Jaspars, 2006).

The Human Rights Based Approach, Need Based Approach, and Strength Based Approach are primarily applied by international agencies and humanitarian agencies in program implementation (Khadka, 2012). Utilizing the Human Rights-Based Approach means applying the Universal Human Rights policy to each program and project across all fields of work. In the working environment, humanitarian agencies, international agencies, all local partners, and United Nations agencies are expected to respect every human being and treat them equally (Mattie and Cunningham, 2003). The Human Rights Based Approach is adopted by institutions, United Nations agencies, development agencies, and civil society organizations and applied in program implementation in order to ensure respect for all aspects of human rights, particularly equality, non-discrimination, and equal participation (Broberg and Sano, 2018). In the case of humanitarian assistance programs, the agencies apply this theory by delivering assistance to beneficiaries without discrimination, providing equal opportunities, and inviting their participation in important decision-making processes. In 1986, after World War II, the Declaration on the Rights to Development was officially accepted in the General Assembly and the human rights-based approach was then widely applied by United Nations development agencies in developing countries worldwide. The application of the human rights-based approach by humanitarian agencies guarantees the inclusion of vulnerable groups in all interventions and ensures the recipients' right to seek legal guidance if they were not treated equally. This approach helps poor and marginalized persons to enjoy their human rights the same as other people and further ensures that persons in need are well protected.

The next approach, Need-Based Approach (NBA), refers to the provision of necessary services for individuals or communities based on the findings of surveys, rapid needs assessments, or problem assessments conducted by scholars, international agencies, institutions, Universities, or experts in the targeted areas. Kretzmann and McKnight

(1993) criticized the NBA, claiming that it only identifies the cause of the problems in order to justify agencies to respond with interventions. Therefore, the support provided for people in need is determined without considering their existing capacities, skills, or knowledge. The authors pointed out some weak points of the NBA are that it may encourage people to become dependent upon agency's assistance and that the root cause cannot be addressed if people are only seeking external help. Provision of assistance may lead people to believe that only outsiders and experts are able to solve their problems, instead of realizing their own capability to help themselves in hardship conditions (Kretzmann and McKnight, 1993). The authors agree that NBA may be able to fulfil individual and community needs in the short term, but it cannot be guaranteed in the long term as it impacts the psychology of beneficiaries to make them less confident in their own capacities.

Many scholars criticize the weaknesses and strengths of these three different approaches. Khadka (2012) argued that the needs-based approach is most useful in short-term and emergency response activities. This approach allows for quick and effective responses to address the needs of beneficiaries in order to deliver sufficient assistance based on survey results. The needs assessment surveys are conducted by emergency response organizations who interview persons fleeing conflict, key informants, and local actors. This approach was used in Nepal to address the minimum basic needs of a community fleeing conflict during their initial state of displacement. However, when the situation began approaching the stage of long-term displacement, the agencies realized they should work to empower the capacity of IDPs in order to help them become less dependent on humanitarian aid. The service which led to application of the strength-based approach to increase community participation in programs to achieve long-term goals.

The last approach, Strength-Based Approach (SBA), is defined as assisting individuals or communities to identify their own abilities, skills, knowledge, and talent to make their own decisions for the betterment of their lives (Lietz, 2009). SBA was developed in the late 1980s to early 1990s in the building up of development organizations, social work, community development, psychology, and health fields of research (Winterford, 2013). The first stage of applying the SBA helps humanitarians and development

agencies to set a foundation of confidence for individuals and communities to build their capacity to pursue better livelihoods in long run (Moten, 1999). SBA encourages people to become more independent and motivated to pursue their own career choice because it creates a positive feeling, which further urges them to seek positive change (Saleebey,2009). This approach is more suitable for long-term improvements in the implementation of livelihood programs, creating sustainable change for beneficiaries and their communities (Winterford, 2013).

International organizations are invited to implement livelihood assistance programs to help IDPs improve their ways of life and to provide income generation services, including vocational skill trainings to create income opportunities. However, to achieve long-term goals the approach that such programs are designed with should aim to help the beneficiaries to see their strengths rather than to identify their needs. Fredrickson (2001) stated that identifying what people already have is a starting point to achieve better change rather than focusing on what they are lacking. This approach motivates people to think more creatively and expand their knowledge to explore more strategies to improve their lives (Fredrickson, 2001). International agencies can then provide a minimum standard assistance for conflict-affected people throughout emergency periods.

In practice, the capacity of individuals or communities to sustain long lasting development achievements is the goal of the strength-based approach. People's internal strengths and abilities must be recognized and they should try to apply those abilities to better their lives before inviting external help (Winterford, 2013). The strength-based approach applied in community development program planning facilitates people's participation. The strength-based approach views people as skillful, valuable, and able to identify solutions to problems on their own. However, it often takes many years for service providers to help people to realize their ability to improve their own lives. The strength-based approach has been applied widely in areas implementing sustainable development program worldwide. People from various humanitarian fields engage in identifying the way to work toward achieving the long-term goal of increasing income for IDPs. Both duty bearers and rights-holders need to have the opportunity to participate, to be treated equally, and to contribute their opinion in the decision process.

Applying the Human Rights Based Approach, Needs Based Approach, and Strength Based Approach during the right stage of program planning is crucial to the provision of a more comprehensive response to IDP needs.

Jacobsen (2005) described the issue of decreasing humanitarian assistance after many years of displacement in the context of Africa, which forced agencies to adopt new response strategies. At the beginning, during the emergency period of displacement, many agencies provided assistance for the minimum standard basic needs such as food, shelter, clothing, non-food items, and water and sanitation facilities for the refugee population in the camps. However, long-term displacement leads to a decline in funding because donors typically only supply funds for emergency assistance. The UNHCR initiated an approach of self-reliance in their assistance for refugees, maintaining the following objective: “the refugee would be able to grow or buy their own food, access and pay for basic services, and maintain self-sustaining community structures” (Jacobson, 2005). The strategy was successfully applied in Guinea, Ghana, and Zambia, where it was implemented after four years of displacement. As the host government has the responsibility to improve the economic and social environments for hosted refugees, strong cooperation between agencies, based on the self-reliance strategy, is vital to the improvement of relative policies, regulations, allowances, and opportunities. The government also engages with IDP and refugee integration for social and economic improvement, enforcing relative policies where necessary. The assisting international agencies are only active during a certain period, so the local government is the main institution that exists before, during, and after displacement to address the relevant issues. The involvement of the local government in these programs is essential to their long-term success. They can contribute resources and infrastructure, and are already respected as the authorities by local people. Assisting those displaced by man-made disasters or ongoing conflicts can prove difficult, but adjustable long-term planning can lead to more successful responses, as the level of tension in the conflict determines the life span of displacement (Jacobsen, 2002). The government’s involvement in livelihood improvement programs helps to create durable, long-term solutions.

Conflict-affected people typically take refuge in cities; however, this means they must adapt to the city lifestyle, which is very different from their original villages. The

attitudes of people in these cities tend to become negative toward the communities seeking refuge, especially when displacement periods last many years. In Columbia, large populations of IDPs in cities caused social tension among local residents after several years of displacement (Carrillo, 2009). The host community began to view IDPs as opportunity seekers rather than vulnerable people due to increased competition in the daily working environment, the necessity of sharing limited resources for many years, and the provision of social welfare services. The fact, however, is that IDPs are vulnerable people as they don't have financial assets, social networks, or property like the local city residents do. For this particular IDP population, it was not the income-supporting programs that failed to empower the beneficiaries because the majority of IDPs were not qualified enough to participate (Carrillo, 2009). Particularly in the case of IDP livelihood in Columbia, the approaches used by agencies are important to guide the programs so as to achieve the short-term and long-term goals. Both service providers and beneficiaries must be involved in developing programs and need to ensure that the most relevant types of training are offered (Carrillo, 2009). The national state government and authorities provide emergency response during the initial stage of displacement, but fail to allocate social services for the larger population due to a lack of human resources in governmental institutions. On the other hand, it is difficult for newcomers to adapt to the local livelihood in the city and to rely on food assistance. Carrillo explained further that long time displacement causes displaced persons to lose confidence in their own capacity and also lose job opportunities due to their IDP status. In the context of Columbia, some IDPs became beggars due to their lack of employment, discrimination by local residents, and instability of the relative conflict. The existing capacity of human resources in the government is insufficient and lacks experience, leading to their decision to host displaced persons in an insecure environment. This thesis focuses on livelihood training programs provided to the IDP population in Kachin state in order to determine how the available types of training programs compare with those of other conflict-affected communities, such as the situation in Columbia.

Jacobsen (2002) claimed that the IDP community, which shares resources with the host community, must consider their potential impact on the local economy, society, and

environment, particularly during long periods of displacement. International organizations, then, should provide some services for the host communities to prevent social conflict with IDPs. International organizations provided assistance with income generation as an economic solution for the refugee population in Sub-Saharan Africa. The participants were given the chance to participate in program activities and to make decisions in determining the available types of income generation activities, such as charcoal baking, agriculture, and raising livestock, that met the local market demands. The objective of the program was to empower people's own capacity to pursue livelihood activities according to their own preferences to increase self-reliance. The paper recommended that international agencies develop plans for temporary emergency assistance and sustainable aid programs to improve the instable living conditions of IDPs.

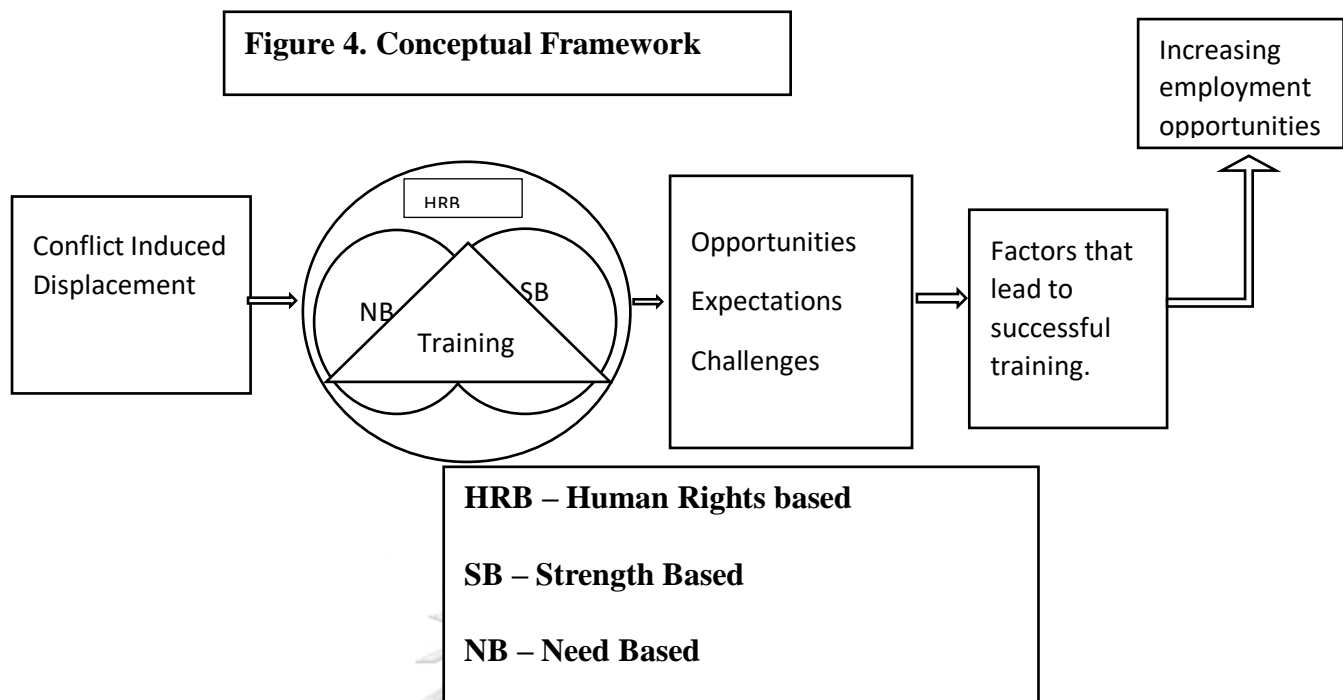
The comprehensive livelihood training programs are designed to help train participants to establish their own income-generating activities. Mwesigwa & Mubangizi (2019) argued that the training design should include sufficient financial support, skills relevant to the local market, and equipment to help participants to set up their own income-generating activities in order to increase self-employment or to increase the income level. Providing trainings alone were only sufficient to teach knowledge, skills, and information, but that needed to be supported by other necessary requirements. The livelihood empowerment program for youth groups in Uganda implemented by the government provided skill development, livelihood support, and institutional support for the target groups.

In conclusion, the available literature is mainly focused on refugee cases rather than those of IDPs, but there are similar livelihood problems for both groups of conflict-avoiding peoples and the relative hosting communities. The majority of the literature on livelihood training programs in situations of forced displacement are focused on refugee cases, apart from the global database system from the Internal Displaced Monitoring Center (IDMC, 2014). The approaches utilized in different countries and by different agencies were varied. Long-term solutions utilize the approaches that empower individual IDPs' capacity, which is crucial in helping them to become self-reliant and increases their chances of future prosperity (Khadka, 2012). This approach

seeks to help encourage IDPs to stand on their own, to depend on their own capacity, and to take responsibility for improving their own lives. Many stakeholders are involved, including government institutions, international agencies, and human rights agencies, and all play an important role in the delivery of assistance to beneficiaries.

2.2 Conceptual Framework

A large number of the population in Shan state were forced to leave their home villages and to take refuge domestically, as IDPs, in various camp sites. They have been hosted in religious compounds and camps and provided with emergency basic needs such as food, shelter, clothing and non-food items from humanitarian agencies. IDPs receive livelihood trainings to build their capacity in specific skills, income-generating activities, and small-scale business activities through training programs. Work opportunities are primarily located offsite with local employers, though there are some jobs also located in the camps. This thesis is focused on the outcomes of livelihood trainings rather than other income generating activities or financial support. Around 2015, after four years of displacement, relevant agencies identified livelihood support training as the most essential way for IDPs to learn new knowledge that could help them seek regular income, eventually securing financial stability for their family and better living conditions. There are several types of livelihood trainings available for IDPs to explore new skills. Most of the trainings are conducted in the camps, while some types of trainings are conducted outside of the camps in the local business sector. Agencies provide the training fees and food allowance, hire the trainers, and support seed funding for qualified trainees after the training.



The agencies respect the rights of IDPs as outlined in the Guiding Principle on Internally Displacement, which provide that IDPs are entitled to be protected, treated with dignity, and ensured of necessary assistance by the government and relevant agencies. There are three main approaches implemented by agencies working with IDPs in Kachin state, namely the Human Rights Based Approach, Needs Based Approach, and Strength Based Approach. Application of the Human Rights Based Approach ensures that every IDP has the right to participate in training opportunities, that the programs are inclusive of all vulnerable groups, and that beneficiaries are included in the service delivery selection process. The provided livelihood trainings are open and accessible to every IDP who is interested in studying new knowledge and/or acquiring new skills. According to the Human Rights Based Approach (Mattie and Cunningham, 2003), every IDP has equal access to livelihood related services and there is no discrimination in enrollment or participation. As IDPs are seeking employment opportunities, the agencies that are active in the camps conduct assessments from which the results are used to inform the design of livelihood training program so as to ensure that they meet the IDPs' needs. Therefore, the agencies respond to the assessments by allocating services based on the findings. They provide several types of training opportunities for IDPs to learn new skills, helping them to make a living within the

displacement setting. The Needs Based Approach states that service providers must conduct an assessment of need before delivering services to the beneficiaries.

IDPs who already possess a basic knowledge of the skills taught in training programs have an opportunity to further enhance their skills, even receiving qualifications after the training is complete. Lietz (2009) defines the Strength Based Approach as assisting individual persons or communities to identify their own abilities, skills, knowledge, and talents make their own decisions for betterment in life. The training programs, then, are like a platform through which IDPs can explore their capacity to learn new knowledge. The livelihood service providers support many various trainings for all IDPs. However, only some ambitious applicants take the opportunity to expand their knowledge and some participants fail to pursue a better income after the training. The objective of providing livelihood trainings is to foster the trainees' capacity in order to secure an income. Following the training, some participants face challenges in pursuing regular employment. This research examines the challenges that participants face in achieving the long-term goals and objectives as set by the agencies, further analyzing the three approaches utilized by service providers. Additionally, this research identifies the factors that led to the most successful participants and the difficulties, which caused participants to fail in carrying out their training for the purpose of pursuing a better income in the future.

2.3 Concepts of Rights Based Approaches, Need Based Approach and Strength Based Approach.

In the displacement situation, the Human Rights Based Approach has enabled some beneficiaries to enjoy their rights to be supported with basic necessary assistance and to be protected at all times. Every IDP has the right to be treated with respect as outlined in the Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement. The agencies that are active in Kachin state apply the identified principles, which help to ensure that they are responding equally to all IDPs' needs, ensuring that no IDPs are discriminated against in the provision of services (Mattie and Cunningham, 2003). Stated in the Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement, every IDP is equally allowed to inquire about their needs with the humanitarian aid agencies. The service providers' main purpose is to ensure that every IDPs' rights are protected as they are some of the most vulnerable people. Applying a rights-based approach in the context of displacement ensures that every IDPs' rights are respected and that no IDP is discriminated against in receiving assistance from agencies. Viewing the camps in Momauk and Bhamo townships from the human rights perspective, all IDPs were provided shelter to share with their family members, however, as shelters were allocated by household, many big families had to share small spaces. For example, each IDP household was provided with one shelter while monthly rations were delivered according to the number of family members. Some agencies provided non-food items such as clothing, utilities, household-use products, seasonally used materials, sanitation, and health, which were all distributed equally for each IDP household. In general, each agency has its own mandate to respond equally to beneficiaries' needs in order to realize the rights of IDPs during the displacement period. The rights of IDPs are the same as the basic human rights, which include needs such as shelter, food, education, and basic health care, as stated in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. International and local organizations try to equally support every IDP households' needs. The studies demonstrated that every IDP household is entitled to receive equal assistance as provided by the agencies. It is clearly implied that every IDP household is supposed to be provided an equal opportunity to live with dignity during displacement. Every agency, regardless if they are international

or local, must follow the principles for the protection and security of IDPs, which is outlined in the UN Guiding Principles. In Momauk and Bhamo camps, the Camp Coordination and Management Committee was organized by appointed IDPs to take responsibility for the role of managing IDPs. The management committee members coordinate with aid agencies to equally allocate and deliver assistance items to each IDP household. Both camps have clinics with general medical facilities with appointed medical staff to respond to minor health issues. These basic human rights provisions are supplied by humanitarian agencies throughout displacement period. The interviews with experts revealed that in situations where almost all needs are taken care of on behalf of IDPs, they start to depend on the service providers as the duty bearer rather than taking responsibility for themselves. In the Strength Based Approach, determining first the existing capacity of beneficiaries plays a crucial role in changing the behavior of IDPs. First, the organization staff arranged a public meeting with camp committee members and IDPs to announce the services they intended to provide, including the opportunity to apply for a loan to start a business or to learn new knowledge. According to the respondents, the most vulnerable groups, such as women-headed households, widowers, elderly persons, and persons with disabilities are prioritized for receiving assistance.

The collected data imply that in the future, agencies need to conduct surveys in order to choose the most relevant livelihood activities for IDPs to ensure their success. Some agencies only conducted needs assessments at the very beginning of the displacement period for the purpose of general distribution. All agencies apply the Needs Based Approach to ensure the practicality of their interventions to address the needs of IDPs. The interview respondents stated that every livelihood service provider conducted a needs assessment survey before providing assistance, typically for the purpose of distribution of non-food items other assistance. The assistance is delivered in line with the human rights Guiding Principles, which were identified by the United Nations. In order to respond to the basic living needs of IDPs, they were provided shelter, food, and non-food items under the principle of equal distribution as implemented by many international humanitarian agencies. The humanitarian agencies' needs assessment surveys also address the need for livelihood training programs and financial services to

promote IDP income security during displacement. DRC (2009) stated that the provision of livelihood programs is one of their main project agendas to be implemented for IDPs in the target areas, including Bhamo township. As part of the livelihood program in Bhamo, they planned to conduct training activities for handicraft, skill development, and small business entrepreneurship to help individual IDPs generate income with their learned skills and to reduce long-term dependency on humanitarian aid. Therefore, livelihood support was provided for IDP populations with limited funds. Needs assessment surveys conducted by service providers were usually done so to spread awareness of the programs and to introduce the forms of assistance available for IDPs. In Kachin State, humanitarian agencies responding to the needs of IDPs aim for long-term development of the livelihood conditions. According to respondents from local agencies, the livelihood training activities are also one of the sections under the development agenda for IDPs in Bhamo and Momauk townships.

When the researcher interviewed one agency's staff, they explained that "they [IDPs] relied on their own capacity while they were in the villages and recently, they were supported for so many years freely. Agency want to help them recall their past experiences and to reduce dependency manner slowly by slowly. Agencies are just showing the ways and they are the ones who doing practically. Showing them the way to work with their capacities slowly by slowly. Showing their capacities to help them see the capacity to help them to get ownership sense promote self-reliance again". Agencies aim to strengthen the existing capacity of IDPs in fields such as agriculture and shifting cultivation work, which are skills already known and practiced for generations. Therefore, the agencies hope to strengthen the capacity of IDPs through the training programs, providing IDPs the chance to participate in trainings to further develop their skills from within the camps.

According to the agency staff respondent, IDPs use various strategies to develop their existing capacity in order to help themselves improve their situation, but the program objectives are focused on supporting the stable generation of income for IDP households. They assume that IDPs have their own inherent talents and skills, which can help them to earn income, similar to how they would have done before displacement. Some agencies, therefore, implement livelihood programs that aim to

help IDPs recall their individual capacities and skills from their lives prior to displacement. In Momauk township, the agencies utilize the existing local resources, such as a carpentry training school, and invite persons from the community to provide the training for IDPs in the camps. This also provides livelihood activities for uneducated young male IDPs through vocational skill development. Some attend local training centers fulltime, supported financially by the relevant agencies for three years. Among vocational learners in the research sites, one male had already graduated. Some adult male IDPs who work as carpenters were provided financial support to buy equipment to carry out their carpentry work. These men have organized into groups; there are currently three carpentry groups in the camp.



Chapter- III

3.1 Existing Livelihood Support Trainings for IDPs in Kachin State.

This chapter presents the types of livelihood supporting training opportunities that are available in Bhamo and Momauk IDP camps. In 2018, after eight years of displacement, supporting agencies starting seeking better solutions for the improvement of livelihood opportunities and sustainable livelihoods for IDPs during the ongoing conflict in Kachin State. One such solution was to provide IDPs livelihood support trainings and cash grants to help IDPs to initiate their own sources of income in the camps. Some IDPs have participated in the vocational skill trainings and some IDP households are provided cash assistance to begin their own income-generating activities such as establishing small businesses. Agencies have created livelihood opportunities and, in the camps, some qualified IDPs have had the chance to start their own business, however some fail to apply the learned skills due to various difficulties. Solidarity International (SI) (2018) provided vocational training, mobile phone repair sets, hair and beauty salons, and motorbike garages to help beneficiaries pursue long-term job opportunities with regular income. Qualified training participants are expected to gain proper jobs after completion of the training in order to support their families and to achieve sustainable livelihoods, further improving their lives. The major objectives for providing livelihood trainings to IDPs are to promote income and to facilitate economics activities that meet the local demand. Another objective of livelihood support activity is to decrease dependency on provided aid. In this context, the development approach is most relevant to utilize for the improvement of livelihoods through the training opportunities and assistance with starting new business. The strength-based approach acknowledges beneficiaries' individual capacities and invites their participation in designing programs to improve implementation (Moore, 1993). Agencies are planning to assist each IDP household by giving them opportunities to receive livelihood support in response to their needs. One humanitarian staff explained, *“They believing that each IDP has unique capacity on their own but they need help to make them see their ability. Agencies assumed that IDPs are getting used to depending on the assistances, which provided from different humanitarian agencies in the camps. They receiving those assistances for many years without seeking for any other self-*

reliance business activities on their own. Therefore, their inherent talent skills started forgetting because they stop doing what they used to do in the past. The agencies providing livelihood related services in order to make recalling their capacity like situation before conflict. The opportunities intending to show the way for restarting over their lives to get back to normal life. They use strategy to build up their existing capacity in order to help themselves up for betterment but for the camp program objectives, to support IDP households for incomes improvement”.

According to the strength-based approach, agencies work to strengthen the capacity of participants who already possessed specific skills before the displacement period. The plans implemented with this approach focus on long-term improvement, achieving the goal of increasing individual IDP income, both during and after displacement. Identifying the challenges faced by former beneficiaries would help to create the most relevant livelihood training programs for IDPs in Kachin State and increase participation in the upcoming livelihood training programs. Agencies take on the facilitating role and give IDPs the responsibility of taking the leading role in planning their own activities. This allows beneficiaries to take ownership of the planning of future training programs. Some agencies determined the beneficiaries' needs by inviting them to identify priority areas and discussing these with the camp committee and IDPs themselves. The agencies are trying to promote the existing capacity of individual IDPs, even asking camp committee members to lead camp related activities. Similarly, in the process for IDPs to return to their home villages, the village leaders take responsibility for the returnees. The agencies, then, take on the role of the facilitator by placing participants in the leadership role with the intention of helping them to view themselves as capable persons, further improving their self-reliance in the long run (Saleebey, 2009). These livelihood programs are planned with a focus on long-term solutions.

Interviews with humanitarian experts revealed that some agencies and local communities view IDPs as beneficiaries rather than rights-holders. They also explained that long-term displacement caused many young IDPs to be negatively affected psychologically. They faced family problems that made them become aggressive, commit crimes, cause social conflict within the camps, become addicted to alcohol, and

conduct illegal work outside the camps. IDPs receive a limited monthly ration from the respective agencies so long as the IDP is staying within the camp. Such agencies have the responsibility to provide basic needs assistance to IDPs during their displacement. However, many adult IDPs must still look for available job opportunities to pay for education, food, and other family expenses.

The study showed that the livelihood training programs that were initiated in 2013 and 2015 significantly increased the number of agencies that support livelihood trainings for IDPs in Momauk and Bhamo townships. Regarding the training services, the intention of the assistance providers is to give recipients the chance to learn new skills and to generate income. Livelihood supporting agencies offered various trainings for different types of livelihood activities. Agencies hired trainers to support these programs in order to help IDPs gain a regular income. There are many kinds of livelihood training programs that exist in the camps, such as soap making, food preservation, snack making, plastic baskets, knitting, weaving traditional pattern textile, growing mushrooms, growing vegetable, tailoring, carpentry, cement brick making, copper fencing, copper ropes, bamboo chairs, fishing nets, beauty salon, and motorbike fixing. The training duration ranges from a few days to months or even years based on the type of training and its relevant requirements. Respondents claimed that majority of trainings took only a short amount of time and that after completing the training they didn't feel confident enough to apply the taught skills. However, some trainings were more formally conducted for select IDPs and some agencies provided start-up financial packages after completion of the trainings. Each trained IDP is expected to earn money by engaging in income-generating activities with their learned skills and knowledge. Chapter III discusses broadly the most and least effective types of trainings that IDPs received from the livelihood training programs.

IDPs receive some livelihood related trainings and cash grants from some organizations to generate their own income in the camps. Some IDPs participate in vocational skill trainings while some IDP households are provided cash to initiate their own income-generating activities. Solidarity International (2018) provided vocational training, phone repair kits, hair salons, and motorbike garages to help beneficiaries access long-term job opportunities and a regular income to support their families, to achieve a

sustainable livelihood, and to become food secure. Longer periods of displacement cause IDPs to be more vulnerable to becoming victims of human trafficking, military recruitment, or exploitation in the work places due to their IDP status.

The thesis data show that IDPs have a great opportunity to develop new skills by participating in livelihood trainings. In particular, the most vulnerable group of IDPs who spend most of their time in the camp, including adult IDPs and women IDPs with many children, also have the chance to attend trainings to update their knowledge while remaining in the camp to take care of the household and the children. They are able to learn new knowledge instead of searching for work outside of the camp. Their time is spent valuably as they are building their own capacity and can take care of their children at the same time. Participating in livelihood trainings is one of the available opportunities for IDPs to learn new skills in the camps. The trainings are aimed at helping to generate income for individual participants after program completion. Therefore, all types of trainings expect each trainee to be able to apply the learned skills to earn a living. Participating IDPs expect that those skills will be useful in their lives one day, even though they may face difficulties applying the skills in the context of displacement. While displaced, every IDP household is in need of income for the improvement of their living standards. As the trainings are conducted in the camps, participants do not need to travel outside. Based on the collected data, IDPs were satisfied with the provision of such kinds of opportunities during the displacement period, as they do not maintain regular employment. They feel very grateful to the agencies for providing such valuable opportunities during their time in the camp. One interview respondent said, *“receiving the one kind of skill training in the camp is one of IDPs’ benefit from the conflict, if IDP were living in the village of original they won’t have chance to learn any kind of new knowledge”*. Receiving livelihood trainings from agencies is one of the greatest opportunities for ambitious IDPs. There are many kinds of trainings provided for IDPs, which are more or less taught by the previously trained IDPs. During the interview one respondent stated, *“If IDPs don’t have opportunities to attend different kinds of livelihood trainings, they don’t know what to do during displacement period”* (Roi Nu, 2019).

3.2 Opportunities, Expectations, and Challenges in Pursuing Livelihood Improvement

The livelihood support trainings were delivered to adult IDPs with the intention to help each participant determine how to obtain a regular income. Collected data shows that a majority of IDP households gained at least one form of assistance, either livelihood trainings or cash grants to run small income-generating activities in the camp. The livelihood trainings have provided a new window of opportunity to several individual IDPs to learn new skills, which is an opportunity they would have never experienced in their home villages. Ambitious individuals who completed trainings and put their effort into practicing the learned skills often become qualified professionals. Some IDP households explore ways to make money within the camp by using granted financial support to establish a small business.

Both service providers and beneficiaries expect positive outcomes from the implemented trainings. Interview respondents stated that around 2015, many service providers such as the Kachin Baptist Convention, KMSS, Metta, DRC, NRC, and SI provided training services and financial support for IDPs. Their intention was to build the capacities of IDPs through training opportunities. Through the trainings, IDPs could learn new skills, which could help them make money, further promoting regular income generation. Ideally, the IDP population could utilize this assistance to acquire the necessary income to pay for family expenses. The service providers supported the training programs and a small amount of financial assistance for some IDPs. Their objective is to provide IDPs an opportunity to learn new life skills and become entrepreneurs to further initiate income generation. Generally, IDPs are interested in participating in the trainings with high expectations for the outcome to lead to income generation. The beneficiaries are also eager to put more effort into learning, and some IDPs are qualified to learn skills in specific fields. Ambitious individuals have become professionals in their field of training, which achieves the goal of securing a regular income. Some plan to eventually establish their new private business with the financial support provided from agencies. Both beneficiaries and service providers believe that a successful training program is one from which positive outcomes can be seen. Some beneficiaries put a lot of effort into the trainings in order to successfully improve their

livelihoods and living standards. The agencies help IDPs to realize their own abilities in order to determine the best potential income-generating activities to participate in. Some beneficiaries plan to apply the acquired knowledge in the future, as the current displacement situation prevents them from pursuing business. The agencies, then, intend to provide opportunities to secure and/or increase income through training. The livelihood trainings build their skills, knowledge, and capacity in order for IDPs to be able to help themselves and to contribute financially to their families and households.

Mismatched livelihood activities: As of 2019, the displacement period has lasted almost nine years. IDPs have faced difficulty surviving with only limited, rationed assistance provided by the relevant agencies. Adult male IDPs can find labor work outside the camp, but it is hard for women IDPs to go outside to seek employment, as they need to take care of their children in the camps. On average, at least one adult IDP from each household works outside the camp. They often work in hard labor or other random jobs to receive daily payment. Back in their home villages, the majority of IDPs worked in agriculture and cultivation in their own farmlands for many generations. They are experienced in farm work, gardening, and raising livestock and poultry, which is sufficient to make a living. However, the lifestyle of the host cities and types of jobs available are very different from those in their original villages. Often, IDPs try to look for work with which they are familiar, but to no avail. Instead, they must try to pursue daily jobs through random hard labor assignments from local employers. These random labor jobs are not regularly available and IDPs are not typically experienced with hard labor work from their home villages. They have to take many risks to secure daily jobs even though the working areas are very dangerous. One key informant respondent mentioned that some IDPs have encountered labor exploitation in the construction field and there are many cases of IDPs working as temporary migrants in China. Another crucial need of IDP communities is legal aid to address exploitation, abuse, and any other kinds of rights-violations. Some IDPs try to find ways to make money with the skills learned from livelihood trainings. While they have the chance to learn these new skills, IDPs often face many difficulties in application of the learned skills. The research showed that IDPs prefer to seek daily work outside of the camp than attend the livelihood trainings. The fact is that IDPs are more interested in securing daily income

in order to pay for their family expenses and responsibilities. When the option of daily work is available, IDPs are less interested in building their capacity for long-term benefit. They mostly focus on the short-term daily survival than long-term personal development. The majority of IDPs are interested only in daily hard labor work in the local residential housing areas. Therefore, the provided livelihood trainings should be more applicable to the IDPs' reality and more relevant to their current situation. In this context, although daily work is not regularly available or dependable, the payment is immediate. In fact, many IDPs are less interested in applying for permanent employment in the host area, as the payment is not immediate. In the camp, securing a daily income is the most essential need of IDPs during displacement in order to help alleviate their current poor living conditions. They don't want to attend long days of training and want to avoid wasting their time on unpaid work. They overlook the benefits these trainings may have on their future or on their opportunity to secure income. However, other groups still believe that the trainings are a valuable opportunity. One of the constraints of being identified as an IDP is the difficulty to pursue permanent employment, and therefore many IDPs prefer to take daily labor work rather than participating in training programs. The fact is that IDPs rely on daily income, which they can more easily secure from random daily work rather than investing their time in capacity building for the future.

Land availability: In the camp, IDP households are simple shelters attached to many other neighboring households, each with a large number of family members. Various livelihood activities require land space availability; for example even the trainings need a defined space for practicing learned skills. The collected data shows that upon returning to their home village after displacement, the majority of respondents would prefer to return to their work in agriculture and farming rather than look for a new career. IDPs plan to continue their cultivation activities when they return to their home villages, or even if they resettle in a new area. Agriculture-based livelihood trainings match with the existing capacity of some highland IDPs, but land availability is one of the requirements for these activities. Recently, some agencies provided training for both agriculture-based and non-agriculture based livelihood activities with insufficient time, space and financial support. For example, training was provided about growing corn

and vegetable gardening, but there was no place to practice cultivation. Those kinds of agriculture-based livelihood activities require a large plot of land to grow for family consumption or for business purposes. As briefly discussed in Chapter Three, two thirds of interview respondents claimed that they rely on agriculture, livestock raising, and husbandry to earn a living in their home villages. Naturally, their previous livelihood activities become the professional working fields for the majority of highland dwellers, as these IDPs already possessed experience in agriculture-based work.

In the camp, IDPs share small shelters with a large number of family members. There is no extra space to grow vegetables or to growing other plants. Living in the camp, IDPs cannot access land space and they do not have social networks to turn to for help in the new environment. According to the camp management rules, IDP movement outside of the camp is restricted for security purposes and therefore they are only allowed to grow plants in the camps, but there is not enough space, even for family consumption. In response, some IDPs use their own financial capacity to rent land in the local area to grow crops. Allocating land for agricultural activities within the camp could be a solution to support the long-term livelihood activities of the IDP population. Large plots of available land are one service that relevant agencies and the local government should provide for IDPs, especially those who are not able to go back to their original village. Therefore, another relevant service would be providing land for agricultural use together with training for agriculture-related management, targeted to potential entrepreneurs.

Two thirds of IDPs have experience in raising pigs, an activity that is mostly familiar for female IDPs. They were granted a financial start-up kit to raise pigs as a raw product to generate further income. The research data revealed that the demand for pigs in Bhamo and Mamauk townships is high, especially during the local festival seasons. However, as the camps are crowded with a large IDP population, it is insufficient for raising pigs from both environmental and hygienic points of view. According to field observation, many camps were located close to the town, making it more difficult to raise pigs. Allocating larger areas of land to raise pigs can help to empower the existing capacity of IDPs to generate income. The individual IDPs who choose to raise pigs need to participate in livelihood trainings, which includes basic business skills, in order to

manage the business well. Additionally, IDPs need to be trained on how to feed a large number of pigs for business purposes. The beneficiaries of such trainings should also be taught how to feed pigs in a healthy way to prevent transmitted diseases.

Insufficient financial assistance to run business: IDPs left all of their property behind, including housing, financial, material, and social, and some even lost their family members during the conflict periods. In addition to the physical loss of their belongings, IDPs also face mental and psychological impacts. IDPs long for the time that they can return to their villages when the peace process has been successfully completed by the respective armed groups. The nature of IDPs is to believe that they will return back to their own village someday, which makes them less willing to participate in trainings or activities that could benefit them in the future. The collected data shows that trained IDPs learn skills to make products and gain knowledge about these new skills, but they still lack the necessary knowledge to carry out the initiation of a business. The majority of trained participants tried running small business utilizing the newly acquired knowledge after completing the trainings. They make soap, run snack-making businesses, and fix motorbikes within the camp compound. However, they fail to continue the business after a while, particularly if they are facing financial problems or other unexpected family problems. At first, they use the provided financial start-up kit to initiate the proposed business. Following this initial period, however, they often do not have enough money to reinvest for the next business period because they were unable to make a profit from the previous investment, or because they used the profit for other family needs. In the end, they typically give up on the small business when they encounter one of these barriers. They give up on the business due to financial shortage, demonstrating that the provided financial assistance is also inadequate for a sustainable business. In reality, IDPs do not have any means of running a small business to recover from the economic shock of displacement, as they no longer possess any capital, resources, social networks, or land to run a small business on their own. Social networks are important for IDPs seeking business opportunities in the local area. As one respondent said, “*IDPs try to seek for work daily for the next day survival*”, so how can they focus on the long-term benefit of trainings?

Security concerns, rules, and regulations in the camp negatively impact the expansion of self-initiated small businesses. The financial assistance recipients are allowed to establish businesses only in the targeted local areas. For example, IDPs who live in Momauk and Bhamo townships are not allowed to run their business in areas located farther away. For their own security, IDPs are not allowed to run businesses in distant areas or in isolated towns and villages. The biggest constraint for small businesses in the camps is the limitations they face in serving individuals who are receiving livelihood assistance, meaning that their customers are those from neighboring shelters who do not have much expendable income. In the camp, the number of consumers is limited compared to the local residence areas. The restriction on the areas in which it is permitted to run businesses is also one of the constraints for establishing small business in the long run. The availability of consumers is essential to run a business smoothly and to make enough profit to continue the business. Under the rules of restricted movement for IDPs, the recipients of financial assistance are only allowed to run businesses inside the camps and therefore cannot serve customers from outside.

IDPs are more concerned with temporary solutions than long-term planning and investing time in trainings. Many individual households hesitate to make the decision between attending the trainings and leaving the camp to find daily work. The fact is that attending the training causes IDPs to lose potential daily income. Therefore, it is important that the types of trainings offered are providing useful skills for IDPs to apply in their daily work. The IDPs' self-initiated business activities fail to manage the gain and loss of profit. Trained participants need to build capacity to deal with challenges in running their businesses in order to maintain regular income. Lacking financial management knowledge is also one of factors that cause their businesses to fail. Among the provided livelihood trainings, many are business-oriented trainings, which are intended to help participants make money after the training. The trainings need to be supplemented with some other basic business management skill trainings in order to help trained IDPs to better generate income. These could include financial management, marketing, and social networking. The majority of IDPs have never had experience in running private businesses back in their home villages. They mostly worked in the farmlands and in shifting cultivation for survival in their home villages. Therefore, the

skills trainings need to also include some basic business skills to help trainees improve their income after the training. Most training participants learn new skills to produce products, but they fail to learn business-supporting skills. Training recipients have a hard time doing business because they lack capacity in business skills such as marketing and social networking to build a customer base. For instance, beneficiaries of soap making trainings produced many products to keep in stock, but they failed to find customers. Therefore, the products were stuck in the storage room and the business participants did not earn a profit. The relevant agencies provided livelihood training programs with the necessary supporting materials. After the training, the beneficiaries are allowed to submit a proposal to the agency for a financial grant, but the agencies have failed to provide the necessary basic business skills to run a small business. Through livelihood training programs IDPs learn new skills, but they do not learn business-specific skills, which would help them to sustain their small businesses in the long run. For example, in many soap-making businesses, the manufacturers gave up on making soap after two or three trial runs. They had to compete with other soap-making companies in the local market. Compared to commercial soap products, the soap products made by IDPs have different quality. The detergent from the market is better than the liquid soap made by IDPs. One soap maker said, *“Maybe IDPs need to learn another technique to produce high quality products to seek for demand in the local market. In order to in line with market quality the training might need to learn same chemical ingredient for better quality. Soap bar quality also different as IDP produced soap from natural raw materials. IDP only used plastic water bottle and they don’t have packaging materials to compete with local market”*. The livelihood trainings need to include specific business-related knowledge and financial management skills in order to be successful entrepreneurs. IDPs need to study basic business knowledge in order to run their small businesses more smoothly and to achieve their goal of securing a regular income in the future. Particularly, agencies should develop business-related trainings to teach marketing skills, networking skills, customer service, and how to determine the local market demand, as most of the provided trainings are economic-oriented livelihood trainings.

IDPs possess various educational backgrounds, family backgrounds, financial capacities, social networks, and living standards. However, in the camps they all have equal opportunities, live under the same conditions, and are protected by humanitarian agencies and local organizations. They are given the chance to propose trainings based on their interests, however, within the IDP population there are some more vulnerable IDPs who withdraw from the trainings before the final stage. For example, one respondent explained that some female IDPs were selected to attend a tailoring training, but they missed some of the classes because they have many children to take care of. Additionally, some agencies offer assistance to widowers and woman-headed households, but they couldn't participate, as they are illiterate. Generally, the majority of elderly and adult IDPs have different education levels, experience, and backgrounds. Overall, within IDP populations, the IDP youth have the capacity to explore new opportunities with the guidance of parents and authorities. Specific support services are provided for IDP youth, particularly those who are educated, to achieve better long-term livelihood solutions. The UN Guiding Principles (2014) stated that both the humanitarian agencies and the state government are most responsible for the wellbeing of IDPs during their displacement. Among IDPs some educated youth, who have graduated from university, are eager to seek opportunities to apply for permanent employment in their specific fields, such as working in government departments, local companies, humanitarian agencies, or locally founded agencies. The local humanitarian agencies and local government need to create a platform to help graduated IDPs to find employment and to encourage eligible applicants to apply in for work in their field of interest. This could be one of the possible solutions to help graduated IDPs to gain permanent employment so that they can financially support their family members. Combining this new mechanism with the other capacity building programs for IDP youth gives them the opportunity to better prepare themselves for full time work. The available job/livelihood opportunities should be channeled to the respective government department so that IDPs can apply for official positions. Some look down on IDP youth when they apply for jobs and they are often rejected due to their IDPs status. Establishing coordination between camp management, service providers, and local governments can provide a good outcome for IDPs seeking job opportunities in local areas. As they are educated, they should be given the chance to apply to jobs in

relevant working fields with the local government's official recommendation regarding their IDP status. Some educated IDPs are very talented and passionate about looking for available job opportunities to support their parents. All kinds of IDP assistance services mainstream the rights-based approach and therefore literacy levels are not important in applying for a financial starter kit. A majority of IDPs are not educated and it is not very easy for them to manage the finances of a small business. Agencies' field staffs help recipients to propose financial grants for some illiterate IDPs to run small businesses, but they fail to manage it in the long run. Some uneducated IDPs are reluctant to apply for the available financial grant program and livelihood training program due to the complicated procedure. They would prefer to work daily jobs outside the camps to secure daily income. Uneducated IDPs should also be provided a place to work using their existing skills, which would be more effective than simply providing financial assistance. Educated IDPs apply for the same available livelihood trainings as uneducated IDPs. According to some interview respondents, IDPs face many difficulties in applying their new learned skills due to their situation in the camps. In order to equally allocate opportunities among both educated and uneducated IDPs, there should be programs taught by educated IDPs to build basic knowledge such as computer skills and other skills necessary to be eligible to apply for permanent jobs in the respective fields. More relevant vocational trainings should be provided for uneducated IDPs in order to deliver proper training programs for the whole IDP population.

Chapter- IV

4.1 Successful Livelihood Support Trainings

This chapter presents the most and least successful livelihood training programs available in Bhamo and Momauk township camps. Interviews with individual beneficiaries focused on discussing expectations, concerns, opportunities, and the challenges that they overcame while attending trainings and pursuing small businesses in displacement period. Chapter Three presented the diverse range of available livelihood training programs for the IDP population as provided by various agencies. According to the data collected from key informant interviews and informal conversations, there are two trainings that can be identified as highly relevant and two identified as less useful. During individual interviews, each respondent pointed out different reasons that they liked or disliked the available training opportunities. The two most relevant trainings are for tailoring and carpentry, the researcher interviewed two successful tailors and two successful carpenters. The final section of this chapter will discuss the various aspects involved in undertaking the most relevant livelihood training programs.

4.1.1 Most Successful Livelihood Support Trainings

Different types of livelihood activities were broadly described in Chapter Three. Among the available livelihood trainings, research respondents identified tailoring and carpentry as the most relevant trainings for IDPs. Those two skills demonstrated the most positive outcomes for trained IDPs to earn regular income in the long run. Since 2015, after five years of displacement, many kinds of livelihood vocational trainings have been provided for different IDPs. After identifying the two most relevant types of trainings, the researcher interviewed four successful beneficiaries in these fields of work, two female tailors and two male carpenters.

Tailoring (Clothes Making)

For tailoring training programs, the relevant agencies supported the training cost, sewing machines, and necessary raw materials such as cloth, fabric, measurement tools,

tailoring tools, and other accessories. The tailoring training program lasted three months for basic tailoring skills and three more months to develop more advanced skills. On average, every Kachin IDP household has at least five family members. All of these big families must share the available shelters and resources. In reality, sewing activities require quite a large space. However, one tailor found space to sew clothes inside her own small shelter during her basic level training. Both of the respondents were very eager to practice and apply their new skills, as they were very interested in sewing. After receiving advanced tailoring training, they were recruited as trainers by the agencies to teach tailoring to other IDP participants. During their free time, they regularly made clothes to supply customers in local areas, neighboring IDPs, relatives from other areas, and people from other towns as well. Both of them support the financial needs of the family, particularly the costs of education, food, health care, and other social expenses. They have trained many new generations, from 2015 until now, and encourage other uneducated female IDPs to learn tailoring skills. One interview respondent, Seng Seng, is a 32-year-old tailor from Goi Ga Htawng village. Since 2011, she has been displaced in Man Bung Camp with her other family members. She has two younger sisters and two children. Her husband returned back to their original village and started running a motorbike service center in 2013. She received both basic and advance tailor training through the livelihood support programs provided by the UNDP and DRC. She has regular customers from neighboring towns, border towns, relatives, and local residents. She claimed that, *“Several times practices are need to become a professional tailor. IDP might not become rich person immediately but this tailoring knowledge help a lot for my family daily survival”*. (Interview, Seng Seng, April, 10, 2019)

Carpentry

Another livelihood training that was recognized as successful is carpentry work, particularly for male IDPs. Through on-the-job training of building shelters within the camp, participants systematically learn and develop carpentry skills. Some are already familiar with carpentry work from experience in their home villages, while others learn basic knowledge. After completing the training, they are provided start-up financial support and are placed into carpentry groups with four or five members. The groups

use the budget provided by financial assistance to purchase all necessary carpentry equipment, machinery, and other tools. Normally, humanitarian agencies have a specifically allocated budget to hire a construction company to build the shelters for IDPs in the camps. The IDP carpentry groups are contracted to work with service providers to construct new shelters and receive a daily income after completing their work. The contract payment is usually divided into equal shares between the members. The duration of construction work depends on the type of contract and the number of shelters that must be built. Often it can take one month or more to complete a contract. This provides a regular income for the group members and saves the financial cost of equipment maintenance, as well as the expenses to purchase new tools. Such work is necessary for the community, and demand has increased from regular local customers. This field also provides opportunities for new learners by accepting them into their teams to work together, teaching beginners basic carpentry skills while in the construction field. The trained beneficiaries plan to apply these skills in the future when they return to settle back in the original village or when they resettle in a new environment. All of the carpentry group members are financially supporting their family members' needs as the majority of IDP households in the camps rely on monthly ration distribution, which is insufficient to cover all family expenses without additional income.

A carpenter named U Naw Aung is a 44-year-old father who has two children and whose wife does sewing work part time. His family arrived in Robert Camp in December 2011. In the past, he worked in agriculture and now he earns money from carpentry work. He is the primary supporter for all of his family members' needs, including education, health, social, and religious needs.

U Naung Lat is a 62-year-old carpenter who has four children. Three out of the four children have graduated and the youngest daughter is studying at a nursing college. His wife has depended on financial support from him ever since they were living in their home village. They came from Kyauk Sa Hkan village and arrived in Momauk KBC compound in 2012.

Challenges and Factors of the Most Successful Training Programs

Among the large number of beneficiaries, there are many factors that contributed to their failure to apply their learned skills and knowledge. Every IDP household faces similar hardships and is provided equal opportunities by the relevant agencies. The beneficiaries are passionate about learning the specific skills and practice to become professionals in those fields. One respondent said, *“I save money to buy cloth to practice making clothes because I need to become a professional tailor to persuade many regular customers. Whenever I received order for making new clothes, I try to get those clothes done before the deadline in order to make customer happy”* (Interview, Seng Seng, April, 10, 2019)

The schedules of each training program provide sufficient time to learn the new skills, and include time for personal practice. For example, tailors have the chance to expand their knowledge by attending three consecutive levels of sewing training with the goal of eventually becoming a professional tailor. During the intervals between each of the training levels, participants put in the effort to practice and have even requested the service providing agencies to offer training on more advanced knowledge. According to one respondent, a tailor’s point of view is that *“customers are giving job to tailor because many people from our society prefer to wear clothes which made by tailors”*; *“a professional tailor can earn regular income”*; and *“They can make casual blouses, dress and special wedding dress and any other designs as well”* (Interview, Nang Raw, April, 13, 2019). Daw Nang Raw is a 61-year-old tailor originally from Man Wing Lay village. She arrived to Robert Camp in 2011 after intense fighting in her village. She shares the small camp shelter with seven family members, including her children, their spouses, and grandchildren. She is a widow, but helps her family by providing financial support from her tailoring work. She participated in the tailor training program from 2012 to 2013.

Tailors can build a customer base through word-of-mouth through networks and communication within the community. When regular customers wear beautiful dresses to social events such as wedding ceremonies, religious festivals, or cultural events their friends and relatives ask about the tailor so that they can order clothes from them in the future. The reputation of tailors is spread amongst relatives, social connections, and

word-of-mouth. Tailoring can be a successful business if individual qualified tailors can maintain regular customers because local people prefer to wear locally made clothes rather manufactured clothes. It is not easy for IDPs to run a tailoring shop in the market because they cannot afford the rental fees. Therefore, tailors have to make clothes mostly at night in their shelters. They don't sleep much and manage their labor schedule to finish the clothes very quickly. One successful tailor stated that she makes clothes mostly all night long and does not get enough sleep because she wants to finish them on time when the customers want. She makes her own schedule to finish the clothes on time and she has to follow deadlines. During the water festival, she could not sleep because she was making various uniforms for dancing groups.

4.1.2 Least Successful Livelihood Support Trainings

Key informants identified the least successful livelihood training activities as production of natural soap and bamboo chairs. The researcher interviewed three respondents who participated in one of those two training programs.

Soap Production

Starting in 2013, a large group of IDPs in Robert Camp were provided training in soap production. In the training, all participants learned to produce several kinds of soaps including bar soap, shampoo, liquid detergent, and cream soaps, which are produced from natural ingredients. The necessary materials include sour fruits, lemon, starch, water, fragrance, glue, sticky liquid, ash, and colors. The training period took only between five days to one week for each aspect of soap making. The agencies hired a soap production trainer and covered the training costs, all raw materials, utilities, equipment, and ingredients during the training period. The participants made liquid soap and detergent for family consumption. The primary objective was to produce many kinds of soap products to sell in the market. However, soap production businesses require large investments to begin producing a wide range of soap products. At the beginning of the training, every participant is very active and eager to make various soap products. As a result, they produced a large number of soap products to stock.

Some IDPs attended soap production trainings for months, engaging in various tutorials.

One respondent called Kai Bu, a 43-year-old from Man Wing Lay village in Mansi township, has taken refuge in Robert Camp with her three children and her husband since 2011. She was trained in soap production during the training that took place in Robert Camp with 29 participants in 2013. *“I learned how to produce soap with natural ingredients during the training, it is not easy to run business with soap product. I felt happy to know new skill and hope to produces soap when I get back to the village of original. I am still making soap liquid for family uses”* (Interview, Kai Bu, April, 15, 2019)

One training participant said, *“at least IDPs learn how to make natural soap for family consumption even though we fail to do soap making business. It is very safe to use for health because we only use natural raw material to make soap”*. (Interview, Daw Lu Bu, April, 15, 2019). Daw Lu Bu is 54 years old and from Kai Htik village in Mansi township. Since 2011, she has been displaced in Robert Camp with her family members. She has four children and the eldest one works in Malaysia to support the family financially. She received the soap production training from the UNHCR but has since stopped producing soap and is pursuing other business opportunities such as raw material delivery service and opening a center to sell soap that is made in the camp. She has regular customers from neighboring towns, border towns, relatives, and local residents.

When looking into the case of soap production training, many interview respondents identified it as the least useful training amongst other types of trainings. However, there is also the positive outcome that some IDPs trained in soap production apply their new knowledge to made various kinds of natural soaps for domestic use, which decreases the family's expenses. In this case, the program provided participants the opportunity to learn new skills, even though trained IDPs fail to run successful businesses due to their lack of financial capacity. Similar to soap production, the snack-making training also provided additional knowledge to IDPs for personal use.

Bamboo Chair Making

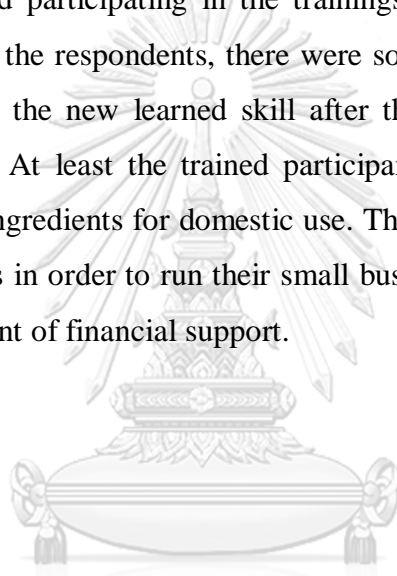
The second least successful training activity was identified as bamboo chair production. The bamboo chair production trainings were conducted in Momauk camp for any interested IDP. The participant selection process was not as restricted as other trainings. The trainers were also IDPs who have been making a living utilizing this knowledge. A self-employed bamboo chair producer who runs his business in the Momauk KBC camp was hired by the KBC organization to train nine male IDPs. The training is simple; so the only required materials are bamboo, screwdrivers, hammers, spinners, and knives. Nine participants attended a week long training, but none of them have applied this knowledge after completion. During the training period, the KBC provided financial support to buy raw bamboo, equipment, and other necessary materials. The respondents made five bamboo chairs after participating in the training for a few months. The economic strategies, such as social networking and customer service, needed to be included in these trainings in order to sell the products. Normally, the bamboo chair maker received only a small amount of the profit when the chairs have been sold. Typically, one bamboo chair only profits 1000 MMK, equal to 1 USD, but the money they invest in production is 2000 MMK for each chair. It took one month to sell the chair and get the profit. *“I have no money to buy bamboo for making another new bamboo chair. I prefer looking for daily job because daily survival is important. I do not want to waste working days by making chairs which are not easy to sell out in Momauk area” (Interview, Lat Lat Aung, April, 20, 2019)*

Challenges and Factors of the Least Successful Training Programs

During the conflict, IDPs lost all of their assets including financial capital, land resources, social capital, and property. They faced financial shortage and had difficulty managing the finances of a functioning business with little to no profit. IDPs are weak in the skills necessary to run a small business on their own. To be successful, businesses that sell products depend entirely on customers. In their village lives, most IDPs never had experience with running a business or financial management. Identifying the market was the most challenging aspect of running a soap production business. According to a respondent involved with bamboo chair production, the most difficult factor is the cost of investment, including the price of materials, equipment, and

machinery for production. This respondent is a 44-year-old man who has been living with his wife in the agriculture camp since December 2011 and was recognized as an outstanding trainee. They are from Wa Wang village, which is located five miles away from the camp in which they are now staying and they do not have any children.

Another constraint is the lack of space to operate business activities in the camps, and that IDPs cannot afford to rent a place outside of the camp. Among the soap production training participants, some female IDPs did not have enough time to commit to this activity because of their other household responsibilities, including taking care of their children. Many stopped participating in the trainings due to their own difficulties. However, according to the respondents, there were some individual participants who committed to applying the new learned skill after the training, leading to positive changes in their lives. At least the trained participants learned how to make soap products with natural ingredients for domestic use. Those who succeeded found ways to overcome challenges in order to run their small business, even though they started with only a small amount of financial support.



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4.2 Types of Approaches Applied for the Four Selected Livelihood Trainings

The first part of Chapter Three presented several types of available livelihoods trainings for IDPs in Kachin State. From the data collected in interviews, the researcher selected four types of livelihood trainings to analyze in the thesis. These are tailoring, carpentry, soap production, and bamboo chair production. Every IDP household has equal access to the available training services. Through application of the human rights-based approach, available services are equally distributed and potential beneficiaries are not discriminated against (Broberg and Sano, 2018, p. 667). Utilizing this approach, agencies deliver various training opportunities that are open to all IDP households. This implies that each IDP is provided the opportunity to apply for available livelihood

trainings to pursue better livelihoods and regular income. The four chosen types of livelihood trainings for this research were determined by the needs assessment survey, which was conducted by the service providers. The agencies then categorized the persons in most need amongst the large IDP population to provide training assistance. They conducted the selection of service recipients in cooperation with the camp management committee. The service providers used a voting system in order to avoid bias and overlapping of service distribution within the large IDP population. The relevant agencies had to utilize a selection process for livelihood assistance services because there was not specific livelihood budget to draw from, even though this is one of the priority areas for IDPs. Agencies have limited budgets for livelihood trainings and they manage to reallocate some funds from humanitarian project implementation to better respond to the needs of IDPs. Due to their limited budget, agencies could only offer livelihood related trainings and financial assistance to select individual IDPs. During interviews with experts, they stated that all programs in the camps prioritized vulnerable groups for service delivery and assistance provision. Some applicants fail to be selected as they did not meet all of the requirements, but they were kept on a waiting list for the next round of opportunities. All interested IDPs were permitted to apply for the four selected livelihood trainings. Out of these four trainings, tailoring and carpentry were the most relevant for IDPs in promoting a regular income. In the camps, the majority of IDPs recognize that those trainings helped the recipient IDPs to secure a regular income. However, the participants' existing capacity should have been considered first before offering livelihood training programs (Lietz, 2009). The applicants for those two types of trainings had already learned the basic skills in their home villages and were passionate to develop advanced knowledge through the agency-provided trainings. When the agencies opened applications for livelihood trainings, tailors and carpenters proposed the advanced trainings to expand upon their existing knowledge and the relevant agencies responded by providing them. However, there are three other livelihood activities that were added after the agencies conducted the Needs Assessment Survey. These were soap production, bamboo chair production, and raising pigs. The survey results address the needs of IDPs to be trained in these fields to initiate a regular income. The agencies then provided these trainings for select participants in the camps. According to the interview respondents, two thirds of IDPs proposed

training for pig raising based on their past experiences. The collected data shows that those two trainings were the least successful ones out of the many available livelihood trainings. The relevant agencies provided the livelihood trainings with the intention to create long-term financial solutions for IDPs. The objectives of service providers mostly utilize the development approach, which focuses on long-term empowerment and advancing individual capacity. However, business trainings and social empowerment services should also be provided for IDP communities. Table 3 shows that service providers deliver livelihood services for IDPs by applying the three approaches equally. However, the success of each participant varies, as success depends upon the amount of effort that participants are willing to commit. The improvement of individual IDPs' livelihoods depends on their effort and capacity to better their situation with the available resources. The process of empowering the existing capacity of IDPs takes more effort and time to sustainably achieve the set goals. The tailoring and carpentry trainings were identified as the most relevant trainings to be provided under the human rights based approach and strength-based approach (see in Table 3). The strength-based approach advocates for options to pursue livelihood improvement by utilizing the experience that the IDPs already have. Carpentry and tailoring trainees already had basic knowledge of these skills prior to the conflict, and now have the chance to expand their knowledge through the livelihood trainings. In traditional culture, fields of work are identified separately for males and females. However, in the camps, IDPs are allowed to apply for all trainings, regardless of their gender. Gender separation occurs coincidentally by preference, for instance women typically prefer to study and men typically choose to learn carpentry. Gender issues are not necessarily a concern of the training participants, as all IDPs are entitled to learn any skill according to their individual interest. Separating different genders into specific trainings is accepted in the local culture. Therefore, all tailoring trainees were females and all carpentry trainees were males.

Table. 3 The approaches applied for livelihood trainings.

Type of training	Type of approach		
	Human Rights Based	Need Based	Strength Based
Tailoring (Clothes Making)	Equally accessible services Inclusive of all, including vulnerable groups All participants are women	Responsive to the needs of IDPs Temporary fulfillment of IDPs' needs More dependent on agencies support in the long run.	Relevant to IDP skills, knowledge, and talents Encourage IDPs to develop capacity and confidence Sustainable capacity development Creative and positive thinking for skill advancement
Carpentry	Equally accessible Non-discriminatory	Responsive to the needs of IDPs More dependent in the long term; dependent on outsiders' assistance Fulfill short-term needs	Relevant to IDP skills, knowledge, and talents Encourage IDPs to develop capacity and confidence Motivate participants to pursue advanced skill development Sustainable capacity development Develop creativity
Soap production	Equally accessible Non-discriminatory Prioritized IDP participation in selection process Inclusive of vulnerable groups	Responsive to the needs of IDPs More dependent in the long term; dependent on outsiders' assistance Fulfill short-term needs	Not relevant to IDPs' skills and knowledge Capacity development is not sustainable Less chance of developing creativity and thinking positively
Bamboo chair making	Equally accessible Non-discriminatory Inclusive of vulnerable groups	Responsive to the needs of IDPs More dependent in the long term; dependent on outsiders' assistance Fulfill short-term needs	Not relevant to IDP skills, knowledge, talents Make IDPs less confident to develop capacity. Less motivated to pursue income generation Not sustainable for capacity development in long run

	All participants are men	Psychologically less confident in own capacity	No creativity or positive thinking
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4.3 Factors Leading to Successful Livelihood Trainings

Table 4 illustrates the two different outcomes among the four selected livelihood trainings based on the interviews with key informant. There are four main factors that inspire individual IDPs to pursue regular income. The service providers need to pay attention to these four factors when designing and implementing livelihood training programs. The factors include a sufficient timeframe, support for capacity development, relevance of training types, and adequate funding. The first factor is allocating sufficient time for long-term or short-term training programs based on the type of training. It is important that participants are given enough time to learn the new skills effectively and are given on-the-job training if necessary. Some types of vocational training do not need a long duration while others may require more time.

Firstly, a sufficient time duration needs to be established for each training based on the skills being taught. Appropriate training schedules will allocate time to both training/learning and practicing. However, all trainings could benefit from extending the allocated time, as longer trainings tend to be more effective. The best solution, then, is to set longer training schedules for IDPs to learn and practice simultaneously. Long-term trainings are much more effective than short-term trainings. One reason short-term projects are often implemented is that some agencies have deadlines to conduct the monitoring portion of the livelihood training programs. They focus on the accomplishment of target activities before the end of each project. In this short timeframe, all planned activities are supposed to be conducted and reports must be sent to the donors within the set deadlines. For instance, during some livelihood projects that last around six months to one year, the relevant agencies try to provide the beneficiaries with starter-kits, financial support, or targeted training activities within a very limited timeframe. Other than the tailor trainings, many other livelihood trainings are implemented in only a few days as the entire livelihood project must be completed within the six months or one year plan agreed upon by donors. The short training

timelines do not provide time for applicants to practice their learned skills. Livelihood trainings can vary greatly in length, as the timeframe depends on the type of livelihood training being offered. The service providers prioritize the accomplishment of the project within the given timeframe, rather than prioritizing its effectiveness for IDPs. Many livelihood trainings are conducted according to the set plans and available budget. Therefore, determining whether a livelihood training project is successful can be quite hard. This study, however, determines whether projects are successful based on the number of provided trainings for IDPs in Momauk and Bhamo townships.

Many kinds of livelihood support trainings were conducted, but only a few activities are directly relevant to the local economic demand and IDPs' capacities. Most of the livelihood support programs managed to carry on through completion simply due to the programs' plans. In this context, there are two ways to describe the success of livelihood programs. One way the program's achievements can be measured is by counting the total number of trainings conducted within the set budget for project implementation. The other possible way is to analyze the outcomes of program interventions and beneficiaries' perspectives on the implemented livelihood training. Several types of trainings and activities were carried out in IDP camps in Bhamo and Momauk townships, spanning many years. Looking at the number of accomplished trainings shows only the completion of the programs without addressing whether or not participants' capacity was improved after the training. Project based livelihood programs face time constraints to not only carry out trainings, but to also analyze the effectiveness of services provided. The research data shows that agencies determine project objectives with the purpose of providing livelihood related services in order to help IDPs secure regular incomes during the hardship period. The primary responsibility of humanitarian agencies is to respond to the needs of IDPs. During the displacement period, IDPs face economic, social, and financial loss, which are the essential means to earn a living or seek job opportunities. After eight years of displacement, agencies began to address the need for livelihood trainings and conducted several short-term trainings. These initial trainings, however, failed to make necessary adjustments during implementation and instead followed the project's original plan. The interviewed experts explained the challenge of applying the long-term

development approach to their projects being implemented in the camps. The current camps were built during the initial emergency period, but after many years the relevant agencies began to progress toward a transition period of development. The relevant agencies intended to provide livelihood trainings as part of their humanitarian aid program to improve livelihood conditions for IDPs in the camps. Livelihood training activities are also one of the provisions in the humanitarian agenda for IDPs in Bhamo and Momauk townships.

The second factor is providing participants with the required equipment and tools to practice the learned skills in order to help them become more skillful persons. Becoming qualified is an important step to reach the professional stage and earn a regular income. For example, tailoring and carpentry are mostly hand-on skills that need to be practiced before pursuing income. According to the respondents who work as tailors, they first have to invest in practicing the skill before serving customers. They have to spend time to become qualified as tailors and to find regular customers. Supporting trainees with relevant skill development facilitates their future qualification and pursuit of a professional career. The most important factor is ensuring that enough time to practice and all necessary equipment are provided for the trained IDPs to practice, eventually advancing their knowledge and becoming qualified to pursue professional positions. The capacity of beneficiaries plays a crucial role in the success of livelihood training programs. The trainings need to emphasize long-term solutions to secure regular incomes for trained IDPs until they are able to become professionals in their specific field. It takes a long time to become a qualified tailor and to apply the newly acquired knowledge to secure a regular income. Agencies should allocate more time to help beneficiaries reach some level of qualification in order to secure regular income. The qualification of beneficiaries' capacity is also important to consider in terms of future market requirements. The agencies empower the IDPs' capacity through opportunities that teach new skills in order to earn a living through utilization of the trained knowledge. The trainings require a sufficient amount of time to learn new knowledge and to practice it in order to help beneficiaries until they have the confidence to pursue a professional career. Practicing is essential to be able to gain professional employment after the training. For example, the tailor training lasts three months, but

three months is not enough to become a professional tailor. Individual participants should be provided enough time during the trainings to practice their skills in order to seek qualification. Unfortunately, the results of project achievements and actual beneficiaries' achievements are quite different. Therefore, agencies need to consider the outcomes of program implementation and their impact on beneficiaries, rather than focusing on completion of the project. This would facilitate reconsideration of the duration of trainings, allowing time to be allocated for practicing with the goal of becoming a professional in their field, ensuring a secure, regular income.

The third factor is ensuring that the provided trainings are applicable to local market demand. The objective of the trainings is to help participants improve their economic situation utilizing the learned knowledge and skills. IDPs have received several types of livelihood trainings, yet the majority of them are not applicable in the situation of displacement. Mwesigwa & Mubangzi stated that the market should be assessed before determining which trainings to provide in order to ensure that the skills taught will still be marketable after the training IDPs have acquired entrepreneurship skills and knowledge through the relevant trainings, but this does not necessarily match with the local area in which they will eventually practice the learned skill. The types of trainings provided should be relevant to the local area and meet market demands. It is important to analyze whether the skills and products promoted by the trainings are relevant to the local market where IDPs are living. For example, in Uganda, one of the youth empowerment training programs conducted a pre-assessment of access to the market to ensure that the type of training provided would be relevant to the participants' current situation. The types of training provided need to match with IDPs current situation, or can be applicable in the future when they return to their home village or resettle in new places. The agencies, then, should assess the local market and potential demand before conducting the training. Local demand is essential for long-term economic improvement. Agencies should also assess the background knowledge of participants. For example, trainings were conducted on how to produce plastic baskets, but the local people from Momauk and Bhamo were not buying the products. In this situation, the IDPs had to find alternative ways to sell the product in other areas. This training was not successful due to the lack of demand in the market. The majority of beneficiaries

also faced similar problems in doing business and finally gave up on establishing small businesses with their newly learned skills.

The fourth factor is the availability of sufficient funding for service providers to implement the livelihood training programs. Additionally, the beneficiaries need financial assistance to start their own businesses, particularly the trained IDPs who have no assets of their own to invest in establishing a small business. Khadka argued that supporting people's needs makes them begin to believe that only external support or assistance can solve their problems and encourage more dependency (2012, p.81). However, in the context of displacement, IDPs require financial and capacity empowerment before they can secure their own employment. It should be noted that financial assistance alone is not enough to increase livelihood opportunities for IDPs. Trained IDPs need to combine their new skills with financial assistance in order to start initiating income-generating activities after the training. Financial support plays an important role in helping each training participant to succeed reaching the professional level. The tailoring and carpentry trainings were most successful trainings. However, soap and bamboo chair production trainings were the least successful due to the failure to provide essential support. Table 4 describes the four factors that are major components in achieving positive outcomes for each training participant. Both tailoring and carpentry trainees received all of the elements of support, while soap and bamboo chair production training participants lacked two elements out of the four. Unlike the most successful trainings, the least successful training types were not applicable to the local market and had no demand in the local area. Additionally, the trainees were not given enough financial assistance after the training to sustain their small businesses. The final factor is financial need, as an agency's financial capacity is a crucial factor in successful implementation. Agencies also face challenges in implementing effective livelihood trainings that can be accomplished within the available period. Based on the collected data, insufficient financial capacity was one of the most common factors to disrupt small businesses. The agencies need to consider providing sufficient grant support to small businesses. The main objective of livelihood trainings is to help beneficiaries improve their businesses by way of sustainable achievements. Sufficient funding is also one of the essential elements for service providers to accomplish their

long-term goals. Empowering IDPs' capacity through provision of skills and knowledge is not enough to start a business unless it is supplemented with cash assistance. For example, when IDPs were forced to flee from their original villages, all of their belongings had to be left behind while they took refuge in the nearest safe places to avoid conflict. They lack financial assets, networking resources, and social relations to help them succeed in maintaining a small business. The limited starter kit provided by relevant agencies is not enough to set up a small business, especially for IDP households. Business entrepreneurs need a sufficient amount of money to start a small business. Therefore, sufficient financial support is necessary to fulfill these requirements. The organization needs more funding to provide livelihood training programs, and should involve the participation of the local government, camp management, beneficiaries, and the private sector in order to properly allocate opportunities to improve IDP livelihoods. Allocating available networks through local authorities creates more opportunities for IDPs. For IDPs to apply their knowledge in the field, they require financial assistance. Livelihood training programs provided by supporting agencies are run as projects under the humanitarian budget in response to the emergency needs of IDPs, however, this means that agencies typically only pay attention to the duration of their project, rather than the effectiveness of the programs for beneficiaries. Only small amounts of financial support have been provided to start small businesses until recently. Some trained IDPs borrow money from relatives and friends in order to run their small businesses, achieving their goal of starting a business after the training. In Chapter Four, successful tailors mentioned how they had to find a way to overcome the difficulties of doing business as an IDP. Agencies respond to the needs of IDPs with limited financial assistance and within only a short amount of time. IDPs have no capital and lack the capacity to manage a functioning small business. They understand that the newly learned skills can help them to start businesses after the trainings, but every business needs financial investment in order to make more profit. The research highlighted that as IDPs left behind all their belongings and live in the camps, they lack the necessary financial resources, which becomes a constraint in IDP-initiated small businesses. IDPs have lost all of their assets such as capital, land, housing, and property. They become landless persons, lacking property and capital, only possessing their own skills, which the agencies can help to strengthen for future

improvement. Livelihood training providers and various agencies offer a limited amount of financial assistance as a starter-kit to run a small business, which is determined according to the estimated budget in their proposal submission. Financial assistance is like a stepping-stone for individual IDPs to start their own small businesses. IDPs are given the opportunity to submit their business proposals in order to start making products for the proposed clients. The maximum amount of assistance for small business proposals is 300,000 MMK, which is equal to 300 USD, for each selected participant. This amount is only partially sufficient for IDPs to initially invest in their new business. Recipients spend this assistance on running their businesses inside the camps, including grocery shops, vegetable vendors, raising pigs, and producing snacks. Similarly, the IDPs who requested particular types of trainings were allowed to submit proposals for start-up financial assistance after completion of the trainings. The trainings and financial assistance are linked with each other to help committed individual IDPs in many ways. Repayment plans provided to recipients include low interest rates. The amount of assistance, with interest, is paid to the financial management team, which has been founded by the relevant agencies in order to manage the provided financial assistance on behalf of the organizations. Under the guidance of supporting agencies, financial management teams comprised of trained IDPs were established including accountants, cashiers, team leaders, secretaries, and treasurers. IDPs from the same original village are organized into the same financial management teams. This way they can more easily operate financial management when they return back to their original village together. It is expected that the acquired savings and financial mechanisms will be brought back to the villages upon their return. Each financial recipient is provided a financial record book, which must be submitted to the financial management team for regular checking. The small start-up financial assistance helps out to address IDPs' financial difficulties in a practical way. One interview respondent said, *"IDPs can use the supported money firstly for a few months before they return the money back to the financial management team. I can manage to circulate the flow of my family expenses and run my small noodle shop in this way so far. But I cannot foresee how to carry on my noodle shop business smoothly. I received the financial assistance two months ago"* (Interview, Hpau Dut Doi Ra, April, 12, 2019)

Both the livelihood trainings and financial assistance are linked to each other and both

are useful for recipients to cover some of the financial gaps in starting businesses, as IDPs typically do not have any other forms of financial capital. However, some respondents claimed that there are some IDPs who do not repay the assistance money or the interest and disappear without informing the financial management team. Those kinds of problems are usually discussed with the guilty person and a second chance is given by way of oral warning and establishment of deadlines for repayment. Anyone who fails to repay the money and interest by the repayment due date will be punished or taken out of the financial team. They are no longer allowed to withdraw or borrow money from the financial team. This system is another method of improving the financial situation of IDPs during displacement. The first round of financial assistance for investment should be a larger, more sufficient amount of money. This amount provided by agencies, then, can help with the beginning processes of starting a small business, but the beneficiaries must maintain that business for the long term in order to gain profits. One interview respondent even stated, “*If IDPs don’t have that opportunities, they don’t know what to do during displacement period*”. (Interview, Marip Pa Pa, April, 16, 2019) The most significant benefit that IDPs receive from the livelihood support programs is the opportunity to acquire new knowledge instead of wasting their time doing nothing in the camp.

Table 4. Factors Leading to Successful Livelihood Trainings

Type of training	Factors	Supported	Not Supported	Decisive Factors
Most Successful	1.Appropriate length (short or long) of training time.	√		Livelihood program service providers support the four factors for trained IDPs.
	2. Capacity development support or on-the-job training to become qualified in specific field.	√		Sufficient training time with time for participants to practice skills. Tailoring and carpentry work have more potential to earn money regularly, both inside the camp compound and in the local areas.
	3. Trained skills/ trainings are applicable and relevant to the local market.	√		Required support and equipment were provided for trainees to carry out their jobs.
	4. Sufficient financial assistance is provided to participants after the training.	√		
Least Successful	1.Appropriate length (short or Long) of training time.	√		Short trainings conducted for soap production and bamboo chair making; trainees still learned the skill properly.
	2. Capacity development support or on-the-job training to become qualified in specific field.	√		Unable to secure regular income by working in these fields. Least relevant training types and no market demand for the products.
	3. Trained skills/ trainings are applicable and relevant to the local market.		√	Trainees faced financial difficulties to establish small business with the learned skills.
	4. Sufficient financial assistance is provided to participants after the training.		√	

Chapter –V

5.1. Conclusion

This closing section highlights the most important issues related to the findings, as well as the discussions and recommendations that were discussed briefly in each chapter. The livelihood trainings are crucial in fostering IDPs' capacity, which can be applied to pursue a better life, both now and in the future. Although IDPs have lost all of the assets that are essential in the pursuit of better living conditions, they were alternatively provided with livelihood trainings, which are intended to be applicable in all circumstances. International and national humanitarian agencies provide all IDPs' general basic needs, offer training opportunities, and grant some financial assistance to support IDP households in identifying potential self-initiated income opportunities.

The research findings regarding the livelihood training programs demonstrate that they were designed with the intention of helping IDP families increase their income so that they can afford the costs of education for their children, food security, basic family needs, health care support, and other social expenses. However, the majority of trained IDPs failed to pursue income utilizing the learned skills; for example, none of the IDPs trained in bamboo chair production applied this new knowledge to earn an income. There are some factors that need to be taken into consideration by service providers, including the times that trainings are available, the improvement of participants' capacity, the demand in the market to ensure that provided trainings are relevant, and provision of sufficient funding to trained applicants to initiate small businesses. In order to secure regular employment, the participants must be trained and further qualified at the professional level. While they also have the opportunity to start their own private business to earn a living and support their households, IDPs are unfamiliar with business management and face many challenges. Participants should be offered trainings in business-related skills together with the livelihood trainings to ensure that the trained IDPs are able to secure regular income. Efforts to improve livelihood trainings should include participation of the potential beneficiaries to design the programs and share the responsibility with service providers. Livelihood training programs should also be adjustable to address the needs of beneficiaries in real time

and to ensure relevance of skills and knowledge. The perspectives of both failed and successful beneficiaries are important to contribute to the development of future programs. Their voices should also be taken into account for long-term improvement, as they have faced the mismanagement of financial flow, insufficient knowledge of marketing, unfamiliarity with the local market demand, and lower levels of literacy. IDPs are weak in financial management, which is a key component in handling small business activities. The current livelihood training programs, then, can be strengthened through the participation of beneficiaries and respective agencies in designing future program plans.

For many IDPs, attending the training is just a way to learn new skills, as they fail to apply these skills in their daily life. Many of the conducted trainings, including motorbike repair training among others, develop skills that the participants can utilize after the trainings. For example, they are able to fix their own motorbike or secure a motorbike repair position with local motorbike repair shops. After the training period, the trained participants tend to fail in managing their small business due to their lack of business skills. Vocational and handicraft trainings helped uneducated participants to learn new skills, which enable them to earn an income both during the displacement period and in the future. These programs seek to increase employment opportunities for IDPs so that they do not become dependent upon humanitarian assistance in the long run. The agencies intend to strengthen the capacity of IDPs so that they will become confident to explore other activities and secure an income on their own. The agencies encourage IDPs to become entrepreneurs by providing a financial starter-kit for selected IDPs. However, financial shortage is one of the challenges that IDP face. The financial assistance helps some in the beginning of setting up the proposed business. Many agencies encourage IDPs to identify self-initiated livelihood activities for their duration in the camp in order to earn an income. Often IDP households had their own strategies of working to earn a living before the conflict. The most relevant recommendations for the improvement of livelihood training programs can be obtained through consultations with beneficiaries and local authorities who are engaged in IDP affairs. The most successful and least successful beneficiaries were identified through discussions with

respondents. The strength-based approach emphasizes strengthening the existing capacity of IDP participants for their own future success.

The relevant agencies need to properly assess the livelihood strategies of IDPs in order to identify the most relevant income-generating activities to further increase opportunities for regular employment. Agencies are mandated to provide security and protection for IDPs in the host setting, and should apply the strength-based approach for long term improvement. IDPs should be invited to participate in the planning and implementing of livelihood training programs, as well as the process of selecting appropriate services for IDPs. It is important to give IDPs leading roles in the identification of their own concerns, perceptions, and needs in order to empower them to seek their own solutions. Although it varies depending on the program, most decisions regarding which services to provide are made by the respective agencies without IDP participation.

The service providers apply three different approaches in their implementation of livelihood training programs and assistance for Kachin IDPs. Some scholars encourage application of the strength-based approach over the needs-based approach, as the needs-based approach emphasizes what the beneficiaries are lacking. However, unlike the needs-based approach, the strength-based approach focuses instead on the capability of beneficiaries to help themselves. Strengthening the existing capacity of beneficiaries is one of the most applicable approaches to empower beneficiaries to achieve progressive life changes and to practice more sustainable livelihoods. In the strength-based approach, the service providers take on the role of facilitators rather than leaders in order to strengthen the existing capacity of IDPs (Saleebey 2009). Relevant agencies also need to invite beneficiaries to participate in discussions of their perspectives and ideas regarding the development of future livelihood training programs, as these IDPs often have previous experience in relative livelihood activities including agriculture and gardening.

Those who receive livelihood support assistance learn new skills, knowledge, and ideas by participating in livelihood activities while others choose to work outside of the camps to secure livelihood opportunities on their own. Among the beneficiaries of livelihood trainings and services, some have the capacity to apply these provisions to

further improve their livelihood conditions, often through the pursuit of regular income. They start by applying the newly learned knowledge in their daily lives and eventually gain the confidence to initiate their own small businesses to generate income. However, some beneficiaries fail to apply their new knowledge for various reasons. Unlike the group of successful IDPs, they may face more difficult barriers that cause them to feel less confident in applying the knowledge or skills. It would be valuable to identify the challenges that lead to different outcomes amongst the beneficiaries from the same livelihood training programs. They come from diverse backgrounds, literacy levels, knowledge, and skills to learn the same things, but often develop different understandings. Their different perceptions regarding the livelihood activities influence them to either view the challenges they face as too difficult to overcome, or to take advantage of the provided opportunities to make a positive change in their lives. All beneficiaries' perspectives and opinions should be considered by the relevant agencies. This will also help the agencies to learn how to improve the upcoming programs by including the feedback in their planning process. Both the service providers and the beneficiaries have their own concerns, expectations, and lessons learned from program implementation that can be valuable in advancement of future programs. Their feedback and perceptions need to be considered in order to develop a comprehensive plan for future livelihood programs that will lead to long-term goal achievement for IDPs in Kachin State.

Agencies conducted several types of livelihood trainings that were open to all IDPs. There were two training types identified as the most successful in terms of outcome achievement, including enhanced basic knowledge and potential to become qualified, and in terms of relevance. Among the various types of trainings, two were identified as the most successful and two as the least successful.

In summary, IDPs receive livelihood trainings with some financial assistance to support their income-generating activities. Agencies provide equal opportunities for all IDPs through their provision of several kinds of trainings and starter-kit financial grants for select individuals and/or households. Some of the most ambitious persons follow their passion and overcome various challenges to reach the professional level in their specific field of work. There are many other factors that also help IDPs to secure regular income,

including the agency's achievement of their goals, the training design, and whether agencies consider the existing capacity of IDPs.

5.2. Discussion

In accordance with the Guiding Principles, IDPs are entitled to their human rights the same as anyone else. Under the guidance of the UN principles, agencies provide assistance with the intention of protecting these rights for all IDPs in all contexts. The provision of basic needs, especially food, shelter, health, sanitation, water, and other non-food items, is intended to improve the standard of living for IDPs during the displacement period, as stated in The Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement, section 18 (2) (Deng 1999, p. 490). It is the responsibility of the relevant agencies to provide opportunities for IDPs to access employment and to participate in economic activities. There are three approaches applied in the provision of general assistance to the IDP community: the human rights approach, needs based approach, and strength-based approach. All three approaches have different perspectives but each approach is utilized in programs that promote employment opportunities for IDPs. IDPs who are taking refuge in the camps rely on the provided assistance and enjoy their rights under the protection of the respective agencies. In the livelihood programs, including those provided by UN agencies, their working partners, and other international agencies, are mandated to ensure that the rights of IDPs have been protected and that the right to freedom of employment is recognized to further economic development and improve livelihoods (Jacobsen & Fratzke, 2016, p. 6)

The major issues presented in this thesis focus on the livelihood support trainings that are implemented for Kachin IDPs. Currently, there are several types of trainings conducted under the budget allocated for humanitarian response. However, only a few trainings were identified as the most relevant and applicable. Guiding Principle 22 (a) provides that IDPs also have the right to freely seek employment and to participate in economic activities under the protection of government and respected agencies to further improve their standard of living (Deng, 1999, p.489). IDPs are most among the most vulnerable populations to labor exploitation, abuse, and violation in their pursuit

of employment opportunities outside of the camp areas (Jaspar, 2006, p.8. IDPs in Kachin State, particularly those from large households, also seek employment opportunities in the host residential areas, or sometimes even farther distances, to earn a living and cover family expenses. They often encounter similar risks when they seek jobs in China, or in border areas that are close in proximity to the camps. Therefore, providing livelihood training programs inside the camp compounds is an effective way to protect IDPs from the dangers they may face outside of the camps. These trainings are one of the main opportunities that IDPs are provided to build their capacity and learn new skills, which will further increase their chances of securing regular employment. These programs, then, are aimed to bring about positive changes for IDPs' long-term livelihood situations.

The livelihood training programs are intended to build the capacity of IDPs, enabling them to realize their right to work and to further explore economic opportunities. Currently, the available types of livelihood services provided by the relevant agencies focus on the needs of IDPs in the camps. IDP households expect to gain better employment opportunities after having learned new skills from the livelihood training programs. Among the IDP population, the majority received positive benefits from both the trainings and financial assistance. In particular, female IDPs and uneducated IDPs also have equal access to such livelihood assistance programs. Additionally, the livelihood trainings are a great opportunity for vulnerable IDP groups, as they have livelihood of securing a job outside the camp. Such vulnerable groups include women with many children, adult women, jobless youth, and woman-headed households. The training outcomes vary depending on the individual's effort and passion. Due to various reasons, it can be difficult for IDPs to become a professional in their field, even though they were given equal opportunities.

In the context of this research, every IDP household is offered the opportunity to learn new skills through the trainings. Further, this implies that service providers are delivering their services equally to all IDPs under the guidance of the laws set forth to protect IDPs in all situations. This research, then, confirms that the livelihood training programs are equally accessible for all IDP households within the camps. Analysis of the four selected livelihood training programs determined that the most successful

training combined all three approaches. The research focused on these four selected training types in order to identify the major factors that influenced varying outcomes amongst training participants following completion of the programs. To achieve the livelihood support programs' long-term goals, complementary elements need to be considered as potential additions to the current program plans. Analysis of the four selected trainings specifically determined that there are four main factors which led to varying outcomes. As discussed in Chapter Four, the tailoring and carpentry training participants had proposed to attend these trainings to enhance the skills which they already possessed. This provided them the opportunity to practice and improve their skills through the trainings. They then became qualified enough to secure regular income opportunities after the training. While the three approaches discussed in this thesis have different perspectives, all three of the approaches must be applied at different stages for the program to achieve its goals. While the strength-based approach is crucial in influencing a positive view, helping participants to see themselves as capable persons, the other two approaches must also be applied (Saleebey 2009). Participants' motivation helps them to be more creative and to explore alternative solutions to overcome difficulties in the pursuit of income activities. Since 2015, many types of livelihood support programs were conducted by different agencies with the goal of advancing the living standards of IDPs in the camps. The needs-based approach is usually applied to top-down decisions made in the program's implementation, as the needs survey findings provide recommendations for the relevant agencies to determine the needs of the beneficiaries (Khadka, 2003, p.81). Depending on the case, agencies apply this approach specifically to explore the needs of IDPs in order to respond with the necessary assistance in a timely manner. However, the training participants are still in need of additional support to help them foster their capacities further before pursuing their own economic support activities.

There are many elements to take into consideration for the improvement of future training programs. Looking at the selected four livelihood training types, the most successful training also provided four complementary elements to help individual training participants pursue small income-generating activities after the training. The trainings were supplemented with other forms of support to ensure that participants

could become qualified and secure employment. This thesis draws out the four most important factors, which were discussed broadly in Chapter Four, that facilitate the achievement of the long-term goals to increase employment opportunities through the training programs. These four factors supplemented the ongoing livelihood trainings to make them more effective and relevant, and to help individual IDPs to access increased employment opportunities. The four discussed factors are as follows: The allotted training time for each program is appropriate to the skill being taught, the learned skill is applicable and relevant to the current context, the necessary equipment are provided to participants, and a sufficient amount of financial assistance is provided after the trainings as a start-up grant. For example, the government-provided livelihood empowerment program for youth groups in Uganda promoted skill development, livelihood support, and institutional support for trainees. Mwesigwa & Mubangizi (2019) argued that the design of training programs should include sufficient financial support, market-applicable skills, and equipment to help participants initiate their own income-generating activities in order to increase self-employment, or increase income levels, after the training period.

Many of the types of trainings conducted were not very applicable or relevant to the setting of an IDP camp. The outcome of improved capacity is more important for IDP livelihoods than a high number of program participants. The participants have varying levels of education and experience, as well as varied backgrounds, as they have come from different home villages. Therefore, some uneducated IDPs are reluctant to attend the trainings even though they have the same opportunity as other participants. From the perspective of the strength-based approach, educated and uneducated persons should be given different training options based on their abilities, which can better strengthen individual skills. In this way, both educated and uneducated IDPs would have more equal opportunities to enhance their skills. Applying both the human rights-based approach and strength-based approach to the provision of livelihood training programs further empowers the skills of IDPs. According to the interview respondents, there are some IDPs who have graduated, yet still had to attend the same trainings as other IDPs because there were no other formal trainings that focused computers, technology, or office-related skills. The service providers also need to emphasize

inclusivity of all types of IDP groups, including disabled groups. The younger generation of graduated and educated IDPs are interested in pursuing potential employment opportunities within their own capacity. To be further empowered while living in the camps, the relevant agencies should provide capacity-building trainings based on the fields of employment that they are interested in pursuing. Among young IDPs, some expressed interest in handicraft trainings, expanding their knowledge of a formal office environment, and teaching. Therefore, providing various livelihood training programs for all IDPs would improve the opportunities to secure employment for all groups of participants.

In the context of Kachin State, the duration of trainings should be specified as either short-term or long-term in order for service providers to conduct them effectively. According to the local agencies, a group involved in the peace process explained that the ongoing conflict in Kachin State will remain unpredictable (JST, 2015). The livelihood training programs, then, should be systematically divided into short-term and long-term trainings, particularly during the ongoing political instability. During the period of displacement, IDPs long to return to their home villages and begin planning their resettlement, as interview respondents explained that many had started visiting their home villages since 2015. The majority of respondents want to return to their original villages when the time comes to return safely. Therefore, the relevant agencies analyzed the instable condition of IDPs and hesitated to implement long-term development programs. However, the livelihood training programs that they decided to implement are potentially relevant and applicable in both the situation of displacement and resettlement in any region. For instance, when considering the type of trainings to implement, service providers must determine whether the skills are transferable, whether they are relevant for IDPs, and whether those skills are applicable in the Kachin context. However, some already received vocational trainings that were not directly applicable for their return to the village. The ideal types of livelihood trainings should be transferable and applicable in any situation. In the planning of livelihood training programs, the service providers offer the beneficiaries the chance to participate in the process before making any final decisions. The most effective programs need adequate funding and coordination amongst the service providing agencies in order to avoid

overlap, as most agencies are providing similar services within the targeted areas. The most relevant types of livelihood support programs should be selected through systematic survey and market assessment, as well as research on the existing livelihood coping strategies of beneficiaries in the target areas.

The collected data shows that the majority of adult IDPs prefer to continue their farming and agriculture activities throughout the duration of displacement. However, land scarcity within the camps proves to be an issue, regardless of whether they know how to grow crops or are experienced in cultivation. For example, in refugee cases, the relevant agencies and government coordinated to allocate land which was close to the camps for refugees to grow crops for domestic consumption or to sell as surplus in the local market for extra income (Livelihood Report ,2012). One of the ways to allow experienced IDPs to continue cultivation and husbandry is to provide allocated land within the camp, as well as the necessary equipment and resources. This would allow them to continue the same livelihood activities as they did in their home villages.

Providing livelihood support trainings for IDPs is not the most effective solution unless both service providers and beneficiaries collaborate during the program design & planning period. In this stage, collaboration between service providers and beneficiaries is important to identify the needs of beneficiaries and relevant methods of support. Government involvement is also important as the INGOs are mandated only to complement the work of host governments (Tek, 2002, p.44). They have the responsibility to respond to people's needs by way of local partners and government interventions. Therefore, coordination among services providers, beneficiaries, state institutions and international agencies is important in improving the living conditions of IDPs as they all have different resources to contribute. In similar contexts with refugees, UN agencies, international agencies, and national institutions from respective government ministries coordinated for the planning of long-term interventions to improve livelihoods (Jacobsen & Fratzke, 2016, p.4). In the case of the refugee context, a coordination committee was established, consisting of various agencies with access to different resources and donors, to oversee the livelihood support programs and their implementation. In this context, the relevant agencies need to lobby the local government institutions on the IDPs rights to work and rights to freely participate in

economic activities, both inside the camps and the local host areas. They also need to invite the participation of beneficiaries in program design and selection of the most relevant skills for the specific target group. The government sector should allocate resources to support long-term, comprehensive solutions to further promote the improvement of IDP livelihoods. Additionally, specific government institutions can help to develop relevant solutions, such as the Forestry Ministry aiding with land provisions (Jaspar, 2006, p.9).

There are also some major challenges that IDPs face in their pursuit of livelihood opportunities. Their previous livelihood activities mostly include agriculture and husbandry, but in some camps IDPs cannot participate in these kinds of activities. They live in the camps during times of political instability and lose interest in the trainings. Studying the livelihood activities of IDPs in Kachin State revealed that they have experience in agriculture and husbandry as their past livelihood activities. Some IDP households continue these activities to earn extra income while they are staying in the camps. However, these activities cannot be practiced during longer periods of displacement as agriculture and livestock require large spaces. The land availability, then, is a primary need of IDPs to conduct their livelihood activities, particularly their work in agriculture-based activities or husbandry, during displacement. In the refugee context, agencies provided a large number of acres for refugees to conduct agricultural activities, including gardening and cultivation, for the improvement of their livelihoods (UNHCR, 2014).

The collected data shows that the experience of IDPs pursuing livelihood activities differed greatly before and during the conflict, as during displacement they must seek opportunities outside of the camps. Chapter Three described that the majority of IDPs' former livelihood activities in their home villages are different from those that they are pursuing in the host locations. In this context, IDPs must seek any available job to receive an income in the place that they are residing. Some IDPs try to engage in familiar livelihood activities, such as gardening and husbandry, in the camps as supported by the relevant agencies through the livelihood support programs. However, the living conditions in the camps are different from those in the home villages. In the camps, they are accommodated in shelters together with many family members, with

no privacy for individuals. Living in the camps, IDPs do not have the opportunity to continue their usual livelihood activities and must cope with the challenges of displacement.

In designing the training programs for IDPs, the service providers need to consider individual behaviors and conditions within the context of displacement. Some participants have become less interested in the training programs due to the trauma they experienced during the conflict, some become depressed, and some are simply waiting to return to their home village. During the displacement period, IDPs feel as though their stay in the camps is temporary and look forward to returning to their home villages. Additionally, some adult IDPs are eager to find labor work outside of the camps rather than spend their time on capacity building through long trainings that do not even guarantee an opportunity to secure regular income after completion.

From the economic perspective, restricting the movement of IDPs within the local area is also one of the policies enacted to have positive impacts. In the case of refugees, their movement was also restricted in order to protect them from unforeseen risks outside of the camp's territory. Similarly, in the context of IDP camps, agencies have rule to terminate the names of absent IDPs from their family registers. According to respondents, as soon as the name was taken off the record, the regular assistance was cut off as the person no longer belonged to the family. IDPs from one of the selected camps in Momauk often visit their original village, as some villagers who were hosted in local residential areas eventually returned. Particularly, the IDPs staying in Momauk area camps are within close proximity to their home villages. Therefore, they often visit and return back to the camps. However, some areas are not safe due to the location of military bases close to the village. IDPs from some camps are preparing for the repatriation process, and IDPs who have remained in the camps for many years are also preparing for their return home. Therefore, it is crucial that the selection of livelihood trainings are relevant to all IDP situations, whether returning to their home village or resettling elsewhere. Those who return to their home villages will need to initiate their own employment opportunities and/or livelihood activities. Jacobsen (2002) stated that the government and IDP response agencies need to collaborate to help establish

independence and self-reliance during displacement, further preparing IDPs for their future return or resettlement.

Similar to refugees along the Thai-Myanmar border who have been staying in temporary shelters for many years, IDPs in Kachin state have also been living in temporary camps since 2011 (Chamrathirong, 2014). As the periods of displacement continue for many years, agencies have started to provide livelihood support programs to encourage IDPs to develop self-reliance and to depend less on the provided assistance before their repatriation (Thailand Migration Report, 2011). They provide some financial assistance to help improve the livelihood conditions of IDPs as part of the long-term goal to empower IDPs to be more independent of aid. However, it is not easy to implement every program successfully and some of the programs fail to accomplish the objectives due to various constraints or their irrelevance with the IDP situation. International organizations have conducted well-organized and systematic strategies to help refugees improve themselves and become independent, and such experience can be applied to the IDP context. However, unlike the current Kachin IDP situation, the refugees were given undivided attention from the international organizations and United Nations agencies under the enforcement of refugee law (UNHCR, 2014). The agencies conduct market research and survey assessments according to international standards in order to select the livelihood support programs that will be implemented. They then conduct pilot projects before the trainings are offered to the broader refugee population. The outcomes of the pilot project help the program providers to decide whether or not to continue with the program's implementation. In the case of refugees, the agencies utilize systematic strategies to promote income-generating activities and other livelihood support programs. For instance, the refugees were provided land plots in areas close to the current camps to engage in agricultural activities, based on their experience. They have the opportunity to cultivate crops and raise livestock, both for domestic consumption and market supply. The agricultural products are sold in the host location's local markets. The types of trainings are directly linked to the market demands. This demonstrates strong coordination between the various service providers to promote the livelihood conditions of refugees. A systematic committee was also established to allocate available resources from respective government ministries,

international agencies, local organizations, community-based organizations, and the private sector to respond to the needs of refugees. In the context of Kachin IDPs, there is no coordinating body established specifically for the livelihood sector, even though this sector plays the most important role in determining better opportunities for IDP employment. Additionally, there are no local entrepreneurs from whom IDPs can secure regular employment opportunities like the refugees along the Thai-Myanmar border do, where many industries are looking to hire low-skilled workers for various manufacturing industries, particularly textiles (Chamrathirong, 2014).

The nature of each agency's work varies, as do the objectives they aim to accomplish with the funding available for implementation. In the context of displacement, the types of services provided were selected by the experts before being delivered to the beneficiaries. These agencies also provide direct services to the most affected populations during emergencies and humanitarian crises. After many years of displacement, agencies began considering provision of livelihood support programs to address specific issues. The agencies' objectives for these programs were intended to support long-term goals, which only can be achieved by applying the long-term development approach (DRC, 2017). The two most successful training types show that it is important to prioritize people's existing capacities, and their participation in the program design, to achieve positive outcomes. However, the collected data highlighted that the livelihood trainings available to Kachin IDPs were developed based on the perceived needs of IDPs and with limited humanitarian funding. The government institutions and non-governmental agencies provide assistance based on the needs of the community during emergency periods (Khandka, 2012, p.81). This provision of assistance is intended to support the rights of beneficiaries as stated the Guiding Principles for IDPs are also based on the International Refugee Law and Humanitarian Law, even though they are not legally binding.

The programs designed according to international standards need to be adjusted based on the local context to ensure that they comprehensively address the issues in the specific target areas. The refugee response agencies, including the global strategy livelihoods for refugees, provide livelihood support programs in order to help individual households to become independent and rely less on the agency's assistance

in the long run (2014). They implement many different kinds of programs for refugees, such as agriculture-based trainings, vocational trainings, and knowledge- and skill-building trainings to enhance their capacity in order to help them access more employment opportunities. The financial support programs include microfinance, cash for work, food for work, and cash grants to run small business. Similarly, the livelihood support programs that were conducted for IDPs in Kachin state included agriculture-based support, seeds delivered, vocational training, skill training, microfinance training, cash grant program, public work for payment, and cash support for small businesses initiated by IDPs. The activities provided to Kachin IDPs should focus on the activities determined by the findings of the survey and the results of the research conducted with the participation of beneficiaries and experienced local staffs. It is not guaranteed that internationally identified training programs will be applicable in all contexts. The program design should be developed with experienced staff members who understand the local context and the IDP participants themselves. Often, international agencies provide livelihood support trainings that were not relevant to the Kachin context, such as soap production and plastic bag manufacturing. The internationally planned livelihood support training programs should be adjustable based on local contexts and should effectively utilize project funding. Additionally, the selection of the types of trainings to provide for IDPs in specific areas should involve the participation of people from the target communities and experienced local actors, together with the humanitarian agencies in order to achieve long-term goals. They should be included in the identification of perceptions, concerns, and possible solutions based on their past experiences and local contexts from the beginning stage of program design. The livelihood support programs in conflict affected communities typically apply a people-centered approach, which allows people to fully participate in decision-making roles (Jaspars, 2006, p.6). In this approach, the beneficiaries make decisions regarding the selection of livelihood programs and support, influenced by the community's perspectives. The program focuses on empowering the community's or individual's strengths to further support their livelihood strategies in order to improve their future opportunities (Jaspars, 2006, p.4). In the emergency response period, the agencies provide livelihood programs aimed at supporting livelihood activities to teach IDPs to save their assets and earn an income to pay for basic family needs and food security.

However, as IDPs in Kachin State have been displaced for nine years, many agencies have conducted various kinds of livelihood support trainings for large numbers of IDPs. They aim to create sustainable livelihoods and invest in programs to promote employment opportunities through skill-building trainings. The potential programs are identified by the beneficiaries as ones that will improve their livelihood situations, leading to economic independence. The beneficiaries' participation in designing the programs helps service providers to make decisions whether to provide services based on IDPs' past experiences or to provide trainings for new kinds of skills. By participating in the planning process, the IDPs are encouraged to be more creative and respond to the demands of the market in order to initiate their businesses. Livelihood support activities were also provided for conflict-affected refugees and displaced communities in Africa between 1994 and 1998. However, the author argued that majority of displaced people never took responsibility for the improvement of their own lives and that activities intended to encourage innovation, such as vocational trainings, were not very successful for them. The most relevant types of livelihood support programs are those created with the participation of beneficiaries and local experts. Throughout the history of livelihood support programs, for example those provided in WWII, agencies applied both methods which were participation and provide beneficiaries to identify their perception in planning of the specific program's objectives (Easton-Calabria, 2015, p. 417).

5.3. Recommendations

This closing section provides recommendations for potential solutions to further help IDPs pursue employment and income opportunities through the livelihood training programs. Building on the research findings, this thesis has four recommendations. Firstly, the current livelihood trainings need to be adjusted to be more relevant to the current context of IDPs in the target areas. These provided livelihood trainings should be applicable both during and after displacement. Secondly, establishing a proper monitoring system with technical support for agency staffs in the livelihood support sector. Thirdly, strengthen coordination amongst representatives from all relevant agencies, including the UN agencies, international agencies, local government institutions, and community-based organizations, who are working to accomplish the long term goal of increasing employment opportunities.

The ongoing livelihood programs need to be redesigned systematically so that the most relevant ones can be provided in any situation. The livelihood support trainings are expected to increase the level of income for trained IDPs. The improved capacity of each participant should be applied not only during displacement, but also in the future upon returning to their home villages. Developing the proper trainings by involving participation of beneficiaries can help the programs overall achievements. The collaborative participation of both service providers and beneficiaries is necessary in the design of livelihood support programs in order to achieve long-term success. The process of designing the current training programs required the participation of former service recipients and included the voices of both successful and not successful individual IDPs in order to assess program strengths and weaknesses. Former recipients are able to offer feedback on the difficulties, risks, challenges, and lessons learned that they experienced firsthand. The participation of beneficiaries is essential throughout implementation and offers them the opportunity to be involved in the program. Their participation also helps agencies to analyze the challenges, constraints, and expectations of beneficiaries and services providers in order to improve the programs in the future. The establishment of new livelihood programs needs to focus on the available resources, capacities of participants, and suggestions contributed by experienced beneficiaries in order to develop the most relevant programs. The provided

services should respond to the needs of IDPs in this area, and training should be designed with the local context in mind, especially in Kachin regional areas. In Bhamo and Momauk, the relevant agencies provided many kinds of livelihood training for IDPs. Among them, the majority of trainings were not applicable to the current capacity of IDPs. For example, trainings that focused on soap production, bamboo chair production, plastic basket manufacturing, and snack making needed to include complementary services such as financial assistance and business skills training to help ensure that IDPs can secure a regular income. In this case, the service providers selected the types of livelihood trainings based on the available project budget for IDPs from target areas. Khadka argued that the needs-based approach focuses on solving the existing problem and that the provided services fail to invite participation of beneficiaries during the planning process (Khadka, 2019, p.84). Therefore, it focuses on people's problems rather than acknowledging their capacity. The types of services and programs selected are managed directly by service providers in response to the needs survey results.

The agencies need to put effort into follow-up monitoring on the outcomes of conducted trainings and the improvement of individual's capacity. The case of livelihood training programs implied that the agencies are only interested in providing various types of livelihood trainings and that they fail to consult with beneficiaries properly prior to implementing the trainings. Consultation and monitoring the implemented programs are two of the most important factors to help agencies improve the programs. Among various types of trainings, some are helpful in upgrading the capacity of IDPs to help them better pursue regular income. However, some trainings are not relevant to the context and therefore do not secure regular income. There are many factors that influence trainees to fail in applying the learned knowledge after the training. The majority of the IDP population receives positive benefits from the current livelihood trainings. However, the service providers still need to conduct regular evaluation processes to consult with beneficiaries in regard to the effectiveness of the service. Agencies need to learn of the concerns and challenges of experienced beneficiaries through regular monitoring and evaluation mechanisms. Currently, agencies fail to receive feedback information on the real needs, concerns, and expectations of

beneficiaries. Through the evaluation process, beneficiaries have the chance to voice their challenges and identify their needs. The consultation with former service beneficiaries and regular monitoring activities need to be conducted by agencies for the improvement of future implementation. In this way, the agencies begin to more deeply understand the situation of the beneficiaries. However, the agencies need to take on the role of facilitator in discussions with beneficiaries, especially during the consultation process. The IDPs, the, are the ones taking the leading role in the discussion of IDP-related affairs. The strength-based approach encourages the beneficiaries to lead activities and to empower self-initiation, taking responsibility for their own improvement and independent development.

The livelihood support program in Kachin state needs to be organized systematically in line with the international livelihood standards assessment, and proper market research and situation analysis must be carried out regarding the current coping strategies of IDPs in the camps. Many local organizations already engage in IDP affairs according to their own objectives and therefore understand well about the livelihood situation of IDPs. Additionally, international agencies are also working to improve the income opportunities for IDPs through the planning of relevant programs. As the displacement period has continued since 2011, establishment of a coordination body consisting of representatives from the existing service providers would address the gaps in program provision and any overlap in IDP capacity-building programs for the future. For example, in the economic solutions for Thai-Myanmar border refugees, the international and United Nation agencies conducted systematic assessments to investigate the capacity of IDPs, as well as market research before providing the selected livelihood support trainings. They do regular consultations with the beneficiaries regarding the outputs of implemented programs, as well as with respective camp administration team members. The selected livelihood strategies should address the local needs and local context. If the standard international design is not relevant to the local need, the program design should be adjusted to provide comprehensive and relevant trainings for IDPs. Many agencies focus on different approaches to help IDPs improve their income opportunities with their own capacity in order to encourage IDPs to become self-reliant and less dependent on aid in the long run. The types of trainings

provided should build IDPs' capacity to be applicable both during and after displacement.

Lastly, strengthening the relationship among respective institutions such as service providers, local government, international agencies, and local stakeholders will improve livelihood support programs in the long run. The Guiding Principle on Internally Displacement state that the host state's government holds the first responsibility to protect IDPs during displacement. Through coordination mechanisms, stakeholders, national institutions, and international organizations can collaborate to identify appropriate solutions for the improvement of Kachin IDP livelihoods. The agencies need to invite participation of stakeholders and the local government during the planning process, and in the long run. In particular, the Metta, DRC, NRC, KBC, KMSS, and other international organizations play a major role as livelihood training service providers for IDPs in Kachin State. The mechanism for coordination among services providers can help them to avoid overlap in the effective allocation of available resources for beneficiaries. The camp management, respective agencies, and local government authorities need to collaborate in planning better solutions. As discussed in Chapter Three, existing local resources should be applied to the planning of livelihood trainings. IDPs are hosted in unfamiliar environments throughout their displacement, and the available local resources should be allowed to be used for the purpose of improving IDP livelihoods. One good example that the research identified was the carpentry school that is available in Momauk town, where half of the respondents are being hosted. In this example, agencies utilized the existing local resources, such as a training school center, and invited persons from the community to teach the trainings. They also provided livelihood activities for uneducated young male IDPs, including carpentry skills. Some are attending the vocational training center fulltime, supported by agencies for the duration of a three-year course. The agencies provide the training costs for interested candidates to study at this center. In different regions, different local resources are available, which helps the agencies to save their allocated funding. When the participants finish the courses, they can teach new learners back in the camps. The cooperation between service providers is necessary, then, for effective allocation of resources in fulfillment of long-term goals (Jacobsen, 2005, P.

375). They possess different forms of assistance and resources to improve the livelihood of IDPs. Establishing a strong coordination mechanism fosters the capacity of IDPs in pursuit of better livelihoods in the future. Livelihood services providers provide assistance through discussions with camp management, which has led to some overlap of beneficiaries. Some agencies target the development goal while some adopt the programs as emergency responses necessary to support better livelihoods in the camps.

The policy to restrict IDP movement was enforced for security purposes and it has impacted IDPs' freedom to run businesses outside of the camps. In the camp compound, the camp committee maintains a record of IDPs' movements in and out of the camp. The agencies have also restricted the acceptable areas to run small businesses for IDPs who receive financial grants. They are only allowed to run the business inside the camp where there are few consumers compared to the local market areas. Some IDPs intend to run their business outside, especially in further distances where they can access more customers. However, they have to follow the camp management's regulations for security purposes. Some individuals are given permission to temporarily leave the camp for a long period of time for personal reasons. Many IDPs use this permission to explore potential areas for business where they can access more customers. Local businesses and freedom of movement should not be limited to select areas. The small businesses need consumers to make a good profit for further investment. The local government policy and respective religious policies heavily influence the well-being of IDPs. As the displacement period continues to grow longer, the local government also enforces this policy on the local population of staffs who are working closely with the IDPs, as they are the most important persons to contribute to the provision of services and improvement of relevant agencies operations. They should be consulted regarding the type of livelihood programs to be offered. The livelihood training programs for IDPs in Kachin state need to be designed together with experienced local staffs instead of applying program structures that have been designed for other contexts. The international organizations who operate livelihood training programs need to evaluate the ongoing programs in order to present the real outcomes of the program to respective donors. The livelihood training programs help IDPs to become financially independent during their displacement and confident in preparation of their repatriation plan.

However, well- designed livelihood programs require participation from both beneficiaries and local experts, including their perspectives and concerns.

This research explored the available livelihood opportunities for IDPs in Kachin State throughout their eight years of displacement. The collected research data spans the displacement period of 2011 to 2019 in Kachin State, but was collected in 2019. In the field of livelihood research, it would be very interesting to research further the mechanism that IDPs employ when choosing from the available livelihood support programs. As IDPs were displaced and staying in the camps when this research was conducted, future researchers can focus on the post displacement situation and planning of durable solutions. Agencies are seeking durable solutions for the return, resettlement, and reintegration processes for IDPs, therefore the future researcher can look into the participation of respective agencies in planning the relevant livelihood activities for each of those three different situations. The recommendation for future researchers and scholars is to examine to what extent the institutions practically respond to the need of IDPs, including systematically conducted needs assessments. Also, how do the agencies plan to include the livelihood programs in the durable solutions to the processes of return, resettlement, and reintegration?

Key definitions

Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs)

“Persons or groups of persons who have been forced to flee or leave from homes or places of habitual residence, in particular, as a result of or in order to avoid the effects of armed conflict, situations of generalized violence, violations of human rights or natural or human-made disasters, and who have not crossed an internationally recognized state border” (UNOCHA, 2014).

Livelihoods

In the context of internal displacement, the term “livelihood” refers to the capacity and assets that help IDPs to make a living during displacement (Chambers& Conway, 1992) “Livelihood” refers to the means used to maintain and sustain life. “Means” are the resources, household assets, capital, social institutions and networks, and strategies available to people through their local and transitional places of residence (Jacobsen, 2002, p. 89). Livelihood, in the context of displacement, is discussed in this thesis, which identifies the “means” as the livelihood training programs that promote the capacity of IDPs to secure employment and income to further their self-reliance. “Asset” refers to that which people depend upon for their livelihoods and well-being (Mattie and Cunningham, 2003).

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Appendices

Appendix (A) Interview participants list

No	Date	Time		Code	Name (Alias)	Age
		From	To			
1	10/4/2019	11:00	11:50	#01	Seng Seng	32
2	10/4/2019	13:00	13:45	#02	Lahpai Zau Naw	41
3	11/4/2019	12:00	15:00	#03	U Nawng Lat	62
4	12/4/2019	14:30	15:20	#04	Hpau Dut Doi Ra	29
5	12/4/2019	9:30	10:35	#05	Lazing Brang Awng	51
6	12/4/2019	11:15	12:30	#06	Labang Ja Nan	30
7	13/04/2019	9:05	9:50	#07	Lahpai Kai Bu	44
8	13/04/2019	10:15	11:25	#08	Daw Htu Seng	44
9	13/04/2019	12:05	12:50	#09	U Naw Aung	44
10	13/04/2019	13:00	13:50	#10	Nang Raw	61
11	15/04/2019	8:30	9:25	#11	Daw Sam bawk	34
12	15/04/2019	10:00	10:45	#12	Kai Bu	43
12	15/04/2019	1:30	12:20	#13	Daw Lu Bu	54
13	16/04/2019	8:20	9:05	#14	Marip Pa Pa	38
14	17/04/2019	17:10	18:15	#15	U Naw Latt	35
15	18/04/2019	10:00	11:20	#16	Zahkung Bawk Naw	35
16	20/04/19	10:00	12:00	#17	Lat Lat Aung	45
17	24/04/19	10;15	11:20	#18	Ja bu	28

Appendix (B) Informed consent form sample (English)

Form of Informed and Voluntary Consent to Participate in Research.

My name is _____, aged _____ years
 old, now living at the address

 _____.

I hereby express my consent to participate as respondent in the research project entitled
 “Livelihood activities services for Kachin IDPs, Challenges, Opportunities and Expectations”.

In so doing, I am informed of the research project and purpose: it’s procedural detail to
 carry out or to be carried out. I thoroughly read the detailed statements in the information sheets
 give to the research subjects, I was also given explanation and my questions were answered by
 the researcher.

I therefore consent to participate as a respondent in this research project. On the
 condition that I have any question about the research procedures, I encounter an undesirable
 side effect from this research, I can contact researcher _____,
 _____.

I am aware of my right to further information concerning benefits and risks from the
 participation in the research and my right to withdraw or refrain from the participation anytime.
 I consent to the researcher’s use of my private information obtained in the research, the
 information must be presented as part of the research result as a whole.

I thoroughly understand the statement in the information sheet for the research subject
 and in this consent form.

I thereby give my signature.

Signature:

Date;

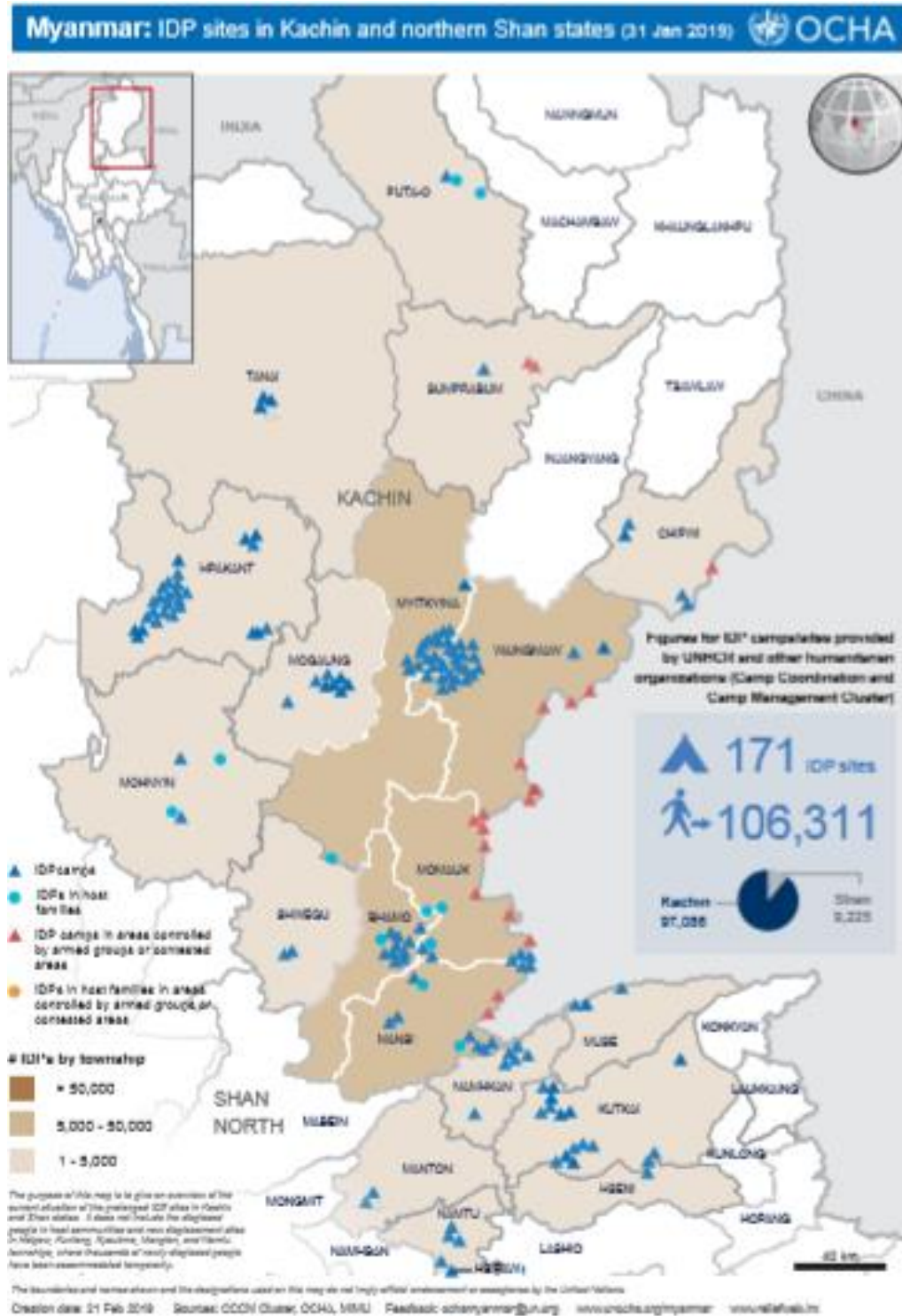
In case that the participant is not literates, the readers of all the statements of the
 respondent is _____, who gives his/ her
 signature as a witness.

Name:

Signature:

Date:

Appendix (C) IDPs Camps in Kachin and Northern Shan State



Sources: UNOCHA

https://reliefweb.int/sites/reliefweb.int/files/resources/KachinShan_Snapshot_IDPS_A4_Jan_19_0.pdf

Appendix (D) interview Guidelines

key informants interview questions

1. How are the majority of IDPs households trying to earn living?
2. What kind of livelihood activities available for IDPs in the camp?
3. Are there any organizations providing livelihood activities for IDPs?
4. How do they select the participants for the livelihood activities service assistance?
5. What are the requirements to be selected for the livelihood service?
6. Have you involved for livelihood training participants selection process? How?
7. What is the objective of livelihood assistance? How does it define?
8. What challenges do they face in livelihood program implementation?
9. How long did one project lasted to run?
10. How do you think of the livelihood service?
11. How do you think the livelihood activities out come?
12. How far would they benefit from the training?

13. Do you think the livelihood program help the people life into positive change?
14. How can the agencies improve on their program in the future?
15. How do service recipients apply their knowledge in daily life?
16. Is there any individual IDP who is benefit from the livelihood program?
17. Are there any success stories you want to share with us?
18. How do you think people reflect on the services?
19. What knowledge and skill do they learn in the training?
20. Where did the training took place? How long does it take?
21. Have you seen any positive improvement the service recipients?
22. How long have the livelihood services been conducting so far?
23. Do you have any suggestion on the future livelihood activities service program?



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REFERENCES



จุฬาลงกรณ์มหาวิทยาลัย
CHULALONGKORN UNIVERSITY



จุฬาลงกรณ์มหาวิทยาลัย
CHULALONGKORN UNIVERSITY

VITA

NAME LUCIA LUJAN

DATE OF BIRTH 04 October 1987

PLACE OF BIRTH Moemauk

INSTITUTIONS ATTENDED Faculty of Political Sciences, Chulalongkorn University, Bangkok, Thailand.

HOME ADDRESS 5/145 AM, Aye Mya Thar Yar, Myitkyina, Kachin State, Myanmar.

PUBLICATION 2019

AWARD RECEIVED Full Scholarship provided by Heinrich Boll Stiftung (HBS)



จุฬาลงกรณ์มหาวิทยาลัย
CHULALONGKORN UNIVERSITY