

Forced Migration and Burma

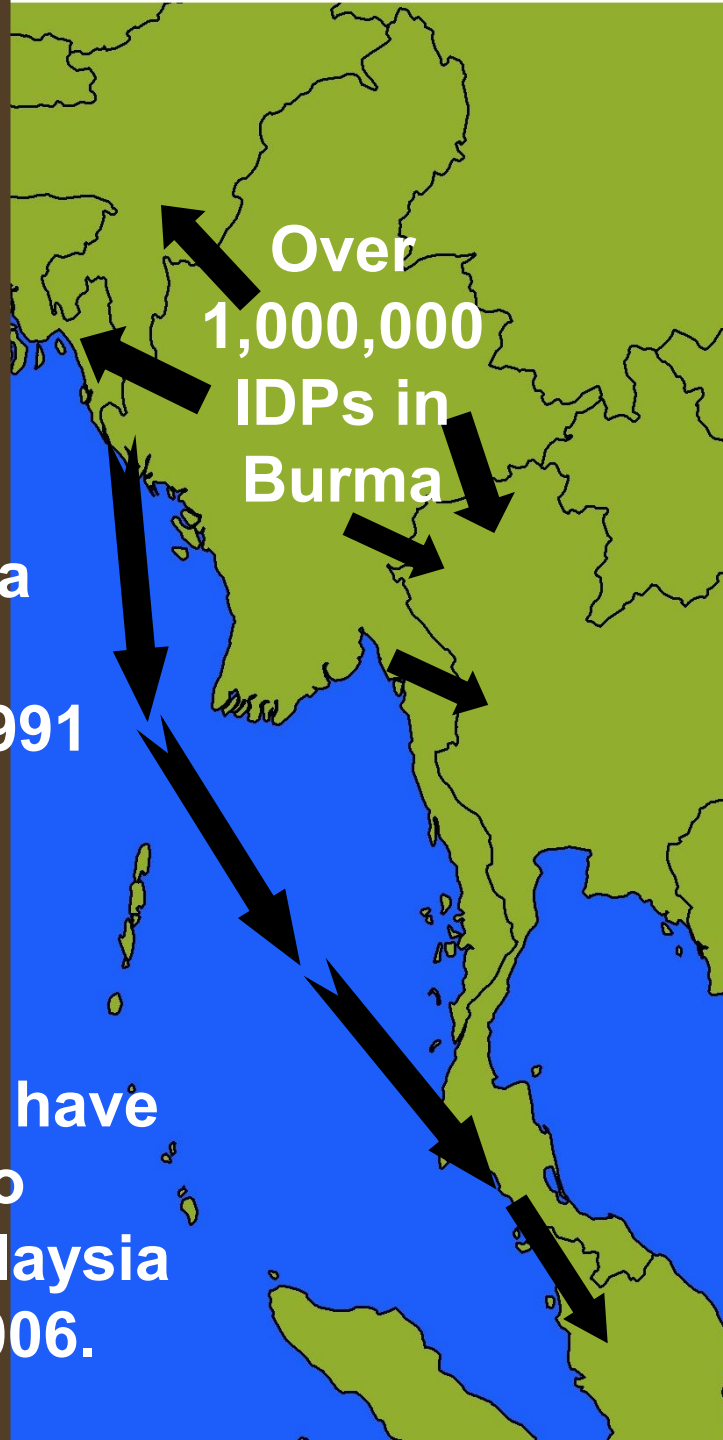


**Duncan McArthur, Thailand Burma Border Consortium.
The Role of ASEAN Civil Society in Supporting Human Rights
and Democracy in Burma, Jakarta, 6 March 2008.**

**40,000 Chin
refugees have
fled to India
since 1988.**

**250,000 Rohingya
refugees fled to
Bangladesh in 1991
20,000 remain.**

**6,000 Rohingyas have
been trafficked to
Thailand and Malaysia
since October 2006.**



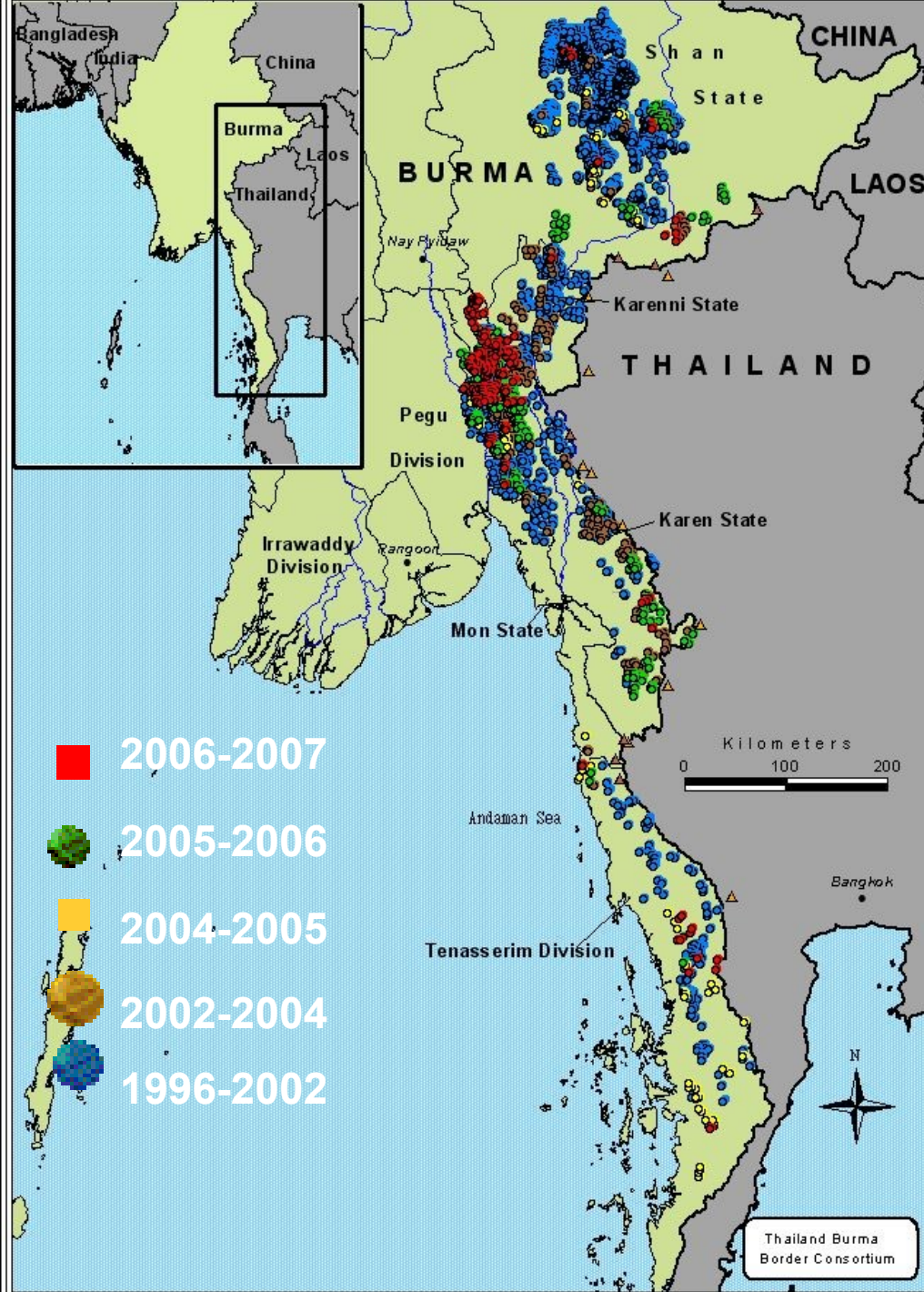
**140,000 Karen and
Karenni refugees in
Thailand.**

**1,000,000 Burmese
migrants in Thailand,
of whom many are
unregistered
refugees**

**23,000 Burmese
refugees and
asylum seekers in
Malaysia.**

DISPLACEMENT IN EASTERN BURMA

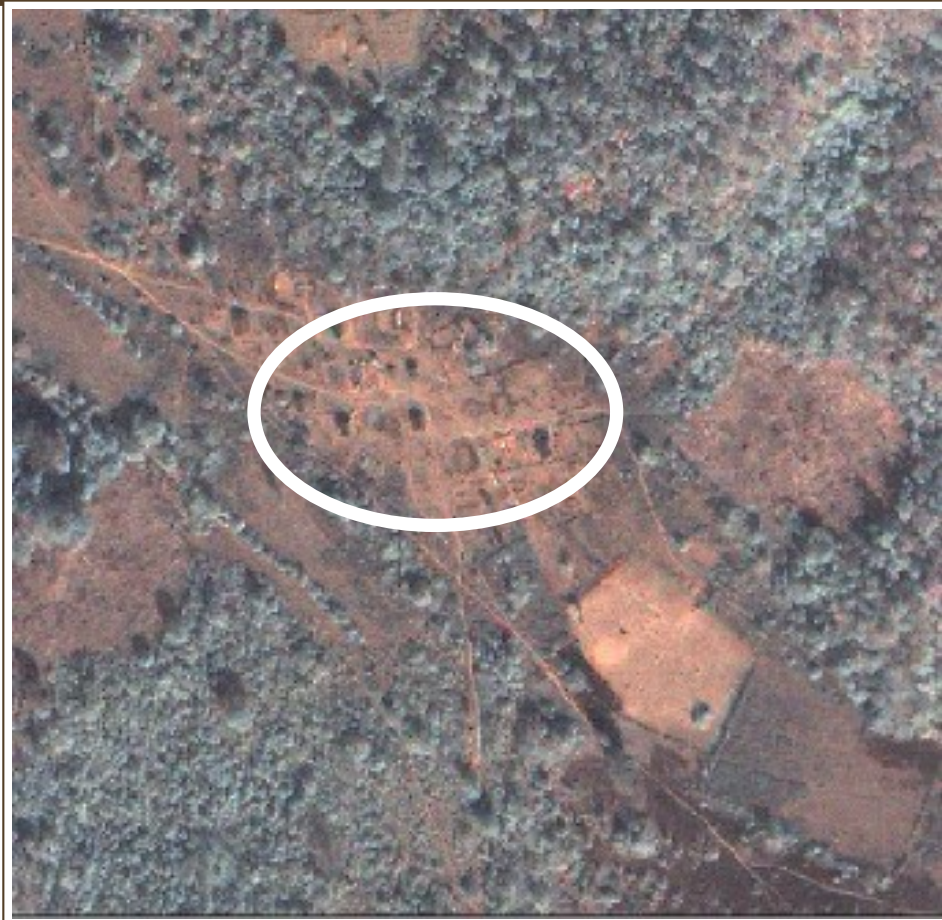
Over 3,200 villages
destroyed, forcibly
relocated or abandoned
between in eastern Burma
since 1996,
including 167 villages
displaced in the past year.



Satellite Imagery of Forced Village Relocation in Mawmai township, Shan State, 2006.



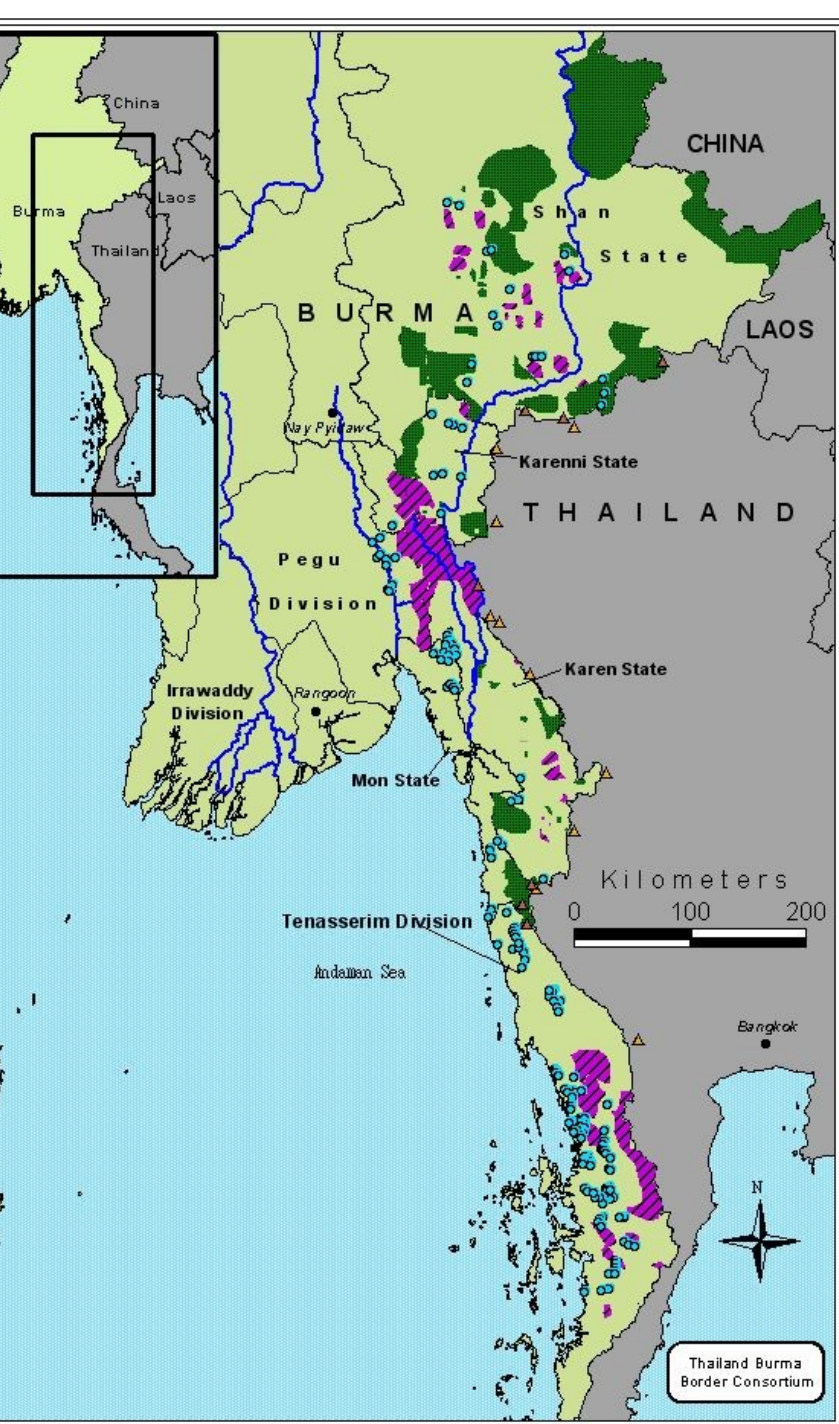
BEFORE



AFTER

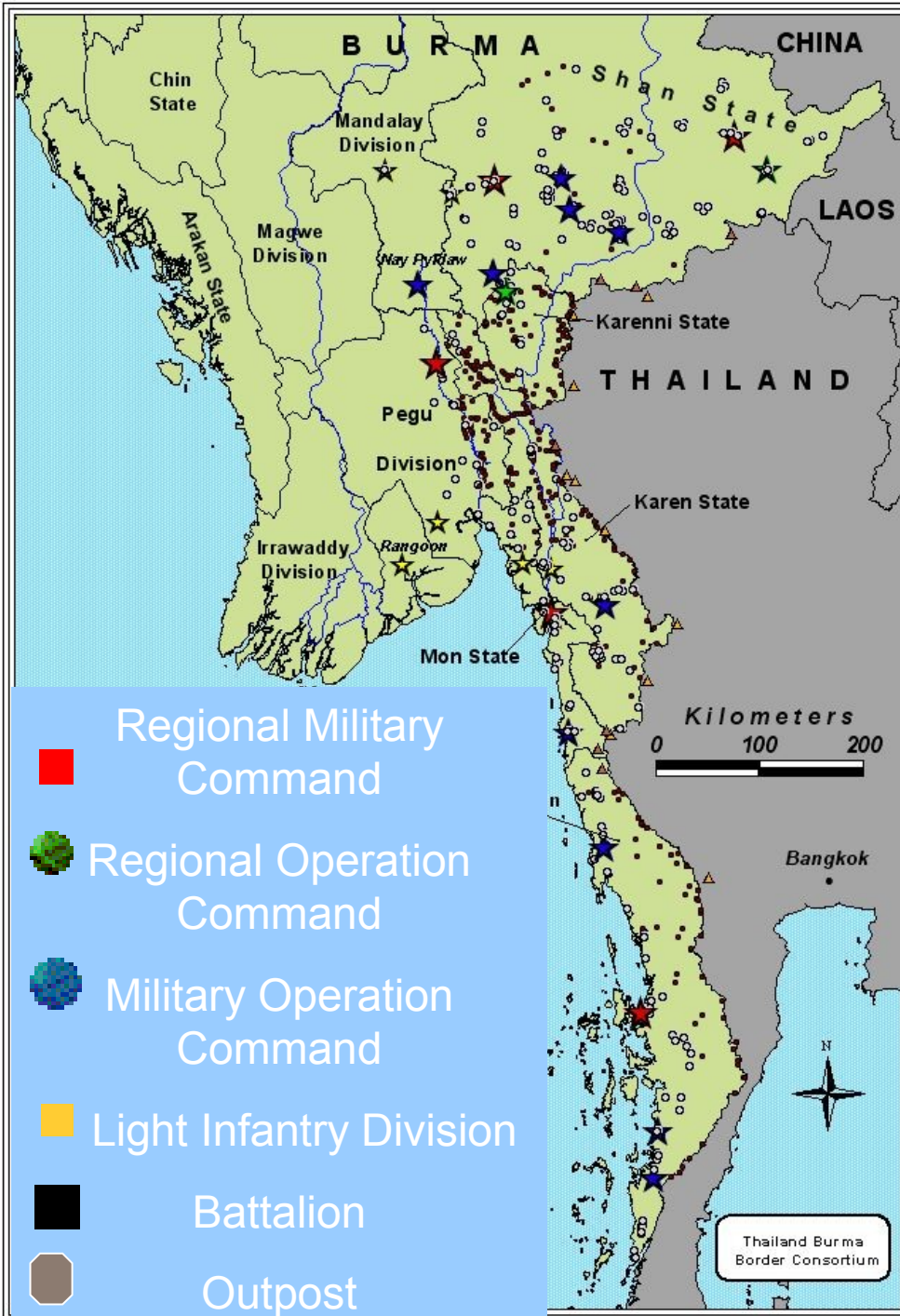
**76,000 people forcibly displaced in past year.
43,000 in the conflict-affected, northern Karen areas alone.**





Conflict-Induced Displacement





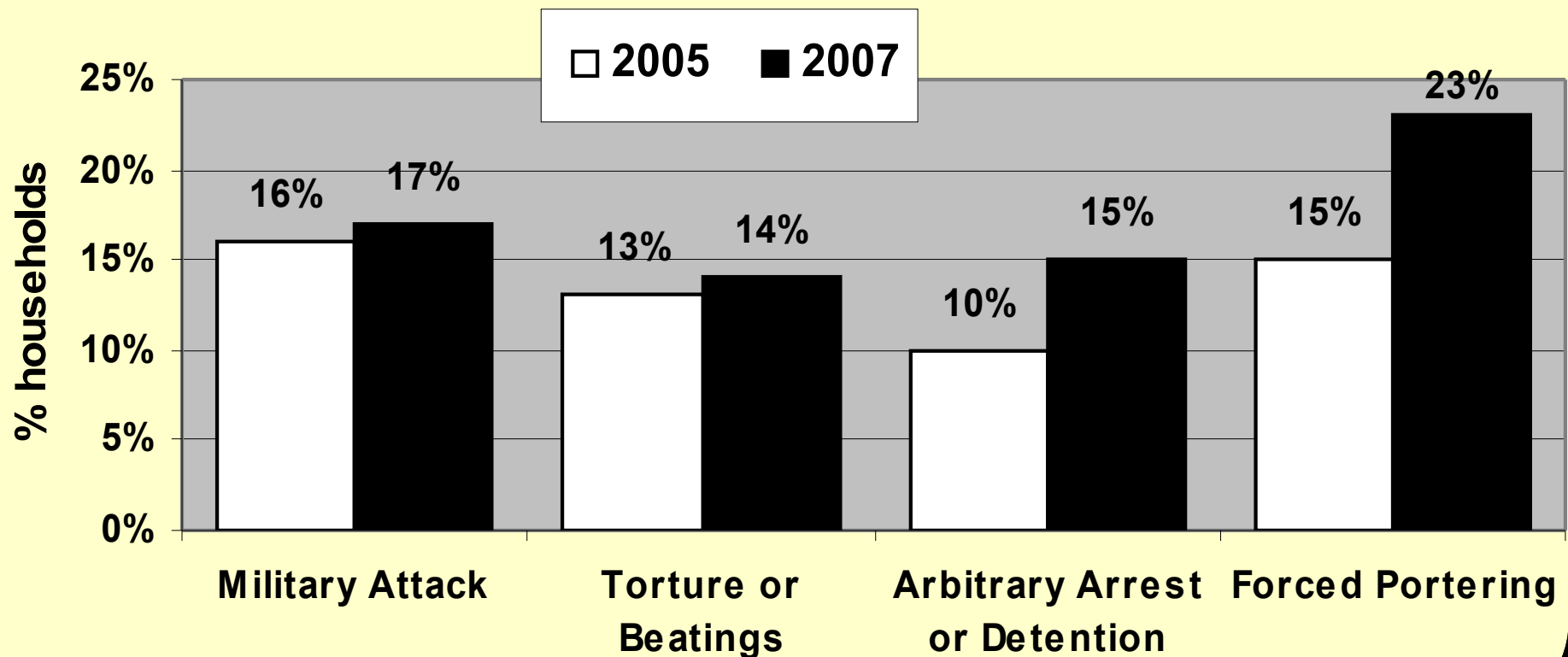
5 SPDC regional military commanders control 273 permanent infantry and light infantry battalions in eastern Burma

Militarisation facilitates the occupation of ethnic lands.

Counter-insurgency operations target civilians in violation of international humanitarian laws.

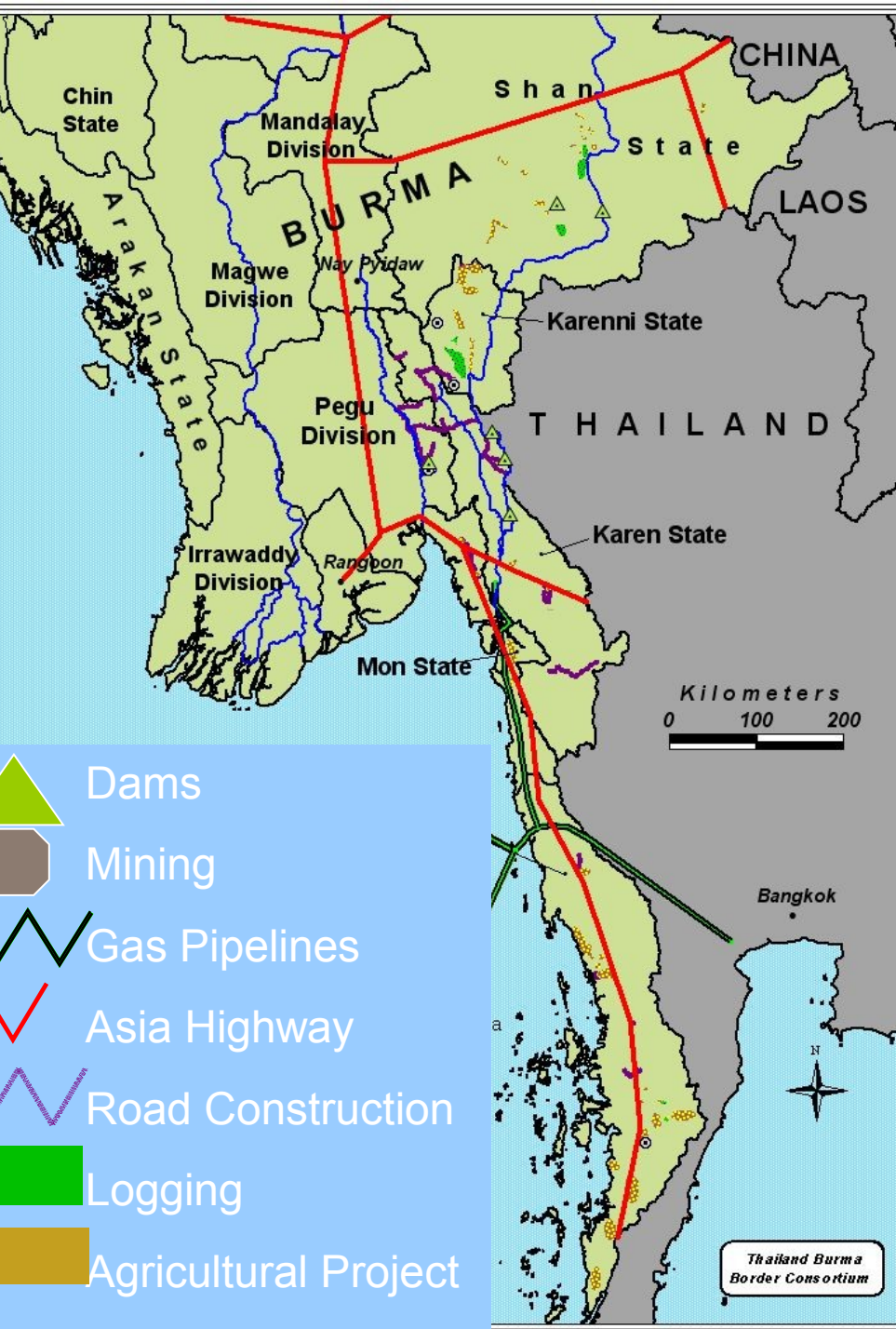


Threats to Safety and Security (2005-07)



Development- Induced Displacement



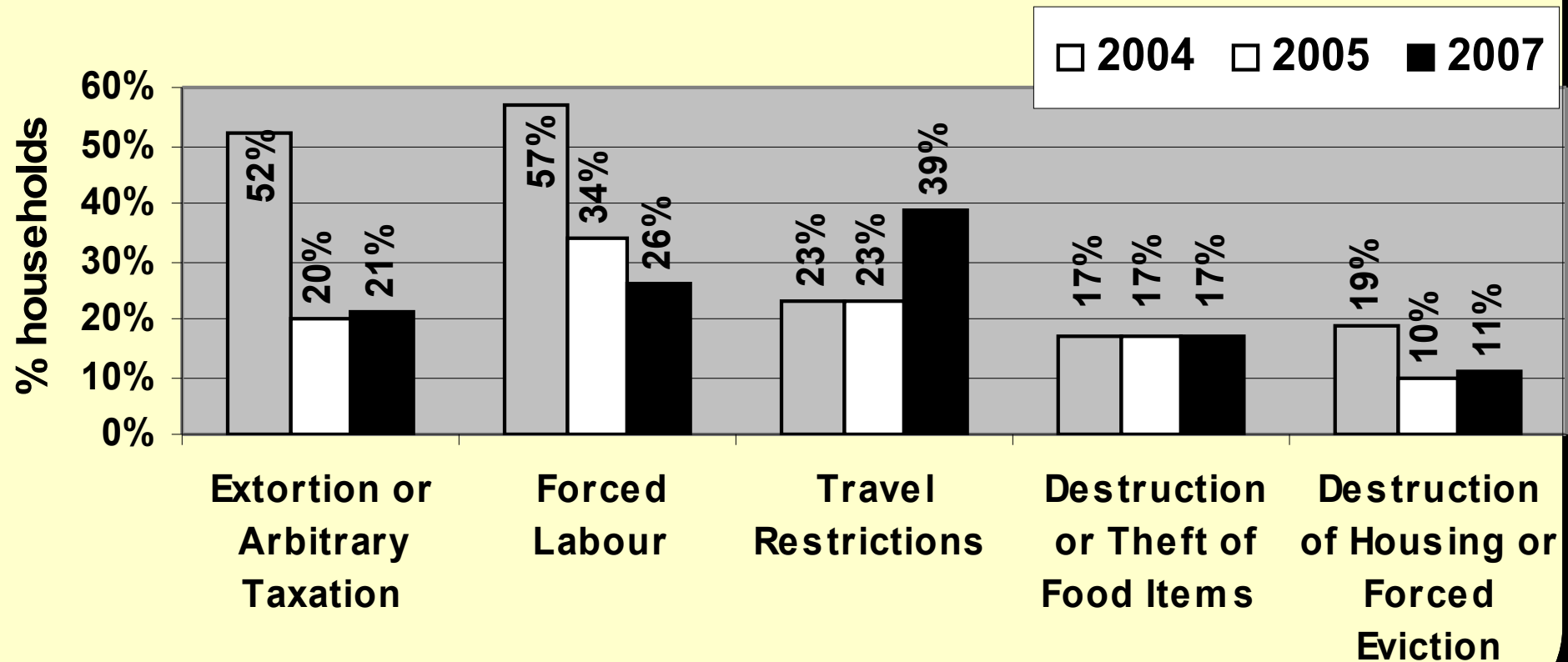


State-sponsored development consolidates military control & undermines livelihoods via

- Forced labour
- Land confiscation
- Forced relocation
- Asset Stripping
- Procurement quotas
- Production quotas
- Extortion & Arbitrary taxes

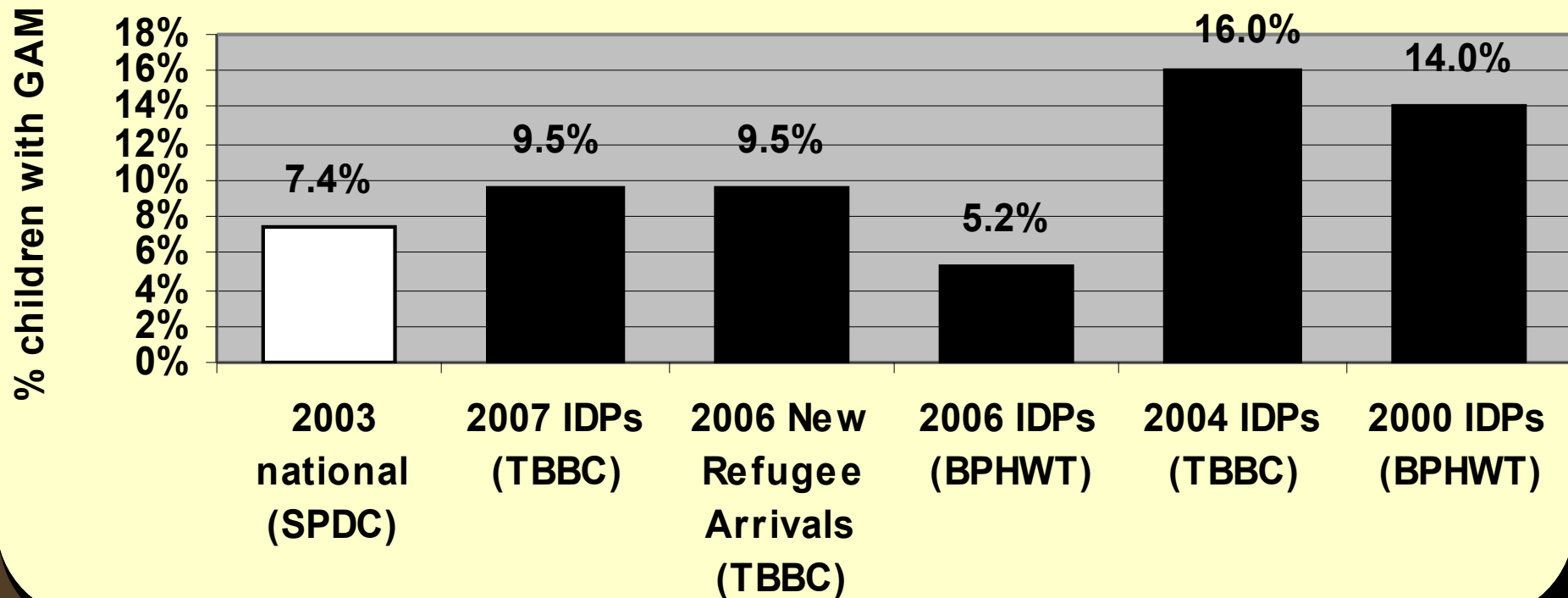


Common Threats to Livelihoods (2004 - 2007)



**The nation is impoverished,
but vulnerabilities are most severe in conflict-
affected areas.**

Acute Malnutrition in Children
(2007 Sample = 663 children aged 12-59 months)



Humanitarian access, monitoring and policy level dialogue about protection concerns are severely restricted.



The Responsibility to Protect

*“The international community,
through the United Nations...
(is) prepared to take collective action,
in a timely and decisive manner,
through the Security Council...
should peaceful means be inadequate
and national authorities are manifestly failing
to protect their populations
from genocide, war crimes, ethnic cleansing
and crimes against humanity.”*

United Nations General Assembly, World Summit Statement, October 2005

The challenge is to promote coherency between the promotion of democracy, human rights and humanitarian aid.

