



Appointment of new Executive Director

The Border Consortium's Board of Directors is pleased to announce the appointment of Irene Fraser as the new Executive Director of TBC as of July 15th, 2022.

Having worked in Myanmar for the last eight years and most recently as Coordinator of the INGO Forum, Irene is familiar with the Myanmar context, the conflict dynamics and the humanitarian situation. She is well-networked among local actors, UN, and INGOs, and has built relations with Myanmar's major donors, who are also TBC's key donors. She also brings experience of working with displaced people in Sri Lanka in a complex, high-security environment.

Irene will take over from the outgoing Executive Director, Sally Thompson, who has been with TBC for over 30 years and has led the organisation since 2013. This has been a period of immense change. Sally has steered TBC through a highly unpredictable period of transition, establishing a presence in Myanmar, supporting recovery in communities of potential refugee return, preparing refugees in Thailand for a future beyond the camps, to a full cycle back to emergency response in both Myanmar and Thailand. Throughout this period, her commitment has been with local partners to support their desires to meet the needs of their communities, both as refugees in Thailand and conflict-affected communities in southeastern Myanmar, whilst continuing to strengthen relationships with Royal Thai Government, UNHCR, and donor governments. Throughout, TBC has remained central to coordination of services to refugees in Thailand through CCSDPT, and committed to information dissemination through coordination bodies in Myanmar and extensive networking and advocacy.

"Sally's incomparable leadership has been a core element of TBC's continued vitality and ability to serve, and we thank her for her extraordinary commitment to the organization and to Myanmar's conflict-affected peoples," affirmed James Thomson, Chair of TBC's Board of Directors. He welcomed her successor, stating, "Irene brings a wealth of experience and relationships, and a nuanced understanding of Myanmar's complex political landscape. We look forward to seeing how her talents and energy will infuse and strengthen TBC's efforts to address protracted displacement in a complex emergency, particularly at this critical juncture."