

# **43<sup>rd</sup> Shared Awareness Meeting**



**Maritime Security (MARSEC) Situation  
in IFC's Area of Interest (AOI):**

**LT Muhammad Danial Bin Matyussof  
Brunei International Liaison Officer, IFC**



# Scope of Presentation

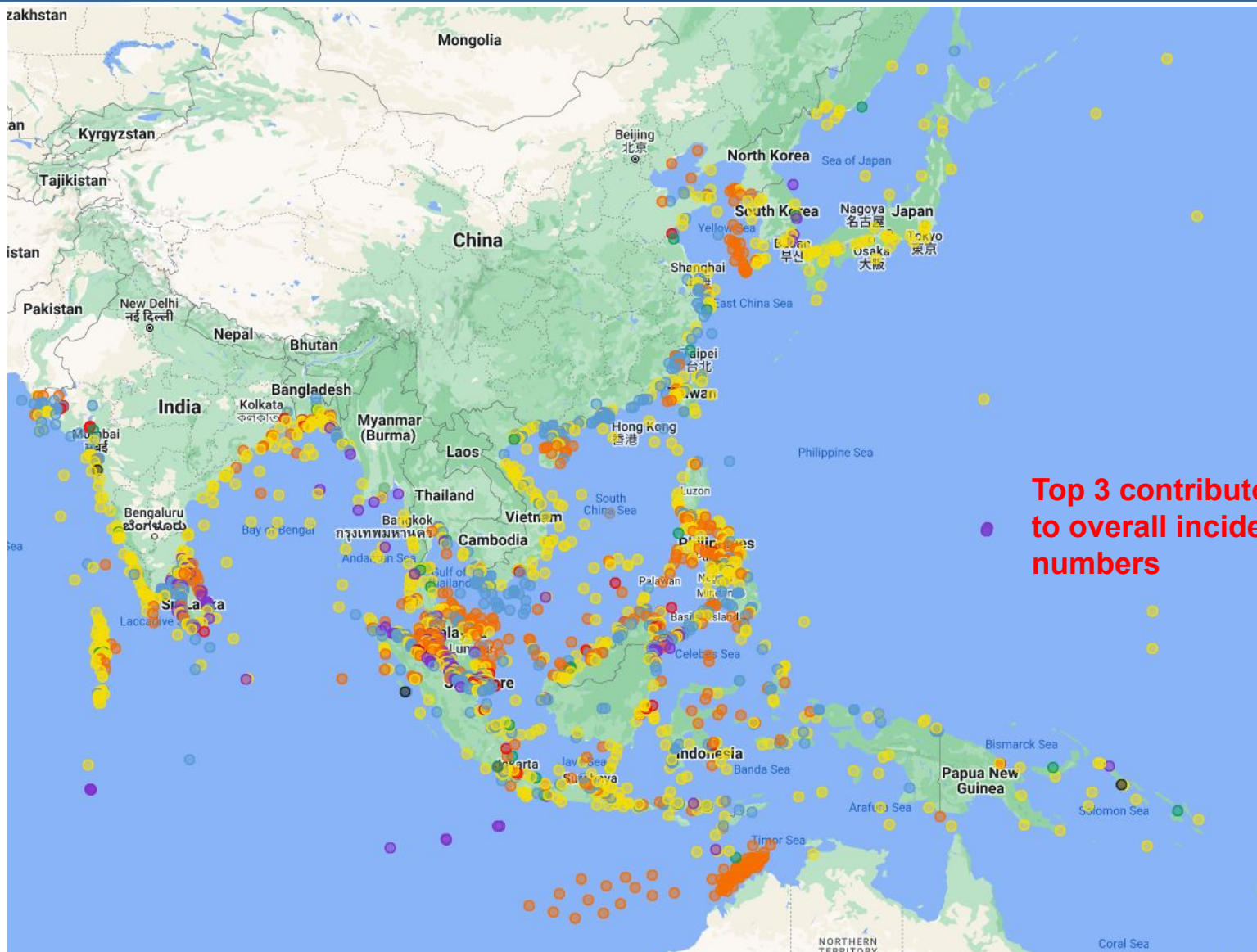
1. Theft, Robbery And Piracy at Sea (TRAPS)
2. Maritime Terrorism (MT)
3. Maritime Incident (MI)
4. Illegal, Unregulated, and Unreported Fishing (IUUF)
5. Contraband Smuggling (CS)
6. Irregular Human Migration (IHM)
7. Environmental Security (ENVSEC)
8. Cyber Security (CYBSEC)







# Overview of MARSEC Incidents in 2022



Top 3 contributors  
to overall incident  
numbers

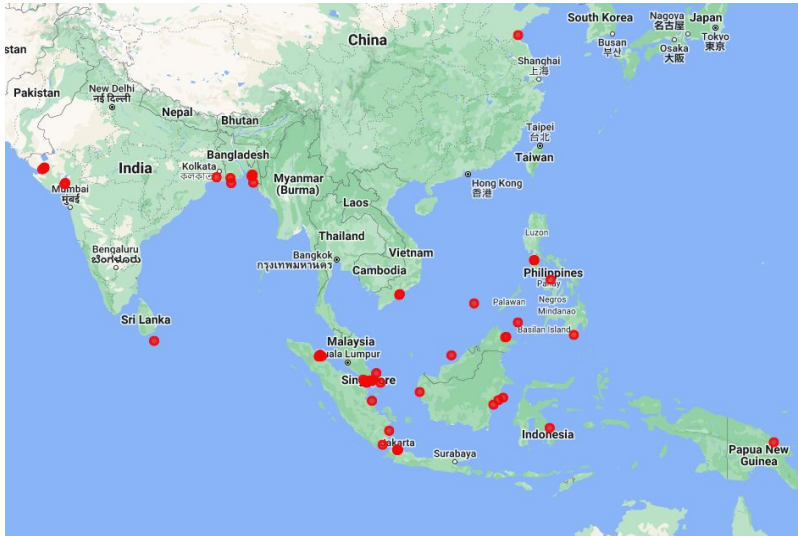
2022	Compared to 2021	
104	↑ +13%	Theft, Robbery & Piracy at Sea
0	↓ -1	Maritime Terrorism
1,186	↑ +8%	Maritime Incidents
559	↑ +54%	Illegal, Unregulated, Unreported Fishing
823	↑ +47%	Contraband Smuggling
253	↑ +172%	Irregular Human Migration
32	↓ -24%	Environmental Security
3	↑ +3	Cyber Security
2,960		



# Theft, Robbery And Piracy at Sea (TRAPS)

Number of TRAPS incidents in 2022: 104

**+13% vs 2021**  
92 incidents in 2021



- Bulk Carrier was the most boarded vessel type in the IFC's AOI
- 26% of the total reported incidents in IFC's AOI involved weapons such as knives, firearms, and machetes. Firearms were reportedly involved in 5 incidents occurring in waters off Bangladesh, Indonesia, Philippines, and the South China Sea.

Type of vessels targeted

1

38 Bulk Carriers

2

26 Tankers

3

19 Tugs and Barges

4

7 Fishing Vessels

5

14 Others





# Theft, Robbery And Piracy at Sea (TRAPS)

## Key Areas of Concern



### Singapore Strait: 55 Incidents

1

- More incidents recorded in 2022 than 2021 (49) and 2020 (37)
- Majority of the incidents occurred in the Phillip Channel, and North of Bintan and Batam islands, often during periods of darkness
- Bulk Carriers, Tugs & Barges and Tankers were the most frequent targets

### Chittagong Port/ Chattogram Area: 6 Incidents

2

- More incidents recorded in 2022 than 2021 (0) and 2020 (2)
- Mainly occurred during the period of darkness, and at the anchorage
- Most vessels involved are Bulk Carriers and Tankers

### Belawan Anchorage Area: 5 Incidents

3

- Relatively stable number of incidents as compared to previous years
- Most vessels involved are Bulk Carriers and Tankers



# Theft, Robbery And Piracy at Sea (TRAPS)

## Modus Operandi: Generally similar to previous years

1

### Singapore Strait:

- Perpetrators were observed to conduct opportunistic attacks on slow moving vessels (speeds of 7 to 12 knots) with low to medium freeboard of less than 7m, and usually operate in small boats with 4-6 pax and tend to avoid confrontation when sighted by crew
- Observed an increase in Tugs and Barges incidents (14); 50% increase from 2021 (7)
- Observed an increase in incidents in the Phillip Channel near the end of 2022, with 14 incidents occurring in the months of Oct to Dec



Picture of a typical wooden boat used by perpetrators in Singapore Strait

2

### Chittagong Port/ Chattogram Area and Belawan Anchorage Area:

- Activities were usually conducted in small boats carrying 2-4 pax, and the perpetrators avoided confrontation
- In most of the cases, the incidents took place during period of darkness



# Maritime Terrorism (MT)

Number of MT incidents in 2022: 0

↓ -1 vs 2021  
1 incident in 2021

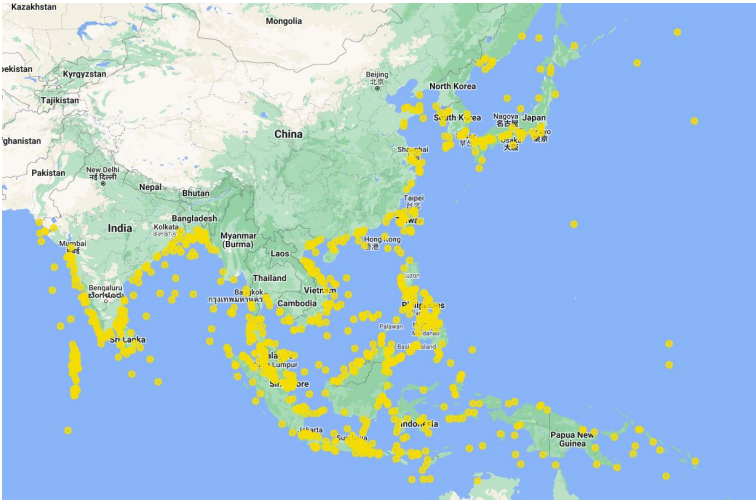
- No Maritime Terrorism (MT) incident was recorded in 2022. It is the lowest as compared to 2021 (1) and 2020 (5).
- The Trilateral Cooperation Arrangement by Indonesia, Malaysia and Philippines is likely to have an effect; conducting joint patrols in their respective areas in conjunction with the efforts from the national security agencies.
- While **NO** MT incidents was reported in 2022, all countries and the maritime community should remain vigilant.



# Maritime Incidents (MI)

Number of MI incidents in 2022: 1,186

**↑ +8% vs 2021**  
1,102 incidents in 2021



- Majority of incidents involved small fishing vessels, and these incidents also accounted for the majority of the dead and missing individuals recorded
- The number of incidents involving fishing vessels is a trend that has continued from 2021

## Type of incidents

1 30% Sunk/ Capsized

2 12% Adrift

3 9% Grounding

## Type of vessels involved

1 39% Fishing Vessels

2 22% Container/ Cargo/Bulk Carrier/ Tanker

3 13% Small Boats





# Maritime Incidents (MI)

Number of dead/missing in 2022: 1,304

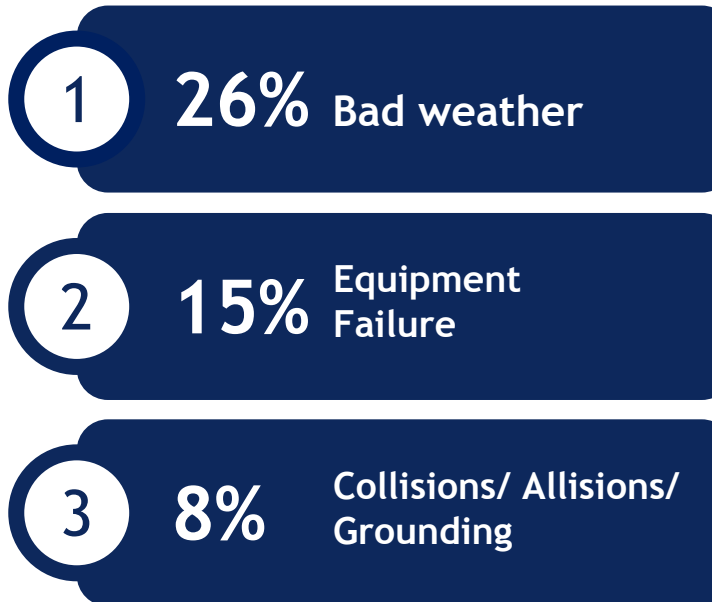
**+196% vs 2021**  
441 dead/missing in 2021



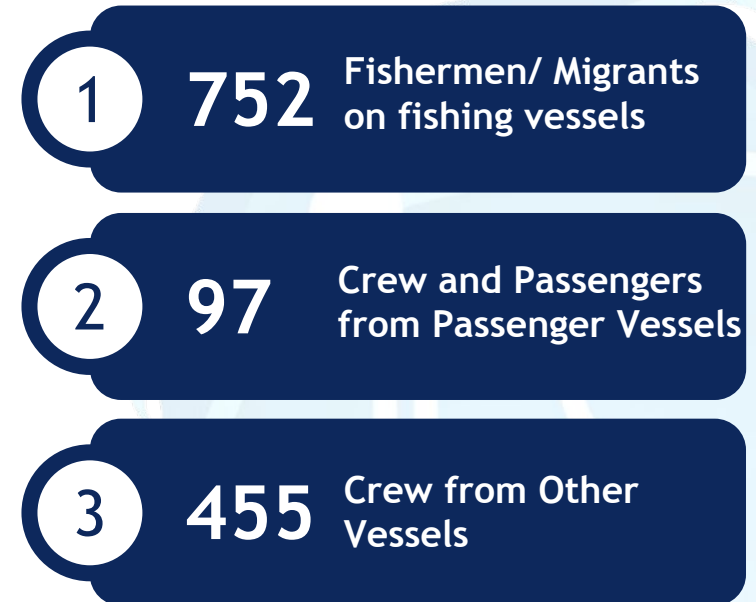
\* Higher cases in August particularly driven by a large storm in Bay of Bengal, with 396 dead/missing affecting 128 fishing vessels

- Main contributing factor for the high MI numbers is the effects of the monsoon season between Jul and Nov
- Based on incident trends, the IFC expects the number of MI in 2023 to increase as maritime activities increase due to further relaxation of COVID-related restrictions

## Cause of incidents



## No. of Dead/Missing

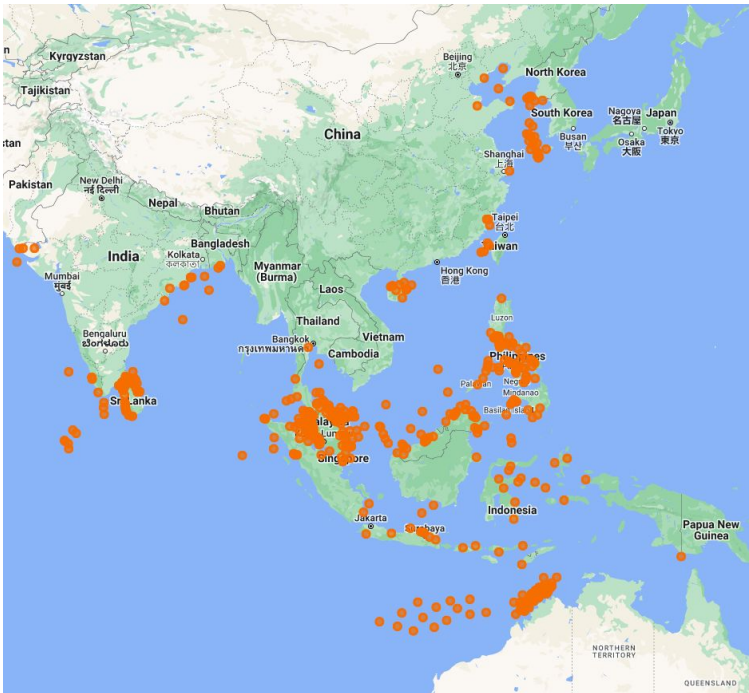




# Illegal, Unregulated, and Unreported Fishing (IUUF)

Number of IUUF incidents in 2022: 559

**↑ +54% vs 2021**  
364 incidents in 2021



- IFC recorded a total of 559 IUUF incidents in the IFC's AOI, which was 54% and 19% higher than 2021 (364 incidents) and 2020 (469 incidents) respectively
- The month of June accounted for the highest number of incidents (65 incidents). Consistent with the past two years, the month of December had the lowest incident numbers recorded at 24.





# Illegal, Unregulated, and Unreported Fishing (IUUF)

- Higher overall IUUF incidents attributed to:
  - Resumption on fishing activities in regional countries
  - Increase in OPCEN reporting in areas such as Northern Australia
  - Stepped-up enforcement efforts by authorities from countries like Malaysia, Thailand, India & Sri Lanka
- IFC assesses number of IUUF incidents in 2023 will likely continue to remain high, and possibly even increase



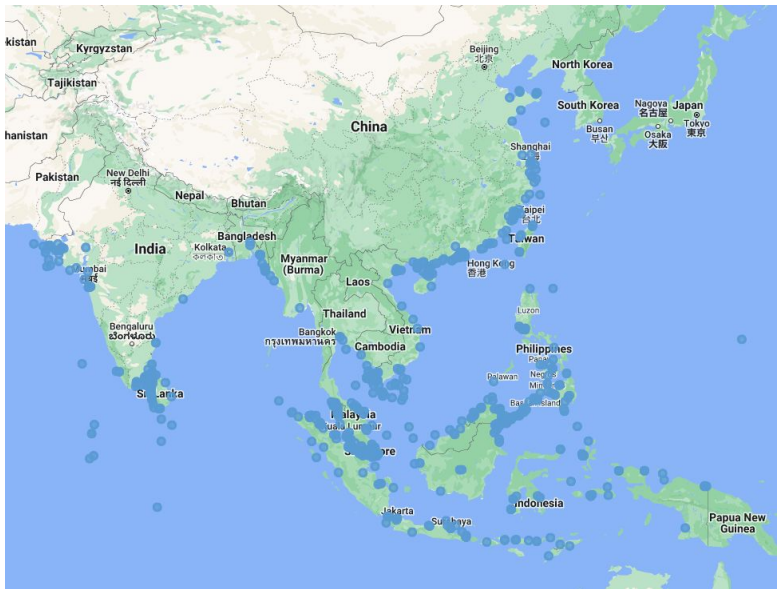




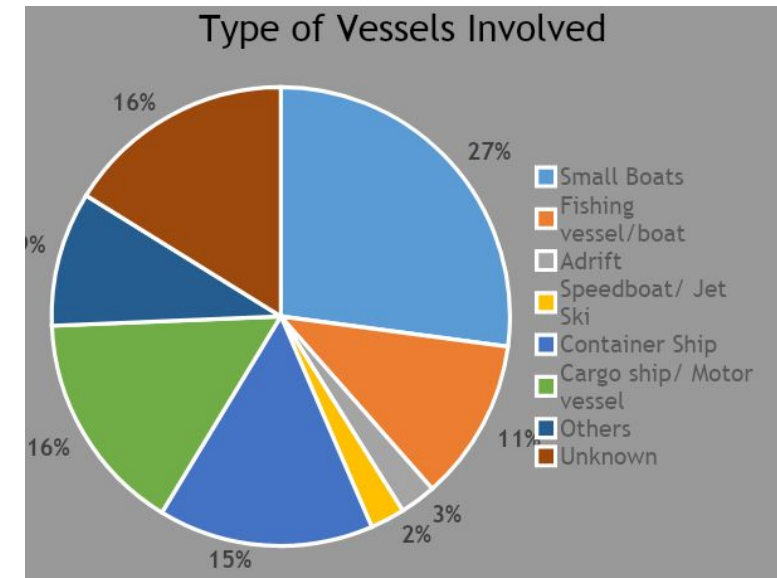
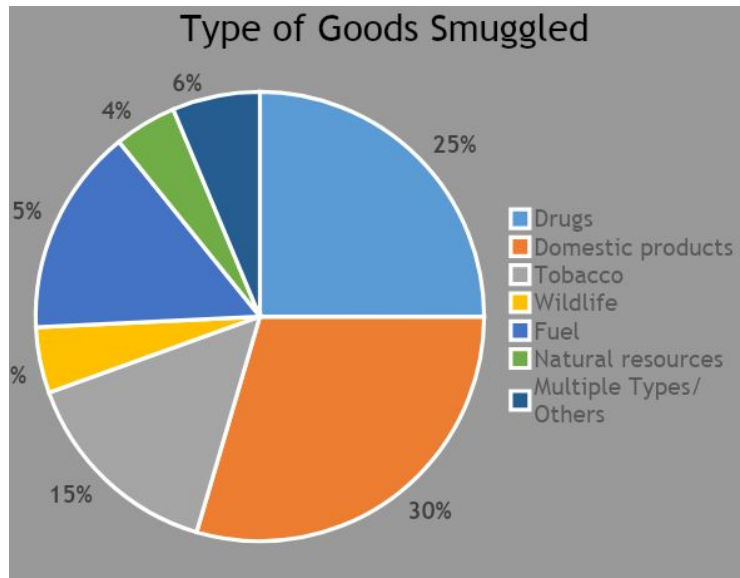
# Contraband Smuggling (CS)

Number of CS incidents in 2022: 823

**+47% vs 2021**  
561 incidents in 2021



- The IFC recorded an increase in CS incidents
- Drugs and Domestic Product Smuggling incidents contributed to the majority of CS incidents





# Contraband Smuggling (CS)

## South East Asia

- 1 • Most of the smuggling came from three categories: Domestic Products, Drugs (mainly methamphetamine), and Fuel

## South Asia

- 2 • Drug smuggling in India, Sri Lanka, and Bangladesh was driven by the flow of Afghanistan heroin, smuggled by boat from the Persian Gulf, and also Meth (including yaba) coming from both Afghanistan and the Golden Triangle

## North East Asia

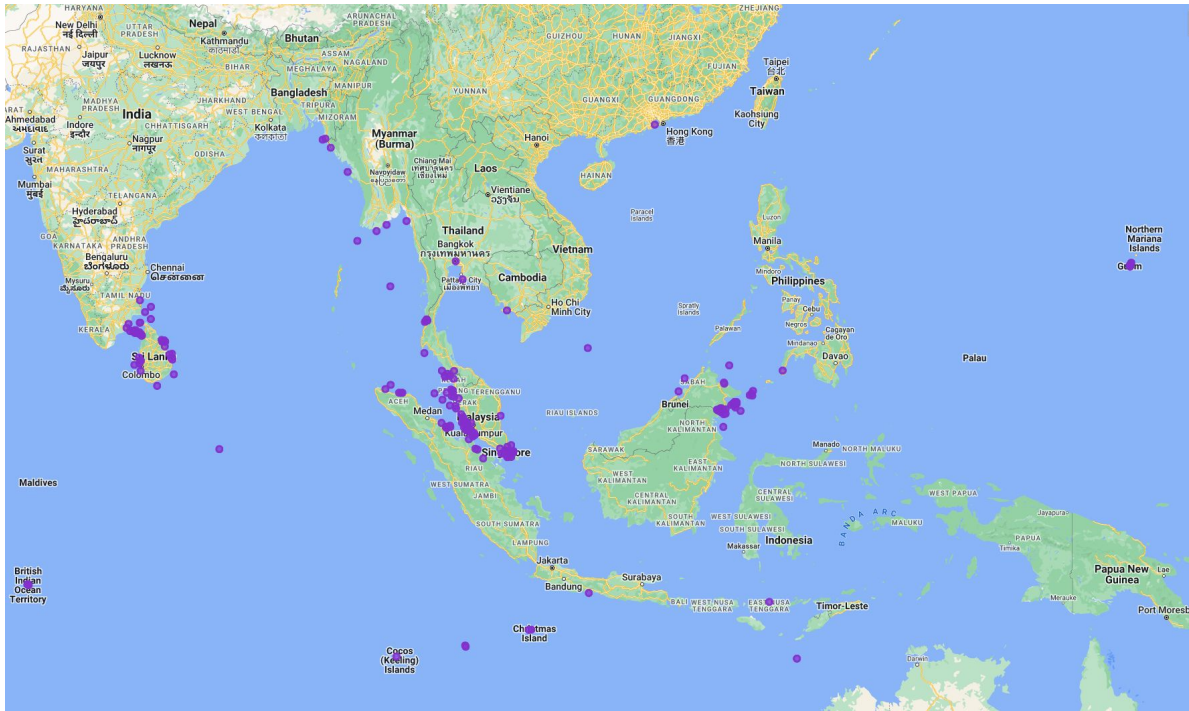
- 3 • Smuggling of domestic products in China, Hong Kong and Macau, particularly frozen meat to avoid tariffs and heavy Covid-19 restrictions in China



# Irregular Human Migration (IHM)

Number of IHM incidents in 2022: 253

**+172% vs 2021**  
93 incidents recorded in 2021



- The IFC recorded 253 IHM incidents in 2022, more than in 2020 (87) and 2021 (93)
- 6,108 people were deemed to have moved across maritime borders illegally, primarily through Human Smuggling
- This increase is due to the addition of new incidents originating from Sri Lanka, along with similar levels of activity recorded around Indonesia and Malaysia

## Type of incidents







# Irregular Human Migration (IHM)

## Main IHM Routes



### Sri Lanka

- 1
  - Sri Lankan migrants accounted for the bulk of migrants within IFC AOI
  - Destinations varied from India to Australia, Canada, and the Reunion Islands

### Indonesia

- 2
  - Indonesian migrants attempting to transit to Malaysia accounted for 28% of IHM incidents
  - Most incidents involved small groups (4-6 people) of migrants, facilitated by human smugglers, transiting during period of darkness in small boats

### Myanmar/Bangladesh

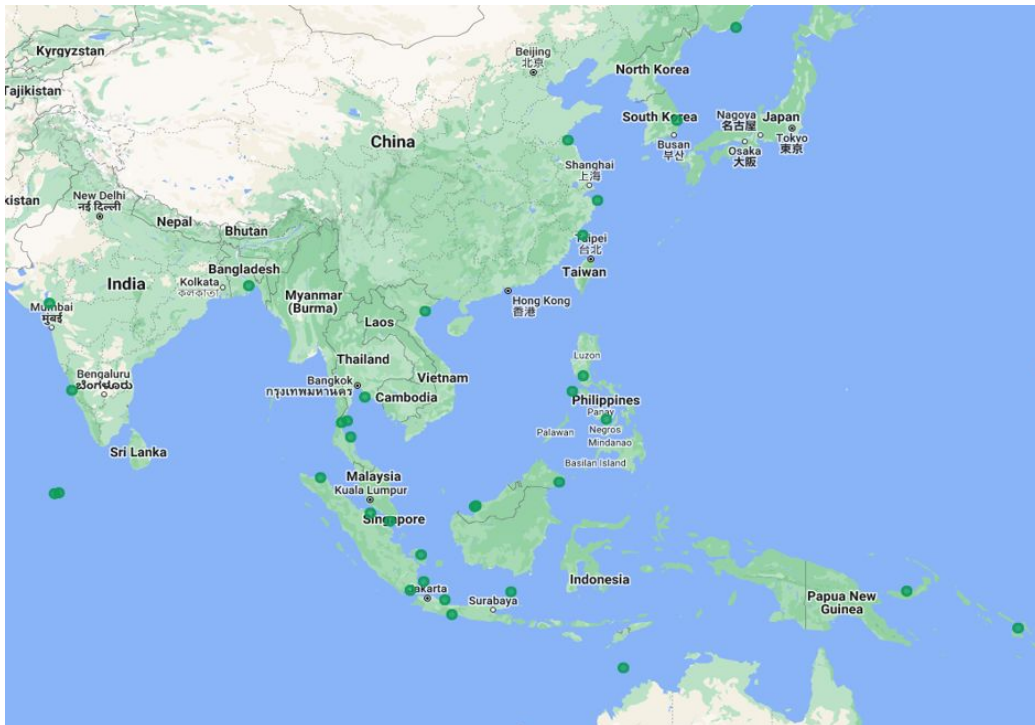
- 3
  - 19 incidents of Human Smuggling involved a total of 1,638 Rohingya migrants, and an additional 12 incidents involving 158 Myanmar Nationals were recorded in 2022



# Environmental Security (ENVSEC)

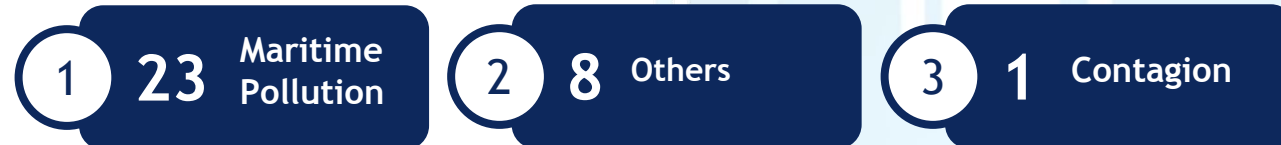
Number of ENVSEC incidents in 2022: 32

↓ -24% vs 2021  
42 incidents recorded in 2021



- The decrease in incidents was due to the lower number of Covid-19 infections reported at sea
- Number of ENVSEC incidents is expected to increase in 2023 as the industry improves its reporting of ENVSEC incidents

## Type of incidents

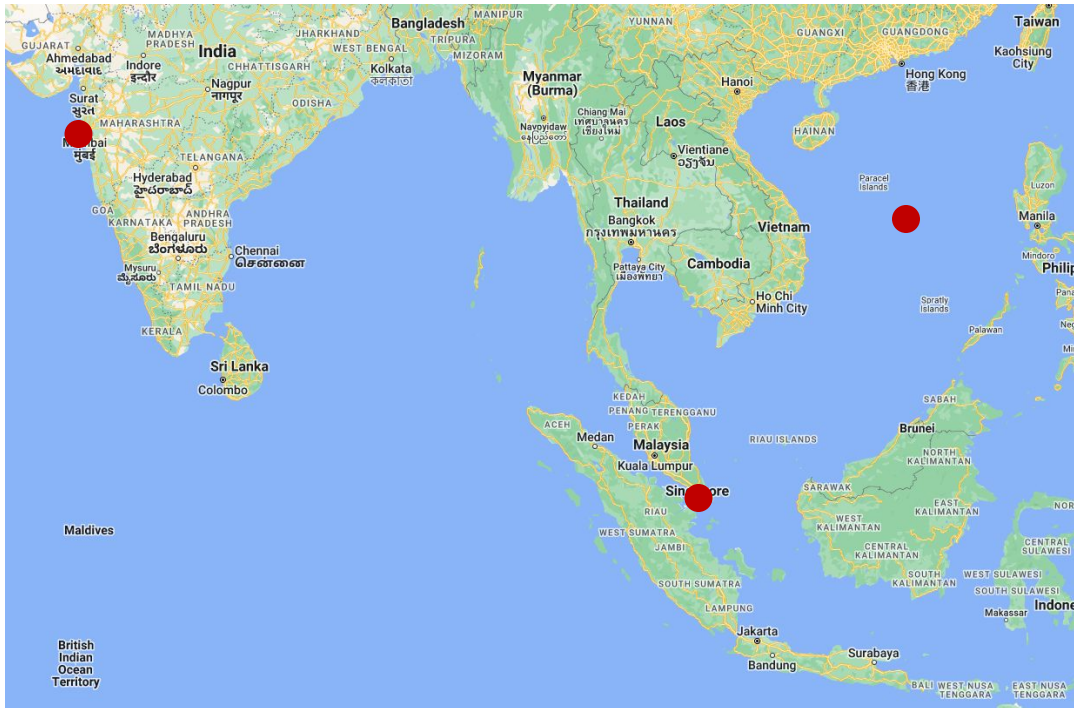




# Cyber Security (CYBSEC)

Number of CYBSEC incidents in 2022: 3

**↑ +3 vs 2021**  
No incidents recorded in 2021



- 3 incidents were reported in 2022; the most significant incident was at Jawaharlal Nehru Port Container Terminal in India
- IFC expects CYBSEC cases to increase in 2023; encourages maritime stakeholders to continue reporting cyber incidents to the relevant authorities
- IFC recommends companies to implement cyber security facility protection plans





# Collaboration with MARSEC Agencies for Operational Successes

**Nov 22 – Bulk Carrier rescued 7 crew from sinking vessel**



**Nov 22 – Indonesian authorities successful arrested 7 perpetrators in a sea theft incident**



**Nov 22 – Car Carrier successfully rescued 303 migrants**



**Oct 22 – Tanker rescued 9 crew from floating raft**



**Sep 22 – Medical emergency assistance request onboard container vessel**







# INFORMATION FUSION CENTRE



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HEAD IFC



LTC DANIEL NG  
DEPUTY HEAD IFC

Safe and Secure Seas for All

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MAJ SURENDRAN  
HEAD EXERCISES AND  
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MES SETH ANG  
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MES EDWARD CHO  
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MES MARTIN TAN  
INFO-SHARING  
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LTA TED SHEN RUI  
SHAUN  
STAFF OFFICER



CPT JOSIAH HOW  
STAFF OFFICER



MR TAN KIAN HOO  
MARITIME LIASION  
OFFICER, SHIPPING  
ENGAGEMENT



MS JOAN CHUNG  
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR  
SHIPPING ENGAGEMENT



MS DAPHNE CHAN  
ILO MANAGEMENT AND  
ADMINISTRATIVE  
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LCP DOUGLAS LEONG  
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Website: <https://www.ifc.org.sg>

Email: [information\\_fusion\\_centre@defence.gov.sg](mailto:information_fusion_centre@defence.gov.sg)

Tel: +65 9626 8965 (Hotline)

+65 6594 5728 (Office)