

IFC Regional Maritime Security Situation Brief

Irregular Human Migration & Maritime Incidents

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Irregular Human Migration (IHM) Definitions

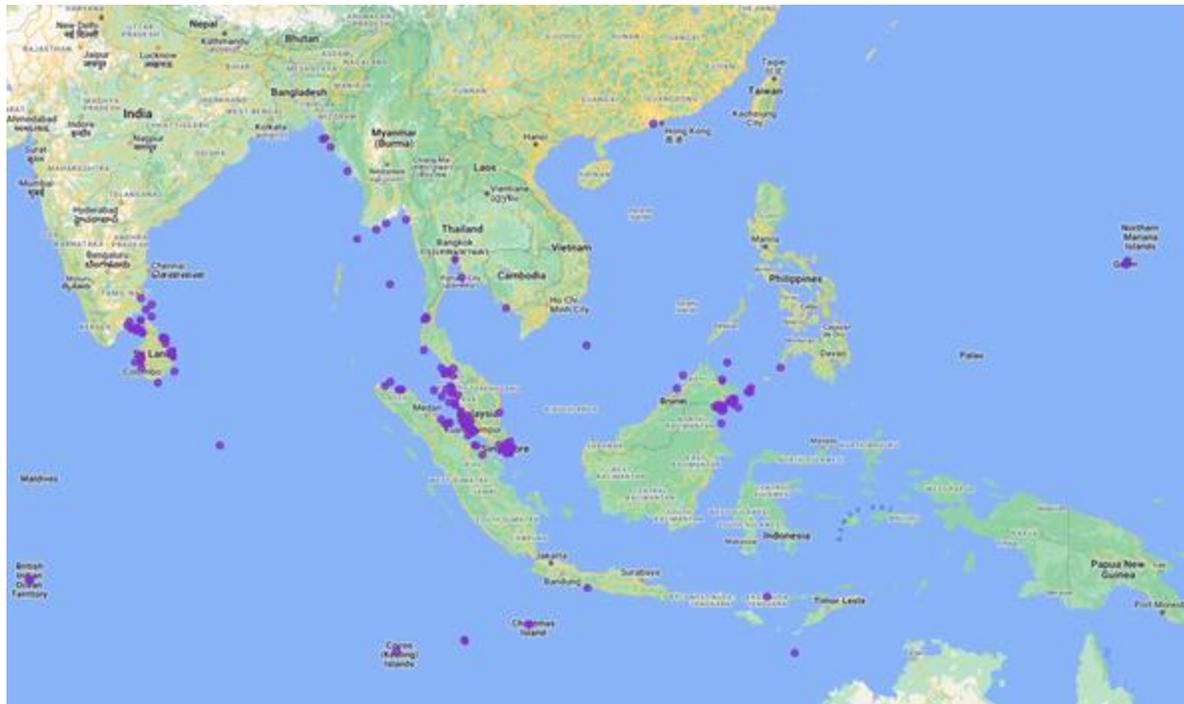
IHM Classifications	Explanatory Notes
Human Smuggling	When persons are implicit and wilful in their irregular/illegal migration (Based on economic; filial reasons; or migration associated with the UN definitions for Refugees , Asylum Seekers , Displaced persons and Stateless persons)
Human Trafficking	When persons are coerced and moved/migrated against their will (forced or deceived into doing so)
Human Exploitation	When persons are used, or currently working in the maritime sector, as a resource with no regard for their well-being (within the maritime domain) e.g. Slavery. Migration may not be an element in this classification
Illegal Documentation	When a person(s) are discovered working in a maritime industry without the necessary documentation, or authority to be working. The person(s) are not reported to being exploited but just working illegally.



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 baseline activity recorded around Indonesia and Malaysia

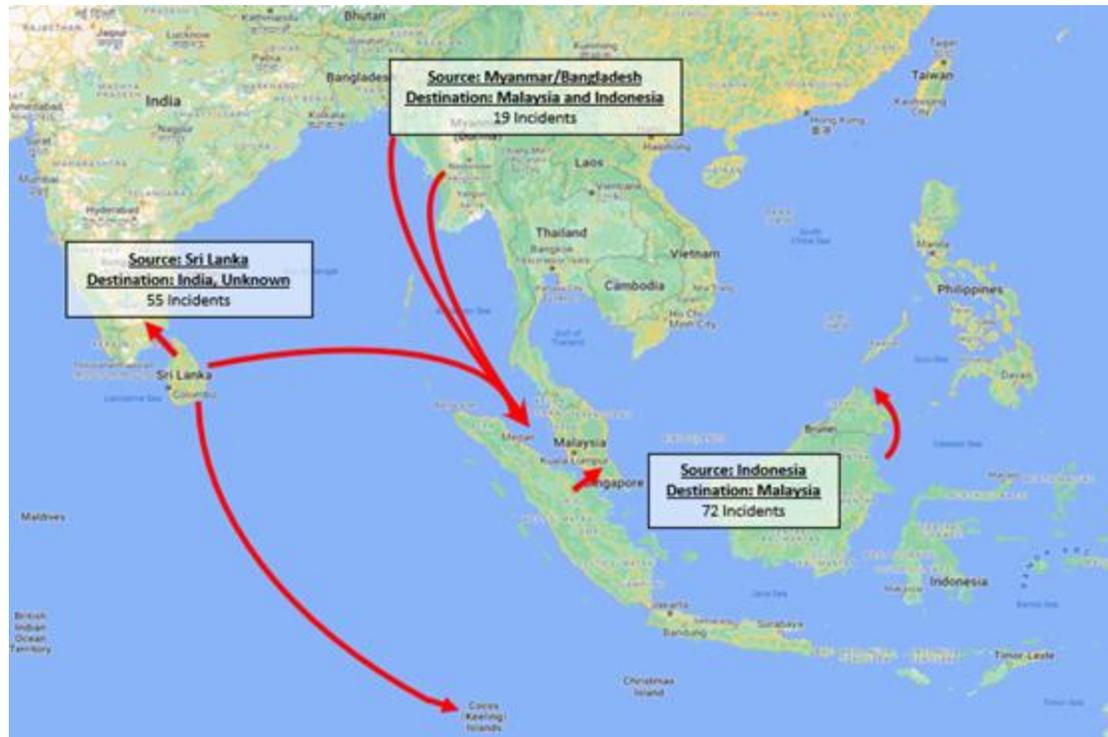
Type of incidents





Irregular Human Migration (IHM)

Main IHM Routes



1

Sri Lanka

- Sri Lankan migrants accounted for the bulk of IHM Incidents within IFC AOI
- Eventual destinations varied from India to Australia, Canada, and the Reunion Islands

2

Indonesia

- 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

3

Myanmar/Bangladesh

- 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



Maritime Incidents (MI)

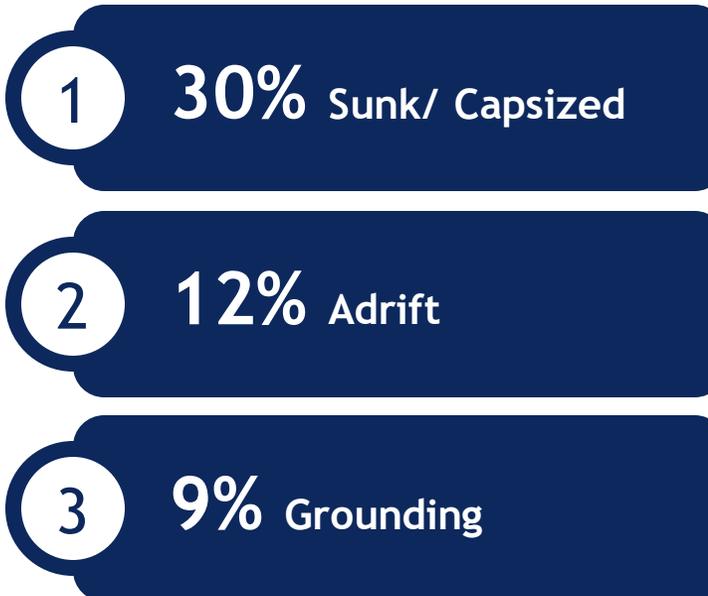
Number of MI incidents in 2022: 1,186

↑ +8% vs 2021
1,102 incidents in 2021

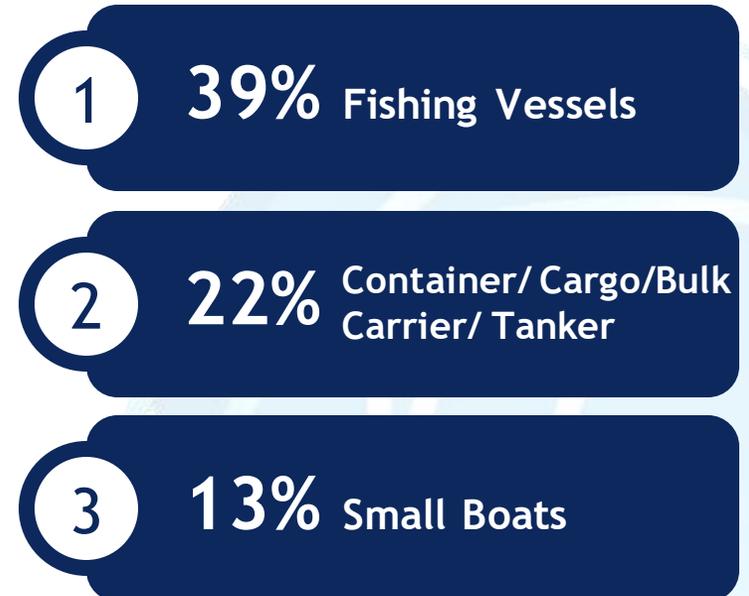


- Majority of incidents involved small fishing vessels, and high number of dead and missing individuals recorded
- Incidents involving fishing vessels is a trend that has continued from 2021

Type of incidents



Type of vessels involved





Maritime Incidents (MI)

Number of dead/missing in 2022: 1,304

+196% vs 2021
441 dead/missing in 2021



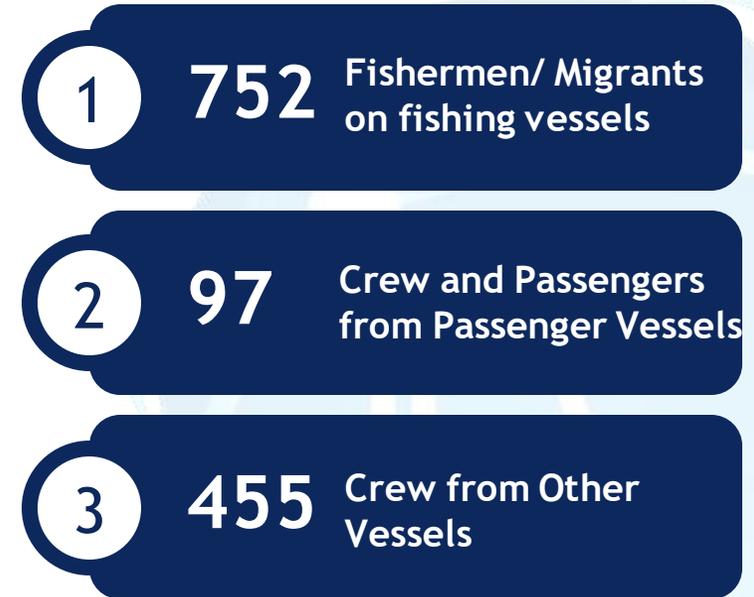
* Higher cases in August particularly driven by a large storm in Bay of Bengal, affecting 128 fishing vessels, with 396 dead/missing

- Main contributing factor for the high MI numbers are from the effects bad weather during the monsoon season between Jul and Nov
- Based on trend, 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





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HEAD IFC



LTC DANIEL NG
DEPUTY HEAD IFC

Safe and Secure Seas for All

International Liaison Officers



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GUARD ILO



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SAN JOAQUIN
PHILIPPINES ILO



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COAST GUARD ILO



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CAPT PHUNG
TRUNG DONG
VIETNAM ILO

RSN Team



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HEAD OPERATIONS



MAJ SURENDRAN
HEAD EXERCISES AND
ENGAGEMENT



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INFO-SHARING
EXPERT



ME3 SETH ANG
INFO-SHARING
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ME3 EDWARD CHO
INFO-SHARING
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