



MONTHLY MARITIME SECURITY UPDATE

AUG 2022

**Information Fusion Centre
Indian Ocean Region**

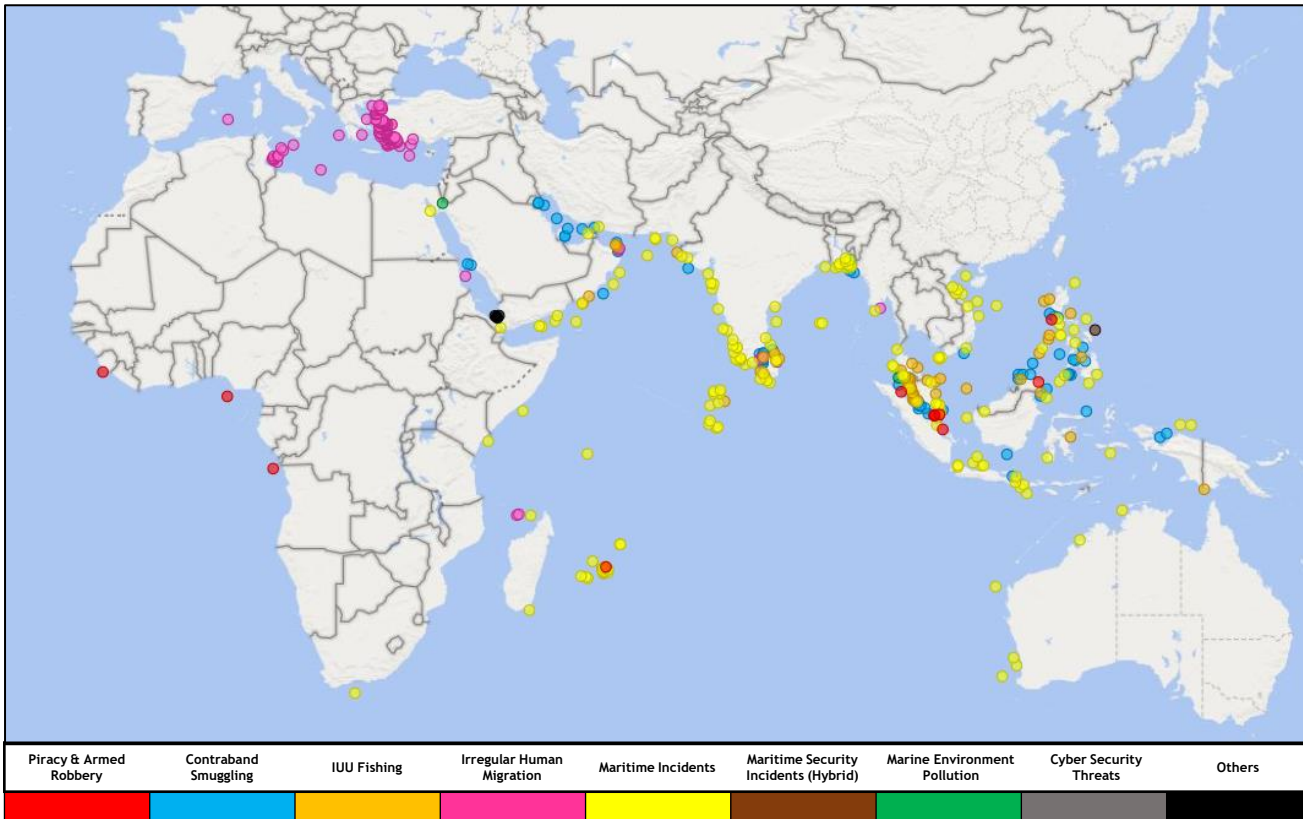


Collaboration for Safety and Security

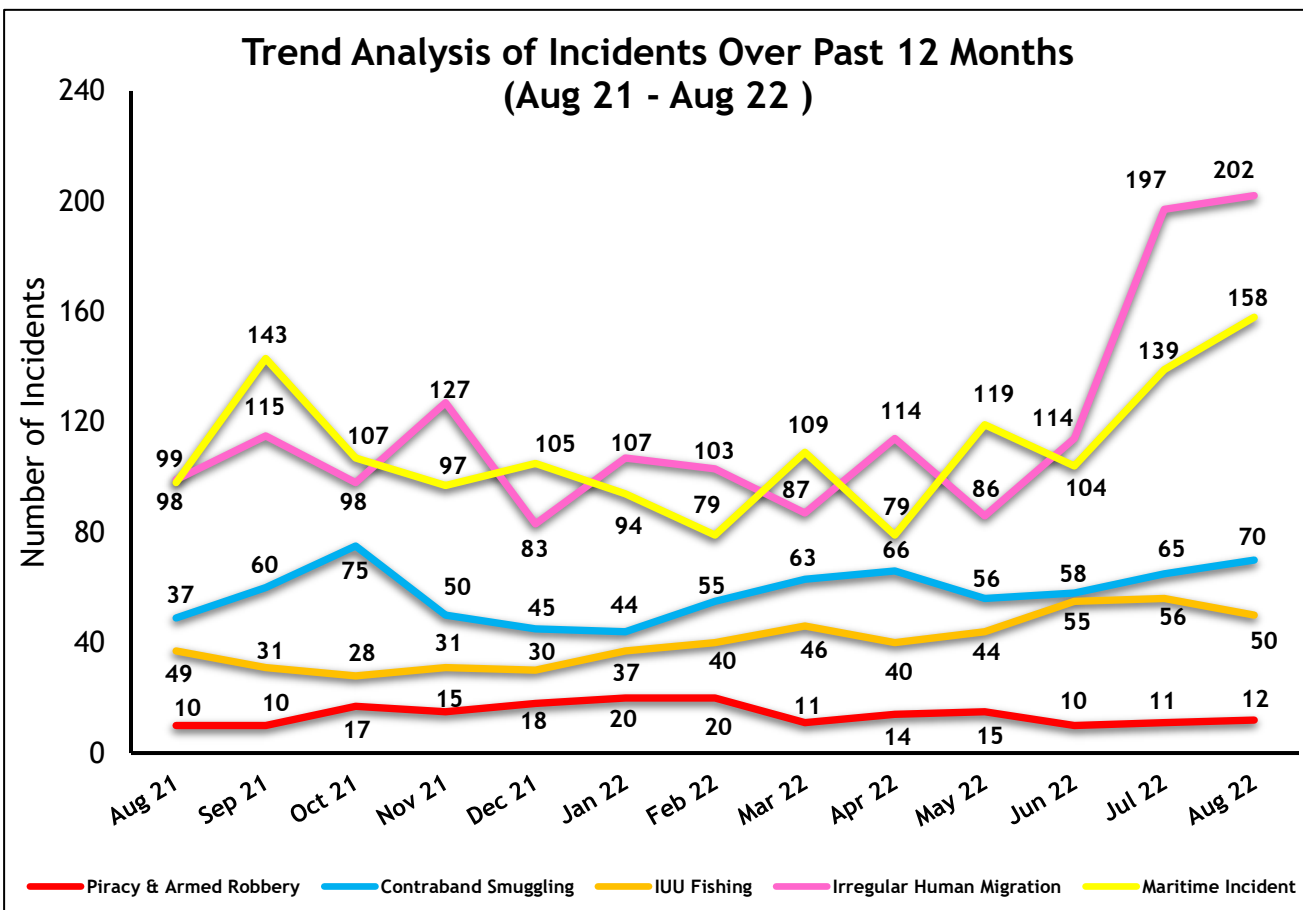
Disclaimer

Information collated in the IFC-IOR's reports have been derived from various internal and external linkages such as partner nations, other maritime stakeholders, agencies and open sources. The report aims to undertake analysis of incidents by establishing trends and anomalies to ensure safety and security of mariners and seafarers. While due care and effort has been taken to ensure veracity of data, due diligence may be exercised for subsequent usage of information contained therein. The positions of incidents depicted in some cases may be approximate or indicative. IFC-IOR requests and seeks assistance of all stakeholders to report incidents in the region to undertake accurate predictive and prescriptive analysis so as to build a comprehensive picture of existing threats in the maritime domain. The information contained in the report and the analysis thereon, is not reflective of the views of the Government of India or Indian Navy in any manner.

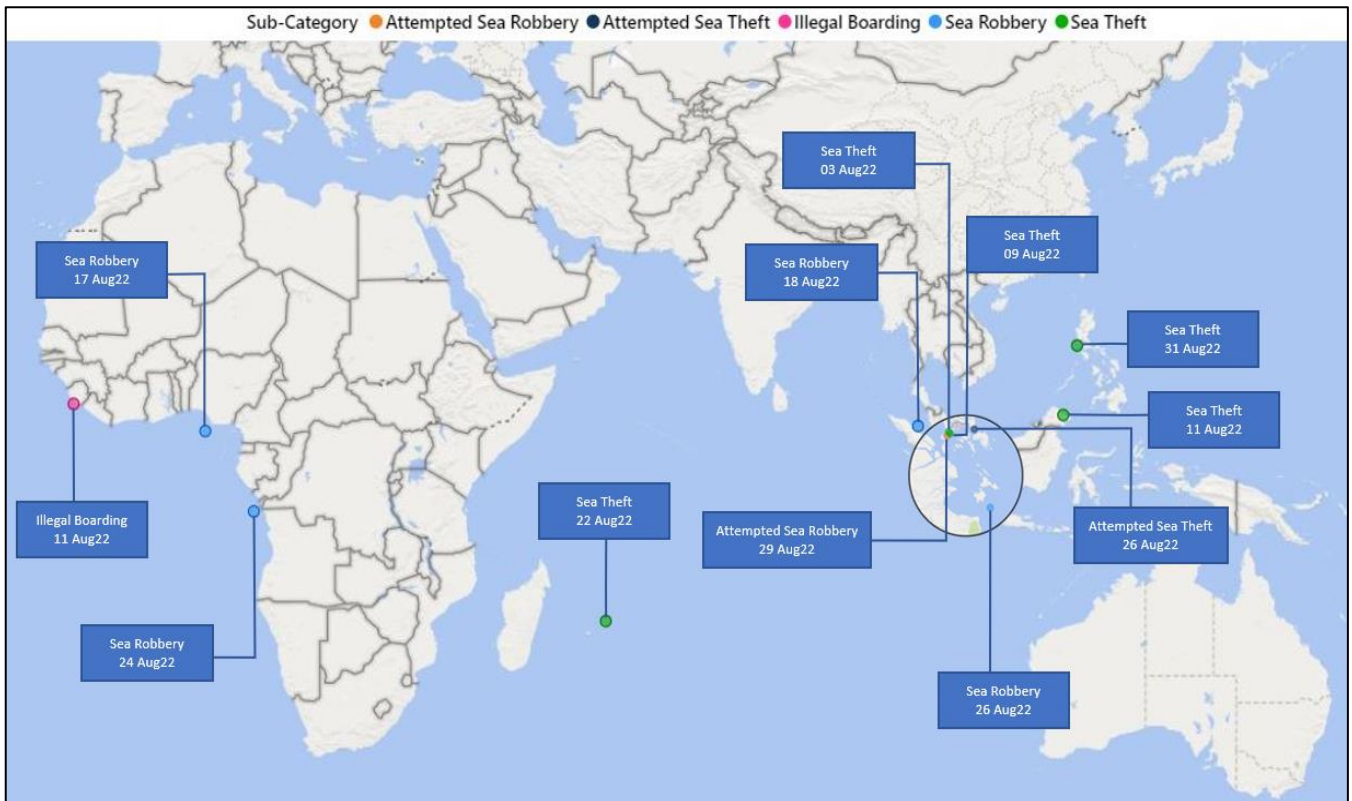
Overview



* GoG - Focus on only Piracy & Armed Robbery incidents; Mediterranean - Focus on only IHM incidents



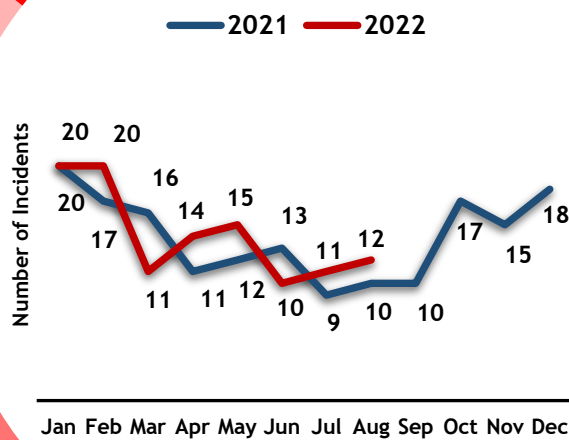
PIRACY AND ARMED ROBBERY



East Africa, 1

SE Asia, 8

Comparison of Incidents



Gulf Of Guinea, 3

NIGHT

DAY

09

03

12 piracy and armed robbery incidents (actual as well as attempted) were recorded by the Centre for the month of Aug 22. Majority of the incidents were recorded in Straits of Malacca and Singapore (SOMS), three incidents in Gulf of Guinea, two incidents in South China Sea and one incident each in Sulu Celebes Sea, Malacca Strait and Indian Ocean. This was a marginal increase in the number of incidents as compared to Jul 22 (11 incidents) and Aug 21 (10 incidents).

Incidents in SOMS - Two incidents each occurred in the Eastbound Lane of the Traffic Separation Scheme (TSS) and Precautionary area of the Traffic Separation Scheme (TSS) in the Singapore Strait. These comprised of two incidents of sea theft and one incident each of attempted sea theft and attempted sea robbery.

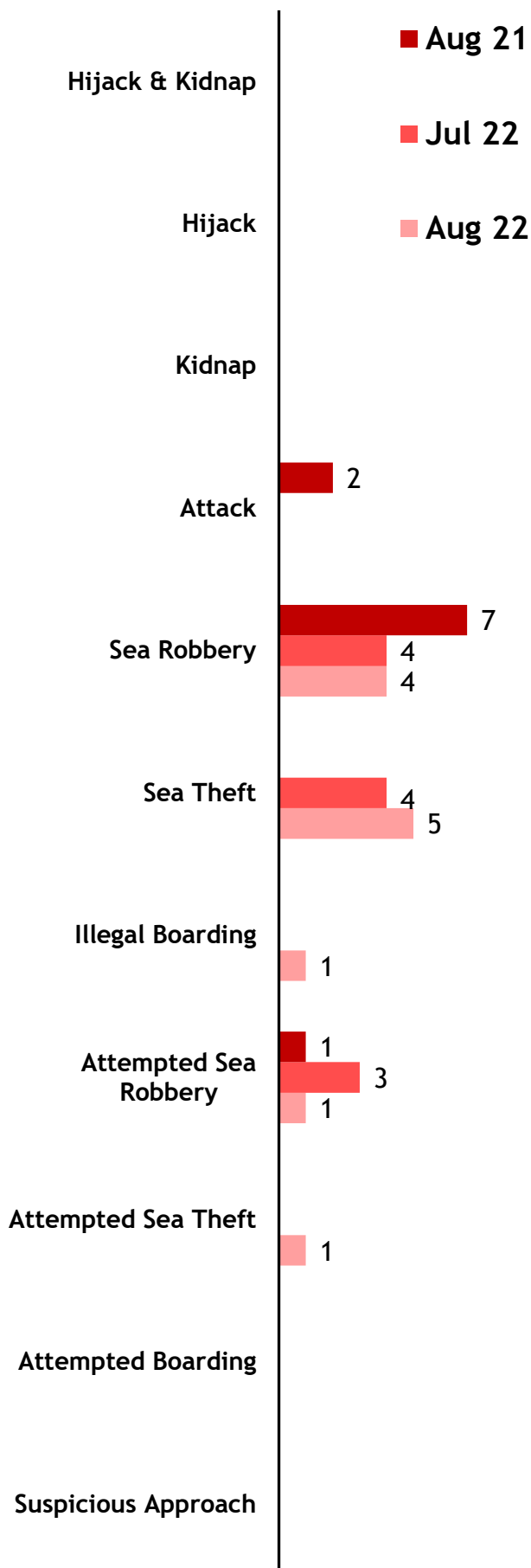
Incident in Gulf of Guinea - Two incidents of sea robbery (armed with rifles and bolt cutters in one incident each) and one incident of illegal boarding were recorded in GoG in Aug 22. A marginal increase in number of incidents was observed in the region as compared to Jul 22 (one incident) and Aug 21 (two incidents) .

Incidents in South China Sea - One incident of sea robbery (armed with sharp weapons) was recorded off Indonesia and one incident of sea theft was recorded off Philippines in Aug 22.

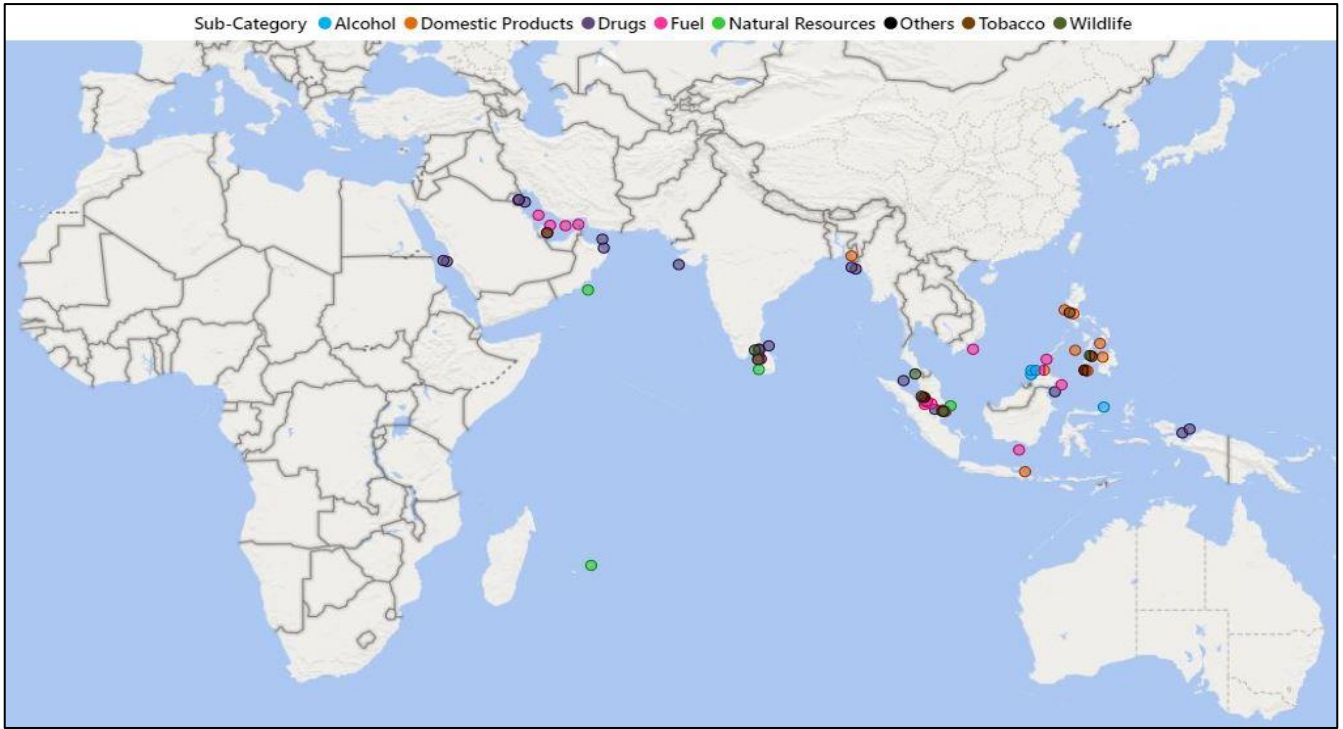
Incidents in Sulu Celebes Sea - One incident of sea theft was recorded off Malaysia in Aug 22.

Incident in Malacca Strait - One incident of sea robbery (armed with knives) was recorded off Indonesia in Aug 22.

Incident in Indian Ocean - One incident of sea theft was recorded off Mauritius in Aug

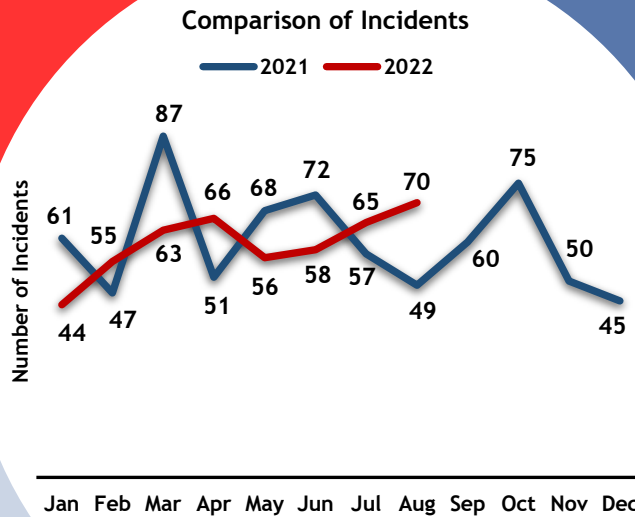


CONTRABAND SMUGGLING



Drugs, 21

Fuel, 15



Others, 1

Tobacco, 10

Natural Resources, 4

Alcohol, 5

Domestic Products, 8

Wildlife, 6

70 contraband smuggling incidents were recorded by the Centre in the month of Aug 22, an 8% increase from Jul 22 (65 incidents). Drug smuggling constituted 30% of the recorded incidents, followed by fuel smuggling and tobacco smuggling.

Drug Seizures - 21 drug seizure incidents were recorded in Aug 22, a 11% increase from Jul 22.

Fuel Smuggling - 15 incidents of fuel smuggling involving seizure of about 567,000 litres of fuel were recorded in Aug 22. These comprised of four incidents off Malaysia, three incidents off Iran, two incidents each off Philippines and Indonesia and one incident each off Vietnam, Sri Lanka, Singapore and Oman.

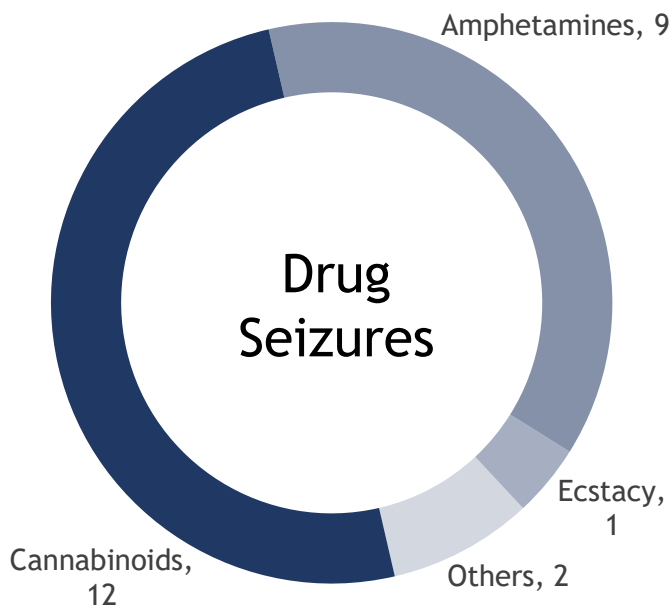
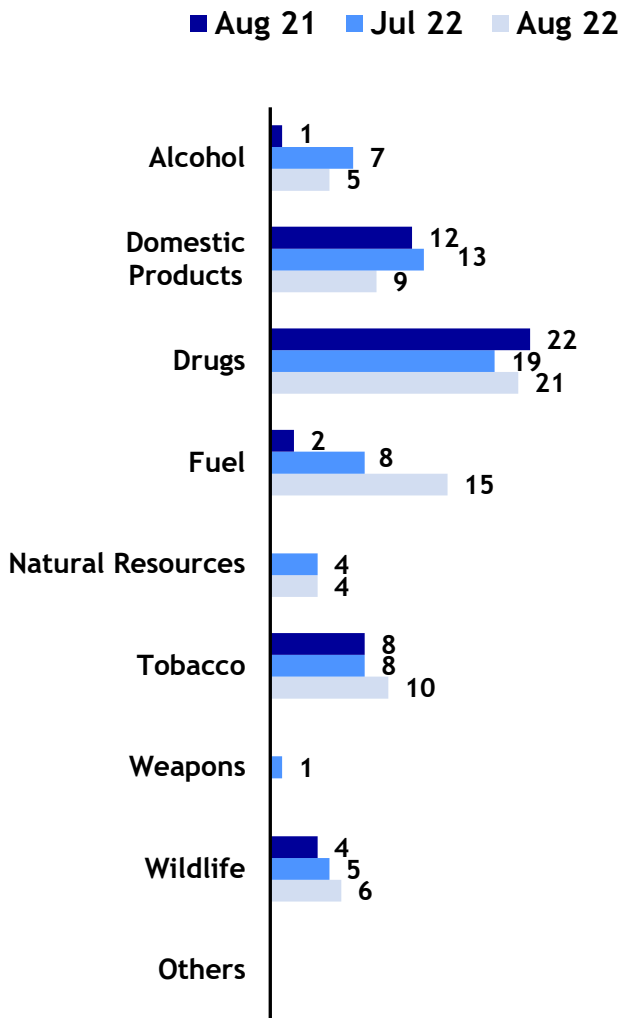
Tobacco Smuggling - 10 incidents of tobacco smuggling were recorded by the Centre in Aug 22, which comprised of seven incidents off Philippines, two incidents off Qatar and one incident off Malaysia.

Domestic Product Smuggling - Nine incidents of domestic product smuggling were recorded in Aug 22, which comprised five incidents off Philippines and one incident each off Singapore, Indonesia, Malaysia and Bangladesh.

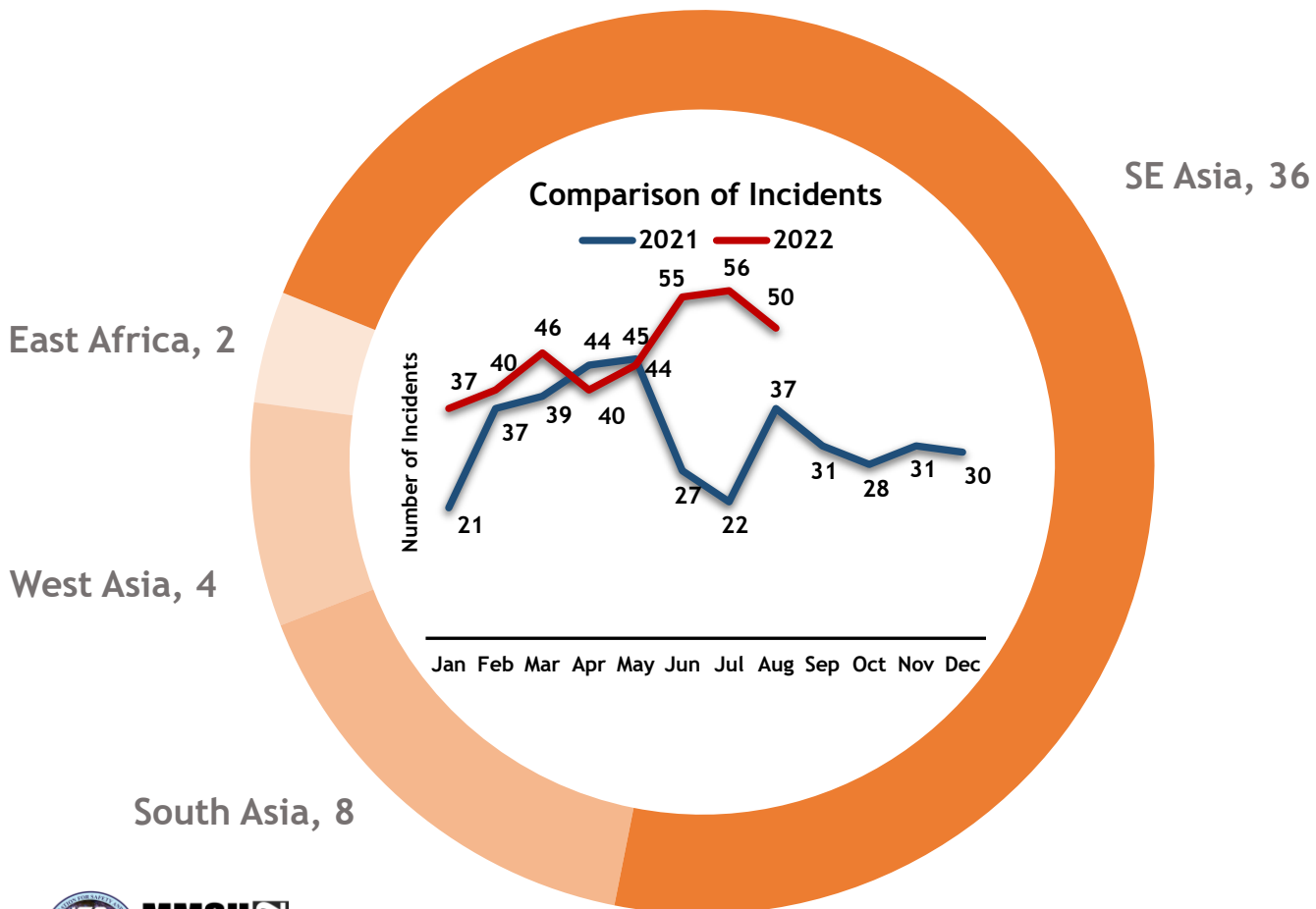
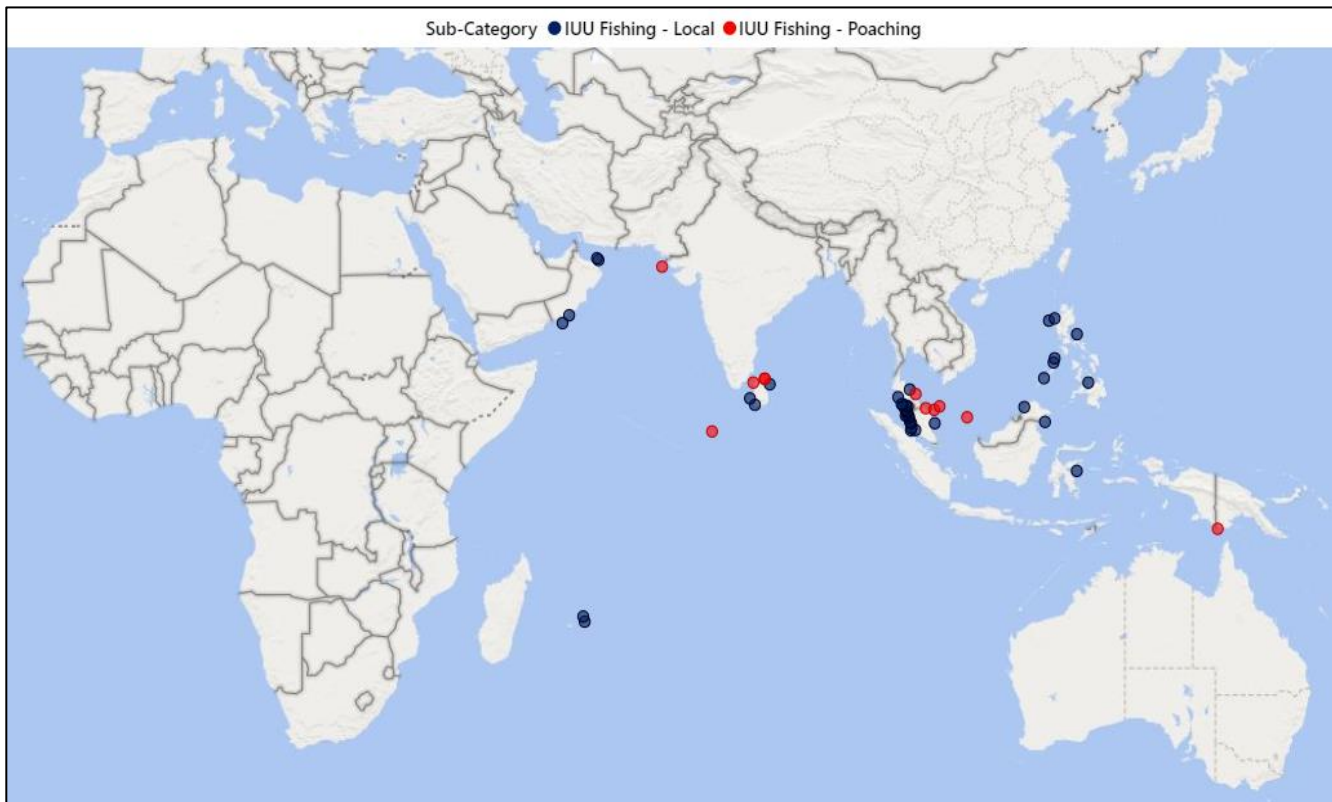
Wildlife Smuggling - Two incidents were recorded off Indonesia and one incident each off Philippines, India, Sri Lanka and Malaysia in Aug 22. The species/ products seized in these incidents were lobster seeds, assorted fish catch, stingray gills, corals, shrimp seeds, sea cucumber and tiger cowrie shells.

Alcohol Smuggling - Five incidents of alcohol smuggling were recorded by the Centre in Aug 22, which comprised of four incidents off Malaysia and one incident off Indonesia.

Natural Resource Smuggling - Four incidents of natural resource smuggling were recorded by the Centre in Aug 22, which comprised of one incident each off Sri Lanka, Mauritius, Oman and Indonesia.



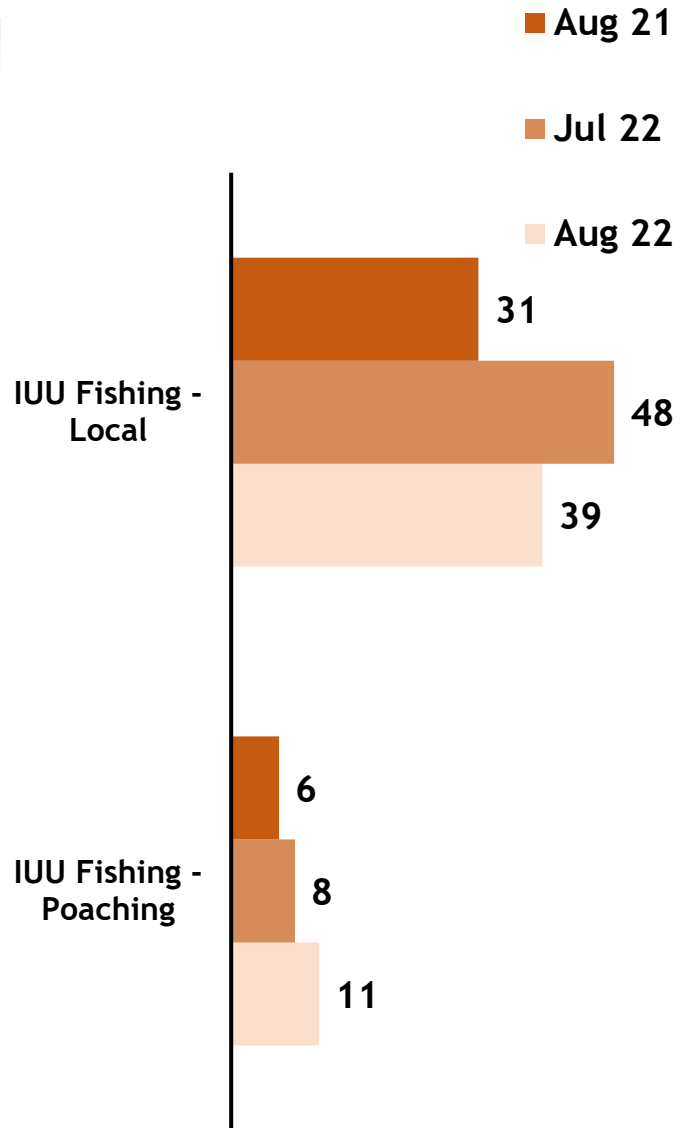
ILLEGAL UNREPORTED AND UNREGULATED (IUU) FISHING



50 IUU fishing incidents were recorded by the Centre for the month of Aug 22, a decrease of about 11% from Jul 22 (56 incidents). A 38% increase was observed in the number of poaching incidents (11) as compared to Jul 22 (08).

Local IUU Fishing - Out of 39 incidents of local IUU fishing, 20 incidents were reported off Malaysia, seven incidents off Philippines, four incidents off Oman, three incidents off Sri Lanka, two incidents each off Thailand and Mauritius and one incident off Indonesia. The arrests and subsequent legal actions by the local agencies were aimed to curb illegal fishing using banned nets, trawling, without valid documents and fishing inside protected areas. Some fishers were also apprehended for fishing banned/protected species.

Poaching - 11 incidents of Poaching by foreign fishing vessels were recorded. Apprehension of foreign fishers undertaking poaching in waters of another country were reported in Sri Lanka and Malaysia (three incidents each) and Papua New Guinea, Thailand, India, Maldives and Indonesia (one incident each).



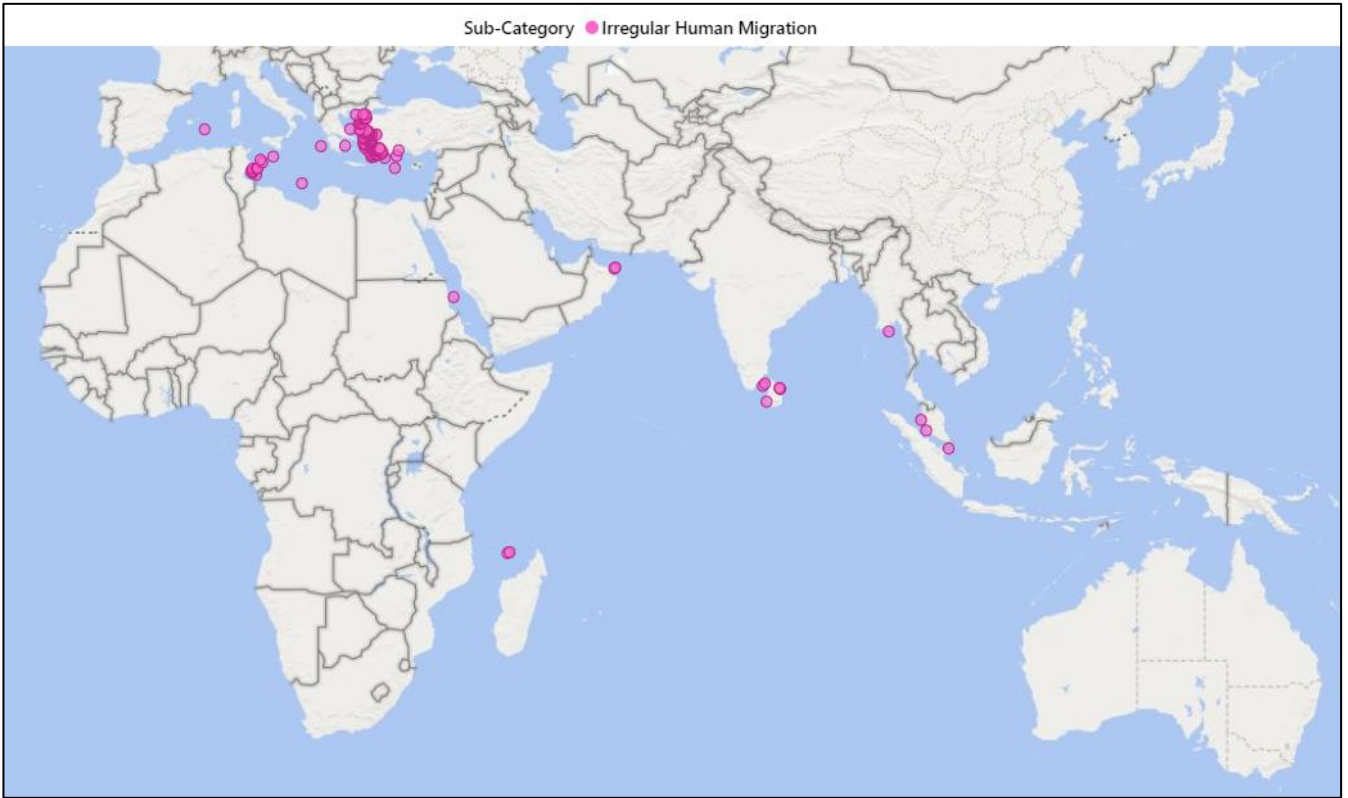
51  Fishing Vessels Involved

Fishers Involved  **218**

Fishing Ban Periods

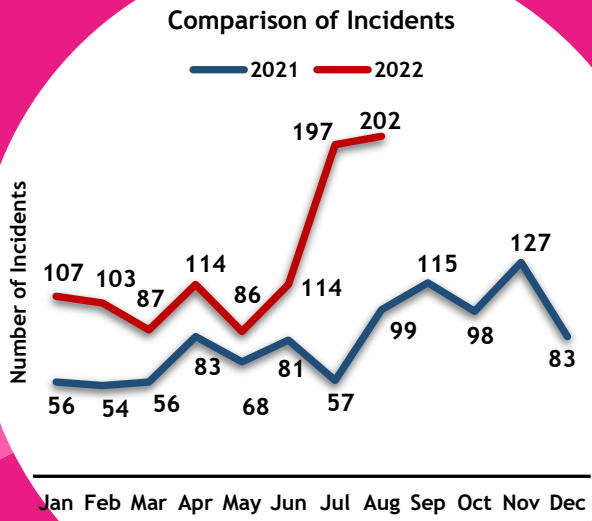
Region	Duration	Remarks
Bangladesh (Sundarbans)	01 Jun 22 - 31 Aug 22	All Species
Oman	01 Dec 21 - 31 Aug 22	Shrimps
Oman	15 Aug 22 - 15 Oct 22	Kingfish
Mauritius	15 Aug 22 - 15 Oct 22	Octopus

IRREGULAR HUMAN MIGRATION



Mediterranean Sea, 188

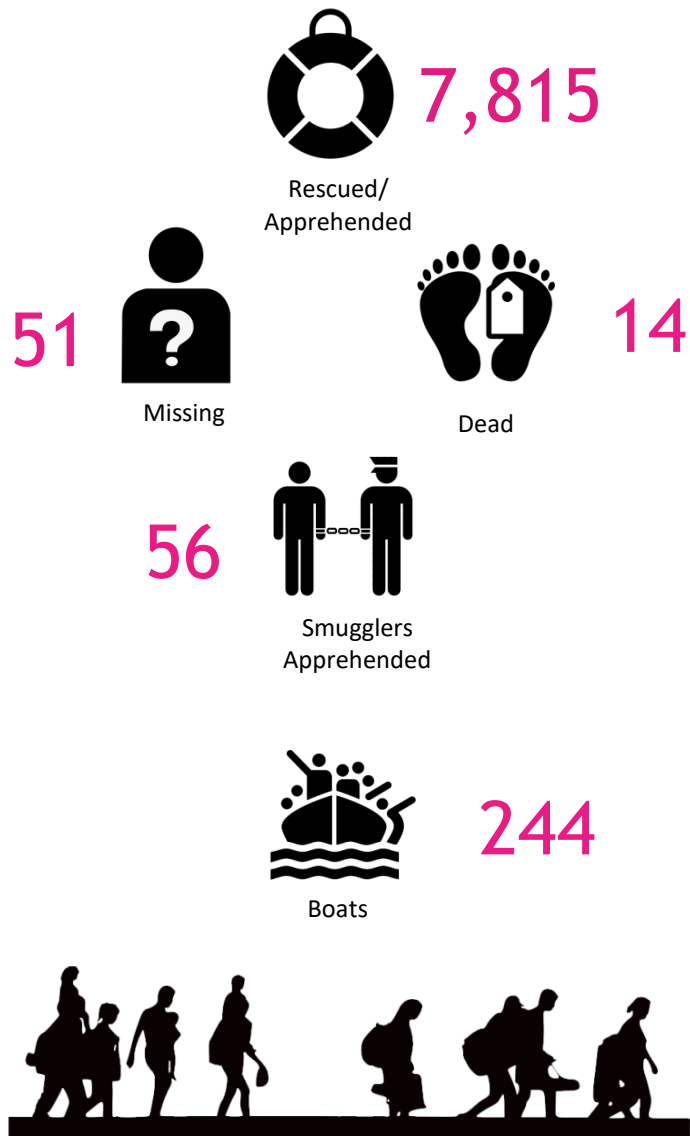
- East Africa, 2
- West Asia, 3
- SE Asia, 3
- South Asia, 6



202 IHM incidents were recorded by the Centre in Aug 22, a 3% increase from Jul 22 (197 incidents) and a 104% increase from the 99 incidents recorded in Aug 21. The increase could be attributed to enhanced reporting and favourable weather conditions in the Mediterranean. About 93% of the recorded incidents occurred in the Mediterranean region. Four incidents off Sri Lanka, two incidents each off Malaysia, Oman, Mayotte and one incident each off India, Sudan, Myanmar and Indonesia constituted the rest.

Crossings off Mayotte - The Centre recorded two incidents of migrant crossings off Mayotte in Aug 22 compared to Jul 22 (04 incidents). The incidents involved detaining of traditional local boats “kwassa-kwassa” along with suspected smugglers and irregular migrants.

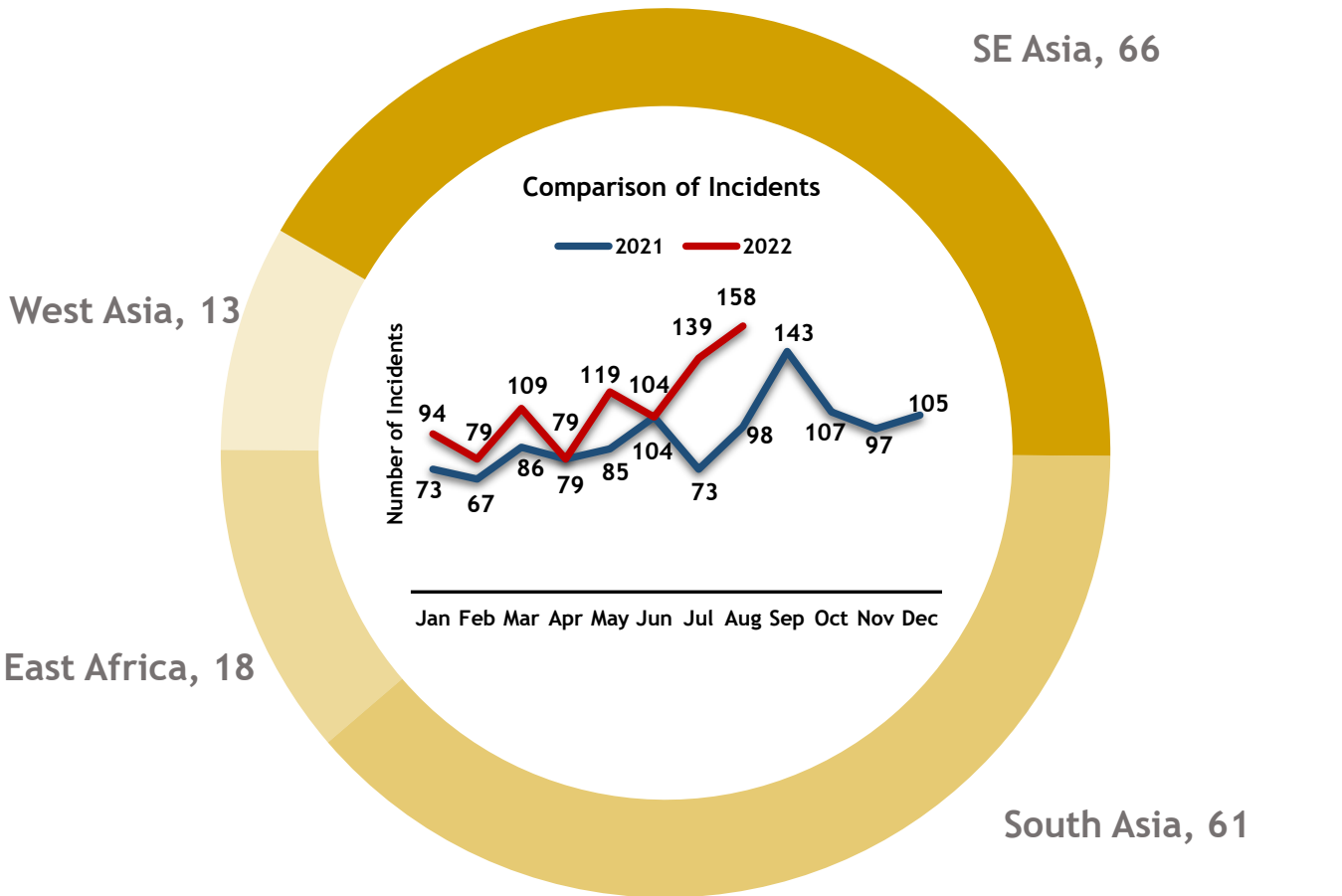
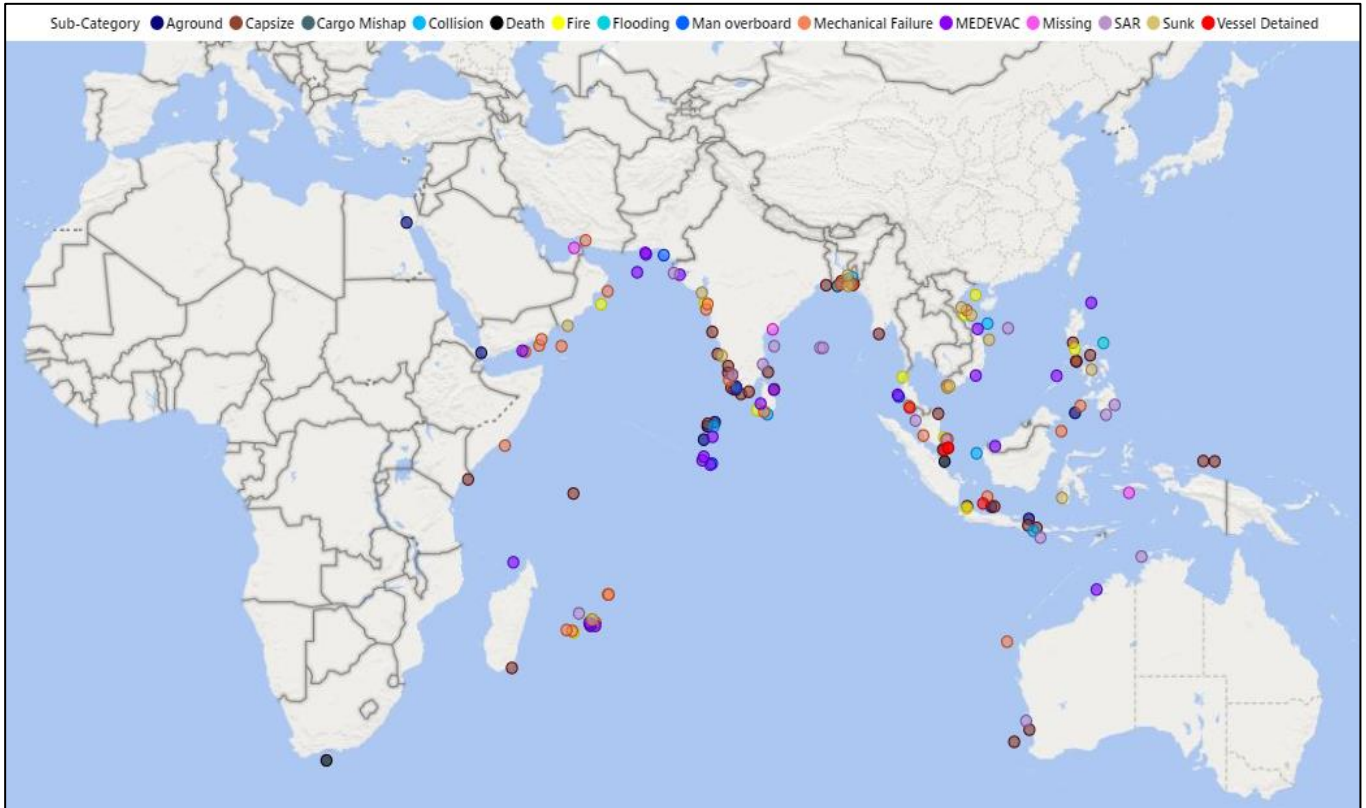
Mediterranean - 188 incidents were recorded in the Mediterranean in Aug 22 amounting to an increase of 12% as compared to Jul 22 (168 incidents). 170 incidents were recorded off Türkiye, nine incidents off Tunisia, four incidents off Greece, two incidents off Italy and one incident each off Algeria, Malta and Libya.



Migration Trends

Region	Rescued/ Apprehended	Missing	Dead	Smugglers Apprehended	Boats Involved
East Africa	171	-	-	16	18
West Asia	53	-	-	-	04
South Asia	135	-	07	04	06
South East Asia	102	-	01	-	01
Mediterranean	7,354	51	06	36	215

MARITIME INCIDENTS



158

maritime incidents were

recorded by the Centre for the month of Aug 22, 14% increase as compared to Jul 22 (139). In the month, about 200% increase in both collision and SAR incidents were recorded as compared to Jul 22. Five incidents of vessel detained were recorded, all off Malaysia (two for unauthorised anchoring and three for operating without valid documentation).

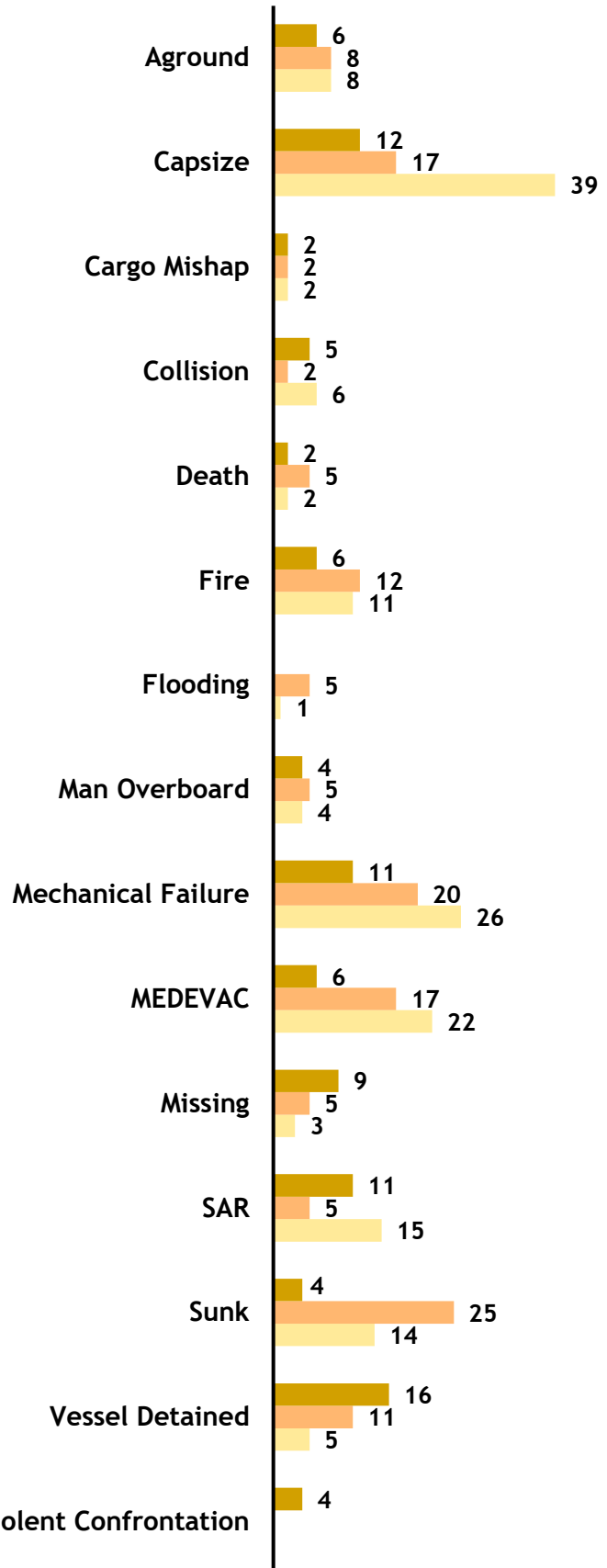
Aground - The Centre recorded eight incidents of vessels running aground. Four incidents in Indian Ocean, two incidents in Sulu Celebes Sea and one incident each in Java Sea and Gulf of Suez were reported in Aug 22. In one incident, a Ro-Ro vessel ran aground in the Suez Canal, following mechanical failure. The vessel was subsequently refloated the same day.

Capsize and Sinking of Vessels - 39 incidents of capsizing and 14 incidents of vessels sinking at sea were recorded by the Centre during Aug 22. This was an increase of 26% from Jul 22. Majority of the capsize and sinking of vessels incidents involved small boats such as fishing boats, fibre boats, trawlers etc.

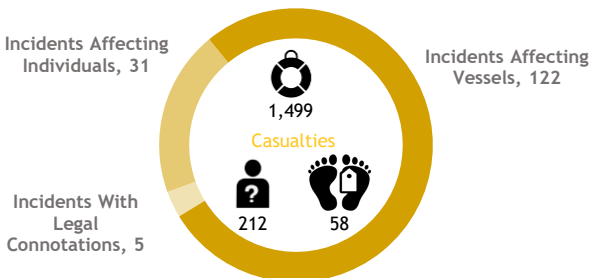
SAR Operations - 22 MEDEVAC and 15 SAR operations, undertaken by various maritime agencies, were monitored by the Centre during Aug 22. The combined SAR and MEDEVAC saw an increase of 68% from Jul 22.

Mechanical Failure - 26 incidents of mechanical failure were recorded by the Centre during Aug 22. This is about 30% increase from Jul 22.

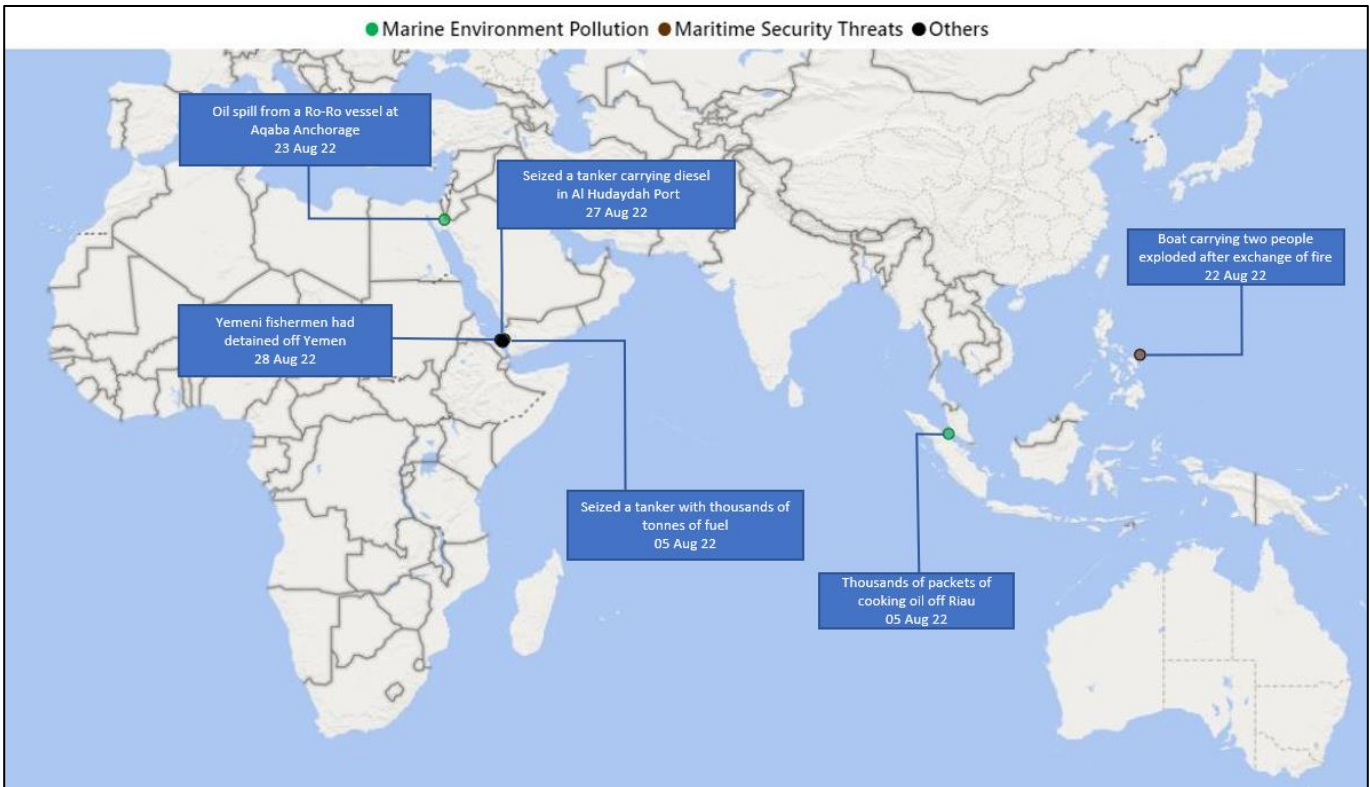
■ Aug 21 ■ Jul 22 ■ Aug 22



Effect of Incidents



OTHER INCIDENTS



Maritime Security Threats (Hybrid)

01 incident recorded

A boat carrying two people (likely to be from a banned organisation) exploded after exchange of fire with Philippine authorities.

Marine Environment Pollution

02 incidents recorded

- Thousands of packets of cooking oil reportedly found floating at sea off Riau, Indonesia.
- An incident of oil spill was reported from a Ro-Ro vessel at Aqaba Anchorage, Jordan.

Others

03 incidents recorded

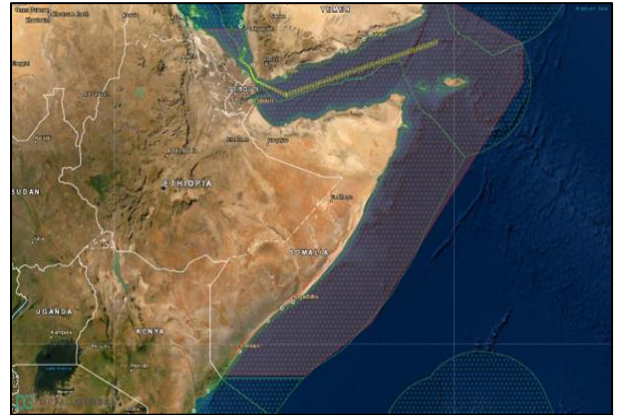
- Two incidents involving two tankers reportedly seized in Red Sea (likely conflict related incident).
- 139 fishermen were reportedly detained by a foreign country off Yemen.

Cyber Security Incidents

No incidents recorded

- **Shipping industry to Remove the Indian Ocean High Risk Area**

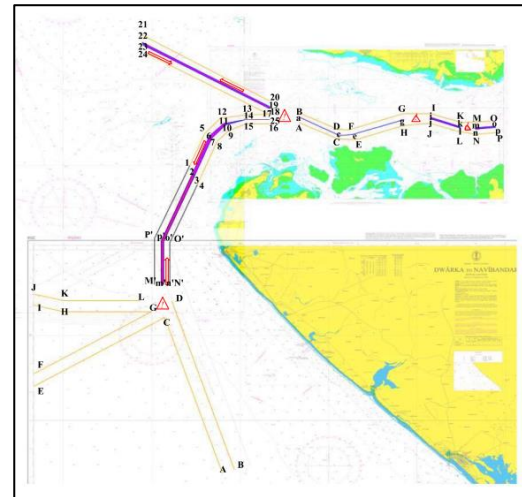
After more than a decade of effective threat-reducing counter-piracy operations the shipping industry has removed the 'Indian Ocean High Risk Area' (HRA). The removal of the HRA will come into effect at 0001 UTC on 01 Jan 23, allowing charterers, shipowners and operators time to adapt to the changed threat from piracy. The removal of the HRA reflects a significantly improved piracy situation in the region, largely due to concerted counter-piracy efforts by many regional and international stakeholders. No piracy attacks against merchant ships have occurred off Somalia since 2018.



Source: *International Chamber of Shipping*

- **Establishment of Traffic Separation Scheme (TSS) in Gulf of Kutch (GoK) and its Outer Approaches.**

The GoK area has number of ports and terminals due to which large number of vessels operate in the area making it one of the busiest shipping routes in Indian waters. In view of the heavy traffic, the area has encountered accidents in the past which have resulted in loss of property and environmental pollution. Thus, it was increasingly felt to establish a TSS in the area to ensure improvement in safety of navigation, avoidance of collision, ease in flow of traffic, avoidance of areas of heavy traffic and improve safety of life, property and the environment. Accordingly, the existing Deep Water (DW) route has been replaced by a TSS and existing safety fairway on approaches to GoK has also been replaced with a revised safety fairway in GoK region. The coordinates have been reproduced on INT Chart No -20681202/203. This Merchant Shipping Notice comes into force with effect from 01 Sep 22.



Source: *Directorate General of Shipping, India*

- **New Regulation Imposed on Foreign Fishing Vessels Entering Maldivian Territory**

The 'Regulation on the Prevention of Illegal Fishing by Foreign Fishing Vessels in Maldivian waters without Reporting' has been formulated and enforced by Ministry of Transport, Maldives. The regulation imposes fines on foreign fishing vessels entering Maldivian waters without prior permission.

Source: *Official website of Maldives National Defence Force*



- **Maritime Cyber Incidents Increased by at Least 68 Percent in 2021**

A cyber attack on the port environment can compromise physical facility access control systems and manipulate terminal and gate operating systems for the purpose of leaking sensitive supply chain data or facilitating smuggling or cargo theft. It can also stop port operations by compromising the terminal headquarters and operational technology systems in a way that leads to a loss of life or property. A new U.S. Coast Guard Cyber Command report on cybersecurity mentions that the significance of cyber hygiene, detection, and response “grew exponentially” last year due to a 68 percent increase in reported maritime cyber incidents.

Source: *US Coast Guard Cyber Command Report*



- **Marine ecology is a key to Maritime Cooperation in the Indo-Pacific**

The Observer Research Foundation, Kolkata, India and the S.Rajaratnam School of International Studies at Nanyang Technological University, Singapore released a report which collects together a series of baseline studies on Regional Collaborative Arrangements in Marine Ecology in the Indo Pacific (for marine plastics; illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing and ocean science), Southeast Asia (marine plastics, emergency response and coastal conservation) and the Bay of Bengal region (marine litter, IUU fishing and marine disaster management).



Source: *Australian Strategic Policy Institute Report*

- **Researchers Develop New Way to Estimate Wave Resistance**

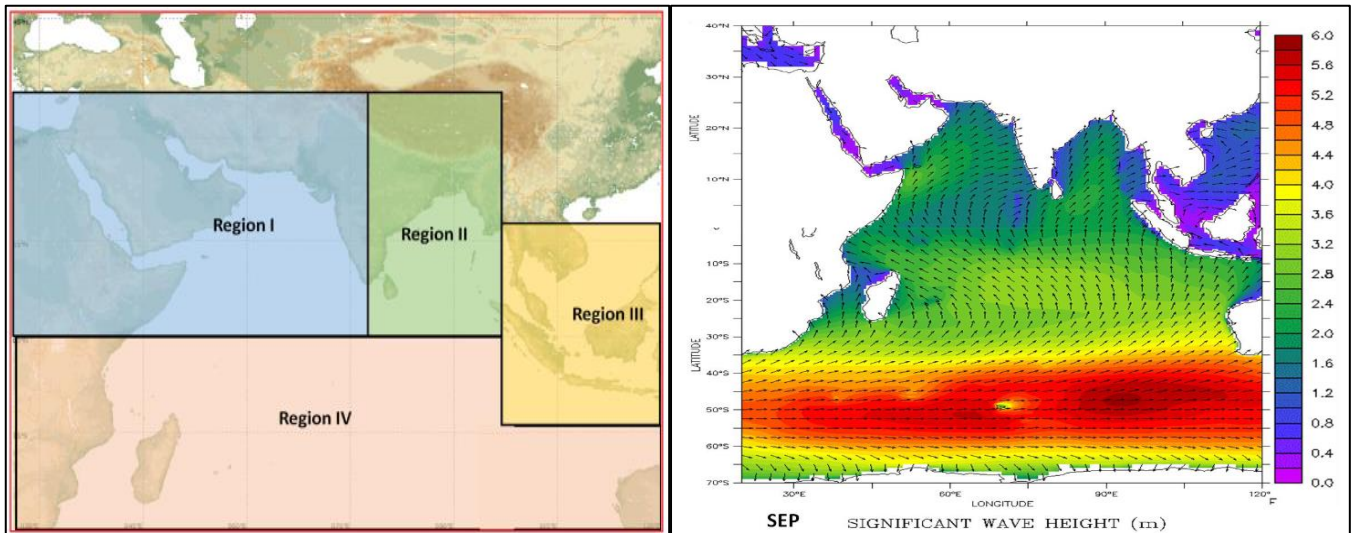
Sea waves can impede the speed and performance, as well as increase the fuel consumption of ships. Researchers from Nanyang Technological University, Singapore (NTU Singapore) and National Technical University of Athens (NTUA) have developed a new method for estimating wave effect more accurately and easily. While existing software tools calculate the added resistance from waves based on the design of a ship's hull, SNNM uses eight parameters to estimate



it. These include the length and width of a ship, as well as the loading condition of a vessel so that ship operators can account for it when planning shipping routes and weather routing. It has the potential to reduce fuel consumption and GHG emissions of a ship by 5 to 10%.

Source: *Splash 247*

Weather Forecast. A monthly weather forecast for the month of Sep 22 in the IOR region has been uploaded on IFC-IOR website for reference.





Scan to Access
Working Definitions used for Maritime
Safety and Security Incidents

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