

MMC Asia

QUARTER 1 2022



Quarterly Mixed Migration Update: Asia

This Quarterly Mixed Migration Update (QMMU) covers Southern and Southeast Asia. The core countries of focus for this region are Afghanistan, Bangladesh, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Myanmar, Nepal, Pakistan and Thailand. Depending on the quarterly trends and migration-related updates, more attention may be given to any of the countries over the rest.

The QMMUs offer a quarterly update on new trends and dynamics related to mixed migration and relevant policy developments in the region. These updates are based on a compilation of a wide range of secondary (data) sources, brought together within a regional framework and applying a mixed migration analytical lens. Similar QMMUs are available for all MMC regions.

The Mixed Migration Centre is a global network consisting of six regional hubs and a central unit in Geneva engaged in data collection, research, analysis and policy development on mixed migration. For more information on the MMC, the QMMUs from other regions and contact details of regional MMC teams, visit mixedmigration.org and follow us at [@Mixed_Migration](https://twitter.com/Mixed_Migration)

MMC's understanding of mixed migration

"Mixed migration" refers to cross-border movements of people, including refugees fleeing persecution and conflict, victims of trafficking, and people seeking better lives and opportunities. Motivated to move by a multiplicity of factors, people in mixed flows have a range of legal statuses as well as a variety of vulnerabilities. Although entitled to protection under international human rights law, they are exposed to multiple rights violations along their journey. Those in mixed migration flows travel along similar routes, using similar means of travel - often travelling irregularly, and wholly, or partially, assisted by migrant smugglers.

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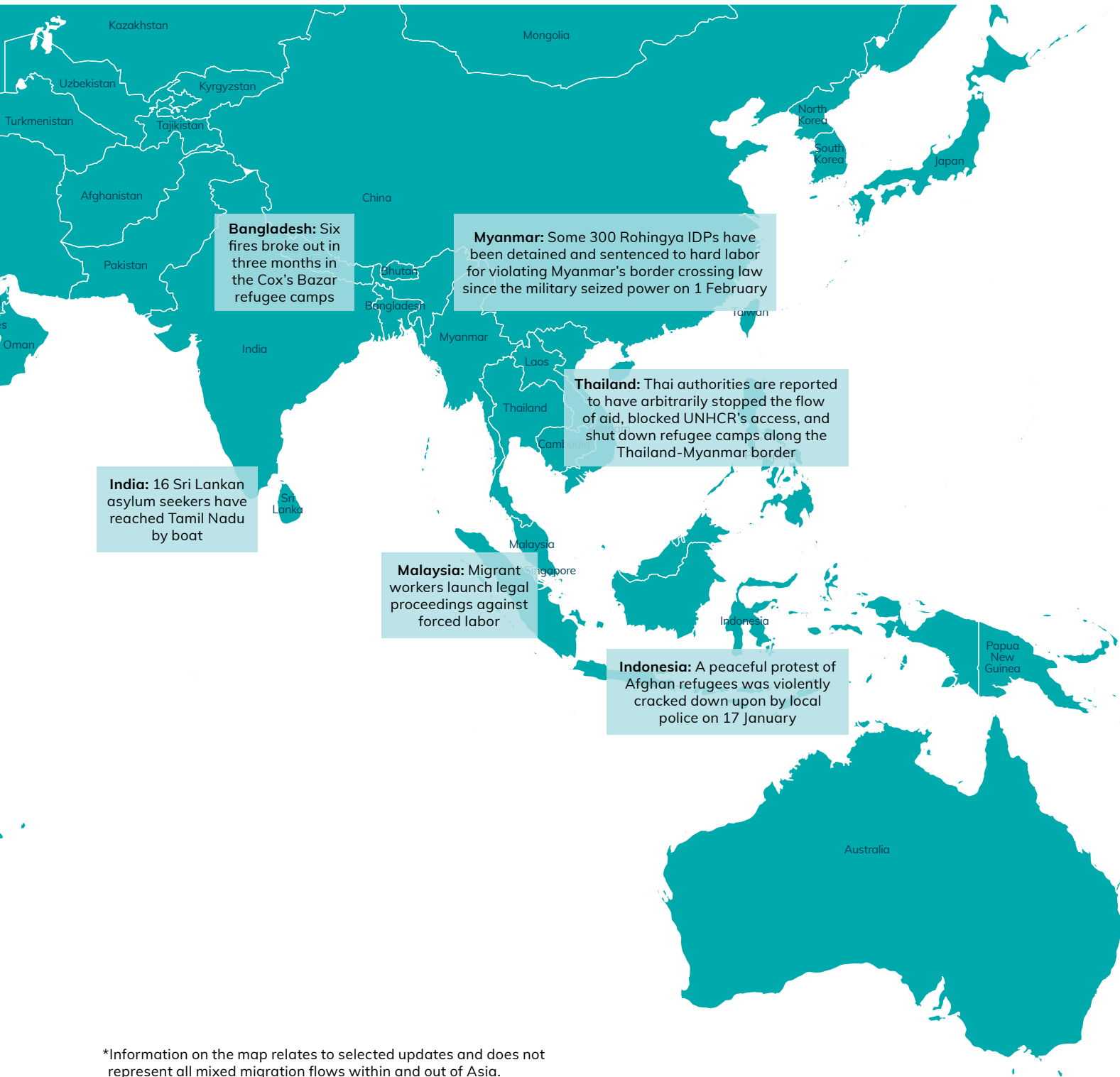
Quarterly Mixed Migration Update: Asia

Quarter 1 - 2022

Key Updates

- **Afghan evacuees are stuck in legal limbo:** Months after hundreds of thousands of Afghan nationals were evacuated from Afghanistan after the Taliban takeover, many remain stuck in resettlement limbo in the western countries.
- **Myanmar and Bangladesh resume talks on repatriating Rohingya refugees:** While the two countries agreed on a repatriation date in [June](#), many Rohingya refugees in Cox's Bazar say they are unwilling to return to Myanmar before a series of long-standing issues are addressed, including the granting of [full citizenship rights](#) and protection from persecution.
- **Rohingya refugees continue onward movements from Bangladesh:** On 25 March, [57 Rohingya refugees were captured](#) by the Bangladeshi authorities while attempting to leave for Malaysia by a trawler. This was the second boat to attempt to leave Bangladesh in the first quarter of 2022.
- **Escalating conflicts on multiple fronts displaced thousands of people in Myanmar:** Fighting has intensified in [Kayah and Kayin states](#) since December 2021, creating volatile new conflict zones. In Kayah alone, [up to 170,000 people](#) have been internally displaced and forced to seek shelter in [community centers, churches, the jungle](#), or in the neighboring Shan state after a January military crackdown.
- **Refugees and migrants across the region still face barriers to accessing COVID-19 vaccine and treatment:** Refugees and migrants in countries such as Thailand and Indonesia continue to face [critical vaccine inequality](#) due to logistical and administrative challenges.
- **Refugees in Australia's offshore processing centers are eligible for resettlement in New Zealand:** On 24 March, Australia announced that [up to 450 refugees](#) from its regional processing centers will be resettled in New Zealand over the next three years.

Regional Overview*



Mixed Migration Regional Updates

Afghan evacuees are stuck in legal limbo

Months after hundreds of thousands of Afghan nationals were evacuated from Afghanistan after the Taliban takeover, many remain stuck in resettlement limbo.

In the US, [nearly half of some 76,000 Afghan evacuees](#) who arrived following the military withdrawal from Afghanistan are reportedly lacking a clear path to US citizenship. Traditionally, refugees admitted to the country become eligible for permanent residency a year after resettlement. However, due to the swift fall of the Afghan government and a large number of Afghans who need immediate protection, many are encouraged to apply for [humanitarian parole](#) to avoid the lengthy resettlement processes. Unlike refugee status, humanitarian parole does not confer immediate work authorization, access to healthcare, or a path to permanent residency, which further creates burdens on the already under-resourced [refugee resettlement and integration programs](#) in the US.

Similarly, thousands of Afghan evacuees remain [stuck](#) in hotels in the UK due to the lack of a mechanism to accommodate them without losing government support. The government has been criticized for its failures in resettling Afghans, while the Nationality and Borders Bill may [penalize](#) many Afghans who enter the UK without entry clearance and [tougher sentences](#) will be imposed on those using human smugglers.

This quarter also saw several Afghan refugee protests across the region. In Australia, [hundreds of Afghan refugees](#) rallied outside the Parliament House in Canberra on 8 February to protest the discriminatory policy [against people who arrive by boat](#). The protest was a rare instance of members of the Hazara community coming from different parts of Australia to protest in unison. According to the protesters, years of living in limbo are taking a toll on the refugees' mental health, with [several refugees taking their own lives](#) in desperation. Meanwhile, in Indonesia, a peaceful protest of Afghan refugees was [violently cracked down](#) upon on 17 January. Police were reported to disperse the crowd by beating protesters and striking them with batons, leaving several injured. Some Afghan refugees have been living in limbo in Indonesia for over a decade, waiting to either receive citizenship from the Indonesian government or get approval and documents to move to another country.

Myanmar and Bangladesh resume talks on repatriating Rohingya refugees

Bangladesh and Myanmar [resumed](#) talks on repatriating hundreds of thousands of Rohingya refugees to Rakhine state on 27 January, nearly a year after the dialogue was suspended following the military's seizure of power in Myanmar. Under Chinese mediation, the two countries agreed on a repatriation date in [June](#). Despite the agreement, many Rohingya refugees in Cox's Bazar say they are unwilling to return to Myanmar before a series of long-standing issues are addressed, including the granting of [full citizenship rights](#) and protection from persecution. A report by the Burma Human Rights Network suggested that [over 60 percent](#) of Rohingya refugees surveyed in Cox's Bazar would rather go to a third country than stay in Bangladesh or go back to Myanmar.

The talk of repatriation came just before the resumption of the International Court of Justice's [hearings](#) in February to examine claims that atrocities committed by the Myanmar military against the Rohingya constitute genocide. On 20 March, the United States formally [determined](#) that violence committed against Rohingya people by Myanmar's military in 2017 amounts to genocide and crimes against humanity. This violence forced some 730,000 Rohingya to flee to Bangladesh that same year. The US determination was [welcomed](#) by Rohingya refugees living in Bangladesh, saying it could open a path for the international community to bolster efforts to hold the Myanmar military accountable.

Simultaneously, Myanmar has done little to instill confidence in those Rohingya wanting to return to Rakhine state. Rohingya movement in Myanmar continues to be strictly controlled, and those that try to flee are being blocked and facing punishment. On 10 February, [48 Rohingya women and men](#) from Rakhine state were arrested in Yangon while attempting to travel to Malaysia, and [approximately 300 Rohingya IDPs](#) have been detained and sentenced to hard labor for violating Myanmar's border crossing law since the military seized power on 1 February.

Cox's Bazar: Six fires in three months trap Rohingya refugees in a cycle of "repair and loss"

An 8 March fire that broke out in Cox's Bazar refugee settlement [destroyed 400 shelters, killed a six-year-old boy, and displaced some 2,500 Rohingya refugees](#). The fire followed another [massive fire in January](#), which destroyed 1,200 shelters and left more than 5,000 people homeless. Four other, smaller fires happened between January and March. Last year, a fire displaced at least 45,000 people in the [packed camps in Cox's Bazar](#).

The extent and severity of the damage caused by fires again raised grave concerns about the safety of Rohingya refugees living in Cox's Bazar. Shelters made of dry bamboo and tarpaulin are incredibly flammable, and [barbed wire fencing](#) has prevented people from reaching safety in an emergency. In the absence of any substantive protection options, the Rohingya community in Cox's Bazar is caught in a cycle of "[repair and loss](#)".

The fires come within a context of worsening living conditions for Rohingya refugees in the camps. In December 2021, Bangladesh ordered the [closure of Rohingya-run community schools](#), denying basic rights to education to thousands of children in the camps. Soon after that, over 3,000 Rohingya-run shops were demolished by the camp authorities, claiming "illegality". Deadly violence targeting leaders and teachers in the camps also continued, with one sub-leader of a camp block being [killed](#) in mid-February.

Rohingya refugees continue onward movements from Bangladesh

Rohingya refugees continue to embark on onward journeys from Bangladesh to other countries in the region, primarily Indonesia, Malaysia, and [India](#). On 25 March, [57 Rohingya refugees were captured](#) by the Bangladeshi authorities while attempting to leave for Malaysia by a trawler. This was the second boat to attempt to leave Bangladesh in the first quarter of 2022.

Earlier, on 6 March, [114 Rohingya refugees](#) arrived by boat on the shores of Indonesia's Aceh province. The refugees reported that they started their journey from Bangladesh, leaving due to the worsening situation in the Cox's Bazar refugee camps. The 58 men, 21 women, and 35 children were immediately provided with shelter and received help from villagers, police, and the military. Many, however, view Indonesia as a transit stop en route to Malaysia. On 14 February, at least 67 of [120 Rohingya refugees](#) who landed in Aceh earlier in December 2021 escaped a temporary shelter. Local officials reported the refugees, many being women, left the camp for Malaysia with the help of "[trafficking networks](#)".

Escalating conflicts on multiple fronts displaced thousands of people in Myanmar

A year after the military's seizure of power, multiple crises are spiraling across Myanmar. Security is deteriorating rapidly as armed conflict intensifies, with [no sign of abating](#). [More than 1,500 civilians](#) have been killed and nearly 12,000 people have been arrested in military crackdowns since 1 February 2021. Nearly [13 million people](#) - or a quarter of the Myanmar population - now face moderate or severe levels of food insecurity, and [14.4 million people](#) are predicted to need humanitarian assistance in 2022. The ILO estimated [some 1.6 million jobs were lost](#) in 2021, disproportionately affecting women.

Hostilities between armed groups have triggered large-scale displacement. According to UNHCR, [560,9000 people](#) were internally displaced in Myanmar, including nearly 120,000 newly displaced within the first three months of 2022. Meanwhile, humanitarian access to displaced populations in the border region and beyond remains [restricted](#) due to insecurity and roadblocks.

While existing conflicts in the border areas have deepened, [new crackdowns](#) have swept through areas that have not seen major clashes in years. Fighting intensified in [Kayah and Kayin states](#) after December 2021, for instance, creating volatile new conflict zones. In Kayah state alone, [up to 170,000 people](#) have been internally displaced and forced to seek shelter in [community centers, churches, the jungle](#), or in the neighboring Shan state after a January military crackdown. A February report by Fortify Rights provided evidence of ongoing [war crimes](#) in Kayah state, including serious human rights violations and civilian [massacres](#) between May 2021 and January 2022. The organization also called for "[clear and definitive action](#)" from the UN Security Council, and support from ASEAN to help put an end to the situation.

One year on: Responses to new Myanmar refugee influxes are mixed

One year since the military's seizure of power in Myanmar, [some 35,700 people](#) have sought protection in neighboring countries, primarily [India and Thailand](#). Despite the extremely volatile situation in Myanmar, both India and Thailand have shown inconsistent and ad hoc responses to large refugee influxes, putting many refugees' lives in danger.

Myanmar refugees, mostly from Chin state, have crossed into Mizoram state in India since July 2021, fleeing fighting that broke out between the Chin Defense Force and the Myanmar National Army. Since the refugee movement is [fluid](#), with people fleeing and returning to Myanmar, it is difficult to ascertain the number of

refugees currently residing in Mizoram. News reports have estimated that the state is hosting up to [20,000 Myanmar refugees](#), including [over 8,000](#) who fled Chin state following incidents of shooting and bombing in early February 2022.

The Central Government of India has repeatedly refused to [directly assist Myanmar refugees](#) since the country is not a signatory to the 1951 UN Refugee Convention or its 1967 Protocol. However, the Mizoram government has provided shelter to the Chins, who are ethnically related to the Mizos. [A makeshift camp](#) has been constructed along the Tiau river between India and Myanmar to receive and assist the refugees. NGOs, churches, and village officials had also formed "[refugee caretaker committees](#)" and were looking after the displaced persons, with the local administration assisting them. On 30 January, Mizoram Home Secretary announced that the government had started the process of [giving identity cards to Myanmar refugees](#) to give them more rights to stay in the state. Despite these supports, Myanmar refugees have reportedly struggled to receive food, shelter, and healthcare due to a [lack of formal aid programs and resources](#) in India.

Meanwhile, in Thailand, [approximately 15,700 refugees](#) have fled Myanmar and sought protection since February 2021, including a high proportion of women, children, and elder people. While most refugees subsequently returned to Myanmar, [thousands remain](#) and are struggling to survive in camps along the border due to [inadequate food, water, and medical assistance](#). Thai authorities are reported to [arbitrarily stop](#) the flow of aid, block UNHCR's access, and shut down camps. Thousands of refugees were also deported to Myanmar where their lives may be in danger. In February alone, [at least 3,000 refugees](#) were deported from various border areas in Thailand. UNHCR has called on the Royal Thai Government to transfer Myanmar refugees being sheltered in the "[temporary safety area](#)" to another location where they can access safer and more dignified accommodation and receive improved humanitarian assistance.

Sri Lankan asylum seekers arrived in India, fleeing the severe economic crisis

In late March, [16 Sri Lankan nationals](#), all Tamils from the Jaffna and Mannar regions, reached Tamil Nadu, India by boat. The asylum seekers are reported to have escaped food shortages and unemployment after Sri Lanka was hit by its [all-time worst foreign exchange crisis](#). Local news warned that [around 2,000 more](#) from Sri Lanka are likely to arrive in India in the coming weeks.

The new arrivals of Tamil asylum seekers to India echo the movements of Sri Lankan refugees who arrived on the Tamil Nadu coast to flee violence from the [Eelam civil war](#) which ended in 2009. While the Tamil have received shelter and food from the locals both previously and now, India's [lack of refugee policy](#) poses problems for their long-term settlement. By late March, India started to ramp up attacks against Rohingya in the country, resulting in [25 refugees](#) being detained and [some 200 awaiting deportation](#). The raids have triggered [fears and panic](#) among the refugee communities in India, some have stayed in the country for several years.

Malaysia: migrant workers launch legal proceedings against forced labor

Three months after hi-tech appliance maker Dyson [cut ties](#) with its biggest Malaysian supplier, ATA Industrial, due to concerns over labor conditions, migrant workers from their factories [stepped up to take legal action](#). On 14 February, ATA's workers, mainly migrants from [Nepal and Bangladesh](#), launched legal claims against Dyson for forced labor and other dangerous working conditions. They reported [extensive violations of their legal rights](#), including physical and psychological damage, passport retention, excessive working hours, enforced overtime, restrictions on movement and false imprisonment - all are clear indicators of forced labor as defined by the International Labour Organization.

The legal claim against ATA Industrial is among several cases of alleged abuse against migrant workers in Malaysia. On 18 January, Canada terminated a CAD 222 million contract with its Malaysian supplier Supermax following a [forced labor probe](#). Canada's action followed a US import ban of Supermax products in October 2021 for the same reason. The company said on 8 February that it had so far paid some [USD 6 million](#) to migrant workers to cover recruitment fees and other costs after the allegations of forced labor.

Amid ongoing international pressure to ensure labor standards for migrant workers, Malaysia's Human Resources Ministry announced on 30 January that it would call in all companies suspected of forced labor practices to discuss [immediate action](#) to address the allegations. In contrast, by early February, the Indonesian government said that [no deal](#) has been reached regarding the placement and protection of Indonesian domestic workers who often face abuse and other rights violations in Malaysia. Meanwhile, Malaysia continues to receive a high number of applications from migrant workers, with [more than 111,000 applications](#) to work in Malaysia in February alone.

Refugees in Australia's offshore processing centers are eligible for resettlement in New Zealand

On 24 March, Australia announced that [up to 450 refugees](#) from its regional processing centers will be resettled in New Zealand over the next three years. The long-standing agreement between the two countries was struck more than nine years ago, allowing up to 150 refugees a year to go to New Zealand. However, the deal is open only to refugees in Nauru and those who are under regional processing arrangements, which does not include [more than 100 people](#) trapped in the Manus Island offshore processing centers.

The announcement came amid the ongoing criticism over Australia's "[harsh and unlawful](#)" immigration policy. According to Human Rights Watch, Australia is holding people in immigration detention for an average of [689 days](#), more than 12 times longer than the US. Refugees and asylum seekers are reported to have lived in harmful conditions which lead to deteriorating physical and mental health. In late March, an Iranian refugee in his late 30s [died](#) in a detention center in Sydney, highlighting the alarming concerns over the living conditions of refugees and asylum seekers in Australia.

COVID-19 two years on: Refugees and migrants across the region still face barriers to accessing basic services

According to UNHCR, there has been [tremendous progress worldwide on vaccine inclusion](#) as most countries now include refugees and migrants in their national COVID-19 vaccination plans. However, refugees and migrants across the region continue to face [critical vaccine inequality](#) due to logistical and administrative challenges. They also live in precarious conditions due to the COVID-19's economic impacts on [food prices and job loss](#).

In Indonesia, for instance, [thousands of refugees](#) are shut out of public services including travel and shopping as they fail to be able to provide documentation proving they have been vaccinated against COVID-19. In Thailand, millions of Johnson & Johnson doses were administered by the US government through COVAX's humanitarian buffer to assist refugees along the Thailand-Myanmar border. However, the doses are not yet available since the humanitarian group could not obtain [legal permission](#) from the Thai government.

Migrant workers in Thailand reported that local authorities overcharged them for COVID-19 testing and treatment. According to news reports, migrants who wish to continue working in Thailand have to pay [more than 9,000 baht](#) (equivalent to USD 270) for a COVID-19 test, health checks, health insurance, and various other fees. The amount is well above the average wage of migrant workers, many of whom earn 300 baht or less a day.

Thematic Focus:

The unwelcome: Afghans continue facing pushbacks and deportation

Eight months after the Taliban takeover of Kabul, Afghan refugees and migrants continue to face challenges in their journey to seek protection and more stability. The use of violence and discriminatory practices against Afghans is increasing in neighboring Iran and Pakistan. Meanwhile, there are documented cases of pushbacks, injuries, and deaths of Afghans at the Iran-Turkey and Turkey-Greece borders. As the humanitarian and security situation remains extremely volatile in Afghanistan, deportation and repatriation of Afghan nationals further puts lives in danger.

The shifting priorities of Europe and other western countries towards supporting Ukraine refugees will certainly undermine the resources available, attention provided, and responses needed for Afghans on the move. The importance of saving Afghan lives and assisting those on the move needs to continue to be treated as a political and humanitarian imperative.

Afghans continue to flee

The humanitarian and economic catastrophe in Afghanistan has rapidly expanded after the Taliban takeover. According to the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, [more than half of the country's population](#) is expected to be in crisis or face emergency levels of food insecurity in 2022, and more than half of all children under five years of age will face acute malnourishment. 82% of families have been left without access to a steady income, while food prices continue to rise. [A fifth of starving families in Afghanistan are now sending their children to work](#) and many others are going into debt to afford food.

While the Taliban has worked to legitimize its position, a lack of will to establish inclusive processes, accounts of mistreatment of former officials, and raids on women's rights activists' homes, and other violations of freedom, have disappointed many. In February alone, [eight female polio workers were brutally killed](#) in Northern Afghanistan. [A house-to-house search operation started on 25 February](#) in several provinces is also sparking fear among people.

As a result, hundreds of thousands of Afghans have already left, and many others see no future in the country. According to UNHCR, more than 300,000 Afghans have fled to Pakistan since August 2021. Simultaneously, [about 3,000 Afghan nationals are crossing with valid visas to Iran daily](#) via Islam Qala (Herat) and Milak (Zaranj) border points. The number of Afghans traveling to Pakistan and Iran without documentation and through smuggling routes is estimated to be much higher.

Xenophobia and securitization marginalize Afghans in Iran and Pakistan

As many Afghans cross into Pakistan and Iran, receiving authorities have engaged ever-harsher responses, increasing restrictive border controls and “securitizing” migration through a political rhetoric that highlights [economic and security threats](#) from migrant populations. In January, Pakistan announced it had completed [94 percent of the fencing work](#) alongside the Pakistan-Afghanistan border, claiming that the fence will strengthen security for both countries. Meanwhile, according to local officials at the two key crossing points from Afghanistan to Iran, Zaranj and Islam Qala, [nearly 100 Afghans who wanted to enter Iran irregularly were shot dead and over 460 more wounded](#) by Iranian security forces since the Taliban took over.

While Iran and Pakistan have historically hosted the largest numbers of Afghan refugees and migrants in the world, xenophobia and discrimination in those countries are reported to be on the increase. Since April, [videos of harassment and torture of Afghan refugees in Iran](#) have been circulated on social media, sparking outrage and anger. A provincial official in Bushehr province of Iran also warned the city residents that [giving jobs or accommodation to Afghans is illegal](#) and those who do so will be punished. Meanwhile, Iranian police patrols in Afghan-concentrated neighborhoods have increased significantly, and police [arrest undocumented Afghans in the streets, on buses and trains, and in stores and workplaces](#).

Authorities in Pakistan and Iran have also stepped-up deportations, despite internationally recognized legal obligations regarding refugee protection. MMC 4Mi enumerators in Zaranj and Herat report that since January, between 2,500 and 3,000 Afghans have been deported every day from Iran via Milak and Islam Qala border crossings. Pakistan also reportedly sent [more than 500,000 Afghan refugees](#) back to Afghanistan, including those in need of medical treatment abroad.

While the full impact of deportations will take more time to manifest, aid organizations have already witnessed a dangerous deepening of humanitarian needs among deportees. The situation is dire for those who had previously worked with the Afghan government, army, or foreign troops, and many are in hiding as they may face arrest by the Taliban.

“It has been three weeks that I have been living [in Afghanistan again] and I do not dare to go back to my home province. My father called me and said: “Do not come here, the Taliban is looking for Afghan National Security Forces soldiers. If you come, we don’t know what will happen to you. Go back to Iran.”

30-year-old Afghan deportee (interviewed in March 2022)

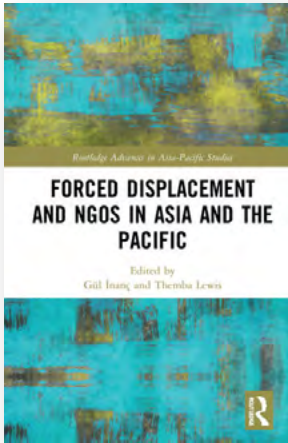
Pushbacks in Turkey and Europe likely to receive less attention as Ukraine response becomes a primary focus

Afghan refugees and migrants have also increasingly faced pushbacks and heightened levels of risk in Turkey and along European borders. Turkey has been implementing [new security measures](#) along its border since late 2021 to prevent refugee and migrant entry, including those from Afghanistan. In Van, security forces are taking every precaution to prevent “illegal” crossings and smuggling activity through [constant monitoring and patrolling](#). In Istanbul, Afghans are increasingly becoming [part of marginalized ethnic groups](#) living in poverty, with no option of returning to Afghanistan, legal residence in Turkey, or moving forward to Europe.

The intensifying Ukrainian refugee outflux stemming from the Russian invasion adds further challenges for displaced Afghans. Shifting international priorities and resource allocation towards Ukrainians, coupled with inconsistent regional responses to refugees from different [origins](#), will likely lead to more pushbacks and increased risk for Afghans at Turkey-EU borders. Even prior to the Ukraine crisis, Afghans had faced violent pushbacks and risks in Europe. In January, Greek authorities are reported to have pushed [25 Afghan refugees and migrants](#), including 17 children, back to Turkey. In another incident in February, [19 irregular migrants](#) had been found frozen to death near the Greece-Turkey border after being pushed back by Greek border officials.

On 15 March, the UN High Commissioner for Refugees emphasized that the dire humanitarian situation in Afghanistan [should not be forgotten](#) as the world’s attention is on the conflict in Ukraine. Amid the ongoing political and humanitarian crises in the country, the risks and needs of thousands of Afghans seeking safety in other countries in the region and Europe will require continuous political attention and resources.

Highlighted New Research and Reports



[Forced Displacement and NGOs in Asia and the Pacific](#)

Gül İnanç, Themba Lewis | January 2022

The Asia Pacific region hosts some of the largest numbers of displaced people on the planet, with some of the fewest protections available and sparse frameworks for advancing rights, livelihood, and policy. The region maintains the lowest number of signatory states to international refugee protection covenants, and the majority of national protection and support systems are ad hoc, precarious, and unpredictable. Civil society has very often filled in the gaps but, with the rise of nationalist rhetoric, civil society space has been shrinking. Drawing upon the expertise of academics, practitioners, historians, theorists,

policy makers, political scientists, economists, and the voices of affected communities across the region, this book examines both key case studies and larger regional trends.



[Nepal's human trafficking routes: Mapping destinations for migrant labour using collective data](#)

Freedom Collaborative | February 2022

This report maps destinations for migrant labour using collective data and was made possible through the contributions of two CSOs in Nepal and sheds light on the migrant journey with Nepal as a source country. An outstanding 498 routes were submitted capturing a wide range of destinations traveled by Nepali migrant workers in pursuit of jobs in the hospitality/food/entertainment and manufacturing sectors.



[We also have dreams: Ongoing safety and quality of life issues for Rohingya refugees in Bangladesh](#)

BHRN | February 2022

The report details the human rights problems and quality of life concerns in the Rohingya refugee camps in Bangladesh. It uses information and insights gathered from the refugees in the camps about their experiences, both good and bad, the rights challenges they face, and the hopes and dreams they have. This report gives a voice to the refugees, enabling them to speak for themselves and reach a wider audience in the world.

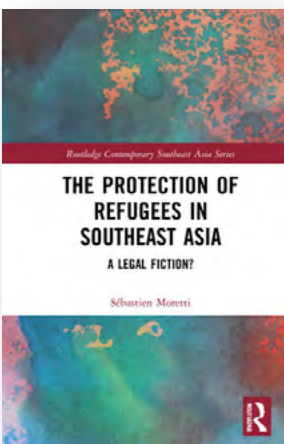


[Indebted Before Departure: Information Arbitrage and Financial Exploitation by Philippine Migration Intermediaries](#)

Migrasia | February 2022

Labor migration is currently the most common predicate action leading to human trafficking and forced labor, and debt bondage is the most common indicator of forced labor. Based on Migrasia's first-hand experience with directly assisting thousands of migrant domestic workers per year, instances of collusion between migration intermediaries in migrants' pre-departure phase have been identified as an enabling factor for abuse. This research seeks to test

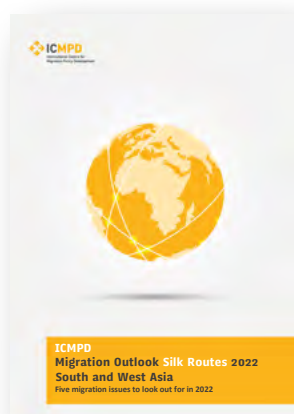
and understand these relationships, filling important knowledge gaps regarding the pre-departure phases of the labor migration process.



[The Protection of Refugees in Southeast Asia: A Legal Fiction?](#)

Sébastien Moretti | February 2022

This book offers a comprehensive and detailed analysis of refugee protection in Southeast Asia from an international law perspective. It examines both the legal and policy frameworks pertaining to the protection of refugees in the region as well as the countries' response to refugee movements from the Indochinese refugee crisis in the mid-1970s to the most recent developments. It covers important aspects of refugee protection, such as access to territory, non-refoulement, the treatment of refugees, the concept of refugee as applied in the region, burden-sharing and durable solutions to the plight of refugees.

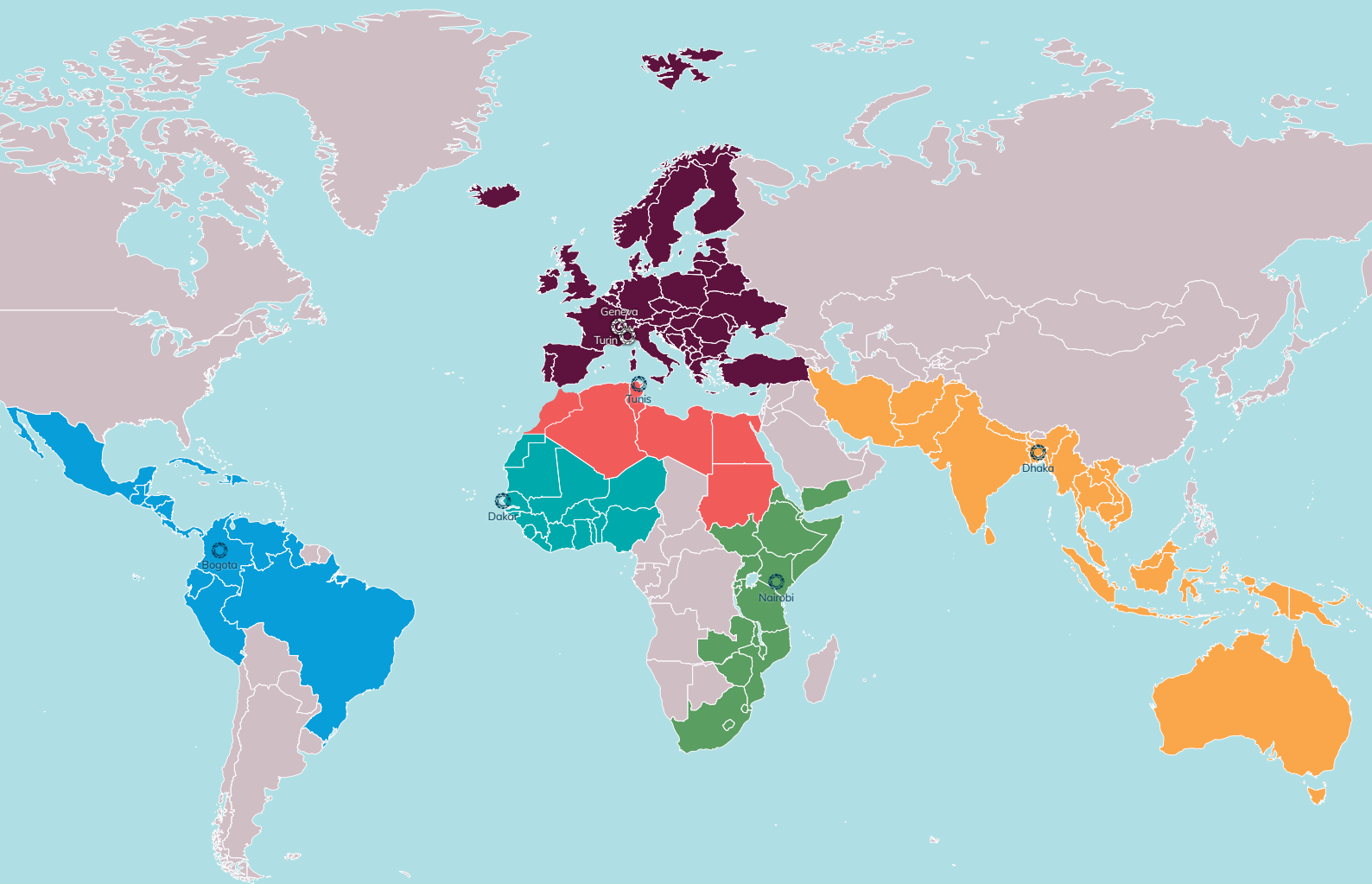


[Migration Outlook Silk Routes 2022 South and West Asia Five migration issues to look out for in 2022](#)

ICMPD | February 2022

While the global upheaval of 2020 caused by the COVID-19 pandemic was unexpected and enduring, 2021 brought new and significant migration and mobility-related challenges for the region of South and West Asia (Silk Routes region). Countries within this region – Afghanistan, Bangladesh, India, Iran, Iraq and Pakistan – continued to face significant challenges domestically related to the continued economic and health impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. In

addition, the region's worsening humanitarian situation has fueled new waves of refugees and internal displacement. These have the potential to further increase regional tensions, economic spillovers, and fiscal strains on host countries. While this report cannot cover all these issues in depth, it aims to provide insights into key developments in the region, as related to migration and mobility.



The MMC is a global network consisting of six regional hubs and a central unit in Geneva engaged in data collection, research, analysis and policy development on mixed migration. The MMC is a leading source for independent and high-quality data, research, analysis and expertise on mixed migration. The MMC aims to increase understanding of mixed migration, to positively impact global and regional migration policies, to inform evidence-based protection responses for people on the move and to stimulate forward thinking in public and policy debates on mixed migration. The MMC's overarching focus is on human rights and protection for all people on the move.

The MMC is part of and governed by the Danish Refugee Council (DRC). Global and regional MMC teams are based in Geneva, Turin, Dakar, Nairobi, Tunis, Bogota and Dhaka.

For more information visit:

mixedmigration.org and follow us at [@Mixed_Migration](https://twitter.com/Mixed_Migration)

