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**WORKING DOCUMENT**

From:	General Secretariat of the Council
To:	Working Party on External Aspects of Asylum and Migration (EMWP)
Subject:	Working Party on External Aspects of Asylum and Migration (EMWP) - presentation

Delegations will find enclosed the presentation given by ICMPD during the meeting of the EMWP held on 21 October 2024, Item 2 on agenda CM 4369/REV1/24.

# Migration trends and challenges in the Silk Routes Region

EMWP Meeting - 21 October 2024

Marija Raus, Head of Silk Routes Regional Office; Marco Mogiani, Researcher

## Agenda

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Migration drivers and challenges

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Migration governance in the region

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Migration to the EU

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ICMPD's response in the region

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Conclusions and way forward

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## Migration drivers and challenges

- Humanitarian drivers
- Political & economic instability
- Climate change
- Labour opportunities

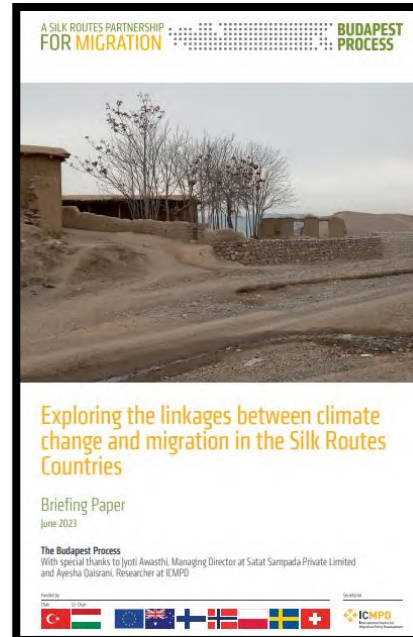
*“Afghan migrants would rather remain in Pakistan than migrate to other countries. However, if faced with forced deportation, they may consider irregular migration to other destinations, including Iran, India, or Afghanistan, albeit with reluctance.”*

Interview with Pakistani stakeholder

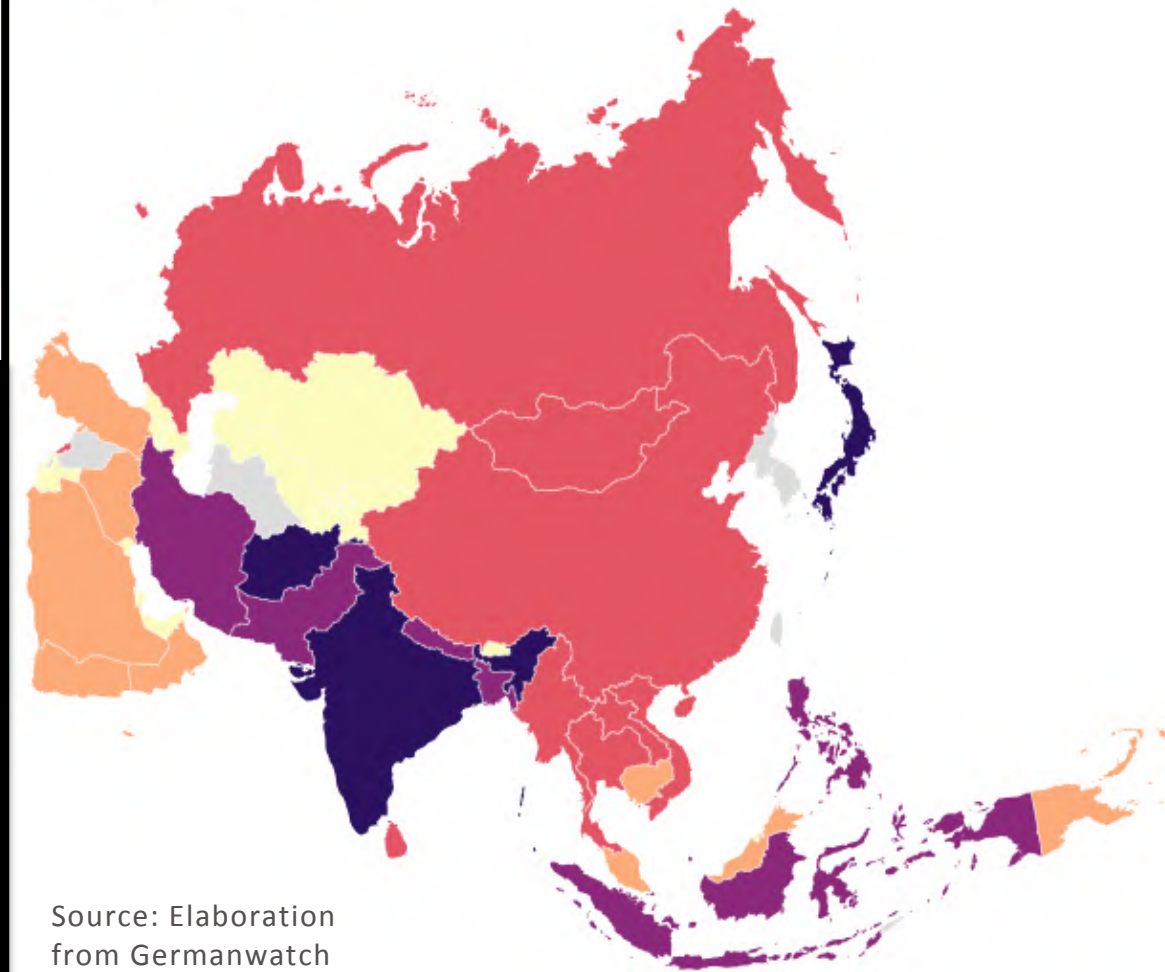
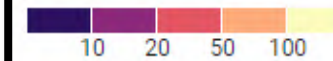


## Migration drivers and challenges

- Humanitarian drivers
- Political & economic instability
- Climate change
- Labour opportunities



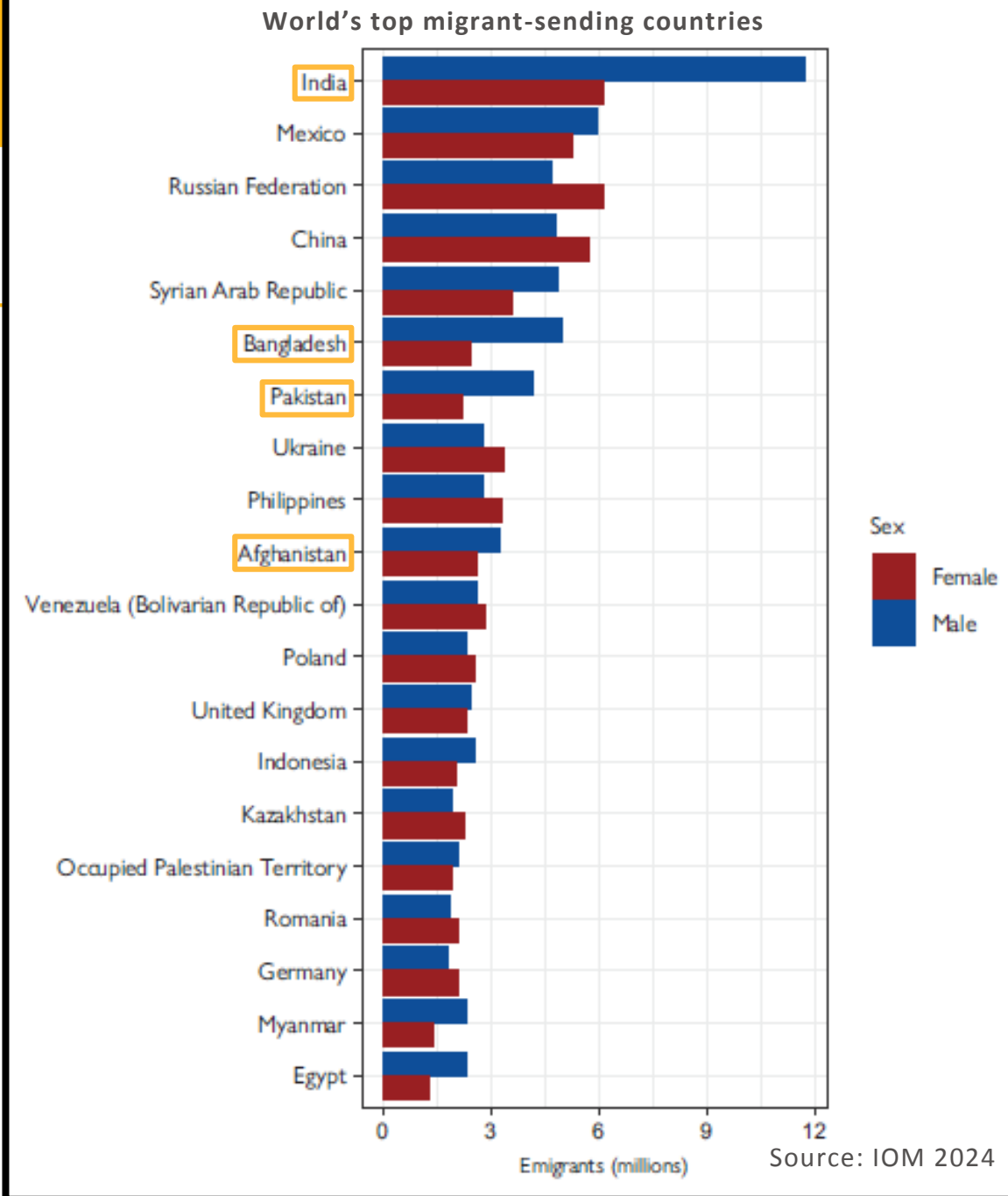
### World Map of the Global Climate Risk Index 2019



Source: Elaboration  
from Germanwatch

## Migration drivers and challenges

- Humanitarian drivers
- Political & economic instability
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- Labour opportunities





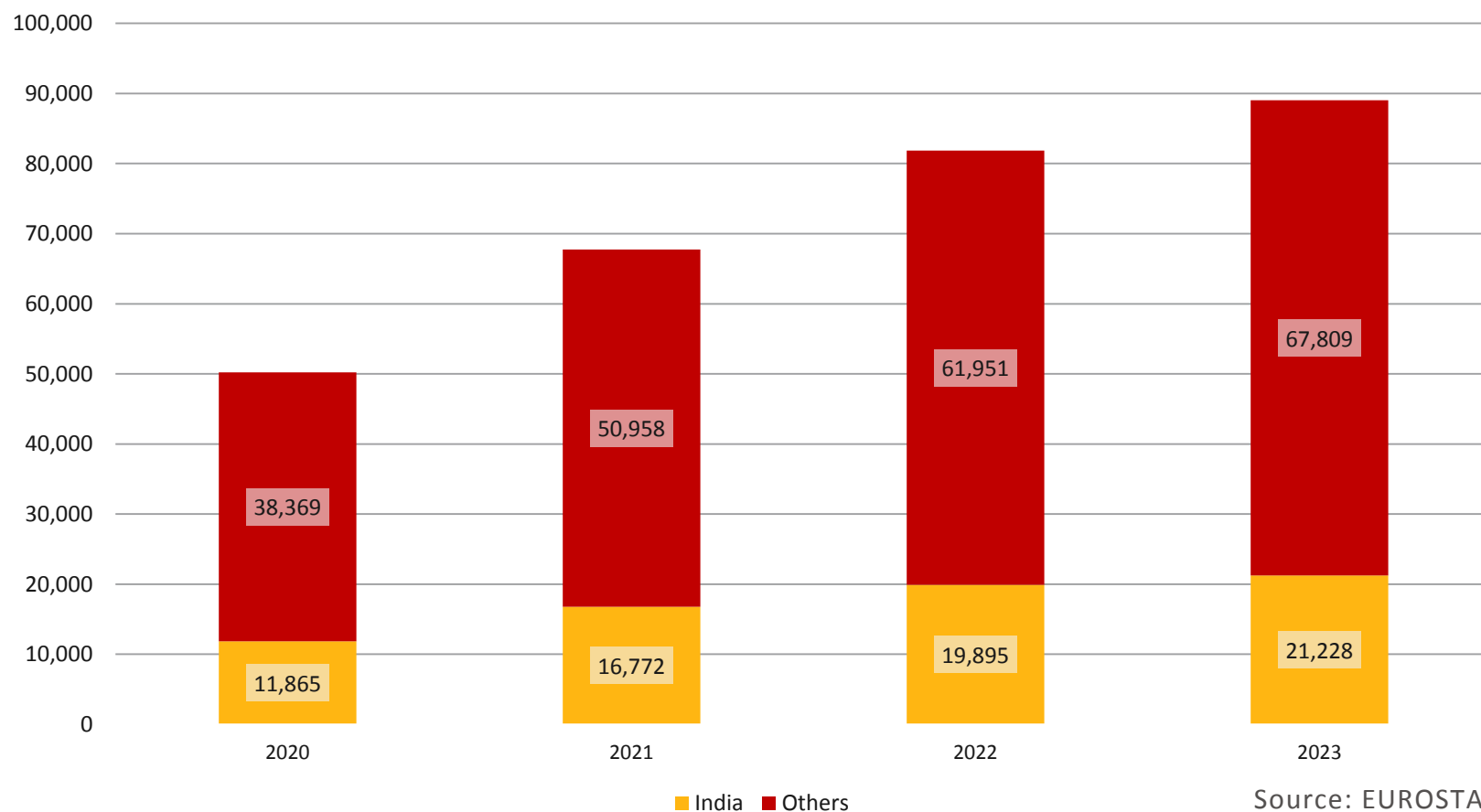
## Migration governance in the region

- Numerous EU/MS programs to resettle (Afghan) refugees but **limited reach** or slow implementation
- Effective and sustainable **reintegration** of returnees remains, but policies are often fragmented
- Initiatives aiming to increase **labour migration pathways** through partnerships with EU destination countries – implementation challenges



## Migration to the EU – Regular labour migration pathways

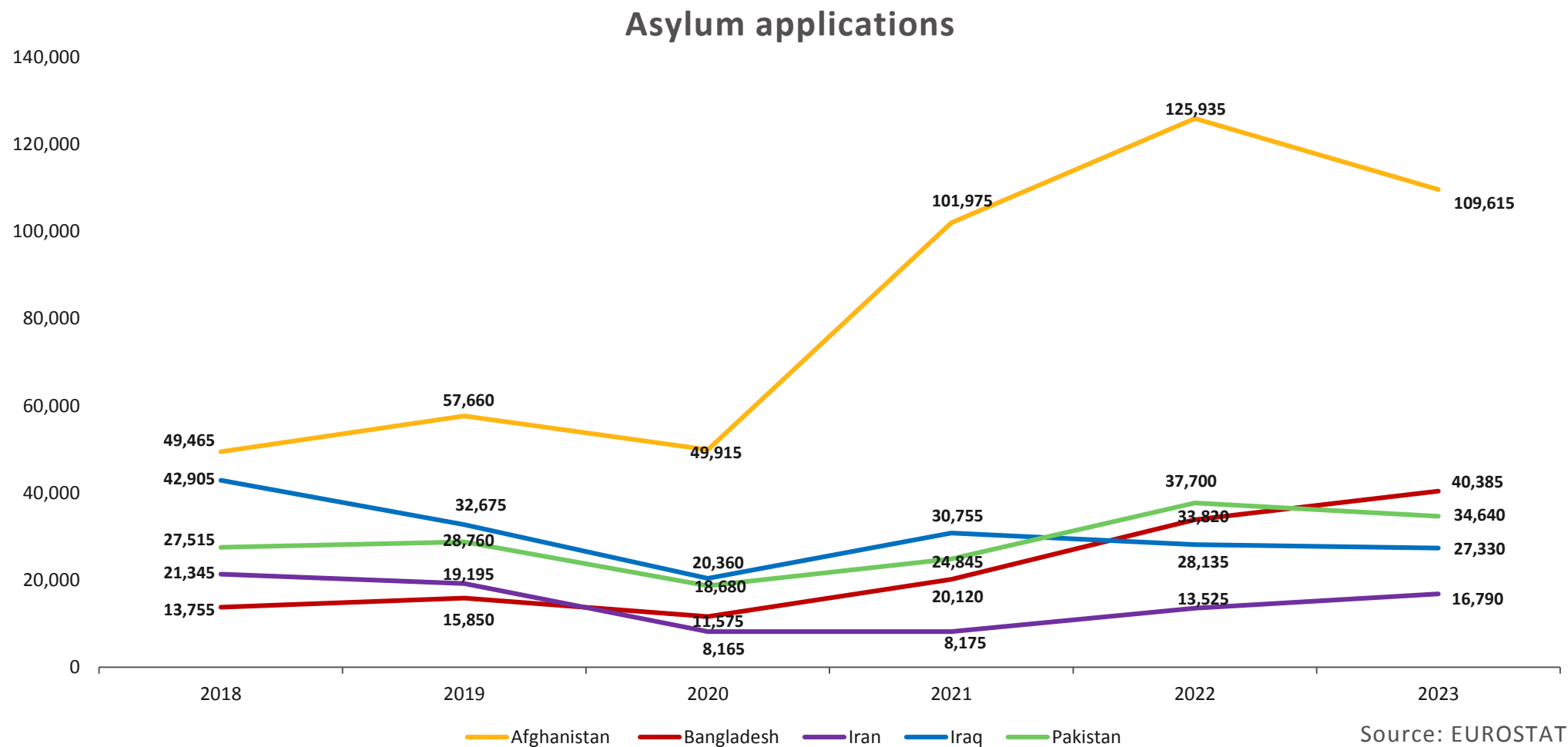
Number of EU Blue Cards granted to Indian citizens in relation to total number



Source: EUROSTAT

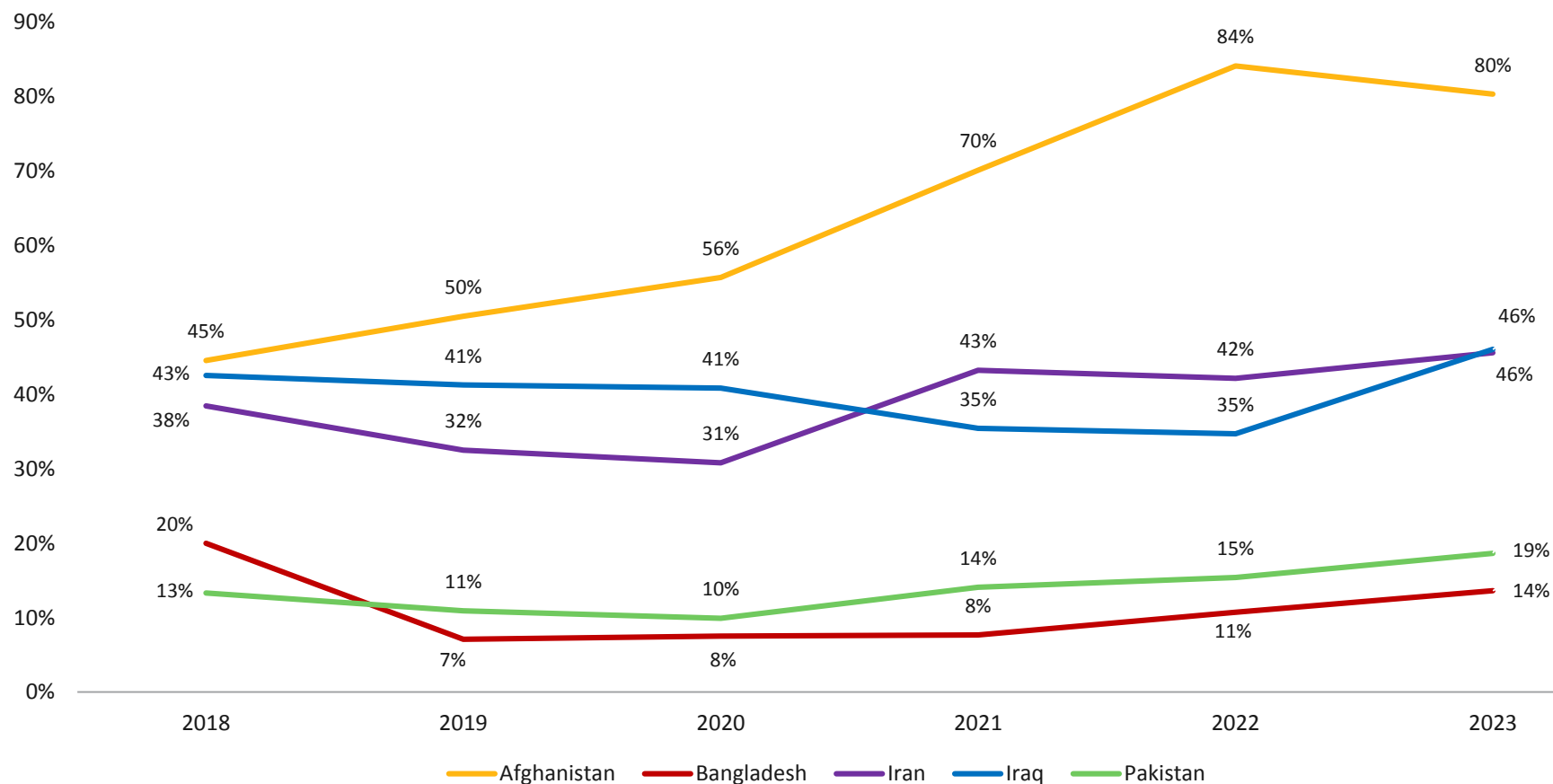


## Migration to the EU – Asylum applications and recognition rates



## Migration to the EU – Asylum applications and recognition rates

Recognition rates of first instance decision in EU among selected nationalities

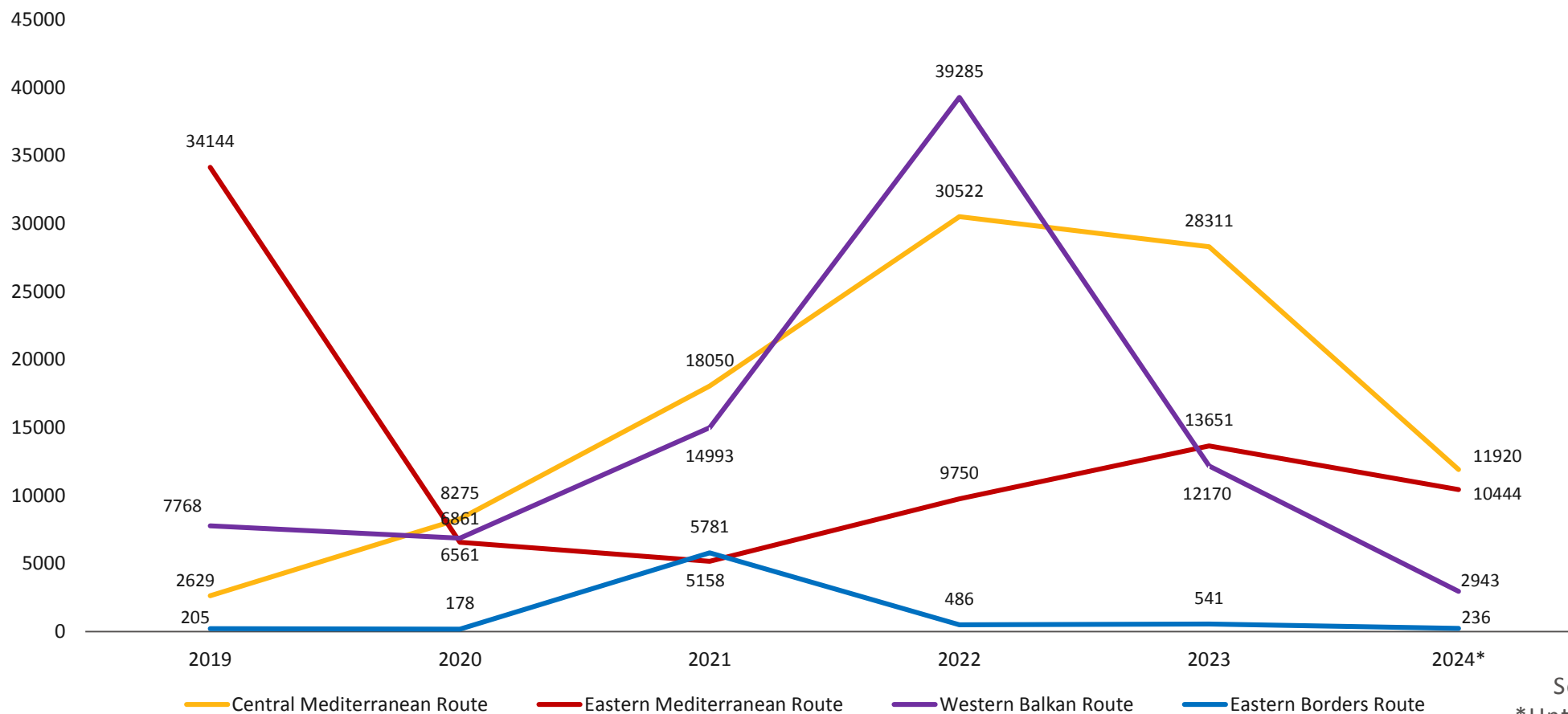


Source: EUROSTAT

Positive instances include  
Refugee Status,  
Subsidiary Protection,  
and Humanitarian Status

## Migration to the EU – Irregular migration

### Detection of irregular entries by main entry routes for Silk Routes nationalities



Source: Frontex  
\*Until August 2024

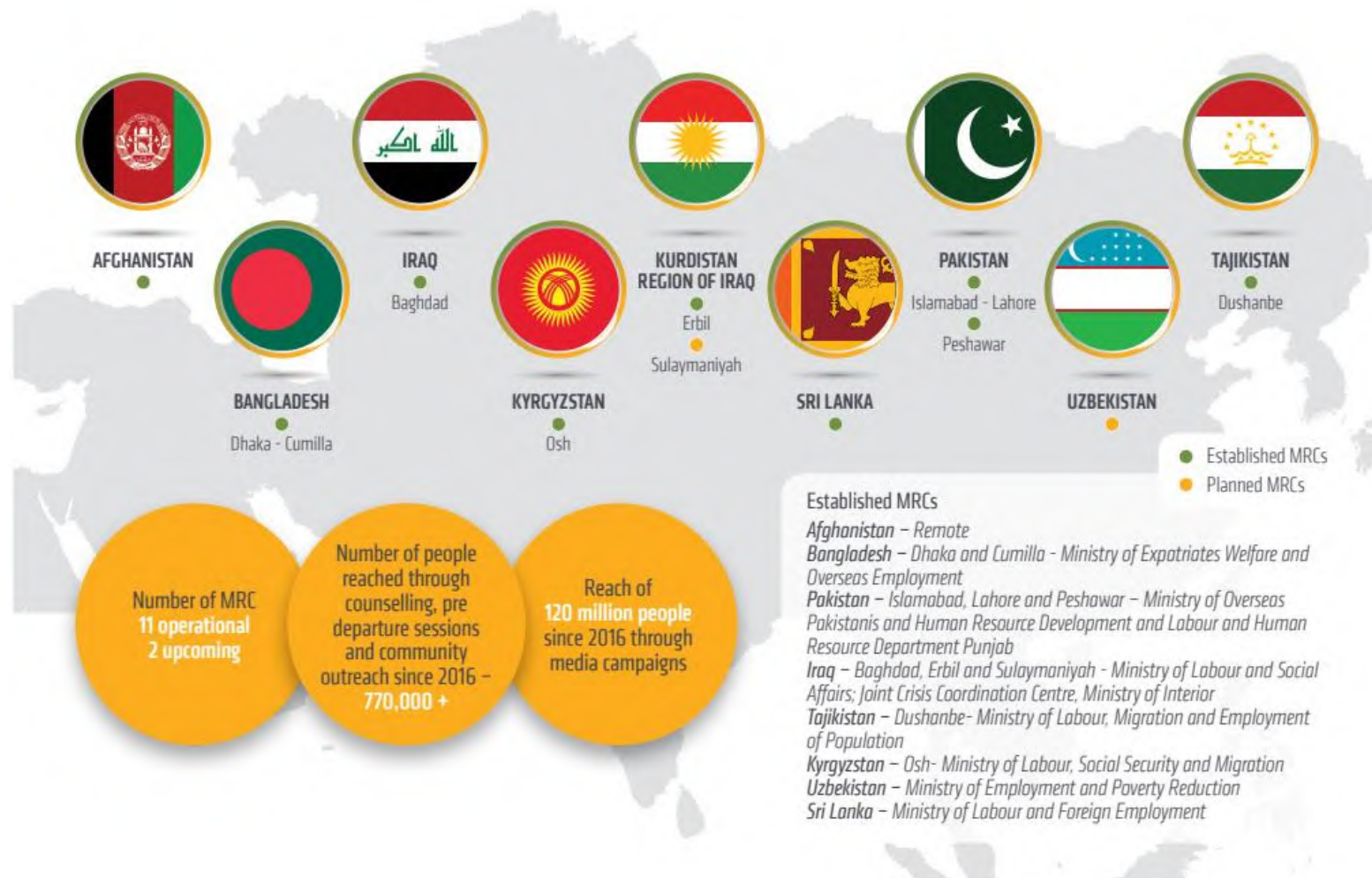
## Migration to the EU – Irregular migration

### Detection of irregular entries by Route, proportion of Silk Routes nationalities

ROUTE	SEPTEMBER 2024	JAN-SEP 2024	JAN-SEP 2023/ JAN-SEP 2024	TOP NATIONALITIES (JAN-SEP 2024)
Eastern Mediterranean	6 754	45 610	15%	Syria, Afghanistan, Egypt
Central Mediterranean	5 607	47 710	-64%	Bangladesh, Syria, Tunisia
Western African	5 092	30 616	+100%	Mali, Senegal, Morocco
Western Balkan	2 265	16 968	-79%	Syria, Türkiye, Afghanistan
Western Mediterranean	1 825	11 483	-1%	Algeria, Morocco, Mali
Eastern Land Border	1 550	13 195	+192%	Ukraine, Somalia, Syria
Exits towards the UK	6 421	47 514	+2%	Afghanistan, Vietnam, Syria

Source: FRONTEX

## ICMPD's response in the region – Migration governance and role of MRCs

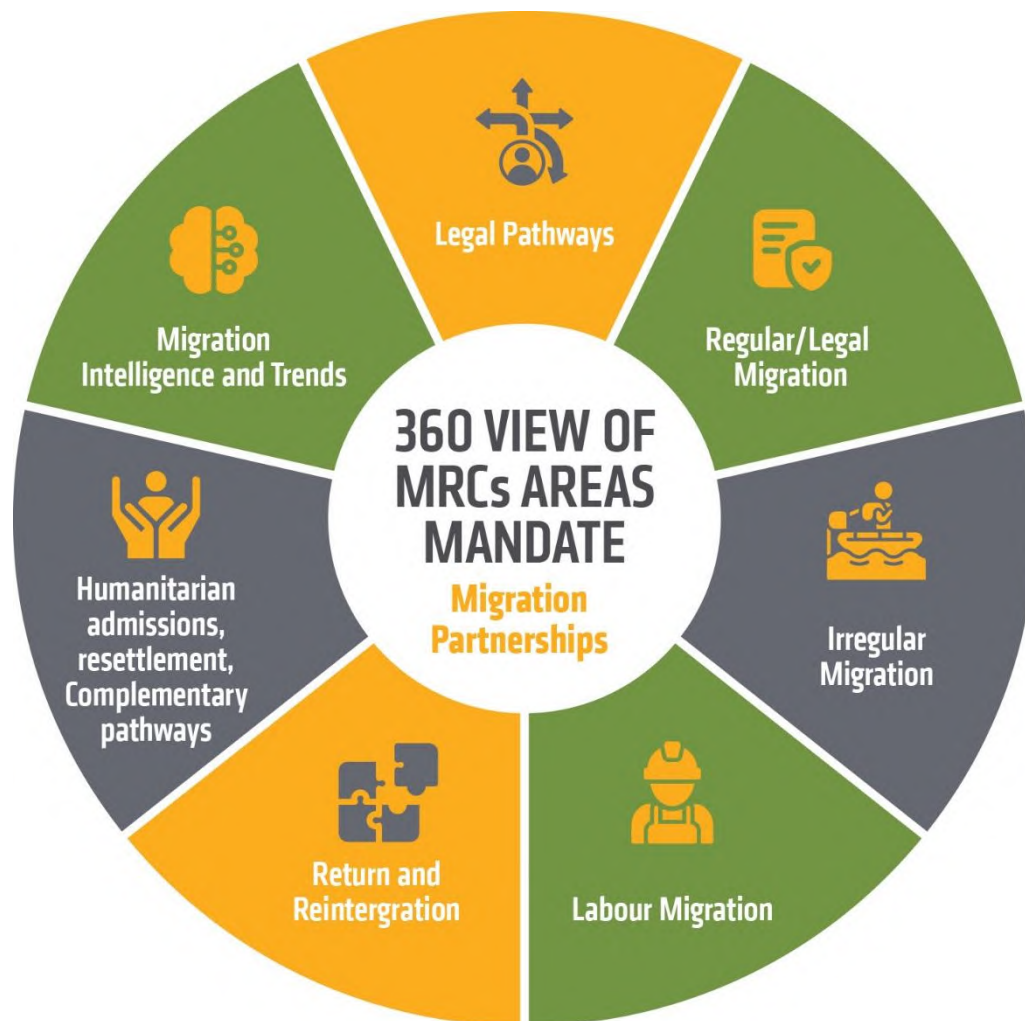




## ICMPD's response in the region – Migrant Resource Centre services



## ICMPD's response in the region – MRC 360 view



### PAKISTAN

- Airport Reception
- Reintegration counselling and referrals
- Labour Market Research Cell
- Afghans in protracted situation
- Counselling during floods (climate induced movements)

### AFGHANISTAN

- Remote operations 24/7
- Afghans along the routes and in all countries
- EUAA partner for resettlement options

### IRAQ

- Reintegration counselling and referral
- CoE for service design and provision
- PSE and referral
- Post-arrival briefing

### BANGLADESH

- Reintegration counselling
- Service catalogue for reintegration referral (RIAT)
- PPP Platform

## ICMPD's response in the region – Integrated Border Management



**National IBM Strategy and Action Plan** in Iraq and Pakistan.



**Rights-Based Approach, Gender Mainstreaming, Child Protection**



**Capacity development and sustainable training systems**



**Risk analysis and contingency planning** institutional units and frameworks in Iraq and Pakistan.



**New technological approaches and management systems.**





## ICMPD's response in the region – Integrated Border Management

**Detection of fraudulent documents and imposters at international airports**



**200% increase in detection of forged documents at Dhaka airport after training (2023)**

**119% increase in detection of forged documents at Lahore, Karachi, Peshawar airports (2020 – 2023)**

**“2<sup>nd</sup> line control” offices opened at 5 international airports in Pakistan;**

**60+ Document Examination Experts trained and deployed in national border agencies**



## Conclusions and way forward

- Continuous challenges...
  - Rising geopolitical tensions in the whole region
  - Continuing political and economic instability
  - Increasing climate-induced displacements
  
- ...require comprehensive solutions
  - Ensure protection to Afghans and displaced people (asylum and complementary pathways)
  - Improve implementation of regular migration pathways to EU (labour, family reunification, student)
  - Strengthen R&R mechanisms and support in CoO
  - Enhance skill and talent partnerships





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**Thank you very much for your attention!**