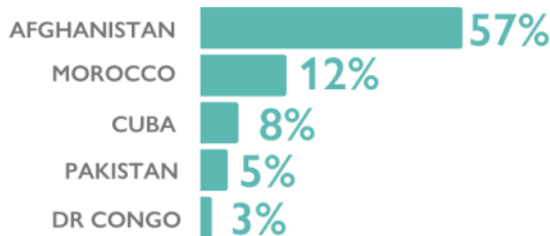


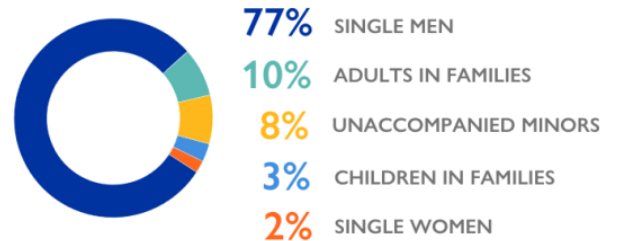
TEMPORARY RECEPTION CENTRES (TRCs)

	OCCUPANCY	CAPACITY	AVG. LENGTH OF STAY (DAYS)
BORIĆI	104	580	7
LIPA	216	1,512	6
BLAŽUJ	425	1,700	7
UŠIVAK	156	800	9
TOTAL:	901	4,592	

TOP 5 NATIONALITIES IN TRCs



SEX AND AGE DISAGGREGATED DATA



MONTHLY ARRIVALS RECORDED BY THE MINISTRY OF SECURITY OF BIH (LAST UPDATE 2 APRIL 2023)

	JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH	APRIL	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUGUST	SEPTEMBER	OCTOBER	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER	TOTAL
2017	77	66	37	5	22	11	29	60	52	105	76	215	755
2018	237	479	598	1,801	2,242	2,295	2,489	2,293	3,710	5,057	1,931	935	24,067
2019	732	1,117	1,721	2,631	2,603	2,096	4,465	2,913	4,557	3,326	1,925	1,110	29,196
2020	882	2,001	1,540	112	512	1,722	2,194	2,618	1,889	1,087	1,064	529	16,150
2021	670	773	1,269	1,271	1,937	1,855	2,236	1,362	1,591	1,547	704	525	15,740
2022	429	578	907	1,567	1,972	2,214	2,615	2,389	4,640	5,010	1,856	3,252	27,429
2023	1,363	1,460	1,960										5,201

SITUATION OVERVIEW

On 13 April 2023, a cystoscope for the Cantonal Hospital "Dr. Irfan Ljubijankić" in Bihać was officially handed over by the Head of the European Union (EU) Delegation and EU Special Representative in Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH), Ambassador Johann Sattler, to the Head of the Department of Pediatric Surgery and Specialist in Pediatric Surgery, Dr Damir Čirić, in the presence of UN Resident Coordinator in BiH Ingrid Macdonald and IOM Chief of Mission in BiH and Sub-regional Coordinator for the Western Balkans, Laura Lungarotti. The cystoscope will be used in the treatment of young patients, who previously had to be transported to Sarajevo for cystoscopy examinations due to the lack of this instrument in the canton.

On 11 April, the Chief of Mission of IOM in BiH had an introductory meeting with the newly appointed Director of the Border Police of BiH, Mirko Kuprešaković. They discussed the current situation in relation to migratory flows in the country and the Western Balkans, and the ongoing successful cooperation between IOM and Border Police in BiH.

Between 3-6 April, IOM organized a simulation-based training for representatives of prosecution offices, ministries of interior, police agencies and

social welfare institutions from Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro, and Serbia on "Effective Inter-Institutional Cooperation to Combat Human Trafficking and Migrant Smuggling". Frontline practitioners shared knowledge and enhanced skills for the investigation of trafficking and smuggling cases, and promotion of victim-centered and child-sensitive approaches during the process.



DONATION OF A CYSTOSCOPE FOR THE CANTONAL HOSPITAL "DR. IRFAN LJUBIJANKIĆ" IN BIHAĆ ©IOM 2023

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COORDINATION & MANAGEMENT

Between 3 and 16 April, IOM recorded a total of 1,993 new arrivals and 2,481 new departures in all reception centres in BiH. The flow of migrants remains intense, with the majority of beneficiaries staying only a few days in the centres.

In TRC Lipa, IOM in cooperation with the Service for Foreigners' Affairs (SFA), the Biotechnical Faculty/Forestry Department of the University of Bihać and migrant volunteers planted 200 tree seedlings to mark the upcoming Earth Day on 22 April. This initiative is part of the project Engaging Youth in Environmental and Socio-economically Sustainable Initiatives funded by the IOM Development Fund.

The tree planting activity builds on other green initiatives implemented in the centre with the engagement of migrants and young people promoting responsible treatment of the environment. UN Resident Coordinator in BiH Ingrid Macdonald and IOM Chief of Mission in BiH and Sub-regional Coordinator for the Western Balkans Laura Lungarotti joined the activities.

TRC Lipa recently hosted two events that celebrated the cultural and religious diversity of migrant community accommodated in the centre. The first event was iftar organized during Ramadan for migrant residents by IOM, a Culinary High School from Cazin municipality and the City of Bihać Red Cross. The iftar was attended by an imam and Catholic and Orthodox priests. The second event was a celebration of Catholic Easter which started with traditional egg coloring followed by an Easter lunch and a church service for migrants who commemorate the holiday. In TRC Blažuj, on 16 April, IOM organized a celebration to mark Orthodox Easter as well, with many migrants joining the activities.

of emergency screenings in TRCs: 1,313

of persons with protection risks and needs: 163

of people reached with information sessions: 1,329

of referrals to specialized and non-specialized services: 359



200 TREE SEEDLINGS WERE PLANTED IN TRC LIPA TO MARK APPROACHING EARTH DAY.
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PROTECTION, PARTICIPATION & ACCOUNTABILITY

Between 3 and 16 April, IOM facilitated a total of 1,313 emergency screenings, through which 163 persons with protection needs were identified. IOM provided individual assistance, including interpretation and logistical support (such as orientation at the TRCs, provision of documents) to 359 persons while 1,329 individuals were reached through information provision and awareness raising sessions.

In TRC Blažuj, IOM, the SFA and partner organizations revised the existing accountability to affected population mechanisms to find the best solutions on how to ensure migrants are able to exercise their right to participation in decision-making process in the centre, particularly in light of the intense turnover of beneficiaries in recent months which has affected the community representatives selection process as well as their availability in the long run. All stakeholders agreed to organize focus groups with migrants to discuss relevant topics on a weekly basis with interested beneficiaries as a substitute for the community representatives' council (CRC) meetings. IOM will continue to hold CRC meetings whenever the circumstances allow.

In TRC Blažuj, on 13 and 14 April, the IOM CCCM team in coordination with the SFA hosted a visit of representatives of artistic association Teatro Nuovo from Italy, who together with the Sarajevo War Theater and Para Film and Theater from Norway, run the EU-funded theater project Expanding Theater Landscape. The purpose of the visit was to establish collaboration that would enable the participation of migrants in the mentioned theater project.

IOM CCCM teams in TRC Blažuj and TRC Ušivak coordinated the transfer of 75 unaccompanied or separated children from TRC Blažuj to TRC Ušivak during the reporting period. The admission process was carried out in coordination with the SFA and World Vision, where the latter accompanied the children during registration and other services provided by IOM.

In all TRCs in BiH, 31 skills assessment questionnaires were conducted during the reporting period.



COORDINATION OF TRANSFER OF UASC FROM TRC BLAŽUJ TO TRC UŠIVAK TO ENABLE PROTECTION-SENSITIVE RECEPTION.
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SHELTER, WATER, SANITATION & HYGIENE (WASH)

IOM's maintenance and cleaning team inspects all TRC installations daily, with two cleanings per day, weekly disinfection, disinfestation, and derating measures, and regular repairs on shelters and sanitary installations. IOM maintenance staff carried out finishing works on the newly constructed gazebo in TRC Blažuj. This included the construction of a concrete table, which will be covered with ceramic tiles and completed with benches.



A GAZEBO UNDER CONSTRUCTION IN TRC BLAŽUJ.
©IOM 2023

Between 10-16 April, Afghanistan (46%) was the main declared nationality of assisted migrants, followed by China (15%), Cuba and Pakistan (each 8%), Morocco (5%), Algeria (4%), Burundi (3%) and others (1% or below).

of persons transported: 113

of information sessions: 360



IOM AVRR TEAM SHARING INFORMATION IN OUTREACH IN TUZLA.
©IOM 2023

FOOD & NON-FOOD ITEMS (NFI)

In all TRCs, IOM conducted its regular food and NFI distribution activities with partner organizations such as the Red Cross and Pomozi.ba. During the reporting period, a total of 24,466 meals and 15,721 NFIs were distributed. IOM Migrant Protection Assistants provided daily food in accommodation units for people who are unable to have a meal in the dining room for health reasons. In all reception centres the distribution of meals continued smoothly in accordance with the regular and Ramadan timetables.

of meals distributed: 24,466

of NFIs distributed: 15,721

ASSISTANCE OUTSIDE OF RECEPTION FACILITIES

IOM has mobile teams that are present at locations outside of TRCs to increase access to information and services for migrants staying outside of formal reception facilities, with the aim to reduce the number of migrants camping or squatting in abandoned buildings.

The mobile teams screen for vulnerabilities, provide emergency assistance, and provide transportation services for migrants to TRCs upon request.

During the reporting period, IOM's mobile teams provided 38 transportation services for 113 migrants and conducted 360 information sessions.

RETURN & ALTERNATIVE SOLUTIONS

IOM provides administrative, logistical and financial support, including reintegration assistance, to migrants who decide to return to country of origin.

Between 3-16 April, IOM reached 298 migrants, of which 151 were in TRCs and 147 migrants in out of site locations, through information sessions on Assisted Voluntary Return and Reintegration (AVRR). A total of 115 counselling sessions were held to ensure that beneficiaries are well informed and aware of the assistance available during pre-departure, travel and post-arrival.

In the reporting period, six persons returned to their countries of origin (1 to Algeria, 1 to Italy and 4 to Morocco). Among those returnees, one person had medical issues and thus medical assistance and an escort were provided to support their travel. From 3-4 April, IOM organized a two-day workshop in Sarajevo based on the "Return Counselling Toolkit - Module on Return Counselling of Children and Families". The main goal of this workshop was to provide migration practitioners and professionals including representatives of the centres for social work and SFA working with children and families with practical tools and knowledge to support and provide assistance to children and families in line with international treaties and standards as well as local legislation. The workshop increased the understanding on and capacity of participants to provide rights-based and child-sensitive assistance and return counselling.

Assisted Voluntary Returns since 2018: 1,348

Assisted Voluntary Returns in 2023: 24

Applications for Assisted Voluntary Returns in 2023: 37

Universal language of friendship - IOM Protection and MHPSS team shared a Story

“Celebrating our differences enables us to open our minds and discover new ideas and experiences, accept differences and develop new ways of thinking.” - Dragana Radović, IOM Migrant Protection Assistant

In the Temporary Reception Center (TRC) Ušivak, the IOM Protection and Mental Health and Psychosocial Support Team conducts creative workshops featuring decoupage and acrylic painting, during which migrants learn new skills, express their creative potential and socialize.

Alisa, Shen, Lisa Marie and Mariam do not speak the same language. They come from countries located on four different continents and have different backgrounds, goals and aspirations. Yet, they are able to communicate and understand each other during creative workshops. In the TRC, they found friendship, emotional support and comfort. These recreational and creative activities represent a means of distraction and social cohesion for beneficiaries receiving continuous assistance in TRCs. At the individual emotional level, such activities help to release stress and anxieties and promote self-reliance. Relationally, they create strong bonds, break barriers and help to discuss common issues.



A CREATIVE WORKSHOPS IN TRC UŠIVAK FOR FEMALE BENEFICIARIES.
©IOM 2023

As per IOM Flow Monitoring Surveys*, in 2022, women represented 6.2 per cent of migrants interviewed in the Western Balkan region. Up to 10 per cent are travelling alone while 90 per cent are travelling with a group. Female migrants may face stronger discrimination and are more vulnerable to mistreatment. IOM supports many creative and art-based activities that can be carried out to address the complex psychosocial situations that groups of migrants and displaced people go through. These activities are tailored to be suitable for the specific population group (taking into account age, gender, migratory history, identified psychosocial needs), the context and the resources available to them.

**Based on the survey of 1,069 adult migrants interviewed in Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Serbia and Kosovo* in the summer and fall of 2022.*

MAIN GAPS

The mixed migration response in Bosnia and Herzegovina is providing life-saving assistance to migrants, as well as technical capacities to local authorities. IOM and its partners are seeking additional funding to support activities in the area of migrant protection and protection-sensitive reception. Capacity-building also remains a priority to progress towards the overarching goal of ensuring state ownership of the mixed migration response.

