

#### **BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA MIGRATION RESPONSE** SITUATION REPORT 10 - 23 JULY 2023

UNA-SANA CANTON										TEMPORARY REC OCCUPANCY C.		AVG. LEN	CENTRES (TRCs) AVG. LENGTH OF STAY (DAYS)	
					$\sim \leq 1$	BORIĆI			77	580		6		
365					LIPA				288	1,512		6		
SARAJEVO CANTON														
							— BLAŽUJ		886	1,	700	00 6		
1,09				1,09	9		<u> </u>	/AK	213	800		9		
							тот	AL:	1,464	4 4,	592			
TOP 5 NATIONALITIES IN TRCs SEX AND AGE DISAGGREGATED DATA														
AFGHANISTAN			65%						JLA	85%			DUNA	
MOROCCO		co	15%							7%	UNACCOMPANIED MINO		D MINORS	
PAKISTAN			5%							5%	ADULTS IN FAMILIES		LIES	
IRAN			4%						2%	CHILD	REN IN FA	MILIES		
	ALGE	RIA	2%						1% SINGLE WOMEN					
MONTHLY ARRIVALS RECORDED BY THE MINISTRY OF SECURITY OF BIH														
	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	732 882	1,117 2,001	1,721 1,540	2,631 112	2,603 512	2,096 1,722	4,465 2,194	2,913 2,618	4,557 1,889	3,326 1,087	1,925 1,064	1,110 529	29,196 16,150	
2020	670	773	1,540	1,271	1,937	1,855	2,174	1,362	1,007	1,547	704	529	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	1,781	1,460	1,960	2,065	2,893	2,772	1,177						14,108	

# SITUATION OVERVIEW

IOM Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH) organized the presentation of the new guidebook on "Smuggling and human trafficking - prevention and protection".

The tool aims to support those working in direct contact with vulnerable populations such as migrants and asylum-seekers to recognize signs and indicators of human trafficking and/or migrants smuggling. Representatives of the Ministry of Security of BiH, the Department for Combating Human Trafficking, the Service of Foreigners' Affairs (SFA), as well as the staff of agencies, institutions and organizations directly involved in the mixed migration response attended the presentation.

On the joint initiative of IOM BiH and the Technical Faculty of the University of Bihać, in coordination with the SFA and UNHCR, a pilot Informatics and Programming project was launched in the Temporary Reception Center (TRC) Lipa. The project aims to improve migrants and asylum seekers' skills and knowledge in the field of IT and programming.



THE GUIDEBOOK "SMUGGLING AND HUMAN TRAFFICKING PREVENTION AND PROTECTION" WAS DEVELOPED BY IOM AND PRESENTED IN SERIES OF EVENTS TO THE MAIN MIGRATION RESPONSE STAKEHOLDERS AND STAFF ENGAGED IN DIRECT WORK WITH MIGRANTS IN RECEPTION CENTRES. ©IOM 2023

### CONTACTS

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#### **BIH MIGRATION RESPONSE**

## **COORDINATION & MANAGEMENT**

Between 10 and 23 July, IOM recorded a total of 3,675 people who arrived in four temporary reception centres including newly registered and those previously registered who returned for assistance and 3,342 new departures. The flow of migrants remains intense, with most beneficiaries staying only a few days in the centres.

IOM and the Service for Foreigners' Affairs (SFA) organized a joint weekly interagency camp coordination and camp management (CCCM) meeting for Sarajevo Canton reception centres with representatives of partner organizations. The primary objective of the meeting was to address operational challenges and identify the common key tasks. IOM informed the participants that the Pre-registration zone in TRC Blažuj will be expanded by integrating one additional building and two container zones. The expansion will enhance the capacity of the Zone by providing more than 200 additional sleeping spaces.

In TRC Blažuj, IOM organized a working meeting with representatives of partner organizations to discuss the plan for relocating migrants from the collective accommodation to container units. The relocation will facilitate better control of bed bug infestations and improve overall hygiene conditions within the centre. To ensure an effective process, a relocation protocol will be developed in collaboration with IOM's Public Health focal point. The joint effort among all parties aims to enhance the living conditions and health standards for the migrants within the centre.

In TRC Ušivak, IOM's camp coordination and camp management (CCCM) team in coordination with the SFA admitted 112 unaccompanied or separated children (UASC), eleven families and one single women, following the coordinated relocation from TRC Blažuj to TRC Ušivak. The admission process was also carried out in coordination with World Vision regarding the legal guardians support.

# PROTECTION, PARTICIPATION & ACCOUNTABILITY

Between 10 and 23 July, IOM facilitated a total of 2,173 emergency screenings, through which 414 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 170 persons.

On 19 July, IOM participated in a meeting of the Cantonal Working Group for Child Protection organized by UNICEF to review the current situation and field interventions related to child protection, identify key challenges encountered and coordinate the next steps.

In TRC Blažuj, IOM's Protection and Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS) team initiated customized awareness sessions including coordination with relevant partner agencies. The sessions were designed to inform beneficiaries about the mental health services available within the centre. Careful consideration was given to tailoring the content of these brief and informative sessions to accommodate the diverse backgrounds of beneficiaries, taking into account factors such as their country of origin, cultural norms, belief systems, educational levels, and individual autonomy.

In TRC Blažuj, IOM organized a protection coordination meeting with DRC, Médecins du Monde (MdM) and UNFPA. The primary focus was to discuss crucial issues affecting the beneficiaries' protection and well-being. Key outcomes from the meeting include a decision to develop a new roadmap for reporting Gender-Based Violence (GBV) incidents and enhance measures to effectively combat GBV. Furthermore, participants agreed to organize a GBV refresher training to improve the knowledge and capabilities of the TRC staff and partners in dealing with GBV-related cases sensitively and effectively. This initiative will strengthen the safeguarding mechanisms in place and foster a more supportive and secure environment for beneficiaries.



Newly arrived migrants waiting for registration and emergency screening in TRC Blažuj. ©IOM 2023

IOM serves refreshment for newly arrived migrants waiting in line in TRC Blažuj, ©IOM 2023

# of emergency screenings in TRCs: 2,173# of persons with protection risks and needs: 414

# of individual assistance: 170# of people reached through information provision: 1,487

#### SHELTER, WATER, SANITATION & HYGIENE (WASH)

IOM's maintenance and cleaning team inspects all installations at reception centres daily, with two cleanings per day, and weekly disinfection, disinfestation, and derating measures, and regular repairs on shelters and sanitary installations.

Mother and Baby Wash Unit (MBWU) services were used by 128 beneficiaries, 72 mothers, and 56 children (29 female and 27 male), and 60 bags of clothes have been washed. Regular cleaning of MBWU premises and the area around the unit was conducted daily.

In TRC Blažuj, construction works started on the installation of a power substation which will connect the upper section of the centre directly to the public power grid. The upgrade will make the reliance on generators redundant and ensure a reliable power supply to meet the energy needs of the centre.

# of persons sheltered in the TRCs: 1,464# of laundry services: 1,016

#### FOOD & NON-FOOD ITEMS (NFI)

In all TRCs, IOM conducted its regular food and non-food items (NFI) distribution activities with partner organizations such as the Red Cross and Pomozi.ba.

During the reporting period, a total of 33,149 meals and 18,748 NFIs were distributed.

# of meals distributed: 33,149# of complimentary baby food distributed: 437# of NFIs distributed: 18,748

#### 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.

During the reporting period, IOM's mobile teams provided 54 transportation services mainly to reception centres for 282 migrants and conducted 418 information sessions.

#### # of persons transported: 282

# of information sessions: 418

## **RETURN & ALTERNATIVE SOLUTIONS**

IOM provides administrative, logistical and financial support, including reintegration assistance, to migrants who decide to return to their country of origin. Between 10-23 July the IOM AVRR teams provided assistance to 706 migrants, of which 405 were located in reception centre and 301 were in out-of-site locations. Information sessions on assisted voluntary return and reintegration were conducted to ensure that beneficiaries are well-informed about the assistance available during pre-departure, travel, and post-arrival. Additionally, 40 counselling sessions were held to provide migrants with personalized support.

During the reporting period, two persons returned to their countries of origin (Pakistan and Russia) with IOM AVRR assistance.

In collaboration with the NGO Vaša prava, IOM's Protection and AVRR teams regularly organize legal information sessions for migrants accommodated in reception centres. At these sessions, the AVRR team provides additional information about the migrants' rights, key details of AVRR assistance, and reintegration opportunities in their community before they return to their country of origin.

# # Assisted Voluntary Returns since 2018: 1,363# Assisted Voluntary Returns in 2023: 39



WORKS IN PROGRESS ON BUILDING A POWER SUBSTATION IN TRC BLAŽUJ THAT WILL REPLACE GENERATORS. ©IOM 2023



IOM AVRR team sharing information about AVRR services in BiH for migrants in outreach. ©IOM 2023

# The Morin Khuur as only luggage

In 2020, an estimated one in eleven Mongolians was living abroad. Mongolians migrating to other countries are mostly young skilled people, looking for better wages and a better quality of life, both for their families and for themselves.

Altan\* is thirty-year-old. His home is in Mongolia. A few years ago, Altan took the decision to leave his country and start his journey to Europe in search of a better future for himself.

With his Morin Khuur instrument as only luggage, he travelled through Türkiye, Greece and Serbia before reaching Bosnia and Herzegovina.

"My goal is to share my musical heritage and teach people from around the world about the significance of the Morin Khuur." - Altan

The Morin Khuur, also known as the horsehead fiddle, is a traditional Mongolian bowed stringed instrument. It is one of the most important musical instruments of the Mongol people. Altan learned to play the Morin Khuur while studying at an Art and Music College in Mongolia. In every country he stops, he plays a piece of music, sharing the beauty of the Mongolian tradition.

"Altan is currently in the TRC Borić; actively fostering a vibrant cultural exchange and making TRC Borići a hub of diversity and understanding."- Dalila Alihodzic, IOM Migrant Protection Assistant

Each beneficiary accommodated in the TRCs in BiH has a different background, specific needs and a unique story to share. In 2022, to better understand beneficiaries' needs and adapt services and activities in reception centres, IOM conducted 1,488 surveys in order to learn about the educational and professional backgrounds of the residents.

\*The name has been changed to protect privacy



Traditional Mongolian tunes resonated in TRC Borići thanks TO ALTAN\* MASTERY WITH THE MOORIN KHUUR INSTRUMENT. ©IOM 2023







MINISTARSTVO SIGURNOSTI **BOSNE I HERCEGOVINE** MINISTRY OF SECURITY OF BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA





Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs





Generalitat de Catalunya Government of Catalonia



This situation report was produced by IOM and includes updates on activities implemented in the context of the mixed migration response in Bosnia and Herzegovina. Its contents are the sole responsibility of IOM and do not necessarily reflect the views of the European Union or any of the donors represented.