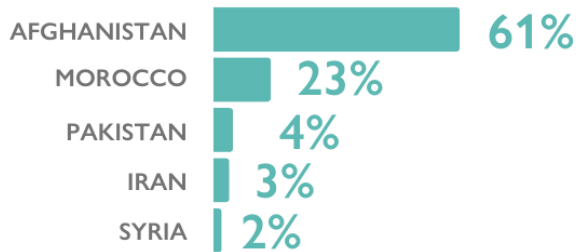


### TEMPORARY RECEPTION CENTRES (TRCs)

	OCCUPANCY	CAPACITY	AVG. LENGTH OF STAY (DAYS)
BORIĆI	69	580	6
LIPA	207	1,512	6
BLAŽUJ	1,168	1,700	5
UŠIVAK	169	800	9
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>1,613</b>	<b>4,592</b>	

### TOP 5 NATIONALITIES IN TRCs



### SEX AND AGE DISAGGREGATED



- 88%** SINGLE MEN
- 4%** ADULTS IN FAMILIES
- 4%** UNACCOMPANIED MINORS
- 3%** CHILDREN IN FAMILIES
- 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	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	1,781	1,460	1,960	2,065	2,893	2,772	3,967	904					17,802

## SITUATION OVERVIEW

On 8 August, IOM's Chief of Mission in Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH), Laura Lungarotti, met with the Minister of Foreign Affairs of BiH, Elmedin Konaković. IOM supports BiH priorities related to migration management, labour mobility and regional/international cooperation, as well as the EU accession process and transition to a state-led migration response.

New representatives of the Kingdom of Norway visited TRCs Ušivak and Blažuj to engage with migrants and staff on the response provided to mixed migration flows in BiH and the Western Balkans. Thanks to the support of Norway, the infrastructure and services available in several reception centres in the region were improved over the last two years.

The No Nation Fashion (NNF) brand and social enterprise were featured prominently during the 29th edition of the Sarajevo Film Festival, to promote values of inclusion, diversity, sustainability. During the event, Maja Čengić Miralem, the Head of Music and Entertainment Program at Radio and Television of Bosnia and Herzegovina (BHRT) wore an NNF creation, made by the migrants and fashion designers in BiH.



REPRESENTATIVES OF THE KINGDOM OF NORWAY VISIT IN TRC BLAŽUJ ©IOM 2023

### CONTACTS

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## COORDINATION & MANAGEMENT

Between 7 and 20 August, IOM recorded a total of 4,690 people who arrived in four temporary reception centres, including newly registered and those previously registered who returned for assistance and 4,830 new departures.

In TRC Blažuj, there has been a significant increase in the number of new arrivals, notably during night-time hours. This trend is putting pressure on operational capacities, assistance and stocks of food and non-food items (NFIs). During the reporting period, only in the TRC Blažuj, more than 31,000 meals were provided, 6,800 non-food items distributed, and 218 persons assisted with transportation services.

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.

In TRC Ušivak, as a part of the No Nation Fashion studio activities, a jewellery making workshop was organized. A total of 15 female beneficiaries participated in the workshop. The workshop aim was to provide a space for creativity and an inspiring environment for fashion ideas.

In TRC Borići, a final event was organized to celebrate the closing of the Heart Summer School, an initiative which aim was to support migrant children and children from local communities to gain knowledge and skills. During the event, all school participants received diplomas and were able to share their impressions on the knowledge gained.

In TRC Lipa, to timely prepare for the heating season, a supply of 20 tons of pellets was procured for heating purposes within the center.

## PROTECTION, PARTICIPATION & ACCOUNTABILITY

Between 24 July and 6 August, IOM facilitated a total of 2,588 emergency screenings, through which 286 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 117 persons while 1,230 individuals were reached through information provision and awareness raising sessions.

In TRC Lipa, during the reporting period, the IOM Protection Team raised the awareness of beneficiaries on the risks related to Trafficking in Human Beings and Smuggling of Migrants. Leaflets which were translated into various languages and previously approved by the SFA were also shared with beneficiaries.

In TRC Borići, the trend of admission of unaccompanied and separated children (UASC) continued, with a total of 53 UASC arrivals recorded during the reporting period. At all stages of the journey, children on the move are disproportionately vulnerable to violence, abuse, exploitation, trafficking and detention. This vulnerability is moreover intensified for unaccompanied or separated children; these children's needs are addressed with strengthened care and specific solutions.

In TRC Ušivak, Information Legal sessions were held by IOM AVR team and Vaša Prava. The aim is to raise awareness regarding the asylum-seeking process and the possibility of assisted voluntary return and reintegration; discuss the experience of the people on the move and risks associated with onward movement; and provide important contacts where to seek help when outside or inside TRCs.

During the reporting period, two professional sewing machines were transferred from TRC Ušivak to TRC Blažuj which will be available to migrants visiting the sewing room. This initiative aims to provide migrants with access to sewing equipment, allowing them to engage in productive and skill-building activities.

# of emergency screenings in TRCs: 2,588

# of persons with protection risks and needs: 286



PROVISION OF ACCOMMODATION TO NEW BENEFICIARIES DURING THE NIGHT SHIFT ©IOM 2023



CREATIVE PAINTING ACTIVITIES ©IOM 2023



## 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.

In TRC Ušivak, IOM, in coordination with two international humanitarian volunteers, organized a joint action to refresh some of the center units. The team cleaned thoroughly the laundry unit and the hair salon before painting the front walls of both buildings.

# of persons sheltered in the TRCs: 1,613

# of laundry services: 968

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 53 transportation services mainly to reception centres for 147 migrants and conducted 611 information sessions.

# of persons transported: 147

# of information sessions: 611



THE NEWLY CLEANED MOTHER BABY WASH UNIT GARDEN IN TRC UŠIVAK ©IOM 2023



IOM MOBILE TEAMS PROVIDING INFORMATION TO MIGRANTS OUTSIDE OF TRCs ©IOM 2023

## 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 45,839 meals and 19,114 NFIs were distributed.

# of meals distributed: 45,839

# of complementary baby food distributed: 521

# of NFIs distributed: 19,114

## RETURN & ALTERNATIVE SOLUTIONS

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

Between 7 -18 August, the IOM AVRR teams provided assistance to 555 migrants, of which 356 were located in Temporary Reception Centers and 199 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, 281 counselling sessions were held to provide migrants with personalized support. Voluntary return to the UK for a family of four has been successfully conducted and 2 persons applied for AVRR.

Two Virtual Counselling (VC) sessions were held for beneficiaries willing to return to their countries of origin. These sessions aimed to connect the beneficiaries with their families and counterparts in their home countries, as well as to provide information about the possibilities within AVRR assistance and reintegration opportunities upon their return.

# Assisted Voluntary Returns since 2018: 1,367

# Assisted Voluntary Returns in 2023: 43



FOOD DISTRIBUTION ACTIVITIES IN TRC BLAŽUJ ©IOM 2023

## ASSISTANCE OUTSIDE OF RECEPTION FACILITIES

## HUMAN INTEREST STORIES

Ahmad left Pakistan seven years ago, due to the socio-economic situation and arising political unrest in the country. His journey to Italy lasted five years and took him to Iran, Türkiye, Bulgaria, Greece, Macedonia, Serbia, Bosnia-Herzegovina (BiH) and Croatia.

In Italy, Ahmad applied for asylum. However, soon after, he began experiencing the first signs of mental health disorders. Due to stigma associated with mental health disorders and lack of medical care, his condition worsened. Thus, he decided to leave Italy and return to Pakistan by foot. When he reached TRC Blažuj, in BiH, in May, other fellow migrants in the Centre informed the IOM Assisted voluntary return and reintegration (AVRR) team about his condition.

Ahmad appeared delusional, anxious, with severe amnesia. He couldn't remember how he left Italy nor how he reached BiH. After being assessed by a psychiatrist, Ahmad's diagnosis was confirmed and IOM initiated a comprehensive case management to ensure he would receive tailored assistance, based on his health-related needs.

*"This case was challenging, requiring careful planning and involvement from other partner agencies as well."* —IOM AVRR Team

IOM provided daily assistance while Ahmad's medical situation was stabilizing. IOM also provided counselling to his family in Pakistan, to explain his medical condition and diagnosis, and the importance to continue his treatment upon return.

An IOM Cultural Mediator and an IOM Medical Escort assisted Ahmad's during his return to Pakistan. During the pre-departure period, IOM Pakistan also supported Ahmad in the development of his Reintegration Plan.

Today, Ahmad lives with his family in Pakistan.



AHMAD WELCOMED BY HIS FAMILY IN PAKISTAN ©IOM 2023



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