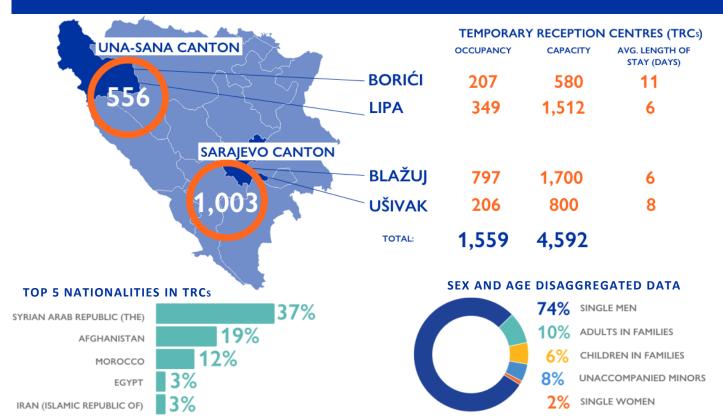
BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA MIGRATION RESPONSE SITUATION REPORT 15-28 APRIL 2024



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	3,542	4,734	3,487	2,491	3,257	34,409
2024	2,953	1,598	1,993	1,830									8,374

SITUATION OVERVIEW

On 17 April, IOM and UN agencies which are part of the Interagency Prevention of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA) Network in Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH), including UNHCR, UNICEF and UNFPA, delivered a training on PSEA for organizations and stakeholders working in TRC Ušivak. The curriculum covered SEA definitions, roles and responsibilities of stakeholders, procedures for accepting and handling complaints, suitable actions to take, referral mechanisms, investigation processes, and relevant documentation practices.

On 23 April, in Strasbourg and within the premises of the European Parliament, IOM organized the exhibition "Wearin" it together!". Building on its premieres in Sarajevo and Belgrade, the exhibition presented approximately 50 photographs by renowned Franco Pagetti, featuring migrants residing in BiH and Serbia adomed with No Nation Fashion garments, along with a curated selection of his work with Dolce and Gabbana, providing a rich visual story transcending borders and cultures.



COORDINATION & MANAGEMENT

Between 15 and 28 April 2024, IOM recorded a total of 1,979 people arriving at four temporary reception centres, including newly registered persons and those previously registered and returning for assistance. This represents a 16.5 per cent decrease compared to the previous reporting period (2,372) 1 – 14 April 2024. There were 2,196 new departures, which is a 14.9 per cent decrease compared to departures recorded in the previous reporting period (2,581).

In TRC Ušivak, to celebrate Earth Day, IOM and partners had a flower planting event. Beneficiaries and staff joined the event and helped make the centre more environmentally friendly and pleasant.

In TRC Borići, IOM organized a biweekly camp coordination and camp management (CCCM) meeting with representatives from UNHCR, UNICEF, World Vision, Save the Children, Italian NGO IPSIA and local associations LAN and FENIX in attendance. The discussion focused on current issues and recent trends concerning migrants. In addition, it was agreed to organize a meeting with representatives from the Public Health Institute, who had started conducting entry medical screenings for migrants in April in the centre. The meeting will facilitate an exchange of knowledge and support efficient implementation of referral mechanisms.

IOM supported World Vision in setting up an irrigation system for a greenhouse at TRC Blažuj by providing additional staff and the required irrigation equipment. The greenhouse is a popular hobby for people in the centre, and many of them help with its upkeep and growing of vegetables throughout the year.

of arrivals to TRCs: 1,979

of departures from TRCs: 2,196

of emergency screenings in TRCs: 1,259

of individual assistance: 217



PROTECTION, PARTICIPATION & ACCOUNTABILITY

Between 15 and 28 April 2024, IOM facilitated a total of 1,259 emergency screenings, through which 306 persons with protection needs were identified. IOM provided individual assistance, including interpretation and logistical support (such as orientation at the TRCs and the provision of documents) to 217 persons while 1,219 individuals were reached through information and awareness raising sessions.

In TRC Lipa, IOM provided psychological first aid (PFA) to 37 beneficiaries who showed symptoms of stress. Individual assistance was provided to 78 beneficiaries regarding adequate accommodation, additional Non-Food Items (NFI) or specific information regarding certain services they need, as well as assistance to persons with medical conditions or disabilities in access to specific services in the centre.

In TRC Blažuj, several mental health support sessions and interventions were conducted to assist beneficiaries in need. Psychosocial education session was provided with the support of Save the Children. This session included education on coping strategies and resilience, and the importance of community support for recovery. A legal information session was also held for four beneficiaries.

In TRC Borići, IOM organized a biweekly camp coordination and camp management (CCCM) meeting with representatives from UNHCR, UNICEF, World Vision, Save the Children, Italian NGO IPSIA and local associations LAN and FENIX in attendance. The discussion focused on current issues and recent trends concerning migrants. In addition, it was agreed to organize a meeting with representatives from the Public Health Institute, who had started conducting entry medical screenings for migrants in April in the centre. The meeting will facilitate an exchange of knowledge and support efficient implementation of referral mechanisms.

In TRC Ušivak, among other activities, a guitar session was organized and was attended by five unaccompanied and separated children (UASC) from Egypt. Participants acquired some basic skills of playing and learned interesting information about the instrument itself.



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.

During the reconstruction period of the sanitary units in TRC Ušivak, the operating hours of the Mother and Baby Wash Unit (MBWU) have been extended from 08:30 a.m. to 23:00 p.m daily, to provide meaningful access to WASH facilities and to better accommodate women's needs.

MBWU provided services for 129 beneficiaries including 81 mothers and single women and 48 children (24 males and 24 females), while 30 bags of clothes were washed and dried and/or ironed. Regular cleaning of MBWU premises was conducted daily and the area around the unit as well.

of laundry services: 2,156

FOOD & NON-FOOD ITEMS (NFI)

In all TRCs, IOM conducted its regular food and Non-Food Items (NFI) distribution activities with partner organizations the Red Cross and Pomozi.ba.

During the reporting period, a total of 40,166 meals were served including meals for Suhoor and Iftar and 10,058 NFIs were distributed. Recognizing the diverse needs of individuals, special attention was given to those who required a specialized diet due to health issues.

In TRC Ušivak, IOM conducted a satisfaction survey with beneficiaries to receive feedback on quantity and quality of food distributed in the centre. IOM will collaborate with the implementing partner engaged in meals preparation, Pomozi.ba, to take appropriate actions to address complaints.

In TRC Borići, IOM continued distribution of clothing and underwear for children, previously donated by UNICEF.

of meals distributed: 40,166 # of NFIs distributed: 10,058



AVRR COUNSELLING SESSION.

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ASSISTANCE OUTSIDE OF RECEPTION FACILITIES

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

During the reporting period, IOM's mobile teams provided 62 transportation services (mainly to reception centres) for 179 migrants and conducted 353 general information sessions.

The Syrian Arab Republic (34%) was the main declared nationality of assisted migrants, followed by Morocco (18%), Türkiye (15%), Mongolia (10%), Afghanistan (7%), Pakistan (5%), Algeria (4%), Cameroon, Egypt (2% each), Eritrea (1%), Bangladesh, Burkina Faso, Ethiopia (less than 1% each).

of persons transported: 179

of information sessions: 353

RETURN & ALTERNATIVE SOLUTIONS

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

Between 15 and 28 April 2024, the team reached 343 migrants, of which 226 were being hosted in TRCs and 117 from other locations off-site with information sessions on assisted voluntary return and reintegration. The outreach activities are implemented daily in distant regions within Tuzla, Sarajevo, and Una-Sana cantons, with the objective to reach as many migrants as possible and provide information about assisted voluntary return and reintegration (AVRR), but also guarantee the swift directing towards protection services. A total of 200 counselling sessions were held to ensure that beneficiaries are well informed and aware of the assistance available during pre-departure, travel, and post-arrival.

During the reporting period, seven persons returned to their countries of origin (Mongolia 4, Algeria 1, Jordan 1, Pakistan 1). During the reporting period the AVRR team registered five persons and the preparation of their voluntary returns is in progress.

AVRR counsellors regularly participate in legal information sessions organized together with IOM Protection and Vaša prava teams for migrants accommodated in TRCs Blažuj, Ušivak, Lipa and Borići. At these sessions the AVRR team provides additional information to migrants about their rights, key details of AVRR assistance and reintegration opportunities in their community before they return to their country of origin. In cooperation with World Vision, the AVRR team in TRC Ušivak is also organizing information sessions for UASC.

Applications for Assisted Voluntary Returns: 85 M: 81, F:4

Assisted Voluntary Returns in 2024: 62 M: 60, F: 2

Assisted Voluntary Returns since 2018: 1,482 M: 1,315 F: 167

Daniel's* Journey to Gaining Trust A story shared by Miša Kuvačić, IOM Protection and MHPSS Assistant

This short story is about a young man, who arrived at the gate of the temporary reception center (TRC) Borići, distrustful of everyone, as he suffered a traumatic event, while trying to reach his destination country. On his way, he was separated from his mom, who was his caretaker. Upon arrival at the TRC Borići, the Protection and MHPSS assistant immediately took care of him to ensure full access to all the services he needed and to provide essential protection support.

During his four months stay, Daniel's* case slowly unfolded. He slowly gained trust in his case manager – the Protection and MHPSS assistant.

He timidly communicated with her, and slowly, with the help of the entire IOM staff, Daniel became one of the most known and active beneficiaries in the center. He participated in all the educational and social activities. Thanks to the services provided and the help of IOM staff, Daniel gained confidence, made friends in the centre and learned important skills.

As his case was a specific one, the Embassy of Spain, with the help of IOM, was able to reunite him with his mother. His departure was hard for him, but he was accompanied by his case manager until the Embassy was able to take over. He is now in Spain with his family.

*Name was changed to protect privacy



IOM Protection and MHPSS team provide immediate assistance and a long-term support for beneficiaries.

TRC Borići. ©IOM 2024













