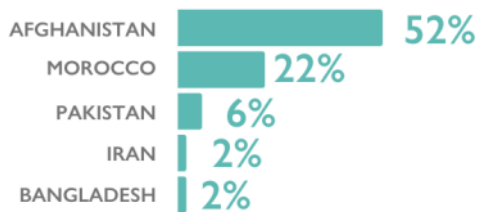


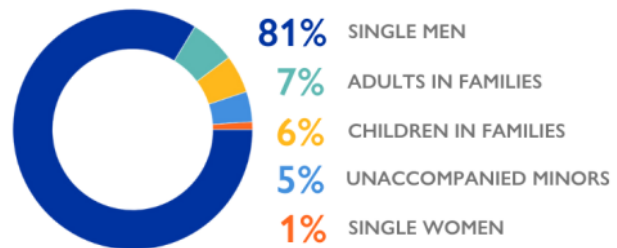
### TEMPORARY RECEPTION CENTRES (TRCs)

	OCCUPANCY	CAPACITY	AVG. LENGTH OF STAY (DAYS)
BORIĆI	242	580	7
LIPA	1,120	1,512	6
BLAŽUJ	675	1,700	5
UŠIVAK	195	800	9
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>2,232</b>	<b>4,592</b>	

### TOP 5 NATIONALITIES IN TRCs



### SEX AND AGE DISAGGREGATED DATA



### 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	1,991			27,165

## SITUATION OVERVIEW

On 11 October, representatives of the Ministry of Security (MoS) of Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH), the Service for Foreigners' Affairs (SFA), the Ministry of Human Rights and Refugees (MHRR) of BiH, the Ministry of Civil Affairs (MoCA) of BiH, the EU delegation in BiH, IOM, UNHCR, UNICEF and UNFPA met to review the progress made on the transition towards a State-led migration response and identify next steps in the transfer of responsibilities to the BiH authorities.

On 10 October, IOM facilitated a high-level official visit to Montenegro for representatives of the MoS of BiH, the SFA of BiH and the Border Police (BP) of BiH. On this occasion, Mr Žarko Laketa, the director of the SFA and Mr Mirko Kuprešaković, the director of BP of BiH met with representatives of the BP of Montenegro and the Directorate for Administrative Affairs, Citizenship and Foreigners to discuss the implementation of readmission agreements and cooperation with migrants' countries of origin. The visit was organized within the Western Balkans Readmission Capacity Building Facility, funded by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of Denmark.



OPERATIONAL MEETING ON THE STATE-LED MIGRATION WAS HELD IN SARAJEVO. ©IOM 2023

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## COORDINATION & MANAGEMENT

Between 2 and 15 October, IOM recorded a total of 4,345 people, including newly registered and those previously registered who returned for assistance, who arrived in four temporary reception centres. This represents a decrease of 29 per cent compared to the previous reporting period (18 September – 1 October 2023). There were also 4,649 new departures, which represents a 13.5 per cent decrease.

In TRC Ušivak, nine children started formal education on 6 October by enrolling in two local primary schools in Iliđa and Pazarić municipalities. IOM facilitated this activity in coordination with World Vision, by providing transportation and snacks for the children. Additionally, the No Nation Fashion (NNF) Studio in Ušivak hosted 18 young and talented fashion designers from diverse European backgrounds, in collaboration with the European Fashion Passport (EFP) project. Creative workshops were organized with designers in NNF studio with participation of five migrants who are skilled in tailoring to craft two stunning casual garments.

In TRC Blažuj, recycling of plastic waste has gained a momentum as a part of the ongoing promotion of an eco-friendly environment in reception centres. There is a recycling machine in Blažuj and migrants are actively involved in the collection of plastic bottles and in the recycling process.

In TRC Lipa, IOM and the Service for Foreigners' Affairs (SFA) Camp Coordinator held a meeting to discuss the reorganization of assistance in the context of the increased number of beneficiaries in Una Sana Canton reception centres. Following the SFA request, the number of staff within the Red Cross in charge of food preparation and delivery was increased, and another distribution line was established to respond to the current situation and speed up the distribution of meals. In the meeting it was also agreed to ensure there is sufficient NFI stocks for distribution without delays in the forthcoming period.

# of new arrivals: **4,345**

# of emergency screenings in TRCs: **2,716**



A RECYCLING MACHINE "RECYCLOMAT" IS NOW ALSO IN USE IN TRC UŠIVAK.  
©IOM 2023

## PROTECTION, PARTICIPATION & ACCOUNTABILITY

Between 2 and 15 October, IOM facilitated a total of 2,716 emergency screenings, through which 614 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 325 persons while 1,845 individuals were reached through information provision and awareness raising sessions.

IOM's Protection and MHPSS team also provided individual assistance and case management to an increasing number of persons in reception. In TRC Borčići, IOM provided individual assistance to a child with a disability who arrived with his family, and an unaccompanied girl.

In TRC Ušivak, IOM held the Info Legal Session in cooperation with Vaša Prava on 5 October. The session was intended for unaccompanied and separated children (UASC) from Afghanistan and Iran. Eight UASC participated and received information about legal residence in Bosnia and Herzegovina, the process of seeking asylum, and information about IOM's assisted voluntary return and reintegration (AVRR) activities.

Migrants' creative expression was also celebrated in TRCs. In Blažuj, IOM teamed up with Jesuit Refugee Service (JRS) and migrant volunteers to paint new murals in the social hub area, while in Lipa, hand-made products created in the No Nation Fashion (NNF) Creative Zone were presented by migrants during the autumn festival "Fall on Gelenders/Jesen na Gelenderima" organized by the Cultural Centre of Bihać.

In TRC Ušivak, IOM organized screening of an Afghani film, specially chosen by migrants from Afghanistan, adding a sense of cultural connection and enjoyment to the event. This initiative continues to foster a sense of community and cultural exchange within the migrant population.

# of persons with protection risks and needs: **614**

# of individual assistance: **325**



IOM STAFF AND MIGRANT VOLUNTEERS TEAMED UP IN TRC BLAŽUJ FOR CREATIVE MURAL PAINTING IN THE SOCIAL HUB AREA.  
©IOM 2023

## 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.

In TRC Lipa, with the arrival of cold weather and as a part of winterization activities, the SFA and IOM teams distributed a total of 235 heaters in the housing units after checking all inhabited housing units, including isolation areas.

In TRC Ušivak, the main road inside the centre connecting the main points where services are delivered, was renovated during the reporting week. The road had sustained severe damage during floods in July this year.

Mother and Baby Wash Unit (MBWU) services in TRC Ušivak were used by 82 beneficiaries, 43 mothers and 39 children (21 female and 18 male), and 39 bags of clothes were washed. Regular cleaning of MBWU premises and the area around the unit was conducted daily.

**# of persons sheltered in the TRCs: 2,232**

**# of laundry services: 2,171**

## 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 74,670 meals and 20,702 NFIs were distributed.

The high turnover of migrants requires additional efforts for IOM to ensure that all migrants receive NFI immediately upon reception. In addition to the established working hours for the regular distribution of NFI, NFI - hygiene packages and bedding were available 24 hours a day for newly arrived migrants so that basic hygiene needs are provided to migrants right upon arrival.

**# of meals distributed: 74,670**

**# of NFIs distributed: 20,702**



REPAIRATION OF ROAD IN TRC UŠIVAK.  
©IOM 2023

## 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 76 transportation services mainly to reception centres for 235 migrants and conducted 724 general information sessions.

Afghanistan (42 %) was the main declared nationality of assisted migrants, followed by Pakistan (26 %), Morocco (11 %), Iraq (6%), Türkiye (4%), Bangladesh and Nepal (3% each), Algeria, India and Iran (1% each); Sierra Leone, Syrian Arab Republic, Tanzania and Tunisia less than 0,5 % each.

**# of persons transported: 235**

**# of information sessions: 724**

## 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 2 and 15 October, AVRR team reached 424 migrants of which 218 in TRCs and 206 migrants in other locations off-site – through information sessions on assisted voluntary return and reintegration. The outreach activities are implemented on a daily basis in distant regions within Tuzla, Sarajevo, and Una-Sana cantons, with the objective to reach as many migrants as possible and provide information about AVRR, but also guarantee the swift referral of migrants to protection services. AVRR field personnel continue to observe an increased flow of migrants both within and outside reception facilities, coupled with an influx of Moroccan nationals.

A total of 286 counselling sessions were held to ensure that beneficiaries are well informed and aware of the assistance available during pre-departure, travel, and post-arrival.

Six persons voluntarily returned to their country of origin (2 Algeria, 2 Jordan and 2 Türkiye), while two others applied for AVRR and their return preparations are currently 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 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 country of origin.

**Assisted Voluntary Returns since 2018: 1,384 (M1,220, F164)**

**Assisted Voluntary Returns in 2023: 60 (M54, F6)**

## The value of the Mental Health and Psychosocial Support

A few weeks ago, Ilyos\* arrived in the Temporary Reception Center (TRC) Blažuj, in the Sarajevo Canton. After registering him, IOM conducted an emergency screening during which Ilyos explained suffering from a skin disease. He was exhausted by his journey and his medical condition. IOM referred him to the Medical Unit so he could get treatment.

In addition, during the emergency screening, IOM Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS) team provided Ilyos with Psychosocial First Aid support and proposed a visit to the specialized psychological service available in the TRC. At first, he refused, but a week later he came back to see IOM MHPSS staff with a request for a specialized psychological consultation with the Médecins du Monde (MdM) psychologist. During the consultation, IOM provided a translator for Ilyos to be able to speak with the psychologist in his own language. Two days after the first consultation, Ilyos requested a second appointment.

*"I want to express my gratitude to the psychologist and translator I met. Before I thought that a psychological consultation was a meaningless chit-chat, but now I realize how it can help me get through this difficult journey and my medical condition." - Ilyos*

\*Name was changed to protect privacy



IOM ORGANIZED FOCUS GROUPS TO DISCUSS MENTAL HEALTH AND INFORM BENEFICIARIES ON THE PSYCHOSOCIAL SUPPORT AND SERVICES AVAILABLE TO THEM IN RECEPTION CENTRES.  
TRC BLAŽUJ ©IOM 2023

In BiH, On October 10, to mark the World Mental Health Day, IOM organized two focus groups in TRC Ušvak and in TRC Blažuj. In total 25 migrants, participated and discussed the importance of mental health support. In Bosnia and Herzegovina, IOM advocates for an inclusive and human rights-based approach that guarantees the availability and accessibility of psychosocial support and mental health care for all migrants, irrespective of their status. This support directly contributes to positive social, economic and cultural outcomes for migrants, their families, communities, and also the societies of origin, transit and destination countries.

