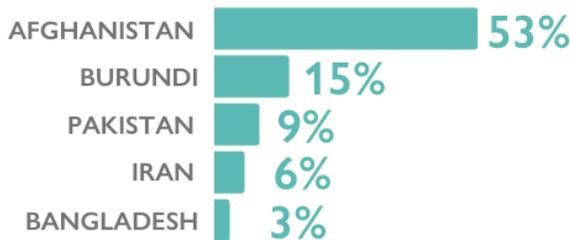


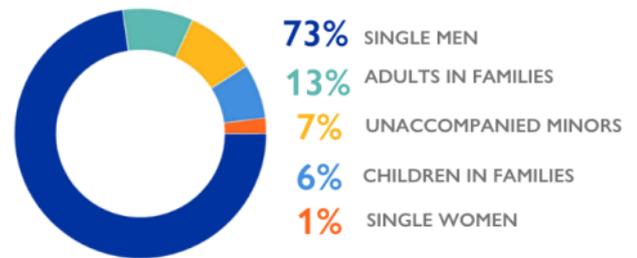


TEMPORARY RECEPTION CENTRES (TRCs)			
OCCUPANCY	CAPACITY	AVG. LENGTH OF STAY (DAYS)	
BORIĆI	172	580	14
LIPA	331	1,497	22
BLAŽUJ	1,538	1,700	80
UŠIVAK	543	800	31
TOTAL:	2,584	4,577	

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	2,316				14,987

SITUATION OVERVIEW

IOM's Protection and Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS) team has recently introduced skills assessments for migrants in reception facilities to get a better understanding of their educational background and aspirations. The first monthly reports summarizing findings of the skills assessment surveys, conducted in TRC Borići and TRC Lipa in August 2022, were finalized and shared with the camp coordination and camp management (CCCM) team lead. In total, 573 people and 86 people were interviewed in TRC Lipa and TRC Borići respectively. Most of the participants surveyed in TRC Borići were from Cuba and Burundi, while those surveyed in TRC Lipa were mainly from Afghanistan. The findings show that approximately 87 per cent of participants in TRC Borići have completed secondary and higher education, while 58 per cent of participants in TRC Lipa have completed secondary or higher education. In both centres, most of the participants stated that they want to continue their education or learn a language, with English being the most popular choice. IOM will use the findings of the skills assessment to plan and adapt its social activities to migrants' profiles and interest.

On 13 September, IOM and the Faculty of Criminal Justice, Criminology and Security Studies of the University of Sarajevo signed a Memorandum of

Understanding to strengthen exchange of knowledge and expertise in areas of mutual interest such as disaster prevention and management, and migration management.



MOU SIGNING CEREMONY BETWEEN IOM AND THE FACULTY OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE, CRIMINOLOGY AND SECURITY STUDIES.
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COORDINATION & MANAGEMENT

All reception facilities in BiH continue to record a high turnover of migrants in September, with high number of arrivals and departures. For instance, during the reporting week, there were 1,177 new arrivals in Temporary Reception Centre (TRC) Blažuj, and 508 new arrivals to TRC Ušivak with a proportionate number of departures. IOM provides protection-sensitive reception, including emergency screening accommodation, food, non-food items, and access to other services in reception facilities. However, a significant number of people are leaving the pre-registration area before the registration process is finished, thus staying less than 24 hours in the reception facilities. This is a typical trend seen in BiH ahead of the winter, before which many migrants try to cross the border to Croatia. While they are at the TRCs, these beneficiaries are provided with basic services depending on their needs.

In TRC Borići, IOM and the Service for Foreigners' Affairs (SFA) organized on 12 September a bi-weekly coordination meeting with partner organizations. At the meeting the participants discussed the current situation, noting the high turnover of migrants and its impact on planned activities. All organizations continue to share their data through a common Daily Figures table. This database provides the number of beneficiaries participating in the various activities provided by partners, which supports smooth operations, prevents an overlap of activities, and allows the camp coordination and camp management (CCCCM) staff to have clear overview of existing activities and plan accordingly to achieve programmatic synergies between partners.

On 14 September, IOM and the SFA also conducted the weekly coordination meeting with partner organizations in TRC Ušivak. The meeting participants discussed the implementation of social activities in light of the high turnover rates of migrants at the TRC. IOM informed partners that creative and educational activities will continue with modalities adjusted to the current situation.

Separately, fourteen school children in TRC Ušivak have undergone the mandatory medical examination and will start at a local primary school on 19 September. IOM will provide transportation and a snacks/lunch package for the children. The number of migrant children supported by IOM to attend school varies over time depending on the number of arrivals and departures at the centre.

In TRC Lipa, a large number of new arrivals was registered at the centre during the week, with around 200 new migrants accommodated in the isolation unit, waiting for the registration procedures and reception. The majority of migrants from this group report that they do not intend to stay long in the centre as they plan to move onwards ahead of the colder weather, which makes being on the move more difficult.

PROTECTION, PARTICIPATION & ACCOUNTABILITY

During the reporting week, IOM's Protection and Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS) teams in BiH facilitated a total of 879 emergency screenings, through which 98 persons with protection needs were identified. The Protection team provided individual assistance to 78 persons while 394 persons were reached through information provision and awareness raising sessions.

In TRC Blažuj, on 15 September, IOM organized entertainment activities for migrants with dancing music, and social games. Approximately 70 beneficiaries from Afghanistan, Pakistan, Burundi, Algeria, and Morocco participated. The games have beneficial impact on the overall mood in the centre and help achieve better social cohesion among accommodated migrants.

In TRC Ušivak, IOM's Protection and MHPSS team intensively supports the work of UNFPA's Centre for Women and Girls in their day-to-day activities, primarily through the provision of data on newly admitted women and girls especially those who are in a vulnerable state. Timely information sharing allows the Centre to easily track the arrival of women and girls in need of specialized services (sexual and reproductive health, mental health, etc) and plan for their support accordingly. During the reporting week, the Protection and MHPSS team referred 14 migrants to UNFPA for further assistance. In total, 18 migrants in TRC Ušivak were reached with individual assistance based on specific protection needs, including access to a doctor or a psychologist and relocation within the TRC.

In TRC Lipa, the Complaint and Feedback Committee Meeting (CFCM) was held, with attendance by representatives of IOM, the SFA, UNFPA, UNHCR, Médecins du Monde (MdM), DRC as well as migrant community representatives from India, Pakistan, Afghanistan, and Burundi. In total, two complaints were received, which were related to internet connection and the maintenance of WASH facilities. These issues were addressed to the relevant actors.

IOM continually streamlines accountability to affected population (AAF) mechanisms, including the CFCM, in the daily operations of reception facilities to ensure quality and responsive programming in line with the evolving needs of beneficiaries.

of emergency screenings in TRCs: 879

of persons with protection risks and needs: 98

of individual assistances: 78



IOM STAFF ACCOMODATING NEWLY ARRIVED MIGRANTS.
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SOCIAL GAMES LIFT THE SPIRIT AND MOOD IN RECEPTION FACILITIES.
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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 (DDD) measures, and regular repairs on shelters and sanitary installations.

In light of the recent drop in temperature and the approaching colder weather, IOM and SFA staff distributed 80 heaters to residential units/containers in TRC Lipa.

To provide better accommodation to migrants in TRC Blažuj, IOM's maintenance team started repair work on one of the accommodation hangars, which had been temporarily closed. This included cleaning and repainting the area.

During the reporting period, 73 individuals used the Mother and Baby Wash Unit (MBWU) services at TRC Ušivak, including 37 mothers and 36 children.

of persons sheltered: 2,584

of persons assisted with laundry services: 1,129

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 Pomoziba. In total, 27,005 meals and 7,579 NFIs were distributed during the reporting period.

In TRC Borići, Diocese Caritas from Banjaluka donated 3,740 toothbrushes. The donation will be distributed in the following period during regular NFI distributions.

of meals distributed: 27,005

of NFIs distributed: 7,579

of people assisted with NFIs: 1,070

ASSISTANCE OUTSIDE OF RECEPTION FACILITIES

IOM's mobile team is present in locations outside of TRCs to increase access to information and services, with the aim to reduce the number of migrants camping or squatting in abandoned buildings. The mobile team screens for vulnerabilities, provides emergency assistance, and transports migrants to TRCs upon request.

During the reporting period, the teams organized 306 information sessions and three psychological first aid (PFA) sessions, 47 transportation services for 141 migrants, and distribution of 267 food items. Furthermore, six referrals were made to address identified protection needs of 21 migrants.

A total of 102 migrants accepted accommodation. Furthermore, IOM's mobile teams transported ten families of 26 members (22 adults and 4 children) and 11 unaccompanied or separated children (UASCs) to TRC Borići and 65 single men to TRC Lipa.

Afghanistan (31%) and Burundi (18%) are the two main nationalities declared by the migrants identified and residing outside of TRCs, followed by Pakistan (16%), Turkey (9%), Cuba and Nepal (4% each).

of persons transported: 141

of information sessions: 306

RETURN & ALTERNATIVE SOLUTIONS

IOM's Return and Reintegration Team provides administrative, logistical and financial support, including reintegration assistance, to migrants who decide to return to their country of origin. During the reporting week, IOM reached 295 migrants, of which 79 were living in TRCs and 216 migrants in off-site locations, through information sessions on assisted voluntary return and reintegration (AVRR). A total of 74 counselling sessions were held to ensure that beneficiaries were well informed and aware of the assistance available during pre-departure, travel, and post-arrival. AVRR staff participated in a Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) exercise held on 13 September to map the presence of migrants in out-of-site locations and used this opportunity to conduct additional outreach and ensure that migrants receive information about possibilities for voluntary return to their countries of origin.

Considering the significant number of Burundi nationals in the Western Balkans (WB) region and their potential interest in AVRR, on 15 September, the AVRR WB team organized a virtual counselling session with IOM Burundi. The purpose of this event was to receive more information about AVRR possibilities for returnees in the WB region to Burundi, such as country-specific information on employment, training, business opportunities, school system and other areas that are of concern to migrants who are thinking about returning.

In the reporting period two beneficiaries returned to their country of origin, Iran and Burundi respectively.

Assisted Voluntary Returns since 2018: 1,305

Assisted Voluntary Returns in 2022: 109



IOM PROVIDING AVRR INFORMATION IN OUTREACH LOCATIONS.
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SAFETY & SECURITY

In TRC Borići, a mine risk education (MRE) workshop was held on 15 September by the IOM's Office of Staff Security (OSS) and instructors. The workshop is a part of the regular monthly activities conducted in IOM BiH and details the dangers of mines in BiH territory. A total of 17 migrants from Cuba, Afghanistan, Iraq, and Syria participated in the workshop, which was simultaneously translated in four different languages (Arabic, English, Farsi, and Spanish).

The typical MRE session provides an introduction to the mine situation in BiH (Bosnia and Herzegovina has the largest landmine contamination issue in Eastern Europe) with statistics and maps of the areas marked as minefields or suspected of being a minefield. Participants were informed about the warning signs, how to recognize them, how to avoid and reduce the risk of possible entry into a minefield and how to behave if they notice or suspect that they are in a minefield.

Ehsan's Story

IOM's Protection and MHPSS team shared a story

It has been five years since Ehsan* left his home. During his long journey, he has worked as a seamster and a hotel receptionist in Türkiye, the latter a result of his knowledge of English, Persian, Turkish, Dari and a little bit of Pashto.

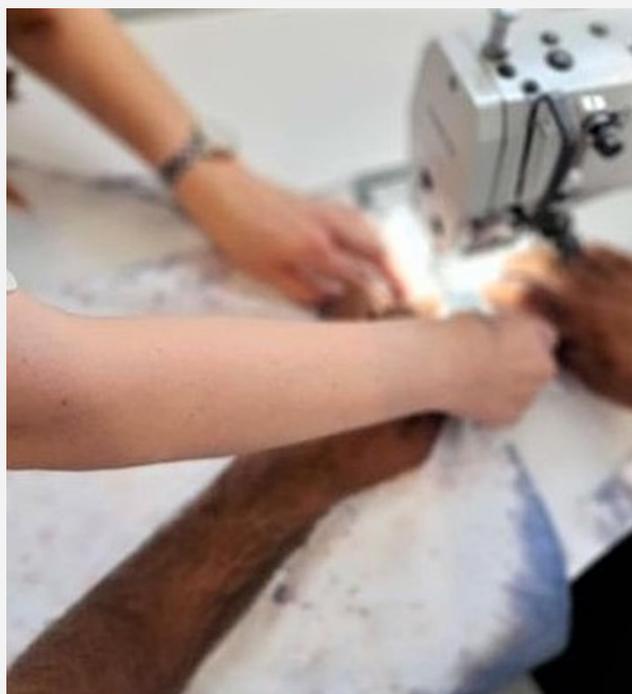
Ehsan shared that he feels that his experiences have enriched his communication skills and hopes to continue learning and educating himself somewhere in Europe. Sometimes he loses the hope in his journey and his will to keep traveling fades, but then he remembers why he left his country:

"...to live and work somewhere where political pressures are not so demanding, especially for people like me who want to be exposed to diverse experiences in life."

At one point, he grew tired from traveling and decided to take a break from it, leading him to participate in activities at the sewing corner of one of the reception centres in Bosnia and Herzegovina. When our staff asked if he had a message to share with others, Ehsan said:

"Dear people of this world, even when times are too hard and when you want to quit, keep in mind that there is always some solution. Maybe it is not ideal, but better times will come... And one of the most important things besides surviving on the street is education! Keep educating yourself in any way."

*Name has been changed to protect privacy



OCCUPATIONAL AND CREATIVE WORKSHOPS ORGANIZED BY IOM AND PARTNER ORGANIZATIONS ARE AVAILABLE IN RECEPTION FACILITIES AND ADJUSTED TO MIGRANTS' INTERESTS.

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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.



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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.