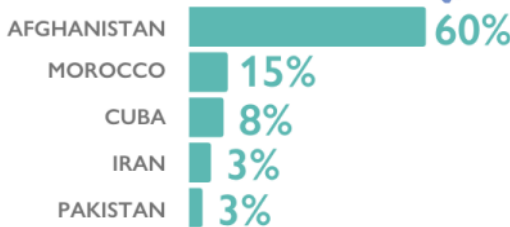
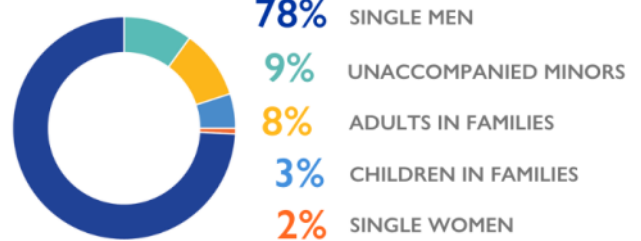


	TEMPORARY RECEPTION CENTRES (TRCs)		
	OCCUPANCY	CAPACITY	AVG. LENGTH OF STAY (DAYS)
BORIĆI	88	580	8
LIPA	134	1,512	13
BLAŽUJ	626	1,700	7
UŠIVAK	142	800	10
TOTAL:	990	4,592	

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	1363	418											1,781

SITUATION OVERVIEW

IOM, UNHCR and local partners from Bihac and the Sarajevo Canton gathered partners to highlight the results of the 24-month project “Enhancing Social Cohesion in Communities Hosting People on the move”. Thanks to the continued support of the European Union, the initiative will be followed by another phase of social cohesion programming in Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH), with the aim to support communities hosting migrants through improved public infrastructures, notably in the health sector, and foster positive exchanges between migrants and hosts communities.

In the framework of the project “Improving migrant assistance and supporting local communities in Republika Srpska”, representatives of the Norwegian Embassy to BiH visited Zvornik, Tuzla, and Bijeljina. The two-day visit was an occasion to showcase the project results achieved through the joint work of the IOM mobile teams and the Service for Foreigners’ Affairs (SFA) in supporting migrants in vulnerable situations. The delegation also visited health centres that were refurbished through the project.



REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NORWEGIAN EMBASSY TO BIH VISITED ZVORNIK, TUZLA AND BIJELJINA TO WITNESS PROJECT RESULTS IN SUPPORTING VULNERABLE MIGRANTS AND LOCAL COMMUNITIES ©IOM 2023

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COORDINATION & MANAGEMENT

Between 23 January and 5 February, IOM recorded a total of 1,385 new arrivals and 1,236 new departures at all temporary reception centres (TRCs) in BiH.

In all TRCs, IOM leads the daily coordination for the admission of newly arrived migrants with the SFA and partner organizations. After the vulnerability screenings and registration process are performed, new beneficiaries are accommodated in the centre and provided with access to services according to their gender, age, family status and screened/identified vulnerabilities. In TRC Ušivak, IOM coordinates the transfer of unaccompanied and separated children (UASC) from TRC Blažuj to the designated UASC Zone, enabling protection-sensitive assistance. From 22 January to 5 February, a total of 54 UASC were transported in cooperation with World Vision and the Centre for Social Work (CSW).

In TRC Borići, IOM updated with the SFA and partner organizations the schedule for information sessions. The key resources made available for migrants were updated with new and relevant information about the centre and the services available, with a focus on the promotion of house rules and participation in social activities. During the camp coordination and camp management (CCCM) meeting IOM and partner organizations focused on coordination and harmonizing the delivery of psychosocial assistance by different service providers in the centre to avoid overlap and achieve synergies between organizations.

IOM delivered Mine Risk Education (MRE) session for 17 representatives of migrant response partner organizations in Una Sana Canton which have mobile teams active in mine suspected areas in BiH.

Within the scope of IOM's "Migrants talk to migrants" campaign – featuring stories of migrants currently stranded in the Western Balkans told in native languages, about the risks and dangers of irregular migration – filmed interviews were carried out with nine people from Cuba (6F, 3M) in TRC Borići. The aim of the campaign is to enable migrants to make informed migration decisions, and to provide truthful information about all the risks associated with irregular migration. For more information, please access the platform here .



LEGAL INFO SESSIONS DELIVERED TO MIGRANTS BY IOM IN COOPERATION WITH UNHCR AND VAŠA PRAVA ARE A REGULAR ACTIVITY IN RECEPTION CENTRES.
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PROTECTION, PARTICIPATION & ACCOUNTABILITY

Between 23 January and 5 February, IOM's Protection and Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS) teams facilitated a total of 550 emergency screenings, through which 66 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 78 persons while 558 individuals were reached through information provision and awareness raising sessions.

Complaint and Feedback Committee meetings were organized in TRC Borići and TRC Ušivak with the participation of IOM, the SFA, partner organizations and migrant community representatives to review and address new complaints but also to provide feedback and information on actions taken with regards to previous complaints. One of the actions taken in TRC Ušivak, as per an individual's request, was to translate food menus into the most common languages of migrants accommodated in the centre (Farsi, Arabic, Urdu, Pashtu) and put the translations on a display in the kitchen area. Through continuous engagement with migrants residing at the reception centers, IOM in BiH ensures that all services and forms of assistance are adapted to fit the needs of the individuals they serve and, thus, contributes to the Organization's accountability to affected populations.

In TRC Blažuj, interest in social activities among migrants has increased, leading IOM to start equipping new rooms to serve as social corners. Between 23 January and 5 February, seven sewing and knitting workshops were organized to stimulate socialization, reduce stress through work therapy, encourage migrants to express their creativity and improve their skills. Additional creative workshops were organized where migrants produced tasbih (prayer beads), rosaries, bracelets and paintings. IOM staff supervised and led the workshops. In total, 126 beneficiaries from Afghanistan, Iran, Morocco, Iraq, Türkiye and Pakistan participated.

of emergency screenings in TRCs: 550

of persons with protection risks and needs: 66

of people reached with information sessions: 558



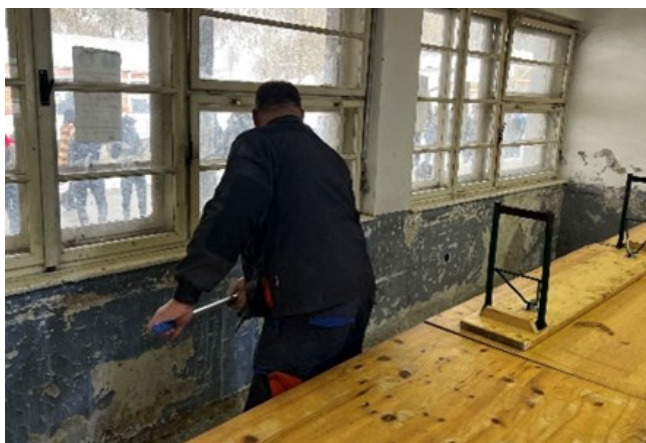
KNITTING AND SEWING WORKSHOP IN TRC BLAŽUJ.
©IOM 2023

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 Blažuj, IOM started the renovation of the dining area for migrants to improve hygienic conditions and make the space more functional and user friendly. Many migrants voluntarily participated in the renovation of the space.

of persons sheltered in the TRCs: 990



RENOVATION WORKS OF THE DINING AREA IN TRC BLAŽUJ.
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IMPROVED CONDITIONS IN THE DINING AREA IN TRC BLAŽUJ.
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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. During the reporting period, a total of 25,594 meals and 10,017 NFIs were distributed.

In addition to the distribution of hygiene items and clothes for new arrivals and people in need, IOM provided assistance in the distribution of the winter clothes and shoes donated by partner organizations. The distribution of various (new/used) clothes was organized in cooperation with the donor organisation Jesuit Refugee Service (JRS). In addition, winter shoes donated by UNHCR were provided to beneficiaries, as well as winter clothes and shoes donated by UNICEF to children.

of meals distributed: 25,594

of NFIs distributed: 10,017

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. 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 39 transportation services for 62 migrants and conducted 262 information sessions.

of persons transported: 62

of information sessions: 262



IOM MOBILE TEAM TRANSPORTS VULNERABLE BENEFICIARIES TO RECEPTION FACILITIES.
©IOM BIH 2023

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 23 January and 5 February, IOM reached 508 migrants through its assisted voluntary return and reintegration (AVRR), of which 243 were in TRCs and 265 migrants in out of site locations. A total of 88 counselling sessions were held to ensure that beneficiaries are well informed and aware of the assistance available during pre-departure, travel and post-arrival. There were no voluntary returns in the reporting period. However, six persons applied for AVRR assistance in the previous two weeks and organization of their voluntary returns is in progress.

Assisted Voluntary Returns since 2018: 1,328

Assisted Voluntary Returns in 2023: 4

Habibullar's Story

Habibullah is a painter. He used to run his own a gallery in Afghanistan. As soon as he arrived at the temporary reception center (TRC) in Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH), Habibullah asked IOM staff if there was a place in the center where he could paint. The IOM Protection and MHPSS (Mental Health and Psychosocial Support) team was happy to show him the social corner and provided him with canvases, brushes and paints so that he could express his talent and creativity.

“I have been painting since I was eleven years old. At first, I studied on my own, then I enrolled in a professional art school. In my country, I had a gallery and a worker. I painted for myself, on commission and for exhibitions. After more than a year, thanks to you I can use canvases, paints, and other equipment for painting. I missed painting a lot. Through painting, I can give a voice to unspeakable words. As a singer sings songs, as a writer writes a story, as a poet writes poetry.”



HABIBULLAH IMPRESSED IOM TEAM IN TRC BLAŽUJ WITH HIS PAINTING SKILLS.
©IOM BIH 2023

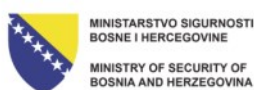
In all TRCs in BiH, dedicated IOM Protection and MHPSS staff work with partners to conduct various social and creative activities. The psychosocial model to addressing the needs of people who have been displaced outlines several benefits to utilizing art as a form of support. One of the main benefits is that these types of activities have the capacity to transform suffering, negative experiences and collective wounds into artistic and cultural productions that give new meaning to what has been lived. These activities can also strengthen social relationships at different levels and strengthen the resilience of individuals.

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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