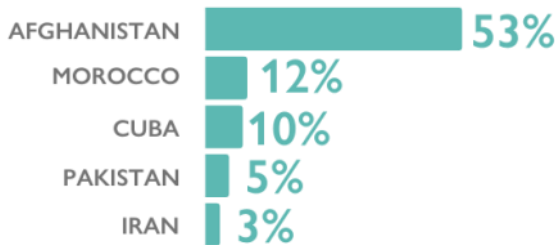
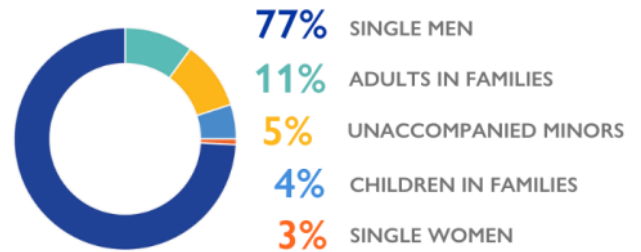


	TEMPORARY RECEPTION CENTRES (TRCs)		
	OCCUPANCY	CAPACITY	AVG. LENGTH OF STAY (DAYS)
BORIĆI	61	580	8
LIPA	89	1,512	6
BLAŽUJ	455	1,700	7
UŠIVAK	118	800	10
TOTAL:	723	4,592	

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	1212	314										3,241

SITUATION OVERVIEW

On 23 February, the Chief of Mission of IOM in Bosnia and Herzegovina, Laura Lungarotti, met for the first time with the newly appointed Minister of Security (MoS), Nenad Nešić. The discussions focused on migration management and the priorities of the MoS, as well as support for the reception and assistance to migrants and asylum seekers in Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH). More than five years after the start of the mixed migration response in BiH, great strides have been made through the partnership between IOM and the MoS, with a view to support the leadership of national authorities.

During the reporting period and within the framework of the transition to the state-owned management of Temporary Reception Centers (TRCs), an IOM IT specialist provided a two-day training to the BiH Service for Foreigners' Affairs (SFA) staff on the Smart Camp Application. The knowledge gained during the training will support the SFA to record, track and manage all forms of assistance currently provided in the TRCs, from registration to identification and to access to services (eg, meals, non-food items, WASH, medical consultations, transportation, etc).



FIRST MEETING OF THE NEWLY APPOINTED MINISTER OF SECURITY, NENAD NEŠIĆ AND IOM CHIEF OF MISSION, LAURA LUNGAROTTI ©MoS 2023

CONTACTS

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COORDINATION & MANAGEMENT

Between 20 February and 5 March, IOM recorded a total of 1,255 new arrivals and 1,289 new departures at all TRCs in BiH, which is consistent with the trends recorded at the beginning of this year.

Although the number of migrants recorded in reception centres on a daily basis are lower during January and February 2023, compared to November and December 2022, the turnover rate remains high with large groups of migrants arriving in centers having a tendency to leave in a few days.

Harsh winter conditions, low temperatures and snowfall during the reporting period mobilized IOM and partner organizations to clean the roads around and inside the reception centres, as well as sidewalks and entrances, to maintain shelter conditions and ensure uninterrupted service provision and safe walking environment for migrants and staff.

Two public health focal points were appointed by IOM in February to coordinate health related service provision for migrants in Una Sana Canton and Sarajevo Canton and achieve higher synergy among different actors and support the transition to the state-owned migration response in BiH.

In TRC Ušivak, a CCCM meeting was organized by IOM and the SFA with the presence of partner organizations. Participants discussed coordination activities, focusing on the delivery of joint activities like securing conditions for children to attend local schools and admission of unaccompanied and separated children (UASC) in the UASC Zone available in the centre. Regular coordination with World Vision to support cases of unaccompanied children has been ensured during the admission process, enabling the provision of appropriate assistance and protection services. Another topic covered during the CCCM meeting was the adjustment of complaint and feedback forms for people who are illiterate with several solutions proposed. The discussion will be continued at the next CCCM meeting after consultations with migrant representatives.

In TRC Ušivak and TRC Borići, a new leaflet has been created and is distributed daily to migrants. The leaflet consists of information on procedures and services provided by IOM and partner organizations in the center as well as important services available in the local community such as the first pharmacy, bus station. The leaflet also contains a map of the center as well as a description of relevant procedures for all new arrivals



97 PEOPLE ARRIVED TO TRC BLAŽUJ ON 3 MARCH. IOM STAFF PROVIDED PROTECTION SENSITIVE SERVICES AT THE CENTER.

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PROTECTION, PARTICIPATION & ACCOUNTABILITY

Between 20 February and 5 March, IOM's Protection and Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS) teams facilitated a total of 612 emergency screenings, through which 57 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 47 persons, while 548 individuals were reached through information provision and awareness raising sessions.

The training "Designing and Implementing Awareness Raising Campaigns targeting Migrants", organized by IOM, was held in Sarajevo in February. During the four-day training, participants from NGO sector coming from Montenegro, North Macedonia, Serbia, and Bosnia and Herzegovina exchanged their experiences and learned more about the effective implementation and design of awareness raising campaigns.

In TRC Blažuj, several social and creative activities were implemented during the reporting period, including sewing, knitting, embroidery, crafts, art and dancing sessions, attended by migrants from Afghanistan, Morocco, Algeria, Pakistan, and Libya. The purpose of the activities was to provide a sense of community and reduce stress for migrants living in the center.

In another effort to promote community building and cultural exchange, a new activity was introduced in TRC Blažuj. Migrants from various countries were invited to participate in creating mosaics from broken bottle caps, collected over the years and repurposed through upcycling. The initiative aimed to create a universal image representing the experiences of people on the move. A total of 2,774 bottle caps were counted with the help of the migrant participants. Plans have been made to continue and expand this activity in the upcoming week.

of emergency screenings in TRCs: 612

of persons with protection risks and needs: 57

of people reached with information sessions: 548

of referrals to specialized and non-specialized services: 129



THE SEWING AND KNITTING WORKSHOPS IN TRC BLAŽUJ ENCOURAGED MIGRANTS TO EXPRESS THEIR CREATIVITY.

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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 measures, and regular repairs on shelters and sanitary installations.

In TRC Ušivak, IOM maintenance staff refurbished and whitened the premises of SFA registration office and the premises in the administrative building.

In TRC Borići, the renovation of the wash, sanitation & hygiene (WASH) facilities in the main building is progressing. The renovations will be completed by the end of March 2023.

of persons sheltered in the TRCs: 723



RENOVATION OF WASH FACILITIES IN TRC BORIĆI WILL BE COMPLETED BY THE END OF MARCH.
©IOM BIH 2023

During the reporting period, IOM's mobile teams provided 41 transportation services for 57 migrants and conducted 89 information sessions.

In the second week of the reporting period, Afghanistan (47%) was the main declared nationality of assisted migrants, followed by Congo (17%), Morocco (13%), Türkiye (11%), Cuba (8%) and Pakistan (2%). No single women were identified in out of site locations.

of persons transported: 57

of information sessions: 89



IOM MOBILE TEAM PROVIDING TRANSPORTATION ASSISTANCE FOR BENEFICIARIES REFERRED BY THE SFA.
©IOM BIH 2023

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 Pomozi.ba. During the reporting period, a total of 17,089 meals and 9,326 NFIs were distributed.

In TRC Lipa, IOM conducted a survey among the centre population on the number of migrants who intend to fast the upcoming month of Ramadan. The first session was conducted on 3 March, with 90 per cent of respondents confirming the fasting. Surveys will be continued in the following reporting period to determine how IOM can best support individuals practicing Ramadan.

of meals distributed: 17,089

of NFIs distributed: 9,326

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.

RETURN & ALTERNATIVE SOLUTIONS

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

Between 20 February - 5 March, IOM reached 317 migrants, of which 141 were in TRCs and 176 migrants in out of site locations, through information sessions on Assisted Voluntary Return and Reintegration (AVRR). A total of 98 counselling sessions were held to ensure that beneficiaries are well informed and aware of the assistance available during pre-departure, travel and post-arrival. In the reporting period, three persons returned to their countries of origin (1 to Algeria and 2 to Pakistan). One virtual counselling session with IOM Jordan was organized for an individual whose return is being planned. During this counselling session, IOM provided information to this particular individual about various opportunities in their country of origin upon return, such as country-specific information on employment, training, business and education opportunities. Such sessions are one of the many ways in which IOM ensures that migrants are well informed of their prospects upon their return, as well as a means for IOM to tailor reintegration assistance on case-by-case basis.

Assisted Voluntary Returns since 2018: 1,334

Assisted Voluntary Returns in 2023: 10

Applications for Assisted Voluntary Returns in 2023: 24

Jose's Story

IOM Protection and MHPSS team shared a story

A few weeks ago, Jose arrived with his wife to Bosnia and Herzegovina. Accommodated in one of the Temporary Reception Centers (TRCs), he quickly made friends with other migrants and participated with them in the various activities organized by IOM and partner organizations. Through the "No Nation Fashion" initiative, IOM organized soap-making activities in collaboration with the Technical Faculty at the University of Bihać. Carlos' creations were presented during the "No Nation Fashion" events.

"No Nation Fashion" started in the migrant reception facilities in June 2021 as a well-being initiative for migrants in the wake of COVID-19 pandemic. The space was initially used to create reusable protective masks from recycled materials and to repair and adjust their own garments. From there, the creativity of migrants naturally pushed the initiative further into creating unique fashion garments and other items like soaps. This initiative offers an inclusive space for migrants of all genders and ages to showcase their different journeys, stories and talents in a creative way. It also represents one way in which migrants give back to the communities in BiH that welcomed them on their migration journey.



The mission of No Nation Fashion is to create and present garments that celebrate the meeting of cultures, harness the potential of migrants and give back to communities in Bosnia and Herzegovina. No Nation Fashion is a social enterprise that promotes the inclusion of migrants in host communities and their active participation in making our societies more resilient, inclusive, and sustainable.

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.

