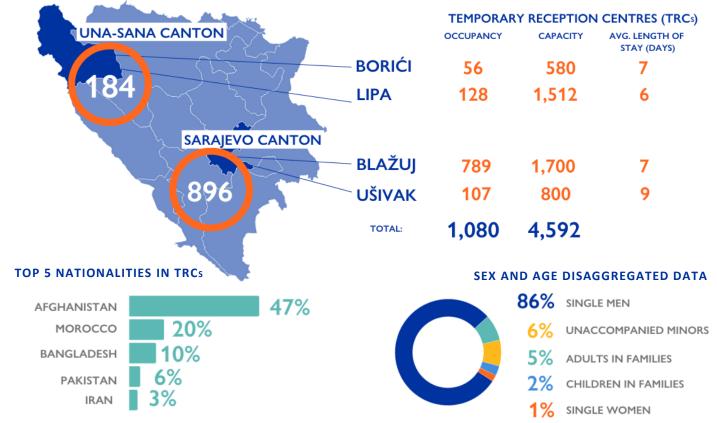
BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA MIGRATION RESPONSE SITUATION REPORT

29 MAY - 11 JUNE 2023



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	1,363	1,460	1,960	2,065	2,893								10,159

SITUATION OVERVIEW

On 8-9 June 2023, the Ministry of Security (MoS) of Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH) and the Swedish Presidency of the Council of the European Union (EU) co-hosted the third Sarajevo Migration Dialogue in Jahorina, BiH. Facilitated by IOM, the conference gathered 167 high-level representatives of the Western Balkans, the EU and other partners to discuss sustainable migration governance. Building on the Skopje Dedaration adopted in November 2022, the new Action Plan for Sustainable Migration Governance in the Western Balkans 2023 -2025 accepted in June 2023 and presented at the conference, proposes 21 key measures to address the smuggling of migrants and trafficking in human beings, increase access to regular pathways and work towards a holistic return management approach.

On 8 June, a bilateral meeting was held between the Minister for Security of BiH, Mr Nenad Nešić, and the IOM Deputy Director General (DDG) for Operations, Ms Ugochi Daniels. The discussions centered around the critical regional role and leadership of BiH in the management of mixed migration flows in the Western Balkans. During the meeting, IOM reiterated its support to the Ministry of Security of BiH as a reliable partner across the whole spectrum of

migration governance and welcomed the authorities' increased ownership over the migration response in BiH.



COORDINATION & MANAGEMENT

Between 29 May and 11 June, IOM recorded a total of 2,191 new arrivals and 2,367 new departures in all reception centres in BiH. The flow of migrants remains intense, with most beneficiaries staying only a few days in the centres.

In TRC Ušivak, on 9 June, IOM's camp coordination and camp management (CCCM) team hosted DDG Daniels, together with the Chief of Mission for BiH and Coordinator for the Western Balkans, Ms Laura Lungarotti. During the visit, DDG Daniels got acquainted with the protection work and services provided by IOM and other partners to people on the move since 2018. She spoke with IOM staff as well as with migrant women who use services in the Mother and Baby Wash Unit and with beneficiaries of the No Nation Fashion studio, answering their questions about the support and assistance provided by IOM.

In TRC Ušivak, on the initiative of the Service for Foreigners' Affairs (SFA), a meeting was held between representatives of the SFA, IOM's CCCM teams TRC Blažuj and TRC Ušivak, Save the Children, World Vision and the Danish Refugee Council (DRC), who are involved in operational issues of identification and reception of unaccompanied and separated children in both centres. During the meeting, the partners emphasized the importance of good cooperation with the Cantonal Centre for Social Work as they have the mandate over the protection services to children. The participants also clearly defined their roles in the framework of identification, relocation and transport, as well as the reception and provision of emergency assistance to unaccompanied minors.

Between 29 May and 11 June, the IOM CCCM teams in TRC Blažuj and TRC Ušivak coordinated the transfer of 32 unaccompanied or separated children from TRC Blažuj to TRC Ušivak. The admission process was carried out in coordination with the SFA and World Vision. Additionally, IOM teams in TRCs Ušivak and Blažuj coordinated the transfer of three families and one single woman from TRC Blažuj to TRC Ušivak.



IOM DEPUTY DIRECTOR GENERAL FOR OPERATIONS, UGOCHI DANIELS MADE A
VISIT TO TRC UŠIVAK AND NO NATION FASHION STUDIO FUNCTIONING
WITHIN THE CENTRE.

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PROTECTION, PARTICIPATION & ACCOUNTABILITY

Between 29 May and 11 June, IOM facilitated a total of 1,547 emergency screenings, through which 184 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 210 persons while 1,088 individuals were reached through information provision and awareness raising sessions.

In TRC Borići, IOM's Protection and MHPSS team will begin to deliver legal info sessions for unaccompanied and separated children. The sessions will be held regularly, helping share information through engaging activities focused on migrants' stories and countries of origin, expectations and realities regarding intended countries of destination, dangers on the route, emergency contacts, as well as rights, with focus on the asylum procedure in BiH and assisted voluntary return and reintegration (AVRR). The Social Welfare Centre in Bihać approved the implementation of the sessions.

IOM's CCCM team in TRC Ušivak cooperated with the SFA, World Vision and multidisciplinary team with family reunification efforts.

In TRC Borići, a small library established in April has been reorganized so that the books are now arranged by topics and languages.

In TRCs Blažuj, IOM's Protection and MHPSS team provided individual protection assistance to a total of 20 migrants. The assistance included referring ten beneficiaries who arrived at the center with wet clothes to the non-food item (NFI) focal point for immediate support. The protection team also supported three individuals who required a diabetic menu and ensured access for two beneficiaries with disabilities to specialized facilities, such as PWD toilets.

of emergency screenings in TRCs: 1,547 # of persons with protection risks and needs: 184 # of individual assistance: 210



IOM organized "pancake day" in TRC Ušivak for migrants and staff in cooperation with Caritas and World Vision . @ IOM 2023

SHELTER, WATER, SANITATION & HYGIENE (WASH)

IOM's maintenance and cleaning team inspects all installations at reception centres 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 constructed and placed two additional benches near the kitchen and at the gate entrance. New benches were also constructed and placed at the communal premises in TRC Blažuj which is used for socializing and movie screenings, creating a recreational space for the beneficiaries.

of persons sheltered in the TRCs: 1,080

of laundry services: 1,247

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 27,014 meals and 12,644 NFIs were distributed.

The high turnover of migrants puts an additional effort for IOM to ensure that all migrants received NFIs as needed upon reception. In TRC Ušivak, 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 met right upon arrival.

of meals distributed: 27,014

of complimentary baby food distributed: 565

of NFIs distributed: 12,644



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 46 transportation services for 114 migrants and conducted 309 information sessions.

Afghanistan (65%) was the main declared nationality of assisted migrants, followed by Pakistan (15%), Bangladesh (7%), Morocco (6%), Algeria (4%), Cuba (2%) and Russian Federation (1%).

of persons transported: 46

of information sessions: 309

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 29 May and 11 June, IOM AVRR team assisted 640 migrants, with 278 located in reception centres and 362 in out-of-site locations. Information sessions on AVRR were conducted to ensure that beneficiaries were well-informed about the available assistance throughout predeparture, travel, and post-arrival. Additionally, 70 counselling sessions were held to provide migrants with personalized support.

In the reporting period six persons returned to their country of origin (3 to Bangladesh and 3 to Sri Lanka), while 2 others applied for AVRR and their return preparations are currently in progress.

Virtual counselling sessions with IOM staff in countries of origin were organized for two beneficiaries from Pakistan and Slovakia. These sessions aimed to connect the beneficiaries with their families and counterparts in their home countries, as well as to provide information about the possibilities within AVRR assistance and reintegration opportunities upon their return.

Families are particularly reluctant to AVRR, especially those traveling with children. Therefore, in cooperation with protection teams IOM/AVRR staff ensures that they receive relevant and up-to-date information for their transition back into their country of origin as well as the various opportunities, benefits and risks that may affect their lives and the lives of their children. Enhancing cooperation among partners operating in the field and ensuring synergy in protection response remains one of key priorities of further action focused on increasing access to AVRR.

Assisted Voluntary Returns since 2018: 1,358 # Assisted Voluntary Returns in 2023: 34



Migrant women share their stories with IOM DDG Daniels

During her recent visit to Bosnia and Herzegovina, IOM Deputy Director General for Operations Ugochi Daniels met with migrants in Temporary Reception Center (TRC) Ušivak During a focus group discussion organized with migrant women, one of the participants came with a guitar and shared her story, hopes and dreams.

"I come from Iran. Three months ago, I left my country in search of a place where I might realize my goals and make my dreams come true. I want to succeed by doing what I love the most, music. I am the author of several songs that I sing with my guitar. The guitar and my songs are my loves.

My journey to Bosnia and Herzegovina was difficult. Almost all the way, I walked From my country and through Türkiye, Albania, Montenegro, I arrived in Bosnia and Herzegovina. I stayed in reception centers in Albania and Montenegro. I can say that I had the most positive experience here in Bosnia and Herzegovina. Here, I feel safe. I am accommodated with women who are also alone on their journey.

Today, I had the opportunity to show to them and to IOM staff my music and I was happy because I saw that my music touched them."

Information sharing and feedback from beneficiaries are essential to ensure quality and responsive programming, and to actively promote IOM's commitment to Accountability to Affected Populations (AAP). During her visit, DDG Daniels was able to observe other activities implemented in TRCs in BiH. She also held an all-female staff meeting where the critical work of female staff working in TRCs was highlighted as contributing to making safe space and fostering the inclusive participation of all.

"Whether speaking to migrants or to the IOM colleagues who work for migrants and all people on the move, at the heart of every discussion are hopes and dreams"

- IOM Deputy Director General for Operations, Ugochi Daniels



MIGRANTS ACCOMMODATED IN RECEPTION CENTRES OFTEN SHARE THEIR ARTISTIC TALENTS WITH THE COMMUNITY AND STAFF. ©IOM 2023



IOM DDG WAS HOSTED BY IOM BIH COM IN A VISIT TO TRC UŠIVAK WHERE THEY ENGAGED IN TALKS WITH BENEFICIARIES, LISTENED TO THE FIRST ACCOUNT STORIES AND GAVE FEEDBACK. ©IOM 2023

Since the start of the migration response by IOM in BiH in 2017-2018, over 12,537 women received services in reception facilities, representing approximately 11 per cent of all people assisted. Female staff currently represent 44 per cent of the IOM staff working in TRCs in BiH.













