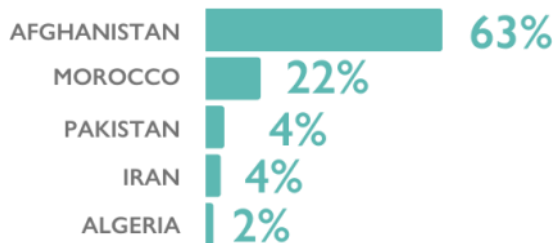


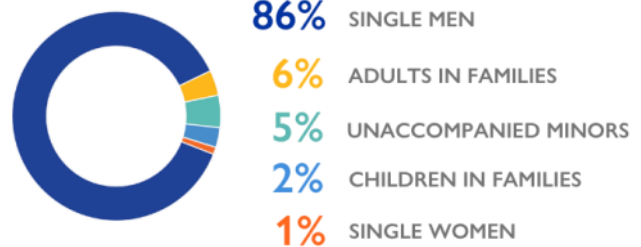
### TEMPORARY RECEPTION CENTRES (TRCs)

	OCCUPANCY	CAPACITY	AVG. LENGTH OF STAY (DAYS)
BORIĆI	71	580	6
LIPA	301	1,512	6
BLAŽUJ	1,208	1,700	6
UŠIVAK	201	800	9
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>1,781</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						16,898

## SITUATION OVERVIEW

During the reporting period, there has been a significant increase in the number of new arrivals in the Temporary Reception Centers (TRC). For example, in TRC Blažuj, in June, there was a total of 3,499 newly arrived beneficiaries, while in July, the number increased to 4,913, representing an increase of 40 per cent. This trend is putting pressure on operational capacities, assistance and stocks of food and non-food items (NFIs), with more than 50,200 meals provided, 14,000 non-food items distributed, and 341 transportation services carried out.

On 3 August, the OCAS - Chamber Orchestra of Siero from Spain visited the temporary reception center Blažuj, determined to connect people and cultures with the universal language of music with their musical performance. After visiting Poland and Ukraine last summer, they arrived in BiH this year with the same goal - to build friendship and understanding. The concert was organized in cooperation with the Academic Cultural Center of the University of Sarajevo, Seljo Cultural and Artistic Society and Corona ensemble.



MUSICAL PERFORMANCE IN TRC BLAŽUJ.  
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## COORDINATION & MANAGEMENT

Between 24 July and 6 August, IOM recorded a total of 4,143 people who arrived in four temporary reception centres, including newly registered and those previously registered who returned for assistance and 4,047 new departures.

During the reporting period, IOM in coordination with the Service for Foreigners' Affairs (SFA) organized an Interagency Coordination Meeting for Sarajevo Canton, attended by representatives from partner organizations present in TRCs Blažuj and Ušivak. During the meeting, participants agreed to report weekly statistical data on provided services through the SharePoint platform. Each organization is required to update the reporting table weekly and ensure accurate and comprehensive data.

In TRC Blažuj, the pre-registration zone was expanded to include an additional building and two container units, which increased the capacity of the zone from 106 to 383 sleeping spaces and was also equipped with new beds and mattresses. The pre-registration zone helps IOM and SFA to process the high number of daily arrivals, so that beneficiaries can have access to accommodation and assistance while they wait for the medical screening and formal registration to take place.

In TRC Lipa, five students (three migrants and two asylum seekers), graduated from the informal IT course offered by the Technical Faculty of the University of Bihać. The Dean of the Faculty officially handed over Certificates of Completion, marking the end of the first pilot educational project covering IT basics and programming. This initiative stems from the continued cooperation between the TRC Lipa Creative Zone and the Technical Faculty.

In TRC Borići, the trend of admission of unaccompanied and separated children (UASC) continued, with a total of 60 UASC arrivals recorded during the reporting period, and 33 UASCs present at the end of the reporting period. All beneficiaries residing in the centre had the opportunity to participate in a series of sports activities, such as volleyball and table tennis. Additionally, the summer school activities continued for the children from the centre and from the local community.

In TRC Ušivak, IOM procured and installed new underground water pipes to ensure a drainage system of extreme amounts of water in extreme weather situations such as heavy rains.

## PROTECTION, PARTICIPATION & ACCOUNTABILITY

Between 24 July and 6 August, IOM facilitated a total of 2,614 emergency screenings, through which 456 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 209 persons while 1,936 individuals were reached through information provision and awareness raising sessions.

The trend of increased arrivals in the reception centres is reflected in higher numbers of protection services provided. Only between 31 July and 6 August, in TRC Blažuj, a total of 135 referrals were forwarded and followed by IOM's Protection and Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS) team. Among these referrals, 32 potential unaccompanied and separated children (UASC) were referred to Save the Children for eventual safe escort to TRC Ušivak. Additionally, 65 beneficiaries were referred to DRC for additional medical support. One beneficiary in need of specialized psychological services and psychological support was referred to Médecins du Monde (MdM).

Several blocks of different creative activities were implemented in TRC Blažuj during reporting period including sewing, knitting, upcycling, embroidery, crafts, art creativities, decoupage, karaoke and dancing sessions, attended by approximately 400 migrants from Afghanistan, Iran, Pakistan, Morocco, Algeria, and Tunisia. The purpose of these activities was to provide a sense of community and reduce stress for migrants accommodated in the centre. The sewing and knitting workshops encourage migrants to express their creativity, improve their skills, and help each other in mastering these skills.

A total of 78 young men were accommodated in the Green Zone in TRC Blažuj, and 57 have subsequently departed from the Zone. In collaboration with UNFPA, IOM conducts daily monitoring, needs assessment and organizes provision of services accordingly.

In TRC Ušivak, IOM continues to organize regular Community Council meetings to ensure engagement and participation of beneficiaries in the center. As a result of feedback received during a recent meeting, IOM's camp coordination and camp management (CCCM) team added yoga as one of the activities offered in the center. IOM organized the acrylic painting workshop in TRC Ušivak on 27 July, with 12 migrants (9 women and 4 men) taking part.



COMMUNITY COUNCIL SESSION IN TRC UŠIVAK.  
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PAINTING MADE BY A BENEFICIARY AT AN ART WORKSHOP ORGANIZED BY IOM.  
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## SHELTER, WATER, SANITATION & HYGIENE (WASH)

IOM's maintenance and cleaning team inspects all installations at reception centres daily, with two cleanings per day, and weekly disinfection, disinfestation, and derating measures, and regular repairs on shelters and sanitary installations.

In TRC Blažuj a large-scale cleaning action of accommodation containers was organized together with migrant volunteers. The accommodation units were additionally equipped with new beds and mattresses.

Mother and Baby Wash Unit (MBWU) services were used by 161 beneficiaries, 89 mothers, and 72 children (37 female and 35 male), and 74 bags of clothes have been washed. Regular cleaning of MBWU premises and the area around the unit was conducted daily.

**# of persons sheltered in the TRCs: 1,781**



INSTALLATION OF WATER PIPES IN TRC UŠIVAK TO ENSURE AN ADEQUATE DRAINAGE SYSTEM. ©IOM 2023

## 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 42,552 meals and 23,659 NFIs were distributed.

**# of meals distributed: 42,552**

**# of NFIs distributed: 23,659**



AVRR INFO SESSION.  
©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 64 transportation services mainly to reception centres for 257 migrants and conducted 548 information sessions.

**# of persons transported: 257**

**# of information sessions: 548**



IOM'S MOBILE TEAM PROVIDING INFORMATION TO MIGRANTS AT A BUS STATION. ©IOM 2023

## RETURN & ALTERNATIVE SOLUTIONS

Between 24 July and 6 August, the IOM AVRR teams provided assistance to 510 migrants, of which 355 were located in reception centres and 155 in out-of-site locations. Information sessions on assisted voluntary return and reintegration were conducted to ensure that beneficiaries are well-informed about the assistance available during pre-departure, travel, and post-arrival. Additionally, 271 counselling sessions were held to provide migrants with personalized support.

There were no returns in the reporting period, but nine persons applied for AVRR. The planning of their voluntary returns is in progress.

Two Virtual Counselling (VC) sessions were held for beneficiaries willing to return to their countries of origin. 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.

The trend of intensified movements and shorter stay continues to be reported at all locations, resulting in lower interest for AVRR.

**# Assisted Voluntary Returns since 2018: 1,363**

**# Assisted Voluntary Returns in 2023: 39**

## Trafficking is not a choice

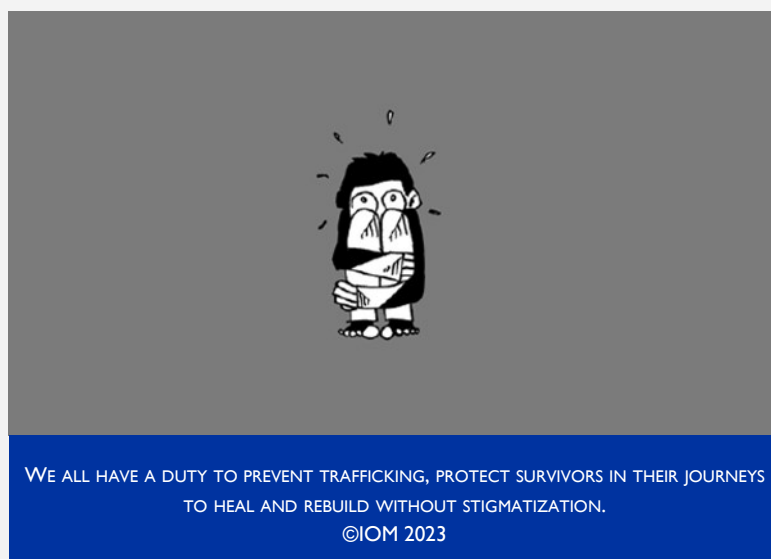
In 2022, at the request of the Ministry of Security and following a joint investigation by the Prosecutor's Office of BiH and the Border Police of BiH, IOM supported the referral and accommodation of five identified minors to a safe house. IOM facilitated protection assistance by supporting the provision of hygiene items, daily meals, individual counselling, medical services, occupational therapy, recreational activities, and cultural mediation.

Ahban\*, one of the five minors, is a sixteen-year-old migrant from Afghanistan. He started his journey from Afghanistan to Germany with a group of acquaintances. In one of the transit countries, he met older men who offered him help and protection. He thought he was finally safe with them.

He hardly remembers the first evening. They gave him alcohol and some pills. In the morning he felt sick. They showed him a video of him being raped by unknown people and threatened to send the video to his family and friends in Afghanistan.

*"I was terrified and felt humiliated. They told me that this way I could earn money to continue my journey, but I couldn't do it anymore. I decided to ask for help and report them. It wasn't easy. I'm safe now. No one should have to go through what I went through."* – Ahban

\*The name has been changed to protect privacy



Trafficking in persons is a serious human rights violation that affects men, women and children. Around the globe, people are trafficked across international borders as well as within their own countries. In the Western Balkans region, 222 (potential) victims of human trafficking were identified in 2022. IOM takes a comprehensive approach to countering trafficking in persons within the wider context of managing migration. Global activities include assistance and protection; capacity building of state institutions, civil society and the private sector; contribution to policy discourse; research and technical cooperation.

