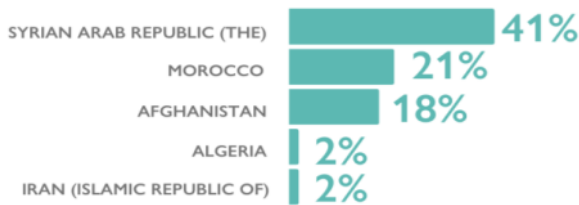


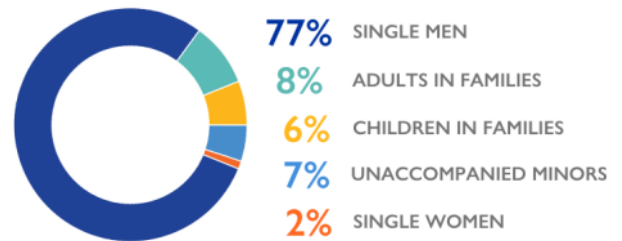
TEMPORARY RECEPTION CENTRES (TRCs)

	OCCUPANCY	CAPACITY	AVG. LENGTH OF STAY (DAYS)
BORIĆI	205	580	11
LIPA	889	1,512	6
BLAŽUJ	719	1,700	6
UŠIVAK	352	800	8
TOTAL:	2,165	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	1,781	1,460	1,960	2,065	2,893	2,772	3,967	3,542	4,734	3,487	2,491	2,709	33,861

SITUATION OVERVIEW

On 14 December, the exhibition "Wearin'it Together" was opened in the National Museum of Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH). The photographic exhibition and campaign powered by IOM's No Nation Fashion, featuring Franco Pagetti, illuminates the topic of migration through its innovative and creative dimensions, focusing on individual stories, personalities and achievements of migrants in BiH and Serbia. The campaign combines individual portrayals with fashion and urban spaces, conveying complex issues of identity, migration, and integration through visual narratives.

On 18 December, to mark International Migrants Day, IOM organized various activities in all Temporary Reception Centres (TRCs). In TRC Lipa, IOM and partner organizations presented their activities to local and cantonal authorities and guests. In TRC Borić, pupils from Richmond Park Elementary School in Bihac accompanied by their teachers, exchanged gifts with children during their visit to the reception centre. In TRC Ušivak, the kids helped with the distribution of delicious meals prepared in the community kitchen, where migrant women and men cooked the most famous dishes from their homeland. In TRC Blažuj, singing, dancing and Moroccan pastries marked the joyful celebration.



OPENING OF THE "WEARIN'IT TOGETHER" EXHIBITION IN THE NATIONAL MUSEUM OF BIH. THE EXHIBITION IS OPEN UNTIL 14 JANUARY 2024.
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CONTACTS

Chief of Mission
Laura Lungarotti, llungarotti@iom.int

Information Management and Reporting
Programme Support Unit, BIH_PSU@iom.int

www.iom.int/countries/bosnia-and-herzegovina

COORDINATION & MANAGEMENT

Between 11 and 24 December, IOM recorded a total of 4,256 people arriving to four temporary reception centres, including newly registered persons and those previously registered and returning for assistance. This represents an increase of 11.4 per cent compared to the previous reporting period (28 November – 10 December 2023). There were 4,333 new departures, which represents an 18.8 per cent increase.

There has been a notable increase in the number of Syrians registered by authorities in BiH, with nearly 60 per cent of all Syrian registrations in 2023 having been recorded in September, October and November. In November 2023, Syrian nationals constituted the third most registered nationality in the TRCs in BiH, behind Afghans and Moroccans. This is a stark contrast from 2022 when Syrians made up less than one per cent of total registrations in BiH and in the TRCs. Most Syrians who had arrived in the last few months had been living in Türkiye for one or more years, while the others had recently arrived from the Syrian Arab Republic.

In TRC Blažuj, IOM ensured access to all essential services for new arrivals, including safe and clean accommodation, food, non-food items, and other services. In one instance, IOM teams working during the night shift managed to provide reception for the arrival of over 100 migrants in a single night, ensuring all necessary services were provided efficiently.

In TRC Ušivak, IOM adjusted and repurposed shelter facilities to enhance responsiveness and capacity to address increased arrivals of people to the centre. The quarantine building and five accommodation containers used for isolation during the Covid-19 period were repurposed for immediate accommodation to new arrivals. From the ten total containers, five remain operational for isolation purposes, when needed. The Mother and Baby Wash Unit provided services to 133 beneficiaries, including 55 mothers and 78 children (35 males and 43 females), while 53 bags of clothes were washed and dried.

of new arrivals: **4,256**

of emergency screenings in TRCs: **2,393**



INTERNATIONAL MIGRANTS DAY CELEBRATION IN TRC BLAŽUJ INCLUDED A COOKING ACTIVITY. MIGRANTS FROM MOROCCO, PAKISTAN, AFGHANISTAN, AND SOMALIA PREPARED THEIR NATIONAL DISHES.

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PROTECTION, PARTICIPATION & ACCOUNTABILITY

Between 11 and 24 December, IOM facilitated a total of 2,393 emergency screenings, through which 641 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 560 persons while 1,942 individuals were reached through information provision and awareness raising sessions.

On 20 December 2023, IOM published a Migrant Mobility Situation Report, which is based on the November monthly survey providing insights into the profiles, experiences, needs, routes travelled and intentions of migrants transiting through. The survey asked migrants how they moved between cities and key locations in BiH, to which seventy-five per cent of respondents said that they had taken a bus to travel between some key locations. This is a decrease of 22 per cent compared to October 2023. Apart from the bus, 38 per cent also said that they had taken a taxi and one per cent said they had travelled in a private car. For more information, please see: Migrant Mobility Situation Report

In TRC Blažuj, the IOM Protection and Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS) team managed several individual cases. This included follow-ups with two beneficiaries facing mental health and legal issues, as well as a response to a referral made by partner organizations for a reported behavioral issue. The IOM team conducted a conflict resolution session and provided psychological first aid.

In TRC Ušivak, IOM organized a Community Participation Meeting with the attendance of our partner organization, the BiH Women Initiative, with the aim to ensure that the provision of services align closely with needs of the diverse migrant population residing in the TRC. Ten migrants (9 women and 1 men), originating from the Syrian Arab Republic, Kuwait, the Islamic Republic of Iran, and Türkiye, participated and provided feedback concerning the NFI and hygiene in accommodation units. IOM, in collaboration with World Vision (WV), worked to facilitate the accommodation of newly arrived unaccompanied and separated children (UASC) in TRC Ušivak, ensuring that accommodation facilities are equipped with beds, mattresses, and heaters.



NGO "RUKU NA SRCE" FROM SARAJEVO DONATED NEW YEAR'S GIFTS FOR CHILDREN. IOM AND WORLD VISION ORGANIZED A GIFT CEREMONY FOR MORE THAN 100 CHILDREN IN TRC UŠIVAK.

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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 Blažuj, IOM maintains the practice of daily cleaning activities with active participation of volunteer migrants. There has been a noticeable improvement in hygienic conditions in the centre, a result of the collaborative efforts of the hygienic team consisting of IOM and partner organization staff and beneficiaries.

In TRC Ušivak, on 21 December, IOM carried out a comprehensive disinfection and insecticide treatment within the entire centre. This covered various areas, including the UASC Zone with 38 containers and a red hangar facility, the family zone comprising of 52 containers and 22 rooms, and the isolation area with 10 containers. As part of the process, migrants were temporarily evacuated ensuring the safety and effectiveness of the insecticide treatment measures.

of persons sheltered in the TRCs: 2,165

of laundry services: 2,611



MIGRANT VOLUNTEERS FROM TRC UŠIVAK PARTICIPATED IN A CLEANING ACTION IN THE LOCAL COMMUNITY.
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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 72,201 meals and 22,118 NFIs were distributed.

TRC Blažuj received a donation from World Vision International and the Red Cross of the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina consisting of 1,040 lightweight blankets.

of meals distributed: 72,201

of NFIs distributed: 22,118

complementary baby food distributed: 957

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. The mobile teams screen for vulnerabilities, provide emergency assistance, make referrals when necessary and provide transportation services for migrants to TRCs upon request.

During the reporting period, IOM's mobile teams provided 112 transportation services (mainly to reception centres) for 246 migrants and conducted 290 general information sessions.

Syrian Arab Republic (27%) was the main declared nationality of assisted migrants, followed by Morocco (15%), Afghanistan (13%), Türkiye (10%), Pakistan (10%), Egypt (9%), Iran (3%), Somalia (3%), Nepal, Libya, Sri Lanka (2% each), Cameroon (1%), Bangladesh, Ghana, Iraq, Palestine, Sierra Leone (less than 1% each).

of persons transported: 246

of information sessions: 290

RETURN & ALTERNATIVE SOLUTIONS

IOM provides administrative, logistical and financial support, as well as reintegration assistance to migrants who decide to voluntarily return to their country of origin.

Between 11 and 24 December, the team reached 303 migrants, of which 157 were being hosted in TRCs and 146 migrants from other locations off-site – through information sessions on assisted voluntary return and reintegration. The outreach activities are implemented daily in distant regions within Tuzla, Sarajevo, and Una-Sana cantons, with the objective to reach as many migrants as possible and provide information about AVRR, but also guarantee the swift direction towards protection services. A total of 112 counselling sessions were held to ensure that beneficiaries are well informed and aware of the assistance available during pre-departure, travel, and post-arrival.

Thirteen persons returned to their country of origin (1 to Azerbaijan, 1 to Pakistan, 3 to Nepal, 4 to Egypt, 2 to Jordan and 2 to Bangladesh), while two others applied for AVRR and their return preparations are currently in progress. The trend of increased interest in AVRR has been reported in Sarajevo and Una-Sana cantons. AVRR counsellors regularly participate in legal information sessions organized together with IOM Protection and Vaša Prava teams for migrants accommodated in TRCs Blažuj, Ušivak, Lipa and Borići. At these sessions the AVRR team provides migrants with additional information about their rights, key details of AVRR assistance and reintegration opportunities in their community before they return to their country of origin. In cooperation with World Vision, the AVRR team in TRC Ušivak has started organizing info sessions for UASC.

Assisted Voluntary Returns in 2023: 96, M: 89, F: 7

Assisted Voluntary Returns since 2018: 1,420, M: 1255, F: 165

International Migrants Day

On International Migrants Day, we celebrate the contributions of migrants to Bosnia and Herzegovina' (BiH). People on the move are powerful drivers for development in both their origin and destination countries as workers, students, entrepreneurs, family members, artists, and much more. Migrants often maintain strong connections to their home countries while embracing their new communities, where they bring a wealth of knowledge, experience and skill. Humane and orderly migration can be a cornerstone of sustainable development, prosperity and progress.

Sumiastiniasih is from Bali, Indonesia. She is currently working in Sarajevo as a massage therapist in one of the spa centers. She came to BiH to acquire new work experience, improve her income and support her family. Sumiastiniasih loves Sarajevo and plans to continue to work at the spa center, learn the local language and bring her family from Indonesia. By hiring migrant workers who have specific skills and bring new techniques, the spa improved the quality and range of services provided and gained new clients. To help the migrant workers integrate and learn about the country, the spa center is organizing visits to the beautiful mountains and cities of BiH.



SUMIASTINIASIH FROM BALI WORKS AS A MASSAGE THERAPIST IN BIH.
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Mamun is from Bangladesh. It wasn't easy for Mamun to leave his homeland. He misses his family every day. However, despite not knowing the language and encountering a completely different culture, Mamun found his way very quickly and found a suitable job in Prnjavor, in a packaging company. While Prnjavor is one of the most developed cities in the region, it is a challenge for employers to find workers, since the majority of the working age population is already employed. To help them develop their company, employers are more and more interested in employing migrant workers. Contributing to BiH's economic development, Mamun is very happy with his current job and finds the people of BiH are very nice and friendly.



MAMUN FROM BANGLADESH FOUND A JOB IN PRNJAVOR, BIH.
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