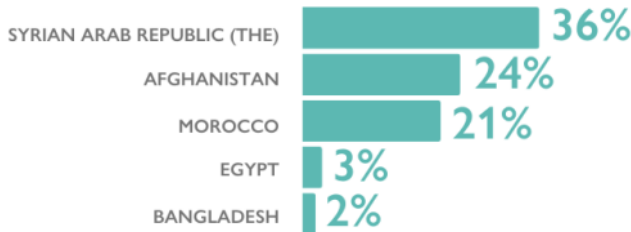


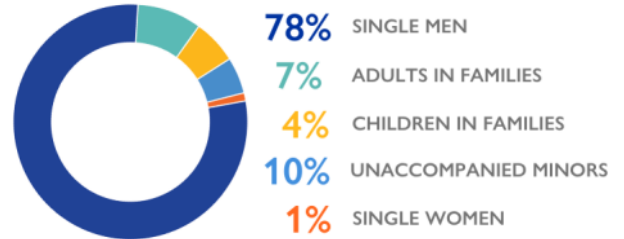
TEMPORARY RECEPTION CENTRES (TRCs)

	OCCUPANCY	CAPACITY	AVG. LENGTH OF STAY (DAYS)
BORIĆI	333	580	11
LIPA	1,208	1,512	6
BLAŽUJ	712	1,700	6
UŠIVAK	261	800	8
TOTAL:	2,514	4,592	

TOP 5 NATIONALITIES IN TRCs



SEX AND AGE DISAGGREGATED



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	3,257	34,409
2024	2,953												2,953

SITUATION OVERVIEW

On 2 February, in Bihać, the European Union (EU) Special Representative in Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH), Ambassador Johann Sattler, and the director of the "Dr Irfan Ljubijankić" Cantonal Hospital, Hajrudin Havić, officially opened the renovated Department of Pediatric Surgery.

The renovation was funded by the EU and supported by IOM through the project "Individual measures to strengthen response capacity for managing migration flows in Bosnia and Herzegovina". This activity directly contributes to strengthening local health and social structures in communities in which migrants are transiting.

On 1 February, IOM Bosnia and Herzegovina Deputy Chief of Mission, Blanche Picarello, met with the Director of the Service of Foreigners' Affairs (SFA), Žarko Laketa and the Deputy Director, Almin Imamović.

The meeting was an opportunity to discuss mixed migration trends and further strengthen cooperation between the SFA and IOM for the provision of assistance to migrants in BiH.



OPENING OF THE RENOVATED DEPARTMENT OF PEDIATRIC SURGERY OF THE CANTONAL HOSPITAL "DR IRFAN LJUBIJANKIĆ" IN BIHAĆ.
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COORDINATION & MANAGEMENT

Between 22 January and 4 February 2024, IOM recorded a total of 2,795 people arriving to four temporary reception centres, including newly registered persons and those previously registered and returning for assistance. This represents a decrease of 32.4 per cent compared to the previous reporting period (8-21 January 2024). There were 3,020 new departures, which represents a 21.3 per cent decrease.

In TRC Ušivak, IOM organized an area camp coordination and camp management meeting for TRC Ušivak and TRC Blažuj on 31 January with participation of the Directorate for Coordination of Police Bodies (DPCB) and partner organizations. The participants discussed key activities including protection of migrants to better align efforts and provide the most effective assistance. IOM invited partner organizations to take part in the migrant community sessions to enable more comprehensive feedback to beneficiaries from all service providers.

In TRC Lipa, IOM and the Service for Foreigners' Affairs (SFA) developed and adopted the Standard Operating Procedures (SoPs) for Food, Non-Food Items (NFI), Shelter, and Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) services making progress in the transition of management of these services from IOM to the SFA. The next steps will include a capacity building for the SFA staff, the development of monthly tasks and activities for all four services and actual hand-over of services to the SFA teams.

In TRC Ušivak, IOM in coordination with DRC medical staff provided urgent support for three medical cases during the reporting period. IOM coordinated the medical assistance with the emergency ambulance and organized transportation of beneficiaries from the hospital back to the centre.

In TRC Ušivak, IOM in coordination with the host local community in Hadžići, organized a cleaning event in the vicinity of the centre. Volunteers from the migrant community participated in the event demonstrating a proactive approach to fostering good relationships with the local community.

of new arrivals: 2,795

of emergency screenings in TRCs: 1,436



IOM ORGANIZED A WINTER EVENT FOR CHILDREN IN TRC UŠIVAK INCLUDING SLEDDING, A TUG OF WAR AND A TEA AND SWEETS PARTY.

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PROTECTION, PARTICIPATION & ACCOUNTABILITY

Between 22 January and 4 February 2024, IOM facilitated a total of 1,436 emergency screenings, through which 356 persons with protection needs were identified. IOM provided individual assistance, including interpretation and logistical support (such as orientation at the TRCs and the provision of documents) to 430 persons while 1,999 individuals were reached through information and awareness raising sessions.

In all reception centres, IOM conducted a beneficiary satisfaction survey with 300 beneficiaries over the period of one month to receive feedback on living conditions in the centres — assessing shelter, food, non-food items (NFI), safety, participation mechanisms, social and creative content, assisted voluntary return and reintegration and more. The survey provides insight into the quality of IOM service delivery and represents a valuable source for guiding implementation and programming. The results of the survey also complement accountability to affected population mechanisms.

In TRC Blažuj and TRC Ušivak, IOM prepared and posted updated posters to provide additional information regarding services and procedures in the centres in line with emerging needs and feedback received by beneficiaries during community participation sessions.

IOM also provided transportation for fourteen children who started attending school after the winter break. IOM's Protection and Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS) team organized a guitar workshop for six unaccompanied and separated children (UASC) from Afghanistan and Egypt in coordination with World Vision. Mine Risk Education/Awareness class was delivered on 25 January for fourteen migrants from the Democratic Republic of the Congo, the Syrian Arab Republic, Iran, and Somalia.

In TRC Blažuj, IOM held a Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS) session for six beneficiaries from different ethnic backgrounds to discuss notions such as prejudice and stereotypes. The session aimed to create a mutual understanding among people from different cultures and contribute to peaceful coexistence in the centre. IOM staff was conducting night patrols of the accommodation units in TRC Blažuj accompanied by the DPCB officers to maintain a secure environment for all residents.



IOM UPDATES INFO POSTERS CONTAINING INFORMATION ON SERVICES IN RECEPTION CENTRES IN LINE WITH THE OPERATIONAL CHANGES, EMERGING NEEDS AND REQUESTS BY BENEFICIARIES.

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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 supplied 300 new mattresses to maintain a comfortable living environment within the centre. In TRC Blažuj, IOM distributed 40 new heaters in the accommodation units to improve living conditions for beneficiaries.

of laundry services: **2,046**

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 89,727 meals and 12,659 NFIs were distributed.

of meals distributed: **89,727**

of NFIs distributed: **12,659**

complementary baby food distributed: **822**

ASSISTANCE OUTSIDE OF RECEPTION FACILITIES

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 72 transportation services (mainly to reception centres) for 204 migrants and conducted 312 general information sessions.

The Syrian Arab Republic (43%) was the main declared nationality of assisted migrants, followed by Morocco (14 %), Türkiye (11%), Cameroon (8%), Afghanistan (6%), Algeria (5%), Iraq (5%), Egypt (3%), Mongolia (2%), Guinea (1%), Iran and Tunisia (less than 1 %).

of persons transported: **204**

of information sessions: **312**



ADDITIONAL 40 NEW HEATERS WERE PROVIDED BY IOM FOR ACCOMODATION UNITS IN TRC BLAŽUJ.
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RETURN & ALTERNATIVE SOLUTIONS

IOM's Return and Reintegration team regularly engages in various activities encompassing outreach, information dissemination, counselling, registration, and movement operations.

Between 22 January and 4 February 2024, the team reached 272 migrants of which 176 were being hosted in TRCs and 96 migrants from other locations off-site with 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 directing towards protection services. A total of 163 counselling sessions were held to ensure that beneficiaries are well informed and aware of the assistance available made during pre-departure, travel, and post-arrival.

During the reporting period 18 persons returned to their countries of origin (1 Algeria, 2 Azerbaijan, 3 Egypt, 2 Iraq, 1 Kyrgyzstan, 1 Lebanon, 1 Morocco, 3 Nepal, 1 Russian Federation, 2 Sri Lanka and 1 Republic of Türkiye). During the reporting period AVRR team registered 14 persons and preparation of their voluntary returns is in progress.

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 AVRR team provides additional information to migrants 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 the World Vision AVRR team in TRC Ušivak is organizing info sessions for UASC.

Applications for Assisted Voluntary Returns: **31, M: 28, F:3**

Assisted Voluntary Returns in 2024: **18, M: 17, F: 1**

Assisted Voluntary Returns since 2018: **1,438, M: 1272, F: 166**



IOM'S MOBILE TEAMS PROVIDING ASSISTANCE TO MIGRANTS IN UNA SANA CANTON IN COOPERATION WITH PARTNER ORGANIZATIONS.
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A successful reintegration story

Mohamed* left his homeland nine months ago using all his savings from several years of work. After months trying to reach his destination, homesickness made him re-evaluate his plan. When he reached one of the reception centres in Bosnia and Herzegovina, he was informed about the IOM assisted voluntary return and reintegration (AVRR) program.

After receiving additional information from the IOM AVRR team, he made his decision to return to his country and be with his family, especially his three young daughters. IOM initiated a comprehensive case management to ensure he would receive tailored assistance, based on his needs.

A Reintegration Plan was set according to his skills and the market needs with outlined steps for the establishment of a business, everything from finding a suitable location, to sourcing inventory, and marketing his shop.

He decided to invest the financial support provided by IOM to create his own small clothes shop.

Upon his return, and with the support provided by IOM, Mohamed secured a prime location for his shop in the local market area in his hometown.

He often looks back on his journey, from the difficult decision to return home to the support he received from IOM.

*"I am not only grateful for the financial support assistance but also for guidance and counselling that helped me regain my confidence and ambition. My story is a symbol of hope and a testament to the opportunities that can arise when one is given the chance to rebuild his life." - Mohamed**

* Name was changed to protect privacy



IT IS A NEW START FOR MOHAMED* WHO OPENED A CLOTHES SHOP IN HIS HOMETOWN WITH THE HELP OF IOM'S AVRR PROGRAMME.
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