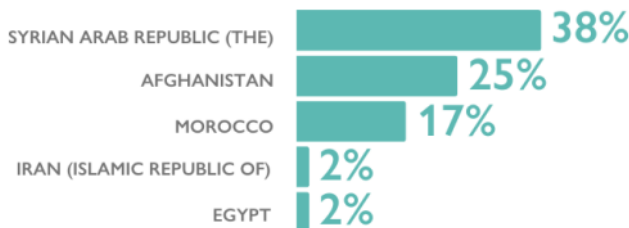


- BORIĆI
- LIPA
- BLAŽUJ
- UŠIVAK

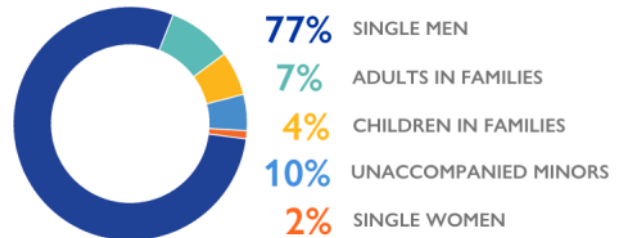
TEMPORARY RECEPTION CENTRES (TRCs)

	OCCUPANCY	CAPACITY	AVG. LENGTH OF STAY (DAYS)
BORIĆI	260	580	11
LIPA	811	1,512	6
BLAŽUJ	632	1,700	6
UŠIVAK	191	800	8
TOTAL:	1,894	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	3,257	34,409
2024	2,953	594											3,550

SITUATION OVERVIEW

On 6 February, the European Union (EU) donated to the Border Police of Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH) ten specialized vehicles worth more than 1 million BAM. The funds were allocated through the project *Special Measures to Support the Response to the Refugee and Migrant Situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina Phase III* implemented by IOM. Through the European Union funding, IOM provides support by procuring equipment, capacity building and the provision of assistance to institutions and agencies responsible for managing migration flows in BiH.

On 14 February, during an official visit to the city of Bihać, the OSCE Special Representative and Coordinator for Combating Human Trafficking, Dr Kari Johnstone, and the head of the OSCE Mission to BiH, Ambassador Brian Aggeler, visited the temporary reception centers Lipa and Borići. IOM representatives, together with the Service for Foreigners' Affairs presented the services available to migrants in vulnerable situations and the practices in place to address the potential risks of human trafficking.



TEN VEHICLES WERE DONATED TO THE BORDER POLICE THROUGH THE EU FUNDED PROJECT *SPECIAL MEASURES TO SUPPORT THE RESPONSE TO THE REFUGEE AND MIGRANT SITUATION IN BIH*.

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COORDINATION & MANAGEMENT

Between 5 and 18 February 2024, IOM recorded a total of 1,925 people arriving to four temporary reception centres, including newly registered persons and those previously registered and returning for assistance. This represents a 53.5 decrease of per cent compared to the previous reporting period (8-21 January 2024). There were 2,501 new departures, which represents a 34.9 per cent decrease.

In TRC Ušivak, IOM team in coordination with the SFA admitted 37 unaccompanied or separated children (UASC) and five families, following the coordinated relocation from TRC Blažuj. The admission process for UASC beneficiaries was carried out in coordination with World Vision and with legal guardians support. Also, in coordination with the FA one adult male was relocated from TRC Blažuj to TRC Ušivak on the ground of family reunification, allowing the beneficiary to reunite with his father.

In TRC Blažuj, a Health Information Session was organized in coordination with DRC and NCM Ivan Pavao II in the Social Corner of the centre for 28 participants. The topic of the session was "When to seek medical attention". The presentation, delivered by DRC Medical Assistant and IOM Public Health Focal Point, provided information in Arabic and Farsi languages, covering the most common medical conditions, their symptoms, and how individuals can protect themselves and others, including prevention measures and guidance on when to seek medical attention.

In TRC Lipa, IOM in cooperation with the Service for Foreigners' Affairs (SFA) organized a coordination meeting with partner organizations to discuss ongoing and planned activities and achieve synergies. One of the topics in focus were measures to take to achieve a higher energy efficiency in the centre.

of new arrivals: 1,925

of new departures: 2,501

of emergency screenings in TRCs: 1,436



DURING THE HEALTH INFORMATION SESSION IN TRC BLAŽUJ BENEFICIARIES HAD A CHANCE TO LEARN MORE ON HOW TO PROTECT THEMSELVES FROM HEALTH RISK FACTORS AND WHEN TO SEEK MEDICAL SERVICES.

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PROTECTION, PARTICIPATION & ACCOUNTABILITY

Between 5 and 18 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 TRC Borići, the local NGO "COR", conducted an interactive lecture and quiz workshops on Human Rights and Women's Rights for migrants.

In TRC Blažuj, IOM's Protection and Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS) team provided individual protection assistance services for residents in the centre. Individual assistance includes continuous support for migrants with specific vulnerabilities, psychological first aid and psychosocial support for individuals who show signs of distress. It also includes translation support for medical consultations and legal advice, relocation of migrants for health-related reasons, and addressing isolation concerns of migrants separated from their peers.

In TRC Ušivak, the Community Participation Meeting was organized by IOM on 13 February with six (3M, 3F) migrants from Afghanistan, the Syrian Arab Republic, Egypt, Iran, Kuwait, and Pakistan, who actively participated. The meeting was also attended by five partner organizations and served as a platform to gather feedback from migrants about their experiences in the centre.

In TRC Ušivak, IOM team introduced a new daily activity for migrants on 14 February, a 5-minute cardio and breathing exercise session, scheduled every Monday to Friday. Nine migrants participated in the first week sessions, which has benefits for physical health and contributes to community-building and a positive atmosphere within the centre.

of persons with protection needs: 356

of individuals reached through information sessions: 1,999



NO NATION FASHION WORKSHOP HELD IN TRC UŠIVAK ENGAGED WOMEN BENEFICIARIES IN A CREATIVE PROCESS.

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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 installed two additional sitting benches in the unaccompanied and separated children zone (UASC Zone) as a response to the migrant's feedback provided during the Community Participation Meeting.

In TRC Blažuj, the implementation of WASH activities will be reflected through new Forms that support a more efficient communication between teams in different shifts and provide clear overview of priorities. The Forms contain sections such as daily cleaning of all locations, maintenance, follow-up tasks, managing the cycle of washing and collecting blankets, among other similar activities.

of laundry services: 1,682

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 66,502 meals and 7,374 NFIs were distributed.

In TRC Lipa, IOM organized a meeting with the participation of the SFA and the City of Bihać Red Cross to prepare for the new schedule of distribution of meals during the upcoming month of Ramadan. The menu for people who fast was agreed as well as the *Sehur* and *Iftar* serving time.

of meals distributed: 66,502

of NFIs distributed: 7,374

complementary baby food distributed: 584

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 93 transportation services (mainly to reception centres) for 327 migrants and conducted 452 general information sessions.

The Syrian Arab Republic (34%) was the main declared nationality of assisted migrants, followed by Morocco (16 %), Afghanistan (12 %), Türkiye (8 %), Bangladesh (8%), Nepal (5%), Iraq, China, and Pakistan (4 % each), Congo (2%), Ghana (1%), Sierra Leone, Burkina Faso, Mongolia, and Somalia (less than 1% each).

of persons transported: 327

of information sessions: 452

RETURN & ALTERNATIVE SOLUTIONS

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

Between 5 and 18 February 2024, the team reached 313 migrants, of which 209 were being hosted in TRCs and 104 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 assisted voluntary return and reintegration (AVRR), but also guarantee the swift directing towards protection services.

A total of 116 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 eight persons returned to their countries of origin (1 Algeria, 1 Jordan, 4 Egypt and 2 Republic of Türkiye). During the reporting period AVRR team registered 15 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: 46, M: 43, F:3

Assisted Voluntary Returns in 2024: 26 M: 25, F: 1

Assisted Voluntary Returns since 2018: 1,446, M: 1280, F: 166



AVRR INFORMATION SESSION DELIVERED BY IOM.
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A reunited family

Hector* is from Cuba. He arrived to the temporary reception center (TRC) Lipa after many months of traveling. Exhausted, he was in need of a safe accommodation. IOM conducted an emergency screening to rapidly assess Hector's background, vulnerabilities and protection needs, after which he was provided with tailored assistance. Following the emergency screening, which helps IOM assess high risk cases and urgent medical needs, Hector received medical and psychosocial support. Discussions with Hector showed that he was in a state of psychological distress since he left his mother and 13-year-old son in Cuba. Hector also explained that his brother was accommodated with his family in another reception centre in Bosnia and Herzegovina, specifically dedicated to families. Even though they spoke on the phone every day, the comfort of having them close or having someone to speak to and understand where he is coming from was missing. Following coordination and with the approval of the SFA, IOM provided the transportation service for Hector to be reunited with his brother and accommodated with him in the family reception centre.

Hopefully, one day Hector will be reunited with his mother and his son too.

**Name was changed to protect privacy*



IOM MOBILE TEAM PROVIDED TRANSPORTATION FOR HECTOR FROM TRC LIPA TO A RECEPTION CENTRE WHERE HIS BROTHER IS ACCOMMODATED.
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