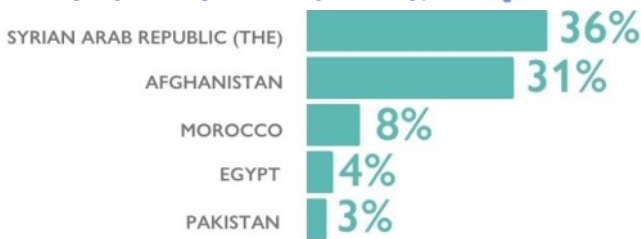


BORIĆI
LIPA
BLAŽUJ
UŠIVAK

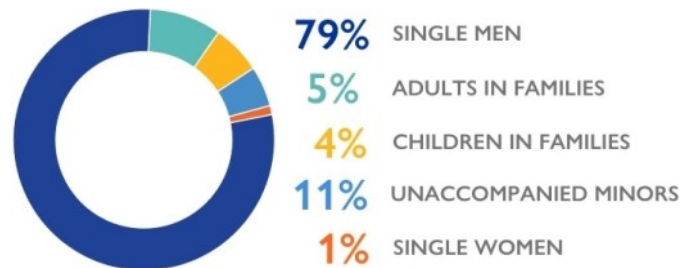
TEMPORARY RECEPTION CENTRES (TRCs)

	OCCUPANCY	CAPACITY	AVG. LENGTH OF STAY (DAYS)
BORIĆI	185	580	11
LIPA	372	1,512	6
BLAŽUJ	1,177	1,700	6
UŠIVAK	254	800	8
TOTAL:	1,988	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	1,598	1,993	2,032	1,953	1,805	1,471						13,805

SITUATION OVERVIEW

On 10 July, the renowned basketball player and IOM Goodwill Ambassador for Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH), Džanan Musa, visited temporary reception centres (TRCs) in the Sarajevo Canton. At TRC Ušivak, Džanan met with children and unaccompanied minors for a discussion about the role of sports in promoting social inclusion and multiculturalism. He shared his inspiring journey, showcasing the impact sport can have in bringing people together and instilling hope.

With the summer months, the number of daily arrivals in TRCs continues to increase. In the reporting period (8 - 21 July), 1,973 arrivals were recorded in TRC Blažuj, in the Sarajevo Canton, representing an increase of 48 per cent compared to the previous period. This trend is increasing pressure on operational capacities, assistance and stocks of food and non-food items (NFIs), with more than 45,077 meals provided, 13,317 non-food items distributed, and 1,044 emergency screenings carried out.



IOM GOODWILL AMBASSADOR FOR BIH, DŽANAN MUSA VISITED RECEPTION CENTRES IN SARAJEVO CANTON.
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COORDINATION & MANAGEMENT

Between 8 and 21 July 2024, IOM recorded a total of 3,212 people arriving at four temporary reception centres, including newly registered persons and those previously registered and returning for assistance, which represents a 45.5 per cent increase compared to the previous reporting period 26 June – 7 July 2024 (2,208). There were 2,830 new departures, which is a 37 per cent increase compared to departures recorded in the previous reporting period (2,067).

Over the course of the reporting period, the Una Sana Canton Public Health Institute carried out 394 entry medical screenings in TRC Borići and TRC Lipa, and the Sarajevo Canton Primary Health Care Centres provided 851 screenings in TRC Blažuj and TRC Ušivak.

The Interagency Prevention of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA) Task Force organized four information sessions on Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA) for a total of 44 beneficiaries (26 male adults, five female adults, 11 unaccompanied and separated children) in all four reception centres, where comprehensive information on PSEA and details about reporting channels were shared. A session in TRC Ušivak was also specifically arranged for women.

In TRC Lipa, IOM organized a meeting with representatives of the Service for Foreigners' Affairs to discuss the ongoing transition process and address current challenges, such as the preconditions to utilize all SMART Camp application modules. These meetings aim to maintain effective communication, monitor progress towards shared goals, as well as address challenges to enable full implementation of the agreed plans.

In TRC Ušivak, IOM maintenance team assisted a local organization, BiH Women's Initiative (BHWI), in enhancing their container facility by building a porch, creating additional outdoor space for use.

of arrivals to TRCs: 3,212

of departures from TRCs: 2,830

of vulnerability screenings in TRCs: 1,044



IOM ASSISTED NEWLY ARRIVED BENEFICIARIES IN TRC BLAŽUJ AND OFFERED SOME REFRESHMENTS.
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PROTECTION, PARTICIPATION & ACCOUNTABILITY

Between 8 and 21 July 2024, IOM facilitated a total of 1,044 emergency screenings, through which 386 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 352 persons while 1,138 individuals were reached through information and awareness raising sessions.

IOM, in collaboration with the SFA and World Vision, arranged accommodation for 243 unaccompanied or separated children (UASC) after they were relocated in a coordinated effort from TRC Blažuj to TRC Ušivak. This included overseeing their initial reception, registration and the provision of their accommodation. Furthermore, IOM alongside SFA and World Vision cooperatively attended to any immediate needs and provided ongoing observation and assistance to guarantee the children's wellbeing.

IOM organizes different activities and sessions with beneficiaries to promote community involvement and increase awareness in all reception centres. During the reporting period, a total of 27 community support events were organized in four reception centres (15 creative and art sessions, 3 legal/info sessions, 3 sessions with a focus on mental health, 4 on prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse (PSEA), 2 sports and play events) for a total of 510 participants.

In TRC Ušivak, IOM conducted a Women's Dialogues focus group with seven women from Syria, Iraq, and Türkiye. It provided a platform for the participants to exchange their personal stories and issues. The women established the discussion topics, ensuring the conversation was relevant to their concerns. The participants recognized the enhancements in the standard of living at TRC Ušivak, notably the refurbished restrooms which elevated cleanliness and provided better privacy.

In TRC Lipa, IOM organized the "Purple Day" event with the active involvement of senior beneficiaries. IOM Lipa set up this event to invite feedback and ideas for enhancing services at the Centre. Consequently, an extra time slot for non-food item distribution has been included in the schedule to cater more effectively to their requirements and minimize wait times, particularly in hot weather.



"COLORFUL HUGS" WORKSHOP WAS ORGANIZED FOR 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, the container accommodation and the pre-registration zone reached full capacity due to the increased number of arrivals. As such, one of the hangars that had previously been closed was reopened. The hangar has been equipped with mattresses and is now part of the accommodation for the general population.

In TRC Ušivak, in collaboration with the Sarajevo Canton Public Health Institute, efforts to maintain health and safety within the centre continued. On 11 July, the institute gathered water and food samples for analysis. They tested water from an outdoor tap and a sample of freshly prepared lunch. By monitoring water and food quality, any issues concerning safety can be detected and addressed.

of persons sheltered in the TRCs: 1,988

of laundry services: 1,341

FOOD & NON-FOOD ITEMS (NFI)

In all TRCs, IOM conducted its regular food and Non-Food Items distribution activities with partner organizations, such as the Red Cross and Pomozi.ba.

During the reporting period, a total of 45,077 meals were served and 13,317 NFIs were distributed. Recognizing the diverse needs of individuals, special attention was given to those who required a specialized diet due to health issues.

Thirteen people received special diet food during the reporting period. Besides the normal meal service, beneficiaries also received dry food packages as required.

of meals distributed: 45,077

of NFIs distributed: 13,317

ASSISTANCE OUTSIDE OF RECEPTION FACILITIES

IOM has mobile teams that are present at locations outside of TRCs to increase access to information and services with the aim of providing alternatives for migrants camping or squatting in abandoned buildings where they face increased protection risks.

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 67 transportation services (mainly to reception centres) for 257 migrants and conducted 491 general information sessions.

The Syrian Arab Republic (34%) was the main declared nationality of assisted migrants, followed by Afghanistan (31%), Morocco (11%), Pakistan (7%), Egypt (5%), Iraq (4%), Türkiye (3%), Sierra Leone (3%), Nepal (1%), Palestine (1%).

of persons transported: 257

of information sessions: 491

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.

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

Between 8 and 21 July 2024, the team reached 179 migrants, of which 132 were being hosted in TRCs and 47 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 76 counselling sessions were held to ensure that beneficiaries are well informed and aware of the assistance available during pre-departure, travel, and post-arrival.

During the reporting period eight persons returned to their countries of origin (Armenia 1, Egypt 1, Bangladesh 4, Tunisia 1 and Mongolia 1); and the AVRR team registered four persons, the 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 the 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 World Vision, the AVRR team in TRC Ušivak is also organizing information sessions for UASC.

Applications for Assisted Voluntary Returns: 118 M: 111, F: 7

Assisted Voluntary Returns in 2024: 98 M: 90, F: 8

Assisted Voluntary Returns since 2018: 1,518 M: 1,345 F: 173



IOM ORGANIZES TRANSFER OF UNACCOMPANIED OR SEPARATED CHILDREN FROM TRC BLAŽUJ TO TRC UŠIVAK IN COLLABORATION WITH THE SFA AND WORLD VISION.
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“Bapi’s** entrepreneurial spirit”

Bapi is from Bangladesh. After completing his bachelor's in pharmacy with honors, he worked in a multinational pharmaceutical company. Unfortunately, a few years ago, the company closed its operations and he lost his job. Meanwhile, his family grew by two members, and Bapi needed to find a way to support them. The family moved back to their village of Chapai Nawabgonij where he opened a small local pharmaceutical store.

However, as the store wasn't providing enough earnings for the whole family, Bapi decided to search for a secure future for his two daughters somewhere in Europe. That is when he found out through a cousin about an employment intermediary with job offers in Europe. The agency promised him a decent, supervisory job at a furniture factory in Kosovo*.

I arrived in Kosovo just to find out that there was no furniture factory. The agency cheated me into hard construction work”,*

Bapi says, remembering the moment when he learnt that the contract and the work permit were actually fake. From then on, his journey became dangerous and highly risky with several irregular crossings, first from Kosovo* to central Serbia, then to Bosnia and Herzegovina and Croatia. During this perilous journey, his passport was torn, he was threatened with violence, and his mobile phone was stolen.

In one of the temporary reception centres in the Sarajevo Canton, he learned about IOM's Assisted Voluntary Return and Reintegration (AVRR) programme through the information materials and posters in the centre.

After reflection, he decided to go back to his country where the IOM AVRR team helped him in developing an individual plan for returning and provided administrative and logistical support to return and reintegrate in his home country. Bapi's entrepreneurial spirit has not left him, so he is already planning to reopen the pharmacy, or perhaps step into the farming business with his spouse, who is an agricultural engineer.



IOM AVRR TEAM ASSISTED BAPI WITH HIS RETURN TO HIS NATIVE BANGLADESH.
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Outreach and awareness are important components of IOM's programming. Activities focus on outreach in and outside of reception facilities, information on rights and legal pathways, return and reintegration counselling, as well as referrals and protection assistance to vulnerable migrants. In Bosnia and Herzegovina, the IOM AVRR team has developed various information materials, both in-person and online, to help individuals make informed decisions about returning to their country of origin and aid in the preparation of their return, with the aim to positively contribute to the sustainability of the reintegration process.

* References to Kosovo shall be understood to be in the context of United Nations Security Council resolution 1244 (1999).

** Name was anonymized to protect privacy.



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