

**BORIĆI**  
**LIPA**

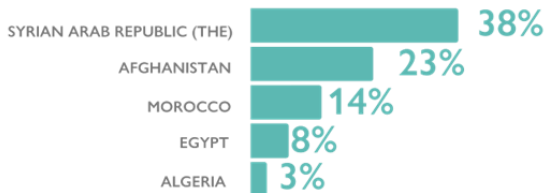
**BLAŽUJ**  
**UŠIVAK**

TOTAL:

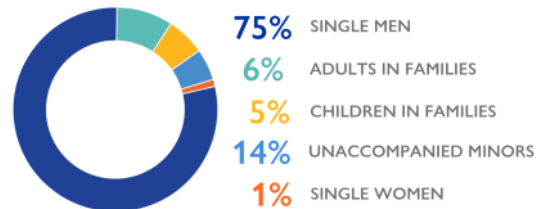
### TEMPORARY RECEPTION CENTRES (TRCs)

OCCUPANCY	CAPACITY	AVG. LENGTH OF STAY (DAYS)
185	580	10
281	1,512	6
822	1,700	17
237	800	8
<b>1,525</b>	<b>4,592</b>	

### TOP 5 NATIONALITIES IN TRCs



### SEX AND AGE DISAGGREGATED DATA IN TRCs



### 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	3,736	2,665					18,735

## SITUATION OVERVIEW

Following the tragedy that claimed the lives of 12 migrants at the Drina River on the Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH) border with Serbia, IOM and partners supported BiH authorities by providing immediate assistance to survivors; such cooperation was also offered to Serbian authorities by IOM Serbia. Alongside the Service of Foreigners' Affairs (SFA) and the Border Police, IOM helped care for the immediate material and psychosocial needs of survivors, including 12 unaccompanied and separated children, transporting them to temporary reception center Ušivak, which provides tailored assistance to children and vulnerable persons. In addition to shelter, food and non-food items, beneficiaries have access to water, sanitation, and hygiene facilities, medical assistance, psychosocial first aid and referrals to specialized services.

In TRC Blažuj, the final handover of night shift oversight to the SFA (administrator of the TRCs) was completed on 25 August, achieving a key milestone in the transition to a State-led migration response in BiH. From 26 August onwards, the IOM team will continue to

support BiH authorities with the centre's management and humanitarian services during daytime hours. This transition signifies the completion of the management transfer from IOM to the SFA in TRC Blažuj, which is the largest reception centre in BiH.



IOM PROVIDED IMMEDIATE ASSISTANCE TO CHILDREN AFFECTED BY A TRAGEDY ON BIH-SERBIA BORDER. ©IOM 2024

### CONTACTS

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## COORDINATION & MANAGEMENT

Between 19 August and 1 September 2024, IOM recorded a total of 2,993 people arriving at four temporary reception centres, including newly registered persons and those previously registered and returning for assistance, which represents a 15.8 per cent decrease compared to the previous reporting period 5 - 18 August 2024 (3,556). There were 3,341 new departures, which is a 7 per cent decrease compared to departures recorded in the previous reporting period (3,593).

During the reporting period, the Una Sana Canton Public Health Institute carried out 779 entry medical screenings in TRC Borići and TRC Lipa, and the Sarajevo Canton Primary Health Care Centres provided 874 screenings in TRC Blažuj and TRC Ušivak.

In TRC Blažuj, to facilitate the transition of management, IOM has been providing on-the-job training to support the SFA and ensure an efficient handover of night shift operations and overall centre management. The SFA received training on various camp and assistance procedures, such as accommodating newly arrived migrants, pre-registration and registration using the Smart Camp Application, access to emergency and medical care, among others. Emphasis was placed on procedures for providing services to unaccompanied and separated children (UASC), families, and other beneficiaries in vulnerable situations.

In TRC Ušivak, IOM efforts visually enhanced the outside area used for social events. This included general cleaning and wall painting, significantly improving the appearance of the space and making it much more inviting for beneficiaries.

In TRC Lipa, IOM, in cooperation with the SFA convened a Working Group to revise the Draft House Rules which regulate conditions to enable beneficiary dignity, access to legal aid, complaint and feedback mechanism, responsibilities of staff working in the centre, service provision rules and more. The conversation centred on the need to clearly outline the use of the outdoor community kitchen by beneficiaries, the 48-hour accommodation unit reservation policy for returnees, the dress code for staff and visitors, and the responsibility for personal belongings.

**# of vulnerability screenings in TRCs: 888**

**# of persons with protection needs: 471**



IOM AND THE SFA STAFF REGISTERING A NEW BENEFICIARY IN TRC BLAŽUJ.  
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## PROTECTION, PARTICIPATION & ACCOUNTABILITY

Between 19 August and 1 September 2024, IOM facilitated a total of 888 emergency screenings, through which 471 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 272 persons while 1,147 individuals were reached through information and awareness raising sessions.

IOM organizes different activities and sessions with beneficiaries to promote community involvement and increase awareness in all reception centres on a variety of topics. During the reporting period, a total of 22 community events were organized in four reception centres (13 creative and art sessions, 4 legal/info sessions, 4 sessions with a focus on mental health, and 1 on prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse) for a total of 221 participants.

In TRC Lipa, IOM, in collaboration with Vaša prava, conducted two legal/info sessions focused on educating migrants about their legal rights and responsibilities during their stay in BiH. It also aimed to raise awareness of the dangers associated with irregular migration and provided information on potential legal remedies or options for assisted voluntary return. Eleven beneficiaries from Afghanistan, the Syrian Arab Republic, Pakistan, Jordan, and Burkina Faso participated.

The TRC Lipa Creative Zone continues to be a place where everyone can learn and share knowledge through hands-on activities. Beneficiaries have adopted pointillism, an art technique involving small, distinct dots to create images. Using this method, they decorated upcycled cups with beautiful bird designs. These birds represent freedom and peace, symbolizing the migrants' profound hopes. This activity not only provided space for creativity, but also fostered a sense of purpose as ordinary items were turned into beautiful art pieces.

In TRC Ušivak, IOM organized a variety of engaging activities for 21 beneficiaries from Iran, Gambia, Türkiye, among other countries. The activities included sewing, resizing clothes, knitting, artwork, and dancing. The aim was to foster a sense of community and provide relief. Additionally, there was a jewelry-making workshop, where participants created various accessories.



PARTICIPANTS AT THE TRC LIPA CREATIVE ZONE ENGAGING IN A POINTILLISM ART ACTIVITY, USING THE TECHNIQUE TO EMBELLISH UPCYCLED CUPS.  
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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.

In TRC Borići an additional housing container was repurposed as a pre-registration unit for unaccompanied and separated children (UASC) to further accommodate all new arrivals. This situation underscores the rise in UASCs arriving at the centre during the reporting period, primarily from Afghanistan.

**# of persons sheltered in the TRCs: 1,525**

**# of laundry services: 857**

## 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 43,518 meals were served and 8,980 NFIs were distributed. Recognizing the diverse needs of individuals, special attention was given to those who required a specialized diet due to health issues.

In TRC Ušivak, IOM reorganized the warehouse to optimize space with the aim to enhance efficiency and effectiveness during the NFI distribution.

**# of meals distributed: 43,518**

**# of NFIs distributed: 8,980**

## 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.

During the reporting period, IOM's mobile teams provided 72 transportation services (mainly to reception centres) for 249 migrants and conducted 607 general information sessions.

**# of persons transported: 249**

**# of information sessions: 607**



IOM REORGANIZED THE WAREHOUSE AND STORAGE PREMISES IN TRC BLAŽUJ AND TRC UŠIVAK IN PREPARATION OF THE NFI SECTOR HANDOVER FROM IOM TO THE SOCIETY OF RED CROSS BIH.  
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## 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 19 August and 1 September 2024, the team reached 199 migrants, of which 90 were being hosted in TRCs and 109 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 90 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 nine persons returned to their countries of origin (China 4, Pakistan 1, Philippines 1, Italy 1, Bangladesh 1, and Jordan 1); and the AVRR team registered five 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 and 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: 142 M: 130, F: 12**

**# Assisted Voluntary Returns in 2024: 117 M: 104, F: 13**

**# Assisted Voluntary Returns since 2018: 1,537 M: 1,359 F: 178**



IOM MOBILE TEAM PROVIDING TRANSPORTATION SERVICE TO MIGRANTS IN VULNERABLE SITUATION IN UNA SANA CANTON.  
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## “Zahra's\* Craft - Building Hope Amidst Uncertainty”

For years in the Makhmour camp of Iraq, Zahra poured her energy into crafting delicate bracelets, each one a labour of love that took hours to complete. The bracelets, sold for five dollars each, became her lifeline, providing a small income for her family and a way for Zahra to hold onto some sense of normalcy.

But the fragile peace of Makhmour was shattered when their house in the camp was bombarded. The sense of safety they had clung to was gone. Fearing for their lives, she and her husband made the difficult decision to flee. Leaving her four children behind with her mother was the hardest choice she had ever made, but she knew the journey ahead was too dangerous for them.

As they arrived in TRC Ušivak in Bosnia and Herzegovina, far from the life they had known, she quickly became involved in the activities at the centre, always willing to help, whether by making crafts or participating in social events.

The IOM No Nation Fashion corner, which aims to empower beneficiaries present in TRCs through development and upskilling activities while catering for their wellbeing through creative therapy workshops, became a place of comfort for Zahra, a space where she found the support of others in similar situations. Though she didn't know how to sew, she showed willingness to learn and gained skills there, adding to her growing sense of self-reliance.

Today, she continues to make her bracelets, finding some security in the familiar rhythm of her work. Her craft is a connection to her past and a small piece of stability in an uncertain world.



ZAHRA ENJOYS IN CREATIVE ACTIVITIES IN THE NO NATION FASHION CORNER IN TRC UŠIVAK.

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\* Name was anonymized to protect privacy.



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