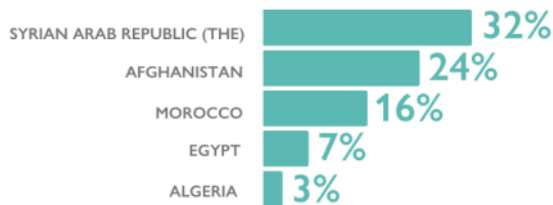


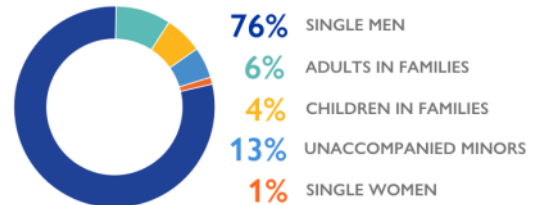
TEMPORARY RECEPTION CENTRES (TRCs)

OCCUPANCY	CAPACITY	AVG. LENGTH OF STAY (DAYS)
162	580	10
361	1,512	13
920	1,700	10
233	800	8
TOTAL: 1,676	4,592	

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	1,082				19,817

SITUATION OVERVIEW

On 2 September 2024, the Red Cross Society of Bosnia and Herzegovina took over the distribution of food, non-food items, and management of water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) facilities in TRC Lipa and TRC Blažuj, in close coordination with the Ministry of Human Rights and Refugees, which is formally responsible for the management of these sectors. This is yet another important step in the transition to a State-led migration response. In both centres, the cantonal Red Cross branches will work closely with IOM to ensure smooth operations, as planned in the Standard Operating Procedures recently developed.

On 30 August, IOM recorded the 200,000th beneficiary since the establishment of reception centers in 2018. Six years after the start of the migration response in Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH), great strides have been made in the partnership between BiH authorities, the donors, the United Nations and all the partners involved, providing each of the 200,000 migrants with dignified and protection-sensitive assistance.



HANDOVER MEETING IN TRC BLAŽUJ BETWEEN IOM AND STATE, FEDERAL, AND CANTONAL BRANCHES OF THE RED CROSS SOCIETY FOR FOOD, NFI, AND WASH SECTORS. ©IOM 2024

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COORDINATION & MANAGEMENT

Between 2 and 15 September 2024, IOM recorded a total of 2,766 people arriving at four temporary reception centres, including newly registered persons and those previously registered and returning for assistance, which represents a slight decline of 7.6 per cent compared to the previous reporting period 19 August – 1 September 2024 (2,993). There were 2,691 new departures, which is a 19.4 per cent decrease compared to departures recorded in the previous reporting period (3,341).

Over the course of the reporting period, the Una Sana Canton Public Health Institute carried out 418 entry medical screenings in TRC Borići and TRC Lipa, and the Sarajevo Canton Primary Health Care Centres provided 1,001 screenings in TRC Blažuj and TRC Ušivak.

In TRC Borići, IOM and the Service for Foreigners' Affairs (SFA) welcomed representatives from the Cantonal Ministry of Health, Work and Social Policy and Health Centre Bihać. During their visit, health officials familiarized with the available services, focusing specifically on the functionality of the on-site clinic and the role of the Una Sana Canton Public Health Institute, which has been conducting entry medical screenings at the centre since April 2024.

This visit is organized within a process of transferring healthcare services from international bodies to state institutions, ahead of the upcoming end of the engagement of the DRC Health Team (30 September 2024). Since 2018, DRC has implemented a structured healthcare system in reception centres, ensuring continuous access for all beneficiaries.

In TRC Blažuj IOM staff continued to provide daily training to Red Cross employees in the WASH sector, focusing on best practices. The training includes managing laundry facility, receiving, washing, and distributing items, keeping records of used supplies, daily monitoring of the centre's cleanliness and functionality, cleaning the centre according to a set schedule, supervising and recording the work of maintainers and cleaners, summarizing information, creating reports, and more. IOM will continue to provide support to Red Cross staff in the upcoming period to ensure the continued delivery of high-quality services in the centre.



REGISTRATION OF NEWLY ARRIVED BENEFICIARIES IN TRC BLAŽUJ.
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PROTECTION, PARTICIPATION & ACCOUNTABILITY

Between 2 and 15 September 2024, IOM facilitated a total of 551 emergency screenings, and identified 450 persons with protection needs. IOM provided individual assistance, including interpretation and logistical support (such as orientation at the TRCs and the provision of documents) to 328 persons while 949 beneficiaries 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 26 community events were organized in four reception centres (12 creative and art sessions, 3 legal/info sessions, 6 sessions with a focus on mental health, and 3 on prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse, 1 sport and play and 1 mine risk education) for a total of 286 participants.

In TRC Ušivak, the Youth Initiative for Human Rights in BiH, in collaboration with the local community of Donji Hadžići, led an eco-initiative to plant decorative shrubs and flowers. Unaccompanied and separated children (UASC) residing at the centre actively participated in the planting. Following the beautification of the entrance to the centre, a barbecue was organized for all beneficiaries, further fostering a sense of community and belonging.

In TRC Blažuj, IOM organized the workshop titled "Draw Your Dreams" which brought together more than 50 migrants from Algeria, Syrian Arab Republic, Morocco, Pakistan, and other countries who are currently residing at the centre. The drawings and quotes created during this workshop will be included in garments manufactured under the new No Nation Fashion collection. This initiative will also serve as an educational opportunity for beneficiaries at TRC Ušivak who are interested in learning embroidery.

of vulnerability screenings in TRCs: 551

of persons with protection needs: 450

of individual assistance: 328



IOM MAINTAINS SAFE ACCOMMODATION FOR UNACCOMPANIED AND SEPARATED CHILDREN IN TRC UŠIVAK.
©IOM 2024

SHELTER, WATER, SANITATION & HYGIENE (WASH)

IOM and Red Cross maintenance and cleaning team inspect all installations daily, with two cleanings per day, weekly disinfection, disinfestation and derating measures, and regular repairs on shelters and sanitary installations.

In TRC Blažuj and TRC Lipa, Red Cross cleaning and maintenance staff continued to ensure the cleanliness and functionality of the centres including a wide range of tasks, such as regular cleaning of accommodation units, the kitchen area, and sanitary containers, as well as waste disposal, and cleaning of green spaces, plateaus, and common pathways.

In collaboration with the SFA and the Municipality of Bihać, IOM has initiated the work on the access road to TRC Lipa. The construction of the road is progressing well and is expected to be completed in September 2024. The new road will significantly improve access to TRC Lipa for beneficiaries, staff, visitors and service provision operators.

During the reporting period, in preparation for the upcoming winter, maintainers at TRC Ušivak conducted a functional check of heaters. A total of 39 heaters were repaired and are now ready for distribution.

of persons sheltered in the TRCs: 1,676

of laundry services: 833

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 39,779 meals were served and 15,070 NFIs were distributed. Recognizing the diverse needs of individuals, special attention was given to those who required a specialized diet due to health issues.

Twelve 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: 37,779

of NFIs distributed: 15,070

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 66 transportation services (mainly to reception centres) for 176 migrants and conducted 582 general information sessions.

The Syrian Arab Republic (29%) was the main declared nationality of assisted migrants, followed by Afghanistan (19%), Morocco (19%), Iraq (7%), Pakistan (6%), Sierra Leone (5%), Türkiye (4%), Egypt (4%), China (2%), Somalia, Tunisia, Cuba, Palestine (1% each).

of persons transported: 176

of information sessions: 582

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 2 and 15 September 2024, the team reached 87 migrants, of which 30 were being hosted in TRCs and 57 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 64 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 four persons returned to their countries of origin (Türkiye 3, Netherlands 1); and the AVRR team registered four persons for whom 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.

Within the project 'Support for Evidence-Based Migration Management in the Western Balkans - Phase II' The AVRR team conducted a comprehensive two-day workshop focused on strategic planning and workflow optimization. The primary goal of the workshop was to outline key activities for the next six months.

Applications for Assisted Voluntary Returns: 146 M: 134, F: 12

Assisted Voluntary Returns in 2024: 121 M: 108, F: 13

Assisted Voluntary Returns since 2018: 1,541 M: 1,363 F: 178



IOM MOBILE TEAMS PROVIDE TRANSPORTATION FOR MIGRANTS IN A VULNERABLE SITUATION. ©IOM 2024

“A successful family reunification”

"I miss my children, I can't wait to see them", says Amir* as he waits for the gate to open at Sarajevo Airport.

Thanks to IOM Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH) and the Swiss Family Reunification Program - IOM Switzerland, after months of separation, Amir will finally see his loved ones - his wife, son, and daughter.

Amir saw his family in October 2023, and since then, all their communication takes place through video calls. This 30-year-old left his native Afghanistan three years ago. He used to work in the agricultural sector, but due to difficult circumstances, he was forced to migrate. His family stayed in Türkiye for some time, where Amir worked within various factories. It was there that his daughter was born. Eventually, he and his wife had to come to the realization that, since they had not enough money to move together, they would have to take two separate migration routes. His wife reached Switzerland via Italy, while he arrived in BiH through Bulgaria.

After obtaining refugee status, Amir's wife was determined to go through the reunification procedures. Thanks to her determination, she found support from the Swiss State Secretariat for Migration (SEM) and Caritas Neuchâtel that reached out to IOM Switzerland. From there, IOM Switzerland contacted IOM BiH and together they provided the support needed throughout the reunification process.

"I know a little German - I've been studying it for some time - and my wife speaks decent French now. We are also both actively working on improving our language skills to better prepare for successful integration. We are determined to provide our children with a better future and equal opportunities", he says.

With the help of IOM, the Swiss Embassy in Sarajevo and Vienna, and the BiH Service for Foreigners' Affairs, Amir was reunited with his family in Switzerland. The entire process took a little over two months. Amir admits that he would have never left his country if his life had not been at risk.



* Name was anonymized to protect privacy.



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