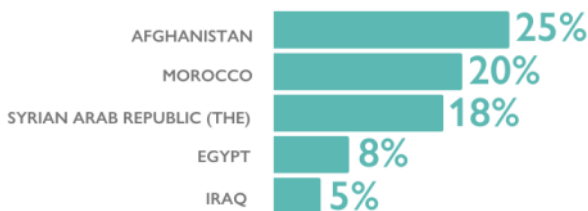
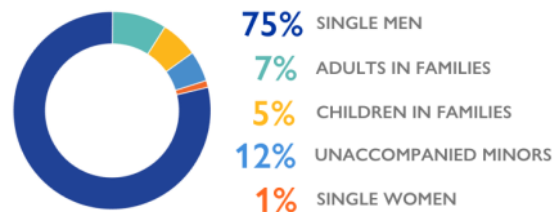


	TEMPORARY RECEPTION CENTRES (TRCs)		
	OCCUPANCY	CAPACITY	AVG. LENGTH OF STAY (DAYS)
BORIĆI	131	580	10
LIPA	284	1,512	13
BLAŽUJ	642	1,700	10
UŠIVAK	191	800	8
TOTAL:	1,248	4,592	

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	2,812	1,386			22,933

SITUATION OVERVIEW

On 15 October, to mark World Food Day, special events were held for beneficiaries in reception centres. In TRC Ušivak, IOM and partner organizations hosted an unforgettable food competition, filled with cooking, connection and laughter. Migrants from all around the world had the opportunity to prepare and showcase traditional dishes, offering everyone a taste of their unique culinary heritage and highlighting cultural diversity through cuisine. As a symbolic gesture, participants were awarded gold medals featuring the Bosnia and Herzegovina flag.

On 17 October, the new dining area at TRC Blažuj was officially opened following the completion of construction work financed by the European Union. The space is fully equipped and includes kitchen tables and chairs, increasing the original capacity of 216 to more than 400 seats. As a result, the expansion significantly reduces the congestion previously caused by the limited capacity of the former dining area.



NEW DINING AREA IN TRC BLAŽUJ.
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COORDINATION & MANAGEMENT

Between 14 and 27 October 2024, IOM recorded a total of 1,818 people arriving at four temporary reception centres, including newly registered persons and those previously registered and returning for assistance, which is a 16 per cent decrease compared to the previous reporting period 30 September – 13 October 2024 (2,165). There were 2,092 new departures, which is a 7.8 per cent increase compared to departures recorded in the previous reporting period (1,940).

During the reporting period, the Una Sana Canton Public Health Institute (USC PHI) carried out 537 entry medical screenings in TRC Borići and TRC Lipa, and the Sarajevo Public Health Institute (SC PHI) provided 692 screenings in TRC Blažuj and TRC Ušivak.

In TRC Ušivak SC PHI team conducted entry medical screenings from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. during working days, completing a total of 58 screenings. Of these, 24 migrants were referred to the Primary Healthcare Centre (PHC) for further examination and treatment. IOM supported the PHI team with cultural mediators, translators, and technical assistance, ensuring smooth communication and operations during the screening process.

IOM organized a two-day training session on the Standard Operating Procedures and Protocols on how to respond to common medical situations, in collaboration with the Institute for Emergency Medicine of Sarajevo Canton and the Health Centre Bihać, for IOM and the Service for Foreigners' Affairs (SFA) staff engaged in TRC Borići and TRC Lipa. Specifically, the training provided guidance for responding to migrant health needs when medical teams are unavailable at reception centres. Another important topic discussed was communication with a local emergency dispatch for enabling fast and efficient medical aid when needed.

IOM staff provided support to the Una Sana Canton and Sarajevo Canton Red Cross teams in TRC Blažuj and TRC Lipa in the Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) sector. Their work included managing the laundry facility, maintaining accurate records, monitoring overall cleanliness, and ensuring the completion of tasks from previous shifts. IOM will continue regular communication and provide ongoing assistance to enable Red Cross staff to independently deliver WASH services within the centres.



ENTRY MEDICAL SCREENING PERFORMED BY THE SARAJEVO CANTON PUBLIC HEALTH INSTITUTE IN TRC BLAŽUJ.
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PROTECTION, PARTICIPATION & ACCOUNTABILITY

Between 14 and 27 October 2024, IOM facilitated a total of 586 emergency protection screenings, and identified 327 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 263 persons while 1,153 beneficiaries were reached through information and awareness raising sessions. IOM provided psychological first aid (PFA) to migrants showing signs of stress including beneficiaries who reported experiencing violence during their journey.

IOM organizes various 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 18 community events were organized across four reception centres (12 creative and art sessions, 4 legal/info sessions, 1 session with a focus on mental health, and 1 on rituals and celebrations) for a total of 229 participants (169 M, 60 W).

On 25 October 2024, TRC Ušivak hosted a reproductive health workshop for women with the Youth Initiative for Human Rights in BiH. The session at the Creative Corner focused on breast cancer awareness and self-examination techniques. Nine female participants from the Syrian Arab Republic, Kuwait, Algeria, Iran, Morocco, Turkiye, and the Democratic Republic of Congo attended. The participants asked numerous questions about breast cancer, which were addressed by the moderator, ensuring an informative session.

In TRC Blažuj, community engagement included a session on the job market in Bosnia and Herzegovina, introducing three migrants and one asylum seeker to employment opportunities and local labour trends.

of emergency screenings in TRCs: 586

of persons with protection needs: 327

of individual assistance: 263

of beneficiaries reached with info sessions: 1,153



INFO - LEGAL SESSION IN TRC LIPA.
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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, IOM has successfully completed the reconstruction of the NFI warehouse and sanitary building.

The upgraded facilities will enhance the efficiency of service delivery within the centre by expanding the usable space and allowing service providers to rapidly gain access to essential items from the warehouse.

of persons sheltered in the TRCs: 1,248

of laundry services: 1,338

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 36,425 meals were served and 7,225 NFIs were distributed.

Recognizing the diverse needs of individuals, special attention was given to those who required a specialized diet due to health issues.

Nine individuals received special diet food during the reporting period.

Besides the normal meal service, beneficiaries also received dry food packages as required.

In TRC Blažuj, IOM, in coordination with partner organisations Pomozi.ba and the Red Cross, extended breakfast distribution by an additional 10 to 30 minutes when necessary to ensure all migrants have access to food after pre-registration.

of meals distributed: 36,425

of NFIs distributed: 7,225

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 75 transportation services (mainly to reception centres) for 214 migrants and conducted 598 general information sessions.

Afghanistan (33%) was the main declared nationality of assisted migrants, followed by Morocco (14%), Syria (12%), Pakistan (10%), Egypt (5%), Mongolia, Türkiye (4% each), Nepal (3%), Algeria, Bangladesh, Ghana, Iran, Sierra Leone (2% each), Cameroon, China, India, Iraq, Somalia (1% each), Libya (less than 1%).

of persons transported: 214

of information sessions: 598

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 14 and 27 October 2024, the team reached 261 migrants, of which 152 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 to guarantee swift referrals towards protection services. A total of 67 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, seven persons returned to their countries of origin (Iran 6, Jordan 1); and the AVRR team registered 2 persons for whom the preparation of their voluntary returns is in progress.

On 23-24 October in Mostar, training on the rollout of the Return Counselling Toolkit was held for the Service for Foreigners' Affairs (SFA) field staff. Eight participants were introduced to counselling methodologies for return processes and the core principles of effective counselling. Through an interactive workshop, participants explored approaches for identifying and addressing migrant vulnerabilities in the return process, including working with children and families. The two-day training offered a comprehensive approach to voluntary return counselling, covering the various phases involved. This training was organized within the project 'Individual measure to strengthen the response capacity to manage migration flows in Bosnia and Herzegovina', funded by the EU.

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.

Applications for Assisted Voluntary Returns: 163 M: 144 F: 19

Assisted Voluntary Returns in 2024: 135 M: 118, F: 17

Assisted Voluntary Returns since 2018: 1,555 M: 1,373 F: 182



IOM ORGANIZED THE RETURN COUNSELLING TOOLKIT TRAINING FOR THE SERVICE FOR FOREIGNERS' AFFAIRS STAFF IN MOSTAR.

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„A Journey of Determination: Hanan’s Dream of Studying Medicine“

On a sunny day in the Temporary Reception Center Ušivak, Hanan stands confidently, proudly displaying a jacket he crafted with his own hands. Adorned with vibrant patches, each one reflects the emotional journey of many migrants, capturing their diverse experiences - joy, sadness, hope, and determination.

Hanan’s journey began five years ago in Syria, where the ongoing war forced him to leave his hometown alone. While in school, he learned the art of tailoring, guided by his family. His skills grew when he moved to Türkiye, where he worked for two years.

Yet, the journey was far from easy. After leaving Türkiye, Hanan faced further challenges in Greece before arriving in Bosnia and Herzegovina nearly a year ago. Despite these hurdles, tailoring became a source of strength for him—a way to express his creativity and maintain a connection to his roots during uncertain times.

Hanan's aspirations stretch far beyond the fabric he works with. He dreams of becoming a doctor. “I want to study medicine because I have experience, I studied medicine in Syria as well,” he confesses. His desire to pursue this path is driven by a deep-rooted commitment to uplift those in need, embodying the compassion that often emerges from personal adversity.

In Bosnia and Herzegovina, Hanan has found a supportive community through the No Nation Fashion initiative, where he refines his tailoring skills while connecting with others who share similar experiences. This initiative has not only allowed him to enhance his craft but also created a space for personal growth and community bonding, reinforcing his determination to pursue his dreams. He is eager to use this time to consolidate his knowledge of English, preparing himself for the studies that lie ahead. As he looks toward the future, Hanan is committed to transforming his aspirations into reality, one stitch at a time.

With gratitude, he expresses, “I want to thank the people of Europe for their support. Many are leaving their homes because of war, and they offer a chance to those who have lost their future. I, too, seek another opportunity to study and secure my own future.”

Through his story, Hanan embodies the aspirations and challenges faced by many migrants. His journey underscores the critical importance of support and opportunities that empower individuals to rebuild their lives. His experience highlights the need for initiatives that facilitate integration, skill development, and community support, enabling migrants to contribute meaningfully to their new homes while pursuing their dreams.



HANAN FOUND A SUPPORTIVE COMMUNITY IN TRC UŠIVAK THROUGH THE NO NATION FASHION INITIATIVE.
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