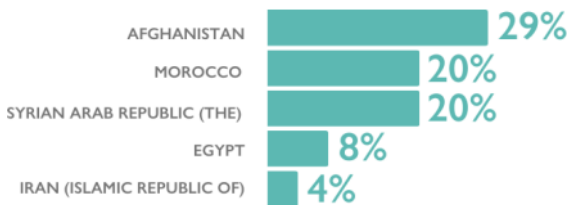


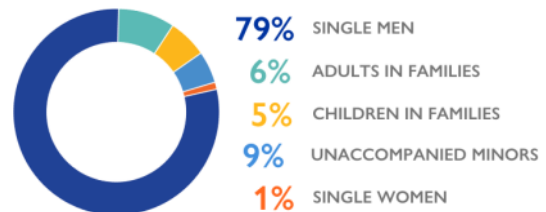
### TEMPORARY RECEPTION CENTRES (TRCs)

	OCCUPANCY	CAPACITY	AVG. LENGTH OF STAY (DAYS)
BORIĆI	116	580	10
LIPA	317	1,512	13
BLAŽUJ	851	1,700	10
UŠIVAK	223	800	8
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>1,507</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	1,082				19,817

## SITUATION OVERVIEW

As of 30 September, the Public Health Institutes of the Sarajevo and Una Sana Cantons assumed to provide all entry medical screenings, while health care centres ensure continuity of medical care by providing medical services in reception centres, including pediatric care and mental health services. This change is part of a wider, gradual process aimed at integrating migrants into the healthcare system in Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH), ensuring that all individuals, regardless of their origin, have access to the same quality of care.

IOM staff is providing daily support to strengthen the Red Cross Society of Bosnia and Herzegovina (RC) staff capacities to manage activities related to the distribution of food, non-food items (NFIs), and water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) assistance in temporary reception centers Lipa and Blažuj. Daily, practical capacity-building activities are integral to the ongoing transition process in reception centers, whereby IOM is progressively transferring responsibilities of these sectors to the BiH Ministry of Human Rights and Refugees and the RC as the main implementing partner.



PUBLIC HEALTH INSTITUTIONS ARE NOW FULLY INTEGRATED TO THE RESPONSE STRUCTURE IN TEMPORARY RECEPTION CENTRES ACROSS BIH.

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## CONTACTS

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## COORDINATION & MANAGEMENT

Between 30 September and 13 October 2024, IOM recorded a total of 2,165 people arriving at four temporary reception centres, including newly registered persons and those previously registered and returning for assistance, which is a 20.6 per cent decrease compared to the previous reporting period 16 - 29 September 2024 (2,730). There were 1,940 new departures, which is a 15.8 per cent decrease compared to departures recorded in the previous reporting period (2,304).

In TRC Ušivak, IOM organized a morning briefing each day with representatives from partner organizations. These briefings serve as a platform to present and coordinate the day's planned activities, ensuring that all partners are aligned and aware of their roles and responsibilities. The briefings also provide an opportunity to address any immediate concerns, discuss logistical needs, and reinforce collaborative efforts to enhance the efficiency and effectiveness of operations within the center. This routine practice helps maintain clear communication and a cohesive approach to managing the daily activities in the center.

In TRC Blažuj, IOM supports the Service for Foreigners' Affairs (SFA) staff in accommodation and registration related activities. With regards to the registration process, IOM is providing on-the-job trainings on the use of the Smart Camp Application system to SFA staff.

To mark World Mental Health Day on 10 October, a joint cleaning initiative was organized in the central part of the TRC Ušivak, near the Mother and Baby Wash Unit (MBWU). The initiative involved beneficiaries, Jesuit Refugee Service (JRS) staff, and the IOM focal point for social activities, who cleaned the designated area and set up a flower garden.

Over the course of the reporting period, the Una Sana Canton Public Health Institute (USC PHI) carried out 533 entry medical screenings in TRC Borići and TRC Lipa, and the Sarajevo Canton Primary Health Care Centres provided 951 screenings in TRC Blažuj and TRC Ušivak.

# of arrivals to TRCs: **2,165**

# of departures from TRCs: **1,940**



IOM SHARED INFORMATION TO BENEFICIARIES ON FLOODS AND LANDSLIDES THAT HIT THE COUNTRY BEGINNING OF OCTOBER, HIGHLIGHTING THE ASSOCIATED RISKS AND AREAS TO AVOID.

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## PROTECTION, PARTICIPATION & ACCOUNTABILITY

Between 30 September and 13 October 2024, IOM facilitated a total of 744 emergency protection screenings, and identified 406 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 339 persons while 1,275 beneficiaries were reached through information and awareness raising sessions.

During the reporting weeks, IOM's Protection and Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS) team in BiH conducted information sessions to inform migrants about recent floods and associated risks, including high river levels, landslides, and dangerous routes to avoid. Furthermore, instructions were given on how to request assistance if required.

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 19 community events were organized across four reception centres (10 creative and art sessions, 2 legal/info sessions, 3 sessions with a focus on mental health, 3 on prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse, and 1 sport and play) for a total of 266 participants.

On 9 October, IOM Protection and MHPSS organized a focus group discussion on mental health in TRC Lipa for nine participants from Egypt and Morocco. The discussion provided insight into how mental health is perceived by participating beneficiaries and their community members, as well as on their approaches to seek support. The discussion effectively raised awareness about the importance of mental health.

IOM is providing support for the transportation of children attending regular classes and those enrolled in the preparatory school program at the local elementary school. This initiative aims to facilitate access to education to all children.

# of vulnerability screenings in TRCs: **744**

# of persons with protection needs: **406**



DISTRIBUTION OF WINTER CLOTHING IN TRC UŠIVAK.

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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, with the onset of the colder season, heaters were distributed to all accommodation units within the centre. Efforts were made to ensure that all heaters were fully functional before distribution, and the maintenance team conducted checks to verify their proper installation and operation.

In TRC Ušivak, the reorganization of the NFI warehouse was successfully completed. As part of this process, all materials / items were counted, sorted, and stored in appropriate locations.

**# of persons sheltered in the TRCs: 1,507**

**# of laundry services: 1,274**

## 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 43,252 meals were served and 10,212 NFIs were distributed. Recognizing the diverse needs of individuals, special attention was given to those who required a specialized diet due to health issues.

**# of meals distributed: 43,252**

**# of NFIs distributed: 10,212**

## 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 146 transportation services (mainly to reception centres) for 265 migrants and conducted 703 general information sessions.

**# of persons transported: 265**

**# of information sessions: 703**



IOM MOBILE TEAMS PROVIDE TRANSPORTATION ASSISTANCE AND INFORMATION SHARING TO MIGRANTS IN VULNERABLE SITUATIONS.

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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 30 September and 13 October 2024, the team reached 322 migrants, of which 204 were being hosted in TRCs and 118 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 126 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 five persons returned to their countries of origin (Algeria 1, Iraq 1, Sri Lanka 2 and Tunisia 1); and the AVRR team registered 13 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.

**# Applications for Assisted Voluntary Returns: 161 M: 143 F: 18**

**# Assisted Voluntary Returns in 2024: 128 M: 115, F: 13**

**# Assisted Voluntary Returns since 2018: 1,548 M: 1,370 F: 178**



AVRR INFORMATION SESSION IN TRC LIPA.

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## “A Father's Journey Home“

When Issam left his homeland, he carried more than just his belongings. He brought with him years of experience as a skilled upholsterer, a passion for photography, and the hope of building a better future. Yet, the road ahead turned out to be far more challenging than he expected. By the time he reached the Lipa Temporary Reception Centre in Bosnia and Herzegovina, he found himself at a critical juncture, searching for the next step.

His daughter was less than two years old when he left. Every day, the thought of his little girl guided his choices. Though he had left with dreams of making a new life, the pull to return to his family grew stronger each day. After much consideration, and with the support of IOM's Assisted Voluntary Return and Reintegration Programme, Issam made the life-changing decision to return to his homeland. His journey home was not just about reuniting with his daughter, but about reclaiming his identity and leveraging the skills he had long nurtured to build a better future for both of them.

Upon returning, Issam drew on his years of upholstery experience and quickly set up his own shop.

“Since I arrived in my country, I have established my upholstery shop, and as you can see my work is going very well”, he confessed.

The reintegration grant allowed him to purchase the necessary equipment—machines for cutting, sewing, and restoring upholstery for furniture and vehicle interiors. In no time, his business was up and running, offering services to local customers and beyond. Thanks to his dedication and expertise, the shop became a success, enabling him to offer employment to another person from his hometown, thus giving back to the community that welcomed him home.

But Issam's ambitions didn't end with his upholstery business. Alongside running the shop, he reignited his passion for photography. With his camera in hand, he began taking on photography projects, capturing special moments for people in his community. Balancing both his upholstery business and his photography work, Issam found a way to integrate his professional passions with his personal responsibilities.



A REINTEGRATION GRANT PROVIDED BY AVRR IOM ENABLED ISSAM TO ESTABLISH HIS OWN SHOP AND SUCCESSFULLY OPERATE AN UPHOLSTERY BUSINESS.  
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