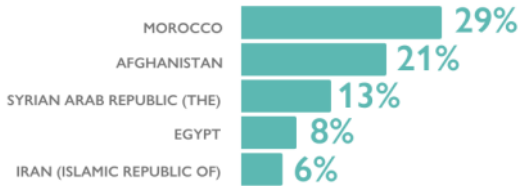


### TEMPORARY RECEPTION CENTRES (TRCs)

	OCCUPANCY	CAPACITY	AVG. LENGTH OF STAY (DAYS)
<b>BORIĆI</b>	<b>73</b>	<b>580</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>LIPA</b>	<b>269</b>	<b>1,512</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>BLAŽUJ</b>	<b>553</b>	<b>1,700</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>UŠIVAK</b>	<b>117</b>	<b>800</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>1,012</b>	<b>4,592</b>	

### TOP 5 NATIONALITIES IN TRCs



### SEX AND AGE DISAGGREGATED DATA IN TRCs



- 82%** SINGLE MEN
- 5%** ADULTS IN FAMILIES
- 4%** CHILDREN IN FAMILIES
- 8%** UNACCOMPANIED MINORS
- 1%** SINGLE WOMEN

### 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	1,803	731		24,081

## SITUATION OVERVIEW

On 20 November, IOM celebrated Children's Day in TRCs. In TRC Borići, IOM and the local NGO "Lan" hosted an art exhibition to celebrate the creative achievements of migrant children and children from local communities. In the first ten months of 2024, IOM assisted 6,188 children on the move in TRCs in BiH, including 4,380 unaccompanied and separated children (UASC). In TRC Ušivak, in Sarajevo Canton, IOM continues to run the Mother and Baby Wash Unit, where over 1,000 children and parents have accessed services so far in 2024.

In line with the transition to a State-led migration response, IOM is supporting the integration of migrants into the healthcare system of Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH), ensuring that all individuals, regardless of their origin, have access to the same quality of care. In TRC Ušivak, IOM coordinated the consolidation of services of the Sarajevo Canton Public Health Institute and the Hadžići Health Care Centre into a single facility. This integration is anticipated to improve the practical and operational efficiency of medical delivery and

ensure a smoother workflow for medical screenings and other health-related services.



MEDICAL SCREENINGS AND CONSULTATIONS UNDER ONE ROOF IN TRC UŠIVAK. ©IOM 2024

### CONTACTS

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## COORDINATION & MANAGEMENT

Between 11 and 24 November 2024, IOM recorded a total of 1,133 people arriving at four temporary reception centres, including newly registered people and those previously registered and returning for assistance, which is a 22.3 per cent decrease compared to the previous reporting period 28 October – 10 November 2024 (1,476). There were 2,020 new departures, which is a 24.3 per cent increase compared to departures recorded in the previous reporting period (1,625).

During the reporting period, the Una Sana Canton (USC) Public Health Institute carried out 355 entry medical screenings in TRC Borići and TRC Lipa, and the Sarajevo Canton (SC) Public Health Institute provided 494 screenings in TRC Blažuj and TRC Ušivak. As part of the healthcare activities, general practitioners and pediatricians from USC and SC health care centres regularly provided services in four centres. IOM provided transport to healthcare facilities based on doctors' referrals, ensuring timely medical care.

In TRC Ušivak, an Interagency Coordination Meeting was held, bringing together representatives from all organizations operating within the centre. Led by IOM, the meeting provided a platform for sharing information, achievements, progress, and challenges in ongoing operations. Specifically, the meeting aimed to coordinate preparations for audio broadcasts via the new system at TRC Ušivak, enhancing information sharing to beneficiaries. Additionally, discussions included preparations for the upcoming holiday season to ensure all organizations contribute and provide a program for beneficiaries, as well as planning activities to commemorate the 16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence.

# of emergency screenings in TRCs: **388**

# of persons with protection needs: **237**

# of individual assistance: **209**

# of beneficiaries reached with info sessions: **780**



RED CROSS TEAM PREPARING ACCOMMODATION UNITS FOR NEW BENEFICIARIES IN TRC BLAŽUJ.  
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## PROTECTION, PARTICIPATION & ACCOUNTABILITY

Between 11 and 24 November 2024, IOM facilitated a total of 388 emergency protection screenings, and identified 237 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 209 persons while 780 beneficiaries were reached through information and awareness raising sessions.

On 20 November 2024, IOM organized a workshop on the topic of Psychological First Aid (PFA) for a group of five participants. The session focused on understanding the basics of PFA and its practical applications in real-life situations. Participants explored key principles, discussed how to offer immediate emotional support, and shared insights from their own experiences. At the conclusion of the workshop, all participants reported an increased level of confidence and enhanced preparedness for addressing situations necessitating psychological support.

In TRC Lipa, IOM provided PFA to 26 beneficiaries who were showing signs of stress after being reportedly forcibly returned to BiH, as well as to migrants who reported experiencing violence during their migration journeys. Individual assistance was provided in addition to NFI, adequate accommodation and specific information regarding certain services they need.

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 12 community events were organized across four reception centres (4 sessions on the prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse, 2 creative and art sessions, 2 legal/info sessions, 2 sessions on mine risk education, 1 session with a focus on mental health, and 1 sport and play) for a total of 97 participants (81 M, 16 W).



WINTER FUN 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.

On 21 November, a severe storm damaged TRC Borići's building and surrounding area. Uprooted trees destroyed the UASC zone gates and part of the fence. IOM secured and restored functionality to the damaged areas.

In TRC Blažuj, due to adverse weather conditions including snow and ice, IOM organized a snow-clearing initiative within the centre with the participation of volunteer migrants, led by Red Cross staff under the supervision of IOM. Additionally, as a safety precaution, salt was applied to icy areas formed within the centre and its surroundings due to low temperatures, ensuring safer movement for all residents and staff.

**# of persons sheltered in the TRCs: 1,012**

**# of laundry services: 1,204**

## 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 30,964 meals were served and 7,049 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 individuals received special diet food during the reporting period. In addition, dry meal packages were prepared daily for migrants arriving after regular mealtimes, meeting basic nutritional needs for those arriving late.

**# of meals distributed: 30,964**

**# of NFIs distributed: 7,049**

## 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 96 transportation services (mainly to reception centres) for 194 migrants and conducted 389 general information sessions.

Afghanistan (28%) was the main declared nationality of assisted migrants, followed by Morocco (24%), the Syrian Arab Republic (17%), Pakistan (13%), Mongolia and Congo (4% each), Egypt and Iraq (3% each), Iran (2%), Türkiye and China (1% each).

**# of persons transported: 194**

**# of information sessions: 389**

## 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 11 and 24 November 2024, the team reached 280 migrants, of which 166 were being hosted in TRCs and 114 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 89 counselling sessions were held to ensure that beneficiaries are well informed and aware of the assistance available during pre-departure, travel, and post-arrival.

Two persons returned to their countries of origin (Pakistan and Georgia) while six others applied for AVRR, and their return preparations are currently 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: 171 M: 151 F: 20**

**# Assisted Voluntary Returns in 2024: 137 M: 119 F: 18**

**# Assisted Voluntary Returns since 2018: 1,557 M: 1,374 F: 183**



IOM MOBILE TEAMS PROVIDE TRANSPORTATION FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN.

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## From Uncertainty to Hope: the Al-Hashimi\* Family's Journey Home

The Al-Hashimi family's story is one of immense strength, resilience, and sacrifice. Leaving their homeland of Iraq was the hardest decision they ever made. Mr. Al-Hashimi, a skilled perfume maker and herbalist, along with his wife and their four children, dreamt of a better life in Europe. He had heard of the opportunities and believed it was a place where his family could thrive. But the path from hope to reality was far more challenging than they ever anticipated.

After enduring gruelling days of travel through dangerous routes, the family found themselves in BiH. The severity of their journey became painfully apparent. As the cooler season approached, the harsh conditions and instability pressed heavily on them, particularly on the children, whose health and future were at growing risk. In TRC Borici, they met with an Assisted Voluntary Return and Reintegration (AVRR) team. Exhausted and uncertain about their next steps, they began discussing their options. Over time, the family started to realize that continuing their journey was fraught with further risks and unpredictability. The idea of returning home, something they hadn't initially considered, gradually became a more viable and safer alternative.

To help them make an informed decision, the AVRR team arranged a virtual counselling session with IOM Iraq. During this conversation, the family learned more about the support they would receive if they chose to return. The promise of safety, reintegration, and education for their children became more appealing.

After thoughtful deliberation, the Al-Hashimi family chose to return to Iraq, believing it was the best path for ensuring their children's safety and securing a stable future. The return process was meticulously coordinated between IOM BiH and IOM Iraq to guarantee a smooth and successful reintegration. When they finally arrived back in Iraq, they were greeted not with uncertainty but with the promise of a fresh start.

A reintegration plan had been carefully prepared to address their immediate needs. Mr. Al-Hashimi, hopeful and determined, began to envision how his skills in herbalism and perfume making could be the foundation for a sustainable business to support his family. "I feel ready to rebuild our lives," he said. "With my experience, I can create something lasting." Most importantly, the children were back in school, safe and eager to continue their education. The dangers they had faced were behind them, and now, their future was filled with hope. "We are so grateful to be home," Mrs. Al-Hashimi expressed. "Our children are safe, and that means everything to us."

Through their journey, the Al-Hashimi family emerged stronger, with renewed hope and determination for the future.



\* Name was changed to protect privacy



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