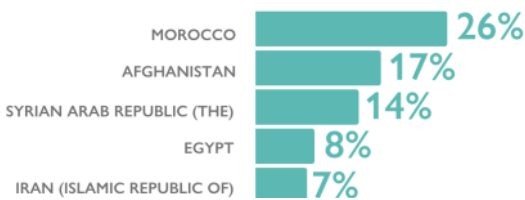


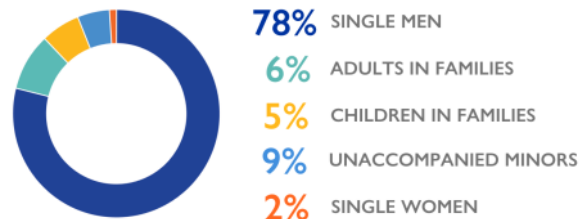
TEMPORARY RECEPTION CENTRES (TRCs)

	OCCUPANCY	CAPACITY	AVG. LENGTH OF STAY (DAYS)
BORIĆI	49	580	10
LIPA	200	1,512	13
BLAŽUJ	413	1,700	10
UŠIVAK	111	800	8
TOTAL:	773	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	1,803	1,173		24,523

SITUATION OVERVIEW

In Temporary Reception Centers (TRC) Lipa and Borići, the Interagency Network for the Prevention of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse including representatives from IOM, UNHCR, UNFPA, and UNICEF, organized training sessions for organizations and institutions providing services in the centres such as the Una Sana Canton (USC) Public Health Institute, the Red Cross of USC, and the Ministry of Human Rights and Refugees of Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH). The session introduced fundamental concepts and mechanisms related to referral procedures and the provision of tailored services towards the Prevention of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse.

On 3 December, the newly asphalted access road to TRC Lipa was officially opened. Funded by the European Union, the road represents a key infrastructure improvement that creates a sustainable and positive impact for both migrants and the local community by supporting efficient emergency transport, timely delivery of supplies, development of businesses and local economic growth.



THE EU FUNDED THE NEW ASPHALT ACCESS ROAD TO TRC LIPA.

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CONTACTS

Chief of Mission
Laura Lungarotti, llungarotti@iom.int

Information Management and Reporting
Programme Support Unit, BIH_PSU@iom.int

www.iom.int/countries/bosnia-and-herzegovina

COORDINATION & MANAGEMENT

Between 25 November and 8 December 2024, IOM recorded a total of 860 people arriving at four temporary reception centres, including newly registered people and those previously registered and returning for assistance, which is a 24 per cent decrease compared to the previous reporting period 11 - 24 November 2024 (1,133). There were 1,007 new departures, which is a 50.1 per cent decrease compared to departures recorded in the previous reporting period (2,020).

During the reporting period, the Una Sana Canton (USC) Public Health Institute carried out 214 entry medical screenings in TRC Borići and TRC Lipa, and the Sarajevo Canton (SC) Public Health Institute provided 301 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, IOM organizes a daily morning briefing with representatives from partner organizations. These briefings provide a platform to present and coordinate the day's planned activities, ensuring that all partners are aligned and aware of their roles and responsibilities.

In TRC Blažuj, IOM completed the handover of two vehicles to the Service for Foreigners' Affairs (SFA) to facilitate transfer of responsibilities regarding transportation services. The SFA will take on an expanded role in managing transportation services, including those related to medical transport.

In TRC Borići, the City of Bihać repaired the access road to the centre due to significant potholes that posed a safety risk, especially with winter approaching.

In TRC Lipa, IOM presented the quarterly operational plans to the Red Cross of Una Sana Canton and the SFA. These plans detail daily activities across Food, Non-Food Items (NFI), Shelter, and Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH) services. The presentation aimed to ensure well-coordinated implementation of daily activities, promoting better organization, communication, and adherence to Standard Operating Procedures across all teams.



RED CROSS TEAMS WORKING WITH IOM ON REORGANIZATION OF THE NFI WAREHOUSE IN TRC BLAŽUJ.
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PROTECTION, PARTICIPATION & ACCOUNTABILITY

Between 25 November and 8 December 2024, IOM facilitated a total of 293 emergency protection screenings, and identified 150 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 210 persons while 755 beneficiaries were reached through information and awareness raising sessions.

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 13 community events were organized across four reception centres (10 creative and art sessions, 2 sessions with a focus on mental health, 1 on prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse) for a total of 286 participants (238 M, 48 W).

In TRC Borići, IOM staff joined forces with the children in the centre to create a festive atmosphere for the upcoming holiday season. Together, they decorated the space with Christmas trees and handmade ornaments, creating a warm and joyful environment.

The vocational education program for children accommodated in TRC Ušivak began on 27 November, with 15 participants enrolled at the Hadžići Secondary School Center. IOM organized daily transportation and snacks for the participants, with meal adjustments to fit their class schedules.

In TRC Lipa, IOM organized a session for 22 beneficiaries to address their complaints and feedback regarding meal quality and quantity. During the session, beneficiaries presented their requests, primarily asking for more bread and spices in their meals. As a result, a spice shelf will be made available for personal adjustments.

of emergency screenings in TRCs: 293

of persons with protection needs: 150

of individual assistance: 210

of beneficiaries reached with info sessions: 755



PSEA TRAINING FOR ORGANIZATIONS AND INSTITUTIONS PROVIDING SERVICES IN TRC BORIĆI.
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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 Borići, UNHCR provided lockers with codes to offer beneficiaries a safe place to store their valuable belongings.

The renovation of the kitchen facilities in TRC Ušivak has been completed, resolving issues related to dampness and mold caused by accumulated steam. The walls have been treated with a sealant and repainted, improving hygiene and safety standards.

of persons sheltered in the TRCs: 773

of laundry services: 1,110

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 25,766 meals were served and 4,429 NFIs were distributed. Recognizing the diverse needs of individuals, special attention was given to those who required a specialized diet due to health issues.

Thirteen beneficiaries 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: 25,766

of NFIs distributed: 4,429

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 77 transportation services (mainly to reception centres) for 134 migrants and conducted general information sharing to 265 people.

The Syrian Arab Republic (29%) was the main declared nationality of assisted migrants, followed by Morocco (25%), Afghanistan (14%), Pakistan (11%), Egypt (7%), China (4%), Iran and Mongolia (3% each), Turkiye (2%), Algeria and Nepal (1% each), and Bangladesh (less than 1%).

of persons transported: 134

of people reached with general information: 265

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 25 November and 8 December 2024, the team reached 155 migrants, of which 104 were being hosted in TRCs and 51 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 71 counselling sessions were held to ensure that beneficiaries are well informed and aware of the assistance available during pre-departure, travel, and post-arrival.

Three persons returned to their countries of origin (Lebanon 2, Iran 1) while 9 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: 180 M: 159 F: 21

Assisted Voluntary Returns in 2024: 140 M: 121 F: 19

Assisted Voluntary Returns since 2018: 1,560 M: 1,376 F: 184



IOM MOBILE TEAMS PROVIDE TRANSPORTATION TO MIGRANTS IN VULNERABLE SITUATIONS.
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Temporary Reception Centre Blažuj: A Meeting Point of Cultures

A Story by Esmā Ouchene

In TRC Blažuj, the movement of people from different countries has become a source of inspiration. Since 2019, more than 100,000 migrants from over 100 countries have been assisted in the centre. Amid the hustle and uncertainty, an idea emerged to bring people together and celebrate what makes each of them unique. That's how the "Meet ... in Bosnia" event series began.

The idea was simple: create moments of connection through food, music, and stories. Each event brought people closer, not just as individuals transiting on the Western Balkans Route, but as contributors to a shared experience. Migrants exchange cultural practices - cooking traditional meals, singing songs from home, and teaching dances that carried the rhythm of their stories. Meanwhile, IOM staff introduced the flavours, sounds, and traditions of Bosnia and Herzegovina. One evening, a Nigerian lullaby blended with the soulful melody of a Bosnian *sevdalinka*, while the aroma of Afghan spices mingled with the warmth of freshly brewed Bosnian coffee.

Laughter and traditional dances bridged cultures, creating unforgettable moments of connection and joy. Somali drumming and folk dances filled the air with energy, drawing everyone into its rhythm, while a group of Moroccan migrants turned the gathering into a festive celebration, complete with traditional sweets and a heartfelt birthday song in Arabic and French. In these shared moments, strangers became friends, and encounters transformed into memories that felt like family.

For many, these gatherings became a bright spot in their journey - a chance to relax, connect, and feel seen. The memories stayed with them on, and for those who organized and participated, it was a reminder of the strength found in diversity and the simple joys of sharing.

These stories are testaments of shared humanity, hope and love.



"MEET ... IN BOSNIA" EVENT IN TRC BLAŽUJ.
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