

3,532 migrants and asylum seekers assisted with accommodation in the official reception facilities

1,961 beds available in the reception facilities

2,589 estimated migrants and asylum-seekers outside of centres*

5 Temporary Reception Centres fully operational

1,116 Assisted Voluntary Returns since 2018, of which **116** in 2021



DTM data collection activities in Sarajevo Canton © IOM, SFA 2021

SITUATION OVERVIEW

To inform migrants on the danger of land mines, IOM Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH) Office of Staff Security, in partnership with IOM certified instructors, organized several ‘Mine awareness’ sessions in all temporary reception centres (TRCs) across BiH, in which a large number of migrants participated. Awareness sessions were held in both English and Arabic, while the migrants were also provided with leaflets containing information on mine awareness.

On 12 July the European Union (EU) donated a special water tank vehicle to facilitate delivery of water to the areas of Bihać most in need and ensure that migrants and host populations have access to water at any time. The Political Adviser at the Banja Luka Office of the Delegation of the EU to BiH and the EU Special Representation, in the presence of the Ministry of Security (MoS), Mayor of Bihać, and IOM Chief of Mission (CoM), Laura Lungarotti, handed over the keys of the specialized truck to the Public Utility company for water management of the City of Bihać.

On 15 July, IOM conducted a fourth Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) exercise jointly with the Service for Foreigners’ Affairs (SFA)

* Estimated number recorded by IOM DTM as of 10 June 2021

to collect information on the number of migrants present in BiH and assist migrants in over 100 locations across six cantons, namely Una-Sana Canton, Sarajevo Canton, Tuzla Canton, West Herzegovina Canton, Neretva-Herzegovina Canton and Canton 10. The results will be made available in the coming reporting period. In light of the above, IOM, SFA and partners - through outreach activities – continue to work together to inform migrants living in informal settings, in squats and abandoned buildings, of the opportunities to be accommodated in one of the reception facilities available in the country, where they can access basic services, such as shelter, basic hygiene, sanitation, food and clothing.

Lastly, the Assistant Secretary-General of the United Nations and Assistant High Commissioner for Protection at UNHCR, visited BiH between 12 and 14 July, and visited the TRCs in Una-Sana and Sarajevo Cantons, the Provisional Camp (PC) Lipa and the construction site of the new TRC Lipa, together with the MoS, the SFA, IOM CoM, UNFPA and UNHCR representatives. The visit provided an opportunity discuss current assistance to migrants and asylum-seekers in transit as well as support provided to authorities on migration governance.

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IOM RESPONSE



Roof installation on the dining area in TRC Lipa © IOM 2021



SHELTER AND NON-FOOD ITEMS (NFI)

Between 10 and 16 July, 73 containers (71 accommodation units and two sanitary containers) were transported from the former Temporary Reception Centre (TRC) Bira to TRC Lipa; 168 containers out of a total of 245 have been transported so far. In addition, the contractor started excavation work on the foundation for the set-up of the transformer station. The works are still in progress. Lastly, 20 sanitary containers were connected to the water supply system while 16 sanitary containers were connected to the sewer network.

In TRC Borići, IOM maintenance staff were assigned to work in TRC Sedra to finalize transportation of the remaining assets. Moreover, the premise was used as an (NFI) distribution point was emptied and handed over to the SFA to set-up their office.

In TRC Ušivak, the refurbishing of the new IOM registration unit by the external contractor was completed during the reporting week. The official handover to IOM will take place in the next reporting period. Lastly, the installation of the fence around the centre's isolation area was completed over the past reporting week.

In TRC Miral, given the lower number of migrants present in the centre, and to increase the space available while also maintaining high hygiene standards, 10 bunk beds and a single bed were moved to the accommodation unit (H3), particularly for the purpose of accommodating single adult men residing in the centre.

of NFIs distributed: 7,348

of people assisted with NFIs: 782



CAMP COORDINATION AND CAMP MANAGEMENT (CCCM)

On 9 July, IOM, the SFA, and agencies working in the TRCs met to discuss and re-define the current referral system for cases requiring psychological assistance within reception facilities. Therefore, a new

referral pathway was established, which was shared with partner agencies.

IOM and SFA organized regular CCCM coordination meetings in all TRCs, together with partner agencies. In TRC Borići, partners discussed the possibility of conducting activities aimed at integrating new migrants transferred from TRC Sedra into the activities of the centre. To this end, the Danish Refugee Council (DRC), in collaboration with the IOM, organized focus group discussions (FGD) aimed at introducing new migrants to the centre's participation mechanisms, including meetings with Community Representatives, as well as the procedures for the election of the body's representatives.

In TRC Ušivak, IOM has provided updates on the modification of the new working hours for the "Sewing Corner", which will be open from Tuesday to Thursday, from 10.00 to 16.30. In addition, to improve the promotion of sewing activities and to understand migrants' interest in it as well as their existing ability to sew, knit, weave, and conduct other manual work, a questionnaire was prepared and administered to migrants residing in the centre. Furthermore, IOM and Médecins du Monde met to agree on the training activity on the theme "Resilience and management of occupational stress" which took place on 12 July for all the staff of the centre. Finally, "Drop in the Ocean" reported on the collaboration started with UNFPA to inform migrant women about the opportunities to conduct IT courses.



WATER, SANITATION, AND HYGIENE (WASH)

In TRC Blažuj, IOM cleaned the canal next to the sanitary containers near the accommodation unit (H11). Other works conducted included painting and cleaning the dining room, mowing and collecting grass in front of the centre's gate.

In TRC Miral, following the closure of TRC Sedra, starting 12 July, nine maintenance workers (3 janitors and 6 cleaners) joined the centre's cleaning team.

of people assisted with laundry services: 1,041



Awareness raising session on dangers of landmines in TRC Borići © IOM 2021

FOOD AND NUTRITION

In TRC Blažuj, due to work on the ventilation hood in the centre's kitchen and the painting of the dining room, dry meals were distributed over a three-day period during the reporting week.

IOM outreach team also distributed extra food from both TRCs Borići to migrants residing in informal accommodations with a priority for families with children. This included including 32 loaves of bread.

of meals distributed: 37,265

OUTREACH ACTIVITIES

IOM/Red Cross outreach teams continued to provide food and NFI packages daily, including personal protective equipment, to migrants residing in informal accommodation. Migrants assisted outside of the TRCs were primarily from Pakistan, Afghanistan followed by India.

During the reporting week, IOM/Red Cross outreach teams encountered four different groups of migrants, who declared that they were involved in a pushback, and assisted them with the provision of food and NFIs. Most of the migrants were single adult males and majority of them refused accommodation to reception facilities.

of food packages distributed: 944

of hygiene items and NFIs distributed: 40

SAFETY AND SECURITY

No major updates for during the reporting period. IOM security staff are present daily in TRCs, working to prevent and respond to safety and security risks and incidents, in cooperation with the SFA inspectors and contracted private security guards.

MAIN GAPS

In the short term, additional funding is required to procure food and NFIs tailored to gender, culture and season, and to cover construction and running costs for the new TRC Lipa. The improvement of the sanitary conditions for those sleeping outside is also a pressing concern.

In the medium to long term, some of the key gaps to address pertain to the capacities of authorities in the areas of screening migrants to identify specific vulnerabilities, managing shelter and accommodation, identifying durable solutions for migrants, and upholding the rights of migrants in their daily operations. For this reason, capacity-building activities remain a priority, to progress towards the overarching goal of ensuring state ownership of the emergency response in BiH. Among other things, improvements are needed to systemize data collection on migrants outside of formal



Sewing corner activities with migrants in TRC Blažuj © IOM 2021

ASSISTED VOLUNTARY RETURN AND REINTEGRATION (AVRR)

IOM's AVRR teams are active in all open TRCs, including PC Lipa, to promote migrants' rights and provide information and counselling to migrants interested in returning to their countries of origin (CoO).

On 15 July, first joint activities of mixed IOM and UNHCR teams to communicate on the options available in BiH to migrants and asylum-seekers residing outside the reception centres, in terms of access to asylum, AVRR, etc. were held.

Between 10 and 16 July, a total of 578 migrants were reached by the IOM AVRR team (62 in centres and 516 outside centres), and a total of 132 in-depth counselling sessions were held. One migrant returned to his country of origin (Pakistan), bringing the total number of persons returning in 2021 to 116.



AVRR counselling during DTM data collection activities © IOM 2021

IOM ACTIVITIES ARE SUPPORTED BY :

Logos of supporting organizations: European Union, Austrian Development Agency, German Federal Agency for Technical Relief, Ministry of the Interior of the Czech Republic, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of Italy, CEB (Council of Europe Development Bank), Služba za poslove sa strancima / Service for foreigners' affairs, and Ministarstvo sigurnosti Bosne i Hercegovine / Ministry of Security of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

