

**3,467** migrants and asylum seekers assisted with accommodation in the official reception facilities

**2,095** beds available in the reception facilities

**2,589** migrants and asylum seekers outside of centres\*

**5** Temporary Reception Centres fully operational

**1,097** Assisted Voluntary Returns since 2018, of which **106** in 2021



World Refugee Day celebrated in TRC Miral © IOM 2021

## SITUATION OVERVIEW

On World Refugee Day (20 June), IOM together with partners celebrated the resilience and strength of those forced to flee their countries in search of protection in all in the Temporary Reception Centres (TRCs) in Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH). UN and civil society staff were invited to share testimonials on how personal displacement experiences motivate them in delivering protection and humanitarian aid, and several other initiatives were organized by partner agencies that engaged migrants and asylum-seekers in the TRCs. For instance, in TRC Blažuj, IOM and partners (Bosnia and Herzegovina Women Initiative, World Vision, Save the Children, Medicine du Monde) organized a large football tournament with the participation of staff and migrants. For this event, groceries were purchased for the preparation of a community meal, as an opportunity for socialization between the communities. In TRC Miral, sports activities were organized on the theme "Games without borders", with competitions for migrants and partner agencies' staff in eight different disciplines. Sweets, drinks, and karaoke were organized at the end of the day.

During the reporting period, IOM also collaborated with Istituto Pace Sviluppo Innovazione (IPSIA), Caritas Europe and the War

Childhood Museum of the city of Sarajevo to set up an exhibition on the itineraries that children on the move undertake, most of whom are fleeing wars. During the exhibition, children from Ušivak together with local children from Canton Sarajevo will visit the exhibition and participate in a music workshop organized by the Museum.

Recently, migrants also started telling their stories through the Dispatches in Exile project, which is led by VII Academy and funded by IOM. The project aims to give migrants an opportunity to learn about photography and storytelling with some of the most renowned World's photographers, such as Paul Lowe, and tell their own personal experiences through photographs, videos and stories.

To raise awareness of the needs related to the migration response in BiH, the Ministry of Security (MoS) held a diplomatic dialogue on 23 June. The event provided an opportunity to take stock of available international support for the development of BiH migration policies and operational capacities in regards to irregular migration, and was attended by a wide range of humanitarian actors and donors, including representatives of the EU Delegation.

\* Number recorded by IOM DTM as of 10 June 2021

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## IOM RESPONSE



Newly opened sewing room for migrants in TRC Ušivak © IOM 2021

 SHELTER AND NON-FOOD ITEMS (NFI)

The construction works in TRC Lipa are running according to schedule: the focus was on completing the centre's plateaus as well as the retaining walls, as the ground of the site is uneven and needs to be levelled before the installation of foreseen facilities. IOM started the relocation of accommodation containers from TRC Bira to Lipa that will be placed on the completed plateaus. Furthermore, UNICEF representatives visited Lipa and met with the IOM Camp Coordination and Camp Management (CCCM) Deputy to see progress on the construction works, particularly for what concerns the centre's socializing areas.

In Provisional Camp (PC) Lipa, IOM continued to provide the Services for Foreigners' Affairs (SFA) with water in trucks to avoid water shortages in the centre.

In TRC Blažuj, IOM, renovated the Medical Unit, to improve the living conditions of migrants staying there. Rooms and windows were painted, floors patched, and new beds with linens added.

Lastly, to prevent persons from absconding before the quarantine period is over, construction work for a protective fence around the centre's quarantine and isolation areas continued (during the reporting week the foundations for the fence posts were laid).

In TRC Ušivak, IOM continued refurbishing the new registration area: works on electric and water installations as well as for the insulation were concluded. Furthermore, construction of the outdoor canopy was prepared and work for the installation of the ceramic tiles started, while painting work will be conducted in the next period.

**# of NFIs distributed: 9,968**

**# of people assisted with NFIs: 917**

 CAMP COORDINATION AND CAMP MANAGEMENT (CCCM)

In TRC Miral, an informative meeting was held with the new Community Representatives to present the feedback and complaint mechanism. Moreover, the Representatives expressed their concern on the mandatory period of quarantine in the COVID-19 area, once they return from the "game", when IOM reiterated the importance of abiding by COVID-19 prevention measures set up by Public Health Institute. In addition to that, the Community Representatives were asked to provide suggestions to improve their stay in the COVID-19 and isolation areas, when they suggested they would like to be moved from the tent area to the building due to hot weather. As a response, IOM made 50 places available in the isolation area inside the building.

 WATER, SANITATION, AND HYGIENE (WASH)

IOM cleaning and maintenance staff conducted regular cleaning and thorough disinfection in all TRCs, which include unclogging of pipes and toilets, collection of garbage, and minor repairs. Furthermore, pest control activities are carried out regularly in all TRCs. In TRC Borići, IOM continued the renovation works on six sanitary containers- the strips, silicone and the linoleum were installed together with the new laminate. Moreover, all entrance doors (6 in total) were replaced, and the works were fully completed in three sanitary containers.

**# of people assisted with laundry services: 1,289**

**# of laundry bags washed: 1,523**



Migrants preparing food for World Refugee Day © IOM 2021

 FOOD AND NUTRITION

In TRC Miral, the main electrical breaker burnt out on 19 June in the Red Cross kitchen, causing a power outage. Electrical work was undertaken rapidly to rehabilitate that space.

In addition to the regular food distribution in the TRCs, the IOM outreach team provided 50 food packages to SFA at PC Lipa, to

distribute to migrants arriving at PC Lipa after food distribution hours. During the reporting period, the extra food from TRC Sedra was distributed to migrants outside TRCs by the outreach teams, including 46 loaves of bread and one crate of oranges, as well as 1 litre of fruit juice for children, donated by UNICEF.

**# of meals distributed: 33,619**

## OUTREACH ACTIVITIES

IOM/Red Cross outreach teams continued to provide daily food and NFI packages daily, including personal protective equipment, to migrants residing in informal accommodation in Una-Sana Canton (USC). Migrants assisted outside of the TRCs were primarily from Pakistan, Afghanistan, Algeria and Iran.

Furthermore, IOM/Red Cross outreach teams identified two cases of alleged violent pushbacks with a total of 14 migrants (including 2 families with 4 members). All migrants were provided with food assistance and non-food items. All migrants refused accommodation. Lastly, the outreach team delivered 656 antibacterial gels and 683 multiuse facial masks to migrants residing outside.

**# of food packages distributed: 1,546**

**# of hygiene items and NFIs distributed: 1,376**



## SAFETY AND SECURITY

In TRC Borići, a fight occurred between migrants in the isolation area. IOM managed to intervene immediately to prevent further escalation, however, one migrant lost consciousness and was treated at the centre's medical clinic. As he did not gain consciousness immediately ambulance was called, to take him to the secondary health centre in Bihać.

## MAIN GAPS

In the short term, additional funding is required to procure food and NFIs, 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 reception centres, and collect additional information on migrants' needs and vulnerabilities.



AVRR outreach © IOM 2021

## ASSISTED VOLUNTARY RETURN AND REINTEGRATION (AVRR)

IOM's AVRR outreach teams are active in TRCs Ušivak, Blažuj and Miral, and visit PC Lipa twice a week, to promote migrants' rights and provide information and counselling to migrants interested in returning to their countries of origin (CoO).

During the reporting period, 466 migrants were reached by the IOM AVRR team (104 in centres and 362 outside centres), and a total of 136 in-depth counselling sessions were held. IOM organized info sessions in TRC Miral and Ušivak, where 17 migrants participated.

Seven migrants returned to their country of origin (3 Nepal, 1 Pakistan, 1 Afghanistan, 1 Bulgaria and 1 Morocco), bringing the total number of persons returning in 2021 to 99.



Construction work in TRC Lipa © IOM 2021

IOM ACTIVITIES ARE SUPPORTED BY :



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