

**2,653** migrants and asylum seekers assisted with accommodation in the official reception facilities in BiH

**1,852** beds available in the reception facilities in BiH

**1,101** estimated migrants and asylum-seekers outside of centres in BiH\*

**4** Temporary Reception Centres fully operational in BiH\*\*

**1,163** Assisted Voluntary Returns since 2018, **173** in 2021



MINE AWARENESS TRAINING FOR TRAINERS IN BIHAĆ, UNA-SANA CANTON © IOM 2021

## SITUATION OVERVIEW

On 3 November, the third session of COVID-19 vaccinations took place in Temporary Reception Centres (TRC) Miral and Borići, during which a total of 50 migrants received the first or second dose of the vaccine. So far, in all TRCs in BiH, a total of 763 migrants have been vaccinated, of which 610 migrants received the first dose, and have 153 received the second dose. This process was preceded by educational workshops on the importance and processes of immunization, as well as a survey among beneficiaries. This vaccination programme is the result of a systematic approach to provide regular monthly vaccination to migrants, implemented in collaboration with Public Health Institute of Una-Sana Canton (USC), local USC Health Centres, the Ministry of Health, Labour and Social Policy of USC, the Public Health Institute of the Sarajevo Canton, and the Health Centre of Sarajevo Canton. The administered vaccines were provided by the Public Health Institute of the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina, with support from Service for Foreigners' Affairs (SFA), IOM, and the Danish Refugee Council (DRC), and funded by the European Union (EU).

Between 1 and 5 November, the IOM Office of Staff Security (OSS), in cooperation with Bosnia and Herzegovina Mine Action Centre (BHMAC) certified instructors, organized a Mine Awareness Training for Trainers (ToT) in Bihać, (USC). The training provided participants with a set of skills and competences on mine awareness and an in depth understanding of the dangers associated with the presence of unexploded ordnances (UXOs) across the BiH territory. Certified participants from the IOM Missions in Albania, Serbia, Montenegro and North Macedonia, as well as NGO partners involved in migration response, will be able to provide much needed mine risk education sessions for migrants

and local people, that often use unmarked paths throughout the Western Balkans. A total of 19 persons have been certified as mine awareness instructors.

## AFGHANISTAN UPDATE

There are currently 879 migrants from Afghanistan accommodated in reception facilities operated by IOM and other organizations in BiH, representing 35 per cent of the total migrants assisted in the TRCs. Based on the first Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) exercise on migrants' presence conducted in the Western Balkans (VWB) (Albania, BiH, Kosovo\*\*\*, Montenegro, North Macedonia - excluding Serbia) on 28 September, most of the migrants outside of formal reception facilities were from Afghanistan. The vast majority (99%) were in BiH, and others in North Macedonia (1%). Of the 214 migrant children identified, 160 were from Afghanistan, representing 75 per cent of the total number of migrant children out-of-reception in the sub-region.

Between 1 January and 31 October 2021, it is estimated that 681,332 persons have been internally displaced by conflict in Afghanistan. (Source: OCHA). The impact that this crisis may have on the VWB is difficult to predict. IOM is closely monitoring the situation in Afghanistan and along the Eastern Mediterranean Route (EMR). Thus far, there has been no significant change in the number and nationality composition of migrants in the sub-region.

\*\*\*References to Kosovo shall be understood to be in the context of United Nations Security Council resolution 1244 (1999)

\* Preliminary number recorded by IOM DTM on 28 September 2021  
\*\* Pending the official closure of TRC Sedra by the BiH Council of Ministers

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## IOM RESPONSE

### SHELTER AND NON-FOOD ITEMS (NFI)

There are currently 2,653 migrants accommodated in official reception facilities in BiH.

In TRC Blažuj, in order to protect migrants from the cold and wind, a nylon fence was installed at the entrance of the kitchen. In TRC Borići, the IOM maintenance staff completed all needed repairs to improve accommodation and security conditions. In TRC Miral, the IOM maintenance staff fixed and reinforced the fence and installed a new reflector on the security container. Additionally, the maintenance staff installed neon lights around the TRC to ease the migrant's day and night activities, and to contribute to the overall security level.

In TRC Ušivak, three containers were moved inside the centre which will be used by the IOM Outreach team, the Multifunctional team comprised of an expert team of Psychologists from the Centre of Social Welfare, and SFA. Many beds and heaters were assembled and placed in accommodation containers, and five professional and four amateur sewing machines were delivered to the sewing corner.

**# of NFIs distributed: 7,442**

**# of people assisted with NFIs: 890**

### WATER, SANITATION, AND HYGIENE (WASH)

During the reporting period, IOM assisted a total of 1,259 persons with WASH services in BiH.

In TRC Blažuj, the camp was thoroughly disinfected, and an isolation zone was cleaned daily. Furthermore, in order to improve the camp hygiene and general functioning, the work of the technical service was extended. Weekly disinfection, disinfestation and derating (DDD) measures were conducted in TRC Borići after the reception of the group of migrants relocated from outreach locations. In TRC Miral, 54 water pipes and flushers for the toilet tanks were repaired and 20 new shower curtains installed in sanitary containers. In TRC Ušivak, the cleaning of the centre was conducted, including DRC's medical facilities and the dentist facilities.

**# of people assisted with laundry services: 1,259**

**# of people assisted by the IOM MBWU: 90**

### FOOD AND NUTRITION

During the reporting period, IOM distributed a total of 27,549 meals in all TRCs in BiH.

In TRC Borići, the new tables were introduced for the planning of monthly food orders, records of food consumption, as well as the daily monitoring of food stocks in warehouses. A distribution of 120 water bottles and sweets for children was organized during the reception of the new arrivals. In TRC Ušivak, 348 breakfast were served to 96 children, and 20 children enrolled in school received lunches to bring to school. Food preparation and

distribution ran according to schedule, and IOM continued supporting World Vision's Mother and Baby unit (MBU). In TRC Miral, the IOM food focal point participated in the community representatives meeting to discuss improvements of services.

**# of meals distributed: 27,549**

### CAMP COORDINATION AND CAMP MANAGEMENT (CCCM)

In TRC Blažuj, IOM organized an internal meeting to plan the establishment of new sewing corners, following successful practices from TRCs Ušivak and Miral.

Save the Children (SCI), with the support of the IOM Protection team, escorted five minors to the Centre Duje, operated by the NGO International Forum of Solidarity - Emmaus and provides tailored assistance to unaccompanied or separated children (UASC) in BiH.

In TRC Borići, a total of 250 migrants arrived/returned to the centre following relocation. In addition, a delegation of Italian Members of the European Parliament (MEP) visited the centre and were welcomed by SFA officials as well as the TRC's management, who provided information on the assistance available in the Centre.

In TRC Miral, the IOM CCCM team held a meeting with representatives of CARITAS BiH to discuss areas of collaboration. Finally, In TRC Ušivak, after one family was pushed back from the border, the IOM CCCM team referred the case to the IOM Outreach team in USC, to arrange for the return of the family.

Between 31 October and 5 November, a CCCM Training of Trainers (TOT) for Civil Protection and Red Cross officials from the Federation BiH (FBiH), Republika Srpska (RS) Entities, and 10 municipalities in BiH was conducted. The training package was developed in close cooperation with critical partners, including the BiH Ministry of Security, Civil Protection Administrations of the Federation of BiH and Republika Srpska, the Red Cross Societies, and disaster-prone communities. The ToT was organized in the framework of the joint programme "Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) for Sustainable Development in Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH)" funded by the Swiss Government and implemented by UNDP, UNICEF, UNESCO, UNFPA and FAO.



TRAINING OF TRAINERS ON CAMP COORDINATION AND CAMP MANAGEMENT IN SARAJEVO © IOM 2021

## OUTREACH

During the reporting period, the IOM Outreach Mobile team provided 3,222 services to migrants identified outside of reception facilities, including: 1,131 information sessions, 615 Psychological First Aid, 44 transportation services to 161 migrants, and 1,432 food items. A total of 138 migrants accepted accommodation and were transported to various reception facilities, out of which 62 to TRC Borići, 10 to Ušivak, 9 to CCY Duje, and 57 to Provisional Camp (PC) Lipa.

During the joint activity 'Communication with Communities', the UNHCR and IOM teams profiled 57 migrants in outreach locations and transit in the Velika Kladuša and Cazin areas, including 10 families with 54 members, out of whom 21 were adults 33 were toddlers; out of the total, 75 per cent were from Afghanistan, and 25 per cent from Iraq. A total of 53 migrants were registered with the SFA. However, accommodation in one of the reception facilities was declined by the migrants met. During the same activity, promotional leaflets were distributed to raise awareness of the presence of land mines.

The IOM Outreach team continues to be present on site every day, to increase access to services and information, with the objective to relocate migrants to reception facilities. The IOM Outreach team established a permanent presence in USC to assist five families (24 persons including 14 toddlers), and 6 single men on the site all from Afghanistan.

## ASSISTED VOLUNTARY RETURN AND REINTEGRATION (AVRR)

IOM's AVRR teams are active in all open TRCs, including PC Lipa, and in outreach locations, to promote migrants' rights and provide information and advice to migrants interested in returning to their countries of origin. IOM and UNHCR continue to jointly disseminate information on AVRR, asylum procedures and assistance available in TRCs in locations in USC. Between 30 October and 5 November, the IOM AVRR team reached a total of 134 migrants (27 in the centres and 107 in outside locations) and a total of 40 in-depth counselling sessions were held. No reported returnees for this week.



IN TRC USIVAK "REVOLT CLOTHING" BRAND ORGANIZED WORKSHOPS FOR MIGRANTS IN FASHION CORNER © IOM 2021



IOM OUTREACH TEAM ASSISTING MIGRANTS OUTSIDE RECEPTION IN UNA-SANA CANTON © IOM 2021

## MAIN GAPS

In the short term, the top priority remains the need for additional funds to provide food and NFI to migrants living in TRCs and those sleeping outside of TRCs.

Funds are also critically needed to cover for repairs and running costs of TRCs. As winter approaches, IOM and its partners are exploring ways to complement funding to ensure preparedness and response to emergencies, including in light of the potential effects of the Afghanistan crisis.

In the medium and long term, the main gaps to be addressed relate to the capacities of the authorities in the areas of registration, screening, and identification of vulnerable migrants, as well as management of reception facilities. Capacity-building remains a priority to progress towards the overarching goal of ensuring state ownership of the emergency response in BiH. Additionally, IOM works to support data systematization, and return and reintegration.

### IOM ACTIVITIES ARE SUPPORTED BY :

