

4,915 migrants and asylum seekers assisted with accommodation

(this includes IOM Temporary Reception Centres, centres managed by the State and NGOs)

5 Temporary Reception Centres fully operational



130%

ASSISTED: 26,000

TARGETED: 20,000



Medical corner in PC Lipa. © IOM 2021

SITUATION OVERVIEW

Humanitarian partners and the State authorities including the Service for Foreigners' Affairs (SFA) continued to work together to provide improved living conditions to migrants in reception centres throughout the country and provided assistance to those in informal accommodation.

In Provisional Camp (PC) Lipa, which has a maximum capacity of 900 beds and is under the management and coordination of SFA, 746 migrants were accommodated at the end of the reporting period. IOM continued providing technical assistance to SFA wherever needed, and capacitating them on Camp Coordination and Camp Management (CCCM). During the reporting period, IOM held a training on reporting and administration of generators, heaters, fuel, electrical infrastructure, and orders of materials. The work on the outdoor kitchen where migrants will be able to cook continued, with the support of Istituto Pace Sviluppo Innovazione ACLI (IPSIA). IPSIA also supported SFA to provide various social activities for migrants and asylum seekers, including board games.

Furthermore, due to a sudden increase of COVID-19 positive cases in the Temporary Reception Centres (TRCs), specifically TRC Borici (9 positive cases last week), the centre was subjected to a 14-day lockdown, starting from 6 March, following the decision of Ministry of Health Una-Sana Canton (USC), in coordination with the Public Health Institute and the SFA. The CCCM staff immediately communicated the decision to all migrants and asylum seekers

residing in the centre, informing them of the restriction to leave and re-enter the centre during the lockdown period.

The reporting period was marked by several high delegation visits to Provisional Camp Lipa. One of which was the visit of H.E. Ambassador of Switzerland to Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH), Daniel Hunn, and the Director-General of the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC), Patricia Danzi, visited PC Lipa, accompanied by the SFA and IOM representatives, to see the improvements made to the site.



Outdoor kitchen for migrants in PC Lipa © IOM 2021

CONTACTS

Chief of Mission,
Laura Lungarotti lungarotti@iom.int

Project Development and Information Management,
Amira Almazomy aalmazomy@iom.int

+387 33 293 400

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

IOM RESPONSE



Access road works to connect PC Lipa to the main road. © IOM 2021

SHelter AND NON-FOOD ITEMS (NFI)

IOM continued providing shelter and NFIs to vulnerable groups and affected populations. In PC Lipa, all new arrivals receive welcome packages, containing hygiene items, clothes and shoes by SOS Bihać. In PC Lipa, IOM continued providing support to SFA and the BiH Army on the ongoing works for the access road by supplying gravel sand for both the northern and southern sides of the main road. IOM also provided two generators, and diesel fuel for generators and heaters (for tents). The steel meshes on the structural sides were installed and painted, and the concrete pipes for the chimneys were placed.

In the outside areas of TRCs Borići, Miral and Sedra, IOM set up additional sitting benches and standing ashtrays to contribute to a better outdoor environment. In TRC Sedra, the construction work to set up a gazebo, where social activities for migrants and asylum seekers, will be held, started with the support of IPSIA. In order to improve internet connection in TRC Blazuj, an IT company installed cables in the Information container and in two Assisted Voluntary Return and Reintegration (AVRR) containers that were newly placed in front of the main IOM building. In TRC Ušivak, IOM maintenance staff prepared a concrete foundation for placement of a container to be used by police officers, as agreed between the Ministry of Security (MoS), SFA, the Cantonal police, and IOM. The container will be placed inside the TRC area, next to the gate.

of NFIs distributed: 12,366

of people assisted with NFIs: 3,856



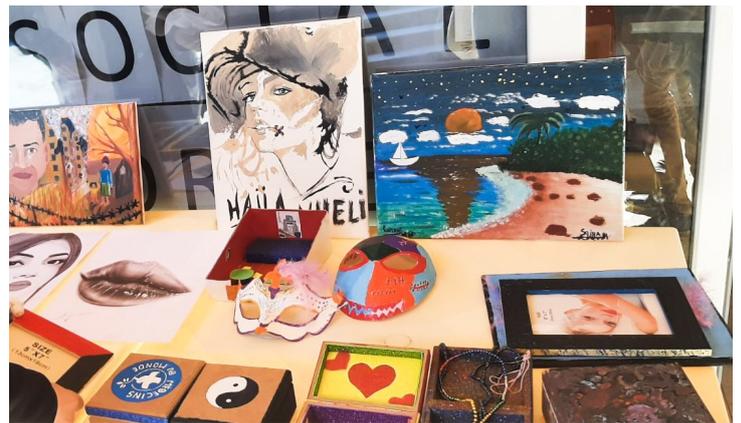
Northern and Southern road works to access the main road (M5). © IOM 2021



CAMP COORDINATION AND CAMP MANAGEMENT (CCCM)

In TRCs, CCCM coordination meetings were organized with all partner agencies including SFA, to effectively coordinate humanitarian assistance provided by all partners. In TRC Sedra, discussions focused on the increased number of migrant departures (over 100 persons), and UNFPA's announcement to start the "Boys on the Move" activity in the centre. IOM also continued to encourage the centre's population to play an active role in decision-making processes and activities that affect them through Community Representative Councils. In TRC Sedra, community representatives raised concerns on the quality of NFIs and dissatisfaction with food provided to school children. Complaints were forwarded to the NFI and Food focal points to seek best possible solutions.

In TRC Ušivak, an exhibition of handcrafts, paintings and other works made by migrants through projects provided by UNFPA, BHWI, MDM, World Vision and Caritas was held on 4 March. The event took place in the open air, with music and food. International Women's Day celebrations were also held, where UNFPA and Caritas organized a movie screening and IOM distributed gift packages for all the women.



Handcrafts bazar in TRC Ušivak. © IOM 2021



WATER, SANITATION, AND HYGIENE (WASH)

SFA in cooperation with IOM provided vector and pest control activities of the entire camp. These activities will be regularly provided, following the same practice as in other reception centres. All TRCs have functional laundry systems for the washing of bedding/sheets and the centre population's personal belongings. IOM dedicated significant efforts to maintenance and repair, particularly of WASH containers and infrastructure, as damages occur frequently in all TRCs. Regular repairs and replacements include sink faucets, toilet tanks and pipes, shower faucets, flushers, and water taps. In TRC Blazuj and Borici, the centre perimeter was cleaned, while bushes and trees were trimmed by IOM maintenance staff.

of people assisted with laundry services: 1,488

of laundry bags washed: 1,725



Children playing in TRC Sedra. © IOM 2021

FOOD AND NUTRITION

IOM and partners (Red Cross in Una-Sana Canton/Salakovac; and Pomozi.ba in Sarajevo Canton) continued to support the provision of three meals and two fruit snacks per day in all TRCs and to make available fully equipped inner and outer kitchens for migrants to prepare their own food. In all TRCs, IOM continued to provide specialized food to migrants in need of specific dietary requirement upon a doctor’s recommendation/medical prescription, and others (e.g. vegetarian, diabetic menus). Baby formula and complementary baby food continued to be provided to babies below 24 months, prepared by Red Cross in line with UNICEF’s guidelines on child feeding. Several organizations (Mellin, Protection4Kids, Tom&Jerry Kindergarten) donated food items for children including sweets, baby formula, and toys.

of meals distributed: 49,670

MAIN GAPS

In the short term, main gap is funds to cover expansion of TRCs, which are overcrowded, causing difficulties to abide by COVID-19 prevention measures. Other gaps continue to be food assistance across all TRCs, procurement and distribution of NFIs; and improvement of the sanitary conditions of those sleeping outside in the absence of appropriate accommodation options.

In the medium to long term, main gaps are data collection and analysis of all migrants present in BiH; capacity building of authorities in screening, processing, managing accommodation and solutions for migrants, and the need for additional and more adequate accommodation facilities, specifically also for UASC.

OUTREACH ACTIVITIES

IOM/Red Cross outreach teams continued to provide food and NFI packages, Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), and information on AVRR options to migrants residing in informal accommodation in Una Sana Canton (who live in makeshift shelters in forests and abandoned buildings) daily. The NFIs included clothes, hygiene items, sleeping bags, backpacks, shoes, jackets and raincoats. The majority of migrants assisted were from Afghanistan followed by Bangladesh and Morocco.

IOM/Red Cross outreach teams continued to transport identified families and unaccompanied and separated children (UASC) from informal accommodation to family centres whenever possible. On 5 March, IOM transported 114 migrants and asylum seekers who were staying in informal accommodation in USC to TRC Borići, of which 28 were former residents of the centre. On another day, two vulnerable families (8 persons in total) were transported from Velika Kladusa to TRC Sedra.

IOM received a great number of donations of food and NFIs and distributed them to migrants and asylum seekers in informal accommodation.

of food packages distributed: 2,615

of Hygiene items and NFIs distributed: 125

SAFETY AND SECURITY

To contribute to safety and security of migrants residing in the centres, IOM continued reinforcing and strengthening the fence around TRCs area to limit unauthorized entries of persons who are not medically screened and not registered in the TRCs.



AVRR outreach activities in USC. © IOM 2021

IOM ACTIVITIES ARE SUPPORTED BY :



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SLUŽBA ZA POSLOVE SA STRANCIIMA SERVICE FOR FOREIGNERS' AFFAIRS



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