

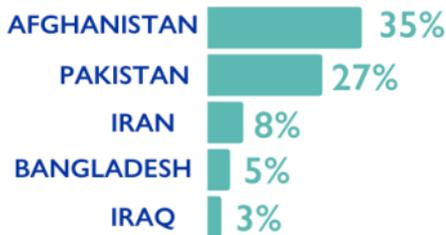
578
ESTIMATED MIGRANTS AND ASYLUM-SEEKERS OUT OF TRCS IN BIH

2,931
BEDS AVAILABLE IN TRCS IN BIH

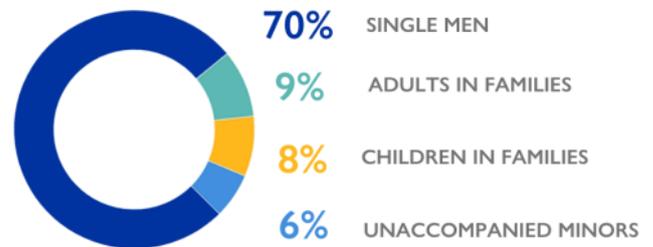
TEMPORARY RECEPTION CENTRES (TRCs)

	OCCUPANCY	CAPACITY
BORIĆI	240	580
MIRAL	398	700
LIPA	382	1,500
BLAŽUJ	1054	1,700
UŠIVAK	275	800
TOTAL:	2,349	5,280

TOP 5 NATIONALITIES IN TRCs



SEX AND AGE DISAGGREGATED DATA IN TRCs



MONTHLY ARRIVALS TO 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	1,552	955	704	273	15,488

*Source: BiH Ministry of Security

SITUATION OVERVIEW

On 11 December, a migrant who was accommodated in Temporary Reception Centre (TRC) Ušivak, was reunited with his family in Pakistan after more than three years of absence. IOM's voluntary return team helped him reconnect with his family prior to return, and provided support to procure travel documents and return assistance, in cooperation with the Embassy of Pakistan in Sarajevo.

On 9 December, a ceremony was organized to highlight an important donation of the European Union (EU) to the Border Police of Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH).

The equipment was handed over by the Head of Operations Section for Justice, Home Affairs and Public Administration Reform at the EU Delegation to BiH, Nicolas Bizel, in the presence of the Director of the Border Police, Zoran Galić, and the Deputy Chief of Mission of IOM in BiH, Blanche Picarello.



Between 6 and 10 December, as part of a project funded by the EU Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument (NDICI), IOM and UNHCR organized a series of workshops for public institutions and media spokespersons in Una-Sana Canton on how to communicate and report on migration. The "Reporting on Migration and Refugees" booklet initially published by IOM and UNHCR in 2018 was updated and re-edited as part of the event.

THE VEHICLES AND EQUIPMENT DONATION OF THE EUROPEAN UNION TO THE BORDER POLICE OF BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA © IOM 2021

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COORDINATION & MANAGEMENT

During the reporting week, 26 migrants arrived at TRC Miral where IOM provided assistance including food, non-food items and information on available accommodation. In close coordination with the Service for Foreign Affairs (SFA), all single males were transported to TRC Lipa and families were transported to TRC Borići.

In TRC Ušivak, for International Human Rights Day, IOM organized an activity whereby agencies visited beneficiaries in their accommodation units, providing flyers and information about human rights, and asking residents whether they had any additional concerns to be addressed. IOM also organized meetings with organizations implementing activities in the municipality of Hadžići, to gather new ideas to increase social cohesion in the community. Finally, the IOM Centre Manager met twice with the Ministry of Security (MoS) liaison officer to provide updates about the trends and activities in the centre.

In TRC Blažuj, the IOM Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) team continues to conduct "Flow Monitoring" surveys. During the week, a journalist from the local "O" television station also visited the centre and interviewed a few migrants and the Centre Manager.

In TRC Borići, the weekly Camp Coordination and Camp Management (CCCM) meeting was organised by IOM with participation of all partners, with the aim of improving ongoing activities coordination, planning upcoming events, and discussing some of the challenges encountered.

In TRC Lipa, the SFA is organizing coordination meetings, and gathering monthly updates from partners. The SFA also approached agencies to organize trainings on topics including gender-based violence (GBV), psychological first aid and child safeguarding. The SFA also organized a meeting on mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS) with IOM, MdM and DRC, to agree on the referral mechanisms for urgent cases. As requested by the SFA, the IOM MHPSS team will ensure a 24/7 monitoring of these cases in the TRC.



EQUIPMENT AND VAN HAND OVER FROM THE EU DELEGATION TO THE WEST HERZEGOVINA CANTON MINISTRY OF INTERIOR © IOM 2021

PROTECTION, PARTICIPATION & ACCOUNTABILITY

During the reporting period, the IOM MHPSS team referred 59 individual cases to partner organizations, and provided 1,115 individual services including information on available accommodation, medical assistance, transportation assistance, translation, distribution of NFI, specialized assistance to persons with disabilities, screening of newcomers and returnees in TRCs, and monitoring of group activities.

In TRC Blažuj, the weekly Council meeting was held in the presence of 14 migrants and seven representatives of partner agencies, where migrants expressed the desire to receive more cleaning tools and products to keep the sanitary containers clean.

In TRC Borići, the Council Committee meeting was organized with the participation of SFA, IOM, UNHCR, MdM, DRC, UNFPA, and one community representative from Iran. Discussions pertained to the menu, and the Red Cross food focal point assured participants that the menu would be adjusted.

In TRC Ušivak, the Community Representative Council meeting was held in the presence of representatives from Iran, Afghanistan, Tunisia, Algeria, Gambia, Cameroon and Cuba. Key discussion points included the planning of a live-stream for residents to watch the upcoming Fashion Show, issues of privacy, consumption of hot water, and the need to share more information with residents to avoid the clogging of water pipes.

In TRC Miral, during the Community representative meeting, the celebration of International Day of Migrants was planned, including the items and ingredients that would be required for the preparation of traditional meals. Migrants participating in the activities of the Fashion Corner helped sew 120 aprons for the students of the local schools. They will visit the school next week to hand the students the items they sewed.

In TRC Lipa, IOM protection and MHPSS teams tried to identify migrants interested to participating in upcoming activities, including a project for migrants to create video material about their migration journey from their home countries.



1,115

PROTECTION/MHPSS
SERVICES PROVIDED BY IOM



59

PERSONS REFERRED TO PARTNER
ORGANIZATIONS BY IOM



THE FIRST WORKSHOP ON RAISING AWARENESS ABOUT THE PSYCHOACTIVE SUBSTANCES ABUSE ORGANIZED IN TRC MIRAL © IOM 2021



MEDIA WORKSHOP IN BIHAĆ © IOM 2021



In TRC Ušivak, beside the regular NFI distribution, 150 antibacterial gels and 250 reusable face masks were delivered door to door to 250 beneficiaries. A total of 220 mattresses were delivered by IOM, and 500 blankets donated by the Red Cross of the Federation of BiH were received. Similarly, in TRC Blažuj, IOM delivered 420 mattresses and received 200 blankets from the Red Cross of the Federation of BiH.

SHELTER, WATER, SANITATION & HYGIENE (WASH)

IOM's maintenance and cleaning team inspect all TRCs installations daily, with two cleanings per day, weekly disinfection, disinfestation and derating (DDD) measures, and several repairs on sanitary installations in the Centres.

In TRC Blažuj this week, work included painting and repairs, as well as the adaptation of toilets for people with disabilities. The IOM technical service team also worked to prevent water from a nearby stream from flooding in the vicinity of the Centre, and installed additional protection against wind and cold in the kitchen area.

In TRC Ušivak, to improve the safety of beneficiaries with small children, IOM started building stairs to access some of the containers. Following feedback from residents, the opening hours of the Mother and Baby Washing Unit (MBWU) will be adjusted, with designated hours for use by single fathers and families.

In TRC Lipa, IOM supported the SFA maintenance staff during the set-up of the laundry services, and the construction of new food distribution desks.



ASSISTANCE OUTSIDE OF RECEPTION FACILITIES

During the week, the IOM Outreach Team provided 1,024 services to migrants outside of reception facilities, including information sessions, transportation and food. A total of 87 migrants accepted accommodation and were transported to TRCs, including 61 to Borići, and 26 to Lipa. During the joint activity "Communication with communities", IOM and UNHCR profiled 28 migrants in outreach locations in the Velika Kladuša area. All were adult men, registered with the SFA, and none accepted offer for accommodation, asylum or return assistance. The IOM Outreach Team visits locations known as transit points by migrants daily, to increase information and access to services, with the aim to reduce the number of migrants camping or squatting in abandoned buildings.



FOOD AND NON-FOOD ITEMS (NFI)

Food distribution in all TRCs continues, in coordination with partners.

In TRC Borići, food distribution was adjusted for migrants in isolation areas, and special meals are being prepared for those with dietary restrictions. UNICEF donated winter clothes that IOM distributed to 74 children, and SOS Balkan Route donated 114 gift bags with sweets that will be distributed on New Year's eve. Red Cross Bihać also donated 800 pairs socks for migrants accommodated in TRC Miral.



ASSISTANCE TO MIGRANTS IN OUT OF CENTRES LOCATIONS © IOM 2021

HUMAN STORIES

Khalid is a 24-year-old migrant from Afghanistan. His journey began three years ago when he left his home country and crossed Iran, Turkey, Greece, North Macedonia, Serbia, up to TRC Blažuj, in BiH, where he has been staying for two years.

From the moment he arrived, Khalid began working as a volunteer in the centre's kitchen. Meanwhile, he learned Bosnian, Croatian and Serbian which he now speaks fluently. He recently applied for protection in BiH and obtained his "yellow card", confirming he is going through the asylum procedure. Pomozi.ba, the organization providing support with food preparation in TRC Blažuj, plans to hire him as a kitchen aid. During his time in BiH, Khalid also worked with the Red Cross as a translator.



KHALED WITH THE IOM STAFF IN TRC BLAŽUJ © IOM 2021

Khalid, would like to stay and live in BiH. He has made friends with many residents and staff in the Centre. "No problem: Welcome to Bosnia" is Khalid's motto when he meets new arrivals.

RETURN, REINTEGRATION AND PATHWAYS

IOM and UNHCR jointly disseminate information on return and asylum in all TRCs as well as in outreach locations. Between 6 and 12 December, the IOM return and reintegration team reached a total of 156 migrants, including 68 in TRCs and 88 in other locations. A total of 50 in-depth counselling sessions were held. Additionally, six migrants returned to their country of origin (3 to Pakistan, 1 to Egypt and 2 to Turkey).



189

RETURNS FROM BIH IN 2021.

1,179

RETURNS FROM BIH SINCE 2018.

SAFETY AND SECURITY

The IOM Office of Staff Security (OSS) conducted a two-day visit to the sub-office in Banja Luka, where training was provided to new IOM Staff on the UN Security Management System and IOM internal security protocols and procedures. The OSS team is also planning and coordinating all safety and security related aspects in preparation for the Fashion Show, which will take place in the Sarajevo City Hall. This includes liaison with the Stari Grad Police station, Directorate for Coordination of Police Bodies (DCPB), Fire Brigade and Emergency Medical Service.



IOM TEAM PROVIDE SUPPORT TO RETURNEES © IOM 2021

MAIN GAPS

New support to the migration response in BiH is needed. The top priority remains funds for food and non-food items for migrants living in TRCs and those sleeping outside of TRCs. Funds are also needed for critical repairs and running costs of TRCs. IOM and its partners are exploring ways to complement funding to ensure preparedness and response to emergencies.

Capacity-building remains a priority to progress towards the overarching goal of ensuring state ownership of the emergency response.

IOM ACTIVITIES ARE SUPPORTED BY :

