



MONTHLY ARRIVALS RECORDED BY THE MINISTRY OF SECURITY OF 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	1,591	1,547	704	382	15,597
2022	85												85

SITUATION OVERVIEW

During the reporting period, IOM continued working together with the local communities in Bihac and Velika Kladuša on different infrastructure projects in several communities, including Polje, Bosanska Bojna, Glinica, Vrnograč, Vedro Polje and Orašac.



IOM PROVIDES TRANSPORTATION ASSISTANCE TO MIGRANTS IN BIH TRCS © IOM 2022

The infrastructure projects, defined through consultations with the communities, included the repair of lighting along the roads and reconstruction of a children's playground, among other needs. Social cohesion activities supporting local communities are part of a project funded by the European Union (EU) Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument (NDICI) of the European Commission's Service for Foreign Policy Instruments (FPI).

With temperatures below zero degrees throughout the country, IOM continued to provide assistance to persons out of reception centres through the provision of tailored winterized non-food items (NFI) and food. IOM continues to advocate for sustainable solutions for migrants, including accommodation in official Temporary Reception Centres (TRC) and Assisted Voluntary Return and Reintegration (AVRR).

CONTACTS

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COORDINATION & MANAGEMENT

In TRC Borići, the Camp Coordination and Camp Management (CCCM) meeting was held on 11 January with the participation of the Operations Assistant, Finance Assistant, Warehouse Assistant and Food and Nutrition Assistant. The team reviewed all sectoral procedures including CCCM, NFI, water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) and Protection, and identified shortcomings, solutions and best practices. Recommendations were made for the management of petty cash, pre-registration system, and use of space for Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS) sessions.

In TRC Miral, the weekly CCCM meeting also led to new improvements, notably on monitoring of services and standardization of rules and procedures in all TRCs in Una-Sana Canton (USC). On 10 January, IOM and SCI also met to discuss assistance to UASCs, including access to the hair salon and use of the IT corner. SCI will provide a Child Safeguarding Policy training to IOM staff working in these sectors. Another meeting was held with the Danish Refugee Council (DRC) medical and protection team to improve coordination and plan future activities. Finally, the CCCM team developed a plan with a partner organization for a "Week of Health and Prevention in Miral" to sustain COVID-19 prevention measures.

In TRC Blažuj, a coordination meeting was held with UNICEF, the Red Cross and the Jesuit Refugee Services (JRS), where partners agreed to a joint daily monitoring of the centre to improve access to services. Implementation of the Harm Reduction Program by Médecins du Monde (Mdm) and DRC, and occupational therapy sessions are planned to start in the coming period.

PROTECTION, PARTICIPATION & ACCOUNTABILITY

During the reporting period, OM's MHPSS team referred 62 individual cases to partner organizations and provided 1,216 protection-related individual services, including information on accommodation, medical assistance, transport assistance, translation, tailored NFIs, assistance to persons with disabilities, vulnerability screening of newcomers and returnees, and monitoring of group activities in the TRCs.

In TRC Miral, a Community Representatives meeting was held on 12 January, during which migrants indicated general satisfaction with the heating level and schedule in the accommodation containers. Another Community Representatives meeting was held on 16 January to inform migrants about the IOM WBAware project and the activities planned in the coming days.

In TRC Blažuj, a Feedback Meeting was held in the presence of IOM, UNFPA, DRC, MDM and SCI. Four complaints were found in the complaint boxes positioned around the Centre. According to the established procedure, all were discussed and minutes with action points were sent for follow-up.

In TRC Borići, a Complaint Committee meeting took place on 13 January, in the presence of IOM, DRC, the Service for Foreigners' Affairs (SFA), UNICEF, UNHCR, and World Vision. Since no migrant representative was present, the Committee discussed the need to review the work of this group, share additional information on the role of the Committee, and find new ways to engage the community in camp governance and decisions.

In TRC Ušivak, a Community Representatives meeting was held in the presence of four representatives. In order to distribute all winter items in a timely manner, it was agreed that a group of beneficiaries would assist IOM staff in sorting and brining clothes to the free shop. IOM also provided information on the location and working hours of a new sewing corner. Representatives asked if a regular cinema night for families with children could be organized. It was agreed that movie nights will be organized in IOM's social corner and that representatives will help select movies.

of persons referred to partner organizations by IOM: 62

of protection/MHPSS services provided by IOM: 1.216



OUTREACH TRANSPORTATION ASSISTANCE FOR FAMILIES TO TRC BORIĆI
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SHELTER, WATER, SANITATION & HYGIENE (WASH)

IOM's maintenance and cleaning team inspects all TRC installations daily, with two cleanings per day, weekly disinfection, disinfestation, and derating (DDD) measures, and regular repairs on shelters and sanitary installations. During the reporting period, the IOM maintenance team in TRC Blažuj actively worked on heating repairs in sanitary containers and the kitchen. Electricity work was carried by a provider on the main transformer station following power outages in some of the accommodation units. In TRC Lipa, IOM and SFA worked together to maintain a safe road network. Power outages were also recorded and resolved accordingly. In order to minimize the issues, it was agreed that regular daytime and night time check-ups of containers will be carried until the end of the winter. In TRC Ušivak, the maintenance staff worked on defrosting the water pipes in sanitary units and the Mother and Baby WASH Unit (MBWU) container. 62 women and children used the MBWU during the week, including 43 mothers and 18 children.

of persons sheltered: 2,030

of persons assisted by the IOM MBU: 62

of persons assisted with laundry services: 799

FOOD & NON-FOOD ITEMS (NFI)

In all TRCs, IOM carried out its normal food and NFIs distribution activities, with support from partners. In TRC Blažuj, three mass distributions were organized. In total, 405 migrants received winter jackets and 364 migrants received winter boots from donations by DRC and Caritas BiH. Up to 2,000 pairs of winter boots were

MIGRANTS' TAKE ON THE VACCINATION

"I did not have any doubts. The vaccine is necessary, and it helps us," Vinnie* from India says at the beginning of the conversation.

"I got Moderna. I believe I will be safer this way. I even tried to convince my friends at the Centre to get vaccinated as well," he says while he holds the cotton ball at the place where the COVID-19 vaccine had been administered and waits for 15 minutes as recommended.

Ahmad* from Iran also decided to get vaccinated and during his stay in Blažuj, he received two doses. He talks about the responsibility he feels in regard to the vaccination.

"I received the second dose. I did it because I want to fit in more easily in a society that is predominantly vaccinated and to protect myself in some way," adds Ahmad.

According to media reports, the BiH citizens are choosing to get vaccinated because of the health benefits and the ease of travel. This is one of the motives of the migrants when it comes to their own personal decision to get vaccinated. However, it is noticeable that their primary motive for vaccination is the protection of their health.

*The names used were changed to protect the migrants' identities.

donated to centre residents, and 500 pairs of boots were also distributed by IOM to migrants outside of reception centres. In TRC Borići, a total of 22 New Year's gifts were distributed to children on 13 January. In TRC Ušivak, through the Free Shop, 89 migrants received more than 200 second-hand winter items, sweaters, shoes, hats, gloves and socks.

of meals distributed: **26,615**

of NFIs distributed: **4,979**

of persons supported with NFI: **508**

ASSISTANCE OUTSIDE OF RECEPTION FACILITIES

The IOM outreach team continues to be present in outside locations to increase information on and access to services, with the aim to reduce the number of migrants camping or squatting in abandoned buildings. During the reporting period, the IOM Outreach Mobile Team provided 675 services to migrants identified outside of reception facilities, including 413 information sessions, 24 transportation services to 60 migrants and 216 food items. A total of 54 migrants accepted accommodation and were transported to reception facilities, with 40 to Lipa and 14 to Borići.

of persons transported to TRCs: **54**

of individual services provided to migrants out of TRCs: **675**

RETURN & ALTERNATIVE SOLUTIONS

Between 10 and 16 January, the IOM return and reintegration team reached a total of 180 migrants, including 15 in TRCs and 165 in other locations. A total of 62 in-depth counselling sessions were held. IOM and UNHCR jointly disseminated information on return and asylum in all TRCs as well as in outreach locations. No returns were reported in the current week.

Assisted Voluntary Returns since 2018: **1,196**

Assisted Voluntary Returns in 2022: **0**

SAFETY AND SECURITY

IOM's Office of Staff Security (OSS) conducted two site visits in Višegrad and Tuzla, aimed at identifying and assessing the safety and security requirements, for potential office premises in these locations. OSS engaged with the Mine Action Center BiH to develop an updated mine awareness presentation. The document will serve as a tool for IOM trained instructors, for the delivery of mine awareness sessions for beneficiaries in TRCs and the local population.

MAIN GAPS

Additional 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.

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