



## 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	1,552	955	704	382	15,597

## SITUATION OVERVIEW

On 16 December, the IOM, with the support of the European Union (EU) and other partners, organized a fashion show titled "Story About Us" in Sarajevo City Hall, to celebrate the 2022 International Migrants Day. Migrant models and designers took to the catwalk to present the works created in the Temporary Reception Centres (TRC) in Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH).

The show launched the NO NATION FASHION brand, born in the TRCs, and created by migrants together with several local artists and famous fashion designers who shared their skills and experiences. Based on the very successful process and event, IOM will continue working with migrants, local communities and artists to sustain the brand and project over time.



THE "STORY ABOUT US" FASHION SHOW MARKING INTERNATIONAL MIGRANTS DAY TOOK PLACE IN SARAJEVO'S CITY HALL. © IOM 2021

Between 14 - 17 December, IOM organized the second simulation on trafficking in human beings (THB) for local coordination teams. Participants were presented with a real-life THB case, identified in the mixed migration flow, and had to practice the referral and protection process. The exercise helped strengthening the referral mechanism and improve coordination among key stakeholders, including law enforcement institutions and service providers. On 15 - 16 December, a cultural competency and return and reintegration training was organized for 19 officials of the BiH Border Police and Service for Foreigners' Affairs in Bijeljina.

In the reporting period, a total of 34 migrants received the first or second dose of COVID-19 vaccine. So far, in all TRCs in BiH, a total of 953 migrants have been vaccinated, including 230 who received their second dose, and one who received a third dose.

## CONTACTS

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## COORDINATION & MANAGEMENT

In TRC Miral, the regular weekly coordination meeting was held with IOM and UNHCR, where discussions included statistical updates on the number of asylum seekers registered, and improvements on information available about migrants interested in asylum. IOM arranged the visit of a journalist who interviewed migrants temporarily accommodated in the isolation area, to gather information on their health condition and how they cope with the isolation itself.

In TRC Ušivak, IOM held its weekly meeting with the Ministry of Security (MoS) liaison officer, to discuss updates, trends and activities in the centre. On 16 December, IOM helped coordinating transport for migrants to attend the fashion show, either in person or via live stream. The dining room was decorated with balloons and flags of all nations that currently reside in the centre, to celebrate the International Migrants Day on 18 December.

In TRC Blažuj, in cooperation with SCI and the Service for Foreign Affairs (SFA), a total of 18 unaccompanied and separated children (UASCs) were relocated to TRC Ušivak. UNFPA and IOM have put in joint efforts to ensure the availability of accommodation units in TRC Blažuj for future newly registered young men, who will be provided with information on the availability of services within the UNFPA Boys and Young Men Centre.

In TRC Lipa, interviews with 19 migrants were conducted by the IOM WBAware project team, where migrants voluntarily agreed to share their experience and journey about leaving their home country, and the challenges they encountered. On the International Migrants Day, a live broadcast of the fashion show was organized, with juices and snacks for all.



LIVE STREAMING OF THE FASHION SHOW TITLED "STORY ABOUT US" IN TRC

## PROTECTION, PARTICIPATION & ACCOUNTABILITY

During the reporting period, the IOM Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MPHSS) team referred 99 individual cases to partner organizations, and provided 1,612 individual services including information on 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 complaint and feedback meeting was held together with Médecins du Monde (MDM), SCI, DRC and UNFPA but there was no complaint in the boxes. In TRC Miral, 15 migrants participated the community representative meeting and helped plan the International Migrants Day event, and upcoming Christmas celebrations. The IOM Miral team, together with UNHCR and Vaša Prava, also organized a new Peer to Peer session attended by 30 beneficiaries, with tea, sweets and discussions on migrants' experience. In TRC Lipa, recent complaints regarding food were addressed and the IOM Food and Nutrition Assistant is working to adapt the menu to include migrants' suggestions.

**# of persons referred to partner organizations by IOM: 99**

**# of protection/MHPSS services provided by IOM: 1,612**

## 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, an entrance ramp for wheelchairs was built and new antennas were installed for better internet signal. In TRC Ušivak, three sewing corner containers were delivered and placed, and 23 new heaters were delivered. In TRC Miral, several electricity installations and an industrial washing machine were repaired. In TRC Lipa, installation of the internet continues, along with the dismantling of the floorboards floor boards in the tents of the former provisional camp site.

**# of persons sheltered: 2,311**

**# of persons assisted by the IOM MBU: 65**

**# of persons assisted with laundry services: 1,072**

## FOOD & NON-FOOD ITEMS (NFI)

Food distribution in all TRCs continues, in coordination with partners. In TRC Miral, on the International Migrants Day, IOM and the Red Cross supported three migrant teams in the preparation of three traditional meals, which were served during the live stream of the fashion show. Also, 120 aprons made by migrants engaged in Fashion Corner activities were taken to a local company to print the official *No Nation Fashion* brand name.

**# of meals distributed: 28,179**

**# of NFIs distributed: 9,334**

**# of people assisted with NFIs: 1,233**

## SULJO'S STORY

Food is the best bond between people, and TRC Miral is lucky to be able to count on Suljo Čaušević, the main coordinator of the Una Sana Canton (USC) Red Cross, who has been preparing delicious meals since the very beginning of the migration response. Suljo is a professional chef who makes marvels with very little. When it comes to migration, his involvement in the Red Cross kitchen began in former TRC "Sedra". His career started a few decades ago and always had a humanitarian flavor.

For over 20 years, Suljo was the focal point for natural disaster response in USC. In 2014, when massive floods hit Maglaj and Orašje, Suljo was there doing what he knows best, helping people. Every year, he is the main organizer of the Srebrenica marathon preparations for USC. As he states, cooking is still his greatest passion, so he gladly responds to all activities that are food related. He happily shares some of his best culinary anecdotes, having cooked for Saudi Prince Selman, former High Representative for BiH Christian Schwarz-Schilling, and numerous ambassadors.



Food is a vital part of the assistance provided to migrants in BiH. The fact that local communities and individuals such as Suljo are willing to step up and give their time, energy and love is critical for providing humane and dignified support to the most vulnerable.

## ASSISTANCE OUTSIDE OF RECEPTION FACILITIES

During the week, the IOM Outreach Team provided 996 services to migrants outside of reception facilities, including 502 information sessions, 32 transportation services to 123 migrants and 462 food items. A total of 110 migrants accepted accommodation and were transported to TRCs, including 74 to Lipa, 35 to Borići and one to Miral. During the joint activity "Communication with communities", IOM and UNHCR profiled four migrants in outreach locations in the Bihać area. Three were from Pakistan and one from India and two migrants were not registered with the SFA, and none accepted offer for accommodation, asylum or return.

# of persons transported to TRCs: **32**

# of individual services provided to migrants out of TRCs: **996**



ASSISTANCE OUTSIDE RECEPTION CENTRES IN UNA-SANA CANTON © IOM 2021

## RETURN, REINTEGRATION & PATHWAYS

Between 13 and 19 December, the IOM return and reintegration team reached a total of 208 migrants, including 17 in TRCs and 191 in other locations. A total of 28 in-depth counselling sessions were held. Additionally, five migrants returned to their country of origin (3 to Pakistan, 1 to Iraq, 1 to India). IOM and UNHCR jointly disseminate information on return and asylum in all TRCs as well as in outreach locations.

# Assisted Voluntary Returns since 2018: **1,190**

# Assisted Voluntary Returns in 2021: **200**

## 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 :



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