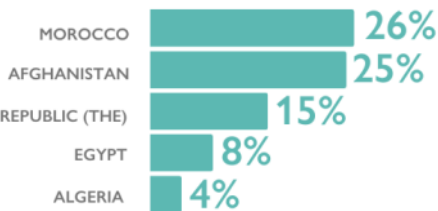


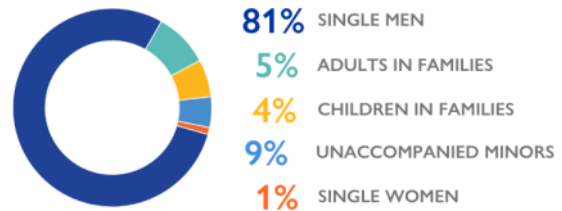
### TEMPORARY RECEPTION CENTRES (TRCs)

	OCCUPANCY	CAPACITY	AVG. LENGTH OF STAY (DAYS)
BORIĆI	65	580	10
LIPA	242	1,512	13
BLAŽUJ	648	1,700	10
UŠIVAK	148	800	8
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>1,103</b>	<b>4,592</b>	

### TOP 5 NATIONALITIES IN TRCs



### SEX AND AGE DISAGGREGATED DATA IN TRCs



### 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	525	15,740
2022	429	578	907	1,567	1,972	2,214	2,615	2,389	4,640	5,010	1,856	3,252	27,429
2023	1,781	1,460	1,960	2,065	2,893	2,772	3,967	3,542	4,734	3,487	2,491	3,257	34,409
2024	2,953	1,598	1,993	2,032	1,953	1,805	3,736	2,665	2,812	1,803			23,350

## SITUATION OVERVIEW

Children currently make up more than 60 per cent of the migrants accommodated in TRC Ušivak, many of whom are unaccompanied or separated. During the reporting period, the TRC outdoor space was upgraded to create a vibrant area dedicated to children. In collaboration with the Jesuit refugee service (JRS), the walls have been brought to life with beloved characters from timeless cartoons, creating a magical setting. To celebrate the opening of this new space, a costume party was held, inviting children to step out of their daily routines and immerse themselves in a world of creativity and joy.

On 6 November, as part of her official visit to the Una-Sana Canton, her Excellency Ambassador Kathrine Biering from the Embassy of the Kingdom of Norway, accompanied by her delegation and the Deputy Head of Mission, visited TRC Borići and TRC Lipa and had the opportunity to get a detailed overview of the services available. Through the project "Addressing mixed migration flows in the Western Balkans", funded by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of Norway, IOM provides protection-sensitive assistance to migrants in transit, support rehabilitation of social infrastructures and social cohesion activities,

ensures access to assisted voluntary return and reintegration, and collects data on mixed migration flows in the country and in the region.



HER EXCELLENCY AMBASSADOR KATHRINE BIERING AND HER DELEGATION DURING VISIT TO TRC LIPA, WHERE THEY GAINED INSIGHT IN THE SUPPORT PROVIDED TO MIGRANTS. ©IOM 2024

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## COORDINATION & MANAGEMENT

Between 28 October and 10 November 2024, IOM recorded a total of 1,476 people arriving at four temporary reception centres, including newly registered people and those previously registered and returning for assistance, which is an 8.8 per cent decrease compared to the previous reporting period 14 - 27 October 2024 (1,818). There were 1,625 new departures, which is a 22.3 per cent increase compared to departures recorded in the previous reporting period (2,092).

During the reporting period, the Una Sana Canton Public Health Institute (USC PHI) carried out 330 entry medical screenings in TRC Borići and TRC Lipa, and the Sarajevo Public Health Institute (SC PHI) provided 628 screenings in TRC Blažuj and TRC Ušivak.

TRC Lipa's IOM Camp Coordination and Camp Management (CCCM) Coordinator, the Service for Foreigners' Affairs (SFA) Camp Coordinator, the Red Cross of Una Sana Coordinator and the Public Health Centre Bihać held a meeting to discuss procedures for the disposal of medical waste, as well as protocols for cleaning the clinic and medical intervention areas in the centre. During the meeting, partners exchanged insights and perspectives and agreed on the steps for handling medical waste.

In TRC Blažuj, IOM organized four medical transports for five migrants, including hospitalizations and discharges. The transport was coordinated within the centre and with the hospital to ensure migrants received the necessary medical care and a responsive healthcare system is maintained within the centre.

TRC Ušivak prepared for the Orea Bazaar in Sarajevo, with beneficiaries actively crafting items and arranging the exhibition. The Bazaar showcased No Nation Fashion creations.

**# of emergency screenings in TRCs: 449**

**# of persons with protection needs: 289**

**# of individual assistance: 257**

**# of beneficiaries reached with info sessions: 848**

## PROTECTION, PARTICIPATION & ACCOUNTABILITY

Between 28 October and 10 November 2024, IOM facilitated a total of 449 emergency protection screenings, and identified 289 persons with protection needs. IOM provided individual assistance, including interpretation and logistical support (such as orientation at the TRCs and the provision of documents) to 257 persons while 848 beneficiaries were reached through information and awareness raising sessions.

In TRC Lipa, IOM provided psychological first aid to 23 migrants showing signs of distress and reported violence during their journey. Additionally, individual assistance was given to 44 beneficiaries regarding non-food items and adequate accommodation.

In TRC Ušivak, during the reporting period, coordination efforts were improved through several key meetings. A Protection and Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS) coordination meeting included representatives from Bosnia and Herzegovina Women's Initiative (BHWI), UNFPA, Jesuit Refugee Service, World Vision, and IOM to discuss updates to referral mechanisms, particularly for children in families. Another meeting focused on protection vulnerability screenings and technical and procedural requirements for screening processes, ensuring legal guardians were present for all protection and medical assessments. Lastly, discussions were held with the SFA and mental health staff regarding two long-term residents with mental health challenges, strategizing ongoing support options.

IOM organizes various activities and sessions with beneficiaries to promote community involvement and increase awareness in all reception centres on a variety of topics. During the reporting period, a total of 10 community events were organized across four reception centres (4 creative and art sessions, 3 legal/info sessions, 2 sessions on prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse and 1 session with a focus on mental health) for a total of 178 participants (169 M, 8 W).



MEDICAL SERVICES PROVIDED BY HEALTH CARE CENTRE TO BENEFICIARIES IN AMBULATORY OFFICE OF TRC UŠIVAK. ©IOM 2024



CHILDREN IN TRC UŠIVAK PLAYING IN THE NEWLY DECORATED OUTDOOR ENTERTAINMENT AREA. ©IOM 2024

## SHELTER, WATER, SANITATION & HYGIENE (WASH)

IOM and Red Cross maintenance and cleaning team inspect all installations daily, with two cleanings per day, weekly disinfection, disinfestation and derating measures, and regular repairs on shelters and sanitary installations.

In TRC Lipa, the Red Cross maintenance staff continued constructing new shelving in the Non-Food Item (NFI) warehouse to improve organization and accessibility. This project facilitates efficient inventory management and ensures essential supplies are available for distribution.

In TRC Ušivak, two worn-out sanitary container units were replaced with two previously unused containers positioned in the upper part of the centre, to improve hygiene, and upkeep of sanitary conditions.

**# of persons sheltered in the TRCs: 1,103**

**# of laundry services: 1,236**

## FOOD & NON-FOOD ITEMS (NFI)

In all TRCs, IOM conducted its regular food and Non-Food Items distribution activities with partner organizations, such as the Red Cross and Pomozi.ba. During the reporting period, a total of 33,026 meals were served and 7,904 NFIs were distributed. Recognizing the diverse needs of individuals, special attention was given to those who required a specialized diet due to health issues. Nine individuals received special diet food during the reporting period. In addition, dry meal packages were prepared daily for migrants arriving after regular mealtimes, meeting basic nutritional needs for those arriving late.

At TRC Lipa, the Red Cross of Una Sana Canton donated hygiene items such as toothbrushes, toothpaste, razors, shaving foam, liquid soap, wet wipes, and antibacterial gel. These items were distributed to 121 beneficiaries.

In TRC Borići, the NGO Institute for Peace, Development and Innovation (IPSIA) donated clothing and footwear for women and children. The Red Cross of the Una Sana Canton provided children's gift packages. These packages, prepared by local children, included toys, sweets, and children's clothing.

**# of meals distributed: 33,026**

**# of NFIs distributed: 7,904**



MEAL PREPARATION IN TRC UŠIVAK. ©IOM 2024

## ASSISTANCE OUTSIDE OF RECEPTION FACILITIES

IOM has mobile teams that are present at locations outside of TRCs to increase access to information and services with the aim of providing alternatives for migrants camping or squatting in abandoned buildings where they face increased protection risks.

During the reporting period, IOM's mobile teams provided 95 transportation services (mainly to reception centres) for 199 migrants and conducted 442 general information sessions.

The Syrian Arab Republic (24%) was the main declared nationality of assisted migrants, followed by Afghanistan (23%), Pakistan (21%), Morocco (17%), Türkiye (4%), China (3%), Egypt, Mongolia, Palestine (2% each), Iraq (1%), Tunisia and Algeria (less than 1% each).

**# of persons transported: 199**

**# of information sessions: 442**

## RETURN & ALTERNATIVE SOLUTIONS

IOM provides administrative, logistical and financial support, as well as reintegration assistance to migrants who decide to voluntarily return to their country of origin. IOM's Return and Reintegration team regularly engages in various activities encompassing outreach, information dissemination, counselling, registration, and movement operations. Between 28 October and 10 November 2024, the team reached 270 migrants, of which 175 were being hosted in TRCs and 95 from other locations off-site with information sessions on assisted voluntary return and reintegration. The outreach activities are implemented daily in distant regions within Tuzla, Sarajevo, and Una-Sana cantons, with the objective to reach as many migrants as possible and provide information about assisted voluntary return and reintegration (AVRR), but also to guarantee swift referrals towards protection services. A total of 84 counselling sessions were held to ensure that beneficiaries are well informed and aware of the assistance available during pre-departure, travel, and post-arrival.

During the reporting period, there were no returns due to a temporary suspension of travel to certain countries of origin, as well as weather conditions that caused flight cancellations from Sarajevo. Two individuals have applied for AVRR, and their return preparations are currently in progress.

From 6-7 November in Bijeljina, training on the rollout of the Return Counselling Toolkit was held for the Service for Foreigners' Affairs (SFA) field staff. Participants were introduced to counselling methodologies for return processes and the core principles of effective counselling. Through an interactive workshop, participants explored approaches for identifying and addressing migrant vulnerabilities in the return process, including working with children and families. The two-day training offered a comprehensive approach to return counselling, covering the various phases involved. This training was organized within the project 'Individual measure to strengthen the response capacity to manage migration flows in Bosnia and Herzegovina', funded by the EU.

**# Applications for Assisted Voluntary Returns: 165 M: 146 F: 19**

**# Assisted Voluntary Returns in 2024: 135 M: 118, F: 17**

**# Assisted Voluntary Returns since 2018: 1,555 M: 1,373 F: 182**



## „Farhad and Fariba: A journey of love, loss, and resilience

Fariba and Farhad, a married couple from Iran, were forced to leave their country due to security reasons. In Iran, Farhad was a skilled craftsman who made musical instruments and chandeliers, while Fariba worked as a laboratory technician.

"We've been keeping each other safe through thick and thin. That bond is our home, no one can take it away from us," they say with smiles as they set up chairs and a makeshift table outside their accommodation in the TRC Ušivak. They warmly invite everyone to join them for tea, offering dates and biscuits to their guests. Farhad's kind heart reaches out to all, as he welcomes both the center's residents and employees.

As many other on the move, the couple's migration journey has been long and marked by difficult choices. "My mother was still alive when we left Iran, but she passed away a few months after we left," Fariba confesses in tears as she recalls the memories of her life before embarking on this unknown journey with her husband, son, daughter-in-law, and young grandson. Being together but facing financial difficulties, the family took the hard decision to separate along the way. The family now looks forward to the day when they can be reunited and live together again.

"It felt like a part of me was still in Iran, and my body was detached. My soul is still there to this day. But, even though we currently live in this container, it's our whole life and home. We're comfortable, at peace, and safe. Without peace, nothing else matters," Farhad reflects.

For the time being, the couple's world revolves around their son, daughter-in-law, and grandson, who are currently living in Belgium. They are their first thought in the morning and their last thought at night. Through video calls on their cell phones, they stay connected and pray for each other's well-being.

"There are two types of migration. One is when you leave your home willingly, in search of a better life and standard of living. The other is when, due to pressure and danger in your home country, you are forced to leave. I spent 6 years in Serbia, and it may sound like a short time, but it felt like an eternity," Farhad states.

"Now, we are struggling to find the strength, both mentally and physically, to carry on," Fariba shares.



FARHAD AND FARIBA HAVE MANAGED TO CREATE A SENSE OF BELONGING IN RECEPTION CENTRE UŠIVAK.  
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