Arrivals

In August, Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH) authorities registered 1,731 migrants and asylum-seekers who arrived irregularly in the country, without registering unaccompanied and separated children (UASC). This is a 23 percent decrease compared to the previous month, with a notable increase in citizens of Bangladesh (+ 68%). The total number of arrivals in August 2021 is 34 percent lower than in August 2020, most likely due to the easing of COVID-19 measures that month, when more people entered BiH after a period of limited opportunities to enter in the country. The total number of arrivals so far this year is 11,742, an increase of 1.5 per cent compared to the first eight months of 2020. In total, 81,155 arrivals have been recorded since the start of the mixed movement in January 2018.

Presence in BiH at the end of the month

2,837 migrants and asylum-seekers were accommodated in reception facilities at the end of August, while between 1,000–1,600 persons are estimated to squat outside formal accommodation, mainly in Una-Sana Canton. Among those in reception facilities, 78 per cent are single adult males, 16 per cent are families with children, eight per cent women and girls, six children in family and five per cent are UASC.

August highlights

On the occasion of World Humanitarian Day on 19 August, IOM, UNHCR and partner organizations, together with the Service for Foreigners’ Affairs (SFA), organized various activities for migrants and asylum-seekers (for instance creative workshops and the screening of documentaries), followed by exchanges on the role of humanitarian workers and the life of people on the move.

Furthermore, the reporting month featured several high-level visits to the Temporary Reception Centres (TRC) jointly managed by IOM and the Service for Foreigners’ Affairs (SFA) to respond to mixed migration flows in Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH).

On August 1, Her Excellency, the Ambassador of the Czech Republic to BiH, Ivana Hlavsová, visited the Provisional Camp (PC) and the new TRC site of Lipa, in the Una Sana Canton (USC), where construction works were underway. During the visit, IOM and SFA representatives explained the construction design and the plans...
plans for the opening schedule.

On 2 August, the Secretary of State of the German Federal Foreign Ministry, Miguel Berger, visited the TRC Blažuj in the Sarajevo Canton, together with His Excellency the Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Germany to BiH, the IOM Chief of Mission, Laura Lungarotti, and the SFA representatives, Mirsad Buzar and Branislav Mojevic.

On 3 August, EU Enlargement Commissioner Oliver Varhelyi stated the answer of the European Commission to the Parliamentary question of four deputies of the political group ”Renew Europe” in the European Parliament, saying that inadequate treatment of migrants could have severe consequences for BiH. He stressed that the EU expects the BiH authorities to comply with the EU acquis and the rule of law, including in managing migration and asylum. “Failure to do so could have severe consequences for Bosnia and Herzegovina’s reputation, affect its European integration aspirations and the EU financial assistance. The EU closely monitors the situation as well as the use of EU funds. The EU will continue to support BiH in addressing migration-related challenges,” Varhelyi concluded.

On 10 August, IOM and the SFA held a joint workshop to discuss support to the Ministry of Security (MoS) in BiH and the operational plan for the functioning of the new TRC Lipa, scheduled for opening in September. Other United Nations (UN) agencies and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) providing humanitarian assistance to migrants in BiH also participated in the workshop.

In light of the recent events in Afghanistan, UNHCR sent a letter to the MoS, SFA, SA and the Coordination Body for Migration sharing the recent “UNHCR Position on Returns to Afghanistan”, which calls on all States to allow civilians fleeing Afghanistan access to their territories, to ensure respect for the principle of non-refoulement, as well as to suspend the forcible return of nationals and former habitual residents of Afghanistan, including those who have had their asylum claims rejected. Furthermore, UNHCR is coordinating with its partners and other actors to proactively provide information to Afghans present in the country about possible UNHCR support and dispel misinformation amongst the population.

From 23-28 August, IOM and SFA organized training sessions for the staff that will work in the new TRC Lipa. The training modules focus on migration trends, legal frameworks, asylum, readmission, assisted voluntary return and reintegration (AVRR), protection of vulnerable individuals (for instance, unaccompanied and separated migrant children, victims of trafficking, survivors of gender-based violence), Camp Coordination and Camp Management (CCCM), accountability to affected population (AAP), prevention of COVID-19 and the Smart Camp app, which helps monitor registration, food, non-food items (NFI).

Lastly, thanks to the collaboration between local Health Centers, the Ministry of Health, Labor and Social Policy of Una-Sana Canton, SFA, IOM and the Danish Refugee Council (DRC), the USC Institute of Public Health launched a campaign to vaccinate migrants in TRCs which process was made up of three phases. During the first phase, the DRC conducted a survey on the migrants’ interest in receiving the vaccine. According to the survey results, 55 per cent of adults resulted to be interested in the vaccination. During the second phase, the DRC and IOM jointly organized information campaigns on vaccination - through meetings and distribution of information brochures to them. Lastly, the COVID-19 vaccination of refugees, migrants and asylum-seekers in TRCs in Una-Sana Canton started. IOM together with DRC vaccinated 69 residents of TRCs Borići and Miral during August, and they have been taking preparatory actions to conduct vaccination in Provisional Camp Lipa and reception centres in Sarajevo Canton and Refugee Reception Centre Salakovac. The Public Health Institute of the Federation of BiH (FBiH) has allocated 500 doses of the AstraZeneca vaccine in August, while IOM, through a project implemented by DRC, has provided vaccine application services as well as doctors to monitor the condition of people who received the vaccine. The vaccination programme in reception centres in Sarajevo Canton will start in September and October 2021. The AstraZeneca and Sinopharm vaccines will be made available for the residents of these centres.
CCCM meetings were regularly organized in TRCs, with all partner agencies including the SFA. In TRC Borići, the Iranian community showed its enthusiasm for the space dedicated to psychological sessions that are held by the partner organization, Medicine du Monde (MdM). In addition to this, the partners reiterated the lack of available space inside and outside the centre, often having to share space between them. IOM will make sure to guarantee the space necessary for the performance of all services. In TRC Miral, a new warden joined the team and was introduced to the representatives during the Community Representative meeting. In TRC Ušivak, representatives raised several issues, including COVID-19 vaccination and preventive measures in TRC, the possibility for children to attend public schools, the possibility of organizing short courses to help migrants find a job in the future. Furthermore, a meeting was also held with World Vision (WV) coordinators for services for unaccompanied and separated children (UASC) to discuss hygiene improvements in the UASC areas. It has been agreed that the IOM will provide cleaning tools and WV will engage UASCs daily to remove the garbage around their units. In TRC Blažuj, in addition to reminders on COVID-19 preventive measures and safety around the railways, migrants discussed the sharing of the prayer room by the residents of the centre, the ongoing activities in the Social Corner, the information panel and the complaint mechanism.

Participation and Accountability to Affected Populations

IOM encourages beneficiaries in the reception centres to play an active role in decision-making processes and activities. TRCs have Community Representative Councils and regular meetings are organized by IOM with partner agencies. These serve as a platform for discussion of TRC issues, conflict prevention and resolution, dialogues between different beneficiary groups, and between the migrants and TRCs’ management teams.

For instance, the beginning of August (3 August) was marked by the Council’s elections in TRC Borići of new Community Representatives that was organized by the DRC with the assistance of other organizations working in the centre. The election of new representatives was necessary, considering the change in nationality presence, but also the influx of new migrants. Following the election, DRC held an introductory meeting with the newly elected members to introduce them to all the mechanisms in place within the centre.

Boys Parliament meetings are organized in TRCs Sedra, Borići and Ušivak to ensure that UASCs’ views and needs are heard. Centre’s population also participate in various activities in and outside of the TRCs. For instance, all TRCs celebrated World Humanitarian Aid Day with numerous joyful activities to involve them as much as possible, also with the participation of partner organizations. In addition, other activities that were held during the month of August include the Sewing Corner in TRC Ušivak for both male and female. In TRC Blazuj, IOM together with migrants organized a joint cleaning initiative to clean the access road to the camp and cut down overgrown shrubs and trees to make the access road more visible and thus reduce potential risk situations during the night. Centre residents can also submit feedback and complaints or report incidents in person at the info-desks in each TRC or anonymously in the complaints/feedback boxes. Feedback and complaint committee meetings are regularly organized and were operational in all TRCs during the month of August. In TRC Ušivak, a meeting was held with the Pomozi.ba coordinator to share current updates and address suggestions for improving the menu as per complaints previously submitted by the migrants.
Asylum and Registration

In August, five asylum claims were registered by the MoS, Sector for Asylum. 89 asylum claims have been registered so far in 2021, representing a 58 per cent decrease compared to the same period in 2020 due to the COVID-19 restrictions and the related reduction of in-person asylum claim registrations. At the end of August, 71 people were identified by UNHCR awaiting registration in BiH. Access to asylum continues to be restrictive in BiH, with current rates of registration far below those of previous years. The average processing time from registration of an asylum claim to the first-instance decision made at the case level was 541 days for first-instance decisions issued in August. It remains a challenge to register an asylum claim, especially for single men residing in reception centres and persons residing in USC.

Child Protection

UNICEF held Child Safeguarding and Child Protection trainings for 44 new employees of the SFA who will be working in TRC Lipa, and Child Safeguarding training for Centres for Social Welfare, legal guardians, and partner organizations. A total of 53 people participated in the training.

After numerous pleads by CWS guardians to SFA, temporary accommodation was approved by the SFA in TRC Miral and TRC Borići for UASC in need of medical services and those waiting for transport to Duje, Doboj Istok. By the agreement with SFA, from now on, transport for these temporarily accommodated children to Doboj Istok will be organized each Friday.

Save the Children International (SCI) reached 99 UASC in reception who were offered accommodation in a shelter house in Doboj Istok, in the canton of Tuzla, which most of them see as a step backwards as the facility is far from the USC and from the Croatian border and therefore refuses. When they refuse, the children are left without support, as, without registration and without shelter, they are not assigned a legal guardian.

During August, CWS guardians in Bihać provided 109 services to UASC identified outside of the camps: 80 individual information sharing (on government decisions, COVID-19 measures, safety and protection...), 29 referrals (medical/health, child protection, legal assistance shelter, NFI, and so on). For one UASC identified in PC Lipa by the SFA, a CWS guardian escorted the UASC to the MFS-EMMAUS centre in Doboj Istok. CWS guardians provided escorts to Doboj Istok for 13 UASC, and one child was escorted to TRC Ušivak to be reunited with his family.

UNFPA identified two adolescent girls who reported denial of access to resources and education in the country of origin as well as during movement. The UNFPA Women and Girls Centre team developed an educational plan targeted at improving literacy. In addition, UNFPA, in coordination with Red Cross BiH, facilitated the establishment of contact of two adolescent boys with their family members.

Gender-based Violence

In the reporting month, UNFPA organized two GBV educational sessions and two GBV educational workshops for 33 young men in TRC Miral, focusing on educating persons with different cultures and basic concepts of GBV. In addition, specialized GBV individual sessions were organized for 28 women accommodated in TRC Borići to raise awareness of the importance of timely reporting of GBV incidences.

Due to an increase in reported cases of forced marriages and child marriages, the UNFPA team organized a counselling education session for nine women whose rights have been violated through forced marriages.

HIGHLIGHTS

Temporary accommodation of UASC in need of medical services and those waiting for transport in Duje, Doboj Istok, in TRCs Miral and Borići was approved. In agreement with the SFA, from now on, the transport of minors temporarily accommodated in Doboj Istok will be organized every Friday.

71 persons awaiting registration of their asylum claim with the assistance of UNHCR/Vaša Prava

187 asylum claims pending at the end of August

56 refugees were in the country at the end of August, of which 5 are from outside of the former Yugoslavia

359 children on the move from on-site 24/7 protection support as well as non-formal and recreational activities, including through the Child-Friendly Space (CFS) in TRC Ušivak (in partnership with World Vision) and in TRC Borići (in partnership with LAN and SCI)

177 children benefitted from CFS activities in August.

181 children were supported in TRCs Borići and Ušivak through case management by UNICEF and SCI.

117 guardianships assigned to UASC by the Centres for Social Welfare, SCI and World Vision with UNICEF support in USC and SC.
**ASSISTED VOLUNTARY RETURN AND REINTEGRATION (AVRR)**

In August, IOM facilitated the return of 18 migrants (7 to Morocco, 6 to Pakistan, 3 to Tunisia, 1 to India and 1 to Iraq). Furthermore, 2,204 migrants were reached by IOM AVRR outreach staff in BiH (392 in centres and 2,012 outside centres). The Outreach Team was present in TRCs/PC, promoting migrants’ rights and informed decision on voluntary return and reintegration options and counselling relevant to their decision. Information also include data on mobility restrictions and can be accessed on web page developed for AVRR information campaign as well as Facebook page Support for Migrants.

**Protection Outreach**

The Danish Refugee Council (DRC) Protection teams daily compiled protection incident reports, providing inputs on violent pushback cases at the Croatian border. In August, 1,252 persons reported pushbacks to DRC, out of which 1,245 persons reported being pushed back from Croatia (including chain pushbacks from Slovenia). Most vulnerable cases were referred to medical assistance, MHPSS and accommodation/registration. In out of reception locations, DRC Protection Monitoring teams identified 191 persons in need and referred them (245 referrals) for medical assistance, registration, accommodation, security/protection concerns, food, and non-food items (NFI). DRC also provided 5,485 assistances through distribution of food and non-food items to migrants and asylum-seekers sleeping rough.

In August, 56 UASC were identified in front of TRCs Miral and Borici by UNICEF/SCI Child Protection team, out of which 34 UASC agreed to accommodation in the CCY Duje. Another 14 UASC were identified at checkpoint Velecevo by UNICEF/CSW.

**HIGHLIGHTS**

43 new GBV cases were identified and assisted in Sarajevo and USC by UNFPA. Newly identified cases were predominantly women survivors (29), while 14 survivors were male.

87 GBV cases received follow-up by UNFPA GBV Case Managers, with 44 cases closed due to inactivity and protracted absence from TRCs.

3 work plans and 6 safety plans created by UNFPA to increase survivor’s sense of security

2 GBV survivors daily monitored by UNFPA and accommodated in the Safe House.

2 GBV educational sessions and 2 GBV educational workshops for 33 young men by UNFPA

CWS outreach team provided 539 services to migrants and asylum-seekers residing outside formal accommodation in out-of-centre locations: 181 referrals to various service providers and specialized assistance of IOM, DRC, and RC (food, medical, and NFI); together with 254 info sharing and two Psychosocial support (PSS) assistances. In August, the outreach team distributed 102 NFIs (underwear, socks, shoes, and bags) to refugees and migrants during outreach activities.
installed six light reflectors from former TRC Bira that were
placed on several spots to illuminate the most sensitive areas
around the main building. Furthermore, the grass around the
compound was mowed and trimmed by IOM maintenance
staff, while garbage disposal bins, brooms and spatulas
were distributed to all rooms. Other works included the painting
of the walls on the second floor, hallway and several rooms to
refresh the premises and prepare for future use and the repair
of one bed and of four fans in migrant’s rooms. Lastly,
windows on the third floor and locks on the windows on the sec-
ond floor were repaired to ensure they can be closed properly.
IOM maintenance staff also tested heaters and started repair-
ing the broken ones in preparation for the change of season.

TRC Miral (opened in October 2018) Renovation works of the
centre’s outdoor community kitchen were completed, and it
was opened again during the month of August, allowing the
migrants to prepare their own traditional meals thus having
more choices regarding food. In addition, IOM staff built and
installed shelves to increase storage space in the Red Cross
kitchen.

Other works conducted by IOM staff included, the repair of
the main gate, the installation of a ventilation hose in the
UNHCR container, the installation of new neon lights to
improve access and security in the accommodation units, as
well as LED panels in several offices and in the kitchen. Lastly,
six bunk beds were repaired by IOM maintenance staff for
migrants sleeping in H3 and D sector facilities, while other six
bunk beds were repaired inside the tent zone. A new power
socket was installed in the outdoor kitchen for the use of
migrants.

TRC Sedra (opened in July 2018 and closed on 30 July 2021 –
pending final approval by the Council of Ministers of BiH)

Lipa site (opened in January 2021) The opening of the new
TRC is scheduled for September. In August, the main works
involved the repair of the sanitary containers, including the
electrical and water systems, the installation of electrical sys-
tems throughout the centre, as well as the assembly of the
light poles. A total of 233 accommodation containers were
installed, out of the 259 planned, connected to the electricity
network while 60 sanitary containers were connected to the
water and sewerage networks. In addition, another 45 con-
tainers have been installed which will function as offices, out
of the 62 planned, and three containers used as laundry, out
of six planned. In addition, the laying of the foundations for
the perimeter fences and the works on the damaged plateaus
after the rains that occurred in July continued.

Other Cantons
In Tuzla urban area, Catholic Relief Service (CRS) continued to
support its local partner PUŽ in the management of two safe
houses, with capacities to host up to 50 migrants and asylum-
seekers (families and vulnerable adults).
The Center for Children and Youth in Doboj Istok hosted 27
children in August, of which 20 were newly accommodated.
The average length of stay was 7 days. Total number of chil-
dren daily present in the CCY was between 6 to 13.

Sarajevo Canton and Herzegovina-Neretva Canton

TRC Ušivak (opened in October 2018) To improve the living
conditions of migrants in their living units, the following items
were installed: three-cylinder locks, four LED bulbs, two neon
bulbs, ten neon tubes, one recessed socket. In addition, the
paediatric infirmary of the DRC was officially opened, offering
services to migrants three times a week (Monday, Wednesday
and Friday from 8:00 to 14:00). Other works carried out by the
IOM maintenance staff included the construction of stairs to
access the UNFPA double container and that of the police.
Finally, a manhole was created for the positioning of the inter-
net optical cable to improve the connection. The Red Hangar
structure, which was the subject of a fire in the previous
month, was inspected by an architect who declared the struc-
ture unsafe especially considering the upcoming winter and
snow. IOM started procedure for the reconstruction of a new
facility.

TRC Blažuj (opened in December 2019) In August, a company
performed air conditioning installation work for on the kitch-
en, the IOM office and the conference room. In addition, IOM
maintenance staff poured concrete into all the larger holes
located on the access roads while also placed a fence behind
the containers to prevent the accumulation of waste thrown
by migrants. The same work will be done in the future for all
plateaus. Among the other works carried out, the painting of
the walls and the laying of the floors in the office of the former
security company, and in the SFA office; the installation of
new locks, the installation of a new bunk bed; the repair of the
security company, and in the SFA office; the installation of
the walls and the laying of the floors in the office of the former
plateaus. Among the other works carried out, the painting of
by migrants. The same work will be done in the future for all
containers to prevent the accumulation of waste thrown

Salakovac Refugee Reception Centre (RRC) (opened in 2000)
provides accommodation to asylum-seekers and refugees.
Delijaš Asylum Centre (AC) (opened in 2014), in Trnovo Mu-
unicipality, exclusively accommodates individuals who have
sought asylum in BiH.

Una-Sana Canton

TRC Borići (opened in January 2019) In In August, contractor
installed six light reflectors from former TRC Bira that were

© IOM 2021
IOM provides NFIs for newly arriving migrants, refugees and asylum-seekers in all TRCs. An NFI distribution system is in place and operational with set schedules displaying distribution times. IOM provides NFI welcome kits, after which individual NFIs refills are provided. NFIs include items such as clothing, footwear, hygiene products, clean bed sheets and linen, or other medical cases as per need. NFIs also include packages for hospitalized migrants, refugees and asylum-seekers, which contain pyjamas, slippers, a towel and other items necessary for hospital stays. Specially prepared baby packages and other items are available based on needs. All new arrivals in pre-registration or in isolation are provided with hygiene packages (including soap, shampoo, shower gel, toilet paper, tissues) as well as clothes when needed. All new arrivals in pre-registration or in isolation are provided with hygiene packages (including soap, shampoo, shower gel, toilet paper, tissues) as well as clothes when needed. All new arrivals in pre-registration or in isolation are provided with hygiene packages (including soap, shampoo, shower gel, toilet paper, tissues) as well as clothes when needed. All new arrivals in pre-registration or in isolation are provided with hygiene packages (including soap, shampoo, shower gel, toilet paper, tissues) as well as clothes when needed. All new arrivals in pre-registration or in isolation are provided with hygiene packages (including soap, shampoo, shower gel, toilet paper, tissues) as well as clothes when needed.

In August, IOM distributed a total of 40,124 individual items to 3,299 persons. In addition to the above, in August, IPSIA organized two large distributions of hygiene kits. Volunteers from Sant’Egidio Padova also took part in one of the distributions as volunteers.

Furthermore, through the Centres for Women and Girls (WGC) and Boys and Young Men Centres (BYMC), UNFPA continued to distribute modern contraceptives and hygienic products. In August, UNFPA distributed 18 dignity kits and 147 contraceptives for women. In addition, 128 condoms were distributed through Boys and Young Men Centres.

In all TRCs, IOM staff performed the semi-annual inventory of NFIs to check on the availability of items in accordance with the number of migrants present, also in view of the winter season approaching.

In addition to the regular NFI distribution, IOM also distributed donated clothes and protective reusable masks in all TRCs. In August, several donations of NFIs were recorded by various organization and international and local NGOs, as follows:

In TRC Borići: 20 boxes of clothes for women and children by humanitarians (private citizens) from Slovenia; 49 hygiene packages (for both men and women) from the Croatian Baptist Aid.

In TRC Blažuj: 182 hygienic packages from several organization as well as from the Qatar Charity, including clothes and footwear.

In TRC Usivak: 512 hygienic packages.

While no donation was recorded in TRC Miral during the month of August.

Outreach

IOM/Red Cross outreach teams continued to provide food and NFI packages, PPE, such as facial masks, single use gloves, and disinfection gels. The NFIs included clothes, hygiene items, sleeping bags, backpacks, shoes, jackets and raincoats. In August, a total of 115 NFIs to migrants and asylum-seekers located in various locations in USC were distributed. Moreover, DRC outreach teams also provided regular assistance to migrants and asylum-seekers in outreach location with the provision of food and NFI assistance. In total, 5,485 assistances through distribution of emergency food and non-food items were provided by DRC.
WATER SANITATION AND HYGIENE (WASH)

To set up WASH services at par with the minimum SPHERE standards, IOM dedicates significant efforts to maintenance and repair, particularly of WASH containers and infrastructure, as damages frequently occur in the TRCs. Regular repairs and replacements include sink faucets, toilet tanks and pipes, shower faucets, flushers and water taps. The five TRCs have functional laundry systems for the washing of bedding/sheets and beneficiaries’ clothes. In TRC Blažuj, several partners worked together to organize the disinfection of an area prone to bedbugs. The residents of Hangar 11 (240 migrants) were all given new clothes and the hangar area was thoroughly disinfected and blankets and clothes burned. Three new sanitary were connected to the electrical and water systems and new valves and nickel-plated caps were installed in the sanitary containers. The connection to the sewerage system of the sanitary containers donated by Caritas is completed. In TRC Ušivak, the sewage channels were dug in the lower part of the field, widening them. Wastewater repair was carried out by digging canals and installing manholes near the BHWI container. In addition, two other sanitary containers were opened in the UASC area, with two water heaters installed. Finally, in front of the family housing units, a wooden platform was built for people with disabilities. Lastly, in August, IPSIA opened the laundry in PC Lipa, in collaboration with the Bihać Red Cross. The laundry offers beneficiaries the opportunity to wash their clothes regularly.

IOM continues to support all TRCs in USC with vector and pest control activities. Disinfections are organized weekly, while disinfections take place monthly, and deratization take place every three months.

**HIGHLIGHTS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>271</td>
<td>Toilets available in TRCs/PC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>220</td>
<td>Showers available in TRCs/PC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2,807</td>
<td>Persons assisted with laundry services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2,254</td>
<td>Hygiene items distributed in TRCs, out of which 73 in outreach</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

TRC Borići has 20 toilets and 20 showers inside the building and 20 toilets and 12 showers outside the building (in sanitary containers), with facilities separated by sex. Hot water and drinking water are available in the centre. Ten washing machines are installed and operational.

TRC Miral has 64 toilets and 34 showers. Out of which five toilets and five showers are separated only for UASC. Drinking water is available in the centre. Four washing machines are fully operational.

TRC Ušivak has 47 toilets and 36 showers and facilities are separated by sex. Hot water and drinking water are available at the centre.

TRC Blažuj has 80 toilets and 97 showers. Hot water and drinking water are available.

PC Lipa has 40 portable ecological toilets and 21 showers with warm water installed.

IOM continued to support all TRCs in USC with vector and pest control activities. Disinfections are organized weekly, while disinfections take place monthly, and deratization take place every three months.
Meal distribution in centres

IOM and partners (Red Cross in USC/Salakovac; and Pomozi.ba in SC) continued to support the provision of three meals and two fruit snacks per day. Meals are prepared in line with international standards that guarantee sufficient nutritional calorie intake. 145,973 meals were prepared in August, out of which 31,485 in USC, 114,001 in SA canton and 487 in Salakovac.

In August, the electric cooking booth was transferred from TRC Sedra to be used in the TRC Miral kitchen for the use of Red Cross staff. Moreover, given the closure of TRC Sedra the remaining food was delivered to the IOM/Red Cross outreach team to be distributed to migrants residing in outside location.

Lastly, in August, UNFPA BYMCs distributed over 1749 drinks and 18 boxes of dates and biscuits to adolescents and young men participating in regular Boys and Young Men (BTMC) activities.

Improvements based on community feedback

IOM ensures that fully equipped kitchens are available in TRCs so that migrants can prepare their own food if they wish. In August, the indoor kitchen in TRC Borići was not operational for a certain period due to renovation works. Migrants and asylum-seekers from TRC Borići were given place to cook meals in the TRCs’ outdoor kitchen using electric pans within a scheduled time.

Persons with special dietary requirements

Partner agencies also made sure that all persons with special diet needs were assisted. This included special meals for vegetarians and those with various diseases (such as diabetics, Chron’s disease etc.).

Infant and Young Child Feeding Counselling

UNICEF, in partnerships with Fenix and World Vision, provided individual support to breastfeeding mothers, pregnant women and children. IOM provided babies below 24 months with special complementary food prepared by Red Cross in line with UNICEF’s guidelines on child feeding. These usually consist of salty and sweet purees made in TRC Sedra, Borići, Ušivak and Salakovac. In addition to these, baby milk formula is distributed to newborn babies until purees are introduced to the baby’s meal plan.

Donations

No food donation was recorded during the month of August.

Outreach

In addition to the above, the IOM/Red Cross outreach team also provided a total of 392 loaves of bread, 15 flatbreads, and two crates of oranges, provided by Borići as leftovers to be distributed to the migrants residing in external locations in the Una-Sana Canton. In August, IOM outreach team distributed 450 food packages to migrants and asylum seekers sleeping rough outside the centres. DRC outreach teams also provided regular assistance to migrants and asylum-seekers in outreach locations with the provision of energy-saving food and NFI assistance. A total of 5,485 assistances were provided during the month of August.

HIGHLIGHTS

301 Baby formulas distributed

595 Complementary baby meals distributed

5 Community kitchens provided in all TRCs/PC

145,973 Meals distributed in centres
**HEALTH**

**General**

In August, in TRC Uživak, the pediatric clinic supported by UNICEF and implemented by DRC, started operations. The pediatric team consists of a specialized pediatrician and a pediatric nurse/technician. In preparation for the opening of the new TRC Lipa, several health care meetings were held on the site. To ensure quality healthcare, preventive measures for communicable diseases (mass screening and treatment for scabies, COVID19 and TB) need to be established from the outset. Starting from August, the Danish Refugee Council (DRC), established fully equipped Dentistry units in TRCs Blazuj and Usivak.

**COVID-19**

In August, UNFPA in Sarajevo Canton conducted 13 COVID-19 prevention and health awareness sessions with 131 adolescents and young people within the centers. In addition, on 10 different occasions outside the UNFPA centers, counseling was provided on symptoms, physical distance and maintenance of hygiene, reaching 369 adolescents and young men. The Una-Sana Canton Institute of Public Health (PHI) has initiated vaccination for COVID-19 for the refugee, migrant and asylum-seeker population accommodated in TRCs in USC, to which 500 doses of the Astra-Zeneca vaccine have been designated. At the request of the USC Institute of Public Health, and with the approval of the SFA, in collaboration with other interested actors, such as the relevant Bihać and Velika Kladuša Health Centers, World Health Organization (WHO), International Organization for migration (IOM), International Children’s Fund (UNICEF) and the DRC, a questionnaire was conducted on the interest in COVID-19 vaccination among migrants and asylum-seekers of TRCs Borići and Miral and PC Lipa. Prior to the survey, migrants and asylum-seekers were provided with information regarding COVID-19, available vaccines, the general vaccination process, and the benefits of the vaccine. According to the data collected, 367 (47 in TRC Borići, 56 in TRC Miral and 265 in PC Lipa) were interested. After analysing the reasons for not wanting to vaccinate, which mostly derive from a distrust of the vaccine and from their movement onwards to the EU, health education sessions were organized on the topic of vaccines and the benefits of vaccination against COVID-19. In August, the first dose of Astra Zeneca was administered to a total of 157 refugees, migrants and asylum-seekers residing in USC (41 in TRC Borići, 30 in TRC Miral, 86 in TRC Lipa). To provide assistance in the event of vaccine side effects, IOM, through DRC, provided 24/7 medical supervision by physicians within 3 days of the post-vaccination period in all TRCs of the USC. In August, 3,487 entry screenings for COVID-19 symptoms were performed in TRC/RRC/PC by DRC. In August, five migrants and asylum-seekers were tested positive for COVID-19.

**Primary and Secondary Healthcare**

A total of 4,625 examinations were performed in five temporary medical units in five TRCs, including Salakovac. There were 1,462 direct medical interventions performed by Primary Health Centre medical teams in coordination with DRC. In addition, 2,939 individuals were medically attended directly by DRC staff. In August, 51 referrals towards specialized healthcare in PHC and 50 towards SHC were conducted, while 26 hospitalizations were realized for patients in need of secondary health care. DRC implementing partner, Jesuit Refugee Service (JRS), provided assistance/medical escorts to 585 patients through 348 medical accompaniments to primary and secondary care facilities in USC, SC and HNC. Main conditions observed in August were symptoms of respiratory system diseases (13%), digestive diseases symptoms (9%), skin diseases and subcutaneous tissue (8%), diseases of the musculoskeletal system and connective tissue (7%), followed by injuries, poisoning and other symptoms caused by external causes (6%).

**Healthcare provided by outreach teams**

DRC Medical Assistant in Tuzla regularly visited key spots and shelters where migrants are sleeping in the rough and completed 131 direct medical interventions. In addition, seven individuals were referred to secondary healthcare. In USC, 367 interventions were performed. A total of 17 referrals were conducted to Primary Health Centre/Secondary Health Centre (PHC/SHC), as well as ten referrals for accommodation in TRCs.

Six Red Cross Mobile Teams in partnership with DRC continued implementing outreach health activities, primarily in enhancing the provision of first aid and strengthening the referral process towards public health institutions. In August, they assisted 916 individuals through 678 first aid assistances and 404 psychosocial support (PSS) first aid consultations. UNICEF/DRC teams visited families residing at out of official reception requiring urgent pediatric services. A high number of families with children of different age, residing outside the reception centres have been identified in need of protection and heath assistance. A total of 258 children aged 0-17 years were ensured counselling.

**Mental Healthcare**

UNFPA increased the delivery of MHPSS services to migrants and asylum-seekers through group sessions generally focused.
on relaxation, alleviating suffering and preventing further deterioration of mental health. In August, UNFPA conducted 180 individual sessions, including with seven girls, addressing emotional states of anxiety, despair and fear. Additionally, UNFPA supported 90 women and girls through 15 group PSS sessions focused on stress relief, self-help techniques and relaxation. Lastly, UNFPA MHPSS experts provided 25 interventions in crisis situations due to the deterioration of women’s mental health, whereas six women were identified and referred to essential psychiatric services. UNFPA has noted an increase in TRC residents, mainly from Iran, who identify as members of the LGBTIQ + community, which continues to face enormous discriminatory challenges and psychological abuse during the movement. Therefore, UNFPA organized two series of training sessions related to “Gender Identity and Gender Equality” for 18 young male participants, while a GBV support group was organized for five members of the LGBTIQ + community.

Considering recent developments in Afghanistan and consequent visible distress within the Afghan community in the TRCs, UNFPA in the SC, in partnership with the International Red Cross, helped those affected to establish contacts with their relatives through “Restoring Family Ties”. The same practice was agreed for the USC in the following months. In August, UNICEF/MdM teams provided 26 individual psychological counselling sessions and 18 group sessions. A total of 37 children were supported through MHPSS service. Symptoms of anxiety, depression and feelings of hopelessness remain the most common mental health issues reported by them. DRC implementing partner MdM continued implementing MHPSS activities for the adult male population. MdM assisted 261 new direct beneficiaries. A total of 294 mental health consultations and 87 group empowerment sessions were conducted in four TRCs for 660 participants. Furthermore, a total of 130 NPS consultations were conducted, with further 17 referrals to psychiatrists. The most dominant conditions observed by MdM during individual counselling sessions were anxiety-related symptoms, mood-related complaints sleeping complaints, psychoactive substance abuse, suicidal intentions.

**Pediatric Healthcare**

UNICEF/DRC has developed promotional material on “Responding to the COVID-19 Pandemic”, adapted to children’s age. The material was made in English, but it was also translated into the two most dominant languages in the family centres, namely Arabic and Persian. Posters and leaflets are available in both paediatric premises (TRCs Borici and Ušivak), and in cooperation with the paediatrician, awareness is being raised on the prevention of SARS-Cov-2 virus infection. In August, 897 children benefited from health care services provided by UNICEF/DRC paediatric team in TRCs Ušivak and Borici with 753 parents counselled on the importance of immunization and 14 children were provided with dental care. Furthermore, 788 children benefited from awareness raising materials in TRCs Ušivak and Borici ensured through UNICEF/DRC paediatric units.

**Sexual and Reproductive Healthcare (SRH)**

DRC provided assistance to a total of two pregnant women, and five new pregnancies were reported, whereas 14 SRH related consultations were conducted in the reporting month. Furthermore, six health care visits to PHC and four SHR visits to SHC were realized by DRC. In August, 63 women (14 pregnant) and adolescent girls participated in eight SRH sessions organized by UNFPA gynecologists. After individual consultations, 21 women (14 pregnant women) and girls were referred to further undergo detailed SRH examinations in the local health clinics. According to the identified need, SRH supplements were distributed to 37 women. In addition, family planning counseling was provided for two migrants due to frequent miscarriages. In August, UNFPA organized in total 21 SRH urological sessions reaching 168 participations including 56 adolescents and 112 young men. Individual consultations were conducted with 6 adolescents and young men who were further referred for SRH urological examination at the local health clinics.
EDUCATION AND LEISURE

Educational activities

UNFPA Boys and Young Men Centre teams conducted 37 “Boys on the Move” education sessions delivering life skills education that promotes health, importance of effective communication, cultural diversity, and good personal hygiene for 319 adolescent and young men. Moreover, eight IT sessions were conducted with the participation of 67 adolescents and young men. In total, the UNFPA Women and Girls Centre conducted 67 empowerment sessions with 363 women and girls’ participations to encourage strengthening their personal capacities. Lastly, 15 foreign language sessions were held reaching 48 women and girls in total. Lastly, to address the increase in intercultural tensions between adolescents from Afghanistan and Pakistan, UNFPA organized educational sessions on acceptance of diversity and dissent. UNFPA implemented two such Boys on the Move methodology sessions aimed at preventing potential conflicts through teaching nonviolent problems solving strategies with 22 participants.

Due to the high turnover of the migrant population, the residence time of families and unaccompanied minors is relatively shorter than usual, which increases learning disruptions. Low levels of literacy, especially among unaccompanied minors, also cause disruptions in the learning process. Therefore, among the most recurrent challenges in education is the lack of access to secondary education for children over the age of 15. UNICEF continued to work with the Ministry of Education (MoE) to ensure access to education and vocational training for refugee and migrant children over the age of 15 in the Sarajevo Canton. In August, UNICEF conducted follow-up meetings with the Ministry of Education of the Sarajevo Canton (SC), the SC Commissionaire for Migration, the Prva osnovna škola Ilidza school directors and 9. Maj Pazarić and World Vision to define the next steps for the inclusion of children in local primary schools such as the documentation required for enrollment, pre-school exams, transport and lunch, school plans, methods of lessons and preparatory classes and evaluation of previous knowledge of students. As decided by the MoE, the refugee and migrant children of TRC Usivak will be enrolled in the Prva osnovna škola Ilidza and 9. Maj Pazarić schools. Lastly, 24 workshops for 68 parents were organized by UNICEF/SCI in TRC Borici. Special sessions were launched where parents and children can learn the English language together. In addition, as an additional part of the support for girls, workshops with girls and mothers were conducted in order to strengthen the skills of parents and support the education of girls.

In USC, SCI supported Summer School activities as part of the preparatory school program based on HEART methodology. Total of 97 children attended preparatory school classes in local schools, sports and social activities in nature.

Recreational activities

A permanent sewing corner has been set up by IPSIA inside the Social Café of PC Lipa, which allows residents to create new items of clothing or mend their own clothes. On 12 August, the several recreational activities were organized in the TRCs, including sports, board games and creative activities. These events were organized by IOM in coordination with the SFA, migrants and partners from the Red Cross, UNFPA, SCI and Zene sa Une, to celebrate the International Youth Day, with the message “Together we can make a better world”.

In TRC Borići, the World Humanitarian Day was celebrated by Red Cross volunteers by planting flowers and playing games. IOM has also provided transportation for migrant children to allow them to participate in sporting activities outside the TRC.

HIGHLIGHTS

229 children participated in non-formal education activities organized by UNICEF/WV in SC and UNICEF/SCI in USC covering Bosnian language, math, geography, biology, ICT classes, and so on.

132 new children were reached with the Akelius digital learning platform covering numbers, animals and plants, body parts, vocabulary, body parts, etc.

24 workshops for 68 parents were organized by UNICEF/SCI in TRC Borici.
SAFETY AND SECURITY

IOM security staff are present daily in TRCs, working to prevent and respond to safety and security risks and incidents, in cooperation with the SFA inspectors and contracted private security guards. Inspections and internal investigations of thefts and misconduct are regularly carried out and recorded. Video surveillance or other distant monitoring mechanisms are in place in the TRCs. IOM Security Assistants (SA) regularly support outreach and DTM teams in field activities by providing guidance and support in the implementation of risks management measures and security protocols.

IOM continuously works on improving the security and safety measures in all TRCs by filling the gaps and proactively addressing recommendations.

TRC incidents

No major incidents occurred during the month of August. However, several episodes of fights between migrants, as well as attempted robberies and death threats were reported in TRC Borići. In all cases, the local Police was informed. In addition, about 20 migrants were found lighting a fire in front of centre, on whose occasion the police intervened and stopped them.

In TRC Blažuj, to safeguard their safety, migrants are constantly informed of the risks associated with walking on the railway tracks, which are located near the centre.

During August 2021, UNDSS recorded two incidents with the direct impact on UN personnel. The first one was related to an outreach team who were surrounded by a group of about 15 (POCs), complaining about not distributing food to them on other nearby location and protesting in very aggressive manner. The second one was about aggressive behaver of a POC in the TRC towards a migrant assistant. There were no injuries sustained by personnel nor damages to assets during the incidents.

TRANSPORTATION AND LOGISTICS

IOM has on-call mobile teams available 24/7 for assistance and transportation of migrants, refugees and asylum-seekers. These include transportation for medical cases to hospitals, for children going to school, for vulnerable and injured persons heading to centres identified by outreach teams, for asylum-seekers going to asylum interviews, and for transfers at the request of the SFA.

In August, the transports organized, in both USC and SC, included 320 to medical facilities, 17 to SFA, 22 for education purposes, 28 outreach and 62 others (which also includes transports between TRCs). In addition to that, the IOM outreach teams carried out 409 transports for 666 migrants and asylum seekers.

HIGHLIGHTS

449 transports carried out for 1,429 migrants and asylum-seekers persons
Asylum Information Brochure: https://issuu.com/unhcrsee/docs/information_for_as_inbih

IOM prepares these monthly updates on behalf of the inter-agency response in BiH. They are published on the United Nations in Bosnia and Herzegovina website. Information on the actions of institutions/organizations/individuals are collected on voluntary basis. The asylum-seeker and migration statistics presented in this document are provided by the authorities of BiH and partner agencies. The UN in BiH is not responsible for the accuracy of information provided by non-UN sources.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LOCATION</th>
<th>Bosnia and Herzegovina without Una-Sana Canton</th>
<th>Una-Sana Canton</th>
<th>TOTALS</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Key Populations and Estimates</strong> (Population numbers below are a mixture of estimates and counts, depending on location. The numbers below are the most recent available. It must be kept in mind that populations fluctuate daily and the below is a snapshot at the end of the month.)</td>
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| Total Number | 5 | 0 | 5 |
| # of males | 2 | 0 | 2 |
| # of females | 3 | 0 | 3 |
| # of children in families | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| # of asylum seekers | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| # of persons awaiting asylum registration | 0 | 0 | 0 |

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| **WHO DOES WHAT AND WHERE (3W)** |

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<tr>
<th><strong>Location</strong></th>
<th>Shelter</th>
<th>Centre Management</th>
<th>Protection</th>
<th>Health</th>
<th>Non-food Basics</th>
<th>Wash</th>
<th>Security/ID</th>
<th>Transportation</th>
<th>Education</th>
<th>Informational Legal</th>
<th>Food and nutrition</th>
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**DTM Mobility Tracking on 15 July**