During April, Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH) authorities recorded 1,271 migrants and asylum-seekers who arrived irregularly to the country, including 20 unaccompanied and separated children (UASC). This brings the total number of new arrivals to 73,396 since January 2018.

Presence in BiH at the end of the month

4,329 migrants and asylum-seekers were accommodated in reception facilities at the end of April, while between 1,800-2,500 persons were estimated to be squatting outside of formal accommodation, mostly in Una-Sana Canton (USC). Among those in reception facilities, 71 per cent are single adult males, 22 per cent are families with children and about six per cent are UASC.

On April 5, the United Nations (UN) in BiH issued a press release calling for urgent action to end violent pushbacks and collective expulsions of migrants, asylum-seekers, and refugees, including children. The press release was issued in response to an incident that occurred on April 2, during which outreach teams encountered a group of 50 men walking close to the official border crossing with Croatia in the direction of Bihać, visibly exhausted, in need of clothes and shoes, and with wounds on their bodies.

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April highlights

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Following the meeting held in the previous reporting period between IOM, the Ministry of Security (MoS) and the Service for Foreign Affairs (SFA) on the construction plans of the new temporary reception centre (TRC) Lipa, the Technisches Hilfswerk (THW) visited the site several times, with the contractor, IOM management and technical staff to conduct the first general assessment of the area where the works will be carried out. In particular, in April, the team jointly identified the food distribution area and initiated preparatory work. After the site was cleared, THW and its local contractor conducted the soil preparation work by leveling, excavating and scraping the level of the top surface, after which the gravel sand was poured and compacted. Furthermore, work was carried out to establish the retaining walls so that all the plateaus on which the new reception areas will be positioned, are at the same level as the surrounding road. Moreover, all Calls for tenders for the new TRC Lipa were successfully closed.
One company will shortly be selected to start the main construction works, and several other companies will carry out additional works such as the construction of walls, etc.

The reporting period was marked by a high-level visit of IOM Chief of Staff (CoS) Eugenio Ambrosi. In USC (20-21 April), Mr. Ambrosi, together with IOM BiH Chief of Mission, met with Minister of Security, Director of the SFA, Prime Minister of USC, and the Mayor of Bihać. The delegation, together with the HE Ambassador of Austria, visited Lipa and the TRC Borići, where CoS praised the well-coordinated response between relevant actors ensuring that the basic humanitarian needs of migrants were being met. CoS urged access to health care and vaccination for migrants, while IOM CoM called for a more solutions-oriented approach that goes beyond immediate reception. In Sarajevo (22-23 April), IOM representatives met with the Prime Minister of Sarajevo Canton and the Council of Ministers. IOM Representatives also met with the Head of the European Union Delegation (EUD) and representatives of USAID. Finally, during a meeting with the Presidency of BiH, the General Director of IOM, Antonio Vitorino, the UN Resident Coordinator in BiH and the IOM Chief of Mission, IOM and UN representatives expressed continuous support to the State, with the need to continue fostering cooperation with the authorities. IOM will focus on building capacities, border management, and support to local communities through various social cohesion activities.

On 26 and 29 April, the BiH Ministry of Human Rights and Refugees (MHRR), in cooperation with UNHCR in BiH, held the first in a series of round tables dedicated to the integration of refugees and the advancement of rights for persons granted subsidiary protection in BiH. This also kicked off the activities of the Local Integration Coordination Body at the state level to improve available solutions for the integration of refugees and improve the status of persons granted subsidiary protection, with the ultimate goal of adopting a comprehensive action plan for the integration of these persons. Additional roundtables are planned for May and June.

In TRC Miral, the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU), which was signed between the SFA and IOM on joint Camp Management at the end of 2020, started to be implemented. Starting in April, the SFA will be present inside TRC Miral daily.
CENTRE COORDINATION AND CENTRE MANAGEMENT (CCCM)

CCCM meetings were regularly organized with all partner agencies, including the SFA. In TRC Blažuj, partners discussed and agreed upon a mechanism to transport migrants who recently turned 18 from TRC Ušivak to TRC Blažuj. Together with Save the Children International (SCI) and World Vision (WV), IOM agreed that information shall be regularly updated and shared, and that migrants and asylum-seekers should not be transferred over weekends. Moreover, in coordination with DRC, the Hygiene and Epidemiological Service Bihać and the Paediatric Department of the Bihać Health Center, paediatric examinations of pre-school children were conducted in TRC Borići, with the aim to include the children in the regular education system. In TRC Sedra, during CCCM meetings, IOM reiterated to partners the need to share weekly activity plans in advance, for the Information focal point to print and post in a visible place. In TRC Ušivak, UNFPA announced its agreement with the Polyclinic – Urological department, which will allow migrants and asylum-seekers to access specialized services. Moreover, IOM announced the services that will be offered at the Mother and Baby WASH facility, which will also allow access to people with disabilities; and the organization “A Drop in the Ocean” started its services on 1 April.

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, in April, Community representatives from all TRCs were informed of the new Ramadan menu and the prolonged opening hours of the kitchen, so that migrants could prepare their own suhoor if they wish. Furthermore, in TRC Blažuj, Community representatives discussed the decision to provide an additional table in the dining room where migrants and asylum-seekers can get extra doses of milk/juice during meal distribution, and the possibility to extend DRC’s working hours for medical service (currently from 08:00 AM to 03:00 PM).

Boys Parliament meetings are organized in TRCs Sedra, Borići to ensure that UASCs’ views and needs are heard. In TRC Sedra, UASCs were informed of the decision by Save the Children International (SCI), the Centre for Social Welfare (CSW) and IOM to check their containers three times a week (Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 03:00 PM). Furthermore, the discussion also focused on the COVID-19 situation, and the incident involving several UASC who reacted violently over dissatisfaction with the meal received for suhoor, as it was not sufficient. IOM reiterated not to use violence to express dissatisfaction, and for this reason prolonged the opening hours of the kitchen until 3am, so that those migrants who are fasting could prepare additional food if they wish.

TRC beneficiaries also participated in various activities in and outside of the TRCs. On the International Earth Day, migrants and asylum-seekers from TRCs Blažuj and Ušivak participated in the planting of flowers in the green park areas of the two centres, in coordination with World Vision, DRC, UNFPA, MDM and BHWI.

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 April.
Asylum and Registration

Access to asylum remains extremely restrictive, especially for single men in TRCs, persons in USC, and residents in Refugee Reception Centre (RRC) Salakovac, where the last registration took place in June 2020. UNHCR continues its advocacy with the Sector for Asylum (SA) of the MoS, including providing lists of persons known to be awaiting registration, with a priority for those with vulnerabilities or who have been waiting an excessive amount of time. At the end of April, 238 asylum claims were pending, of which 44% (104 persons) belonged to persons in families. Furthermore, 216 persons were awaiting registration of their asylum claim with the assistance of UNHCR/Vaša Prava BiH.

UNHCR provided dividers in the SFA registration area of PC Lipa and ensured availability of messaging screens with key information for prospect asylum-seekers in several of their languages.

April, four new protection cases concerning adolescents were identified, whereas 15 previously identified cases were followed up. Moreover, UNFPA included six adolescents who were allegedly subjected to violent pushbacks in its empowerment sessions.

Since 2018, 55 UASCs applied for international protection in BiH. Of those, 27 were suspended, one received a negative decision, three became adults during the procedure, and a decision is pending for 24. Compared to the overall average waiting time to register an asylum claim (162 days), the average waiting time for families with children is lower (115 days), while for UASCs, the average is concerningly on par with the overall average (159 days). The average length of the asylum procedure for decisions issued between 2018 and April 2021 for families with children is 477 days, a factor potentially motivating asylum-seeking families to abandon the process and pursue dangerous onward movement.

Lastly, separation of families remains a challenge as parents continue to leave children behind, while they pursue onward movement. Although concrete steps have been agreed with the competent CSWs, it is often very challenging to find an adequate solution that provides optimal protection, especially for unaccompanied girls and younger children.

Child Protection

The restrictions imposed by the government of BiH on the accommodation of UASC in TRCs in USC, especially those previously registered in TRC Ušivak or CCY, continued to exacerbate dispersion in makeshift camps and squats, and problems of access to services and protection. The need for targeted centres and group reception facilities with access to solution-oriented programmes remains high for this vulnerable group. In April, UNICEF initiated regular monthly meetings of the Center for Social Welfare (CSW) Cazin with IOM and child protection actors, with the aim to address concerns and improve communication and coordination in the field.

UNICEF/MdM organized a third info-session for 12 child-protection front-line workers in TRC Miral on the topic of “Non-Suicidal Self Injury and suicidal behaviour”, which was held online due to the epidemiological situation. The aim of the session was to enhance the capacity of child protection officers, legal guardians, and caseworkers working with children, under the perspective of Mental Health and Psycho-Social Support (MHPSS). In April, UNFPA held four Boys’ Voice meetings with adolescent representatives in TRC Usivak. In

HIGHLIGHTS

UNHCR/Vaša Prava deployed a call center to increase reach to potential asylum-seekers

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

238 asylum claims pending at the end of April

72 guardianships assigned to UASC by Centres for Social Welfare, directly and in partnership with SCI, World Vision, and CWS, through UNICEF support
**Gender-based Violence**

In April, UNFPA regularly organized the gender-based violence (GBV) Working Group. Furthermore, training sessions on the topic "Managing Gender-based Violence in Emergencies" for 49 humanitarian frontline workers in Una-Sana Canton were held, aimed to educate participants on GBV, hence strengthening the response. UNFPA also observed that during the initial interviews with GBV survivors, most male survivors were not related to, nor are familiar with the perpetrators. Conversely, most female survivors were familiar with their perpetrators (they are related or are intimate partners), however, due to financial dependency survivors remained reluctant to leave, which is the root cause of GBV underreporting. Furthermore, three regular trainings on GBV were held by UNFPA GBV Case managers in TRC Ušivak and Blažuj, reaching a total of 28 male and female participants.

In TRC Blažuj, UNFPA reached an agreement with IOM and the SFA on future accommodation mechanisms for vulnerable categories. UNFPA assisted five vulnerable persons arriving from TRC Ušivak upon reaching the age of majority, by providing them with suitable accommodation, introducing them to the Boys and Young Men Center (BYMC) services, and ensuring timely follow-up. UNFPA identified 32 new GBV cases in April, which represents a decrease compared to the previous month. This is due to the shorter length of stay of beneficiaries in TRCs. Most identified GBV cases were women (24), followed by young men (5) and girls (3), without any reported UASC cases. The total number of GBV cases followed up was 122, with 24 cases closed due to longer inactivity and protracted absence from TRCs.

**Protection Outreach**

Restriction of movement to enter the USC and the ban on use of public transportation for migrants and asylum-seekers within the canton, remained in force except for those exiting the Canton. In April, 720 persons reported pushbacks to the Danish Refugee Council (DRC), and the most vulnerable cases were referred to DRC for medical assistance, mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS) and accommodation and/or registration. In five TRCs, DRC Protection Monitoring teams identified 837 persons in need and referred them (1,645 referrals) for medical assistance, registration, accommodation, security/protection concerns, food, and non-food items (NFI). The DRC outreach Protection teams identified 303 people in need of assistance in out-of-site areas and referred them (227 referrals) to similar services as mentioned above. Moreover, a total of 7,300 assistances were provided by DRC in terms of both food and NFI.

**ASSISTED VOLUNTARY RETURN AND REINTEGRATION (AVRR)**

In April, IOM facilitated the return of 13 migrants (ten to Pakistan, one to Afghanistan, one to Iraq, one to Sri Lanka). Furthermore, 2,430 migrants were reached by IOM AVRR staff (615 in centres and 1,815 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. A total of 351 counselling sessions were held in the month of April. Information also include data on mobility restrictions and can be accessed on web page developed for AVRR information campaign.
**Sarajevo Canton and Herzegovina-Neretva Canton**

TRC Ušivak (opened in October 2018, with current 800 beds capacity) Finalization of the construction works for the set-up of the Mother and Baby WASH facility (made up of four containers, with one double container used as dining/common room, one single container as laundry, and one single sanitary container), the new isolation area (made up of ten containers eight persons each, and two separate rooms with toilets and showers each), and the new container for the Police. Plexiglasses were also installed in both vans used by the CCCM staff and migrants and asylum-seekers.

TRC Blažuj (opened in December 2019, with current 1700 beds capacity) IOM reorganized the centre, due to the reduced number of migrants and asylum-seekers present, with tent structures and iron poles transported to the IOM warehouse. Moreover, the contractors continued work on the concrete surface for the setup of the new Centre’s isolation area, where all 20 containers were delivered during the reporting period. 150 bunk beds, 40 tables, 80 chairs and 300 mattresses were also delivered for use in the isolation area. The Medicine du Monde (MdM) container was delivered and placed next to the Bosnia and Herzegovina Women Initiative (BHWI) organization container. Other works included the set-up of poles and other electrical installations at the playground area for BH-TELECOM to be connected to the power grid. IOM also installed three new protective plexiglasses in the SFA office and on both vehicles used by the centre.

Salakovac Refugee Reception Centre (RRC) (opened in 2000, with current 213 beds capacity) provides accommodation to asylum-seekers and refugees.

Delijaš Asylum Centre (AC) (opened in 2014, with current 154 beds capacity), in Trnovo Municipality, exclusively accommodates individuals who have sought asylum in BiH.

**Una-Sana Canton**

TRC Borići (opened in January 2019, with current 430 beds capacity) IOM together with the support of migrants and asylum-seekers, distributed gravel on the plateau where the sanitary containers are located, and on the playground behind the dormitory, as there is often soil erosion and sludge caused by adjacent sanitary containers. In April, contractors started reconstruction work of the toilet and shower facilities at the 2nd floor (current UASC zone), which previously were not in use due to problems with drainpipes and consequent leaks, and to repair and replace fuse bays of the main power grid box of the community kitchen.

**TRC Miral** (opened in October 2018, with current 700 beds capacity) IOM improved the Wi-Fi internet connection in the centre, that guarantees open access to all migrants and asylum-seekers through the installation of additional equipment and access points inside and outside the buildings, whereas, starting from April, a housing container for the accommodation of vulnerable categories during the night in case it is not immediately possible to transport them to proper accommodation, are now available. Other works included refreshing the prayer room by painting the walls, the repair of the disinfection tunnel; the installation of a new TV set in the UASC zone; the reinforcement and fill in the damaged walls in accommodation units (sector D), in the main corridor and in some rooms; the repair of the window on the food distribution counter in the dining room; the installation of plexiglass separators in all IOM vehicles.

**TRC Sedra** (opened in July 2018, with current 430 beds capacity) Given the epidemiological situation, IOM procured additional beds and mattresses (40 of each) to be used in case of sudden need in the isolation area and installed an internet router in all hallways of the main building to ensure a more stable internet connection. Other works included the relocation of a plastic tent from the central warehouse to be used as a food distribution tent in the isolation area, in case of bad weather, and the improvement of the internet connection in the centre and isolation areas.

**Provisional Camp (PC) Lipa** (opened in January 2021, with current 900 beds capacity) The electrical cables which were supplying power to PC tents were damaged by the cars passing by on the road and were repaired in April. IOM supported SFA by procuring additional 30 bunk beds for accommodation and isolation tents. Moreover, IOM handed over a single unit container to the SFA Coordinator for administrative purposes which was fully equipped with table, two benches, electricity, and air conditioning. The Technisches Hilfswerk (THW) contractor, continued preparation work on the site for the set-up of the dining facility. Contractor transported equipment and goods for the construction of concrete foundations and retaining walls, which are needed to keep the level of the ground aligned, so that all plateaus are at the same level. Therefore, they conducted excavation, compaction, installation of formwork, reinforcement work and pouring of concrete.

**Tuzla Canton**

In Tuzla urban area, Catholic Relief Service (CRS) continued to support its local partner PUZ in the management of two safe houses, with capacities to host up to 50 migrants and asylum-seekers (families and vulnerable adults).
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 to hospitalized migrants, refugees and asylum-seekers which contains 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. In April, IOM distributed a total of 53,242 individual items to 4,300 persons in centres. 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 April, UNFPA distributed 470 dignity kits and around 520 contraceptives for women. In addition, 10 dignity kits for adolescent boys and 10 for young men, and around 200 condoms were distributed through Centres for Boys and Young men.

Several donations of non-food items were recorded by various organizations and international and local NGOs, including: toys by the Kindergarten Tommy and Jerry and hygienic packages by the Slovak Aid in TRC Ušivak; hygiene packages by the Islamic Relief for migrants and asylum-seekers in isolation area, as well as packages by the local school from Cazin through Association “Igra 27” in TRC Sedra; hygienic packages donated by DRC, social games and sports equipment for migrants and asylum-seekers in isolation area by Gatarić d.o.o, cricket equipment (sticks, gloves, balls) by UNCHR, dates from Al Shiddi Group and several packages of second-hand clothes by private citizens in TRC Blažuj; 200 boxes of hygiene packages by the Islamic Relief and ten quilts and ten pillows by a private citizen in TRC Borici; one guitar and six rackets for badminton by Gatarić d.o.o. in TRC Miral; and finally, food and hygiene packages for Ramadan to both male and female by IPSIA in TRC Sedra.

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 April, a total of 3,850 NFIs to 704 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.
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 occur frequently 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 Borići, a total of five industrial washing machines and five dryers from the former TRC Bira laundry were transported to the centre, bringing the total number of available washing machine to 15. Caritas will also provide an additional laundry premise which will be working every day except on Sunday. Similarly, to increase the WASH capacity of the centre, one small washing machine was delivered from the central warehouse to TRC Miral. In TRC Blažuj, a major cleaning action was carried out, involving IOM personnel and migrants and asylum-seekers, which included cutting down large mounds of bushes around the outdoor kitchen and in the back of the centre. Lastly, in TRC Sedra, works conducted by IOM included the installation of a new water dispenser in the Centre’s isolation area, and the replacement of malfunctioning appliances with a new washing machine and dryer.

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

**HIGHLIGHTS**

- **329** Toilets available in TRCs/PC
- **287** Showers available in TRCs/PC
- **3,693** Persons assisted with laundry services
- **28,340** Hygiene items distributed in TRCs, out of which 2,945 in outreach

**TRC Borići** has 20 toilets and 20 showers inside the building and 21 toilets and 13 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 Sedra** has 57 toilets and 66 private showers for 163 people. The remaining TRC population has access to shared toilets and showers, separated by sex. Drinking water is available in the centre. TRC population contributes to laundry operations on a voluntary basis.

**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 disinsections 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. 209,079 meals were prepared in April, out of which 76,706 in USC, not counting PC Lipa, 123,937 in SA canton and 8,430 in Salakovac. In all TRCs, CCCM made changes in the opening hours of the community kitchen during Ramadan, so that fasting migrants could prepare their own meals for suhoor. In PC Lipa, IOM outreach team delivered food packages to the SFA for migrants and asylum-seekers arriving after the food distribution hours. Furthermore, in April, the UNFPA BYMC distributed over 1000 drinks and dozens of boxes of dates and biscuits to adolescents and young men participating in regular BYMC activities.

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 new-born babies until purees are introduced to the baby’s meal plan. As such, last month 312 baby milk formulas were distributed for 25 babies, and 918 complementary baby meals prepared for 293 babies.

Donations
During the reporting month, several food donations occurred: in Blažuj, the Al Shiddi Group donated dates for Ramadan to migrants and asylum-seekers. In TRCs Borići, Miral and Sedra, IPSIA in coordination with USC food focal point, started providing an additional meal “burek” (meat pie) to be distributed to migrants and asylum-seekers who were fasting. Bureks were distributed on Tuesday and Friday and procured at a local bakery. In addition to that, from the month of April until June, IPSIA will provide migrants and asylum-seekers from PC Lipa with groceries to be used at the collective kitchen with the support of Intesa San Paolo S.p.a.

Outreach
During the reporting month, IOM/Red Cross outreach team distributed 13,560 food packages to migrants and asylum-seekers outside the centres. DRC outreach teams also provided regular assistance to migrants and asylum-seekers in outreach location with the provision of energy saving food and NFI assistance. A total of 7,300 assistances were provided during the month of April.

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 April, the outdoor kitchen in TRC Borići was not operational. Migrants and asylum-seekers from TRC Borići were given place to cook meals in the TRCs dining hall using electric pans within a scheduled time. In TRC Blažuj, an additional table for extra juice/milk and bread was set up by IOM in the dining room.

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.). In TRCs Ušivak and Blažuj, CCCM teams met with partners to harmonize the Ramadan menus and continue to prepare special meals for migrants who requested to follow the 40 days of Christian fasting practice.

HIGHLIGHTS

| 312 | Baby formulas distributed |
| 918 | Complementary baby meals distributed |
| 6 | Community kitchens provided in all TRCs/PC |
| 209,079 | Meals distributed in centres |
HEALTH

General

In April, TRCs Sedra and Miral were under lockdown for several days. Through the joint efforts of all relevant humanitarian actors, strict COVID-19 prevention and control measures were implemented.

Starting April, DRC commissioned a private clinic from the Sarajevo Canton with two mixed teams of general practitioners and nurses to resume primary healthcare services in TRCs Blažuj and Ušivak, after the interruption of the provision of services by The Public Institution Health Centre of Sarajevo Canton. The CCCM of TRC Blažuj and Ušivak were informed accordingly. The medical team were present in TRC Blažuj from 7:30 AM to 3:00 PM and in TRC Ušivak on two shifts from 7:30 AM to 06:00 PM.

Furthermore, in TRC Sedra, UNFPA in agreement with the Cantonal Hospital-Bihać, ensured urological examinations of male migrants and asylum-seekers identified during the Sexual and Reproductive Health (SRH) sessions at the BYMC.

COVID-19

All new arrivals to the centre were immediately referred to the medical screening, including COVID-19 symptoms. As a preventive measure, new arrivals are followed and regularly checked for symptoms of COVID-19 for 14 days upon arrival. In TRC Blažuj, UNFPA held a COVID-19 prevention training to discuss the importance of vaccination with a total of 11 migrants and asylum-seekers. Furthermore, in Sarajevo Canton’s TRCs, 12 COVID-19 group educational sessions were conducted reaching out 52 UASC and 40 young men. Furthermore, UNFPA held eight information dissemination visits outside of the Boys and Young Men Centers, where 320 migrants and asylum-seekers were reached through individual consultations. In April, 2,380 entry screenings for COVID-19 symptoms were performed in TRC/RRC/PC by DRC and 50 migrants and asylum-seekers were tested on COVID-19 during April. At the end of the month, 41 migrants and asylum-seekers were tested on COVID-19, out of which two were positive.

Primary and Secondary Healthcare

A total of 4,095 examinations were performed in six temporary medical units in six TRCs, including Salakovac. There were 1,154 direct medical interventions performed by Primary Health Center medical teams in coordination with DRC. In addition, 576 individuals were medically attended directly by DRC staff. The largest number of examinations/interventions were performed in TRCs Blažuj (1,457) and TRC Ušivak (898). DRC implementing partner, Jesuit Refugee Service (JRS), provided assistance/medical escorts to 228 patients through 312 medical accompaniments to primary and secondary care facilities in USC, SC and HNC.

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 105 direct medical interventions. In addition, two individuals were referred to secondary healthcare. In Una-Sana Canton 85 interventions were performed. A total of ten referrals were conducted to Primary Health Center and Secondary Health Center (PHC/SHC), as well three referrals for accommodation in TRCs.

Six Red Cross Mobile Teams in partnership with DRC continued implementing outreach health activities, primarily in enhancing provision of first aid and strengthening referral process towards public health institutions. In April, they assisted 1,025 individuals through 839 first aid assistances and 427 psychosocial support (PSS) first aid consultations.

Conditions observed in outreach were symptoms of respiratory system diseases, skin diseases and subcutaneous tissue, diseases of the musculoskeletal system and connective tissue and digestive diseases symptoms and an increase of digestive diseases symptoms, followed by injuries, poisoning and other symptoms caused by external causes. Overall, the incidence of the above-mentioned conditions is similar to the previous reporting month.

Mental Healthcare

UNICEF, in partnership with MdM, continued to provide MHPSS for UASC and children in families in TRCs in USC through MHPSS individual and group psychosocial sessions. UNICEF/MdM MHPSS team provided services to 64 children in three TRCs in USC. A total of 89 individual counselling sessions were held in TRCs Sedra, Borici, and Miral. The most common symptoms identified by MdM psychologists during the individual sessions were anxiety, depression and sleeping disorder. Furthermore, UNICEF/MdM team continued to promote and motivate parents to get involved in the counselling process, by taking into consideration the best interest of a child. Therefore, consultations with parents were conducted in TRC Sedra and TRC Borici by the UNICEF/MdM psychologists. While eight psychosocial and empowerment group sessions were held with a total of 14 children in TRCs Miral and Sedra.

In addition, UNICEF/MdM psychologists provided two crisis interventions related domestic violence for a UASC in TRC Sedra. Psychiatric support was also provided through the UNICEF/MdM coordinated approach.
DRC implementing partner MdM continued implementing MHPSS activities for the adult male population. MdM assisted 125 new direct beneficiaries. A total of 293 mental health consultations and 55 group empowerment sessions were conducted in five TRCs for 347 participants. Furthermore, a total of 134 NPS consultations were conducted, with further 11 referrals to psychiatrist. Most dominant conditions observed by MdM during individual counselling sessions were anxiety related symptoms, mood related complaints, sleeping complaints, psychoactive substance abuse, relational problems.

In April, UNFPA PSS sessions were adjusted and increased due to higher turnover of migrants and asylum-seekers in Sarajevo Canton. As such, UNFPA provided in total 189 PSS sessions, including for nine adolescent girls. Furthermore, group activities were held smaller groups of women for a total of 51 (four of which girls) participants. Additionally, UNFPA MHPSS experts provided 28 interventions in crisis situations, mostly given by the impact of their attempt to cross the border to the EU. In USC TRCs', UNFPA MHPSS staff identified and referred seven women for essential psychiatric services in the form of examinations and prescription of therapy, after which they continued to be actively monitored.

In April, 358 children benefited from health care services provided by UNICEF/DRC paediatric team in TRCs Sedra and Borici, with 430 parents counselled on the health-related topics including immunization. A total of 118 children were vaccinated in TRCs Sedra and Borici during April. Furthermore, an increased number of children with needs for dental services was noticed. All children in need were referred to the dentist for examination and treatment at the Public Health Center in Cazin. A total of 16 children from TRCs Sedra and Borici were provided with dental care.

In April, medical examinations for school-entry were performed at the Public health Center Bihać, 27 school-age children (between 5 and 15 years old) for the purpose of school enrolment. Medical certificate was issued for a total of 15 children.

The UNFPA SRH team reported an increase in pregnant women seeking assistance: at the 12 sessions conducted, of the 107 participations, 16 were pregnant. In total, 29 women (11 pregnant) were provided with individual consultations, to further undergo SRH examinations in local health clinics. SRH supplements were distributed to 70 women and three girls. A total of 27 SRH session were held that by UNFPA, which covered 184 participations, of which 78 adolescents, 68 young men, and 38 adult male family members. Individual consultations were also conducted with eight young men, five UASCs and two adult males in family who were further referred for SRH urological examination at the local health clinic.

Furthermore, DRC also provided assistance to a total of seven pregnant women, whereas 50 SRH related consultations were conducted in the reporting month. Furthermore, 23 SHR health care visits to PHC and 33 health care visits to SHC were realized by DRC.
EDUCATION AND LEISURE

Educational activities

UNICEF engaged with the Ministry of Education of SC to start enrolling children from TRC Ušivak in the nearby public schools, and to organize preparatory classes in TRC. In April, UNICEF/WV organized 44 non-formal education workshops for children covering English language, Mathematics and Physics. Whereas UNICEF/SCI organized 22 workshops for 87 parents in TRCs Sedra and Borići.

In April, UNFPA Boys and Young Men Centres in USC and SC implemented over 20 educational sessions addressing substance abuse, hygiene, interpersonal relationships, and complex emotions to over 70 UASC and 80 young men. Additionally, UNFPA organized IT and language classes, and craft workshops with over 500 UASC and 500 young men, observing over 130 new participants. Furthermore, UNFPA Women and Girls Centres (WGC) organized over 50 outdoor empowerment sessions, with the participation of over 200 women and 30 girls. Additionally, in April, 70 women and ten girls participated to 20 regular foreign language sessions.

In April, at the Mother and Baby Corner (MBC) in TRC Ušivak education activities for mothers by UNICEF focused on empowering them in different topics concerning the relationship between mother and child, such as good behavior of the child, the importance of cleaning their toys, the importance of creating a schedule of activities for the child that will include the necessary program for sleep and rest.

Save the Children International (SCI) regularly provides a team of cultural mediators, Healing and Education Through the Arts (HEART) teachers and school assistants who facilitate obligatory preparatory programme, provide school escorts, help teachers to adjust working materials, and help children with homework and catch-up classes.

Save the Children International (SCI) continued to provide technical and operational support to the Ministry of Education of BiH and to five local primary schools in Una-Sana Canton, ensuring that they have the necessary knowledge, working materials, and equipment to successfully implement inclusion of children on the move.

Recreational activities

Due to the COVID-19 situation, in April, education and leisure activities were drastically reduced to avoid gatherings. Nevertheless, some activities have been conducted with a reduced number of migrants and asylum-seekers present. In April, the Teen’s club, which was established within the UNFPA Women and Girl Centre (WGC) in TRC Ušivak, was regularly held, reaching adolescent girls and providing age-appropriate educational and creative activities. The club provides a safe space for 15+ girls in the form of educational, sports and entertainment activities specifically tailored to their age and needs.

In TRC Miral, IOM organized a special dinner for migrants and asylum-seekers celebrating Easter. In TRC Blažuj, two sewing machines, an ironing board with iron, threads and other supporting tools and materials were delivered to for the purpose of setting up sewing courses in the centre in the

HIGHLIGHTS

- 27 school aged children received pre-school medical check-up in TRC Borići
- 181 children attended non-formal education activities organized by UNICEF/ WV and UNICEF/SCI in USC and SC.
- 74 children were registered in school in USC with the support of SCI.
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.

In TRC Miral, to increase visibility and improve security at night, contractor set up eight electric poles with reflectors. The SFA started the installation of wooden poles to create a canvas fence around PC Lipa. Moreover, IOM, in coordination with the SFA, assessed the state of one container used by the Police and the safety cabins for their transfer to PC Lipa. To prevent unauthorized entrances, IOM installed around 150 meters of a second layer of protective fence in TRC Blažuj, while in other centres the fence was reinforced and repaired.

In TRC Sedra, maintenance was made on video surveillance, which previously reported issues with reporting software, whereas a service contractor conducted the relocation work of four surveillance cameras.

TRC incidents

Two major incidents occurred during the reporting period in Miral and Sedra. In TRC Miral, in the morning of 3 April, a father with an eight-year-old son who was shot in the back arrived in front of TRC Miral asking for help. The ambulance was immediately called, and the child was transported to the Cantonal hospital in Bihać. Investigation is still ongoing.

In TRC Sedra, another incident occurred involving migrants and asylum-seekers who started throwing food and overturning tables in the dining hall, while screaming and threatening the Centre’s staff. According to other migrants present at the time, the group was dissatisfied with the suhoor meal. IOM and partner organizations’ staff were immediately evacuated, and local police were called. During the night, the same group complained again and started yelling that they would destroy the centre. IOM called the police again and on the following day, the SFA relocated five migrants who had instigated these incidents to other centres, due to threats and destruction of property. In response, IOM agreed to open the community kitchen from 12am to 3am so that migrants can prepare their own food. IOM also distributed additional canned food together with the regular suhoor meal.

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 April, the transports organized, in both USC and SC, included 226 to medical facilities, 20 to SFA, 54 for education purposes, 39 outreach and 146 others (which also includes transports between TRCs). In addition to that, the IOM outreach teams carried out 24 transports for 103 migrants and asylum-seekers.

HIGHLIGHTS

485 transports carried out for 1,412 migrants and asylum-seekers
### CONTACTS

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**LINKS**


UNHCR Help: [https://help.unhcr.org/bosniaandherzegovina/](https://help.unhcr.org/bosniaandherzegovina/)

IOM Data Portal: [http://migration.iom.int/europe/](http://migration.iom.int/europe/)


IOM AVRR Information: [https://bih.iom.int/assisted-voluntary-return](https://bih.iom.int/assisted-voluntary-return)

IOM Migration Response: [https://bih.iom.int/iom-migration-response](https://bih.iom.int/iom-migration-response)

Media guidelines: [https://bih.iom.int/psn/reporting-migration-and-refugees-brochure](https://bih.iom.int/psn/reporting-migration-and-refugees-brochure)

Asylum Information Brochure: [https://issuu.com/unhcrsee/docs/information_for_as_inbih](https://issuu.com/unhcrsee/docs/information_for_as_inbih)

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<td><a href="mailto:skabil@unicef.org">skabil@unicef.org</a></td>
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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.
### Key Population # and Estimates

Population numbers below are a mixture of estimated counts, depending on location. The numbers shown are the most recent available. It must be kept in mind that populations fluctuate daily and the below is a snapshot as of the end of the month. (Numbers shown and the below is a snapshot as of the end of the month.

#### Bosnia and Herzegovina without Una-Sana Canton

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Shatter</th>
<th>Management</th>
<th>Protection</th>
<th>Health</th>
<th>Non-food items</th>
<th>Water and sanitation</th>
<th>Security/Safety</th>
<th>Transportation</th>
<th>Legal</th>
<th>Education</th>
<th>Food and nutrition</th>
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#### Una-Sana Canton

| Who does what and where (SWW) |
|-----------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|---------------------|-----------------|---------------|---------------|-------|-----------|-------------------|
| Total number | 23 | 10 | 617 | 1488 | 154 | 18 | 155 | 250 | 162 | 96 | 323 | 236 | 281 | 727 | 5 | 9 | 1265 | 206 | 4,128 | 3,190 - 3,900 |
| # of males | 11 | 3 | 520 | 1485 | 154 | 18 | 155 | 250 | 162 | 96 | 323 | 236 | 281 | 727 | 5 | 9 | 1265 | 206 | 4,128 | 3,190 - 3,900 |
| # of females | 12 | 7 | 179 | 0 | 18 | 0 | 199 | 100 | 181 | 100 | 181 | 100 | 181 | 100 | 1 | 0 | - | - | - | 441 |
| # of single adult males | 4 | 2 | 117 | 0 | 18 | 0 | 61 | 70 | 1 | 0 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 61 |
| # of single adult females | 0 | 0 | 170 | 0 | 18 | 0 | 61 | 70 | 1 | 0 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 61 |
| # of children in families | 16 | 6 | 160 | 0 | 18 | 0 | 61 | 103 | 2 | 0 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 161 |
| # of single child in families | 0 | 0 | 170 | 0 | 18 | 0 | 61 | 103 | 2 | 0 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 61 |
| # of asylum seekers | 0 | 5 | 0 | 0 | 4 | 0 | 107 | 107 | 0 | 0 | - | - | - | - | 1 | 0 | - | - | 117 |
| # of persons awaiting asylum registration | 11 | 12 | 13 | 10 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 2 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 116 |

#### Total in UNHCR, MoS/SFA, IOM, UNHCR/UNICEF/BIH

- **Total in UNHCR, MoS/SFA, IOM, UNHCR/UNICEF/BIH:** 3W | 206 | 4,128 | 3,190 - 3,900