

# PROJECT FACTSHEET

Supporting the operationalization of TRC Lipa  
Bosnia and Herzegovina – February 2022



Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft  
Confédération suisse  
Confederazione Svizzera  
Confederaziun svizra

Embassy of Switzerland in Bosnia and Herzegovina



## CREATING BETTER CONDITIONS FOR THE RECEPTION AND STAY OF MIGRANTS IN BIH

### BUILDING CAPACITIES SUPPORT FOR MIGRANT'S ACCOMMODATION

The migrant crisis is causing large population movements from North Africa and the Middle East to the north, mainly to EU countries.

On their way to the EU, primarily through Croatia, tens of thousands of migrants crossed Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH).

Most migrants stay on the border with Croatia, mainly in Una-Sana Canton and Sarajevo Canton. The number of migrants in BiH is variable, and it is estimated that there are several thousand in the country at any time.

Although the most significant percentage of migrants only pass through BiH, there was a noticeable lack of accommodation facilities where they could be accommodated temporarily or permanently.. More than a thousand migrants lived outside the reception centers in harsh conditions.

***The newly renovated Lipa Center will house families, women, unaccompanied minors, and single men .***

Considering the socio-economic situation in BiH, additional health risks caused by the global COVID 19 pandemic, but also the lack of strong political will to resolve migrant issues, determine the status of migrants in transit or those who want asylum and stay in BiH is a very complex issue.

The situation is further aggravated due to the fire devastation of almost complete infrastructure in the Temporary Reception Center (TRC) Lipa located near Bihac in December 2020, when the center suffered significant damage.

Hundreds of people were left homeless and without basic living conditions in the winter and challenging weather and epidemiological conditions.

Switzerland has joined international efforts to support authorities of BiH to provide adequate reception facilities for 1,500 migrants at the TRC Lipa to prevent a humanitarian and health crisis.

The critical institutional partners for implementing this project are the Ministry of Security of BiH, the Service for Foreigners' Affairs, and the Una-Sana Canton Government.

### BETTER ACCESS TO SERVICES

The project aims to support the authorities in BiH to take ownership for migration management at all institutional levels and provide better living conditions in temporary reception facilities for migrants and asylum seekers in BiH.

The realization of the project will enable a dignified life for migrants who will have better access to support, protection, and assistance services.

This will result in fewer migrants outside the migrant camps, an improvement in the security situation, and a reduction in tensions between migrants and local population in the area.

## **CAMP ADAPTATION AND PROJECT RESULTS**

To enable the center to operate and receive migrants on the reception center premises before winter and remove them from improvised street shelters, Switzerland supported:

- Connection of the TRC Lipa to the municipal electricity network
- Asphalted critical sections and construction of an access road network that will enable the uninterrupted supply of the center

The newly renovated Lipa Center will house families, women, unaccompanied minors, and men (singles).

## **PROJECT IN BRIEF**

### **NAME:**

Supporting the operationalization of the Temporary Reception Center Lipa (TRC Lipa)

### **DOMAIN:**

Migration and Security (Governance)

### **LAND/REGION:**

Bosnia and Herzegovina

### **PARTNERS:**

International Organization for Migration (IOM)

### **STARTING POINT / BACKGROUND INFORMATION:**

The TRC Lipa near Bihać suffered enormous material damage in the fire of 2020, which left hundreds of people without primary living conditions. This imposed the need to rebuild the temporary reception camp and solve the problem of housing migrants and their families, both for BiH institutions and for international donors.

### **PROJECT OBJECTIVE:**

The project aims to help BiH institutions to manage migration and migration policies more and to provide adequate conditions for transit or accommodation of migrants during their stay in BiH.

### **TARGET GROUP:**

Ministry of Security of BiH and the Service for Foreigners' Affairs in BiH; 1500 migrants in Una-Sana Canton; Government of Una-Sana Canton; Citizens of Una-Sana Canton

### **COSTS:**

CHF 5,483,000 of which CHF 300,000 Government of Switzerland, Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC)

### **DURATION:**

1.10.2021- 31.3.2022

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