

Greece National Education Sector Working Group

MEETING MINUTES

MONDAY, 16 OCTOBER 2017 @ UNHCR, ATHENS, GREECE

MEETING AGENDA

1. PRESENTATION BY GCR ON SCHOOL ATTENDANCE FOLLOW-UP
2. ACTION POINTS FROM THE LAST MEETING
3. FORMAL KINDERGARTEN UPDATES
4. ENROLMENT AND ATTENDANCE UPDATES
5. HOW TO WORK WITH TEACHERS HIRED BY MUNICIPALITIES
6. AOB
 - ACTIVITYINFO
 - UPDATES FROM GBV FOR EDUCATION TASK FORCE

AGENDA ITEM	DISCUSSION POINTS	ACTION POINTS (by whom and when)
I. PRESENTATION BY GCR ON SCHOOL ATTENDANCE AD AT-RISK CHILDREN FOLLOW-UP	<p>GCR's programme in supporting school enrolment and regular attendance for children at high risk of dropping out of school</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assessed 60 children in GCR's accommodation scheme funded by UNHCR, through social workers • Conducted backgrounds of children, regarding: (i) how they feel about school, (ii) how they are managing in school • Children identified as being at risk → referral → counseling. GCR managed to convince parents and parents. Most of the cases, determining cases are (i) parents' unemployment, (ii) not wanting to stay in Greece. Therefore, it is difficult to convince the children to stay in school • At Picsida (multicultural centre of GCR), children/parents sensitization sessions are conducted – see attached <p>Recommendation: other apartment and education partners to provide similar services When children absolutely do not wish to enroll in formal school, at least he or she should be enrolled in a non-formal education programme.</p>	
Difficulties in following up on school	Oinofyta – many families are relocated to apartments as the site is closing. But we don't know where children went.	ESWG coordinators will try to establish systematic information

enrolment when relocation happens	<p><u>Update on closure of sites</u></p> <p>Elefsina – this Friday 20 Oct</p> <p>Trikala – they are moving to apartments in Trikala (E-Trikala is on top of school enrolment as soon as children are accommodated)</p> <p>Volos - i</p> <p>Oinofyta – ongoing</p> <p>Derveni Alexyl – ongoing</p> <p>Skaramangas – some families are being relocated to urban Athens</p>	sharing from SMS or accommodation partners
2. ACTION POINTS FROM THE LAST MEETING	<p>Kindergarten</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - ESWG coordination team to discuss with Ifigenia on the locations of accommodations and kindergartens → This could not happen last week, and Naoko is meeting with MOE this afternoon (16 oct) - Naoko will work with refugee.info to publish a blog post about kindergarten enrolment → waiting for MOE's clearance <p>Transport</p> <p>NGOs to seek support from prefectures for transport → no update from participants</p> <p>Guardianship for unaccompanied children in illegal sites (squats) → UNICEF could not meet with UNHCR focal point from Attica FO due to leave.</p> <p>Depository of important decrees and circulars → Despina to prepare and will share with the ESWG members (she was on leave last week)</p>	Scheduled to have a meeting
3. FORMAL KINDERGARTEN UPDATES	<p>Update from urban accommodation partners</p> <p>PRAKSIS – no available places. Waiting for response from protobathmia. They say that asylum seekers and Greeks are priorities.</p>	Depository to be established and shared
4. ENROLMENT AND ATTENDANCE UPDATES	<p>Updates from MoE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Waiting for FEK to be published – to hire teachers for DYEP - ZEP – 2nd phase of establishment – collecting enrolment data from school principals by the end of this week. Already 150 ZEP classes have been established - On enrolment numbers, MoE did a small survey on ZEPs. Most of the ZEP classes enroled Roma children. Enrolment figure: 2,500 students from apartments, including Eleonas. - More than 1,000 children on the islands are out of school - Lyceum reception classes? MOE hosted a meeting with directors of Attiki and Sterea Ellada regional departments to clarify many issues. Some principals don't want to accept if the child does not speak Greek. There are some high schools with initiatives to 	

	<p>mobilise some available teachers to accommodate refugee children's needs. Exams to be held at the end of the year instead of the beginning – then judge if the child should move to the second class or they have to repeat the same year</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - IEP prepared a language assessment (diagnostic test) for Greek proficiency - IEP to follow up on translating math, science, chemistry etc. into refugees' languages? <p>Update from IEP</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 67 RECs have been recruited - IEP/MOE held a meeting with RECs in Attika (some were present, some were online) - roles in accommodation sites, clarified that the RECs serve under the directors of the prefecture - Many logistical needs such as laptops, internet, offices - Question about urban RECs – they will start in November, but the operation structure (e.g. where will they be located?) is not clear yet – Tita had the first meeting with accommodation partners, and will also organize another meeting with UAC shelters. There will be one person from MOE responsible for urban RECs. - There will be a web-based distance training for RECs, to be organized at regional level, through a digitilized platform for RECs 	
5. HOW TO WORK WITH TEACHERS HIRED BY MUNICIPALITIES (OAED)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - How can NGOs work effectively together with OAED staff that are teachers, social workers and psychologists in accommodation sites? - There are qualified personnel, but there's a persistent lack of clarity on their roles, and supervision responsibilities. In some sites, they are assigned in one thing to another (without coherence. Sometimes they are working at municipality office so not there every day), those staff are doing almost nothing - They cannot serve as formal school teachers even if they are qualified, as they are not employees of MoE. They won't get credits in the formal education system. They will be working as non-formal education teachers - MOE will meet and discuss on this issue tomorrow (17 Oct) - ESWG members would be happy to work with them in synergy where gaps are identified - There are good practices – Eleonas, Kouchohero (UNHCR gave a 3-week training in Kouchohero) 	After MOE's meeting with OAED, Despina will try to discuss with them to seek possibility of collaboration with ESWG
6. AOB	<p>Update from GBV for Education task force</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Need contextualised teacher training on GBV. A shorter SGBV training for NFE teachers on the basics such as: knowing how to identify cases, how to refer them, to whom (referral pathways), definitions, basic types, legal background, how to talk to victims, - NFE teachers – teachers should refer to focal points on SGBV or Protection 	If any partner is interested in joining the task force, please contact eswg.greece@gmail.com

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Need to check if focal points are assigned in your programme? SGBV or general protection focal points? If not, can education managers and senior teachers be focal points? Who will take a child to a hospital? - The task force is aiming to produce basic materials to provide guidance to Education NGOs, and provide basic training 	
	<p>ActivityInfo (AI) updates AI is a platform to collect data on who is doing what in Refugee and Migrant Response in Greece. It has not been analysed since May 2017 (although inputs are provided monthly by some organisations). Deadline for AI is on Wednesday 18 October for data until September.</p>	<p>If you don't have an account, or don't know what it is, please contact eswg.greece@gmail.com immediately.</p>
	<p>DRC's adult language course (for youth and adults over 18 years old)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The second semester of the Greek language course through University of Athens will start during the 2nd week of November, and the enrolment is open to sign up. - Deadline – 23 October - Candidates will have to take the test at Zografo campus in Greek or in English 	<p>Please contact: Ljiljana.sinickovic@drc-greece.org</p>
	<p>Central and Northern Greece - Accreditation by MoMP to operate in accommodation sites requires IEP registration as a prerequisite All NGOs working in Education sector in accommodation sites need to have accreditation by IEP/MOE. Even if your organization has the approval for 2016-2017 school year, you still need to apply again through the online platform. If you have inquiries, please contact info-refugee-education@minedu.gov.gr or write to eswg.greece@gmail.com</p>	<p>ESWG coordination team</p>

Next meeting: Monday 30th October 2017, at UNHCR (Michalakopoulou 91), from 11am until 1pm.

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