

# North Greece Education Sector Working Group MEETING MINUTES

22 FEBRUARY 2017 @ SCI, THESSALONIKI, GREECE

## **MEETING AGENDA**

- 1. General updates
- 2. How to enroll children in formal schooling / Directorate support with enrolment
- 3. Youth
- 4. Data reporting
- 5. AOB

AGENDA ITEM	DISCUSSION POINTS	ACTION POINTS (by whom and when)
1. General updates	ELIX started at Mouries and cooperate with UNICEF in	- Any organizations interested in developing an
	Kavalari & Derveni/Alexil. Two weeks ago started	advocacy/sensitization task force group to
	cooperation with SOLIDARITY NOW at the Blue Center	address issues of discrimination and security of
	in Koletti str.: around 50 children registered but 35 attend	students, and building relationships between host
	on a regular basis. They also do ECD in Kavalari. RECs	and refugee communities, contact the northern
	said they are ready to start kindergarten education soon.	ESWG (Avgi.Vafeidou@savethechildren.org)
	<b>UNICEF</b> is funding the CFS inside the Blue Center. They	
	announced that an autonomous sub-working group meets	
	biweekly in Ioannina.	
	INTERSOS & UNHCR continue to provide micro	
	grantsto Community Based Organisation (6,000 TO 20,000	
	euros) with a view to identifying, supporting and	
	mobilising community groups within the local host	
	populations in the Central and Eastern Macedonia	
	and Thrace Region.	
	UNHCR has been covering Ioannina and Grevena since	
	January 1rst. Did sensitization activities in Profitis so as to	
	influence policies but local communities do not need NGOs	
	but wish to collaborate only with public authorities. They	

## **CONTACT:**

Naoko Imoto & Kelsey Dalrymple Education Sector Working Group Coordinators eswg.greece@gmail.com pushed for collective leadership and advocacy so as to be organize ourselves thematically, be more specific and accomplish integration.

**SCI** is targeting intercultural sensitization and awareness in their new ECHO strategy. Have taken approval and are about to provide education in new hotels, in Chalkidona and Nea Apollonia/Volvi.

**ARSIS** support children and youth with a variety of programs (i.e. robotics), focuses on integration and advocacy. Do seminars for parents, work with children with special abilities, do street mapping, will start in hospitals, and do some kind of formal education.

**ANTIGONE** do intercultural education for teachers of public schools and is the one who tries to link groups of parents with school principals/directors. They enter schools and run non-formal education in public schools (since 2012). They also target Roma.

**TDH** (Terre des Hommes) will start Vocational Training with unaccompanied and separated children in Thessaloniki once the funding starts.

**DRC** do assessments in urban areas. Plan to go to Kavalari but will coordinate with ELIX to avoid duplication. Started teaching Greek, English and ICT in Lagadikia to children, adolescents and adults. Will also work in Volos and mentioned the absence of an Education Working Group where they could report what they do in Koutsochero/Larisa.

Almost all participants (e.g. NRC, SCI, ARSIS, INTERSOS) stated their willingness and intention to education offer services in urban settings. UNHCR are filling an Urban Working Service tool. The definition of "urban" as decided by the ENWG is "anything off-site". **RTI** do ECD in Carita's shelter in Epanomi and Frakapor. Need to expand collaboration with NGOs on ECD



implementation.  NRC followed children to hotel Leonidas, Kassandria and Sun Beach. They are opening a Community Center and will provide PoCs who moved to Veroia camp with transportation.  IOM informed participants about the beginning of formal education in Diavata and Derveni/Alexil camps on Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> February. In Diavata, 91 children registered to public school and in Derveni/Alexil only 9 children registered but there were a lot of issues there. In total, 11 camps are now part of formal education scheme, 27 schools and almost 700 children.  OCC (Open Cultural Center) is currently in Polykastro and offer a variety of activities to all age groups. Have contact with around 10 children who do not want to attend Platania Secondary School.  - Confirmation that refugee parents who wish to enroll their children in formal schools should go directly to the Regional Directorate, not to the schools or principles.  - Agreement among participants that an information document for refugee parents, with step-by-step information about formal school enrollment, would be helpful.	- ESWG to follow up to collect the contact information for the 4 different directorates, discuss ensuring children are able to be placed within a reasonable distance from where they are living, and get step-by-step information on this procedure to help create a guidance document that we can translate and circulate to refugee parents.
<ul> <li>Discussion on the importance of providing education services for youth.</li> <li>Broad acknowledgement from all participants and there is</li> </ul>	- Any organizations interested in developing a youth education task force group contact the northern ESWG (Avgi.Vafeidou@savethechildren.org)
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	possible solutions and ideas for incentivizing youth to	
	attend education activities	
	- Suggestion from UNHCR to develop a regional youth task	
	force.	
	- Note from National ESWG Coordinator that a national	
	youth task force may also be developed in the coming	
	weeks to address the same issues at the national level.	
Data reporting	- All national-level sector working groups will be launching	All education organizations to report on activities
	data reporting soon. Data reporting will take place through	monthly through ActivityInfo.
	an online platform called ActivityInfo. ALL education	
	actors are requested to report data about their activities	
	every month so as to better inform the whole sector of who	
	is doing what and where, to allow for better coordination	
	and collaboration. The National ESWG will be sending out	
	more detailed instructions to all actors early next week with	
	specific instructions. If you would like more formal training	
	on how to report through ActivityInfo, contact your	
	regional UNHCR information management focal point. If	
	you are unsure of who this focal point is, email the national	
	ESWG (eswg.greece@gmail.com)	



# PARTICIPANT LIST

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# **NEXT MEETING:**

08 March 2017 @ SCI, THESSALONIKI, GREECE at  $10:\!00$ 

Location to be determined and communicated shortly

## **CONTACT:**

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