

Meeting Minutes Education Working Group (PWG)

Date and time of meeting: Thursday, March 16, 2017, 10:00hrs-12:00hrs

Location of meeting: UNHCR Office, Ioannina, Greece

Members present: Intersos, Ministry of Education, Soup&Socks, Second Tree, University of Ioannina, ARSIS, TDH, Apostoli, Project Hope for Kids

Guests: -

Chairperson: Mohamed Othman

Agenda Item #1: Parents meeting in Doliana, lessons and ways to move forward in other sites

Discussion: In Doliana there was a meeting with the parents with the participation of the MoED coordinator, UNHCR, SN and Tdh, with the purpose of discussing the reasons of (high school students mainly) absconding school and losing interest. The idea of the meeting was to have 2 separate meetings one of them with only the children to get their inputs and a separate meeting with the parents only. The challenge was that some parents who have their own children in elementary school (whom are not absconding) attended the meeting while it was intended to target exclusively the parents of the children who absconded classes at the school nearby. As agreed with the participants we'll try to apply the following proposal of conducting separate sessions with the children and the parents separately so we can understand better the motives behind it and how we can assist them overcome the problem and assist in keeping their interest high, till the curricula for next year is in place.

Agenda Item #2: vocational training, cooperation with ESEVE and Habibi works

Discussion: granting access to vocational training for the refugees especially the population that will stay around for some time or might reside permanently in Greece is crucial to ensure and secure a fair chance to access labour market, in addition to the initiatives similar to Habibi Works concept of professional skills workshops, UNHCR had an initial discussion with ESEVE which is an entity specialising in vocational training and facilitating access to labour market, as well sponsoring some sort of start pack projects, UNHCR will discuss with them potential cooperation with Habibi works (in particular the part of giving certification of relevant vocational trainings which Habibi works can't provide) and the possibility of future cooperation, members are encouraged to provide comments on how better those meetings and the parents' committees should be managed, taking into consideration the meetings held regularly with the mothers in Egnatia hotel and its positive effects.

Agenda Item #3: Plataria and the gap in informal education classes

Discussion: not only in plataria hotel but in Kanali hotel as well no interest from informal education actors was revealed, maybe due to the distance but at least we have to ensure that an informal education actor is available (doesn't have to be on daily basis) to provide the services in these 2 locations and support the initiatives run by refugees by training and materials (Apostoli/FCA stated that they will consider the support in the 2 locations).

Agenda Item #4: activity info accounts for partners, which partners don't have access

UNHCR will channel the message to Data Management Dep. OF UNHCR to liaise with the partners who lack access in order to provide them with access and the password, namely the University of Ioannina, Second Tree, Habibi Works and PH4K, UNHCR already channelled the message to UNHCR data management colleagues in Athens who will liaise with the relevant partners to secure their access

AOB:

-Arsis: the community centre in Konitsa in cooperation with SN using the community centre as a venue for various activities targeting both communities(refugees and host community), similar activities can be arranged at the community centre in Ioannina and children from nearby hotels can access the centre by walking without the need of transportation.

UNHCR: proposal to conduct a meeting between child protection and education actors to avoid conflicts in the activities targeting children and ensure coordination, and most importantly avoid assuming that the children or adult refugees are available for activities 14 hours a day without giving them the chance to plan individually some free time activities on their own.