

North Greece Education Sector Working Group MEETING MINUTES

05 April 2017 @ NRC, Thessaloniki, Greece

MEETING AGENDA

1. Action points review from the last ESWG meeting
2. Address the issue of access to education for off-site children together; Findings from the national ESWG's recent urban/off-site assessment will be shared
3. Impact of the end of the school year on refugee enrolment
4. Identify partners who can cover the education gaps in Drama
5. Remind partners to report on ActivityInfo
6. Update on Youth Task Force
7. AOB

AGENDA ITEM	DISCUSSION POINTS	ACTION POINTS (by whom and when)
Action points review	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Invitations have been sent to all partners for all multicultural and multilingual activities discussed 2. RECs have shared the links to the curricula anew: this is the site where you can find the Greek curriculum: http://www.pi-schools.gr/programs/depps/ for each subject and grade. 3. Few contributions have been made to the Urban Education matrix 4. A map and analysis (in a PPT) of the Off_site_education_Greece_20170403 has been produced by the National ESWG and will be sent to all partners with the present minutes 	More contributions are expected to the Urban Education matrix which will be sent anew.

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<p>2. Access to education for off-site children</p>	<p>A Snapshot of the situation for refugee children living in off-site accommodations produced by the National ESWG, based on data reported on Activity info was presented to partners. Issues raised during the presentations included:</p> <p>1. Difference between enrollment and attendance was not captured in the preliminary findings. OCC, as well as many other partners, doubted the regularity and consistency of children’s attendance in formal education. OCC insisted on liaising with school principals and with the newly-appointed RECs to verify children enrolled are also regularly attending.</p> <p>2. On Slide 6, IOM reported of not having knowledge of children in Eastern Macedonia & Thrace and Thessaly attending formal education. The data shall though be double checked. It was recommended that partners reported their activities on Activity Info to have a clearer picture of the sectors and possible gaps.</p>	<p>Partners to continue providing their inputs on Activity Info.</p>
<p>3. Impact of the end of the school year on refugee enrolment</p>	<p>IOM made a video in collaboration with MoE aiming to encourage children to attend formal education and to eliminate the fear of the parents that their children’s attending formal education might mean/imply they will not relocate.</p> <p>ARSIS asked for clarification regarding the terms ‘<i>formal</i>’, ‘<i>non-formal</i>’ and ‘<i>informal</i>’ education in the Greek refugee response context.</p>	<p>MoE will share the Law of Enrolment for Refugee Children</p> <p>This will be inserted as an agenda point for next ESWG meeting to ensure that all partners have the same understanding of those concepts.</p>
<p>4. Identify partners who can cover the education gaps in Drama</p>	<p>ELIX expressed interest. They will make an assessment but need to know how long the approximately 300, mostly Kurds, PoCs will stay in drama.</p>	

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5. Remind partners to report on ActivityInfo	DRC expected to receive training from Kelsey Dalrymple whose arrival in Thessaloniki was cancelled at the last minute	Training for some partners needs to be scheduled
6. Update on Youth Task Force	NRC informed the group that together with UNHCR and Mr Vincent Briard are working to come up with a concrete contextualized structure for the Youth task force. At the end of this week they will send a questionnaire to ARSIS, PRAKSIS and ELIX whose aim is to draw a picture and assess the educational profile, the age-groups and the skills/practical profile of the youth they work with.	A questionnaire will be sent to ARSIS, PRAKSIS and ELIX
7. AOB	<p>1. UNICEF said two new RECs have been appointed by the MoE responsible for the off-site settings. ERCI suggested that now ESWG should send an open letter to them explaining that our program and practices are not competitive towards formal education.</p> <p>2. UNHCR reminded partners that there are lexicons and dictionaries at their offices that they can take and share with PoCs. They first have to contact Dora Kokozidou KOKOZIDO@unhcr.org.</p> <p>3. UNICEF suggested partners discuss and share their summer plans. Urged partners to try to assess if there are children who might be able to get the A1, A2 or B1 level of competency in Greek as set by the European Framework for Languages. The Centre for the Greek Language http://www.greek-language.gr/greekLang/index.html . More specifically for the examinations/certification http://www.greek-language.gr/greekLang/certification/index.html . It was suggested that the ESWG should invite the Centre for the Greek Language to participate in the next meeting. ellinomaheia@komvos.edu.gr - Tel.: 2313331500</p>	<p>An open letter to be sent to the two new RECs to participate to the SEWG (?)</p> <p>Invite the Centre for the Greek Language</p>

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	<p>& 2313331540</p> <p>5. ARSIS invited partners to participate in the Multilingual Festival in the 26th-27th-28th of May 2017. They will share more information regarding participation. There is time to apply until 07.05.17.</p> <p>OCC presented the app tool for smart phones that was designed by Video Games without Borders and other actors. The app tool empowers Arabic writing for children up to 10 years old. A leaflet with all the information was distributed.</p>	<p>Scan and send the leaflet with info about the app tool</p>
<p>Updates</p>	<p>NRC : Still facing refusal from MoMP to provide mother language to Kurdish speaking children in Hotel Veria (managed by IOM). School refurbishment in Alexandria camp almost finished. NFE/homework support will start in 10 days.</p> <p>SCI started cooperation with Alkyoni Day Refugee Centre in the center of the town and Filoxenia/React in North Evosmos. SCI disseminating leaflets on access to education. Parents living in housing need this information the most as well as support to enroll their children into classes. SCI started their program in Grevena, (Vasilitsa Resort and Casa La Mundi) and are also following the Vrasna population that was transferred back to Serres beginning from Wed 5th. SCI moved out of Four Seasons Hotel as the population was moved out.</p>	<p>Partners are encouraged to share updates before the meeting by sending an email to: Avgi.Vafeidou@savethechildren.org, caterina.larosa@savethechildren.org, nicolas.herbecq@nrc.no</p>

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PARTICIPANT LIST

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NEXT MEETING:

26 April 2017 @ NRC, Karatasou 1 & Chapsa1

Thessaloniki, Greece

@ 10:00am – 11:15am

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