

Greece National Education Sector Working Group

MEETING MINUTES

MONDAY, 18 SEPTEMBER 2017 @ UNHCR, ATHENS, GREECE

MEETING AGENDA

1. UPDATE ON SCHOOL ENROLMENT
2. 2018 GAP ANALYSIS
3. AOB

AGENDA ITEM	DISCUSSION POINTS	ACTION POINTS (by whom and when)
I. UPDATE ON SCHOOL ENROLMENT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Epirus: the Regional department of MOE asked to wait in enrolling refugee children in urban schools until the Refugee Education Coordinators (REC) are in place. Therefore, only 31 children out of 125 children started attending, while others are on standby. The ESWG in Epirus and accommodation partners are discussing with the MOE, in close collaboration with the central MoE and the national ESWG. • Central Macedonia: 75% of children are enrolled. REACT programme successfully enrolled 50 out of 100 children. Kilis seems also successful. Some school principals are demanding more information about the law and the information on children. • Islands: some children living in urban accommodations started attending – Iliaktida and METAdrasi UAC shelters in Mytilini, also Kos and Samos. In Leros, children in RIC will be enrolled this week. Children in Tilos are on standby, waiting for DYEP to be announced?. The situation is on case by case basis, and the MoE team is visiting the 2 islands this week to discuss with stakeholders on possibilities. • Attica: ARSIS, PRAKSIS, ADDEM and NOSTOS reported that enrollment is ongoing with some pending cases. <u>ADDMA</u> – 120 out of 369 enrolled. 200 pending applications at Protobathmia and Deferobathmia. Social scientists of ADDEM are visiting apartments door to door. Denials by the principals were encountered, arguing there is no capacity in the premise. <u>PRAKSIS</u> – ongoing with full scale. 336 children enrolled out of 616 eligible children. Many are waiting for relocations, therefore not keen on attending formal schools. 	<p>Accommodation partners to continue working on school enrollment, and inform the ESWG co-lead (eswg.greece@gmail.com) if there are problems, with the name of the school. This then will be forwarded to the MoE to tackle the problems.</p>

	<p>Defterobathmia – B and C sectors of Athens – are asking for papers of children, age assessment. There are also good practices: in some Evening schools, teachers extended their working hours to support refugee children. Intercultural schools sending buses to pick up refugee children.</p> <p><u>ARSIS</u> Kindergarten – enrolled 10 children in local kindergartens. Primary – 60 enrolled + 5 pending = 65 children Gymnasium – 13 enrolled (8 intercultural, high school) + pending 5 = 18 children 15+ - problems – Elliniki lekeio, waiting to have 3 places</p> <p><u>NOSTOS</u> 150 children out of 305 children enrolled + pending 150 new arrivals Waiting to hear back from Protobathmia Challenges: resistance from Dublin cases to attend schools, even though it may take a while for them to get relocated. They say ‘it is the husband’s decision,’ or ‘going to school will present a negative case for relocation.’</p> <p><u>Caritas</u> 42 children of relocation candidates not attending due to imminent relocation – they don’t want to go to school 17 – family reunification cases – they are positive to attend school yet pending applications 16 out of 20 asylum seekers are going to school Defterobathmia – Kalithea is demanding one application for each child, signature from the parents</p> <p><u>Khora & Giving for Better Future</u> Working with children not in UNHCR apartments Registering many children. 150th primary kodelikton refused to enroll</p> <p>Temporary accommodation sites</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A group of children in Schisto and Skaramangas are attending regular schools using public transport • Eleonas – MOE announced that there will be no DYEP and children should be enrolled in 16 nearby schools. 180 children registered. School gates are open from 7am. • IOM has not started transportation yet, expecting guidelines to MoE 	<p>Sensitisation of the Dublin cases needs to be further strengthened as they may have to stay in Greece for a while</p>
--	---	--

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> According to the MoMP, Malakasa, Lavrio, Elefsina, Rafina, Trikala, Volos, Oinofita, Basilika, Katomilia, Derveni Alexil, Sinatex Kavalari are planned to be closed, and move the population from camps to apartments. If these sites close after December/January, how can we ensure that they are smoothly integrated into morning classes? In general, it gets harder and harder to join formal schools/new classes in the middle of the school year. 	We need to make efforts to make sure this transfer is properly done with close follow-ups.
Updates from the MoE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Working to follow up on problems encountered at school level as well as regional directorates The recruitment of RECs is ongoing with full speed. Plan to be in place by 2nd October (if not earlier). RECs in urban areas will be in contact with NGOs working in apartments and do mapping of children going to school and not, and will visit schools. 1st phase ZEP (already announced) – will start towards the end of September or early October 2nd phase ZEP – this will be determined according to the current enrollment DYEP – planned to start in mid-October 15+ : trying to open EPAL but an obstacle is that it is not part of compulsory education 	
Challenges with enrollment	<p>Q: What to do if a principal refuses enrollment?</p> <p>A: 1) (MoE recommends) Go register in school even if there is no capacity, then take the Protocolo number, and report to ESWG coordination team with the name of the school. ESWG coordination team will immediately forward to the MoE to take action.</p> <p>2) (Arsis recommends) You can also go to protobathmia (directorate of primary education) and defterobathmia (directorate of secondary education), and tell them that the principal said there is no space in the school. They should find you (the children) another school nearby. (but there are also other NGOs saying that protobathmia and defterobathmia</p> <p>Q: If a 17-year-old wants to go to a gymnasium to learn with 13 years olds?</p> <p>A: case-by-case.. up to school principals to accept</p>	Gyklio (reference to law) – Tita to send to ESWG
2. 2018 gap analysis	Naoko: ECHO asked the Sector Working Groups to present gaps and priorities in 2018. ESWG coordination team will present at Inter-Sector Working Group (ISWG) meeting on this Friday. Please note that this is not a regular, proper planning process to identify priorities	Naoko to collect more info from sub-national WG

	<p>and gaps with full participation of the government and its members, but is rather a quick analysis by Sector leads.</p> <p>Possible scenario:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The majority of children between 6 – 15 on the mainland will be accessing formal education by the end of December. They require homework support to remain in school - Challenges will remain for kindergarten (4-5), over 15, and on the islands. <p>Non-formal Education actors of UN agencies and NGOs that are staying into 2018 :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - UNICEF – will confirm the funding by ECHO until May 2018 (urban Athens, urban Thessaloniki, Thiva, Drama, Skaramangas, Eleonas) - UNHCR? (Islands, Thessaloniki, Volvi) - Save the Children – UNHCR funding until the end of 2017 on Lesvos, Chios and Leros - NRC? – Thessaloniki, Serres - DRC – end of February 2018 (Nea Kavala, Schisto, Lavrio, Kouchohero...) - Secours Islamique Francais (SIF) – in Malakasa, until the end of the year - Terre des Hommes – Epirus – ECHO funding confirmed until January - IAMYOU – should stay in 2018 - SOS Children's Village – ending in September? - Khora/Giving for Better Future (Urban Athens) –should stay in 2018 	
3. AOB	<p>Next meeting agenda</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Kindergarten updates - Over 15 updates (EPAL etc.) - Greek Council for Refugees to present their programme on education for refugee integration <p>GBV updates?</p>	<p>Naoko needs to send more info about the GBV focal points to get referral pathways</p>

Next meeting: Monday 2nd October 2017, at UNHCR (Michalakopoulou 91), from 11am until 1pm.

PARTICIPANT LIST

	ORGANIZATION	NAME	E-MAIL
I	ADDMA	Mara Vandrou	mvandrou@developathens.gr

2	Accio Solidalia Mediterania	Alba Diaz	albadiazmaese@gmail.com
3	ARSIS	Evangelia Kontodima	ekontodima@hotmail.com
4	Caritas Athens	Despina Doschori	ddoschori@caritasathens.gr
5	Caritas Athens	Helga Kristenssen	helgaskristensen@gmail.com
6	Caritas Athens	Panagiotis Karlaganis	pkarlaganis@caritasathens.gr
7	Caritas Hellas	Sofia Mintsia	Mintsia@caritas.gr
8	Ecumenicae Refugee Programme	Nancy Retinioti	nretinioti.ecnr@gmail.com
9	ELIX	Eleni Gazi	e.gazi@elix.org.gr
10	ELIX	Spiros Kasimatis	skasimatis@me.com
11	Giving For A Better Future	Christina Ntarzanou	Christina.ntarzanou@givingforabetterfuture.com
12	Greek Council for Refugees	Michalis Karakonstantis	m.karakonstantis@gcr.gr
13	Help Refugees	Freya Mergler	freya@helprefugees.org.uk
14	Holes in the Borders	Nakalia Pelaz Belizon	npelazb@gmail.com
15	IAMYOU	Giulia Clericetti	giulia.clericetti@iamyou.se
16	Institute of Education Policy	Ilias Mavromatidis	mavromatidiselias@yahoo.gr
17	Institute of Education Policy	Maria Dokopoulou	mdokopoulou@iep.edu.gr
18	IOM	Yannis Baveas	ibaveas@iom.int
19	Khora	Tim Birtwistle	Tim.birtwistle@yahoo.co.uk
20	Ministry of Education	Tita Kaisari-Ernst	pkaisari@minedu.gov.gr
21	NOSTOS	Nikos Christakos	nickchristak@gmail.com
22	PRAKSIS	Mariannela Kloka	m.kloka@praksis.gr
23	Refugee.Info/IRC	Lambrini Stamati	Lambrini.stamati@rescue.org
24	Secours Islamique Francais	Emmeline Guerin	Progca.gr@secours-islamique.org
25	Secours Islamique Francais	Marina Mavridou	pingreece@secours-islamique.com
26	SOS Children's Village	Sotiria Gerazouni	sgerazouni@hotmail.com
27	Terre des Hommes	Giulia Lecca Murgia	cpintern@tdh.gr
28	UNHCR	Joohee Kim	kimjo@unhcr.org
29	UNHCR	Xenia Passa	passa@unhcr.org
30	UNICEF	Despina Syrri	dsyrri@unicef.org
31	UNICEF	Naoko Imoto	nimoto@unicef.org
32		Giorgos Simopoulos	giorgosimopoulos@gmail.com