

Greece National Education Working Group

MEETING MINUTES

22/08/2016 – SAVE THE CHILDREN OFFICES ATHENS, GREECE

Agenda

1. Updates from partners
2. Updates from MoE
3. Activity Info, activity indicators, reporting and definitions of terms
4. Accreditation with the Institute of Education Policy for partners
5. Next meeting (strategy development)
6. AOB

*list of participants – see the bottom of the document

Agenda item	Discussion points	Action points (by whom and by when)
1. Updates from partners	<p>NRC</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Planned interventions in Thessaloniki (Oreokastro, SK market and Veria) and Chios (Souda, Dipethe, VIAL). Two education centers for non formal education will be established outside the camps. In order to avoid overlap, NRC is discussing with Save the Children <p>Save the Children</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Planned response in the camps of Attica (Malakasa, Skaramangas, Schisto, and Elliniko I and III), North (Cherso, Nea Kavala, Diavata, Redestos/Vasilika, Softex, Frakapor) And two mobile response teams (one in Attica and one in the North) that includes education staff to be implementing in several smaller sites in both locations- Save is looking at Island locations (Laros, Kos, Samos, Chios, Lesvos) for non-formal education activity delivery through Child Friendly Spaces <p>UNICEF</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Supporting education activities in Skaramangas through Piraeus Open School for Immigrants with the refugee volunteer teachers. From October, the school will be scaled up with container	-

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	<p>classrooms, school kits, Greek teachers (English, Greek, Maths and Psychosocial activities) and mother tongue education in collaboration with British Council and Danish Refugee Council.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - UNICEF is currently looking at providing education support for the camps in Epirus and Central Macedonia in collaboration with Finn Church Aid. This project looks at short to medium term interventions including integration into Greek schools in line with the government's strategy. - UNICEF plans to intervene in pre-school education for children aged 3-5, in collaboration with MoE and other actors <p>IRC</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Currently planning on establishing "self healing and learning space" to be set up in Eleonas and Skaramangas camps from the beginning of September. These spaces will support informal education, including unaccompanied minors in Eleonas and Diabata - IRC is also providing informal education support through Safe Spaces in Lesvos for children aged 8-13 <p>Finn Church Aid</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - With national NGOs ELIX and Apostoli, supporting summer school activities in nearby schools for children in Eleonas camp. Apostoli is supporting a center for unaccompanied minors in Agios Andreas - Pipeline: in collaboration with UNICEF, looking at supporting Epirus region (5 sites - Katsikas, Filipiada-Preveza, Konitsa, Tsepelovo, Doliana) and Central Macedonia (Softex, Derveni, Vasilika) – need to discuss with Save to avoid overlap. The project looks at integration of children in nearby schools <p>UNHCR</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Apart from the coordination support – both at national and sub-national level, UNHCR has 3 partners for non-formal education support – Save the Children, DRC (Lagadikia) and IRC. 	
2. Updates from MoE	<p>Catherine Hodjistefansu, MOE Refugee Education WG</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New legislation: In line with the draft plan, the modification of the 38th article of the law will be discussed at the parliament on the 30th and 31st of August. This will allow the MOE to accept refugee children in the Greek school system and establish additional infrastructure for refugees • Reception Classes: Discussions are ongoing for the establishment of reception classes using afternoon after-school hours to teach refugee children in Greek schools. The MOE has 	–

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	<p>funds from ESPA (European fund). The MOE team is working on the list of schools which cater the Reception Classes (the regional directors are to establish this list and send to MOE), and the curriculum which will be used to teach refugee children (English, greek, mother tongue, Maths, artistic and sports). The duration of the reception classes is still being discussed. There are materials used to teach immigrant children, and the Institute of Education Policy will choose the books. There should also be a way to hire Arabic or mother-tongue speaking teachers. There will be a planning meeting with school directors on 25 August from 10 am - 2pm, but will be conducted in Greek. This forum will discuss about how to run "Reception Classes" etc.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ZEP: There are 400 ZEP (Zones of Education Priority) schools. This ZEP system was created to support education of at-risk children during the financial crisis. The target students include those who are falling behind in class, at-risk of dropping out. More focus was given to these schools with a reinforcement of more qualified teachers to support the vulnerable children to stay in school. In the plan, establishing additional 400 ZEP schools is being discussed to support refugee children. • Secondary Education: with regard to education for junior high school students, there will be much more difficulties for integration and we need to think thoroughly as to how we can meet their educational needs • Pre-school education: should be run in camps • Scientific committee has also discussed about age-appropriate education which should be taken into consideration • ESWG addressed the need for communication and clarity with the UN and NGO partners. There should be a meeting with representatives of the ESWG to discuss various related for refugee education 	
<p>3. Activity Info, activity indicators, reporting and definitions of terms</p>	<p>Activity Info is open for partners to provide information on activities taking place for refugee. Some partners should be trained. The deadline for inputs is 26th of August (this was later modified to 5th September). The education indicators are included. Each agency can have 2 editor accounts (cross-sectoral)</p> <p>Partners are supposed to be trained on Activity Info in order to provide inputs. UNICEF will help the Education partners, once Naoko is trained.</p>	<p>- If you have not got an access to Activity Info or have not been trained, please contact Ms. Hawraa Harkous, harkous@unhcr.org</p>

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	<p>Activity indicators: the definitions of the terms used in the indicators were drafted, using the INEE (Inter-Agency Network for Education in Emergencies, http://www.ineesite.org/en/) definitions.</p> <p>It is important to know that the draft of the definitions is a working document to facilitate the partners to provide inputs for the Activity Info, but the definitions should be provided by the MoE and agreed with the partners.</p> <p>Comments are welcome by the partners – please send to eswg.greece@gmail.com by next Friday</p>	<p>Please send comments on the definitions to eswg.greece@gmail.com</p>
4. AOB	<p>NRC shared a draft TOR for their site assessment.</p> <p>If any agency is conducting an assessment, please send to ESWG co-leads for harmonising questions and methodologies.</p> <p>To avoid duplications in sites, it should be decided in regional-level coordination meetings. Also, bilateral meetings should take place to solve potential duplications.</p>	<p>Please send assessments (draft, questionnaire, report) to eswg.greece@gmail.com</p>
5. Next meeting	5 th September, @ Save the Children (for the moment, until another venue is proposed)	

Participants:

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