

Greece National Education Sector Working Group MEETING MINUTES



TUESDAY, 29 MAY 2018 @ UNHCR, ATHENS, GREECE

MEETING AGENDA

1. REVIEW OF ACTION POINTS
 2. UPDATES FROM MOE (ON SCHOOL ENROLMENT ETC.)
 3. UPDATES BY ESWG MEMBERS
 4. DISCUSSION OF SUMMER NFE ACTIVITIES
 5. AOB
- EYIF- UNHCR "17+ CHANCES: YOUTH ORIENTATION" PROJECT

| AGENDA ITEM | DISCUSSION POINTS | ACTION POINTS (by whom and when) |
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| I. REVIEW OF ACTION POINTS | <p>On the draft guidance on steps regarding transfer of schools:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - UNHCR drafted a guidance note for UNHCR accommodation partners with practical steps to be shared with accommodation partners in order to support parents and teachers. - MOE and UNHCR will present the school enrolment survey and the enrolment process tomorrow (30 May) in the Accommodation partners' (ESTIA) meeting. UNHCR also suggested to allocate more time to discuss on education in the next ESTIA coordination meeting. <p>On Congestion of urban Athens and lack of space in schools:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Important to brief partners on education with together with MoE (Tita), with the issue of the congestion of urban Athens, preventing children's access to schools due to lack of space. - In order to address the issue of the congestion of urban schools and advocate for solutions, UNICEF is waiting for MoE's data to visualise which areas are full in order to have accurate picture of congested areas. Using such data, different levels of advocacy are needed, towards Apartment partners, MOMP, DG ECHO, Municipality of Athens, etc. <p>On school enrollment:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Regarding the circular stating that the translation of the documents is required in order for the school principal to access enrolment, UNICEF and UNHCR sent an email to MOE to justify | <p>Guidance draft to be shared with ESWG partners;</p> <p>Call for high-level meeting with ECHO and MoMP.</p> <p>Report to Tita any difficulties faced by</p> |

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| | <p>with counter legal arguments that refugees do not have to translate their documents, as this can be replaced by official documents that have latin letters (such as AFM).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - There was a report from Epirus that a principal denied a few students' enrollment because of lack of Greek-written documentation. There are three options to be considered: 1) Transcribe the letters according to ELOT (?), 2) Advocate with the asylum service to make a Greek transcription of the name in the asylum booklets, or something else.. - Translations of enrollment information on Refugee.info: primary Grade I and Kindergarten, as well as Lyceum and EPAL are uploaded. Waiting for Turkish Greek, Kurmanji and Sorani translations to be done, as soon as it is done by Metadrası. - Some principals do not know that they have to enroll children now for the next school year, and have told some children/parents to come back in September. This is against the MOE's effort for planning for the next school year's reception classes. ESWG Coordination Team will discuss with the MOE if they can publish another circular to inform principals that they need to enroll for September. - In order to ensure the enrolment for UAC, UNICEF to work closely with EKKA. - Accommodation NGOs to work with RECs to register children for the next school year. NGOs should refer children to the RECs so there can be a general idea of how many children will register in the coming year. Strong advocacy needed to decongest urban Athens in order to facilitate school enrolment - MOE through the ESWG Gmail will share the enrolment updates for the current school year, asking the accommodation partners to fill in the format. This data will seek the situation of the end of the current school year, to compare with the December one. - Second chance school is a possibility for refugee youth. It must be taken into consideration that the level is a bit high and they ask for secondary school education diploma officially translated. | <p>NGOs when trying to enroll children in secondary education</p> <p>Naoko to follow-up with MoE. Principals need to be told to enroll now for September</p> <p>Follow up on the translated documents with MOE</p> <p>Follow-up point: What is happening with the children whose registration is pending since last September?</p> <p>Naoko to circulate a brochure about the different types of schooling possibilities</p> |
| <p>2. UPDATES FROM MOE (ON SCHOOL ENROLMENT ETC.)</p> | <p>IOM: new children registering for DYEP in Thiva, Malaka, Skaramagkas, Katsikas.</p> | |
| <p>3. UPDATES BY ESWG MEMBERS</p> | <p>IOM: Some children in high-school will give exams this year however it will depend on how many absences they have gotten.</p> <p>UNICEF: Extending the partnerships with ELIX and Solidarity Now till the end of the year.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - In Malakasa and Kavala, Solidarity Now is waiting for IEP approval. | |

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| | <p>- in Serres UNICEF/Solidarity Now are taking over from NRC, gotten IEP approval, and will start on Monday 4 June</p> <p>In Lesvos, DYEP started in 2 schools, with 35 children started attending. DYEPs will follow in Chios, Samos and Leros for the coming school year. The vaccinations that UNICEF procured should have arrived in some islands, or will arrive soon, according to KEELPNO.</p> | <p>Math – Natural science task force to make an assessment of student needs.</p> |
| <p>4. DISCUSSION OF SUMMER NFE ACTIVITIES</p> | <p>The ESWG will encourage all members operating with non-formal education to conduct “Summer Catch-Up classes” in as many sites/centres as possible during the summer. In particular, Math and Science for secondary school students are needed. The ESWG Coordination Unit is proposing to create an online taskforce, where Math and Science teachers share ideas, good practices and useful resources, and to encourage each other. TeamUp2Teach platform can be used for this purpose.</p> <p>IOM: From the 14th of June, excursions will start. IOM: Football activity for girls. A team to Nikaia from Schisto camp, 16 girls do football training.</p> <p>KEDFX: Assisting all children going in the 1st – 2nd primary schools of Filadelfia to apply for participating in three-weeks municipality summer camps. ELIX: Working with the Athens Municipality on organizing for 17-18 boys and girls aged 12-15 (including UAC) from Elaionas and the urban accommodation to attend the Athens Municipality summer camps. It will be for 10 days and it will be a great opportunity to merge with local kids. Enrollment is until June 1st and it has not been an easy process UNICEF/Organization Earth: organizing Summer program for 8-weeks to play football. It is primarily for UACs including girls living in shelters.</p> | |
| <p>5. AOB</p> | <p>EYIF- UNHCR "17+ CHANCES: YOUTH ORIENTATION" PROJECT</p> <p>Through the European youth initiative fund EYIF is offering 120 hours of Greek for children to learn to speak Greek until A1-A2 levels. This will allow children to successfully enroll and follow classes in EPAL and other schools. EYIF use games that do not require language skills in order to do vocational training. This will help to cover one the basic needs 17 – 25 years old youth which to find job. In the end of each session they will be doing trainings for soft skills to help youth to be active in job search. EYIF is working together with the Institute of Vocational Training (IEKEP) in Perissos. Next slot starts 11th of June.</p> | |

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| | <p>UNICEF: 27-28th of June MoE is organizing a RECs workshop. Please share if there is any particular question or concerns that may need to be addressed.</p> <p>ELIX: 2nd of June, UNICEF/ELIX is assisting the Athens Street Festival which will take place in Thiseio by the end of Ermou street.</p> <p>Skyschool: Summer course on Peace studies and Secondary Education. Accessible by mobile phone, on the 24th of June a second course, people with refugee status can enroll. The end result is intended to be an IB vocational qualification.</p> | |
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The next national ESWG meeting will be held on **Monday 11th June.**

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