

WASH WG North Greece

Meeting Notes – 13th June 2016

Agenda WASH Working Group Northern Greece:

1. **Introductions**
 2. **Action point update from previous meeting**
 - a. Horizontal and Vertical selection of WASH actors on the new warehouse sites.
 - b. Hygiene promotion technical working group meeting feedback.
 3. **Organisational update on WASH issues in the existing camps**
 4. **Final 4W's document**
 5. **Any other business**
 6. **Action Points**
 7. **Hygiene Promotion Minutes**
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1. Action point update from previous meeting

1a) Horizontal and Vertical selection of WASH actors on the new warehouse sites

- Discussed the horizontal selection of WASH actors (organisations selecting sites through the coordination activities as has happened before).
- Vertical selection is the Ministry initiative to select camp managers who are responsible for selection of their own partners on their sites.
- IRC stated that they have declined the vertical camp management position discussed at Athens level.
- IRC will also withdraw their expression of interest in Orioacastro as they will not commit to Warehouse sites at this time.
- IOM discussed that two sites Derveni and SK Market were discussed to be sites assigned to them by the Ministry.
- IMC has already through horizontal selection agreed with the coordination group to work in SK Market (see Minutes of meeting 23-May-2016). IOM did not put forward their expression of interest in this site. According to the coordination group IMC is responsible for WASH in SK Market. Further clarity on this will be sought by the Chair on defining who is responsible for each site.
- Samaritans Purse have expressed interest in working in Derveni but, through vertical selection with the Ministry IOM has considered this their site, Samaritans Purse will pursue discussions on partnering on Derveni with IOM.

2a) Hygiene promotion technical working group meeting feedback.

- Hygiene promotion technical working group had their first meeting in Polycastro.
- Samaritans Purse presented the outline of the first meeting and have written the minutes for the first meeting. These can be found in the appendix of this document.
- Red Cross were unable to attend given a timing conflict and have asked for a rescheduling of the next meeting to another time.
- IMC did not receive an invitation and would like to attend the next meeting.

- Hygiene promotion technical working group will continue to use focal point Henk Veerdig from IRC (henk.veerdig@rescue.org) to coordinate the next meeting.
 - IRC will support the technical working group but will not be the lead organisation for presenting this information to the coordination group.
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2. Organisational update on WASH issues in the camps

Softex

- IFRC has committed to carrying out WASH activities in Softex factory site.
- It is expected that this site will expand and potentially have containers for the refugee populations to live within. Though these ideas were discussed IFRC were not able to indicate actual commitments by the Government to constructing these containers in the immediate future.
- IRC did comment that there may be issues with contaminated land on the site caused by industrial pollution that should be investigated. This will affect those living in tents outside the Softex factory site.

Derivani

- UNHCR discussed the hygiene conditions on Derivani as being poor at this time. It was reported that the WASH containers are in a bad state, pipes are broken and toilet containers are not level.
- IOM have previously discussed that they were selected for this site through vertical selection and are going to provide ongoing WASH support.
- IOM did not provide the containers in question but as they would have technical oversight would currently be responsible for the conditions of these containers.
- IOM were not able to answer all the questions raised at this time due to not having a technical WASH person available – it was requested that this person assist in further coordination at their earliest possible convenience.

Sinatex

- Voluntary organisation Humedica have requested WASH support in Sinatex (population 300)
- Sinatex has some immediate WASH needs as well as requiring long term WASH assistance.
- It was stressed that this site should not be ignored because of its relatively small number of refugees. The voluntary organisations have been solely responsible for supporting these sites at this time.
- Organisations that are interested can contact Roma Demin (69 3139 9193) who can provide other information at this time.

Elpida Factory site

- Elpida factory sites is looking for a WASH actor to provide technical assistance.
- This site has a signed an MOU with Minister Mouzales
- Elpida factory has been explained to be a pilot site, with private donor backing, for 800 refugees that could potentially showcase how factory settings could be used to push for desirable WASH standards in warehouses.
- IOM discussed that this could create a pull factor given its geographical distance to Derverni and that this site would be capable of being of a higher service delivery than was possible on Derverni.

- It was discussed that having higher conditions in one site could create problems in others and this was applicable across all sites.
- A counterpoint raised was that meeting the essential levels of service of water, hygiene promotion and sanitation is mandatory across all sites. However, where possible, all sites should strive to include desirable levels of service delivery. This is not confined to living conditions or kits but also communal kitchens and other services. This was agreed by the majority of organisations represented in the coordination meeting.
- The potential for pull factor should be recognised by those wishing to engage on this site and the numbers may exceed the desirable amount quickly.
- Any organisations wishing to visit Elpida Factory or to find out more to contact Elizabeth Seeman easeeman@gmail.com for more information.

Radestos

- Save the Children mentioned that there was the possibility of people being placed in the Radestos site, relocated from BP and Hara, and actors on the ground may be unable to provide drinking water in sufficient quantities.
- Voluntary organisation Intervolv have requested emergency support to this site for bottled water.
- IRC will respond to this request as a single delivery service to the site and will contact Intervolve directly.

Nea Kavala

- NRC and Samaritans Purse are in the process of finalising their plans for providing water solutions to the refugees living in Nea Kavala
- These will be shared with the coordination group when they are completed.

South Sindos

- Voluntary organisation Swiss Cross explained the current WASH situation in South Sindos as being dire and in extreme need of assistance.
- The site has been using a borehole as a temporary solution to water provision. The water is potentially both contaminated and saline.
- The showers have only being working intermittently.
- On-site storage is from a service which has not been cleaned in over 12 years.
- There have been breakages in water supply services.
- Army are not providing water trucking at this time as they without a proper storage option.
- IRC will respond to the immediate issues without committing to the site. MSF and Soliarite will potentially partner in this emergency WASH response to ensure that it happens quickly.
- South Sindos has been repeatedly discussed to be a site that was opened against the recommendations of the coordination group.

3. Final 4W's document

- Athens has provided, through the inter sector meetings, a 4 W's document.
- This will be shared with all partners as required by email and on the dropbox.
- The deadline for completion is the end of the month. ***All organisations must complete this before this time or it will be submitted without their contributions.***
- A reminder will be given next week.

4. AOB

Movement of people from BP and Hara

- MSF reported that people are likely to be relocated from BP and Hara imminently
- This has been linked to the closing of the highways.
- At the point of meeting this relocation had not yet taken place.
- Save the children suggested that Radestos was being prepared to take in these arrival.

Security

- Alleged members of Golden Dawn, about 20 people, were active in Polycastro on 13/06/16 and threatened a volunteer wearing visibility
 - An increase in violence and criminality has broken out in many of the camp settings and it was discussed that there is a need for a security focal point within organisations to share best practice.
 - It was advised for all parties to be aware of their own emergency and security SOPs, particularly for hygiene staff who are particularly vulnerable given their direct contact with the communities.
 - Samaritans purse shared that they had issues on the island where arson was started by individuals external to the refugee communities and this threat may be applicable to all sites. No threat was suggested to have been issued to any of the existing sites.
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5. Action Points

- 4 W's Document to be shared and completed by all organisations
- ***[All organisations/Deadline: 30/6]***
- IRC to respond to Radestos. South Sindos and Sinatex with emergency response
- ***[All organisations/Deadline: 15/06]***
- UNHCR to share WASH standards in Northern Greece with coordination group
- ***[All organisations/Deadline: 7/6]***
- Hygiene group to contribute to share the timing and location of their second meeting
- ***[HPTWG/Deadline:14/06]***
- Samaritans Purse to discuss site on Derveni with IOM.
- ***[SP and IOM/Deadline: 16/6]***
- Recommendations for having a security focal lead to be taken forward to the interagency meeting in Athens
- ***[IRC on behalf of the coordination meeting: 16/6]***

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WASH Hygiene Promotion Working Group North Greece

Meeting Notes – 10th June 2016, 1st Meeting, Hotel Vienna, Polykastro

Agenda:

- 1) Introduction
 - 2) Purpose and objectives of Hygiene Promotion Working Group
 - 3) 4Ws of actors in attendance
 - 4) Common issues
 - 5) Action points
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1) Introduction

- Actors present: Solidarites International, IRC, IOM, Together for Better Days, Samaritan's Purse.
- Red Cross emailed after, was planning to be in attendance and was unable to for this meeting.

2) Purpose and objectives of WG

- Get actors connected regarding HP programming in North Greece
 - WG is a platform for practitioners to exchange ideas, experience and approaches but also to discuss issues of consistency, coordination and hygiene approaches.
 - See who is working in HP already and where, and who will engage in HP in the new warehouse sites
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3) 4W of actors in attendance

(See attached "North Greece Hygiene Promotion WG 4W.excel" for details)

- Actors present reported past, current and planned Hygiene Promotion programming activities
 - IRC and IFRC are the only organizations of those present in the WG currently implementing hygiene promotion programming in North Greece (other than only hygiene kit/items distributions)
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4) Common issues moving forward

- "How can we get people to look after their personal hygiene and environment?"
- Unique context and challenges: not in an open camp (instead mostly warehouses), no typical community structures (various people groups and languages somewhat at random makes HP messaging more complicated), and people's expectation of a short-term stay (low sense of responsibility for cleanliness of camp).
- Open question: Given the above, is there a need to incentivize PoC's to look after their immediate and wider environment?
 - o IFRC: currently only INGO in North Greece using cash incentive (in Nea Kavala and Cherso, 5 euros / 5hrs. work / day).

- As news within and between camps travels easy and fast, consistency of providing incentives (cash or kind) is essential to prevent misunderstandings and confusion.
 - Cash incentives: complicated to pay HP promoters due to GoG rules/regulations on cash payments to PoC's. Unclear if/how Asylum status may change this.
 - IRC suggestion: Try developing hygiene promotion program without cash incentives first.
 - Implementation: Solidarites suggested considering targeting same-nationality (sub)groups at the different times as sensitive information can better be discussed in the comfort of their own language group/culture (though logistically this means duplicating activities).
 - Solidarites also suggested: Combine a stress relief activity with hygiene promotion activities. PoC's dealing with prolonged stress and due to this, it is difficult to gain their attention for hygiene promotion messaging. If they relax, the message has better chance of getting through.
 - Standardized KAP (Knowledge, Attitude, Practice) surveys across actors and locations: suggested by Solidarites.
 - Standardized IEC materials: Material development is time consuming and can be costly, suggested to consider standardising such materials.
 - Question: who can take a lead role on IEC development and sharing?
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5) Action Points

- Create inventory of all WASH actors doing or planning HP in North Greece
[All organisations/Deadline: 17/6]
- Create Dropbox folder for HPWG within existing North Greece WASH WG folder
[Deadline: 13/6]
- Share existing KAP surveys within WG via Dropbox
[Deadline: 17/6]
- Create a folder within Dropbox HP files for IEC Materials
[Deadline: 13/6]
- Develop draft minimum standards for hygiene promotion, for inclusion in the current Full Minimum WASH Standards Document for North Greece
[Deadline: 17/6]
- Recommend minimum content for hygiene kits

Next meeting:

Monday 20/06 @ 11:00 – 12:00 am at meeting room of IRC, Syggrou 30, Thessaloniki (< 10 minutes walk from MoI).

(after concluding the 10:00 – 11:00 Monday morning North Greece WASH WG meeting in Thessaloniki).

DropBox: A Hygiene Promotion folder has been created under the Greece WASH Working Group DropBox. Minutes, documents and other relevant information will be uploaded in the newly created HP folder soon.

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