

Greece National Education Sector Working Group

MEETING MINUTES

MONDAY, 30 OCTOBER 2017 @ UNHCR, ATHENS, GREECE

MEETING AGENDA

1. Review of action points from the last national ESWG meeting
2. Updates from IOM and MOE
 - DYEP, ZEP, kindergarten...
 - Update on MOE/UNICEF/METAdrasi interpretation project
3. Updates on school enrolment
 - Issues on transport
4. IEP registration and access to the accommodation sites by non-formal education actors
5. AOB
 - Joint CP-Edu Island consultation workshop

| AGENDA ITEM | DISCUSSION POINTS | ACTION POINTS (by whom and when) |
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| 1. Review of action points from the last national ESWG meeting | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Systematic information sharing from Site Management Support agencies or accommodation partners on closure of camps → Naoko presented the school enrolment updates at Accommodation partners' meeting, and most of the accommodation partners are already in the ESWG mailing list. ESWG coordination team will continue following up with UNHCR regarding the closure of the sites on a regular basis. • Transfer from the island RICs is ongoing, to mainland accommodation sites and urban accommodation sites. • Issues with guardianship on unaccompanied children living in squats – the meeting with UNHCR Attica FO has not happened yet. Naoko and Xenia will follow up • MOE relevant circulars to be stored on Dropbox → here is the link • Coordination with OAED unemployment scheme teachers assigned to the accommodation sites • Accreditation by MoMP to operate in accommodation sites requires IEP registration as a prerequisite. All NGOs working in Education sector in accommodation sites need to have accreditation by IEP/MOE. Even if your organization has the approval for 2016-2017 school year, you still need to apply again through the online platform. If you have inquiries, please contact info-refugee-education@minedu.gov.gr or write to eswg.greece@gmail.com | <p>Naoko contacted CPWG</p> <p>Meeting to be held with the OAED representative</p> |
| 2. UPDATES BY IOM | <p>IOM started transporting refugee children from accommodation sites for the morning reception classes (ZEP)</p> | |

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eleonas –15 schools, using smaller buses, on average 132 students per day • Andravida also started • Diavata will start this week • Drama will also start morning reception (ZEP) classes soon <p>Questions about Epanomi and Volvi (400 people right now, and another 500 are expected) remain, whether there will be DYEP or ZEP programmes</p> | |
| 2. UPDATE BY MOE | <p>DYEP</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The inter-Ministerial decree has not been signed by Ministry of Finance. Once signed, it is likely that the schools with DYEP classes will start in phases (not at once). • IOM is ready to assist with school transport, as soon as the MOE confirms the opening of the DYEP programme. • Thiva – as it is the first time to open DYEP classes there, a meeting is being planned to discuss with all the school directors and host community. IOM and Solidarity Now will assist the MOE. <p>ZEP</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Phase 2 list for primary and gymnasium has been finalized, and the recruitment of teachers for ZEP classes is ongoing. • Lyceum and EPAL – the request from schools closed, and the MOE is compiling the list of schools that will have ZEPs <p>Kindergartens</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Urban accommodations - there's no deadline for enrolment, and there will be no reception classes. Parents should enroll their children in local kindergartens. • Accommodation sites – MOE's official procurement procedure is taking time. Meanwhile, MOE and ESWG are trying to set up temporary kindergartens in some accommodation sites where they meet the following criteria: (1) containers/classroom available, (2) kindergarten furniture is available, (3) electricity and heating equipment installed, (4) toilet units in proximity of 40-50m from the classroom, (5) fire extinguisher in place and (6) minimum security, such as fence. ESWG coordination team has confirmed that the following sites meet the criteria: Skaramangas, Thiva, Doliana, and Filipiada (apart from already agreed sites such as Lagadikia). ESWG members are in contact with MOE to proceed the establishment of MOE kindergartens. <p>Update on MOE/UNICEF/METAdrasi interpretation project</p> | |

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| | <p>UNICEF signed a contract with METAdrasi to assign interpreters for schools. Interpreters will be working under the guidance of urban RECs. Next week, there will be a kick-off meeting to discuss the plan with urban RECs in Athens, followed by Thessaloniki. The project will first focus on urban Athens and Thessaloniki, but will also include other areas in need, upon mission basis.</p> <p>Schools are in need of standard set of messages for occasions such as school holidays and excursions. It would be useful to have those standard messages translated and distributed to schools.</p> | <p>MOE/UNICEF will follow up with IEP and other schools</p> |
| <p>3. SCHOOL ENROLMENT UPDATES FROM PARTNERS</p> | <p>Oinoftya – with the closure of the camp, some of the refugee families will be relocated to accommodations in Oinoftya town. RECs are trying to register children in local schools. Some schools asked for birth certificates – this is not required, and the NGOs should write to eswg.greece@gmail.com if there's a problem with registration.</p> <p>A few more children started attending in morning classes in Karditsa (thanks to ANKA support) and in Chios from Arsis accommodations (thanks to BAAS support)</p> <p>Refugee children who participated Camp to Campus project were relocated to Malakasa camp, where high schools are far away and they cannot attend. It is preferable if these children can go to other camps where there's high school in the vicinity. → Contact the site manager and seek advice</p> <p>Transport Refugee students continue to have the problem of transport, especially in apartments that are far from schools (and there's not public transport), especially for high schools. IOM's transport generally covers DYEP (afternoon reception) classes from camps. There are exceptions to support morning reception classes, such as Eleonas, Andravida and Drama. IOM will continue to facilitate cases that fit the existing transportation schedules and under the existing budget. Can the buses cover morning routes, when the camp has only DYEP in the afternoon? IOM responded that this can be considered, only after the DYEP starts.</p> <p>Islands – since IOM's transport project is funded by ECHO, the current project cannot be extended to the islands.</p> <p>There are prefectures that can cover transport for children residing in remote areas. NGOs are encouraged to apply for this service.</p> | |

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| | Good practice - Lavrio school principal appealed to the prefecture and managed to bring the service to the camp to pick up the children to schools | |
| 4. IEP ACCREDITATION | <p>DRC – submitted the request to IEP, and waiting for the approval. In Schisto and Kouchohero, activities are discontinued, for 2 weeks. Teachers are on the sites but not allowed to operate.</p> <p>IEP – they continue reviewing the submissions, and within 2 weeks after the submissions, they send to the council board to approve, then the recommendations are sent to MOE.</p> <p>MOE approval is a prerequisite for MOMP to allow operations in accommodation sites.</p> | |
| 5. AOB | <p>Joint CP-Edu Island consultation workshop</p> <p>Due to the imminent departure of Save the Children (at the end of the year) and the lack of visibility for funding as of January 2018, ESWG and Child Protection sub-working group (CPWG) are jointly organizing a consultation workshop with technical staff from the islands to take stocks of lessons and to draw recommendations – dates are set for 21-22 November, to be held in Athens. ESWG coordination team will send an invitation. Interested candidates can contact eswg.greece@gmail.com</p> | |

Next meeting: Monday 13th November 2017, at UNHCR (Michalakopoulou 91), from 11am until 1pm.

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