

IOM CHILD PROTECTION

Child Protection in Site Management Support 2022

IOM Child Protection

MAINLAND

- IOM SMS sites: IOM SMS, IOM General protection and Child protection
- DRC SMS sites (Alexandreia, Veria, Lagadikia): DRC SMS, DRC General Protection, IOM Child Protection

Epirus region : ASB SMS, General Protection and Child protection

IOM CHILD PROTECTION – Transitional period

IOM CP teams

Already fully deployed

IOM undertook gradually as of
September and October the
CP component by Solidarity
Now (UNICEF partner) and
TdH (IOM partner)

Field child protection assistants

Legal assistants

Roving psychologists

Cultural mediators

IOM CHILD PROTECTION

Monitoring and reporting
on the pillars affecting
children

- food security/ nutrition
- education
- health
- water – sanitation- hygiene
- safety-security-shelter
- registration- documentation
- appropriate protection (from abuse, exploitation, neglect etc)
- referral mechanism (timely and appropriate)
- opportunities for community and child participation

**IOM CP
undertakes
the support
of
vulnerable
CP cases
regardless of
registration
status.**

Unaccompanied and separated children - Including

UASCs with Police Notes

Children with severe medical condition (chronic disease etc)

Children with disabilities

Children Victims of Trafficking

Children Victims of Exploitation

**Children at risk: Serious physical, emotional, or psychological abuse, Sexual abuse,
Neglect, Domestic violence**

Early marriages/child parent

Children in conflict with the law

Children who have been falsely recorded as adults (on the basis of their claim)

Families supporting Separated Children

Field Child Protection Assistant

- Providing support by developing **individualized** intervention **plans** for children (and their families), identifying and supporting unaccompanied and separated children, as well as children exposed to increased risks (abuse, neglect, violence).
- Support for **children with disabilities**: Social and psychological support and counselling based on the individual needs of children with health problems and their families, Provision of in-kind support in medical material/consumables/pharmaceutical products, Provision of guidance on and resolution of procedural issues (e.g. for specialized examinations, guidance on welfare benefits), accompaniment of beneficiaries to hospitals and facilitation of medical and diagnostic examinations, specialized diagnostic tests, specialized therapy sessions etc, Interface with agencies and services (e.g. local health centers) and coordination with other actors (e.g. Municipalities, other NGOs).
- Providing **counseling services** to children and their families based on and guided by the special needs of children
- **Prevention activities through FGDs, group sessions, awareness raising sessions** that aim at the empowerment, awareness and sensitization. Group activities and family sessions (recreational activities, art group sessions, self-help groups, targeted group sessions on commonly brought-up thematic areas and protection-related concerns, with the objective to promote personal and community resilience which help with the upbringing of children on the move and their families.

Field Child Protection Assistant

- ❑ Providing information and support to children and their families about current national legislation, their rights and obligations
- ❑ Assess the **Best Interest of the Child** and the Needs of the Children upon arrival at the accommodation center.
- ❑ **Referrals** to specialized support agencies inside and outside the center. Cooperation with Site management and communication with Public Prosecutors for minors or other competent authorities for child protection issues. Request the Site Management for the activation of the relevant age assessment process based on the current legislation.
- ❑ **Participation in the meetings on (child) protection Issues.** Collaboration with the other actors for the best interest of the children.
- ❑ **Cooperation with Non formal education actors, schools and RECs** for vulnerable children and their access to education as well as other protection issues that may arise in the framework of th educational environment.
- ❑ **Ensuring confidentiality** in relation to the **sensitive personal data** of children receiving the above services.
- ❑ **Escort of children** (based on the legal formalities and the relevant necessary approvals) in services outside the accommodation center if the relevant need arises and in collaboration with an escort and interpretation team.

Psychologist- Child Protection

- Providing **psychological support** to children and members of their families in the best interests of the children upon referral to the Child Protection assistant from other actors, community members or the child himself (with the necessary consent of those exercising parental care except in cases of conflict and always within the provisions of the current legislation) or upon referral by the Child Protection Assistant.
- **Referral** of children with mental health conditions to specialized mental health actors (i.e. child psychiatrist)
- **Activities** (group sessions, recreational activities, awareness raising) aiming in the wellbeing of children, parents and caregivers, parental empowerment to mitigate further exposure to risks (neglect, abuse etc) for children and the engagement of children and youth in community and peer-to-peer support activities

Field Legal Assistant -Child Protection

- Providing **legal assistance to unaccompanied and separated children** (for the latter, of their temporary guardians, as well, and other members of their families) in the process of providing international protection and in cases falling within the scope of the Dublin Regulation
- Providing **legal counseling** to children at risk and their families
- **Referrals to specialized actors for legal representation:** Family law procedures (e.g. restraining orders for GBV cases, custody assignment etc), Civil law (correction of personal information of children etc), Penal law (e.g. domestic violence, neglect etc), administration cases (preparation of affidavits etc)
- Cooperation (and communication) with the **Asylum Service to support specific cases.**
- Collaboration with the Child Protection assistant, the Psychologist and the other members of the team for the elaboration of individualized interventions for the children and conducting group informative meetings.

Cooperation with legal aid actors

Solidarity Now: Thiva, Thermopyles, Ritsona, Koutsochero, Volos, Drama, Kavala, Serres.

Greek Council for Refugees : Eleonas, Malakasa, Oinofyta, Korinthos, Schisto, Pyrgos, Andravida, Vagiochori, Kleidi, Nea Kavala, Diavata, Veria, Alexandria, Lagadikia.

Legal representation categories:

- Family law cases (e.g. restraining orders for SGBV cases, custody assignment/ removal processes etc);
- Administrative law cases (e.g. correction of birth certificate, correction of children's personal data etc - with respect to access to asylum/humanitarian protection);
- Criminal law cases (SGBV cases, Child abuse cases, children in conflict with the law, illegal entrance to the country for single parents etc - with the exception of perpetrators in cases of SGBV, CP cases, and violent crimes in general);
- Petition of annulment against 2nd rejection asylum decision and submission of subsequent asylum application for high risk cases; Such referrals may be limited and strictly reasoned;
- Legal guardianship applications of highly vulnerable cases;
- In general, only cases that pertain to aspects of beneficiaries' protection will be undertaken.

TARGETED PROTECTION ASSISTANCE

- I. Emergency accommodation
- II. Emergency transportation
- III. Targeted assistance (e.x private medical appointments, medication, paramedics, translation of documents, baby formula etc)

*baby formula is provided upon prior medical actor's report. In any case, breastfeeding is promoted.

CHALLENGES

1. *Lack of actor for transfers to shelters of SSUAMs*
2. *Delays of allocations to shelters of SSUAMs related to covid outburst*
3. *“CFS” by security and cleaning staff deployed*
4. *Data sharing with SMs*
5. *Limited presence of EODY (e.x booking appointments) and lack of pediatricians*
6. *Age assessment*
7. *Registration of UAMs as adults by police stations*

Questions

Thank you!

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