

Athens CWC Working Group Meeting

Date:	27 th July 2016	
Participants:	DRC; IOM; Mercy Corps ; Oxfam; Salvation Army; SolidarityNow; UNHCR;	
Chair:	Solidarity Now	
Agenda	Discussions	Action points
Review of minutes / action points	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> TWB are working on flashcards(100 most common words). They will be printed in 2 weeks and CwC WG members will be notified. CwC assessments: CwC WG members are asked to continue to share any assessments on CwC activities that they may have. 4W Update: All partners were supposed to update their CwC activities for the month of July. ActivityInfo will replace existing 4W, however, we still need to collect all activities and achievements to input into ActivityInfo's system. 	<p><i>Ongoing</i></p> <p><i>Ongoing</i></p>
Pre-Registration Exercise Update	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> UNHCR update: Alexandra Krause Pre-registration exercise in Skaramagkas, Athens and Thessaloniki are now closed. Through this procedure, third country nationals could receive an asylum seeker card that grants them the right to work 120-200 people were registered per day, a vast majority of them were Pakistanis and Bangladeshis The pre-registration outreach exercise was officially finished on Monday 25 July, which is one week earlier than expected (31st/07). According to UNHCR, 90-95% of PoC have been pre-registered already(through Skype and the exercise together). The process prematurely ended due to the lack of security measures in place and the unexpected arrival of “more than 2,500 Pakistanis”, 500 of whom entered the premises despite being told to wait, on Friday 22 July. It is believed that a large proportion of the population turning up for pre-registration were not actually eligible for the process (long term present in Greece) and had wrongly heard that it would help them obtain work permits. UNHCR reported that approximately 60,000 irregular workers/migrants of Pakistani or Bangladeshi origin may be living presently in Greece and based on this and other information, it is not believed that those who presented themselves are PoC or recently arrived migrants. The people who were not pre-registered but ‘fixed’ and prepared for pre-registration will be will be 	<p><i>ACTION: UNHCR to share materials relevant to data cleaning, analysis and statistics that the Asylum Service will soon publish.</i></p> <p><i>ACTION: re-share pre-registration material.</i></p> <p><i>ACTION:</i></p> <p><i>Key messages to translate and share:</i></p> <p><i>o The large scale pre-registration exercise during which the asylum service set up dedicated centres to pre-register people in sites and urban centres on the mainland is closed</i></p> <p><i>o Those who have not been able to pre-register yet can do</i></p>

	<p>given an additional opportunity to pre-register and will be brought/bussed in to register with assistance. They will be the last group to benefit from the mass registration exercise.; this will end before the beginning of the next week (1/8/16) and only concerns people subject to ‘fixing’.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • During this exercise, the burden on the Skype system for pre-registration was lifted and skype continues to work normally as it is now the main channel of access to the asylum procedures. • The date of appointment through the process of a Skype call is determined after the applicant has received the message. The date is not determined according to the time of pre-registration but depends on vulnerability of the specific person, language/nationality and other similar criteria. • It should be clarified that after this exercise the people are not recognised as refugees, they will receive a second message regarding their asylum appointment. • A report with final statistics will be made available once the numbers have been analysed. • Caritas reported anecdotally that some people in a PSS session at one of their service provision sites expressed their frustration as they thought they got asylum after completing the pre-registration process; this is one example that shows how important it is to communicate effectively on this proves. • Information sessions communicating on the pre-registration process have been carried out by mixed teams with EASO, Asylum services, UNHCR. • Pre-registration leaflets / flyers have been translated and distributed but it seems some have not read them. • From Oxfam: following focus group sessions in mainland sites, PoC expressed that they are mainly unclear about the length and timeframe of pre-registration/asylum procedures. Oxfam expressed concern over the reputational risk that lack of clarity poses. CwC WG members expressed the need for an official statement on this. • The time period for full registration or lodging of application will be 6 months, with an approximate end of January 2017. 	<p><i>so through skype as per previous procedure</i></p> <p><i>o Those who already have been pre-registered in the centres should NOT call skype again; they will receive an appointment date for the full lodging/registration soon</i></p> <p><i>No one will be prevented from accessing the asylum procedure only because the Asylum Service closed the pre-registration centres. The exercise was meant to provide to a large number of people in a short period of time with an asylum seeker card as legal document allowing them to legally stay in the country until their asylum process is completed.</i></p> <p><i>ACTION: UNHCR/Alexandra Krause to speak to Asylum Services to ask that they should produce an official statement for all PoC/migrants/refugees. ACTION: UNHCR/Jessica to follow up on updated translations of FAQ/Next steps documents.</i></p>
Transfers from Mainland to Islands	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The provision of information is not adequate and often many PoC arrive in Athens unaware of the services available to them. The larger protection issue (beyond access to information) is available accommodation remains scarce for many of the people who are arriving from the islands. 	<p><i>ACTION: Invite all interested parties to Advocacy group chaired by OXFAM to push forward accommodation on agenda.</i></p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Victoria Sq WG(Salvation Army) have developed a document on Victoria Square services; it has been shared widely and is available in the Dropbox. Caritas also has a document with extra information on asylum/registration procedures . A second version of the Victoria Square service provision document will be complete (and available at least digitally) shortly and shared with the WG/Dropbox. It may be a few additional weeks before printed versions might be available). • DRC has a similar site and • CwC WG members agree that there remains a need for additional information on service mapping on the mainland but mainly a channel to communicate this information effectively to PoCs. 	<p><i>ACTION: CwC WG members should agree on what to communicate to PoC regarding where to go to access some services. Information should be provided in soft and hard copy (covering all services provided in Victoria Square and elsewhere in Athens) and also perhaps on screens at departure points (ports) and sites: where available. Hotline numbers, websites and maps/addresses must all be included.</i></p> <p><i>ACTION: Messaging on shelter needs to be developed and should be communicated verbally to PoC before departure, especially regarding shelter as this may change over time.</i></p> <p><i>ACTION: CwC WG needs to determine the partners on the islands that should provide PoC leaving to the mainland with necessary/relevant information. A mapping exercise of relevant partners should be conducted and focal points developed. Please see attached matrix and provide any inputs to Jessica (UNHCR)for finalization on 5th of August.</i></p> <p><i>ACTION: CwC partners to update websites, including refugeeinfo.eu, the IFRC website with the updated infosheets. CwC partners with infoscreens should consider uploading the new Victoria Square document for broadcast.</i></p> <p><i>ACTION: Jessica to write to CwC Lesvos to discuss this issue, get the conversation</i></p>
--	---	---

		<i>started and report back to CwC WG.</i>
Government managed Website for PoCs and locals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The new Communications Advisor of Secretary General Voudouris ,Apostolis Kaparoudakis was supposed to attend this meeting to present their plans regarding the creation of a website to communicate to PoCs and Greeks about the overall situation pertaining to the refugee crisis. The site will be endorsed by the Government. The GoG is interested to cooperate with the CwC WG in moving forward. • UNHCR has been in touch with the government official and viewed an initial mock up of the site. It is the sole site that addresses both populations equally. • UNHCR exploring set up of a help.unhcr.org site for information and feedback. 	<i>ACTION: CwC WG(SN) are in contact with him and will share more info as soon as possible.</i>
The next meeting will be held on: 10 August 2016, 14:00 at UNHCR Office - Michalakopoulou 91, 1st floor.		