

ESSWG Minutes

Date:	22/10/2018	Time:	11:00 pm
Location:	UNHCR Office, Epano Skala		
Organizations:	Better Days, Mosaic, UNHCR, MoE, MDM, OHF, REAL International, LATRA, Iliaktida		
Chairing:	METAdrasi		
Co-chairing:	UNHCR		
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The meeting's agenda was the following:

- ❖ Ongoing activities– Updates from the participants
- ❖ Updates on formal education
- ❖ Needs and Priorities for 2019
- ❖ AOB

What was discussed:

Updates Non – Formal Education

- **Mosaic:** They continue with the same capacity of some 600 active students that most of them are adults. The classes offered are IT, Greek & English. There are around 30 children, aged six to 14 years old, mainly residing in Moria and Mytilene that are attending some classes. They are looking to open a new class for children, in a more structured way that could host up to 50 students.
- **MdM:** A new social worker started with MdM, The focal point who will be joining the working groups is Veta.
- **LATRA:** They provide STEM and Greek language classes to a group of 20 ppl, from 16 years old and above. The days are Monday – Wednesday – Friday, from 11 to 13 o'clock. In their office in the city center, in they are providing STEM lessons for UASC and children in families from Iliaktida's accommodation.
- **REAL international:** They recruit volunteer teachers who are interested in working in Lesvos. For the moment, they are recruiting volunteers for Gekko and TAPUAT; they have around 7 volunteers.
- **TAPUAT:** They have 250 children per day, 500 attend regularly. For the moment, there are 100 children in the waiting list. They are at their maximum capacity. There are 10 students who are being prepared to take the TOEFEL exams and 10 students who are being prepared for Ellinomatheia. Moreover, there are 12 students attending Poliana art school. In their planning is to create a workshop schedule for next year that could consist of cool alternative workshops, photography, storytelling, graphic design for the students. They are in the process of looking for partners and funds.

- **ILIAKTIDA:** From the families residing in apartments, there are 45 children enrolled in formal education. In regards to UASC, there are 80 minors on the waiting list until they are enrolled at formal education. 140 UASC are attending classes in Gekko. Moreover, the UASC residing on the Safe Zone are attending Gekko School in the afternoon.
- **OHF:** Their maximum capacity is 175 children but due to the recent transfers they have at the moment 140 attending. They are still registering children and providing classes in English, Math and mother tongue. In their immediate plans is to hire someone who can teach Greek.

Updates Formal Education

MoE:

- There was a meeting in Athens that lasted for 10 days where all the RECs countrywide participated; UNICEF was also part of the event.
- On 15 October, the evening classes started for the children of Kara Tepe. At the moment, there are approximately 140 children attending formal education in all levels. There were no major issues reported in Lesvos with the local community in contrast with Samos and Chios. For the moment, there are two classes operating in the 6th middle school of Mytilene and six classes in 2 different primary schools.
- There are no official plans on behalf of the MoE regarding Moria, at least yet. Mr. Pavlou has taken over the education of children 12 years old and above as well as UASC.
- The plan of MoE is to incorporate children into the normal Greek system and not continue creating 'emergency' structures. The main purpose is to have children learn Greek and English and receive a certificate that they have attended formal education that could use to the mainland or to another European country in case they are relocated.

Needs and Priorities

The propositions of the working group are the following:

- Creation of a complementary UASC transit shelter
- Creation of a library for the residents of Moria (a possible collaboration with Libraries Without borders?)
- Advocacy on a central level in order for more children to be included in the formal education system
- History and Geography classes for youth
- Great need for adult education like language and IT classes, music but also the teaching of social skills such as how the public services work, what is AMKA/AFM, how you acquire them etc.
- Targeted activities for specific groups such as single dads and youth
- In regards to formal education, there is a need of transportation and escorting of the children from Kara Tepe to the afternoon classes
- One major challenge in the planning is the uncertainty; as there is no way to predict the number of arrivals and departures of children and it is not known how many places for refugee children will be created in formal education it is really difficult for the NGOs to plan on an efficient and inclusive way.

- A proposition was to map all the existing warehouses/empty houses that are on the road from Panagiouda to Larsos that could possibly be rented for educational purposes? Could possibly UNHCR or anyone fund that? Additional space is needed and is one of the major constraints

AOB

- BookAid International will be on a mission on 29 and 30 October; they will visit Moria, Kara Tepe and structures in Mytilene. They have donated books to Mosaic in the past and are interested in assessing the needs and donate again.
- UNHCR informed the working group on the upcoming 'Education Cannot Wait' mission, a global fund who is looking to expand its activities in the Greek islands.