

Greece National Education Sector Working Group MEETING MINUTES

WEDNESDAY, 17TH JANUARY 2018 @ UNHCR, ATHENS

MEETING AGENDA

1. Updates from the MOE
 - DYEP and ZEP, kindergartens
 - School enrolment data collection exercise
 - Interpretation4school project
2. Updates from partners (new partnerships, phase-out plans)
3. Brief presentation of the result of the island consultation workshop in 21-22 November
4. AOB

AGENDA ITEM	DISCUSSION POINTS	ACTION POINTS (by whom and when)
I. Updates from MoE	<p>DYEP:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 25 accommodation sites (most of the sites) included in the IOM transportation4education programme -- 1,630 children transported to morning+DYEP schools, thus approximately 95% of the children living in camps attending education services transported by IOM - More DYEPs to open for newly opened camps (such as Katsikas), or for new inflows in existing camps (such as Schisto). Thus hiring more teachers Thus new hiring of more teachers needed. - 17 kindergartens in reception facilities (for children 4-6 years of age), mostly in northern Greece. Not only in containers donated by UNHCR and NGOs but also the MOE's proper containers have been procured started arriving in accommodation sites. Also opening in Kara Tepe in Lesvos and VIAL RIC in Chios; thus covering more children now than in May 2017 <p>Morning reception classes (ZEP)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Need to discuss NFE educational activities for the newly established/reopened camps

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Primary schools: request from teachers for more training - Secondary schools: 123 reception classes established all over Greece - Teacher hiring Challenge: Not all teachers took up positions after being hired - 40% did not take appointments (mostly part time positions, often in remote areas of the country requiring moving, problematic because of costs yet also because of lack of affordable accommodation particularly in islands/tourism). Therefore, the third round of hiring for primary school teachers and second round of hiring for secondary school teachers needed. <p>School enrolment data collection exercise:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - MOE with the support of UNICEF collected public school enrolment data from accommodation partners and UAC shelters in December 2017 (not including the Accommodation Sites) - Though detailed figures are being validated by the MOE, about 64% of primary-school-age children and 57% of gymnasium-going-age children are attending public schools. More detailed numbers will be presented in the next ESWG meeting. - New arrivals changed the situation considerably. In Athens, a lot of new enrollment requests in last week, about 250 requests, mostly in areas (A' Athens Reg. Dir.) with schools already full - Increasing problem of 'missing in schools' registrars' children within this process of moving inside and outside the country. When children move out of the islands, or from anywhere in the mainland, they do not inform the school principals, thus their registrations remain in the system. If they are re-enrolled in another location, they will be registered twice in the system. "My school" (MoE's EMIS platform) cannot follow the movement of children from school to school (duplications) or out of school (thus alerts for 'missing'). To un-subscribe children from one school (as in order to enroll them in another) needs declaration of parents 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Request to UNHCR accommodation team to better plan locations for renting of flats • Need for increased vigilance of NGOs to enroll new children • NGOs to assist in enrolling moving/missing children to school. Need to find a
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	<p>Interpretation4schools project</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - MoE-UNICEF-METAdrasi partnership started; project operating in Athens and Thessaloniki - Dedicated schools expressed interest following MoE invitation circular to use interpretation services for improving education & communication with refugee children and parents - MoE issued passes for interpreters - In Athens only 1/3 of dedicated schools sent requests, others stated they covered needs. This can change with time as we have more positive reports from schools using the service, and we will also get requests from student side through accommodation partners. - Several schools actively participate, even with proposals on reporting - Can children in squats be assisted? → you should contact the RECs for urban Athens. 	<p>mechanism to inform schools when families relocate.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NGOs with requests from parents for interpretation4schools project should contact competent RECs
<p>2. Updates from partners (new partnerships, phase-out plans)</p>	<p>Mainland</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - With NRC's imminent departure at the end of March, Alexandria and Veroia will be covered by DRC, and Serres by SolidarityNow/UNICEF - With TdH's departure at the end of March in Epiros – who will cover? - Secours Islamique Francais (SIF) – exiting at the end of March from Malakasa – municipality workers OAED are working to take over. containers – MOMP - NRC – youth center, 2 Feb grand opening 12-20 years old NFE and recreational activities - IOM starting IT classes in Thiva (in consultation with SN) - DRC reported increased requested from Turkish persons - Solidarity Now adult language classes with Almasar in Ambelopiki 	<p>Need to identify and cover emerging gaps and coordinate</p> <p>Contact Vaso (vaso@solidaritynow.org) for more info</p>

	<p>Islands: especially after Save the Children's departure at the end of December:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Metadrasi and SOS Villages will cover NFE in KaraTepe (142 children registered in METAdrasi's class on the first day). METAdrasi will also assume the coordinator role for ESWG in Lesvos - METAdrasi will offer classes for UAs from Moria at our new educational centre in Mytilene in partnership with the UNHCR - METAdrasi is due to operate NFE for children in the space previously operationalized by StC outside Vial beginning February 5th - Secours Islamique plans to leave, thus Malakasa NFE needs will remain uncovered - Leros covered by whom? NCR? - Samos RIC already covered by Praxis 	
<p>3. Brief presentation of the result of the island consultation workshop in 21-22 November</p>	<p>See the presentation</p> <p>Currently the report is being finalised</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Consultation workshop coincided with SC lessons learned appraisal - CP (CFS) & Education coordination missing - Emergency phase over, yet steady flow of new arrivals - Current capacity of RICs problematic; overcrowded - Smooth handover from UNHCR to Asylum Service - Challenges: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Lack of space, still many actors and coordination mission o Coordination increased in KaraTepe and Samos <p>Staff turnover, less trained teachers</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Re-establish the Sub-national coordination on the islands after SCI's departure; as well as with Child Protection actors o Need to develop coherent strategy for NFE in islands
<p>4. AOB</p>	<p>Concern over a lot of drop-outs or children who stopped attending schools</p>	<p>This will be discussed after the detailed numbers presented from the school enrolment survey</p>

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NEXT MEETING:

MONDAY, 29/1/2018 @11:00 AM