

# Education Working Group – Minutes – 28 November 2018

<b>Meeting Name</b>	Education Working Group		
<b>Meeting Location</b>	UNHCR office meeting room 1	<b>Meeting Date</b>	28 November 2018
<b>Chairperson</b>	METAdrasi/UNHCR	<b>Meeting Time</b>	11:00 am
<b>Minutes</b>	UNHCR		

**Participants:** UNHCR, METAdrasi, One Happy Family, Refugee Educational Coordinators, Refugee Observatory at University of Aegean, Iliaktida, LATRA, School of Peace, Ministry of Education

## 1. Updates from Participants

### University of Aegean, *The Aegean Observatory of the Refugee and Migration Crisis* (“Refugee Observatory”)

- The representative informed the group that the University of Aegean is participating in the 16 Days of Activism campaign to raise awareness of SGBV
- The Refugee Observatory is creating an archive to record the refugee and migration crisis in the Aegean region. The University welcomes actors in the Education Working Group to discuss collaboration with the Refugee Observatory which is especially interested in collecting material associated to the refugee crisis.
- The Education Working group expressed support for related materials to be amassed in one place.

Action point: METAdrasi suggested collaborating by creating an online platform for the archives, with the aim to create a platform that is easy for all actors to access.

Action point: University will arrange a meeting with METAdrasi in order to explore a possible collaboration in regards to the archive.

### One Happy Family (“OHF”)

- They have around 100 students in their classes which include French and Greek. Classes are taught in Farsi and Arabic.
- There is regular, almost daily attendance of these students.
- One challenge is posed by the attendance of more than 70 students for level 1 Farsi, which has only one teacher. OHF are trying to split this class
- The adult school is for students 18+ and in some cases where there is no space in the School of Peace, some 17 year olds are attending.
- Currently there is no registration system in place but the new coordinator is working on a way to organize it
- Classes are taking place in the morning between 11am – 2pm
- OHF welcomes materials from other educational actors

### **School of Peace**

- Age group ranges from 6 to 17 years of age
- The attendance rate had reduced the past few days, perhaps as a result of the heavy rain. Thus, on average 110-130 children are attending
- The majority of students come from the Dari-speaking community
- Most of the children come from Moria with about 20-30 children coming from Kara Tepe; they are presumably not registered in formal education
- There is no Greek classes in the curriculum for the moment

### **LATRA**

- Lessons take place in Kara Tepe and in their Centre in Mytilene
- They are preparing for an exhibition on 12 December. Children residing in UNHCR apartments run by Iliaktida will present a city made from recyclable material. There will be music and food. All organisations are invited, including parents of children and communities from the island
- The Kara Tepe adult school is going well. There has been no new registrations and there are currently 23 to 24 adults. Only Greek classes are provided.

### **Iliaktida**

- Classes continue as usual.
- There are 15 children who are being prepared to sit the exams for a Greek certificate (Ελληνομάθεια) and 15 to sit the exams on TOEFL. Iliaktida's teachers are preparing the children and Better Days will cover the exam expenses.
- From 2pm to 4pm, children residing in the Safe Zone, aged 12 and above are attending Gekko School.
- From 4pm to 6pm, the children in families residing in the apartments run by Iliaktida and already attending formal education are going to Gekko for homework support. Only children aged 12 to 18 are attending.
- Gekko provides Greek and English lessons for adults residing in Iliaktida's apartments after 2pm
- There are currently 51 UASC enrolled and 99 who are on the waiting list

### **Ministry of Education**

- There are 90 enrolments in the primary schools and 34 in Gymnasio in the afternoon classes; due to the continuous transfers around 80 children are attending on a daily basis
- There are some 30 children on the waiting list for those between 6-12 years of age
- A new teacher will be appointed, and an additional afternoon class will be created however it is unlikely that all 30 children in the waiting list will be able to enrol.

- There are two schools in Mytilene which are accepting some children from Kara Tepe in morning class
- Both the RECs responsible for Kara Tepe apart from their other tasks, they are monitoring both the primary and the middle schools that they have afternoon classes. Everything is running smoothly for the moment.
- Both the organizations providing NFE in Kara Tepe are supporting the MoE; SOS Villages with homework support for the children attending the afternoon classes and METAdrasi by preparing the children for formal education.
- There are some 35 children attending kindergarten, mostly born in 2013, as this is the year before they can be admitted into formal education. If there is space in the kindergarten they will enrol children born in 2014.
- There are currently four teachers working in the kindergarten which is considered as an official ΔΥΕΠ branch of the 14<sup>th</sup> kindergarten.
- There are 8 children attending reception classes (TY) and 1 in the regular Greek class
- Moreover, there are two children from Kara Tepe attending vocational high school
- The RECs in collaboration with METAdrasi are preparing those aged 14 to 17 for their entrance into formal education.
- The RECs expressed that the priority should be learning the Greek language and preparing the children to integrate effectively in formal education. She emphasised that the priority should be the academic subjects, over non-academic subjects such as sports or music.
- According to the Regional Director for Education, Mrs. Perdikouri is responsible for Kara Tepe DYEP primary school enrolments and the shelters of Iliaktida (children in families) and Mrs. Antonarakou is also responsible for Kara Tepe kindergarten and high school DYEP classes. Lastly, Mr. Pavlou is the responsible REC for Pikpa and Iliaktida guesthouses for UASC.
- Mr. Pavlou is having meetings with schools in order to organize the enrolments and is awaiting the appointment of teachers for morning classes.

### **METAdrasi**

- Kara Tepe has seen improvement over the past few months. In part this had happened because information and instructions on educational opportunities for children have been given to parents

### **AoB**

- METAdrasi and UNHCR informed the working group that another mapping of educational activities will take place in the next few weeks, which will then be distributed to communities
- The minutes from the Education Working Group will be shared one day before the next meeting in order for everybody to review
- On 27 & 28 November UNHCR is facilitating a two-hour session for the teachers in regards to identification/signs of abuse and referral pathways.

- On 30 November there will be a Coordinators' Skills training & ESWG Strategic Planning 2019 that will take place in Athens. Both UNHCR and METAdrasi will attend and will update the participants on the developments on the next working group.
- Iliaktida will host a workshop on 8 December regarding formal and non-formal education; an invitation will be sent to the group shortly.
- The coordinators concluded by encouraging actors present to continue to share new ideas and suggestions in the Education Working Group