Education Sub Working Group Meeting

Hungary Refugee Coordination Forum (RCF) for Ukraine Emergency

30 January 2023

Participants: Balazs Dezsenyi (Unicef), Irina Fedur (TdH), Nina Hager (UNHCR), Magda Gray (Ukrainian Refugee School at AISB), Kata Karasz (Partners Hungary), Agnes Lux (IOM, Child Rights NGO Coalition), Sara Yasan (Unicef), Stephanie Woldenberg (UNHCR), Andrea Naletto (Unicef, Regional Office), Andrea Gruber (NoBadKid - Pressley Ridge), Katalin Bognar (Menedek), Gabor Daroczi (Global Human Dignity Foundation), Zea Gyarmati (TDH), Jelena Petrovic (IRC), Boglarka Bata (Carpathian Foundation), Beata Csomos (Carpathian Foundation), Eredics Lilla (Romaversitas), Manuela Moy (UNHCR), Office of the Commissioner for Rundamental Rights, Tatyana Vamos (Vamos Foundation), Zsofia Toth, Katalin Kovacs, Oksana Matviishyna (Ukrainian School), Zsuzsanna Gyenes (United Way/EDUA), Zsuzsanna Laszlo (Menedek), Veronika Csertoi (TDH)

Presentation

Recording of the meeting

Agenda

1. Updates about education network meetings (MOHA, EDUA) (10 min)
2. Workplan 2023 of the Education working group (45 min)
3. Presentation by Unicef about education in emergency (30 min)
4. AOB: (5 min)
    - update on Partners Hungary Foundation`s laptop distribution
    - update on the school meals

1. Education networks

- **MOHA network:** The original aim of the network was to engage school directors who have refugee and migrant children in their schools. By now, many teachers and NGOs have also joined the network. Currently there are 168 members, everyone is welcome but considering the different interests of the participants, there might be more focused thematic discussions organized in the future.

  Meetings are generally taking place online every 2-3 months. There will be an in-person event in May.

- **TDH:** A series of workshops is organized, it started with a well-attended webinar on the educational situation of refugee children from Ukraine. More information will be shared at the next Edu WG.

- **EDUA project:** EDUA project made a survey amongst schools and kindergartens on the enrolment figures of Ukrainian refugee children (but dual citizen children are not included). 200 kindergartens and 170 schools answered: approximately 630 children are enrolled in these institutions (school - 410, kindergarten - 124). In more than half of the schools there are only 1-2 children, there are 8 schools with more than 10 refugee children. EDUA estimates around 8.000-10.000 Ukrainian refugee children in the Hungarian education system. https://uainfo.hu/2023/01/18/hany-menedekes-tanul-magyar-kozoktatasban/

2. Workplan 2023

Outcome of the previous Education WG (15 December 2022)

Advocacy

• Developing advocacy messages and an advocacy plan

• Efforts to address discrimination of refugee children in schools & working with Roma activists

Coordination and collaboration

• Ensure to maintain updated service map

• Strengthening the coordination with other existing networks (for example MOHA and EDUA)

• Strengthening the collaboration with the Basic Needs working group – which items prevent children from going to school (shoes, clothes) and who can provide them where, who can transport them?

• Keep and enhance coordination with refugee led organization, to include their views, ensure they are aware of existing programs

• Maintain and enhance coordination with the MHPSS working group

Results from the feedback round: EDU SWG Check-In - Feedback Results.pdf

Main points raised:

- Information/experience/tool sharing
- Involve authorities/policy makers
- Smaller thematic working groups/ discussions

Additional points raised during the meeting:

- We have to diversify target groups, and vulnerabilities as all have different needs and challenges
- Gaps in the education systems of Hungary and Ukraine existed before the war/emergency should be also looked at

Based on these inputs, the workplan will be developed by the chair and co-chair of the Edu WG and shared with the group.

3. Introduction to the INEE Minimum standards for Education

Please see the presentation here: INEE MS Introduction_EWG Meeting_Hungary 30.01.2023.pdf

Website: https://inee.org/

INEE Minimum Standards Handbook in pdf (in English) https://spherestandards.org/wp-content/uploads/INEE-EN.pdf

Challenges mentioned by participants:

- Language, lack of sufficient language support
- The general situation of the education system in Hungary: underresourced, undercapacitated and overburdened (e.g. full classes, burnout of teachers)
- Lack of preparedness of the education system, lack of trainings
- Attitude towards refugees, bullying in school
- Lack of catch-up classes
- Families hoping to return Ukraine soon – `transitionary` nature does not help long-term commitment
- Different curricula, different education system in Hungary and Ukraine
- Insufficient housing, crowded shelters, gaps in basic needs
- Lack of coordination

4. AOB

Partners Hungary`s laptop distribution: Both rounds of applications (for NGOs and for educational institutions) are closed by now and the project will finish by April 2023. 77 NGOs successfully applied and 3700 laptops are allocated to them out of which 2200 are already handed over. 50 educational institutions are about to receive 1500 laptops. Partners Hungary expected more applications from schools, hence there are still 1700-1800 unallocated laptops in the warehouse. **A new round of applications will be launched.**

Meals in school after six months are only free if the income of the family does not exceed HUF 200,564 per person per months. More **information and translated application forms**: https://help.unhcr.org/hungary/help/counselling/