

## Greece National Education Sector Working Group MEETING MINUTES



MONDAY, 16 APRIL 2018 @ UNHCR, ATHENS, GREECE

### MEETING AGENDA

1. FOLLOW-UP ACTIONS FROM THE LAST MEETING
2. UPDATES FROM THE MOE AND THE PARTNERS
3. FINALISATION OF THE 2018 ESWG STRATEGY
4. PRESENTATION OF THE SURVEY ON REASONS FOR NON ENROLMENT
5. PRESENTATION BY VELOS YOUTH
6. AOB

AGENDA ITEM	DISCUSSION POINTS	ACTION POINTS (by whom and when)
I. FOLLOW-UP ACTIONS FROM THE LAST MEETING	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- With regard to the communication with the refugee communities and possibly fixing the blog posts about the school enrolment procedure, so as to prevent refugee parents going directly to schools to enroll children, it was discussed with the Refugee.Info that we should wait until the new school year is announced in a few weeks, as changing the already translated texts is a cumbersome task.</li> <li>- UNHCR to share the <u>draft SOP on transfer of children from the islands to the mainland, from an open accommodation site to an urban apartment, one school to another</u>, as there's enough confusion about the transfer process: → Xenia and Lydia from UNHCR, Tita from MoE and Despina from UNICEF had a meeting on 4<sup>th</sup> April. Despina and Xenia explained about the discussion during the meeting and the efforts to clarify the transfer procedure. UNHCR/MOE will draft a procedure (who informs whom, on which form, the MOE producing an attestation of attendance to the parents, etc.), with responsibilities of different personel/organisations.</li> <li>- The above-mentioned meeting also included the issue about the <b>congestion of certain areas of Athens, thus limiting the access to public schools</b> as there is no more seats in the schools in the areas. The problem is also with the fact that it takes many months for schools to 'deregister' the child once he/she leaves the country, thus schools</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- UNHCR and MOE to draft an SOP on transfer procedures</li> <li>- UNHCR to come up with a strategy for avoiding congested areas in urban Athens for new apartments in order to facilitate access to schools.</li> <li>- Follow up on the action points on de-congestion of</li> </ul>

	<p>are keeping empty seats while other children are on the waiting lists. This process needs to be amended by the MOE, while UNHCR and its apartment partners' efforts to avoid establishing new apartments in such areas. UNHCR's apartment partners suggested that the issue might be to do with the pressure on deadlines; if they are given more time, they might be able to find apartments in other locations?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Transport – IOM's phase-out from the school transport programme at the end of the school year – to be discussed with the MoE. A meeting has not happened, and Naoko will follow up.</li> <li>- Tools to be shared for surveys and FGD – the online questionnaire was circulated and the analysis to be presented in the next meeting</li> <li>- Share 3W with the group – done and will be updated</li> <li>- Share the good practice of OAED collaboration with the entire group – ELIX already sent their input. Waiting for Solidarity Now and DRC</li> <li>- Harmonising indicator among ECHO partners, to be recommended to the ESWG members to report against – a meeting was held between UNICEF and METAdrasi. Establishing a rate for 'regular attendance', to be followed up.</li> </ul>	<p>areas and the de-registration procedure with MoE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- ESWG to discuss with MoE on transport for 2018-2019</li> <li>- Documentation of good practices with OAED teachers</li> <li>- Establish a common indicator for measuring regular attendance</li> </ul>
2. UPDATES FROM THE MOE AND THE PARTNERS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- After NRC's departure, <b>DRC</b> received MOE approvals and are set to start NFE activities in <b>Veroia and Alexandria</b> from 23 April</li> <li>- Trikala (400 persons currently hosted in apartments managed by the Municipality/E-Trikala) – DRC to open a community centre in Trikala, in collaboration with Municipality</li> <li>- <b>UNICEF/Solidarity Now</b> received a clearance by the MoMP on <b>Serres</b></li> </ul>	
3. FINALISATION OF THE 2018 ESWG STRATEGY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Members need to send the comments on the draft <a href="#">ESWG 2018 strategy</a> by the next meeting on Monday 30 April.</li> <li>- A big question is how we are going to monitor the progress/results, and gather results against common indicators. After the phase-out of ActivityInfo reporting, at the moment, we are only doing Who does What Where (3W). Members already report within their organisations and to their donors, so as long as the indicators are reasonable, it is not difficult to collect results. But who is going to collect and analyse data, is the question, as the current ESWG coordination team (only UNICEF) is under resourced.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- UNICEF will consult internally</li> </ul>
4. PRESENTATION OF THE SURVEY ON REASONS FOR NON ENROLMENT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The survey was circulated among teachers and social workers, and got over 140 responses. Naoko presented an incomplete analysis of the results but a comprehensive analysis report will be presented at the next meeting.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Naoko to present the results of the reasons for non-enrolment at the next meeting</li> </ul>

<p>5. PRESENTATION BY VELOS YOUTH</p>	<p>Velos Youth presented their activity for youth. VY is operating since last June in 2017 around Exarchia and Omonia, for youth around ages 16-21. They do not represent the population around squats. It offers a space for these young persons to express their opinions and their solidarity. VY uses a bottom-up, holistic, 'living rights' approach, with working assumptions that the young persons are powerless and vulnerable, while at the same time, they are quite capable and able to navigate complex issues, if good and appropriate measures are in place. VY offers space for their solidarity and can communicate with organisations about issues expressed through youth lens.</p> <p>Specific activities can be information sharing, referrals (including, to education) and feedback, casework, reflective activities. Re-centralise the young persons, giving them decision-making seats.</p> <p>They express their concerns about education and schooling – 'Will school increase our positions? Are there other ways to increase my position? What do we want to get from school? They like the social aspects, being around peers. Some young people want this schooling experience they do have many concerns - will this effort help us get a job? Certificates? They understand that schooling is a long term investment – it is difficult for young persons to focus on long term goals, as they tend to focus on immediate goals. What kind of education do young people want? Good education, but they don't know what exactly.</p> <p>Questions from the participants:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Youth is a clear gap. Too few organisations working with/for youth.</li> <li>- Can they be included in programming processes of NGOs?</li> <li>- How about the gender issue – VY has many young male persons but not female, and is an issue.</li> <li>- More difficulties in peripheral cities than Athens</li> </ul>	
<p>6. AOB</p>	<p>-</p>	

The next national ESWG meeting will be held on **Monday 30th April.**

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