

Greece National Education Sector Working Group MEETING MINUTES



MONDAY, 29 OCTOBER 2018 @ UNHCR, ATHENS, GREECE

1. Review of action points from the previous meeting
2. Updates on school opening and enrolment
 - a. Updates from MOE & IOM
 - b. Updates from Accommodation partners (including the congestion in urban Athens)
 - c. Updates from other regions
3. Information management (IM) updates
 - a. MOE-ESWG's survey on school enrolment
 - b. 4W and 2W visualization
4. NFE activities
 - a. 2019 plan, funding proposals
5. AOB

AGENDA ITEM	DISCUSSION POINTS	ACTION POINTS (by whom and when)
I. REVIEW OF ACTION POINTS FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UNICEF and Refugee.Info need to follow up on the blog post on enrolment information in Greek, Sorani and Kurmanji. • Transportation for children from Agia Eleni (considered to be urban apartments although it has a characteristics of a site) – IOM updated that they are starting to transport through their buses, initially 60 children for 1 morning reception class (high school), 2 DYEP classes. Some children are still waiting for vaccinations. • Short information leaflets have been drafted by the team of volunteers (Arsis and KEDHL) to inform parents about rules and regulations. This was well received by the MoE primary 	UNICEF and Refugee.Info to update

	<p>education department, which was already drafting a similar one. It was requested to closely with the Secondary Education department to draft a similar one. Once ready, UNICEF will ask METAdrasi to translate into different languages.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Actions points (including Frequently Asked Questions + guidance) are being followed by for Unaccompanied Children’s education. A meeting focusing on UAC’s education will follow the monthly CPsWG meetings – invitation to follow. • Following the RECs’ meeting on 9-10 Oct, upon request of the Regional Director of MOE, a sub-national ESWG will be formed for Thessaly region. UNICEF and DRC are following it up. 	
<p>2. UPDATES ON SCHOOL OPENING AND ENROLMENT</p>	<p><Open accommodation sites></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • IOM transport: IOM started transporting for 20 accommodation facilities with 1,800 children registered, of whom, more than 1,600 being transported, with 83 buses. Skaramangas, Shisto, Oinofyta, Volvi, Elefsina will start this week. • For Kouchehero, Volos and Lavrio, children are transported by periferiako buses (not IOM). • Registering newly arrived children – e.g. more than 30 children in Malakasa. • Vaccinations: some of the newly arrived children from islands have not been vaccinated. Also, some children are waiting for the second round of vaccinations. UNICEF asked ESWG members to get updates from the partners when they encounter unvaccinated children, in order to quickly inform KEELPNO (in parallel to local efforts between RECs and KEEPNO – although the coordination seems to be working well on the ground). • IOM hotels: some 2,000 persons have been transferred from the islands, and some of them are hosted in hotels in Volvi and Grevena, managed by IOM. Whether these children will immediately be included in formal schools – need to check with the MoE. If not, there is an urgent need to support these children with NFE. → <u>it is important to have a preparedness/contingency plan such as mobile teams. This needs to be included in funding proposals.</u> • Negative reactions by local communities: there have been negative reactions expressed by local communities in Grevena, Thermopiles, Serres and Chios. Relevant teams (MoE, RECs and NGOs) are dealing with them. It is important not only to sensitize the host communities but also to show support to them (that they also benefit). ESWG coordination team has asked the MoE and NGOs to come up with suggestions. <p><Urban accommodations></p>	<p>Inform UNICEF (nimoto@unicef.org) about the cases of children unvaccinated.</p> <p>ESWG coordination team and IOM to check with the MoE on the status of enrolment for children in Volvi and Grevena hotels.</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Urban congestion and children on the waiting list: ‘A’ Athinon continues to have problems of around 700 children being on the waiting list, due to the lack of physical space in nearby schools. Needs a more rigorous approach for advocacy and strategies to solve this problem. → UNICEF has already held discussions with UNHCR, DG ECHO, MOE (national and Attica) and the Municipality of Athens. A concrete advocacy plan will be produced. • How accommodation partners should inform schools on children who have left (through informal ways) in order to deregister the child from MySchool → UNICEF and UNHCR will discuss with MoE and clarify the process. • Some secondary school students are still waiting for ZEP teachers to be in place (schools are reluctant to receive without ZEP classes) • KEDNFX (Nea Filadelfia): 86 children are enrolled and 31 others are on the waiting list – especially on high school. Other children don’t want to attend high schools, only want to learn English. • ADDMA: 300 out of 378 children (5-15 years old) are enrolled in A Athinon, 78 pending due to lack of places, etc. Also, some girls (Syrians, Iraqis, Afghans) are not registering in formal schools, and are looking after brothers and sisters. Parents refuse to send them. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> → UNICEF and ELIX introduced a good practice - once they had a strategy to first get girl adolescents used to a non-formal education environment in Eleonas camp (as a temporary measure). Then slowly, step by step, raised motivations to learn, and they moved to ELIX’s NFE centre outside the camp, then enroll them in formal schools. → Encourage communities to either form a group of adolescent girls to go to school together for safety reasons, or parents take turns to accompany. → Action for Education has a women’s programme in Plateia Americas. Contact Martha • Unaccompanied Children (UAC) – by December, by the experience, around 30% of the children will be transferred to other countries in Europe for Family Reunification. For this reason, those who are waiting for the transfer have not been enrolled, or their space in school will be available. In this case, we are expecting another trend of enrolment phase in January, when they find out that they did not get to leave. There’s a need for advocacy to make this happen without interruptions (after X’mas break, it gets more difficult for schools to accept new students). <p><Updates from the other regions></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • High school students in many sites are waiting for ZEP teachers to be assigned. 	<p>UNICEF and UNHCR to discuss with the MoE</p> <p>Apartment NGOs to hold focus group discussions to find out about exact reasons of the adolescents and their parents (separately).</p> <p>Discuss with the MoE on the issue of family reunification trends</p> <p>UNICEF and METAdrasi to look into the communication with</p>
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Many children coming from Fylakio remain unregistered in camps in Northern Greece. This brings some delays with the publish of ADYM and vaccinations. However, unregistered children are allowed to register and attend in formal and non-formal education. • UNICEF/METAdrasi's interpretation in public schools has restarted, but not all the principals are informed about the project. Is it because they don't read their e-mails? • DYEP started in Kara Tepe and Chios two weeks ago. Other islands are still waiting. UNICEF has sent school kits to Chios, and is sending to Kos, Leros, Samos and Lesvos. • Chios: Vial RIC - a lack of bus escorts in public school buses is an issue. There are low numbers of registrations and attendance. In urban accommodations, all primary school age children have been registered. There is one secondary school with three reception classrooms but teachers have not yet been assigned so classes have not yet started. Same for EPAL – children have not started attending due to the unavailability of ZEP teachers. Transportation continues to be an issue. A gap of approximately 50 preschoolers in VIAL without access to formal or non-formal education. • Island RECs need interpreters in order to register children in schools. • Samos: Currently, there are 1100 children in the RIC, of whom 600 are of school age. Vaccinations have not taken place yet, they have been informed that 360 vaccination doses have arrived but still not adequate for all school-age children. Many children in Samos that have stayed there more than a year. In the urban accommodations, 112 children in total are hosted, out of whom, 16 children in kindergarten age, 27 children in primary school age; and 15 children in secondary school age. However, only 13 are following classes because of lack of transportation since the accommodations are far from the school even though they have been registered. This is also a problem even for local children. The Directorate has sent a message to the ministry to solve this but not actions yet. 	<p>principals on the Int4Edu project UNICEF and IOM to discuss with Chios on the bus escort problem</p>
<p>3. INFORMATION MANAGEMENT UPDATES</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Education 2W (Who does Where) map was shared through the mailing list, developed based on the 4W (Excel) inputs by the partners. Please contact eswg.greece@gmail.com for more inputs and corrections. Gaps of NFE actors' presence exist in Oinofyta, Katerini, Ioannina, but there has not been more elaborate gap analysis based on NFE beneficiaries, and type of activities. • The ESWG coordination team will be supporting the MoE to collect data in camps, urban sites, UAC shelters and hotels. The format will be sent in the coming week. 	<p>Partners to send inputs to eswg.greece@gmail.com in order to appear on the 2W map. The # of NFE beneficiaries to be</p>

		collected in the next round. The MoE will send the form for inputs
4. NFE ACTIVITIES - 2019 PLAN, FUNDING PROPOSALS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Education Cannot Wait (ECW) visit was hosted by UNHCR and UNICEF. The funding proposal will be submitted soon. This will cover the existing NFE programmes of UNICEF and UNHCR in the five islands. IOM and UNICEF are preparing to submit funding proposals to cover 26 Open Accommodation Sites, which include NFE in each site. However, this will not cover all the needs as the funding per site is not enough. There will always be needs for other actors, and good and transparent planning is necessary in order to avoid duplications and cover gaps. IEP accreditation is needed to operate inside Open Accommodation Facilities and in RICs. ESWG coordination team will speak with IEP to find out who needs to submit. However, the process of the accreditation has been largely delayed. The participants voted and decided that the strategic planning workshop will be held on 30 Nov. The first part of the day in the morning will be ESWG sub-national coordinators' skills training and anyone else is welcome to join. The second part (in the afternoon) will be on priority setting for the Education sector response for 2019, in order to have a set of coherent, common objectives and jointly fundraise. 	ESWG coordination team will discuss with IEP. ESWG coordination team will send an invitation.
5. AOB	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cities Integration Network – UNICEF's consultant Margarita Mansola has been seconded to the Municipality of Athens to support the Cities Integration Network in collaboration with ACCMR. Eleven municipalities so far joined the network – Athens, Thessaloniki, Ioannina, Trikala, Tripoli, Iraklion, Karditsa, Pieraus, Nea Filadelfia and Livadia. The objective is to develop capacities within Municipalities in carrying out NFE activities through the Municipalities, as a more sustainable solution (as opposed to UN agencies and NGOs) to the NFE which supports integration of refugees and migrants. UNICEF has also recruited another consultant in Thessaloniki, who will support the Northern Greece. For more information, please contact Margarita (mmansola@unicef.org). ELIX has opened a youth/adult workshop in Patission Learning Centre (ELIX already implements 4 learning centres – 3 in public schools, and Patission centre in Omonia, as well as Skaramangas and Eleonas through UNICEF support). These workshops in Patission centre are organized for young people, mothers and fathers. There are girls' only classes too, which 	

	can be used as an entry point to motivate girls to come to NFE classes upstairs gradually. There are also photography and theatre workshops, as well as yoga classes, including Greek people. For more info, please contact Judith (judith@elix.org.gr)	
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The next national ESWG meeting will be held on Monday 12th of November 2018.

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