



URBAN Working Group Meeting- Wider Consultation

Date:	29 June 2017
Participants:	MoThess, UNHCR, HRC, MdM, NRC, Save the Children, Omnes, TdH, MoMP, Arsis, Caritas, Isra aid, ICRC, Red Cross, IFRC, Alkyone, IRC
Chair:	UNHCR (Mathilde de Riedmatten, deriedma@unhcr.org , Protection Officer)/MoThess (Sofia Aslanidou, Member of the City Council - Appointee for Refugees, saslan52@gmail.com / Meric Ozgunes, Coordinator of "Arrival Cities", mericozgunes@gmail.com)
Agenda	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Update on Strategy • Profiling exercise • Agency updates • Arrival trends in the urban area • Presentation of the SGBV guidelines
Agenda Item	Discussions
Update on Strategy	<p>-UNHCR seconded 1 staff to the Municipality, among others to support the appointed member of the City Council to deal with the urban refugee response, meaning follow up on action points, link together all the relevant activities the Municipality has on going, support the reactivation of the SEM (Migrants integration Council), make sure all referral systems between services are in place etc.</p> <p>-Participation of the volunteer groups in the working group should be ensured.</p>
Profiling exercise	<p>-There is a fundraising on going to support the urban profiling exercise. The information that will be collected, will be fundamental for a future data base that will help the Municipality to plan the respective activities within the urban response. The methodology of the approach will be agreed by the members of the working group as well as the development of the objectives, since this is a collaborative project that will require the contribution of all actors involved, like the MoMP, the MoThess, UNHCR and other international organizations and NGOs.</p>
Agency updates	<p>Alkyone: An average of 75 people daily benefit from the centre's services, a few locals among them. They are referred to the Municipality's social services.</p> <p>NRC: NRC meets with different Municipalities to introduce to them their accommodation scheme and already signed an MoU with the Municipality of Veroia. 800 spaces will be finally covered, while for the time being 280 people are accommodated under NRC's scheme. The community centre will be moved from Sindos to Kalohori, while learning spaces are currently operating in Sindos apartments. Summer school started today at the community centre at Brantouna str, from 9:00 to 14:00 every day.</p> <p>UNHCR: There are a lot of empty spaces in UNHCR's accommodation due to the massive departure of people that were relocated. Despite the fact that families from Trikala, Elpida, Iraklis and Softex are constantly being transferred to accommodation, there are still many spaces available, hence UNHCR requests all partners to refer all vulnerable families for accommodation.</p> <p>TdH: They are also starting their accommodation scheme, by providing 50 slots to</p>

	<p>youth, 30 to UAMs that just turned 18 and they cannot continue staying in shelters for minors and 20 to other vulnerable youth, like SGBV survivors, single mothers with children etc.</p> <p>IRC:They accept referrals for SGBV case management from apartment accommodation. Their funding continuation from ECHO is still pending.</p>
	<p>Caritas: Caritas will soon open a community centre, which will offer a women’s and a men’s space, as well as classes and recreational activities for adults. The location will be announced soon.</p> <p>UNHCR: There are still hard copies of the free service mapping in Farsi and Urdu. Whichever organisation is interested is welcome to make a request.</p> <p>Arsis:Arsis keeps on with the street work activities. They increased their night shifts since they are focusing in the drug selling area around the University, the minor sex workers around the railway station and the Police Stations that minors are under detention.</p> <p>They are currently running 35 apartments where vulnerable people from various countries are accommodated.</p> <p>IFRC: A multi-function community centre will open in the middle of July, funded by the British Red Cross. Hellenic Red Cross will run it.</p> <p>The majority of actors mentioned the various problems that are facing due to the lack of adequate interpretation services.</p>
Arrival trends in the urban area	<p>Some actors mentioned the increase of arrivals of Turkish and Pakistani nationals, as well as an increase of push backs. There are also some new arrivals in the city, mainly people from Athens, which aren’t new to the country.</p>
SGBV guidelines	<p>Please find attached the PowerPoint presentation</p>
Follow up	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UNHCR to raise to the Legal aid working group the need for them to produce a document with some basic information and instructions for the people without any legal/travel documents. • UNHCR to map the interpretation services available. • UNHCR to draft a letter for donations to support the urban profiling exercise. • UNHCR to identify potential representatives of the refugee community to the SEM (Council for the integration of migrants and refugees).