# **Greek Mainland Camps Report**

a project initiated and financed by



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## Introduction

This report has been compiled by a mixed team of independent volunteers, members from informal groups focussed on refugee assistance and from smaller registered NGO's.

We gathered initial information on camp locations from sources such as the <u>Greece Response</u> <u>Map</u> and <u>UNHCR Sites in Greece Map</u> though some map data was not up-to-date. We clarified this by talking to local residents and officials.

We report the level of access we received but it must be noted that this was obtained through a range of channels - local contacts, explaining that we represented established NGO's and so on. Moreover, it sounds like the 'formal' procedure for authorising access changed on ~18th April. Therefore, whether or not we gained access is unlikely to be a reliable indicator of how receptive any particular location is to aid. Crucially, the most difficult to access camps were often in most need of aid.

We compiled this information from a varying range of sources, as specified in each report, and tried to make contact with volunteers at each location. We are looking for additional contacts to assist us in keeping these reports up to date - please get in touch. Similarly, we are happy to share the contact details we have collected on a case-by-case basis.

We can be reached on <a href="maintenant-maintenant-months">infopoint.gr.mainland@gmail.com</a>, cc <a href="maintenant-months">anton.zhyzhyn@gmail.com</a>

Text only version (for refugees with slow internet etc): <a href="http://bit.ly/greek-camp-report">http://bit.ly/greek-camp-report</a>

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### Update log:

25th April - road trip finished a few days ago. We are aware that this document is missing reports for Thessaloniki Port and news camp <u>Nea Makri</u>.

22nd April - More reports. Update on new residents arriving to Lagkadikia.

18th April - More reports.

16th April - More reports added - total 15. Hara/BP shower situation clarified.

14th April - Eko, Hara/BP and all known locations east of Thessaloniki complete.

# EKO Gas Station Polykastro: 11th April 2016 11:00

Full access to camp - able to observe and speak to many refugees and volunteer groups.

#### Initial information

- Open, unofficial camp located at functioning gas station
- Approx. 3,000 refugees
- Mixture of UNHCR tents and smaller camping tents
- Tents situated all around the gas station and line a busy main highway
- UNHCR tent section more organised
- Numerous volunteer groups operating

## Population

- Mixed population: Syrian, Iraqi & Afghani
- Lots of families
- Many pregnant women
- Lots of women alone with children.

## Location/Physical characteristics

- 40.9694955, 22.6194152
- Located just off a major highway (but a reduced speed limit is in place now)
- Smaller roads run throughout campsite
- Combination of gas station and rest area
- Some camping on grass, some on concrete
- Surrounded by fields and some swamplands
- Tents frequently set up across half of the highway, as a protest
- 2-3km from Polykastro
- People walking on the highway to Polykastro

## Infrastructure

- Showers:
  - Some cold shower units are in place but are not connected to water supply
  - Hot showers cost 2euro, from the gas station
- Washing machines available for some cost
- 40 portable toilets including two with wheelchair access
  - But, they are western-type sitting toilets so people prefer to go to the few inside the station as they are squatting
- Gas station in charge of waste removal + cleaning of the site. Site is clean.
- Food is provided by UNHCR & MSF

- o 3 meals a day
- Refugees report that they are satisfied with the food situation; some are choosing to buy own
- Substantial number of charging points
- Most refugees do not like to drink water from the outdoor petrol station taps

#### Issues

- Next to highway is unsafe, especially for the many children who play nearby
- Some bonfires are being made near the open petrol station
- Having to pay for showers
- No soap seen at tapstand nearest to toilets
- Refugees have no information
- Medical care is not available 24hours
- Many tents still of poor quality; many break when windy
- · Reports of inadequate drainage resulting in some standing water
- Lines for food are long and some people don't get enough
- Lack of translators
- Prices in petrol station are very high
- Poorly managed distribution when volunteers show up, unannounced, with NFI to distribute
- Fights occur occasionally & some volunteers have left due to feeling in danger

#### Needs

- Updated information about people's options
- Make environment safer:
  - Low-rise fencing could stop children going onto the road
  - Educate people on risks of fires near petrol stations
- Connect showers to water supply
- Signage to inform refugees that tap water is potable

- Nurture Project: have their own tent for breastfeeding, changing, feeding & washing babies, distribution of baby supplies. Staffed by 5 midwives and nurses
- Some households are cooking food themselves
- Lighthouse Relief: food and clothes distribution, and children's recreation/education area
- MSF: food & NFI distribution, including from a distribution tent
- Medical cover from mobile MSF clinic and independent medical volunteers
- UNHCR present, and are coordinating with MSF







# Hara Hotel & BP Garage: 11th April 2016 13:00

Full access to look around and able to speak extensively with Northern Lights

#### Initial information

- Open, unofficial camps located at a petrol station & hotel
- 700 refugees at Hara and approximately 150 at BP
- Shelter is mostly 2-4 person tents of poor quality
- Women and children are sometimes allowed to sleep inside hotel lobby
- Volunteer group Northern Lights present, MSF come often with a mobile clinic

## Population

- Syrian, Pakistani, Iraqis
- Many families & children

## Location/Physical characteristics

- 41.110431, 22.556433
- Camp located across both sides of a major highway
- Most camping on concrete

#### Infrastructure

- Water supply:
  - One refugee reported no refugee-accessible water supply and that bottled water is used for drinking, bathing etc
  - there may be some open taps at BP however there are reports that landowner is actively unhappy with refugees using them
  - o others still report that there is one outside tap available at Hara
  - 15th April: volunteers confirm free cold showers available 500m away
- 21 toilets which seem to be emptied regularly
- Site was fairly clean
- Food provided by volunteer groups
- Refugees report > 30 minute gueuing times and that food is not highly nutritious
- There is wireless internet but it is very slow
- Phones can be charged inside restaurant

#### Issues

Lack of water for bathing & washing clothes

- Refugees have no information available wifi too slow for use
- Highway people crossing, children playing nearby

#### Needs

- Increased provision of water:
  - Tapstand could be installed and connected to hotel water supply. This could be disassembled and removed in minutes. A meter could be fitted and a price per 1,000 litres agreed with landowner - water from municipal supply is typically several hundred times cheaper than bottled water.
  - o If there is indeed a tap at Hara and this provides drinkable water, signage to inform refugees that the water is potable could also help.
- Basic bathing facilities on-site
- More information, especially on what 'official' camps are like. Northern Lights hope to create information posters/flyers soon.

- Northern Lights undertake a range of activities including distributions
- MSF visit five times per week with a mobile clinic
- Although an open camp, refugees report feeling fairly safe



Photo Credit: Nessim Stevenson

# Idomeni

We visited this camp but consider it to be fully and consistently documented already, so we defer to existing information sources such as <u>Information Point for Idomeni Volunteers</u>.

# Orestiada: 12th April 2016 12:20

Secure facility – no access granted. Information gathered from police officer on duty.

### Initial information

- · Closed purpose-built detention facility
- Opened many years ago
- Appeared nearly empty, 10 people there
- Capacity: 400
- Permanent buildings supplemented by Isoboxes

## Population

- All Kurds, applied for asylum
- All people here crossed the land/river border of Greece and Northern Turkey

## Location/Physical Characteristics

- 41.58161926269531, 26.325849533081055
- Quite remote rural area near Greek/Turkey/Bulgaria border

### Infrastructure

- Specially built detention centre with EU funds
- Basketball court
- Guard reports hot water, wifi, phones allowed, daily cleaning
- Male and female sleeping areas separated
- Food catering seen

### Needs

None observed

## Already in place

Observed a lawyer freely entering the facility



Basketball court and watchtower



Main entrance

# Chalkero: 12th April 2016 17:30

Access not granted by military however soldiers at gate were somewhat cooperative plus we were able to interview a young man at the gate through a translator.

#### **Initial Information**

- Open military-run camp opened within last two days
- Refugees here moved from recently closed Nea Karvali camp
- 280-300 people
- Current capacity: 350 (source: UNHCR)
- Media and volunteers not easily allowed in would likely require formal military permission
- Nearest town is Nea Karvala, 5km
- Army report UNHCR presence in mornings

## Population

- Mostly Syrian with some Iraqis
- Children present

## Location/Physical Characteristics

- 40.955230712890625, 24.457050323486328
- Tents without floors, approximately 4x6m size
- ~ 9 people per tent multiple families in each tent

#### Infrastructure

- No wifi
- Army say hot showers available however refugee reports these are not working so only cold water is available
- At least 8 toilet/shower cubicles seen from road
- Refugees were drying clothes so washing clothes is possible somehow
- Army claim there are translators on site
- Army claim they have a doctor on-site but did not elaborate on availability

#### Issues

- Snake found on first day
- Nea Karvala had buildings with partitions, this camp has only tents shared with other families

- Food served three times per day but portions are small
- Overall, the refugee interviewed said he vastly preferred Nea Karvala

### Needs

- Additional privacy
- Only army providing NFI's so there is the possibility of gaps
  - o past experience suggests that army don't distribute shoes, clothes etc
  - Presence of other NGO's could go some way to addressing this
- Refugees report that food portions can be small
  - o Again, past experience suggests army food in evening is typically cold

- UNHCR reportedly wrote down refugees' phone numbers, believed to be for the purpose of assisting them in making an appointment to claim asylum
- No other NGO's or volunteer groups
- Security so far OK
- Army seem to be fairly nice towards refugees



Toilet or shower cubicles, seen from road



Entrance road to camp

# Drama: 12th April 2016 19:00

Full access, police on-site and camp coordinator highly cooperative. Spoke to wide range of people through Arabic translator (including children, women and the elderly).

#### Initial information

- Open volunteer-run camp
- ~500 people
- Current capacity: 500 (source: UNHCR)
- 7km from Drama town

## Population

- Syrians and Iragis
- Even mix of men, women and children

## Location/Physical Characteristics

- 41.1715469360,24.068555831
- Industrial area of Drama, bordering meadows
- Large open warehouse/factory space, partitioned using hanging blankets

### Infrastructure

- Mixture of people sleeping on floor and on camping beds which are reportedly uncomfortable
- Lunch and dinner from military, breakfast from volunteers
- Hot showers but broken last two days
- Many toilets, separated by sex. Good lighting.
- Long sink including designated area for washing clothes
- Women-only space
- Medical cabin
- No wifi
- Many charging points
- Designated prayer area
- Breastfeeding area
- Teaching area
- Communal TV
- Tea area

#### Issues

- Men use women's showers
- Food
  - No refugees cooking own food
  - Lack of fruit & vegetables
  - All food cold
  - No variety
  - Limited milk supply
  - Children getting sick several sources suspect malnutrition
- Multiple sources reported impossibility of applying for asylum/EU reunification
  - Application must be made at Alexandroupolis, 180km away
  - Previous applicants report taking a train (4-5hrs, €10/person) plus paying a hotel for 10 nights in order to apply
- No dentist
- Some thieving (of mobile phones)
- Some fighting during the night
- Snakes
- Inconsistent UNHCR presence "sometimes they come but they do not help"
  - No official information available, even for volunteers

## Already in place

- School staffed by combination of local voluntary teachers and refugees
  - o French, English, German, Mathematics, Greek...
- Local volunteers highly active:
  - Non-food item distribution
  - Taxi service (eg to hospital)
  - Psychological support
  - Volunteer lawyer giving information
  - 2-3 hours per day medical cover (doctors including female)
  - Children's entertainment (cinema etc)
- Good procedures in place for medical emergencies
- Excellent hygiene promotion (graphics and translated text encouraging handwashing etc)
- Soap available

Overall we were deeply impressed by the dedicated efforts of the local volunteers.



Outdoor area showing sink and toilet/shower cabins



Toilet



Communal TV area



Typical bedroom

# Parenesti – 13<sup>th</sup> April 2016 10:00

Information only from informal interview with guard at gate.

## **Initial** information

- Closed detention centre, opened since 2012 for "illegal immigrants"
- Population size unknown but premises are expansive
- Location: 41.2673301696,24.5065269470

## Population

- Only men, some Moroccans & Afghanis reportedly no Syrians
- Likely a holding centre for deportations

### Miscellaneous

- Guard claims there are books
- There was psychological support for 6 months or so but no longer
- Concern that people are not allowed to walk around freely no signs of life outside
- Army commander did not respond to our request to speak by telephone
- Refugees supposedly given clothes, sanitary items etc



# Xanthi - 13<sup>th</sup> April 2016 12:00

Information gathered by talking to police and commander. We were allowed in to the administration building.

#### Initial information

- Closed detention centre
- 150 people

## Population

- Includes Moroccans & Pakistanis
- Always 150 people probably the capacity but individuals move on regularly
- Most have applied for asylum

## Location/Physical Characteristics

- Well-hidden on outskirts of Xanthi town: 41.118087768,24.873256683
- Former police academy

### Infrastructure

- Outdoor garden
- Billiard table
- Reportedly a cleaning service available
- Refugees clean their own rooms, cleaners hired for communal areas
- Food from catering company
- Refugees supposedly given clothes, sanitary items etc

#### Issues/needs

- No translators
- There was psychological support for 6 months or so but no longer

- Commander reports access for lawyers
- Overall this seemed to be as comfortable as a closed detention facility could be refugees seen with iced coffee, police seem to be friendly.





# Lagkadikia - 13<sup>th</sup> April 2016 19:25

This camp is presently under construction. We were able to speak to builders, police and also extensively to a UNHCR staff member.

#### Initial information

- Pilot project camp to be managed fully by UNHCR
- Open facility
- Site of former refugee camp for Pontian Greeks (1993-2000)
- Ongoing heavy construction work
- Planned for 800-1000 people, later down to ~650
- Planning for integration of camp in to the existing local community
- Update 21st April: Media report that new residents have started arriving

## Population

• Expected to be Syrians and some Iraqis who are applying for asylum

## Location/Physical Characteristics

- 40.6271667480, 23.247991561
- ~1km south of small village Lagkadikia, population 650
- 36km east of Thessaloniki
- 35,000m<sup>2</sup> site
- Expansive open spaces
- Long-abandoned buildings currently not inhabitable

#### Infrastructure

- Initially accommodation in UNHCR tents
  - Later plans for container accommodation
  - Planning for large amount of space per person
  - Provision for residents to extend their own shelters
- Food
  - Initially catered
  - One existing building to be renovated into public kitchen, distribution of ingredients tailored to dietary requirements, training in cooking
  - Long-term plan: cash transfers to residents (towards self-sufficiency)
- Some existing rooms will be used as a school
- One existing building to be renovated in to medical facility with:

- A few beds
- Separate examining rooms for male/female

## Already in place

- Initial plans for approximately 50 UNHCR staff, including translators
- Medical NGO Médecins du Monde/Doctors of the World will work here
- Psychological support planned
- Security will be local police, site surrounded by a small fence

Groups who wish to work in this camp must apply formally through UNHCR Athens office. UNHCR report that a further 9 such camps are already planned and also that a further 11 similar sites would eventually be established - all in Northern Greece. There is a similar project running in the South/Central region.

UNHCR plan to integrate camp residents with the local community.







# Giannitsa: 14th April 2016 19:00

Spoke to friendly police however not granted access in to the camp. Interviewed one adult male resident (via translator) at the gate and UNHCR staff member by phone.

#### Initial information

- Open facility. Residents show a card to enter; volunteers require UNHCR recommendation to gain approval from Ministry of Defence
- Military-controlled, police at gate
- Located on old factory premises
- 600-700 residents
- Mostly army tents with new big UNHCR tents

## Population

- Syrian, Iraqi, Iranian, Afghani
- Lots of families, 50% men
- Many came from Idomeni

## Location/Physical Characteristics

- 40.7647399902,22.4471416473
- Adjacent to busy main road, small perimeter fence
- Appeared clean (improved since last visit)
- 3km from Giannitsa town

### Infrastructure

- 28 toilets, 15 showers (Source: UNHCR 30<sup>th</sup> March)
- Wifi coming (UNHCR)
- Food now catered (previously army) significant improvement
- New hot water
- New IKEA-type houses
- Some charging points
  - UNHCR claim 75, resident reports 'few'

#### Issues

- Snakes and mosquitoes
- Boredom

- o "people go to town in the day, unbearable here"
- Observed residents hitchhiking
- No TV
- Few residents cook food themselves

## Needs

- Entertainment/activities
- Transport to town

- UNHCR presence
- Metadrasis translator
- Resident knew border was closed and was unable to Skype for asylum appointment
- Security good police act on resident reports of crime
- Volunteers teaching English



# Cherso: 14th April 2016 13:30

Granted full access to camp. Observed all areas and spoke with a wide cross-section of the population, NGO's and officials.

#### Initial information

- Open facility controlled by military. Control at gate.
- Groups require UNHCR recommendation to gain approval from Ministry of Defence to work.
- 2,500 residents according to several on-site NGO sources
  - 3,520 residents according to UNHCR (30<sup>th</sup> march)
- Tents mostly army, some UNHCR

## Population

- Syrian/Iraqi
- Many families/children
- Most here for 6 weeks

## Location/Physical Characteristics

- 41.0943641662,22.768907546
- 2km from Cherso village (population 650)
- Surrounded by fields, farmlands and swamplands
- Less crowded than on previous visit
- Perimeter fence now completed
- Cleaner than on previous visit

### Infrastructure

- Tents mostly with shading
- ~30 toilets, 5 showers with very limited hot water supply from single solar heater
- UNHCR report 60 toilets, 30 showers and 15 showers with hot water certainly incorrect
- Water
  - Improvised tap-stands around perimeter. Very busy.
  - Same tap-stands used for drinking water and clothes washing
  - No bottled water.
- 2/3<sup>rd</sup> of camp now has floodlighting. No lights inside tents.

- After Green Helmets' project, all army tents have flooring of wooden pallets. Newer UNHCR tents without.
- Tents numbered
- Tent with charging point
- Enough food
  - acceptable quality (now catering)
  - many cooking food themselves
  - some buying own food
- One children's tent (Save the Children) plus outdoor children's play area under construction
- Woman-friendly space planned (by IRC)
- Wifi being installed

### Issues

- Drainage extremely poor to non-existent. All tap stands and the showers surrounded by standing water. Residents have to stand in water/mud to collect water/wash clothes.
- Difficult environment for strollers and those with impaired mobility
  - Road surfaces consist of coarse gravel
  - Muddy ground due to drainage
  - No disabled toilets or showers
- Mosquitoes and snakes
- Red Cross and residents report many skin diseases/infections
- Some fighting

#### **Needs**

- Water containers
- School
- Mosquito nets, mosquito repellents?
- Hats/caps/sunscreen, more shadow nets?
- Consistent soap provision at tap stands
- More tap stands/sinks/washing basins
- Tea tent
- Designated social area

- German and Finnish Red Cross providing medical care 8am-6pm
- Public ambulance for emergencies
- IRC have 13 isobox shower units on site not yet installed
- IRC installing septic tanks

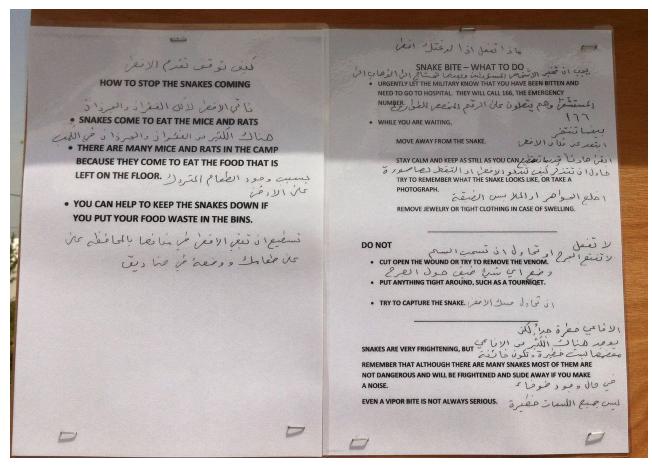
- Norwegian Refugee Council arrived two days ago with a team
- Save the Children on-site
- UNHCR on site with translator
- Clothes/shoes OK for the moment
- Generally many more NGO's/groups present than on previous visit



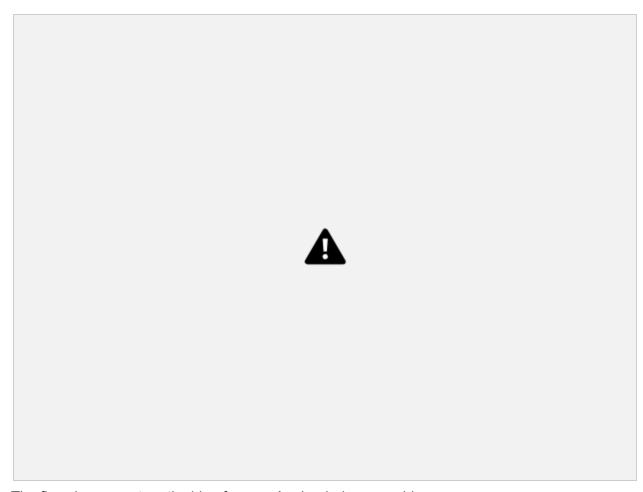
Toilet block with standing water - contaminated?



One water point - residents report nearly unusable due to low pressure



Snake information poster



The five showers, at north side of camp. Again, drainage problem.

# Nea Kavala (Polykastro): 14th April 17:20

Denied entry by army who refused to give information and were somewhat hostile. Many refugees came in and out of the camp: we accompanied ~40 teenage to middle-aged male residents with a translator to a football ground and also spoke to some families in broken English.

#### Initial information

- Strictly military-controlled open camp refugees show card to enter
- ~4000 people (UNHCR report)
- Army tents arranged in rows
- Save the Children, German Red Cross, UNHCR present.
- Norwegian NGO A Drop in the Ocean have access and take some volunteers

### Population

- Syrian, Iraqi
- 20% men, 40% women, 40% children (UNHCR report)

## Location/Physical Characteristics

- 40.99058914,22.624959945
- 2-3km from Polykastro, near Lidl
- Infrastructure
- Children's play area now open
- 60 toilets, 30 showers
- UNHCR claim 15 with hot water, residents report no hot water
- 2,800 beds donated and on their way on 28th March; current status unknown
- Food
- cold
- Little fresh fruit/vegetables
- Army cleans bathrooms and picks up rubbish
- Internet since last week, very slow

#### Issues

- No school/education
- One toilet per 65 residents, one shower per ~130 residents far short of minimum humanitarian standards
- Little firewood
  - o used to heat water for bathing so none available for cooking food

- o some are cutting down trees in surrounding area for wood
- Dropped at one side of the camp at 3-4am so unequitable distribution
- Army distributions disorganised/chaotic
  - o Clothing distribution can involve just dumping clothes in a pile
- Extensive claims that army video "everything", especially chaotic scenes, possibly on personal mobile phones
- Theft of mobile phones

# Already in place

• Samaritan's Purse were present on 28<sup>th</sup> March working on sanitation. No update.



# Alexandria 15<sup>th</sup> April 2016 12:15

We gained access to camp, toured with a senior volunteer and then also spoke with groups of males, a mother with children and to the army.

#### Initial information

Open military controlled camp

Opened about ~4th April, 11 days ago

Capacity 764 – just reached. Not much room for more expansion

Ongoing measles outbreak – no new cases in 4 days but some still ill

Location/Physical Characteristics

40.6356239318,22.4545669555

On site of ex-military camp

Old buildings across the site, some now being renovated

#### **Population**

Mostly families Iraqi, Syrian, a few Afghan

- Registration:
  - Very detailed e.g recording clothing and shoe sizes
  - Army provide these details to volunteers who can then order/distribute exactly what is required
  - 'Ration card' system to ensure each individual receives same level of service both for food and all NFI
- Long sink with ~15 taps in middle of camp. Residents drink tap water.
- No hot water
- Army food
  - 3 meals distributed together once per day
  - o Cold
  - Volunteers provide fruit when able (most days)
- Free shop run by volunteers (see photo)
  - Shop opening times divided by tent (e.g "tent 1-50 at 10am, 51-100 at 10:45am etc")
  - Stocks hygiene/sanitary items, snacks, clothes, long-life milk
- Showers separate showering times for men and women
- One family per tent
  - Tents numbered

- Camping beds with mattresses
- Army very kind
  - Volunteers say they often take a collection and buy chocolate etc for children
  - One male resident said relationship with army/officials "very very good"
- No wifi

- Mosquitoes bites taking up excessive doctor time
- Particularly significant snake problem
- Hot water installation has been delayed a few times residents awaiting eagerly
- Little lighting
- Toilets being cleaned twice per day though one report they are still unclean
- Residents not allowed to make fires cannot currently cook for themselves and would like to
- Only one hot meal distributed since opening

#### Needs

- Nurses and doctors longer term (2 weeks plus), self-funding. Medicines will be provided.
- Transportation hospital 45km away
- Ongoing need for baby food, milk and milk bottles (only volunteers paying for this now)

- Main group working and funding site: http://www.refugeesupport.eu/
  - 2 full time camp managers on-site from ~18th Apr
  - Excellent cooperation from army/officials
  - Free 'shop' constantly re-stocked with essentials
- IRC and InterSOS just arrived
- Army doctor 9am-12noon
- Funding secured and work about to start on renovating abandoned buildings to include:
  - Communal kitchen
  - Social area
  - Resident-run shops
    - Barber shop
    - Hairdresser
    - Beauty salon
    - One other
  - School
  - Toilet and shower building
  - These are all awaiting sign-off by Ministry of Immigration in Athens

- Children's playground planned
- Wifi installation planned
- Mosquito nets on the way
- Charging stations (busy)
- One kettle per tent now distributed ~20th April
- Volunteer reports UNHCR information sessions three times per week however residents interviewed were not well informed about asylum options etc



The camp's free shop being restocked by a volunteer





# Nea Chrani Municipal Stadium (Pieria): 15<sup>th</sup> April 2016 18:00

We interviewed officials and a reasonable cross-section of the population who came to speak to us outside the administrative building, where we could see all the tents. We were not permitted to enter the camping area.

#### Initial information

- Public stadium
- 310 people
- Opened March 25<sup>th</sup>
- Military controlled, police present
- Previous plan to transfer all residents to Petra
  - Was scheduled to be closed on 15th April but been now given a four day extension
  - Report that UNHCR told volunteers that they now expect site to be active until August
- 75 tents, without flooring

# Location/Physical Characteristics

• 40.31018066,22.5411624908

# Population

- 250 Syrians, 60 Iraqis
- 110 are children
- Some pregnant women

- Food from catering, including hot food. Supplemented by volunteers.
- ~9 showers segregated by sex with three solar water heaters
- Communal tents:
  - o Women's tent
  - Men's social tent (coffee shop)
  - Children's tent and outdoor play area; toys given by local volunteers
- TV
- No wifi

- Feeling of lack of support from municipality
  - Not helping with sewage issue
- Scabies widely reported
- Medical personnel no longer on site

## Needs

Medical staff

- Local volunteers seem to be very active
- UNHCR comes once a week (so once or twice so far)
- Information about taking bus to nearest town
- Good relationship between volunteers, officials and residents





Showers



# Diavata 15<sup>th</sup> April 2016 09:00

We gained access to camp, allowing us to talk to a fair cross-section of residents, including through a translator. By chance, we didn't speak to children.

#### Initial information

- Open facility but 10pm curfew
- Police control at entrance, some military presence
- 2,040 residents

#### Population

- Many Iraqi & Syrian; also Palestinian, Afghan, Kurdi, Iranian
- 90% speak Arabic
- Most in process of asylum etc

## Location/Physical characteristics

- 40.700920104,22.864048004
- Located in an industrial area, former military base
- Old army buildings throughout campsite
- Supermarket 15mins walk away, local market every Wednesday
- Clean and well organised

- 53 toilets counted including several with wheelchair access
- Adequate showers but hot water very limited
- Lighting seems good
- Housing 400 units total
  - Approximately ¾ humanitarian tents (UNHCR, UKAID, possibly army), ¼
     IKEA-type houses
  - o 'Mixed' neighbourhoods (not an Iraqi area, afghan area, etc)
- Significant number of charging points
- Two canteens on-site
- Food
  - Catering, 3x per day including vegetables
  - o Breakfast included milk, tea, juice croissant and fruit
  - Clinic on-site, three rooms, currently 24h opening

- No wifi
- Snakes
- Many charging points are outdoors and unsheltered so would be unsafe in rain
- Some residents preferred tents over IKEA-type houses in winter and summer as these stay at a more comfortable temperature
- Little space between tents, which are arranged in rows
- One report that distributed clothing was sometimes very worn/with holes
- Toilets cleaned with a hose which seems to result in some water around the toilets

#### Needs

- Upgrade of hot water provision
- Ingredient distribution to allow refugees to cook for themselves?

- Medecins Du Monde, Hellenic Red Cross, WAHA and Praksis operating clinic
  - Psychological support
  - o Female doctors
  - Well stocked, each org has own cabinet
- Sanitary items distributed each day
- Women and children space planned
- Active facilitation of asylum applications
  - o Free bus available to asylum office, appointment days known far in advance
- Language lessons (English, Greek)
- Refugees can get involved in voluntary work if they wish
- Private cleaning company daily
- Translators on-site
- No crime reported
- Deep respect between residents, officials, NGO workers etc
- "Honestly I'd rate this camp five stars" elderly male resident





# Veria (Armatolou Kokkinou): 15th April 2016 17:00

Gained access to the premises but not permitted to enter any residents' accommodation. We spoke primarily to local volunteers, as well as a few residents through a translator.

#### Initial information

- Open military camp
- 400 people at capacity
- Opened ~20<sup>th</sup> April
- Accommodation is in houses no tents

# Location/Physical Characteristics

- 40.486431121,22.2467422485
- Beautiful, expansive former military base

## Population

- 10 single males
- Otherwise all families

#### Infrastructure

- Squatting toilet cubicles outside; now toilets inside buildings also operational
- Tap water non-potable, bottled water distributed
- Army cooks food
  - Observed a relaxed food distribution, including fruit, with a very small queue.
  - Several meals distributed at once in containers residents take home
- Small stock of non-food items and a "request list" system
- Medical examination room
- Limited hot water single solar heater
- No wifi

#### Issues

- Gynaecological medical cases are referred to Edessa 50km
- Outside toilets not segregated by sex

#### Needs

- A few medical gaps being addressed
- Connection of sewers to municipal system required and planned

- Requested donations:
  - o Tableware, sheets, pillows welcome
  - Pans and pots eventually to allow residents to cook
  - A projector (for a social space)

- Volunteers split themselves in to three types of shifts
  - Warehouse/distribution
  - Medical
  - Activities
    - art etc
    - mostly at weekends
    - three residents also volunteering
- Medical provision:
  - Army doctors during the morning male
  - Volunteer doctors including female some afternoons
  - o Dental cases sent both to public and private dentists
  - Midwife hired for night time
  - Scabies-free
- Plans to start a nursery
- Translators on site
- Distributions on an organised ration card/list system
- Plans to support residents to cook for themselves in future
- Plans to move residents in to housing in nearby community one family already moved
- Residents overall highly satisfied





# Petra Olympou: 16<sup>th</sup> April 2016 10:45

Gained access. We toured with one young adult female resident who also translated for others. A 'focus group' type discussion was undertaken in another family's tent with a middle-aged male and his family; this individual gave his views and was also asked to translate some questions to others in the room including children. Finally, we spoke to the site's army commander.

#### Initial information

- Open, military-run camp
- 1,000 people, capacity: 1,100
- Accommodation: tents

## Population

- Iraqi & Syrian
- All Yazidi
- All encountered came from Idomeni
- No fighting, distributions reportedly calm

# Location/Physical characteristics

- 40.198074340,22.3211822509
- Remote mountainous area:
- 4km from Petra village, 25km from Katerini
- Some market nearby
- Tidy

- Standard military canvas tents
  - on concrete or gravel
  - no flooring (just tarpaulin)
  - observed army distribution of mattresses
- Food
  - Army food distributed 3x per day
  - o Report of queues (30mins-2hr) for each meal
  - Limited fruit
  - No baby food
  - o 'Ration-card' type system in place
- Residents don't drink tap water

- One report that only 1 litre bottle distributed at lunch time
- another said they "receive enough"
- Unsure whether residents dislike tap water or have been told it's not potable ("No drinking")
- ~ 15 showers
  - Cold
  - Women-only showers with small private outdoor changing area but adjacent to other showers
- 10 toilets southeast side. 20 northwest
  - Observed cleaning residents say once per day
  - All toilets western style
  - Evidence of unsuccessful attempts to squat over these
  - o High toilet seat inaccessible for children, who use the floor
  - Most were dirty and with flies
  - No disabled provision
  - Not split by gender
- Connectivity:
  - No wifi
  - Usable mobile phone signal (Vodafone and Cosmote).
  - Usable 3G data signal (Vodafone)
- Small market stall run by resident
- Charging points in a building 8am-10pm, too few

- Medical
  - One male army doctor (say residents)
  - o "He only has two medicines" and "they will not take us to hospital"
  - No medical provision at night
- Snakes, Scorpions
- Children feel unsafe at night
  - Scared of snakes/scorpions
  - No lighting, even at toilets

#### Needs

- Multiple residents reported not enough food & food not nutritious
- Competent and thorough assessment of medical provision
  - o Requested by middle-aged male: female doctor/gynaecologist, paediatrician
- School & kids activities
- Flooring for tents
- Lighting little installed, not all working
- Improved shower drainage (tapstands were a little better)

- Hot water
- Summer shoes
- Soap for washing clothes
- Cooking utensils/facilities/firewood

- CYCI distributions
- Army have one translator
- Good relationship between residents and army
- Bus to Katerini, once per day €2.40
- Army commanders: "If anyone wants to come here and help [distribute etc], I have no problem with that. Come to me, show me your [NGO] papers and tell me what space you need, I give you it, no problem."
  - We have name of army commander, please contact us if this is helpful for you.





# Ktima Irakli 16th April 2016 13:00

Gained access to camp and spoke to a reasonable range of English-speaking residents and military official.

#### Initial information

- Open, military run camp
- Population: 190
- Accommodation in tents behind a hotel
- Easily access to camp
- No/few volunteers

# Population

- 60% Syrian, 40% Iraqi/Kurdi
- One blind man, one man in wheelchair

#### Location/Physical characteristics

- 40.256320953,22.367017745
- Clean
- 15km from nearest hospital

- Numbered tents
- Small medical room
- Food from catering
- 3 toilet cubicles outside plus two showers
- More toilets and shower with hot water inside (accessible to refugees)
- Residents drink tap water
- Communal areas with
  - barbeque grill
  - o kettle
  - charging stations
  - playground
- More charging stations inside
- Wifi
- TV

• Only one military official and the hotel owner on-site during visit

#### Needs

- Some volunteer groups (note: small camp)
- Requests for shampoo, tea, mattresses/blankets, oil, baby food/milk, sunscreen, solar lights for tents and most of all sanitary pads
- Female child: limited toys/games/entertainment here
- School

## Already in place

- Bus to Katerini, once per day €1.80
- Police stop fights, security OK
- Irregular UNHCR presence
- Doctors from public hospital volunteer after their shift
- Construction work (water & sanitation?) in progress
- No snakes here yet
- Military say they intend to pay for vector (insect) control
- Local owner of hotel runs a free shop of donated items
  - Good relationship with hotel owners

Adult male resident: Ktima Irakli worse than Eko Polykastro as much less support from NGO's/ and volunteers here









# Nireas Camping 16th April 2016 16:30

Granted access and spoke to army, police, a group of females through translator, a teenage boy and an older woman with her husband.

#### Initial information

- Open facility
- Private land rented by Ministry of Defence, army on-site
- Approx. 360 refugees, expecting 80 more today (16th April) would be over capacity
- Opened ~22<sup>nd</sup> March

## Population

Mixed Syrian, Iraqi, Afghani, Iranian, Kurdi

#### Location/Physical characteristics

- 40.1780371,22.551568
- Active/open camping ground (some Greeks here on holiday)
- Fairly tidy

- Canvas tents and holiday house rooms
- Smaller families share a tent
- No flooring on grass and rocks
- Sleeping bags, no mattresses
- One communal cooking stove with two gas rings
  - Not enough causes conflict
- One shower block for men, one for women
- Western sitting toilets "we have enough"
- Lights throughout campsite, not all operational
- Food
  - Used to be army complaints
  - Now catering 3x a day good
  - Fruit
- Residents mostly drink tap water
- No dedicated clothes washing sink/facility
- Wifi
- Showers hot water broken "last three days"
- Charging points

- Residents worried about children
  - o "they play with everything" and there are many dangers around
  - river nearby partially fenced off but fence on bridge over the water is completely broken, even an adult could slip through
  - o river currently dirty, standing water
- Residents had a "peaceful protest" but police threatened to arrest if another protest held
- Electrical equipment with live bare metal at child height (cover(s) missing, see photo)
- Some residents have run wires to their tent (for light)
- Mosquitoes
- Snakes/scorpions
- Some tensions between landowner and refugees

#### Needs

- Medical assessment and support
  - Army says ambulance does not come.
  - Army calls taxis, paid by patients (30 euros each way).
  - No translators at hospital.
  - o Residents report army doctor rarely gives medicine
  - Doctor comes "once or twice a week"
  - One pre-teen male with large skin rash "for a week", mother worried but no doctor available
- Flooring for tents or mattresses
- Lights for tents
- Mosquito nets/repellent

- No NGO presence IRC may be coming
- UNHCR but they do not come in
- Children have bicycles
- Baby food and milk available
- Military distributing clothes (from mini market)
- Two residents teaching languages
- "The service is good"



Electrical box at northwest of camp at child eye-level with live bare metal (highlighted)



Clothes washing



Flimsy fencing which comes away from the bridge deck/floor



Communal cooking area

# Orfeas Hotel: 16th April 18:00

We spent a short time in the lobby chatting to residents and Praksis social workers.

#### Initial information

- 164 residents
- UNHCR rents the hotel
- Each family in hotel room
- ~25 recently moved to houses in Athens

# Population

- Only Syrians encountered
- All applied for asylum and most have had interviews

# Location/Physical characteristics

- 40.023169, 22.576083
- Nice hotel

#### Infrastructure

- All hotel facilities
- Wifi
- Hotel food hot, varied, nutritious, includes fruit, flavoursome
- Drink tap water but don't like it

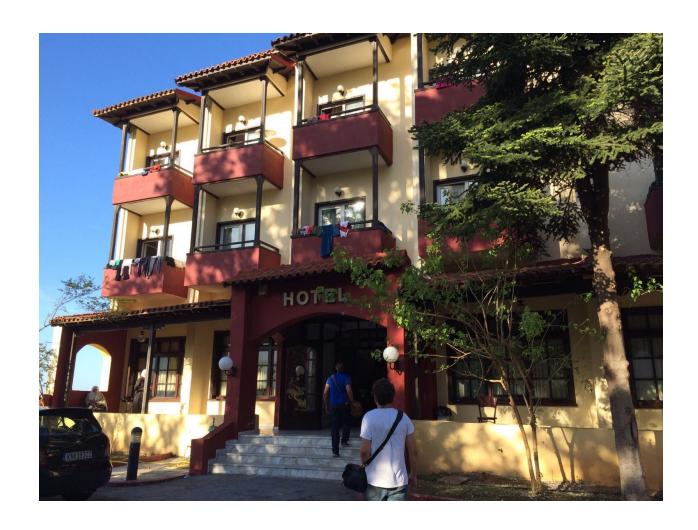
#### Issues

None

#### Needs

None

- Praksis social workers living on site
- Receive baby food and nappies
- Doctor once a week
- Plans to move all residents to housing and possibly close



# Larisa-Koutsochero: 16th April 2016 19:50

Granted access with Arabic translator so spoke to extremely wide cross section of Syrians. However vast majority of camp was Afghan. We spoke to one teenage/young adult Afghan male (in English) and he translated for a few others. We spoke to army and also by phone to Medecin Du Monde camp coordinator.

#### Initial information

- 987 residents
- In tents
- Capacity 2,000 with only ~ ½ of site occupied
- 9pm curfew

## Population

- ~80% Afghani, 20% Syrian, two Iraqi families
- None/few have registered for asylum
  - Residents report ministry of Defence visited and said they plan to register everyone within two week
  - UNHCR came once and said registration will start next a month (May)

# Location/Physical characteristics

- 39.6149597167,22.2468585968
- Next hospital Larissa, 15km

- Standard military tents + 3 big standard UNHCR tents
  - No floors
  - Camping beds
  - Unsure if mattresses?
- Charging stations
- Wifi very busy, only in one small place, creates tension
- Payphone area but only for national numbers
- Water in taps was examined by doctor and residents now drink it
- Food
  - Changed recently to catering
  - Hot food
  - Residents more satisfied
  - o Oranges, milk

- o "The food now is good"
- Some buying food and self-cooking
- Many toilets
- Observed working lighting
- Many bins

- Security
  - Some ethnic tensions
  - Multiple reports of significant alcohol consumption on site
  - Young adult Syrian woman reported feeling unsafe at night:
    - Many men around, often drinking
    - Female friend assaulted recently
    - "If we want to go to the toilet, we have to ask two men to come with us for security"
    - Toilets/showers not split by gender (mentioned without prompting)
  - Reports of one "huge fight", officials did not intervene, community leaders defused
- Very hot/dry during the day, extremely dusty when windy
- Toilets
  - Western-style
  - Syrians OK with this, Afghan requested squatting toilet
  - Some children need help from parents to use
- Lots of snakes, some scorpions
- Medics report cases of parasites
- Syrian woman reports (local?) volunteers wearing culturally insensitive clothing ("half naked") and that they excessively video their work (mostly playing with children)
- Report of a tent fire that residents had to extinguish themselves

#### Needs

- Women need sanitary products, underwear, hijab
- No distribution of soap, shampoo, toilet paper (residents buy own)
- Lights in tents
- School & other activities
- Summer clothing
- More charging points
- Fire points and procedures

- Medical care
  - o MDM, Hellenic Red Cross and army doctors on site
  - o MDM/Hellenic Red Cross daytime
  - Army doctors at night
  - o MDM coordinating with Ministry of Health
  - o Volunteer doctors from local hospital
- Baby food and pampers
- Prayer area
- Police/army generally friendly with occasional exceptions
- UNHCR came "for the first time" recently







# Volos 17<sup>th</sup> April 11:15

We were not allowed to pass the police checkpoint however we spoke to a friendly police officer who had never been inside the building where residents sleep. After this, we found a group of teenage Syrian males walking nearby, who we spoke to extensively through a translator.

#### Initial information

- Open facility controlled by military and guarded by police
- 200 residents inside a building
- Opened ~13<sup>th</sup> April (4 days)

# Population

- Syrian families
- ~80 children

# Location/Physical characteristics

- 39.382160186,22.8665962219
- Located inside former car shop
- Industrial area
- ~20km from Volos

- Food from military
  - Police guard indicated plans for catering company to start tomorrow
- Residents told us everyone sleeps in one room divided in to three section
  - Sleeping on on blankets on the floor
  - Police guard thought the room was divided in to family units
- Showers with hot water in isoboxes
  - Men and women on alternate days
- Toilets ~4 male, ~4 female cubicles
- Tap water signposted as not drinkable
  - One bottle per day with food
  - o Residents are given more on request get enough

- Police checkpoint keeps 'ration cards' whenever someone leaves the facility, meaning their family/friends cannot collect their food on their behalf, for when they return
- No bus stop nearby
- Some walk 2hrs to shops etc
- Accommodation
  - o Families next to strangers, men
  - Little privacy
- Medical care
  - Guard indicated 24/7 medical care available with male & female doctors
  - o Teenagers said the medical cover was intermittent even in the day time
- Snakes
- No wifi anywhere in the area

#### Needs

- **Food** teenagers were encountered picking food from bushes
- Clothes especially underwear the teenagers had only the clothes they were wearing
  - Reportedly none distributed in camp yet
- Mattresses/sleeping mats
- Transport nearest town appears to be 20km away
- Wifi none in surrounding area
- Hygiene items soap, shampoo
  - Toilet paper was in place but finished a few days ago

- Police said some local volunteers playing with children etc
- Relationship with military is OK
- Teenagers felt safe
- Teenagers said UNICEF came and said they would start registering residents for asylum etc
- Police said UNHCR came but teenagers said they haven't, after being shown UNHCR logo

# Fthiotida (Thermopiles) 17th April 2016 15:50

We spoke to a group of mostly young adult males outside through a translator and to the government staff managing the camp.

## Initial information

- Open facility in a spa hotel, run by public sector (Greek govt)
- 300 people in the hotel rooms but beds observed in use in corridors too
- Opened in January

## Population

- Nearly all Syrians
- Mostly families 100 children

## Location/Physical characteristics

- 38.7934341430,22.5270404815
- Close to a thermal springs
- Surrounded by forestry
- On outskirts of Thermopiles
- Next hospital 20km away

- Hotel stuff tap water drinkable, hot showers, wifi
- Plans to use a 2<sup>nd</sup> building to house another 300 within next two weeks
- Food
  - Army comes only to distribute food
  - Residents say not enough
  - Little/no fruit
  - All food cold
  - o No baby milk
- NFI's
  - Available
  - limited supplies
  - hard to access
- Hotel staff claim 24/7 nurses
  - o Residents say nurses leave at night
- Management claim they can call hospital ambulance and they also have a driver to transport people to hospital. Plans to hire a doctor (already looking).

Residents say it is very difficult to be taken to hospital

## Issues

- Security private security company hired by government
  - Some security issues reported anyway
- Management and residents report that no donations are accepted at the site
  - Residents claim management turn away volunteers with needed items
  - Management claim they cannot accept food items and that they redirect NFI donations to the office of the municipality
- Tensions between residents and camp management
- Little/no NGO presence
  - Residents say we were first group in 6 weeks to come with a translator and talk to them
  - o Some NGO's came once or twice but only spoke to camp management
- Intermittent smell of sulfur from hot spring nearby

## Needs

- Thorough assessment of what support is needed, especially with input from residents
- Hygiene/sanitary products
- · Tea, milk, sugar
- Baby milk
- Mosquito repellent very limited distribution currently

- Management say local nurse taking care of children, someone teaching English
- Resident teacher observed painting with children
- UNHCR paid one visit in last two months (management).
  - Residents report they came twice and didn't bring translators, spoke only to management and then left.





Painting/art activities

# Ritsona 17<sup>th</sup> April 2016 19:00

We accessed the camp and spoke with an extensive cross-section including women with children, a midwife, various volunteers, a group of men and women in wheelchairs and an elderly man.

## Initial information

- 800-900 people, appeared at capacity
- Accommodation in tents
- Opened 13<sup>th</sup> March

## Population

- Syrians, Iraqi, Afghani
- Many children

## Location/Physical Characteristics

- 38.387504577,23.5037994384
- 4km to Ritsona, ~17km to Chalcis
- Amongst a wooded area

- Tents
  - No flooring
  - Most sleep on blankets, some military/camping beds which are "uncomfortable", a few thin mattresses
- Outside lighting at most of site
  - Possibly does not cover all sleeping areas?
- No internet/wifi
- Food
  - Catering, hot everyday
  - Newly introduced ration card system
  - Some special provisions e.g for pregnant women
- NFI's seem to be reasonably covered
- Water brought in by tanker
  - Tap water marked as non-potable
  - Sometimes water runs out in evening and is only refilled around mid-day
  - o Former commander: tanker comes three times per day but it's still not enough
  - Bottled water routinely 1.5 litres/person/day including for babies

- o "we get enough"
- Showers
  - 4 hot but 1-2 of these not working
  - ~10 in total.
  - No disabled provision. Man in wheelchair showers with bottled water in toilet cubicle.
- ~25 toilets at central concreted area
  - Separate male/female toilets in the same space
  - No toilet paper in cubicles stocked daily but goes missing
  - One disabled toilet
- Big tent near entrance with:
  - charging station
  - Barber
  - o TV
  - School
  - leftover food (for taking)
  - Two gas stoves in use by resident
- Women's space
  - next to medical tent
  - midwives present
  - o distribution of sanitary items etc
- Medical clinic (Red Cross) 10am-2pm, 4pm-7pm

- Somewhat dirty litter
- Some tension over lack of showers
- Man in wheelchair reports boredom and thinks this may cause tensions in future
- Hard for wheelchairs to access non-concreted areas between tents
- Women and children can feel unsafe at night
  - o Camp in wooded area
  - Reports of wolf noises
  - Snakes and spiders
- Mosquitoes
  - Some standing water e.g at showers
- Tents quite close together and residents make fires possible fire risk. Unsure if procedures in place.

## Needs

- Elderly male Syrian requested Arabic-style toilets
- Volunteers looking for skilled breastfeeding support have contact details, please ask
- Volunteers for cleaning/tidying and supplies

- Women requested:
  - Need underwear, long blouses/skirts (summer-wear), hijabs, deodorant
  - Would like to cook themselves currently have to buy ingredients to do this
  - Lighting inside tents
  - o More consistent education provision schooling irregular & can be brief classes
- Potable water supply chlorination of water tankered in?

- Hellenic and Spanish Red Cross
- Lighthouse Relief (distribution)
- Many local volunteers
- Relationships between ethnicities, with volunteers and with officials all good
- UNHCR on-site fairly regularly
- Bus to town €2.50 each way
- Reports plentiful doctors in daytime, with translators.
- Prayer area
- Volunteer plans to create a restaurant



Women's space



Tents

# Piraeus Port: 17<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> April 2016

Access to all areas. One team member slept here for three nights and was joined one morning by rest of the team. We spoke to a range of officials, residents and volunteers.

## Initial information

- 3,500 people and reducing
- Unofficial open camp
- Chaotic environment
  - Some leaving for official camps, others returning from these
  - Authorities moving residents around active port now getting to busy season
  - For now transfers to other camps are voluntary (source: UNHCR corroborated by two refugees in queue for transfer)
- Residents were asked to have their papers stamped
  - o proves they were resident of Piraeus on ~18<sup>th</sup> March.
  - Now police are mostly refusing access to those without the stamps i.e new arrivals not permitted
  - Some attempt to sneak in

## Population

Highly varied demographics, both by nationality and age

## Location/Physical characteristics

- Port gates are numbered starting E1
  - There is a warehouse space located between E1 and E2, known as E1.5 (aka "Stone Warehouse)
- E1 and E1.5 currently host refugees in tents. Some inside the E1 passenger terminal and the Stone Warehouse building. At the moment, E2-E10 seems to be clear of refugees
- E1: 37.942314147,23.623359680
- E1.5: 37.943881988,23.6303730010

- Army food extensively supplemented by donations and volunteers
- Reasonable lighting throughout

- Quite dirty throughout
- Mostly sleeping on blankets on floor
- Passenger terminal:
  - building used for shelter
  - o Toilets (sometimes closed) and medical room inside
- Outside:
  - tents of poor quality
  - two large tents used for shelter
  - o 24 toilet cubicles
  - Medical teams active
- Showers ~8 in total. Opening times unknown.

#### E1.5

- Stone building as shelter and warehouse/distribution point
- Showers **only 10am-6pm**, very busy
  - 4 women's showers on west side
  - 4 men's showers on east side
  - Unclear why showers only for 8 hours per day
  - One solar water heater each water mostly cold
- Tents at back outside
- Reasonably well-lit
- ~20 toilets west side
  - Individual cubicles mostly split by gender
  - o no handwashing nearby except two taps inside women's shower building
- Also ~3 cubicles and two sinks inside Stone Warehouse
- Very little running water around the site

#### Issues

- Camp at quayside children play near water's edge
- Distributions not always orderly
- Water and sanitation situation very poor, especially E1.5

## Needs

- Some additional tents
- Tapstand and/or washing basin
- Additional showers or for current showers to remain open 24/7
- More cleaning of toilets/showers

- "Czech Team" at Stone warehouse team of ~7 medium-long term volunteers. Experienced and make efforts to ensure equitable distribution across all gates.
- Security OK throughout
  - o Police, Port Police, Coast Guard and private security around 24/7
  - o Observed these officials intervening in a fight.
- REMAR SOS team on site
- Drop in the Ocean present
- Hellenic Red Cross and Medical Association of Piraeus on-site
  - HRC seen distributing food and water
- UNHCR observed though residents and volunteers report their presence is only occasional
- Many local volunteers





E1



E1.5

# Schisto 18th April 2016 16:30

No access (require Ministry of Migration Policy permission) however spoke to friendly military commander and to an English-speaking Afghan with a child outside.

## Initial information

- Open facility with ~2000 people
- Military controlled
- Opened since 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2016

# Population

Mainly Afghans, some Syrian

# Location/Physical Characteristics

- 37.979850769,23.5932655334
- Former military base
- Southwest Athens/Piraeus
- 50m away from highway

## Infrastructure

- Food catering
- Army distribution of NFI's
- Canvas tents
  - Mostly shared
- One charging place very busy
- Afghan man said there were "not enough toilets" similar reports by another source
- Water
  - Can drink tap water
- Showers
  - Afghan man says cold only
  - Army & UNHCR factsheet claims hot water
- No wifi

## **Needs**

Nothing requested

- Sharing of tents
  - o Reportedly some single males in same tent as women with children
  - Afghan man thinks this is uncomfortable for women
- Sanitation situation appears to be unsatisfactory
- Report of problematic alcohol usage

- Army doctor 24/7 and an ambulance seen on-site
- Report that Hellenic Red Cross is present
- Save the Children on site
- UNHCR on site regularly
  - o Commander expects everyone to be "registered for asylum soon"
- Some school/education (details unclear)
- Afghan man says "Police have been doing their job"

# Skaramagas 18<sup>th</sup> April 2016 18:45

Gained access. Toured and observed the site and spoke to women, children and resident volunteer (no translators).

## Initial information

- Open camp at port
- Accommodation in isoboxes
- 1600-2000 people and growing
- Capacity 1600 but ongoing construction works to expand capacity lots of room on site
- Opened 11<sup>th</sup> April

## Population

- Syrian, Iraqi incl. Yazidi, Kurds
- Mixed religions

## Location/Physical characteristics

- 38.01525878,23.5981616973
- On quay of port (seaside)
  - Other separated areas of the port are still active

## Infrastructure

- Accommodation in isoboxes (cabins)
  - Two rooms with two bunk beds each
  - One bathroom with toilet, sink and shower (incl. drinking water and hot water)
  - Air conditioning
  - Lighting inside
- Food
  - Hot food, catering "great"
  - Each family/household has a ration card so only one person has to queue

#### Issues

- Location: bad air quality/dusty
- Messy/dirty
- Remnants of abandoned buildings/construction works
  - Children playing in these dangerous areas
- No green space on site

## Needs

- Syrian resident trying to organise resident volunteering request for hi-vis jackets and cleaning supplies (we have contact)
- Shaded areas
  - Observed some seated residents supporting cardboard over themselves for shading

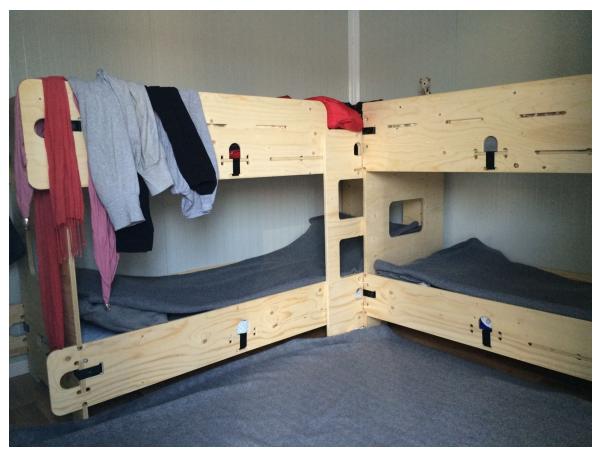
# Already in place

- Movement on the ground planned kids activities/school
- UNHCR presence
- Some refugees selling vegetables inside

One of the best accommodation options we found however the site is still in development so does feel a little like a construction site at the moment.



Children playing with fire and industrial materials



Bedroom





Houses nearest to sea

# Eleonas 19<sup>th</sup> April 2016 09:30

Gained access and spoke to several residents, UNHCR and a govt. official.

## Initial information

- Open facility of ~1600 people
- Accommodation in isoboxes
- Opened August 2015
- Space available for expansion

## Population

• Mixed Afghan/Syrian/Iraqi/Iranian/African (unsure which countries)

## Location/Physical characteristics

- <u>37.9820861816,23.6980018615</u>
- Central/west Athens
- Industrial area

- All isobox-type cabins
  - Two rooms with two bunk beds each
  - One bathroom with toilet, sink and shower (incl. drinking water and hot water)
  - Some with air conditioning
  - Lighting inside
  - Inside of cabins not observed but reportedly sleeping in beds without mattresses (on blankets)
- Wifi − "slow"
- Bins throughout site clean
- Distribution
  - Observed food and an NFI distribution
  - Ration card system calm
  - Catering includes honey, juices, croissant, rice, macaroni, potatoes, oranges/apples
  - "Sometimes good, sometimes not"
- Tap water drinkable
- Showers hot

- Possibly area with air pollution
- Non-specialist government officials assisting with asylum procedures

## Needs

- Air con for some cabins
- Summer clothes

- UNHCR on-site
- NGO Nostos-lasis distribute food/NFI's, cleaning, infrastructure maintenance
- Greek lessons for adults currently starting
- Govt. official reported school bus just started taking children to local school for Greek lessons
- English lessons on Friday/Saturday
- Hellenic Red Cross medics on site
- System to use computer for skype call for asylum services
  - Met one person who successfully made an appointment



# Oinofyta 19<sup>th</sup> April 2016 10:00

We gained access and spoke primarily to two teenage girls and their parents, as well as the military site commander (who was highly cooperative).

## Initial information

- Open facility with police & military on-site
- Opened 13<sup>th</sup> April
- Population: 40
- Only eight tents currently in use
- Capacity 300
- There are 400 physical spaces inside tents however the site commander, who has some experience from Ritsona camp, says he will not pack the camp – aim for one family, one tent.

## Population

All Afghan

## Location/Physical Characteristics

- 38.323616027,23.619438171
- 60km from Athens
- Fairly remote
- Sits on a busy road in an industrial area

- Accommodation in canvas tents
  - Tents have fly screen/net with zip built in to front door
  - Sleeping on blankets no mats/mattresses
  - "Very hot during the day and very cold at night"
- Food
  - Catering 3x per day
  - Hot food
- No wifi/Internet
- Charging stations available
- Water
  - Different taps for showering vs drinking water
  - o Possibly tankered in

- Some residents drink tap water, others think only bottled is OK
- Sometimes water runs out
- One shower block open 24/7
- o 9am-1pm women, 1pm-6pm men, 6pm-9am mixed
- Hot water
- Toilets 8 male, ~8 female on opposite sides of a building (~30m separation)
- Site lighting installed

- Camp entrance is on a fast road
- Camp is remote residents unsure about transport links
- Males use female toilets
  - The male toilets are ~30m from the female, so female are much closer to all tents
- Teenage girl "bored"
- Many military aircraft flynearby/overhead regularly

## Needs

- More structured activities for children and teenagers
- Schooling including a request from teenage girl for English & Greek lessons
- Summer clothes
- Residents want to cook themselves:
  - o Glass cups/tableware
  - Kitchen equipment (stoves, pans etc)
  - o Salt, sugar, tomato, potato, cucumber, onion, chicken, rice, spices, oil
- Middle-aged female requested a camp resident's ID card system, for more controlled entry/exit

- Adventist Help medic each day 10am until 4/5pm
  - Currently volunteer medical student
- Good relationships between residents and officials
- Army very cooperative towards volunteer groups/donations
- Some Spanish volunteers in evenings
- Teenage and middle-aged females both feel safe



Military aircraft



# Malakasa 20<sup>th</sup> April 2016 13:00

No access. Information based on visit on 1<sup>st</sup> April (where access was granted) and a nearby interview of **one** male resident on 20<sup>th</sup> April.

## Initial information

- ~1200 people, capacity 1200-1600 (sources contradictory)
- Opened ~8<sup>th</sup> March

# Population

Most/all Afghan

## Location/Physical Characteristics

- 38.238540649,23.7811031341
- Outskirts of Malakasa town,
- Bordering a wooded area

## Infrastructure

- Accommodation
  - o in canvas tents
  - o a few small camping tents
  - On floor on blankets (20<sup>th</sup> April interview)
- Charging stations
- Food
  - o 20th April Food not good, insufficient
  - o 1st April Army food 2x hot, 1x cold
  - Some people buy ingredients and cook for themselves
- Site lighting working
- Hot showers (20<sup>th</sup> April)
- Tap water potable
- No wifi
- Issues
- Snakes etc

## **Needs**

• Women space (none reported by male on 20<sup>th</sup> April)

- 1<sup>st</sup> April: REMAR, Fundacion Mensajeros de la paz, Independent Greek volunteers
- Police/army friendly
- "Good doctor", probably army. Some out-of-hours emergency cover.
- Train station nearby





# Lavrio City Accommodation – 19<sup>th</sup> April 2016 17:30

We spoke to a range of people in the courtyard of the Kurd buildings though were later asked to leave by a community elder. We spoke extensively to the Afghans inside their house.

## Initial information

Open informal facility
Also previously a refugee site
Three buildings
~350 people in Kurdi buildings, ~100 Afghan

# Population

Two buildings occupied by Kurds. Some link to PKK. Lease/rent agreed with Greek govt. A third nearby occupied by Afghans – some pregnant women, elderly and children

## Location/Physical

- 37.713352203,24.0553684234
- Next to National Bank
- Located in town centre
- Old buildings

- Shelter
  - Kurdistan: sleep on blankets on floor
  - Afghanistan: 1-3 families per room with beds
- Food for all
  - 2-3 times per day
  - Unclear who provides kitchen on-site of Kurdi house
  - Food is hot
  - Multiple reports of not enough food
  - Afghans often don't get dinner on weekends
- Water
  - Tap water drinkable
  - Hot water in Afghanistan and one Kurd building
- No wifi (though available in nearby cafes)

- Owing to strong communitarian ties/dynamics, access to Kurd area has to be carefully negotiated with community leaders – please contact us for more information in advance.
- No UNHCR presence
- No legal advice available
- No clothes distribution
  - Some locals drop off clothes occasionally to each location
- One person reported with physical mobility issues (not seen) requires assistance to enter or leave the Kurd buildings.

## Needs

- Legal advice/support
- More food
- School/education etc for kids
- English lessons?
- More soap/shampoo requested for Kurdistan

- Some Greek lessons for all adults from local teachers
- Kurds have had some contact with EASO.
- Doctor 8am-1pm for all Hellenic Red Cross
- <u>Team Sweden volunteers</u> NFI distributions in Afghanistan
  - Provided specific NFI's after asking residents what they require
- Relationship between all three buildings good
- swisscross.help now starting NFI and food distribution



Kurdistan



Afghanistan

# Lavrio Summer Camp 19:00

Gained access and spoke to a fair cross-section of residents.

## Initial information

- 400-450 people near capacity
- Managed by air force
- Families
- Opened 13<sup>th</sup> March

## Population

• Syrian plus three Afghan families

## Location/Physical characteristics

- 37.6775207519,24.047052383
- 2km from nearest village
- Small shop 5mins walk

- Accommodation
  - Wooden houses
  - Shower, toilets, hot water (solar)
  - Tap water drinkable
  - o Beds, pillows
  - Mostly one family per room, some share
  - Air conditioning/heating
- Food
  - Catering recent change in provider
  - o Potions now smaller
  - One person per family queues for food
- No internet (installed but broken ~20 days)
- Communal area with satellite TV
- Playground
- Basketball/football field
- Tennis court

Mosquitoes/snakes

## Needs

- Syrian dentist wants to help but needs equipment
- Summers shoes & clothes
- Transportation (e.g for leisure)
- School
- Request for mosquito repellent

- People feel safe
- DIPLA local volunteer organisation
- Medical cover
  - Medical 9:30-12:30 and 18:00-20:00
  - Ambulance seen on-site
- Syrian resident teaching English
- UNHCR came twice
  - Gave information
  - Had translator
  - o Syrian man: "No one trusts the relocation program"
- Reportedly 2-3 people had interviews for asylum





# Korinthos Detention Centre: 20th April 2016 10:00

Secure facility - no access granted. Information gathered from guards at the entrance gate and the commander.

## **Initial Information**

- Closed purposed-built detention facility
- Capacity: ~1000 (unconfirmed)
- Number of people currently on site unknown
- Gaining access would require permission of police head office

## Population

- All Pakistani single men, asked for asylum
- Detained for over 25 days
  - We were informed that they can/will be kept in the facility for up to 6 months

## Location/Physical Characteristics

- 37.9292984008,22.928806304
- In Korinthos town
- Permanent buildings surround by tall fences
- Next to an army base and opposite a school

#### Infrastructure

- Accommodation in buildings
- Army doctor during the day, medical care from nearby hospital during the night
- No information about food and facilities

## Needs

- Legal investigation regards detention >25days and possibly up to 6 months
- Psychological support
  - there was psychological support for 6 months
  - This "was very helpful"
  - As at other closed detention centres, this contract recently expired
- Commander requested NFIs like clothes, shoes, blankets

Note: we also learned of another Athens detention centre called "Amigdalesa" which is not found on UNHCR etc maps.



# Andravidas: 16<sup>th</sup> April 2016 14:00

Gained access. We toured with one middle-aged Syrian male resident that speaks Greek. A discussion took place with a group of young men and a few women, through our translator. Finally, we visited two houses, speaking with the residing families incl. children.

## Initial information

- Open, military-run camp
- 340 people, full capacity
- Former beach resort, closed for the last 9 years
- Opened on 31<sup>st</sup> March 2016
- Accommodation in buildings

## Population

- Syrians and one Iraqi couple
- Many children, one deaf and dumb girl

## Location/Physical Characteristics

- 37.937938690,21.2079048156
- Beautiful beach resort in remote green area
- Air force base close by
- 2km to next village, 5km to Andravida

- Accommodation in separate buildings
  - Up to 4 families in one building
  - Shower/toilet in building
  - Kitchenette in each house
- Food
  - Catering 3x day
  - Room keys used as ration cards
  - o Breakfast croissant, otherwise hot and made on premises
  - Little/no(?) baby food
  - o Little milk
- Tap water safe to drink
- Hot water in each house
- Recreational facilities of previous resort (volleyball court, tennis court etc)
- No wifi, reasonable 3G coverage

Plans to use existing building as school

#### Issues

- Food Quality
  - All residents we spoke to complain about the food
  - Residents would prefer to cook themselves, some have equipment to cook, but more and especially ingredients needed
- Distribution
  - Clothing distributions are unscheduled, without advance notice and without any system to ensure equitable distribution
  - Reports that clothes are often simply left in a pile
  - o A female resident claims that they did not receive clothes
- Medical cover
  - Emergency medical care provided by nearby air force base
  - Possibly also army doctor once a week
  - o Report of a woman due to give birth soon who has not been seen by a specialist
- Mosquitoes

## **Needs**

- Wifi
- Transportation to town
- Cooking facilities and ingredients
- Fair clothing distribution mechanism

- NFI like sanitary items and clothes through locals
- UNHCR paid a visit to site and informed residents that they will be registered later
- Locals come and play with children sometimes
- People feel safe



# Filipiada 21st April 2016 10:00

Gained access and spoke to several English-speaking residents and friends, as well as to officials at the entrance.

#### Initial information

- 630 people, capacity 700
- Opened 18<sup>th</sup> March
- Shelter in canvas tents

## Population

- Syrian, Afghani, Iraqi, Palestinian
- Many families and also children, mother and grandparents with father already in other EU country

# Location/Physical characteristics

- 39.2266464233,20.870395660
- Outskirts of Filipiada town
- Surrounded by forested area

- Accommodation in various canvas tents
  - No flooring
  - Mostly sleeping on blankets
  - Camping beds for medical cases
  - Army report more beds to be distributed on day of visit (21 Apr)
- Tents numbered
  - Each tent has a card listing number of adults and children
  - Used as 'ration card' for both food and NFIs
  - One person per tent collects food/etc reports of little queuing
- Water
  - Tap water signed as non-potable
  - Distributing bottled water some say enough, some say not quite
  - Reasonable drainage throughout site
- Food catering
  - o 3x a day including some hot meals
  - Many reports that food is insufficient especially breakfast (croissant and juice)
- NFI distributed by army

- Army say these are mostly local donations
- Recent distribution of summer shoes but only for children and teenagers
- Some reports of "only little" soap/shampoo etc
- Toilets
  - ~55 all in same place
  - Some individual cubicles segregated by gender
  - All western-style
  - No handwashing facilities nearby
- Showers
  - o 24 shower cubicles all cold, not split by gender
  - o One isobox shower block with a little hot water
- Bins throughout site tidy
- Medical isobox near entrance
- No wifi

- Snakes and scorpions
  - Army recently put up snake traps around the camp and distributed snake repellent powder
- Distributions can be disorderly and a source of conflict
  - Residents reported that although army often try to create a distribution schedule (so distribution times are known in advance), attempting to give out in-demand NFI's (e.g shoes) for everyone in the camp in one distribution seems over-ambitious and results in very long queues

#### Needs

- School (including adult classes) "everyone wants to learn English"
- · Activities for children, toys, children's caps
- Mosquito repellent
- Sugar, tea
- Summer clothes especially t-shirts
- Women request underwear, bras, leggings, hair brushes

- Everyone feels safe (other than due to snakes/insects)
- Residents' relationship with police/army good
- UNHCR seen twice in ~2 weeks
  - Brought translator
  - Gave information
- Medical

- o Army doctor 8am-evening
- o Female doctor seen but residents say normally not present
- o Observed a public ambulance come quickly to the site due to medical emergency
- Residents collect firewood from surrounding forest
- Army reports:
  - Oxfam and Mercy Corp visit sporadically
  - o plan to set up tea tent soon
  - o plans for communal area with TV
  - o plans for more isobox showers and toilets with connection to municipal sewers
  - o plans for communal kitchen





# Katsikas Ioanninon 21st April 2016 12:00

Gained access to camp and spoke to a reasonable cross section of the population including through Arabic translator. Also spoke to an English-speaking Yazidi Kurd and his friends.

#### Initial information

- ~1000 people
- Canvas tents
- UNHCR report capacity 1500, site commander says his orders are for up to 1000 only
- Space for expansion available
- Opened 17<sup>th</sup> March

## Population

- Syrian, Afghan, Iraqi
- ~250 Yazidi

## Location/Physical characteristics

- 39.60826492,20.90234947
- 2-3km to Katsikas town
- Perimeter fence with some holes
- Syrians/Afghan/Yazidis in separated areas

- Food
  - Mostly catering
  - Olividas also cooking on-site
  - Some cooking in tents
  - Quality mostly OK
- Tents numbered
  - All appeared to have beds/baby beds with mattresses
  - No flooring (tarpaulin over sand/gravel)
  - Chairs and beds used as chairs
  - Some have kettles
- Toilets mostly on perimeter
  - ~30 in total
  - All western style
  - o Extremely unclean on day of visit though usually cleaned twice daily
- First aid/medical tent

- Showers
  - Four shower blocks with six showers each, spread along northern perimeter of site
  - Alternating male/female blocks
  - Handwashing basins
- Tap water potable
- Drainage a little standing water but appears to be ongoing works
- Site lighting installed
- Wifi recently installed but slow
- Charging points near southeast site entrance
- Bins around site

- Site generally untidy/unclean
- No dedicated sinks/basins for washing clothes etc
- Distributions can be disorderly despite ration card system

#### Needs

- Residents would like to cook for themselves
- Summer clothes
- Request from Yazidi man for
  - Arabic-style toilet
  - o charging point nearer to their tents (northern part of site)

- UNHCR came twice with translators to give information
- People feel safe at night
- Police/army friendly
- Lighthouse Relief distribution and tea
- OXFAM mapping the site
- IOM on site assisting with a voluntary return to Iraq on day of visit
- "Soup and socks" organisation
- Some baby strollers
- Medical students union of loanninas have some presence
- Doctor on-site 11am-8pm
- Military ambulance seen on-site
- Olvidados cooking, teaching, organising activities, warehouse/distribution
- Activities including maths lessons, English lessons, yoga, baby bathing and gardening
- School/teacher every day
  - Some classes just for women/particular age groups

- Warehouse on-site and distribution
- Kitchen in warehouse, residents help cook dinner
- Baby NFI tent









# Doliana 21st April 2016 14:15

Gained access to premises but not the buildings. Spoke to two Syrian males in English.

#### Initial information

- Open facility with 220 people
- Opened 15<sup>th</sup> March
- Gate controlled by military

## Population

- Syrians & Afghans
- Arrived directly from the islands (Lesvos, Chios)

## Location/Physical characteristics

- 39.8983459472,20.578361511
- On the outskirts of Doliana village
- In remote green mountainous area
- Former Music High School of Doliana

- Accommodation in rooms
  - 1-3 families per room
  - Some bunkbeds with mattresses and blankets seen, some report sleeping on blankets on floor
- Shared toilets and showers
  - No hot water
  - Enough toilets/showers
- Tap water potable
- Food
  - 3x day
  - Hot
  - Complaints about quality of food (lack of vegetables and sauce)
  - Local school sometimes gives baby milk/food
- NFI
  - Sporadically distributed by locals (clothes, shoes etc)
  - Sanitary items provided
- Wifi (weak)
- · Basketball court on site

- Snakes/scorpions
- Low water pressure and sometimes no water
- Water sometimes has orange colour at start of day (possibly from iron pipes?)

## Needs

- Cooking equipment
- School/kids activities
- Would like to cook for themselves

- Locals and officials friendly towards residents
- Distributions relaxed
- Cleaners each day
- Doctor 9-11am
  - o Army can call ambulance
- NFI distribution through locals
  - o Clothes, shoes, tea and milk
- UNHCR visited once
- Local volunteer group came and intends to start teaching Greek





# Konitsa 21st April 2016 17:15

Gained access and toured with site director. Also spoke to a range of residents in groups through an Arabic translator.

#### Initial information

- Open facility with 180 people incl. 80 children
- Opened 11<sup>th</sup> March 2016
- Managed by welfare organisation under the Ministry of Labour

## Population

- All Syrian
- Arrived on Leros island and transferred through Piraeus port

## Location/Physical characteristics

- 40.04930496,20.7497367858
- · Old summer camp-like building
- Previously a child protection centre
- Historically an orphanage (1930's)

- Accommodation in rooms
  - Beds with mattresses
- Food
  - Kitchen on site
  - Three meals per day
  - No baby food
  - o Little/no milk
  - Residents say food very repetitive
- Tap water potable
- NFI's
  - Provide sanitary items and clothes
  - Residents agree they have enough
  - Residents say they get nappies only from locals inconsistent supply
- No internet
- Hot water broken for 1-2 weeks
  - Management claim they have ordered a replacement boiler

- No NGO presence
- Toilets (and possibly showers?) are mixed gender

#### Needs

- Financial support e.g heating required September-April
  - Costs around 10 euros per person per day, excluding cost of employees
  - Would like to hire more local employees
- Translator
- Baby food
- Nappies

- UNHCR came twice (once technical team, once legal)
  - Waiting for loannina to start registration process
- · Greek lessons after breakfast
- Activities e.g painting
- Management report psychologists on-site three times a week, sessions especially for women and children
- Medics 24/7
- Volunteer doctors sometimes residents say rarely
- Management report they can transfer to health centre in Konitsa or hospital in Ioannina residents agree
- Local volunteers sometimes come with toys etc





# Tselepovo 21st April 2016 20:05

Gained access other than to bedrooms and spoke to local volunteer, residents and military.

#### Initial information

- Open facility guarded by military/police
- ~135 people recently some families left (unclear why)
- Site of former boarding school
- Opened 18<sup>th</sup> April 2016

## Population

• Syrian, Iraqi

## Location/Physical characteristics

In village high in mountains

#### Infrastructure

- Accommodation
  - Some rooms but families sharing so some prefer to sleep in the quieter corridor
  - Beds with mattresses throughout
- Showers hot for 6h/day
- Food
  - Army food supplemented by locals breakfast "great"
  - Plan to use on-site kitchen
- 2 litres of bottled water per day distributed to each person
- Communal area with charging station and kettle
- No wifi yet
- "Enough" toilets/showers

#### Issues

Camp still being established

#### Needs

- Soap/shampoo/bleach
- Children's activities

- No UNHCR presence yet
- Residents feel safe, report atmosphere always calm/relaxed
- Residents have responsibility to clean and tidy
- OXFAM seen (the next morning)
- Army doctor in the morning
- Warehousing space in local school for food and NFI
- Working in collaboration with warehouse at Katsikas camp
  - Volunteer made list of required items and currently 'personal shopping' for these
- Two local volunteers on-site, one interviewed clearly very dedicated (working >12h/day)
- Plans for English lessons, sports and walks in the National Park
- Locals provide some transportation into town

