



KINDLING A BETTER **WORLD**



KMOP is an NGO that provides services to disadvantaged groups for 40 years

Drop In – Early School Leavers

GRANT agreement:2017-1-UK01-KA205-035400



7th Annual IARS International Conference, 16–17 July 2019

London, UK

16th July 2019



This project has been funded with support from the European Commission.

This publication and all its contents reflect the views only of the author, and the Commission cannot be held responsible for any use which may be made of the information contained therein. Project number:2017-1-UK01-KA205-035400

The Dropout phenomenon in Greece and the second chances in education and social inclusion

- Education in Greece is compulsory between 6 and 15 years old and until secondary school graduation (article 73 of Law 3518/2006 and article 2, & 3 of Law 1566/1985)
- This compulsory education is applicable to all children regardless of the status of legality or illegality of the parents.

The dropout context in Greece

- **The dropout rate in Greece for 2016 was 6,2%**, which is significantly low compared to the EU average that is more than 10%.
- Dropout rates in Greece are higher for those children who were born outside of Greece (18.1%), compared to the natives (5,5%). (EC, 2017)
- Boys abandon education to a larger percentage than girls, as confirmed by surveys conducted by the Pedagogical Institute (Transition Observatory, 2004, 2006).

The dropout phenomenon in Greece

- Dropouts share common background characteristics in all countries and cultural contexts, such as **lower socioeconomic status (SES)** students and students from households with **few educational resources** (Bryk & Thum, 1989)
- There is a **regional dimension** in educational inequality in Greece (Kyridis et al., 2011)
- The groups that are most prone to being identified as functionally illiterate are **minorities such as Roma, repatriates, immigrants and members of the Muslim Minority of Thrace.**
- Most of educational programmes are focused in the regions where these particular groups are, which identified as socially disadvantaged (Spinthourakis, et. al., 2008).

Factors which lead students to the thought of dropping out from school

- The unattractive curriculum and lack of motivation
- The consequences of the economic crisis made students to think about dropping out in order to get a job
- Interpersonal relations—the way they are developed at school– influence considerably the quitting and the atmosphere where learning takes place, that's why it needs to be taken into account

Research for the Erasmus+ Programme 'EDU Living & Leaving' (Greece)

NEETs in Greece (15–24 year olds not employed or participating in any education or training program as a percentage of the population of the same age group) **were 17.4% in 2011**

In 2008 were 11.7 % – an increase of 5.7 percentage points compared to a rise of 2 percentage points in the EU-27 in the same period, 2008–2011.

NEET indicator for men in Greece has experienced a significant deterioration in 2008–2011, by 7.1 percentage points (compared with 4.4 for women).

A paradox: In Greece, NEET rates are higher for people with a higher level of education than people with a lower level of education.

- The Ministry of Education has enacted the supportive Teaching program to replenish student gaps or to support their efforts
- In Greece throughout the 2000s and after 2015 there is a large influx of migrants, whose children are attending Greek schools
- Reception Courses, Tutorial Courses and Intercultural Schools for migrant children
- Special programmes for Gypsy children

Strategic Policy Framework for the Reduction of Early School Leaving in Greece in the context of "Human Resources Development – Education and Lifelong Learning 2014-2018"

Prevention

Overall improvement of the educational system

Intervention

Support of the students who face difficulties, academic and psychological support, coaching

Counterbalance

Second chance schools, VET, Lifelong learning

- Public schools for adults (18+) who dropped out compulsory education (since 1997)
- 2 year duration – free of charge
- Flexible curriculum and methodology
- High school certificate

- Consultancy services, including a Career Adviser and an Educational Psychologist in every school.
- Acquisition and development of basic skills, competences and general knowledge
- Use of new technologies
- Learning a foreign language

Non-formal and informal education

Free of charge educational/training programmes provided by the state, municipalities, universities, NGO's and other institutions

- Vocational Education Training (VET)
- Lifelong learning programmes
- Language lessons
- ICT classes

Business Grant Scheme to hire Unemployed 16-24 Years Old

The aim of the program is to enhance the skills and work experience of 5,000 unemployed aged 16 to 24, by employing them in private enterprises and employers of the private sector by subsidizing 12-month insurance contributions (stage a), with the possibility of continuing the grant for another 12 months period if the work experience contract is converted into a contract of employment (stage b).

- Drop out phenomenon is not a big problem for Greece
- However, there are specific groups (immigrants, minorities) that tend to drop out and need support
- There are public policies towards this direction
- Very few initiatives from the civil society
- The general education in Greece needs a new design and strategy

Thank you for your time.