



RESCUE

Refugees Education Support in MENA CoUntriEs

Project n.: 573665-EPP-1-2016-1-IT-EPPKA2-CBHE-JP

**Erasmus + Programme, Key Action 2:
Capacity Building in the field of Higher Education**

Kick Off Meeting Minutes

February 14-15, 2017

Rome



Name and Surname	P.N.	Acronym	Institution	Country
Raniero Chelli	1	UNIMED	Mediterranean Universities Union	IT
Marco Di Donato	1	UNIMED	Mediterranean Universities Union	IT
Michela Ornis	1	UNIMED	Mediterranean Universities Union	IT
Marcello Scalisi	1	UNIMED	Mediterranean Universities Union	IT
Cristina Stefanelli	1	UNIMED	Mediterranean Universities Union	IT
Graziella Gaglione	2	Uniroma1	Sapienza - Università di Roma	IT
Catalina Jerez Paredero	3	UB	Universitat de Barcelona	ES
Florient Bauer	4	TUB	Technische Universitaet Berlin	DE
Amelia Lin	4	TUB	Technische Universitaet Berlin	DE
Celal Nazım İrem	5	IAU	Istanbul Aydin University	TR
Bahar Dilşa Kavala	5	IAU	Istanbul Aydin University	TR
Claire Grandchamps	6	USEK	Holy Spirit University of Kaslik	LB
Hoda Nehme	6	USEK	Holy Spirit University of Kaslik	LB
Zalpha Ayoubi	7	UL	Université Libanese	LB
Asma Chamli	7	UL	Université Libanese	LB
Rund A. Hammoudi Albazzaz	8	UoD	University of Duhok	IQ
Sabah Ibrahim Wais	8	UoD	University of Duhok	IQ
Zeerak Azizkhan Ahmed	9	DPU	Duhok Polytechnic University	IQ
Ezzat Fendi Yahya Dndi	9	DPU	Duhok Polytechnic University	IQ
Sultan Abu Orabi	10	AArU	Association of Arab Universities	JO
May Wahbeh	10	AArU	Association of Arab Universities	JO
Ziad al-Saa'd	11	YU	Yarmouk University	JO
Khaled Gharaibeh	11	YU	Yarmouk University	JO
Mahmoud Iskandarani	12	ZUJ	Al-Zaytoonah University of Jordan	JO
Turki Obeidat	12	ZUJ	Al-Zaytoonah University of Jordan	JO
Nidal Mahd Abdallah Alramahi	13	ZU	Zarqa University	JO
Ashraf Shaqadan	13	ZU	Zarqa University	JO
Carsten Walbiner	-	DAAD	German Academic Exchange Service	DE



14 February 2017

Opening and Welcome by UNIMED Director, Marcello Scalisi

First of all a detailed explanation of UNIMED activities was given by Dr. Scalisi, who also explained UNIMED strategies about Refugees issue and how to deal with it in cooperation with UNIMED members. At this very moment UNIMED is collecting various inputs coming from its associated Universities in order to implement new concrete actions in this context.

Project rationale and logical framework by Raniero Chelli

Dr. Chelli presented the RESCUE project according to the following agenda:

- The agenda of the meeting (Annex I),
- Objectives of the Kick-Off Meeting,
- Project rationale and objectives,
- Expected impact,
- Partnership,
- Structure of the workplan,
- Timing,
- Roles of partners
- Immediate actions,
- Specific Issues and problems,
- Questions and answers.

Dr. Chelli introduced the RESCUE project specific objective (To help the Partner Country Universities in structuring an effective response to the problem) and how: By creating ad hoc units (the Refugee Student Operational Support Unit – R-SOS), small offices whose mission is to structure specific services supporting the refugee students in resuming their academic training path. He was also able to show indicators:

- 7 R-SOS Units set-up and operational
- At least 100 students for each partner university have used the services offered by the R-SOS Units by the end of the project

And the Expected Impact: “The R-SOS units will help the refugee students in resuming their academic training path, in some cases by accessing the standard curricula on the same basis as all the other students, in some other cases by following ad hoc training courses providing them with basic skills and competencies useful for employment purposes. Hence the setting up of the R-SOS units will help in improving the situation of the refugees students either by supporting them in getting a job in the hosting countries either in preparing them for returning to their origin country once the crisis is over”.

This point was quickly followed by the Workplan structure explanation with particular attention to Tasks and Deliverables:



WP1 – Preparatory Activities

- 1 – Produce an update of the needs analysis for target Universities and the presence of refugee students on national level.
- 2 – Analyse identified practices in Europe and select (according to established criteria) the “best practices” to be transferred to the Partner Countries.

WP2 –Developing an Action Plan for the creation of the R-SOS Units in each target University.

Based on the identified best practices and on the update of the needs analysis a specific, tailor made action plan will be designed suited to the needs of each target University.

Milestone 1: Agreed action plans for each target University defined and agreed, ready for implementation.

WP3 – Implementation of the Action Plan in each target University

- 1) Physical creation of the R-SOS Unit (Logistic and Equipment)
- 2) Training of the staff
- 2a) launch of pilot courses for students
- 3) Study Visits in Europe
- 4) Awareness Campaign (website, etc.): this campaign aims at making the existence of the R-SOS Units known to the final beneficiaries namely the refugee students in the relevant MENA countries.

Milestone 2: R-SOS Units setup and ready for starting operations in each target University.

WP4 – Start up of the R-SOS Unit

- 1) Support by EU experts for the first months of activities of the R-SOS Unit with a pilot project testing the quality of service provided for refugee students.
- 2) Launching of pilot courses for refugee students in the Partner Countries Universities.

WP5 - Quality Plan

WP6 - Dissemination and exploitation of results.

WP7 - Project management

The project Workplan was also explained according to the RESCUE expected milestones during the project life and during the 3 years of activities.

After this introduction, Dr. Chelli illustrated the actions to be undertaken immediately, namely:

Planning of site visits for WP1, task 1.1 (needs analysis update).

The proposed tentative planning was:

Jordan (TU Berlin) : 15-16 March 2017



Lebanon (Istanbul Aydin University): 17-18 March 2017

Iraq - Kurdistan (Universitat de Barcelona) : 20-21 March 2017

The above schedule was discussed among the partners. The majority of them disagree on the proposed timing and decided to reopen the discussion on the point during WP1 session.

Framing Definition Session

This session, as the previous one, led by UNIMED (Dr. Chelli and Dr. Di Donato) was intended as an open discussion among all the partners in order to better define project direct and indirect beneficiaries. RESCUE partners started by reading the UNHCR definition of refugee as written in the text of the “1951 Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees”, with particular attention to Chapter 1 (<http://www.unhcr.org/3b66c2aa10>). After this first preliminary phase, partners started to discuss different experiences at local level trying to apply that theoretical definition to their situation. Some of them showed the difficulty to find a common definition applicable to all the RESCUE involved countries considering the different situation of the ground. For example in Kurdistan under the definition refugees, local Universities use to include also IDPs, Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) who have not crossed a border to find safety. In this sense all the partners agree that a coordination meeting with local authorities in matter of refugees is crucial in order to better frame and define the “refugee definition”. In this sense, after at least 45 minutes of discussion it was quite clear that a common definition was not possible to be reached.

Decisions taken

All the partners generally agree on two points:

- 1 – The UNHCR definition of Refugee has to be adopted as inspiration, but left open for further interpretation and additional extension according to the local condition
- 2 – Each country will have its own selection criteria for “Refugee” beneficiaries according to local legal framework and field conditions.
- 3 - It was suggested to avoid the word Refugee in the definition. Hence, the final decision about the **selection criteria for beneficiaries**, will be taken after the field visits in Jordan, Lebanon and Iraq – Kurdistan.

WP1 – Update of Needs Analysis, Best Practices selection University of Barcelona, Catalina Jerez Paredero

Mrs. Catalina Jerez Paredero briefly introduced the WP1 activities as described in the project proposal and starting by “T1.1. Update needs analysis” which has the aim to produce an update of the analysis of the needs for target Universities and the presence of refugee students on national level, and “T1.2. Best practices selections” with the goal of Analyzing identified practices in Europe

and partner countries and select (according to the established criteria) the best practices to be transferred to the partner countries.

Mrs. Paredero provided a useful definition of tasks and sub-tasks division among partners:

Partner	Role and tasks
UNIMED	Contributes to the definition of the analysis and the best practices selection methodology
UNIROMA1	Contributes to the definition of the analysis and best practices selection methodology
UB	Coordinates WP1, performs the updates of analysis of the needs and BP selection in JORDAN
TU Berlin	Performs the updates of analysis of the needs and BP selection in LEBANON
IAU	Performs the updates of analysis of the needs and BP selection in IRAQ
USEK	Provides the basic information for updating the analysis of the needs
UL	Provides the basic information for updating the analysis of the needs
UoD	Provides the basic information for updating the analysis of the needs
DPU	Provides the basic information for updating the analysis of the needs
AARU (Jordan)	Provides the basic information for updating the analysis of the needs
YU	Provides the basic information for updating the analysis of the needs
ZUJ	Provides the basic information for updating the analysis of the needs
ZU	Provides the basic information for updating the analysis of the needs

Decision Taken

1 – After a brief session with some partners, UNIMED proposed to change the Universities couples in order to define the Update of the Need Analysis.

UB with UoD and DPU



TU Berlin with YU, ZUJ, and ZU
IAU with UL and USEK

All the partners agreed on the new scheme and confirmed their commitment.

2 – UNIMED and UB, after discussing with the partners, proposed the following dates for the site visits as crucial part of the WP1:

Lebanon 14th and 15th March 2017

Jordan 21, 22 and 23 March 2017

Iraq – Kurdistan 4th and 5th April 2017

All the partners agreed on the proposed schedule and confirmed their commitment.

3 – UB proposed to postpone the delivery date of the first report “Updated needs analysis” to 01/05/2017. UNIMED and all the partners agreed on the proposed date and confirmed their commitment to produce the report accordingly.

4 – All the partners agreed to share the WP1 results with HOPEs project in order to benefit from their previous experience.

5 – Concerning “T1.2. Best practices selections”, all the partners agreed to find a common ground of action with the InHERE project and the EUA Refugees Welcome Map.

WP2 - Developing an Action Plan for the creation of the R-SOS Unit Technische Universität Berlin, Florian Bauer and Amelia Lin

Prof. Florian Bauer of TU Berlin, leader of WP2, presented the structure of the WP as follows:

Tasks and Timing

Task T2.1 “Definition of ad hoc Action Plan“:

- » A working group will be set up that includes representatives of program universities as well as target universities.
- » The ad hoc solution will be designed.

Task T2.2 “Validation of the Action Plans, Network Setup“:

- » Action plans will be shared among all partners.
- » Partners will analyze and provide comments.
- » A joint working session will be organized to present and discuss the action plans to the consortium. This meeting will also be used to create new units and a common virtual space on the WEB that supports sharing experiences.

Tasks and Timing

Task T2.1 “Definition of ad hoc Action Plan“

- » 5 months

Task T2.2 “Validation of the Action Plans, Network Setup” (1 month)

- » 1 month

Deliverables and Timing



Task T2.1: The deliverable D2.1 contains the definition of the specific action plan for each target university.

» report

Task T2.2: The deliverable D2.2 contains the definition of the specific action plan for each target university as validated and updates after the ad hoc meeting.

Immediate Actions (if any)

Start of the needs analysis and evaluating existing needs analysis

Creation of the working groups between partners

Specific Issues, Problems

Risk: Best practices selected during WP1 do not fit to the needs and constraints of the target universities.

» An additional design effort will be needed by the project team to define suitable action plan which fit to the needs of the partner universities.

WP3 - Implementation of the validated Action Plans Istanbul Aydin University, Celal Nazim Irem

Prof. Dr. Nazım İrem briefly introduced the WP3 activities, with particular attention to Tasks and Timing:

- T3.1-Physical creation of the units (Oct 2017- Jan 2018 / 9 weeks)
- T3.2-Training the of staff (Dec 2017-Feb 2018 / 6 weeks)
- T3.3-Study Visits in Europe (Mar-Jul 2018 / 15 weeks)
- T3.4-Awareness Campaign (Apr-Jul 2018 / 12 weeks)
- T3.5-Setup of a WEB based information system (Apr-Jul 2018 / 16 weeks)

And related deliverables

- D3.1 Refugees support unit set up (January 2018)
- D3.2 Local training report (February 2018)
- D3.3 Study visits report (July 2018)
- D3.4 Awareness Campaign report (July 2018)
- D3.5 RESCUE WEB based information system (July 2018)

When Prof. Dr. Nazım İrem showed the role of partners he took into account the modified Universities couples, meaning that:

Istanbul Aydin University will coordinate WP3, deliver the training (local training and study visits) to the Holy Spirit University of Kaslik and Lebanese University in Lebanon and support the awareness campaign.

University of Barcelona will deliver the training (local training and study visits) to the University of Duhok and Duhok Polytechnic University in Iraq and support the awareness campaign.



Technical University of Berlin will deliver the training (local training and study visits) to Yarmouk, Al-Zaytoonah and Zarqa Universities in Jordan and support the awareness campaign.

Holy Spirit University of Kaslik and Lebanese University will participate in the training (local and study visits) and actuate the awareness campaign in Lebanon.

University of Duhok and Duhok Polytechnic University will participate in the training (local and study visits) and actuate the awareness campaign in Iraq.

Yarmouk University, Al-Zaytoonah University and Zarqa University will participate in the training (local and study visits) and actuate the awareness campaign in Jordan.

UNIMED will support the training of the staff and the awareness campaign, and will manage the setup of the WEB based information system.

UNIROMA1 will support the training of the staff and the awareness campaign.

AARU will support the training in Jordan and the awareness campaigns.

Decision Taken

1 – IAU modified the role of partners according to WP1 decision and following the here below scheme:

UB with UoD and DPU

TU Berlin with YU, ZUJ, and ZU

IAU with UL and USEK

2 – All the partners expressed their willingness to translate in Arabic (and if possible in Kurdish) as much material as possible with the given budget in order to obtain the maximum benefit for the beneficiaries.

3 – All the partners agreed to be extremely specific on the equipment needed in order to avoid duplication and buy effective and useful material.

WP4 - Start up of the R-SOS Units Holy Spirit University of Kaslik, Claire Grandchamps

Ms Claire Grandchamps briefly introduced the WP4 activities, with particular attention to Tasks and Deliverables and Timing. No immediate actions were foreseen as the WP4 will start at month 10 of the second year of the project. It is worth to mention that the main recommendations coming from Ms Grandchamps presentation was related with the possible risks and more specifically the low response from the refugee students, which do not take advantage of the newly created R-SOS



Units. If this happens, she continued, an intensified promotion campaign should be foreseen to give more visibility to the initiative.

WP7 – Management
UNIMED, Raniero Chelli
Management strategy and tools

Mr. Chelli described the objective of the project management of the RESCUE project, namely to ensure the achievement of the expected results within the parameters of time, quality and resources set out by the contract. On the basis of the Workplan, the PM will set up procedures required to properly co-ordinate tasks and participants, ensuring the compliance with the planned effort and time scheduling.

Decision Taken

- 1 - The RESCUE WEB Site will host a reserved area for Project Management purposes.
- 2 - Each WP leader will be asked to send to PM a progress report every 3 months during the WP life
- 3 – Each partner must indicate its representatives for the Project Management Board (see for instance ANNEX II). For the “To be defined” cells all the partners agreed to send the representatives names as soon as possible in order to finalize the Project Management Board list.

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WP7 – Management
UNIMED, Michela Ornis

Administrative arrangements (Budgetary and financial management,
internal procedures, partnership agreements)

Ms. Michela Ornis explained in detail CBHE – Financial Outlines following the list here below:

- General project overview
- Co-financing concept
- Administrative strategy
- Budget: headings, ceilings and possible changes
- Eligible costs
- Exchange rate
- Payment cycle
- External Audit certification
- Financial Reporting Templates



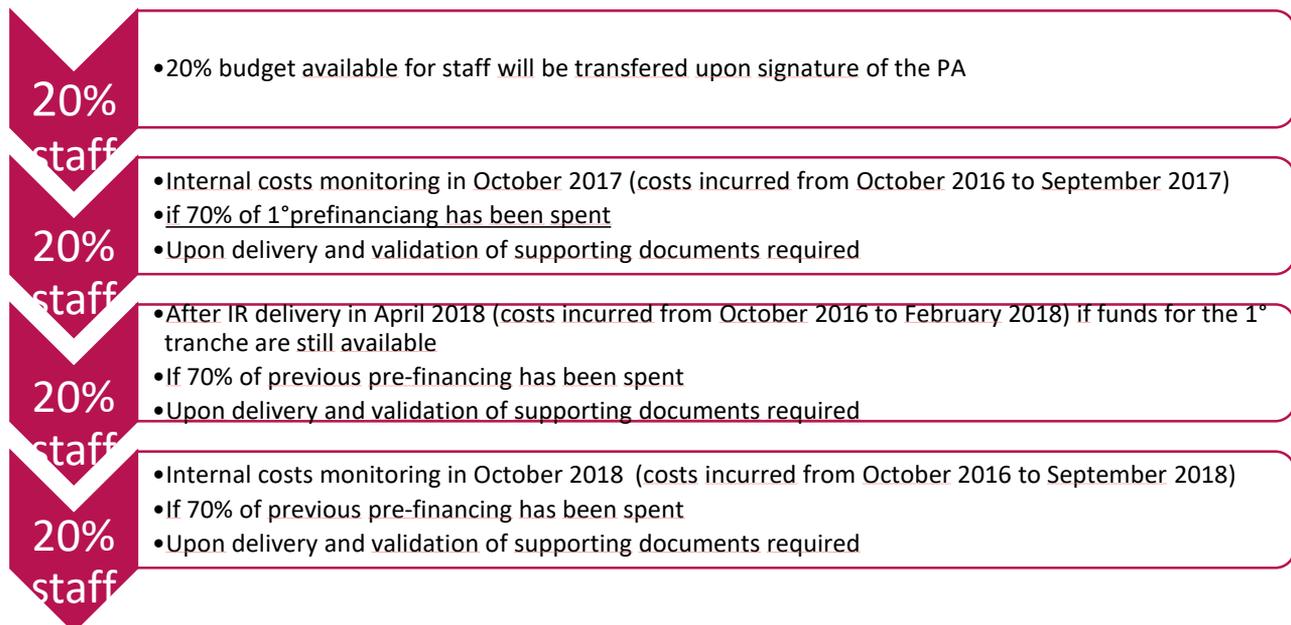
- Administrative agenda
- Reference documents to be consulted regularly

In particular Ms Ornis stressed the point concerning the administrative strategy proposal: Centralized management. In this sense UNIMED will pay directly for: Travel costs and costs of stay, Equipment purchase, Subcontracts, Staff (only when strictly necessary).

With particular reference to “Eligible Costs. Travel Cost”, Ms Ornis stressed the fact that Activities must take place in project beneficiaries' countries unless explicit prior written authorization from the Agency. With particular reference to Equipment purchase Ms Ornis showed the procedure UNIMED intends to follow:

- **One tender per country** (purchase > 25.000€)
- Agreement on the item list (maybe different for each partner and based on real needs)
- UNIMED will ask for approval to the EC Project Officer if any change on the list is needed
- **Public tender** (publication on university website)
- **3 offers** (including transport and assembly but without VAT → tax exemption agreement signed between the EU and the Partner Country concerned)
- UNIMED will choose the best offer and will pay directly the suppliers
- Partners have to:
 1. Send a DECLARATION OF RECEPTION
 2. Send a proof that the equipment is recorded in the inventory of the institution
 3. Put the CBHE stickers on the equipment purchased and send a picture

With particular reference to the Internal Payment Cycle, Ms Ornis showed the following table



In addition, she insisted on the fact that a residual 20% (Reserve fund) will be redistributed after FR evaluation and that operational costs will be directly covered by UNIMED.



Decision Taken

- 1 – All partners agreed to adopt the centralized management
- 2 – All partners agreed to send “STAFF COSTS SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS” during Internal Costs Monitoring (ICM)
- 3 – All partners agreed to follow the UNIMED proposed the Equipment purchase procedure
- 4 – All partners agreed on Internal Payment Cycle procedure

WP5 – Quality

Sapienza University of Rome, Graziella Gaglione

Dr. Graziella Gaglione representing University of Rome “Sapienza” leader of WP6 presented the highlights of the Quality management Work Package as follows:

WP5 Quality Management (internal)

Quality Plan

Why internal Quality management?

- To ensure the effective and efficient
- achievement of the project’s objectives
- To guarantee a successful and coherent
- management of the project
- To ensure the transparency of the project
- activities
- Internal Quality management

Project monitoring provides information by which management can identify and solve implementation problems, and assess progress.

How?

Through qualitative as well as quantitative monitoring:

- Surveys/Questionnaires
- Reports

Quality management actors

- Quality management (Internal)
- Quality Manager appointed
- External Evaluator

and tools:

1. Handbook for Quality Control -within the end of March 2017
2. Surveys/Questionnaires according to the different “events” (meetings, site visits, training) of the project and roles of the partners + reports for each survey/questionnaire outcome within 15 days from the last data collection
3. Semester surveys/questionnaires on the WP and project activities implementation + reports for each survey/questionnaire outcome within 15 days from the last data collection.

Handbook for Quality Control

- The handbook is the vademecum of the quality management.



- It will indicate the main activities that will be carried out according to a specific time scheduling of the monitoring activities.

- It will be accomplished within the month of March 2017.

It will be worked out as much as possible according to the External Evaluator guidelines and scheduling. Surveys/Questionnaires on “events” (meetings, site visits, training)

The surveys or questionnaires will be developed with an ex ante -in itinere -ex post approach.

They will be carried out generally after the event will have taken place.

They will be submitted no later than 10 days after the target “events”.

Partners will have to fill out and submit the answers within 15 working days.

They will be analysed within 15 working days from the last data collection from partner institutions.

Surveys/Questionnaires on semester basis

The surveys or questionnaires will be developed with regard to the WPs and project activities implementation.

They will be carried out generally each six months: the first assessment will take place during the month of May 2017.

They will be submitted within the 5th month of each semester (submission: 1st semester May-June 2017, 2018, 2019; 2nd semester November-December 2017, 2018, 2019).

Partners will have to fill out and submit the answers within 15 working days.

They will be analysed within 15 working days from the last data collection from partner institutions.

WP6 - Dissemination and exploitation of results Association of Arab Universities, May Wahbeh

Ms May Wahbeh explained the aims of WP6. The first aim of this Work package is to spread out as much information as possible about the project itself, its objectives and the results it will obtain as soon as they become available, so that other Universities can join the network and share its goals. The second aim of this WP is to pave the way for the exploitation of the project's results after the end of the funding phase, i.e. to ensure the sustainability of the whole action

Decision Taken

1 – Partners voted the RESCUE Logo by absolute majority. Please find in Annex III the selected logo



WP1 Workshop

UNIMED, Raniero Chelli and Marco Di Donato
University of Barcelona, Catalina Jerez Paredero

The plenary session mode was abandoned in order to form 3 Working Group and implement a starting need analysis in the framework of WP1 activities. The sum up of the discussion can be found in Annex IV below.

WG1 Need Analysis Session for Lebanon

Beneficiary Universities in Lebanon: Holy Spirit University of Kaslik and Lebanese University
Supporting Partner University: Istanbul Aydın University

WG2 Need Analysis Session for Iraq - Kurdistan

Beneficiary Universities in Iraq - Kurdistan: University of Duhok and Duhok Polytechnic University
Supporting Partner University: University of Barcelona

WG3 Need Analysis Session for Jordan

Beneficiary Universities in Jordan: Yarmouk University, Al-Zaytonaah University of Jordan, Zarqa University
Supporting Partner University: TU Berlin

Decision Taken

1 – All partners agreed to review the questionnaire submitted during the project preparation, revise it, and fill in it again once updated in order to better define the updated state of the art. All partners agreed to fill in the questionnaire before the site visit.

inHERE: potential connections with RESCUE activities
UNIMED, Cristina Stefanelli

HOPES: potential connections with RESCUE activities
HOPES Project Manager, Carsten Walbiner



ANNEX I
RESCUE

Refugees Education Support in MENA CoUntriEs

Kick Off Meeting
AGENDA

February 14-15, 2017

Rome

Venue:



UNIMED – Mediterranean Universities Union
Palazzo Baleani | Corso Vittorio Emanuele II, 244
Rome, Italy

Useful Numbers:

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Expected participants

Name and Surname	P.N.	Acronym	Institution	Country
Raniero Chelli	1	UNIMED	Mediterranean Universities Union	IT
Marco Di Donato	1	UNIMED	Mediterranean Universities Union	IT
Milchela Ornis	1	UNIMED	Mediterranean Universities Union	IT
Marcello Scalisi	1	UNIMED	Mediterranean Universities Union	IT
Cristina Stefanelli	1	UNIMED	Mediterranean Universities Union	IT
Graziella Gaglione	2	Uniroma1	Sapienza - Università di Roma	IT
Catalina Jerez Paredero	3	UB	Universitat de Barcelona	ES
Florient Bauer	4	TUB	Technische Universitaet Berlin	DE
Amelia Lin	4	TUB	Technische Universitaet Berlin	DE
Celal Nazım İrem	5	IAU	Istanbul Aydin University	TR
Bahar Dilşa Kavala	5	IAU	Istanbul Aydin University	TR
Claire Grandchamps	6	USEK	Holy Spirit University of Kaslik	LB
Hoda Nehme	6	USEK	Holy Spirit University of Kaslik	LB
Zalpha Ayoubi	7	UL	Université Libanese	LB
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Sabah Ibrahim Wais	8	UoD	University of Duhok	IQ
Zeerak Azizkhan Ahmed	9	DPU	Duhok Polytechnic University	IQ
Ezzat Fendi Yahya Dndi	9	DPU	Duhok Polytechnic University	IQ
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Ashraf Shaqadan	13	ZU	Zarqa University	JO
Carsten Walbiner	-	DAAD	German Academic Exchange Service	DE



14 February 2017
9h00-17h30

9h00	Gathering
9h30-9h45	Opening and Welcome UNIMED Dr. Marcello Scalisi
9h45-11h00	Introduction of the partners: expectations and institutional alignments Approximately 3-4 minutes per partner
11h00-11h45	Project rationale and logical framework UNIMED
11h45-12h00	Coffee Break
12h00-13h00	Framing Definitions All partners
13h00-14h00	Light Lunch
	<i>Introduction of each WP leader of the work packages on: the approach, the partners, the tasks to be developed, the working groups, expected timeline and results.</i>
14h00-14h45	WP1 - Update of Needs Analysis, Best Practices selection University of Barcelona Presentation and distribution of tasks
14h45-15h15	WP2 - Developing an Action Plan for the creation of the R-SOS Unit Technische Universität Berlin Presentation and distribution of tasks
15h15-15h45	WP3 - Implementation of the validated Action Plans Istanbul Aydin University Presentation
15h45-16h00	Coffee Break
16h00-16h30	WP4 - Start up of the R-SOS Units Holy Spirit University of Kaslik Presentation
16h30-17h00	WP7 – Management UNIMED Communication and management strategy and tools
17h00-17h30	Wrap up and closure of first day of meeting

20h00 - Social Dinner



15 February 2017
09h00 - 16h30

09h00-9h45	WP7 – Management UNIMED <i>Administrative arrangements (Budgetary and financial management, internal procedures, partnership agreements)</i>
9h45-10h15	WP5 – Quality <i>Sapienza University of Rome</i> Presentation
10h15-10h45	WP6 - Dissemination and exploitation of results <i>Association of Arab Universities</i> Presentation and Discussion of the Dissemination Plan
10h45-11h00	Coffee Break
11h00-13h00	WP1 Workshop UNIMED and University of Barcelona Consolidation of WP1 need analysis
13h00-14h00	Light Lunch
14h00-14h30	Remaining matters, planning and organization of next meeting(s). Conclusions and agreements.
14h30-14h50	inHERE: potential connections with RESCUE activities UNIMED
14h50-15h05	HOPES: potential connections with RESCUE activities Carsten Walbiner, HOPES Project Manager
15h30-18h30	UNIMED workshop on Higher Education and Refugees (for more details see below)

UNIMED workshop on Higher Education and Refugees

15 February 2017
Aula Spinelli
Corso Vittorio Emanuele II, 244 (2nd floor)
00187 Rome
15h30-18h30

Please note that working language will be English

15h30	Introduction by Bruno Botta, Sapienza University Vice Rector and UNIMED Vice President Sultan Abu Orabi, Secretary General AArU (Association of Arab Universities)
15h50	UNHCR, The Refugees crisis in a regional dimension <i>TBC</i>
16h10	HOPES - a first stock taking after 10 months Carsten Walbiner, HOPES Project Manager, DAAD (German Academic Exchange Service)
16h30	inHERE, Higher Education Supporting Refugees in Europe - an Erasmus+ Strategic Partnership project Cristina Stefanelli, UNIMED RESCUE, Refugees Education Support in MENA Countries - an Erasmus+ Capacity Building in Higher Education project Raniero Chelli, UNIMED
17h00	Representatives from RESCUE partnership <i>Sabah Ibrahim Wais, University of Duhok, Iraq</i> <i>Hoda Nehme, Holy Spirit University of Kaslik, Lebanon</i> <i>Celal Nazim Irem, Istanbul Aydin University, Turkey</i> <i>Ziad al-Sa'ad, Yarmouk University, Jordan</i>
18h00	UNIMED future strategies addressing refugees crisis in the Mediterranean Marcello Scalisi, UNIMED Director
18h30	Closing Remarks



ANNEX II - RESCUE Project Management Board

Pn.	Acronym	Management Board Representative -Name and Surname	Email	Management Board Vice-Representative Name and Surname	Email
P1	UNIMED				
P2	Uniroma1	Graziella Gaglione	graziella.gaglione@uniroma1.it	TBD	
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P4	TUB	TBD		TBD	
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P6	USEK	TBD		TBD	
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ANNEX III – Selected Logo

The partners selected the flowing logo:





ANNEX IV - RESCUE Working Group results

WG1 Need Analysis Session for Lebanon 15th of February 2017

Beneficiary Universities in Lebanon: Holy Spirit University of Kaslik and Lebanese University
Supporting Partner University: Istanbul Aydın University

Preliminary Needs Analysis

- **Holy Spirit University of Kaslik**
 - **Target group:** R-SOS unit in Holy Spirit University of Kaslik, being a private university, may provide services to both registered and non-registered refugee students from Syria. During the site visit, it should be further investigated whether it is possible to cover a wider group of refugee students from Syria.
 - **Identified Needs of Refugee Students that should be met by R-SOS Unit services:**
 - Language support: Enrolled refugees have difficulties in classes taught in unfamiliar languages such as English and French, with insufficient language support
 - Training of civic soft skills for peaceful living, citizenship etc.
 - Training of academic soft skills
 - Services for dealing with PTSD (post-traumatic stress disorders) symptoms in Syrian refugee students
 - Short term, special courses
 - General guidance to refugee students to help them to find their place in the education system, inform them about possibilities.
- **Lebanese University**
 - **Target group:** R-SOS unit in Lebanese University, which is a public university could provide services to refugees from Syria, who are the registered students of this university. It should be further investigated during the site visit whether it is possible to cover a wider group of student refugees from Syria.
 - **Identified Needs of Refugee Students that should be met by R-SOS Unit services:**
 - Language support: Enrolled refugees have difficulties in classes taught in unfamiliar languages such as English and French, with insufficient language support
 - Services for dealing with PTSD (post-traumatic stress disorders) symptoms in Syrian refugee students
 - Short term, special courses



- General guidance to refugee students to help them to find their place in the education system, inform them about possibilities.
- Training of academic soft skills.

Current situation:

There is no physical unit which is providing services to refugees from Syria in both universities from Lebanon.

Both universities are not actually providing specially designed services for refugee students from Syria, to meet the needs identified above.

**WG2 Need Analysis Session for Iraq - Kurdistan
15th of February 2017**

Beneficiary Universities in Iraq - Kurdistan: University of Duhok and Duhok Polytechnic University
Supporting Partner University: University of Barcelona

Preliminary notes:

- Both Universities (Duhok University and Duhok Politechnic) agree that they share the same situation and the analysis.
- The information below is the result of the background and context analysis and the work done at the meeting in Rome (14th-15th February 2017)

Need analysis: Refugee and IDPs situation

- The number of Refugee + IDPs are more than locals.
- Data sources:
 - The data to be collected from the book (Rund brought a book with data collected by the KRG), NGO and local governments. Data from DPU estimates:
 - The total number of refugees inside camps (in four camps) is (39,698) individuals.
 - The total number of refugees outside camps is (in seven districts) is (30,493) individual.
 - International Agencies:
 - Reliefweb: <http://reliefweb.int/map/iraq/iraq-kurdistan-region-iraq-idp-and-refugee-camp-locations-january-2016>
 - Syria Regional Refugee Response Inter-agency Information Sharing Portal. Duhok <http://data.unhcr.org/syrianrefugees/region.php?id=63>
 - The Humanitarian Data Exchange <https://data.humdata.org/group/irq>
 - ACTED <http://www.acted.org/en/iraq>
- The living conditions are almost the same (camps - no access to education)



- Refugees can apply for asylum in the UNHCR, but IDPs can't
- Access to HE is easier for IDPs than for refugee (credentials)
- Cultural differences between refugees and IDPs
- IDPs in general would like to go back home
- Limited resources in Kurdistan to accommodate the refugee + IDPs needs
- Psychological treatment is very much needed for certain groups (IDP?)
- Solidarity and cooperation of the population of Duhok during the crisis
- There is cooperation between the local government + KRG + Universities.
- There is an international interest in discuss the refugee situation in the Iraqi Kurdistan (workshops, ...) but without results. For example, Duhok Politechnik University participated in 2015 in a workshop in Turkey, and a proposal have been aproved:
 1. DPU was ready to admit between 200-250 refugee students for the year 2015-2016.
 2. SPARK must cover the following cost:
 - Housing.
 - Provisions School (wages of teachers and laboratory materials)
 - Scientific visits.
 3. The admission terms;
 - All students must be admitted through the annual plan of the Ministry of Higher Education.
 - All students must obtain the security clearance from the Ministry of Interior of Kurdistan Region.
 - All students must have all certificates and transcripts approved by Ministry of Education of Kurdistan Region.

SPARK haven't done any move to implement the proposal.

- Major problems for IDPs + Refugee to continue at host universities:
 - Curriculum gap
 - Language (Arabic- Kurdish- English)
 - Documents
 - Access to university

Need analysis: the universities

- To enroll Refugees + IDPs in the universities depend on the capacity of each specialization
- Registration (admission) office usually deal with the application
- Resources needed a priori: 2 staff for R-SOS (full time)
- Refugee students:
 - 1000 students (on paper) are guests of the Duhok University. The DU implemented several workshops to the refugees in Duhok for 120 person from the refugees and 340 persons from the IDP.
 - The DPU informs that no refugee students (Syrian refugees) have been admitted at DPU



- Constraints:
 - Dissemination of the information
 - University capacity
 - Credential of student: Verification of Syrian certificates and transcripts (University/Ministry of Higher Education)
 - It might be difficult to access the learning center
 - There might be high dropout rates if there is a gap between the basic learning standards of refugee students and the host University's learning standard
 - Regarding security issues: how sure they will be regarding the student's background back in Syria? Have the student engaged in any military activities? Is he/she still in contact with these militants? Would he/she a spy or asleep cell?

**WG3 Need Analysis Session for Jordan
15th of February 2017**

Beneficiary Universities in Jordan: Yarmouk University, Al-Zaytonaah University of Jordan, Zarqa University

Supporting Partner University: TU Berlin