



CF Item = Barcode Top - Note at Bottom =  
CF\_Item\_One\_BC5-Top-Sign

Page 5  
Date 2003-Nov-04  
Time 3:44:10 PM  
Login ask



CF-RAD-USAA-DB01-2000-05828

Ill Document Register Number [auto] **CF-RAD-USAA-DB01-2000-05828**

ExRef: Document Series / Year / Number **E/ICEF/1949/142/Add.003 (PDF-Eng)**

Doc Item Record Title

**Continuing Needs of Children - Greece**

Date Created / On Doc  
1949-Dec-31

Date Registered  
1997-Jan-01

Date Closed / Superseeded

Primary Contact  
Owner Location  
Home Location  
Current Location

Office of the Secretary, Executive Bo = 3024  
Office of the Secretary, Executive Bo = 3024  
Record & Archive Manage Related Functions=80669443

1: In Out Internal, Rec or Conv Copy?

Fd2: Language, Orig Pub Dist English , L.Avail: E,F ; L.Orig: E-?  
Fd3: Doc Type or Format 14pp

Container File Folder Record  
Container Record (Title)

Nu1: Number of pages  
14

Nu2: Doc Year  
1949

Nu3: Doc Number  
142

Full GCG File Plan Code

Da1: Date Published  
1949-Dec-31

Da2: Date Received

Da3: Date Distributed

Priority

If Doc Series?: CF/RA/DS/USAA/DB01/2001-0024

Record Type A04 Doc Item: E/ICEF 1946 to 1997 Ex Bd

Electronic Details

No Document

DOS File Name

Alt Bar code = RAMP-TRIM Record Numb : **CF-RAD-USAA-DB01-2000-05828**

Notes

14pp

Document Format Series/Year/SubSeries/Number/Rev: E/ICEF/1949/142/Add.003; Doc  
Series/SubSeries/Year/Number/Rev: E/ICEF/1949/142/Add.003

Doc Series: E/ICEF; Series Valid date on import: 01-Jan-1946; Doc Year: 1949; Doc Number: 0142; Doc

Print Name of Person Submit Images

Signature of Person Submit

Number of images  
without cover

R. Tooker

R. Tooker

14

2-sided

---

UNITED NATIONS INTERNATIONAL CHILDREN'S EMERGENCY FUND

Executive Board

CONTINUING NEEDS OF CHILDREN IN GREECE

Report of UNICEF Mission to Greece

	<u>Page</u>
I. Forward	2
II. Introduction	3
III. Social Problems Affecting Children	4-5
IV. School Programme of Government Statement of Ministry of Education	6-7-8
V. Pre-School Programme of Ministry of Welfare	9
VI. Medical Programmes (In Preparation)	9
 <u>ANNEXES</u>	
1) Refugee Repatriation in Greece	10-11
2) Programme of the Direction of Child Welfare	12-13-14

FOREWORD

In December 1949 a preliminary report on "Continuing Needs of Children from the International Viewpoint" was submitted by the Secretary-General to the Social Commission E/CN.5/177; E/CN.5/177/Add.1). Included in this report is a statement by the UNICEF Administration on "The Extent of Needs for International Assistance for Children in the Form of Supplies After June 1950" (E/CN.5/177/Add.1, Annex XIV). This statement was based upon data from WHO and FAO, information in the UNICEF files as to Government requests for assistance which it has not so far been possible to meet, and reports from UNICEF Mission Chiefs.

The statement presented a restricted list of needs for supplies amounting to \$75 millions during the three year period 1950/1953, and not provided for by existing UNICEF allocations. Although information is given on the types of supplies and the main geographic areas in which these supplies would be used, the statement gives no illustrations on a country by country basis.

The present paper is one of a series of similar papers forming a portion of the data used in preparing the overall, more general statement of the UNICEF Administration referred to above.

The basis upon which this, and other papers in the series, have been prepared was set forth in the following excerpt from the outline used by the UNICEF Mission Chiefs:

"The information required is not concerned with needs of children in general but rather with needs for which international assistance in supplies is appropriate. This implies (1) a serious problem (2) plans for effective national efforts to meet the problem or where there are at present no plans, possibilities for an effective demonstration project, (3) a necessity for supplies as an integral part of the programme (4) unavailability of the supplies locally. The supplies should be a necessary part of a programme, or plan for a programme, designed to make a significant contribution of lasting value in meeting child care problems within the country."

The papers in this series have been prepared by the Mission Chiefs on the basis of readily available official data. The conclusions and recommendations are those of the Mission Chiefs based upon these data and their own observations and experience. The papers, constituting a first attempt along these lines, are not to be regarded as definitive, nor are the specific data presented or the recommendations made to be regarded in absolute terms; rather these papers should be viewed in terms of illustrating urgent child needs which could be usefully met in a limited immediate future period with the aid of international supply assistance.

Maurice Pate  
Executive Director

## I. INTRODUCTION

Even without the catastrophic effect of war, invasion and civil strife, the situation of Greek children would have presented a critical picture today. Since the end of the first World War, the needs of a growing population were not fully matched by economic development. In agricultural cultivation was extended to cover 95 per cent of arable land but on the basis of generally outmoded techniques and without large scale land improvement projects. For a mountainous and forest denuded land such as Greece this clearly meant domestic production was becoming more insufficient to meet growing needs. In industry there was a lack of capital for investment in developing domestic resources. The payment for Greece's imports was dependent on finding markets for largely luxury type exports - tobacco, fruits, olive oil and the Greek merchant marine.

The destruction caused by the war and the disruption of the entire social structure and domestic economy by civil strife created vast new problems. The ability of Greece alone to solve these problems was likewise reduced - in 1945 the national income was only 41 per cent of pre-war.

These problems have greatly affected the children of Greece. Their needs include the essential ~~warrior~~ goods, i.e., food and clothing (not to mention shelter) which Greece alone cannot provide or pay for and for an expanded program of general welfare with heavy emphasis on health programs. Of 700,000 refugees displaced from their homes because of civil strife over 200,000 are children. The health of these children is undermined by malnutrition, ravages of diseases such as tuberculosis and further threatened by lack of clothing and shelter.

In the period of the next three years in addition to the manifold problems of repatriation the needs of all children will require supplementary feeding of protective foods, widespread health care and clothing assistance. The Greek situation will be in an emergency status for some years to come. International assistance would not only be appropriate but is undoubtedly essential before any normal stage can be reached.

## II. SOCIAL PROBLEMS AFFECTING CHILDREN

(a) Greece always had to face great social problems but, at the present, those problems have become more acute and only a small part of the needs of the population is being covered by the assistance given through ERP and other Organizations. The State has to face the following main welfare problems:-

1. The repatriation of 700,000 refugees, 200,000 of whom are children and, until this repatriation is completed to maintain the rest of the refugees who live in urban centres.
2. The care of the indigents whose number is approximately 1,033,849.
3. The care of 400,000 children of indigent families and 360,000 orphans.
4. To solve the problem of those suffering from war injuries.
5. The medical care for indigents.

All the above-mentioned problems are being faced with insufficient means and cover only a very small number of the needs of the population. The welfare resources are drawn from the State's budget, from special taxation, from different foreign welfare organizations (one of which is UNICEF) and from funds derived from various appeals.

The following are examples of the situation affecting children:

- (a) There are approximately 339,913 orphans in Greece; of these approximately 16,000 receive "foster home" care and 15,000 are in Institutions.
- (b) The existing preventoria for children have only 1,500 beds while there is a need for 6,000.
- (c) There is only one hospital in the whole country for children suffering from bone tuberculosis; this hospital has 480 beds while the need is for 5,000.
- (d) There are approximately 2,000 crippled children and the needs are being covered by one orthopaedic ward (in a children's hospital) with 56 beds.
- (e) The number of beds in the children's hospitals of Greece is not more than approximately 400.
- (f) In addition, in General Hospitals, there are only 100 beds for children.
- (g) The number of blind children is approximately 600 and there is only one institution which cannot take care of more than 110.

It should be noted that, for the maintenance of a minimum nutritional standard in children, supplementary feeding is needed. The child-feeding programme for 1948-9 foresaw the provision of supplementary feeding to children aged from:-

0-12 months	205,000	
12-24 months	195,000	
24-72 months	<u>500,000</u>	900,000
School-age children		<u>1,000,000</u>
<u>TOTAL NUMBER OF CHILDREN</u>		<u>1,900,000</u>

Yet during 1948-9, it was not possible to give supplementary food to more than 1,100,000 children (of which 632,000 aided by UNICEF).

The foregoing is a part only of the total problems of welfare which has to be faced by Greece. The protection already given to the refugees in relation to their total needs requires a great amount of money but, from the amount spent, the help to each person is very small.

Likewise, the assistance given to refugee families for their repatriation and re-establishment is very inadequate.

The financial situation of the country has a direct effect on the social problems and on the possibility of facing them. As has been described in the foregoing, it will be a long time before Greece recovers financially and this recovery will be based on the financial help that the country receives from abroad.

It is not only capital that Greece needs for her reconstruction and the stabilization of her currency, but additional help to face the immediate welfare needs of the indigent and of the children.

### III. SCHOOL PROGRAM - STATEMENT OF MINISTRY OF EDUCATION

a) It is practically impossible to form plans of action and programmes for such a distant future (i.e. 1950-53) under the well-known difficult financial and other conditions prevailing at present in our country. The formation of programmes by our Ministry would be possible only if the Ministry were in a position to know now the financial possibilities of the country and the State's budget for the period 1950-53.

1. During the school year 1949-50, the following sums of money were disposed of by the State's budget:-

\$1 - Drs. 15,000  
 Drs. 35,000,000,000 for the feeding of the school-aged children and for the children's camps.  
 Drs. 1,384,363,377 for medical relief

2. For the school year which has already started, it is foreseen, on the basis of the proportionate amount of the State's budget for the school kitchens, that 300,000 pupils of Sthn. Greece will be fed for a period of approximately 4 months as well as 360,000 pupils of Nthn. Greece for a period of 6 months with the aid granted by UNICEF. A proportionate number of school camps will operate during 1950-51 from the amount provided by the State's budget.

With regard to medical relief, three school relief centres in Athens/Piraeus and Thessaloniki and 21 anti-trachoma dispensaries, as well as a school medical service to which we refer below, will operate.

3. With regard to additional feeding, if the Ministry of Education possessed the necessary funds, it would desire to cover at least 200,000 pupils more than the 660,000; and this because, on account of the well-known conditions under which our country was and continues to be, the majority of our pupils are under-nourished quantitatively and especially qualitatively. The necessary amount of money for the addition of 200,000 more pupils into the programme of supplementary feeding with the diet already applied and for a period of 6 months is estimated at Drs. 14,500,000,000.

4. In regard to school camps, the importance of which from the hygienic and educational point of view is known, the Ministry would desire to organize at least one for every Public School Education District, i.e. another 66, taking into consideration that 76 school camps are already organized. The necessity of extending the institution of school camps to all the Education districts is obvious and it is unnecessary to state reasons.

b) Relief and Welfare Programme.

The service of our Ministry has outlined the following school-children's welfare and relief programme for the period 1950-53 the adoption of which, as is obvious, depends upon the money being available from the State's budget. The said programme

- A. The organization of 23 Class B' Student Relief Centres according to the legislation. These establishments will operate in a curing and preventive way and medical aid will also be given to the suffering pupils; preference will be given to the indigent pupils. These centres must be supplied with the necessary materials, especially with x-ray machines in order to find out pupils and teachers suffering from tuberculosis.
- B. Pupils' Kitchens to operate in all the schools of the country in order to issue, to those pupils of Elementary and High School Education who are in need, supplementary feeding. Supplementary feeding must be given at least to one half the pupils attending these schools for a period of 3-4 years yet which is required in order that the under-nourished pupils obtain their regular weight.
- C. To organize pupils' camps in all the educational districts where such camps were not organized and put into operation up to date, i.e. in 66 additional Elementary Education Districts. We wish to point out the need of sending every year to camps during the summer season, children suffering from glandular troubles, anaemia and weakness. The great hygienic and pedagogical value of these camps is indisputable.
- D. To organize a certain number of outdoor schools so that pupils who are in need of special school education and special medical treatment on account of their bad health attend the above schools. To organize also, for medical treatment and special education, a small number of preventive tuberculosis installations for the pupils in whom tuberculosis symptoms appear.
- E. To organize in the large urban centres medical education consultant stations, in order to find out the mental and intellectual irregularities of children and to give advice and instruction to the parents and teachers.

c) Cod liver oil and Vitamins.

No plan exists in regard to the distribution of cod liver oil and vitamins for the period 1950-53 because the credits, necessary for a supply of these items, cannot be foreseen as available from the State.

d) School Medical Service.

The School Medical Service, on the basis of legislation which is in power since 1939 should be composed of:

130	School doctors
17	Hygiene inspectors
32	School nurses
24	Class A' and B' School Relief Centres

Unfortunately, because the necessary credits are not provided in the budget, it has been impossible, up to date, to fill the vacancies for school medical personnel and

doctors are serving and only 3 centres were organized in Athens/Piraeus and Thessaloniki. The operation of Piraeus and Thessaloniki centres is doubtful due to the fact that credits are not provided for the payment of salaries of the medical staff.

Even if the scientific staff is made available for the Class B' centres, which have been organized up to date, there is a lack of equipment, instruments and installations, e.g. dental, x-ray, microbiological, ophthalmological and ear/nose/throat equipment.

Most of the schools are lacking machines for weighing pupils as well as school emergency drug-stores with the necessary first-aid equipment. It is quite impossible to get the supply of the above through the State's budget and, not only this year, but in the 2/3 following years.

Finally, we think that it is unnecessary to repeat that UNICEF's aid to our country would be extremely valuable if it could continue in the future until our country recovers.

Sgd. The Minister  
K. Tsatsos

#### IV. PRE-SCHOOL PROGRAMME OF MINISTRY OF WELFARE.

a) The Ministry of Welfare is associated with three main aspects of Welfare & Relief projects, i.e.:-

1. Refugee Repatriation
2. Indigent Population
3. Child Welfare projects:  
i.e. institutional care through orphanages, day nurseries, foundling homes, supplementary feeding (UNICEF programme,) foster-home care, summer camps, preventoria, disabled children, etc.

The budget available to the Ministry for these enterprises is as follows:-

	(Drs. 15,000 -- \$1)	Drs.
Refugee Relief & Rehabilitation		278,500,000,000
General Purposes		205,800,000,000

The section of the "General Purposes" budget directly concerned with child welfare and for the relief of indigents is as follows:-

(a) Child Welfare	66,900,000,000
(b) Indigents	25,000,000,000

Under the conditions which prevail in Greece today, it is impossible for the Minister of Welfare to draw up an adequate programme to cover the next 2/3 years since he is unable to see either the needs with which he will be confronted or the funds which will be available to him for meeting those needs. In consequence, this statement concerning the Ministry of Welfare is submitted not so much as a "Statement of Needs" and plans for the years 1950/3 but to describe the problem confronting the Minister now and the resources that he has with which to meet the situation.

#### b) Refugee Repatriation

The refugees will, if there is no resumption of civil strife, be repatriated by June 1950 but it should be remembered that the rehabilitation of these people in their villages will not be completed for a further period of 2-3 years since houses must be rebuilt, agricultural implements supplied and draft animals provided to the farmers; likewise flocks and herds must be replenished and some basic standard of community life re-established.

#### c) Indigents

The number of indigents is not likely to decrease to any great extent during the next 2-3 years since steps are only now being taken to restore the economic life of the country and immediate results cannot be expected.

#### d) Child Welfare

The inadequacy of the child welfare programme outlined in Section C attached hereto must be obvious and the information given with regard to orphans and blind children can safely be taken as an illustration of the inadequacy of the relief given to other categories of "needy" children who, in other countries receive proper protection from governmental sources.

The general impression to be conveyed is that the needs of the children in Greece are so great that even if the budget of the Ministry of Welfare was increased ten-fold it would still not be able to cope adequately with the problem.

ANNEX I

REFUGEE REPATRIATION IN GREECE.

Undoubtedly the most serious social/financial problem facing Greece today is that of the repatriation and re-establishment of the bandit-stricken people.

During the bandit activity, 158,000 rural families were stranded far from their homes, numbers of them having lost all their possessions. The total number of refugees, at its peak, approximated to 700,000 and for the relief of these people living in the security centres the State has already spent over one trillion drachmae.

Repatriation of the refugees has been a continuing operation since the summer. In May the refugee figure stood at 684,197 to be re-settled and, as at the 31st October, 288,000 still remain to be repatriated. It is estimated that, when the repatriation programme is held in abeyance (from the 30th November 1949 - 1st March 1950 due to winter conditions) approximately 200,000 will remain in security centres.

In determining the extent of the aid to be given to the repatriants it has to be borne in mind that this has to be met out of the "Repatriation and Relief Fund" totalling some 550 billion drachmae. This Fund has to be shared by the competent Greek Ministries in the following manner:-

	<u>Relief</u>	<u>Rehabilitation</u>	<u>Total</u>
	(In billions of drachmae)		
<u>Ministry of:-</u>			
Welfare	197.5	81.0	278.5
Agriculture	23.4	151.3	174.7
Health	13.0	-	13.0
Reconstruction	2.0	82.0	84.0
	235.9	314.3	550.2

The 81 billion earmarked in the Ministry of Welfare programme for rehabilitation provides the repatriants with the following assistance:-

- (a) 2 months' monetary contribution (i.e. 1,000 drachmae per day for each member of the family and Drs. 500 per day additional for the head of the family payable in advance.)
- (b) Family re-establishment aid (i.e. Drs. 200,000 for family of 3 and Drs. 300,000 for family of 4 and above.)
- (c) Transport and other repatriation expenses.
- (d) Bread ration up to the next harvest (i.e. 80 dramia of flour daily for each member of the family.)
- (e) Basic food for the following 4 winter months.

The remaining 197.5 billion drachmas takes care of the people still remaining in security centres, those awaiting repatriation and other relief necessities such as purchase of blankets, clothing, transportation costs of relief supplies, etc. for all refugees.

Briefly, the other three competent Ministries will associate themselves with the following:-

Ministry of Reconstruction: will concern itself with the housing and shelter of the refugees.

The Ministry of Agriculture: will assist the repatriants in cultivating their farms by providing fertilizer, animals agricultural implements, cattle-fodder, etc.

The Ministry of Hygiene: will provide medical and hospital assistance and will also be directly concerned with public hygiene activities (in conjunction with the Ministry of Reconstruction).

It has to be realized that the foregoing brief outline of the refugee and repatriation programme is but the basic method of dealing with this tremendous problem. Special councils in each Nomos have been set up for the purpose of handling this project; the Minister of Welfare, in his capacity as Chairman of the Central Repatriation and Refugee Council, reminds the Nomarchs that "with the means at our disposal and subjected to the present difficult conditions, it is certainly impossible for anyone to expect the re-establishment in full of the damages caused by the recent national calamity."

Of paramount importance is the morale of the people who are being repatriated; the women, in particular, have become used to the "town life" in the security centres and likewise the men have become used to receiving rations (however meagre they may be) without any effort on their part. In consequence, it will be a difficult matter for them to settle down to the hard life and toil which will be required of them in order to re-establish their village life on even the lowest standards of living. One of the biggest questions is whether the repatriants will remain in their villages or rather will drift back to the towns in search of quicker means of gaining a livelihood thereby becoming parasites on the community.

In many cases they are returning to a life where they have not even the most meagre necessities; aside from the paramount importance of providing food, clothing and shelter, they lack such simple items as household utensils, drinking water, etc., quite apart from such essentials to a sound community life as a church and a school.

ANNEX II

PROGRAMME OF THE DIRECTION OF CHILD WELFARE.

A. The Ministry of Welfare is concerned with four aspects of child welfare, namely:-

1. State Institutions
2. State subsidized institutions (operated through private initiative)
3. Summer camps, special kitchens, etc.
4. UNICEF programme.

B. The budget available for the operation of these functions is as follows:-

For 1. State Institutions	42,900,000,000
" 2. State subsidized institutions	9,500,000,000
" 3. Summer camps, special kitchens, etc.	8,500,000,000
" 4. Operational expenses for UNICEF programme.	<u>6,000,000,000</u>
	<u>66,900,000,000</u>

re 1. There are 170 institutions of the following types:-

30 orphanages caring for	4,500	full orphans	
60 day nurseries "	" 6,000	full and/or half-orphans	
45 domestic schools "	2,200	ditto	ditto
(girls only)			
35 infant asylums "	<u>3,500</u>	ditto	ditto
	<u>16,200</u>		16,200

State allowance to orphans in "foster homes" varying from minimum \$2 - maximum \$5 monthly according to circumstances - for 20,000 (this figure should increase to 50,000 by June, 1950)

20,000  
36,200

re 2. There are 64 institutions of the following types:-

3 infant asylums	}	Care for 19,000 children of whom <u>approximately 5,000 are orphans.</u>
20 orphanages		
7 preventoria		
4 institutions for disabled & blind children)		
2 industrial schools		
2 homes for the indigent		
4 asylums for older children		
12 day nurseries		
2 students' canteens		
8 institutions for "protection of the young")		

re 3. Summer Camps (exclusive of those conducted by the Ministry of Education) are an operation covered both by the State and such organizations as Scouts, Girl Guides, Church enterprises, etc. The Ministry of Welfare has to perform two functions, namely full and partial responsibility. The following numbers of children have participated in summer camps during the summer of 1949:-

Ministry camps	31,431
Subsidized camps	<u>36,230</u>
Total	<u>67,661</u>

Supervisors and staff (numbering approximately 17,000) are drawn from young people who not only assist with the running of the camps but thereby derive great benefit for themselves:-

The duration of the camps was as follows:-

3 weeks for working youngsters
3 weeks for children
4 weeks for disabled children

There are 36 special kitchens providing a mid-day meal for specially under-nourished children (estimated figure 8,500 children).

#### NEEDS AS COMPARED WITH FACILITIES.

re 1 & 2. Institutional care.

It is impossible to dwell on all the needs existing in Greece today but, as an example, the following two main categories of needy children will serve as an illustration, i.e. orphans and blind children.

There are 339,913 orphans in Greece today as follows:-

Full orphans	36,185
Fatherless "	226,301
Motherless "	<u>77,427</u>
	<u>339,913</u>

Of these the following receive institutional or "foster-home" care:-

State institutions	16,200
State allowance (foster home care).	20,000
State subsidized institutions.	<u>5,000</u>
	<u>41,200</u>

(The Queen's Fund (supported by contributions) cares for 7,000 orphans in the Children's Towns and this brings a total of 48,200 orphans receiving care or 13.9 percent of the total number.)

Of 600 blind children in Greece 110 receive care in one blind

re 3. Summer Camps.

The Ministry of Welfare would wish to cover double the number of children which participated in summer camps in 1949. Those able to participate derived tremendous benefit but it is considered that the present programme provides for half the needs only and, additionally, the period of camping should be extended to one month's duration for all groups.