

ACTION FOR COOPERATION & TRUST (ACT)

**Building
Lasting
Relationships
Islandwide**



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Action for Cooperation and Trust (ACT) is a peacebuilding project in Cyprus, which is managed by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).



Globally, UNDP is the UN's development network advocating for change and connecting countries to knowledge, experience and resources to help people build a better life.

What is Action for Cooperation and Trust (ACT)?

On 1 October 2005 the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) launched its peace building project in Cyprus, Action for Cooperation and Trust (ACT). The purpose of ACT is to create opportunities for Greek Cypriots and Turkish Cypriots to work together on concrete projects which will benefit all people on the island, while at the same time promoting inter-communal tolerance and mutual understanding. The ACT project is managed directly by UNDP and has a total budget of US \$41.8 million for six years. ACT is funded by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and UNDP.

In 2008 the ACT programme moves into its second phase, where it will continue to support the peace building efforts of Cypriots through projects which focus on enhancing inter-communal cooperation and strengthening civil society's capacity to actively participate in the process of reconciliation. More specifically ACT will fund projects that:

- Strengthen Cypriot civil society's ability to effectively support and contribute to the peace process
- Provide Cypriots with opportunities to have a say in social and policy change on issues of common concern
- Promote cooperation, common understanding and reconciliation



With ACT's support, Cypriot organizations design and implement projects which will help build the foundations for lasting relationships islandwide and demonstrate the benefits of islandwide cooperation. Project areas include multicultural education and youth empowerment, promoting civic engagement, support to environmental protection and the preservation and promotion of Cyprus' rich cultural heritage. In each of these areas ACT emphasizes the need for Greek Cypriots and Turkish Cypriots to work together to achieve a prosperous and healthy future for the island.



How do we work?

Cypriot partners are the leaders of ACT's projects. ACT supports civil society organizations (CSOs) by providing the resources and tools necessary to build peace and reconciliation across the island.

"Supporting bi-communal activities in the last two and a half years provided the opportunity for Cypriots to develop their own ideas about the other community and establish an excellent platform for cooperation."

Salih Gücel, Team Leader of the bi-communal team of experts which mapped Cyprus' biodiversity in the UN Buffer Zone

“We provide opportunities for young Cypriots to embrace multicultural values...”

The overall objective of ACT’s education and youth work is to promote learning within a multicultural society, based on a common value system founded upon justice, tolerance and mutual respect. Giving young people an opportunity to lead is vital in promoting education on multiculturalism and tolerance. Activities bring together young people from across the island through residential peer learning experiences, training, networking and dialogue forums, and give them opportunities to forge a common vision for their future.



“Our focus on promoting civic engagement derives from the belief that Cypriots are the best resource for building cooperation and trust in Cyprus...”

Civil society can facilitate reconciliation and peacebuilding activities, and also help tackle social issues that affect both communities. Through training programmes, networking and exposure to international practices, ACT helps Cypriot civil society organisations strengthen skills and knowledge to improve their organisational efficiency and effectiveness. Through this work CSOs can better address the concerns of citizens and actively engage in decision-making processes.

“Caring for the environment is an islandwide activity which depends on strong inter-communal partnerships...”

Pollution does not stop at the buffer zone and airborne viruses are not hampered by barbed wire. From an ecological point of view, the island is a series of interconnected ecosystems and environmental issues can only be effectively addressed on an islandwide basis. ACT promotes inter-communal partnerships which can help care for the common natural heritage of all Cypriots. These efforts involve support for bi-communal advisory groups; environmental advocacy and awareness; and facilitating technology transfer and knowledge sharing.

“The active engagement of Cypriots from all communities to preserve the island’s rich cultural heritage helps build respect and understanding...”

Cultural heritage is universal, as it is inherited from and passed on to successive generations. As a contributor to a continuous dialogue between civilizations and cultures, cultural heritage can help to establish mutual understanding, cooperation and respect between peoples.



ACT supports the preservation of cultural heritage monuments in Cyprus as a successful vehicle for creating opportunities to bring Cyprus’ communities together and is supporting the restoration of several monuments which embody this spirit.

“Promoting gender equality and reducing the gender gap is a critical part of our work...”

Though Cypriot women have always actively participated in and contributed to society, they have often faced many difficulties in participating equally in the social, economic and political spheres. In this respect, studies show that Cyprus needs to do more in its efforts to close the gender gap. Issues concerning gender equality are incorporated into all UNDP-supported projects and ACT supports a number of initiatives that aim to reduce the gender gap across the island.

What Principles Guide our Work?

The ACT project has built on the successes and lessons learned from previous peacebuilding programmes in Cyprus as well as the experiences of reconciliation programmes around the world. Today the ACT project seeks to create “environments” for inter-communal co-operation and to help develop a narrative among Cypriots which promotes multicultural values. ACT focuses on initiatives that broaden the knowledge, understanding and practice of diversity, with concrete projects aimed at creating lasting partnerships across the political divide.

“Peace and reconciliation is a long process that has to start from the society itself. CSOs/NGOs are the backbone of modern societies. The cooperation and partnership among Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot organizations needs fostering and support, and a more sustainable attitude for the creation of common visions and missions to network with the international community. ACT supported this process with efficiency, respect and sincerity. Cooperation is becoming more sustainable. I feel more optimistic today about the process of peace and reconciliation, than I was some years ago!”

Xenia I. Loizidou, Director, AKTI Project and Research Centre

In democratic societies, civil society is an active player in social, economic and political spheres and is engaged in decision-making processes. However, civil society in Cyprus has traditionally played a limited role in building peace between the two communities.

ACT views Cypriot civil society as an untapped resource for solving the island’s problems and by working through civil society organizations, citizens can be involved in creating the social conditions for a future settlement. Over the past two years, several inter-communal civil society

networks have been established islandwide to address issues including drug abuse, domestic violence, genetic diseases, disabilities, HIV/AIDS and the environment. ACT is giving practical support to help the growing civil society sector on the island to work effectively in addressing social issues.

ACT also aims to help civil society engage in the peacebuilding and peacemaking processes by creating spaces where citizens can engage in the process for negotiating a settlement and influence that process through both formal and informal mechanisms. ACT's projects and programmes are directed at supporting Cypriots as they design initiatives which provide new and perhaps previously "undiscovered" benefits for a Cyprus settlement, and as a result allow citizens to become partners in a process which leads to a political solution.

ACT's work is guided by principles, including pledges, to be transparent, flexible and accountable in all it does, support local ownership of initiatives, ensure the inclusion of all stakeholders in project consultations and encourage pioneering, cutting edge integrated programming.

What have we achieved?

Between 2005 and 2008, the ACT project demonstrated the potential for Cypriots of all communities to work and live together. *Through its support to 120 projects, ACT has supported Cypriots who want to show that inter-communal coexistence is desirable.* Projects bring to the fore the practical benefits of cooperation and create the circumstances where Cypriots can envisage a united society.

Snap shot of ACT's Achievements 2005-2008

- 120 projects implemented across the island
- Over 40,000 Cypriots involved in inter-communal activities
- 500 bi-communal events and activities
- 14 islandwide issue-based advocacy networks
- The skills of over 350 civil society organisations enhanced
- 34 multicultural education projects
- Over 600 positive media articles and features on inter-communal exchanges

The emphasis on empowering young people and involving them in peacebuilding shows the value of the island's youth in forging a vision for the future. Inter-communal youth projects are reversing the effects of separation and demonstrate the power of contact. Young people are involved in projects which address youth delinquency, sports for personal

development, road safety, special needs education, multicultural education, inter-communal arts and culture and exploring the aspirations of Cypriot youth.

The youth programmes give the clearest indication that contact between people does help to break down barriers and dissolve pre-conceived fears and attitudes about the “other” community. Surveys show that of the 1,600 active participants in the youth peer learning programme, the vast majority (90%) made friends and exchanged contacts with someone from the other community, and of these over 80% maintained that contact after the end of the project, either through internet chat, phone or meeting socially. The matrix of youth projects, funded by ACT, interlink to address the broad issues of co-existence on the island, giving young people the opportunity to critically assess the current situation and find innovative solutions to the problems they face.

“I think the support that ACT provided to organisations working on multicultural activities has been an integral part of building a stronger, more secure Cyprus. Together, we made a change for our country.”

Nadia Karayianni, NGO Support Centre

Since 2005 ACT has helped to bolster and improve the role and capacities of civil society in addressing islandwide social issues and peacebuilding. Many projects which aim to enhance the role of civil society are supported by ACT’s \$US 1.8 million Civil Society Strengthening Programme. In 3 years the programme engaged 108 civil society organisations, making it the largest ever civil society capacity building initiative on the island. This was complemented by ACT’s Network and Partnership Grants (NPG) and Organisational Strengthening Grants (OSG) which have supported an additional 27 organizations by helping them better define their goals and objectives, obtain training in areas such as fundraising and financial management, and network more effectively with the public

“Through its programmes, ACT has acted like the oil on squeaking wheels and by bringing people from the communities of Cyprus to work together in fields of common concern, it has helped to keep alive the hope for reconciliation and lasting peace. Without the ACT programme people wishing to work together for peace would feel exposed, like someone going out on a rainy day without an umbrella.”

Charalambos Pericleous, Kontea Heritage Foundation

and private sectors. As a result of ACT's funding and support islandwide, 14 civil society networks have been established in the fields of environment, entrepreneurship, education, public health and volunteerism.

“ACT has been the driving force behind most NGO's, empowering them to build bridges of peace over troubled waters. Many NGOs like the Mediation Association achieved long term sustainability through the effective guidance of the ACT Programme. It feels great to have professional support that goes way beyond financial boundaries.”

Ali Yaman, Mediation Association, President

ACT makes concerted efforts to raise the profile of civil society and give Cypriot non-for-profit organizations a platform to demonstrate to society the value they bring to processes of social integration and cohesion. More needs to be done to raise awareness among Cypriots of the benefits of civil society and voluntary and charitable organisations that work on social issues. The ACT programme made a significant contribution to further raising the visibility of Cypriot civil society through the organisation in May 2007 of the first International Civil Society Fair and symposia. More than 2,000 people attended 3 days of events, while the civil society exhibition in the Buffer Zone involved over 80 NGOs, network/umbrella organisations and training centres. The Fair attracted 16 NGOs from Europe, the Middle East and the US as well as nearly 70 NGOs from across the island. The symposia and workshops focussed on how to develop a strong Cypriot civil society. In sum the fair raised the awareness of civil society and created networking opportunities between local Cypriot NGOs and non-Cypriot NGOs or those from the Cypriot Diaspora. The work with civil society has been translated into action at the policy level, with agreement between the Government of Cyprus and UNDP-ACT to support a project for modernizing the legislative framework in which the non-for-profit sector operates.

“ACT's support helped increased the motivation of civil society associations to undertake projects that otherwise could not have been possible due to lack of budget. Through these projects civil society organizations raised their project management skills, while bi-communal projects brought Greek Cypriots and Turkish Cypriots into a single project and gave them a chance to work as a united team. It helped the two communities to understand, share, and discuss their feelings and difficulties.”

Özgül Ezgin, European Mediterranean Arts Association

ACT's support to environmental civil society actors has shown the value of the environment as a peacebuilding tool. The Cyprus Environmental Stakeholder Forum has developed into the core mechanism for inter-communal environmental projects on the island. Similarly the Emergency Disease Forum has been recognized by both communities as a crucial tool for bi-communal pandemic preparedness cooperation, demonstrated by the role the Forum took in facilitating technical level consultation over the Foot and Mouth crisis in November 2007. Finally, the dairy and organic farming advisory groups (MADAG and COAG) have made significant steps towards sustainability through the launch of the MADAG training programme for dairy farmers, the release of the COAG documentary film on organic farming, and the participation of both groups in the 2007 Agriculture Fair, which attracted over 1,000 people to their exhibits.



Illustrative Peacebuilding Projects and Programmes 2005-2008

A full list of projects funded by Action for Cooperation and Trust can be found at www.undp-act.org

Project Name: *Cultural Heritage Circle Preservation*

Description of project: The main objectives of the project are to improve the environment for today's residents of the village of Kontea/Turkmenkoy and to provide opportunities for former residents to re-connect with their

cultural heritage. This will be done through collaboration between past and present residents working with a team of specialists who will restore some of the village's most important sites and public-use areas.

Project duration: 2 Years

How the project contributes to peacebuilding in Cyprus: The project is an example of how communities, affected by the Cyprus conflict can find ways to work together to build a better future. By focusing on the physical rehabilitation of a common heritage, these communities can also help each other to heal past divisions and reconnect with each other to affirm their unique cultural identities. The rehabilitation of historic sites emphasizes the need for inter-communal cooperation as a pre-requisite for the protection of a history which is common to both Turkish Cypriots and Greek Cypriots, while improving the quality of life of both past and present residents of the village.

Achievements: An intercommunal joint decision- making mechanism has been established to govern the management of the project and to disseminate information. This mechanism also acts as a participatory forum for past and current residents to have an influence over the decision making process regarding this project.

Project name: *Emergency Disease Forum (EDF)*

Description of project: The Emergency Disease Forum (EDF) was set up in early 2006 as a response to an Avian Influenza scare on the island. This incident highlighted the urgent need to establish a permanent scientific and technical dialogue between experts from both communities in order to ensure island-wide pandemic preparedness.

Project duration: 3 years

How the project contributes to peacebuilding in Cyprus: The value of this project towards peace-building in Cyprus was highlighted at the end of 2007 during the Foot and Mouth outbreak in the Greek Cypriot Community. Although the outbreak became a political issue the EDF succeeded in bringing together Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot veterinary experts to focus debate on practical solutions and as a result helped diffuse political tensions on the island.

Achievements: In the absence of a formal negotiating process towards a solution of the Cyprus Problem the EDF succeeded in establishing the concept of a regular technical dialogue between veterinary experts from both communities.

Project name: *Cyprus Environmental Stakeholder Forum(CESF)*

Description of project: The Cyprus Environmental Stakeholder Forum (CESF) was created in early 2007 with the specific objective of creating a permanent, multi-disciplinary and bi-communal evidence-based environmental advocacy network.

Project duration: 2 years

How the project contributes to peacebuilding in Cyprus: It is obvious from the work of UNEP and others around the world that the Environment is an ideal conflict-resolution tool. This is very true in Cyprus, where on a small island, environmental priorities are identical in both communities, and problems such as pest control, viral pandemics and air pollution cannot be contained by the buffer zone. The CESF is an unprecedented effort by the environmental community in Cyprus to speak with a common voice.

Achievements:The CESF has already undertaken the unprecedented step of sending a bi-communal civil society delegation to the Commission on Sustainable Development in New York, to advocate a common position on various environmental issues. They have also succeeded in attracting some of the most eminent environmental academics and experts from both communities to their cause.



Project name: *Multicultural Youth Peer Learning Programme 2005-2008*

Description of project: Under this initiative 1,600 young people from all communities across the island have the chance to experience a truly

inter-communal experience, culminating in a summer camp organized by local CSOs. Participants (aged 12 to 35 years) engage in peer learning activities on issues of common concern such as the environment, arts, peace education, volunteerism, sports, science and cultural heritage.

Project duration: 3 years

How the project contributes to peacebuilding in Cyprus: This project provides young Cypriots a platform for co-existence regardless of ethnic, religious or linguistic background. The programme's objective is to reverse the effects of growing up in a divided society, and to allow young Cypriots to challenge their pre-conceived ideas, perceptions of reality, prejudices and myths by encountering the 'other'. Through the activities, young Greek Cypriots and Turkish Cypriots discover together the rich diversity and beauty of their common Cyprus home.

Achievements: The programme has shown that meaningful contact between the communities has an impact on increasing levels of trust. At the end of the experience the vast majority of participants concluded that the communities have many more things in common, than which divide them. Over two-thirds said that they only had positive feelings about the contact they had with people from the other community. Ninety percent of participants exchanged contact details with at least one person from the other community and over 80% of those who exchanged contact details maintained the contact after the camp ended. The programme has also given rise to a multicultural network which aims at sustaining the relationships built during the youth camps. Participants are also becoming "Ambassadors" for building relationships across the Green Line by sharing their experiences within their own communities.

Project name: *Programme for multi-perspective education in Cyprus*

Description of project: The programme contains several sub-projects which collectively aim to create a dialogue on educational curricula and the way certain subjects are taught in schools. This involves looking at and testing ideas for teaching history and geography, creating opportunities for empowering students through social research, and addressing the issues of learning difficulties.

Project duration: 3 years

How the project contributes to peacebuilding in Cyprus: These projects support and advocate for the enhancement of critical thinking methods, youth empowerment, interactive teaching/learning, student-centered approaches, and inclusion, all in a multicultural environment. These

methodologies aim to offer options for modernizing current teaching approaches and create scenarios where Turkish Cypriots and Greek Cypriots can find common ground in carving out a future path for enhancing the strengths and identifying the weaknesses in the educational approaches adopted by the respective communities.

Achievements: The programme has helped to create the first intercommunal think-tanks on history and geography teaching. With materials originally produced by the Centre for Democracy and Reconciliation in Southeastern Europe (CDRSEE), UNDP-ACT is making the first set of supplementary history teaching materials (five textbooks) available for use in both communities. The activity has the endorsement of the education authorities in both communities. The programme has also supported the Turkish Cypriot community in modernizing its history textbooks, making them balanced teaching tools devoid of the nationalist rhetoric which characterized the previous text books. An evaluation of the new text books showed that both teachers and students welcomed this transformation in the history curricula. The programme has also created a mechanism for Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot teachers to work together and learn from each other. Training of teachers has included peace education and approaches in social research methodologies to engage students in interactive learning and critical thinking, while an online community of teachers from across the island has been established in the area of environmental education and technology integration.



Project name: *Multiculturalism and Social Inclusion Programme*

Description of project: The programme uses workshops, discussions and sports activities to bring together different stakeholders to actively engage and discuss issues of diversity, multiculturalism and social inclusion.

Project duration: 2 years

How the project contributes to peacebuilding in Cyprus: This programme contributes to the overall objective of fostering tolerance and acceptance of diversity, fixing these as European norms within the Cypriot context. The objective is to reverse traditional or negative stereotypes in an effort to promote a culture of mutual understanding within and among communities in Cyprus.

Achievements: 450 young people have been trained on issues of diversity. 11 local authorities, 10 schools and 30 representatives of companies have been involved in the programme and as a result come to realize the potential that could derive from diversity. 10 civil society organizations along with 70 parents and students have been involved in citizenship education activities.



Project name: *Cultural Transformation project*

Description of project: This project aims to develop a culture of peace and explore alternative approaches to fostering peace in Cyprus. The main vehicle for this is a leadership cultural transformation forum where people representing a wide range of political parties, civil society organisations, unions, religious leaders, academics, the Cypriot diaspora

and other key people will be invited to participate. The forum will be facilitated by international experts in the field.

Project duration: 1 year

How the project contributes to peacebuilding in Cyprus: This project deals directly with the Cyprus Issue and it provides a platform for participants to discuss in depth how to overcome the current situation and create a breakthrough in finding a solution.

Achievements: The majority of the Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot political parties including the biggest ones have committed to actively participating in the forum. The forum has also been supported by trade unions and CSOs. Additionally, local knowledge and expertise in peace culture is being enhanced by the training provided for Cypriots by international consultants so as to support a long lasting peace and harmony on the island.

Project name: *Young Filmmakers Project*

Description of project: This project aimed to stimulate inter-communal dialogue through film. It used an islandwide competition to solicit film ideas from young people from all communities. The 20 participants which emerged from this process were given training and facilities to translate their idea into a short film which was intended to be a social commentary on an aspect of Cypriot life through the prism of the youth of the island.

Project duration: 2 years



How the project contributes to peacebuilding in Cyprus: Young Turkish Cypriots and Greek Cypriots worked together on producing 13 short films which aimed to both inspire and provoke discussion about the human stories which underpin the division of Cyprus and the separation of the two communities. The films deal with issues of common concern to all young Cypriots and Cypriots in general. Phase two of the project focuses on distributing the films around the island, with the aim of stimulating dialogue on the future.

Achievements: The first phase of the project culminated in an outdoor film festival, which premiered thirteen films made by the project's participants - eight films by Greek Cypriots and five films by Turkish Cypriots. The event was held on Saturday 27 October 2007 at Ledra Palace in the UN Buffer Zone and attracted over 500 people. Films varied in genre and complexity and dealt with a wide range of issues of socio-political importance to Cypriots. The project and the films have since attracted intense media interest and different TV outlets are preparing to showcase the films.

Project name: *Cyprus Islandwide Art Competition*

Description of project: This island-wide art competition was developed by an Advisory Board made up of 14 Cypriots from both communities and implemented by two NGO's. The competition invited all Cypriots of all ages and ethnic backgrounds, to submit artworks along various social themes.



Project duration: 2 years

How the project contributes to peacebuilding in Cyprus: The project creates intercommunal hope and understanding by giving ordinary citizens a chance to create and share art with a specific message. By sharing the message of these artworks and exhibiting them in key locations around the island the project aims to increase mutual trust and understanding via a truly multicultural, creative and democratic platform.

Achievements: Launched in May 2007, the competition attracted 900 entries from around the island and the prize ceremony attracted a lot of media attention. The guests of honour were the representatives of the Greek-Cypriot and Turkish-Cypriot communities in Nicosia. In 2008 an indoor exhibit of the winning artwork toured Limassol, Larnaca, Paphos, Kyrenia and Famagusta. Thousands of people have also seen an outdoor exhibition in Limassol and Kyrenia.

Project name: *Youth Dialogue Project*

Description of project: The project will create a youth caucus which, representing a cross section of youth opinion on the island, will provide an insight into the values and belief systems of young Cypriots. Based on extensive opinion research and expert analysis the project will produce policy recommendations on how to mainstream inter-communal youth dialogue as a vehicle for forging a common understanding of the future of the island's society. The project aims to stimulate a dynamic dialogue among young people on the island about their role in supporting an improved environment for reconciliation efforts.

Project duration: 2 years

How the project contributes to peacebuilding in Cyprus: The project addresses the absence of contact and understanding between young Greek Cypriots and Turkish Cypriots. Through the production of a youth aspirations report, and Youth Charter, this project has the potential to advocate for policy change on behalf of young people in Cyprus. The findings of the project will be used to structure and organize a series of youth dialogue forums around the island, where young Cypriots can discuss issues which will form the vision of a future united island.

Achievements: The project started in July 2007 with the first meeting of the Youth Advisory Board. This Board made a significant contribution to a youth aspirations survey. The survey has been administered islandwide with the participation of 1,600 young Cypriots from the two main communities. The report, with policy recommendations will be launched in January 2009. The project is the collaborative effort of a Greek Cypriot academic institution, a Turkish Cypriot research organization and the 24

young Cypriots from both communities who make up the Youth Advisory Board.



Project name: *Young Journalists Project*

Description of project: Six young journalists were selected for an off-island training course in Belfast which covered topics such as EU journalistic ethics, investigative reporting and specialized reporting on social issues. These journalists have since become trainers for an on-island peer learning programme covering similar topics.

Project duration: 2 years

How the project contributes to peacebuilding in Cyprus: Through a collaborative process, the project aims to create teamwork and understanding amongst a key group of young Cypriot journalists who potentially represent the future of Cypriot media. Understanding the crucial role that the media play in the Cyprus Issue, the project hopes to build bridges and create a platform for information and cultural exchange across various media agencies. Through this process the project aims to promote a more constructive media environment which can help embolden reconciliation efforts on the island.

Achievements: Thirty young journalists, representing all the main media outlets in Cyprus have become involved in an innovative peer-learning experience, and through tailor made training modules have expanded their professional skills.

Project name: *Organisational Strengthening and Partnership Grants Programme for Cypriot Civil Society*

Description of project: The programme gives Civil Society Organizations from both communities the chance to enhance their organisational and managerial capacity and create inter-communal citizen-led networks around social issues of common concern.

Project duration: 18 months

How the project contributes to peacebuilding in Cyprus: It is widely held that a durable solution to the Cyprus issue can be helped by the active participation of citizens in the peacemaking process through civil society organizations. Various studies have highlighted the relative weakness of civil society in Cyprus. By strengthening the role of such organizations the programme aims to help CSOs to position themselves as active agents of change.

Achievements: As a result of this programme, there is greater substantive cooperation and networking between civil society organizations working for inter-communal reconciliation. The capacities, knowledge and expertise of over 350 civil society organisations have been strengthened. Many of the CSO's have flourished as a result and have used their grant as a stepping stone to secure additional funding and development opportunities. Others have capitalized on the opportunities to revise their internal structures and build a stronger foundation and constituency.

Project name: *Public Health programme*

Description of project: Launched in early 2007, the programme aims to examine the quality of life and provision of health services to a wide range of the population.

Project duration: 16 months

How the project contributes to peacebuilding in Cyprus: The projects have enabled Cypriots from both communities to become better equipped with evidence based resources to prepare the ground for reaching joint responses to public health issues.

Achievements: Awareness campaigns on HIV/AIDS, harmful and addictive substances and obesity/diet/diabetes have been implemented, while surveys on patient care and care for victims of domestic violence have been completed in both communities. Networking efforts for patient rights groups and other health NGOs have started.

Project name: *Island wide Civil Society Organisations Directory*
<http://www.cypruscsodirectory.com>

Description of project: The Island wide Civil Society Organisations Directory created a comprehensive resource on the active civil society organizations in both communities.

Project duration: 18 months

How the project contributes to peacebuilding in Cyprus: The production of a comprehensive directory of Cypriot civil society organisations marks a giant step in the work of such organisations on the island. The Directory represents a body of knowledge and information which will have a lasting impact on the development of Cyprus' culture of democracy and active citizen participation for years to come.

Achievements: This project has brought together CSOs from both communities under a comprehensive and valuable publication. The Directory includes a total of 149 active CSOs in the Turkish Cypriot Community and a total of 271 active CSOs in the Greek Cypriot Community.

