

FINAL REPORT

Action for Cooperation & Trust in Cyprus

1 October 2005 – 31 December 2015



UN
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United Nations Development Programme

Acknowledgements

This report tells the story of UNDP-ACT over the past ten years—a story that would not have been possible without the commitment and professionalism exhibited by UNDP-ACT's staff members, consultants and associates. They used their talents to serve the cause of peace and have laid the foundations for a durable solution to the Cyprus conflict.

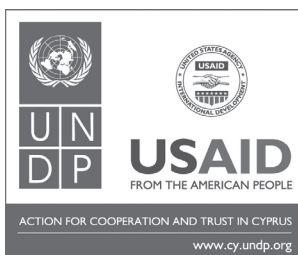
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I. INTRODUCTION

Ten years of UNDP ACT programming has made a tangible and significant difference in the lives of those living on this long divided island. Most importantly, it has improved the prospects for peaceful reconciliation between Greek Cypriots and Turkish Cypriots. Hundreds of projects in dozens of fields illustrate the benefits of cooperation; beyond that, a network of civil society actors—shop keepers, media professionals, architects, business owners, engineers, teachers, researchers, women, scientists, athletes, artists, young people and opinion leaders—now exists as a source of know-how and experience to complement and to challenge traditional structures. Individually and together, through groundbreaking initiatives like the Cyprus Dialogue Forum, Cypriot civil society is working to support the peace building and peace making processes. It is responding to openings on the political front and will be able to confront the challenges of implementing any agreement. It has a pivotal role to play in ensuring lasting peace and is better positioned to do so because of ACT.

ACT programming draws to a close at a time of great optimism with regard to the peace process. Not only have the two leaders committed to a shared goal of reaching a comprehensive settlement as swiftly as possible, but consensus, if not agreement, on key aspects of a solution are being discussed publically. Further, the two leaders have taken symbolic and significant steps to create forward momentum. Together they have attended cultural events and supported bicommunal ventures; they have reinvigorated the working groups and technical committees meant to augment their ability to negotiate on “the full spectrum of issues”. Without exception, these efforts—and the positive climate to which they contribute—are succeeding because of ACT’s work over the last decade. The experts discussing technical cooperation in the area of the environment or health, for example, have experience implementing ACT-funded bicommunal activities; the venues now used for bicommunal events and exchanges exist because of early contributions through ACT; collaboration in the areas of cultural heritage restoration or business development is possible because of the foundations laid with key partners by ACT; and the networks of people rallying to the cause of peace were nurtured by ACT initiatives. Long the caretaker of the unofficial peace process, Cypriot civil society is now taking its place alongside the political leadership. It is at the forefront of peace making, participating directly and effectively. Most agree that Cyprus’ civil society organizations would not be in a position to take part or to support the leaders in this push for peace without ACT’s support over the previous decade.

Although this final report documents the activities and achievements of ACT through the period of the cooperative agreement from 2005 to 2015, the real legacy and lasting impact of ACT will continue to be realized for decades to come. As stakeholders in both communities have frequently observed, the value of ACT is not only in what it achieved while it was active, but the sustainability of what it leaves behind—skills, know-how and the means to hasten peace.

With this in mind, this report reviews a decade of achievements, but also seeks to outline the approach of the programme and how this flexible and ever-nuanced approach resulted in concrete results and lasting change. Some of the most important lessons that ACT offers the wider development community lie in its practical, flexible programme design that evolved in response to on-the-ground developments; its preoccupation with sustainability; the commitment, continuity and agility of the local team (UNDP and USAID) whose deep understanding of the Cyprus environment made it possible to navigate its complexities and to seize opportunities; and the collaborative technical approach that relied heavily on local resources and evidence-based planning, analysis and decision making.

II. BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT

Established in 2005, the ACT programme was shaped to a large degree by the complex programming context that Cyprus presented both historically and at that particular time. The ongoing division necessitated nuanced administrative arrangements and calibrated accommodations while the sensitive and sometime volatile political climate required an ability to constantly adjust, especially in response to positive developments.

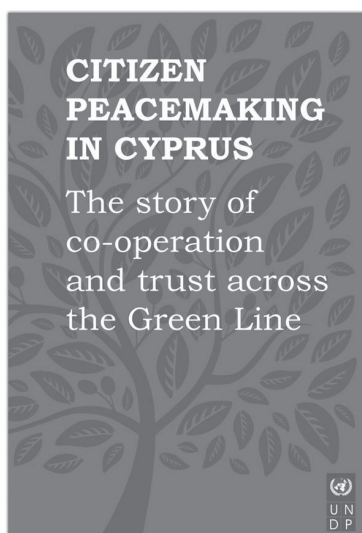
FINE-TUNING IMPLEMENTATION ARRANGEMENTS

ACT inherited the implementation arrangements designed originally to deal with the unresolved conflict and political realities on the island after 1974. Then, and in 2005, the international community was challenged to deliver assistance on both sides of the dividing Green Line fairly, in line with programme objectives and without eroding relations between the donor and either of the communities or between the two sides themselves. In 1974, to ensure that lifesaving humanitarian aid reached both communities without compromising the Government of the Republic of Cyprus (who remained the sole recognized government on the island) or legitimizing any parallel Turkish Cypriot authority, it was agreed that assistance would flow through the Cyprus Red Cross organization. According to the provisions of the 1960 Constitution, the President of the Red Cross was a Greek Cypriot and the Vice President a Turkish Cypriot. The offices of these two became the conduits through which international assistance—via UNHCR at the time—flowed. While separate for all intents and purposes, the two remained linked through their direct connection with UNHCR and the personal relationships of the people involved, some of whom had worked together before 1974 and maintained close professional relationships afterwards.

In 1997, UNHCR decided to close its humanitarian operations in Cyprus but UNDP agreed to partner with the U.S. government to implement a development programme focused on much-needed peacebuilding, complementing existing bicomunal infrastructure projects with funding for civil society organizations. At that time, however, the Turkish Cypriot side reconsidered the administrative

arrangements in place for receiving international funding of this kind. In consultation with the Cyprus Red Cross, an arrangement was devised creating a Turkish Cypriot non-governmental organization (NGO)—the Humanitarian Relief Mission (HRM)—to allow UNDP to implement bicomunal peacebuilding programmes, reaching Turkish Cypriots directly while contributing to the overall development of the island.

Recognizing that the political situation still precluded an arrangement whereby the two sides could be part of the same programme steering committee structure, UNDP and USAID agreed to parallel Programme Steering Committees where decisions were taken for each side, but information on the entire programme—and on international best practices—was provided. This arrangement proved



to be practical and effective, was mirrored by the European Commission when it began implementing its first programmes targeting the Turkish Cypriots and remained in place through the end of the ACT programme.

BUILDING ON THE EXPERIENCE OF BDP

From 1997 to 2004, UNDP implemented the Bicomunal Development Programme (BDP), also funded by USAID. To counter decades of separation and reduce tensions, the BDP’s focus had been on maximizing intercommunal contact and, for the first time, engaging civil society organizations through small infrastructure and development activities across cultural and economic life in Cyprus. Most significantly, it was through the BDP that UNDP opened the first facility for funding Cypriot non-governmental organizations (NGOs) in 1998. The BDP’s overall approach was one of “letting one thousand flowers bloom” to help establish the broadest possible matrix of intercommunal contact. Bicomunal activities were designed to serve the whole of the island in various spheres of life—from agriculture to environment, to restoration of monuments important to each community, to youth programmes, to support for cultural exchanges.

Despite the restrictions on bicomunal contact in place for most of the seven years of the BDP’s operations, the BDP was able to foster and support cooperative relations between Greek Cypriots and Turkish Cypriots. By 2004, 70% of the BDP’s projects had succeeded in achieving some form of face-to-face contact between Greek Cypriots and Turkish Cypriots—achieving a monumental shift in the practicalities of bicomunal work. The positive and beneficial results of countless bicomunal endeavours helped in the conception of a new world—one where long-held stereotypes and taboos were challenged. Collaboration was in fact possible and, indeed, cooperation was desirable to reach shared objectives, including a lasting solution. Over the years of BDP implementation, UNDP established significant credibility dealing with and between both sides. Evidence of this is the separate but simultaneous requests made by the two leaders, President Tassos Papadopoulos and Rauf Denktash, in 2003 just after the checkpoints were opened related to cemeteries. Cypriots were flooding to their ancestral villages and the unfortunate state of the cemeteries was a source of tension and upset; to address this very sensitive issue (one with the potential to poison the first contact between Cypriots in over thirty years), both leaders turned to UNDP. Despite the sensitivities and difficulties, a bicomunal team inventoried cemeteries across the island and, using pilot activities, provided communities on both sides with the opportunity to work together to improve sites. The Cypress Tree Project improved conditions at several cemeteries, but more importantly helped to avert rising tensions and pioneered a community based process that would serve as a model for similar activities in future.

“LETTING ONE THOUSAND FLOWERS BLOOM”

Between 1998-2005
the BDP worked with
over 300 different
Cypriot organizations
and supported some
220 projects.

BDP Final Report

FIRST TRUST SURVEY RESULTS

Just 4% of Turkish Cypriots and 19% of Greek Cypriots totally agreed with the statement, “I trust Greek/Turkish Cypriots”.

2006 Trust Survey, ACT

As the BDP’s successor, and with crossing between the two sides possible, the bar was higher for ACT. To improve the prospects for a lasting solution, actual trust needed to be built through meaningful engagement. ACT’s aim was not just to provide opportunities for bicomunal contact, but rather to build on initial contacts and find ways to deepen the bonds of cooperation. The contact theory of conflict resolution had proven relevant, but insufficient to bringing the two communities together after decades of separation and political posturing against compromise. ACT would pick up where the BDP

left off recognizing that it was critical to “get the word out” and communicate effectively with the different publics.

NAVIGATING TURBULENT POLITICAL WATERS

ACT was initiated with high expectations at a particularly complicated time politically. In April 2004, the UN-brokered “Annan Plan” was put to simultaneous parallel referenda on both sides. A clear majority of Turkish Cypriots (66%) voted to approve the plan, but an even greater number of Greek Cypriots (76%) voted no. On May 1, 2004, the Republic of Cyprus formally entered the EU as a full member, but as a divided island.

Overall, the failure of the “Annan Plan” raised questions as to whether Cypriots were willing to accept the hard compromises inherent in any federal solution and brought to the fore issues such as Greek Cypriots’ unwillingness to bear the economic costs of integration with the poorer Turkish Cypriot side. Further, it left the Turkish Cypriots, especially those who had been at the forefront of reconciliation efforts, with a deep sense of disappointment—something that tainted the way they approached bicomunal work going forward.

Similarly, the polarization caused by the “Annan Plan” experience on the Greek Cypriot side also resulted in negative perceptions of intercommunal projects. As a result, Greek Cypriot individuals and organizations were less willing to participate in (or to disclose participation in) projects involving Turkish Cypriot counterparts. There were allegations that foreign funding, including through “UNOPS”/ the BDP, was used to influence the outcome of the 2004 referendum in favour of the “Annan Plan”. This negative climate continued well into 2006 when a Parliamentary Committee held hearings to look into issues related to the funding of NGOs and individuals in connection with the “Annan Plan”. Public scrutiny of intercommunal projects undermined the legitimacy of fledgling civil society organizations by implying that there was something nefarious about receiving international funding. With the potential social cost of participation so high, Greek Cypriot organizations were deterred from engaging in intercommunal efforts, which in turn had an effect on ACT’s capacity to operate and fund projects.

Then Under-Secretary-General and Special Adviser to the Secretary-General on Cyprus Alvaro de Soto identified UNDP's role "in establishing a platform for civic reconciliation" as "particularly crucial", especially to ensure that the prevailing sense of disappointment on both sides not evolve into a deeper pessimism, or even worse, a gradual movement towards partition. In a letter to then UNDP Administrator Mark Malloch Brown, dated June 29, 2004, de Soto noted that the international community must continue to support those Cypriot leaders on both sides, especially, but not only, those in civil society who were working for the reunification and reconciliation of the island despite all the obstacles. "UNDP is needed in Cyprus both as a neutral facilitator of peace building and conflict management efforts by Cypriots. It is now up to UNDP to help the Cypriots keep the flame alive."

Keeping the flame alive would require UNDP to navigate these turbulent political waters as well as adjust to the practical complications created by EU membership and the emergence of new donor-funded programmes. Cyprus joined the EU in May 2004. While all of the island's territory was now within the EU, the EU's body of rules and regulations (the *acquis communautaire*) was suspended in the areas outside of the effective control of the government of the Republic of Cyprus. While the benefits of EU membership were theoretically available to all Cypriots, the existence of the dividing Green Line created several practical problems that would reverberate across programmes. While in some cases not insurmountable, bureaucratic, legal and regulatory issues further complicated doing business between and among the two sides.

Related, both the U.S. and the EU put programmes into place that targeted Turkish Cypriots either to address the disparities that complicated relations between the two sides or to bring the Turkish Cypriots closer to the EU and its institutions. As a result, consultation between donors and programmes became critical to ensure consistency and complementarity and to avoid working at cross-purposes or duplicating effort. This added another layer of complexity to ACT's programming environment.

III. UNDP ACT OBJECTIVES AND REACHING THEM

From the beginning and throughout, the purpose of ACT was to promote reconciliation in Cyprus. In so doing, ACT would contribute to “solving the Cyprus problem” not by tackling the political problems head on but rather by improving the climate in which the two sides work to resolve their differences. While any agreement would ultimately have to be negotiated by the leaders, a lasting peace will rest on Cypriot society’s ability to implement it. With that in mind, ACT would support bicomunal projects and measures aimed at reunification of the island and designed to promote peace and cooperation between the communities in Cyprus. ACT aimed to build a stronger culture of tolerance in all sectors of Cypriot society. Beyond the number of activities or participants, success indicators were to include overall levels of tolerance and trust in the two communities, as well as the number and quality of inter-communal partnerships on a wide variety of issues. At the outset, special focus was placed on non-formal education and youth; civil society cooperation on key social issues affecting both communities; and inter-communal partnerships for sustainable development and economic integration, the protection of the environment and the preservation of cultural and religious heritage.

ACT I - BEYOND THE BDP

ACT’s overall objective remained constant, but it was implemented in four phases, each with a distinct strategy and set of parameters - each informed by the results and lesson learned of previous phases and reflective of the political situation. With each phase, ACT strove to improve the effectiveness, reach, relevance and impact of the programme and of its diverse partners. The first phase (ACT I, 2005-2008) picked up where the BDP left off, relying heavily on contact theory, promoting interpersonal contact to reduce prejudice between groups. Beyond that, it also sought to create space for intercommunal

cooperation and to develop an alternative narrative among Cypriots—one that promoted multicultural values within a modern European cultural reality and emphasized a vision where intercommunal relations were able to transcend the political stalemate. In operational terms, this meant that ACT focused on initiatives aimed at broadening the knowledge, understanding and practice of diversity and used a wide variety of subject areas to expose Cypriots to each other, to differences and to ways of affecting change.

Civil society’s role was critical from the beginning. In all democratic societies, civil society is an active player in social, economic and political life and has influence in decision-making processes. The 2005 CIVICUS study for Cyprus confirmed that civil society in both communities had yet to reach its potential in terms of being able to influence policy making or being a partner in finding a solution to the Cyprus problem. ACT I undertook a comprehensive capacity building programme designed to address the needs of civil society in both communities, focusing on strategic planning, operations, advocacy and technical skills. ACT I further strengthened civil society’s ability

ACT I ACHIEVEMENTS

120 projects reached
100,000 Cypriots through
14 island-wide networks.

333 cross-community
partnerships were built
or strengthened.

688 knowledge-sharing
activities took place.

370 CSOs participated
in the civil society
strengthening programme.

800 positive media articles
and TV/radio programmes
aired.

to network and partner through a funding facility that encouraged the sharing of knowledge, experience and resources for joint action. It was these nascent efforts that began to create a culture of cooperation and trust not only over the Green Line but also amongst sectors and civil society actors.

ACT II - DEEPENING ENGAGEMENT

By 2008, UNDP’s bicomunal initiatives had touched over one hundred thousand Cypriots. Building on this breadth, ACT II (2008-2011) sought to drill down, to deepen the substance and nature of bicomunal interactions and to amplify their reach. Civil society would be the agent of change with Cypriot-led initiatives advocating for and contributing to reconciliation on the island. Beyond activities, projects would strive to create lasting partnerships across the political divide. A single encounter or ad hoc meeting was not enough. Instead, civil society actors were asked to ratchet up their efforts to better mobilize and engage the public; where they existed, partnerships were strengthened or expanded to more effectively move reconciliation efforts forward; and relationships and mechanisms with key decision makers were forged to try to ensure impact at the policy level.

YOUTH POWER GRANTS IN ACTION

Endowed with a flexible grants facility, Youth Power—a consortium of 12 Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot organizations working together to support youth development and activism throughout Cyprus—was able to engage groups that for various reasons had never had the opportunity to get involved before. For example, the Youth Leaders and Cultural Activists group organized a series of One StreetS Festivals across the island in the fall of 2011 using the slogan “CTR+ALT+DELETE” as a call to action. In the words of one of the organizers, Meltem Ikinici, the group felt it was young people’s turn to work for change in Cyprus. “We need to be determined and to acknowledge the need to embrace peace, tolerance and respect for diversity in a multicultural Cyprus. The One StreetS Festivals provide wonderful opportunities to send out this message.” Hundreds of young people participated in music, dance, art and sports activities that focused attention on the need to break down the walls that exist between people of diverse ethnicities on the island. Mentoring groups like Youth Leaders and Cultural Activists and shepherding activities like the One StreetS Festivals strengthened Youth Power’s ability to manage resources while extending ACT’s reach into the communities.

Motivated groups were encouraged to spearhead activities rather than simply participate in them. The goal was to empower Cypriots and Cypriot organizations while strengthening island-wide ownership for reconciliation writ large. ACT continued to provide the essential facilitation required to bridge the distance and overcome the practical problems caused by the dividing Green Line, but a conscious effort was made to let partnered organizations forge their own way together. This included giving initiatives such as Interdependence and Youth Power the capacity to solicit proposals and grant funding themselves, according to criteria and processes managed by them. Through Interdependence, the Cyprus Chamber of Commerce and Industry and the Turkish Cypriot Chamber of Commerce provided 26 market research

grants to help companies capitalize on intra-island business opportunities and 5 partnership grants that established bicommunal business partnerships in sectors as different as handicrafts and polling/research.

Similarly, Youth Power received dozens of proposals from young social and business entrepreneurs keen to overcome both the division and the barriers. One Youth Power grant recipient credits this seed funding for much of her success. “Without that money, I couldn’t have made it happen”, said Natasha Christou in a 2 August 2015 article in the *Cyprus Mail*. Tellalis.com is an on- and off-line “yellow pages” where artists, manufacturers and buyers come together to connect and collaborate locally in order to ultimately sell globally. Tellalis.com was launched in October 2013 and has since won several business awards, including at Disrupt Cyprus. As word of Tellalis.com has spread through the Cypriot arts and crafts community, it has grown into a model start-up with approximately 800 members, 7 staff and 5 “ambassadors”, one in each of Cyprus’ main cities. By allowing for such “onward” grant-making, ACT was able to extend its reach and impact far beyond the “usual suspects”.

CHAMBERS MODEL INTERDEPENDENCE TO MITIGATE CATASTROPHE

In July 2011, the island’s main power station at Vassiliko was severely damaged by an explosion at a nearby naval facility. As the source of over half of the Greek Cypriot community’s electricity, the loss of Vassiliko put vulnerable populations at risk and electricity-reliant businesses in crisis until an alternative could be found. The most expedient solution lay in the Turkish Cypriot community, whose grid could quickly and easily be tapped—if only the two sides could find a way to talk and find acceptable terms. With no official channels of communication, this seemed impossible until the President of the Cyprus Chamber of Commerce and Industry (CCCI) walked across the Green Line to forge a deal through the Turkish Cypriot Chamber of Commerce—CCCI’s longstanding partner in the ACT-supported Interdependence project. Building on the solid foundation of trust established through various Interdependence initiatives, the Chambers arranged for the sale of electricity from the Turkish Cypriot community to the Greek Cypriot community from July 2011 to March 2012, helping to stave off the worst of the energy crisis.

During this period, acorns began to grow into trees. The bicommunal team of teachers that received grant funding from UNDP to develop alternative ways to teach about a controversial past became the Association for Historical Dialogue and Research (AHDR). Today, no one can imagine the bicommunal landscape without AHDR’s Home for Cooperation in Nicosia’s Buffer Zone where EU Commission President Jean-Claude Juncker recently symbolically dined with the two leaders. Without the relationship forged through cooperation on ACT-funded business activities and participation in other U.S.-funded capacity building programmes, the leaders and staff of the Cyprus Chamber of Commerce and Industry and the Turkish Cypriot Chamber of Commerce would not be able to amplify the messages of the two leaders regarding the economic benefits of a settlement and to put flesh on the bones of various confidence building measures. Having built a solid working relationship through regular meetings beginning in 2006, the two organizations’ presidents were able to broker the landmark deal in August 2011 that brought Turkish Cypriot electrical energy to the Greek Cypriot community after an explosion at a naval

base wiped out the electrical grid. Less than two years later, the two Chambers also worked together to prevent an environmental catastrophe following an oil spill in the waters off the Karpas Peninsula by facilitating the transfer of oil-absorbent booms from the Greek Cypriot community to the site of the disaster.

As important as these high-profile examples were, so too was the work of the dozens of NGOs on smaller or quieter projects that advanced reconciliation. Bicomunal efforts around Kontea/Türkmenköy¹ village and in the Famagusta region became the focus of consistent exchanges that advanced understanding outside of Nicosia while buttressing the formal talks process.

RESPONSIBILITY FOR KEEPING ANOTHER'S CULTURE INSPIRES COMMUNITY TO COLLABORATE

Motivated by their shared love of the same village, hundreds of Cypriots have participated in the activities of the Cultural Heritage Circle Preservation project in Kontea/Türkmenköy. Beyond preserving this rural village's diverse cultural monuments, which include a Frankish manor, a medieval Catholic chapel, an eighteenth century Orthodox church and a more recent mosque, and improving its green areas, together these Cypriots have worked to ensure that the village remains part of the lives of future generations committed to peace. The two main collaborators in the project, the Kontea Heritage Foundation and the Union of Chambers of Cyprus Turkish Engineers and Architects, emphasized the importance of preserving the area's multi-cultural past while creating a place dedicated to peaceful interaction in the present. In Kontea/Türkmenköy, ACT supported the planting of trees and the repair of old buildings as a way to provide past and current residents with opportunities to better understand one another and to identify shared goals in terms of their village and their future on the same island. Raising funding from other sources, the Kontea Heritage Foundation has been able to continue to do work on sites in the village and the village's annual fair has become an occasion to renew momentum on this unique project that has served as a model for other community-based bicomunal initiatives across the island. The evolution of collaboration in Kontea/Türkmenköy is well summarized in a quotation from Henry Ford: "coming together is a beginning; keeping together is progress; working together is success".

ACT III - BRIDGING THE GAP: CIVIL SOCIETY AND PEACE MAKING

With people involved and groups organized, ACT III (2011-2013) focused on making Cypriot civil society more credible and more demanding in its pursuit of reconciliation. While Cyprus' political problem had not been solved, the civil society genie was out of the bottle—NGOs were insisting on having their

¹ All references in this report to place names are for reference purposes only; they are intended to convey meaning. They should not be interpreted as implying or indicating any change in UNDP or USAID policy with regard to political or other recognition.

say on a range of issues, including the peace process itself. By 2011, it had become increasingly clear though that without a strong civil society that could speak legitimately for the majority of Cypriots, the negotiations process, as well as broader reconciliation processes, would continue to be dominated by political personalities who may or may not be vested in a solution that met the needs of all Greek Cypriots and Turkish Cypriots. To be effective, any settlement would have to accommodate citizen preferences and opinions. But, for these hopes, fears and expectations to be heard, they must be expressed and communicated in a way that would inform the media and the leaders shaping the process of compromise. And recognizing that a whole can be greater than the sum of its parts, the new phase sought to actively support civil society networks rather than individual organizations or pairs of organizations. In this way, civil society organizations became resources for each other and leveraged their comparative advantages making their collective effort more effective in support of peace.

ACT III focused on programming in the area of advocacy and peace building, which would provide the missing link between public opinion and the negotiating table and be a logical follow-on and complement to previous investments in Cyprus' infrastructure, its human capital and its fledgling NGOs. Put crudely, Cypriots knew what needed to be done and had the means to do it. But, they still lacked the ability to discuss constructively amongst themselves how best to pursue reconciliation for the good of all. This would require an active, informed and articulate third sector striving to influence decision-making. Thus, ACT III invested in the knowledge and innovation side of the growing network of likeminded and engaged civil society organizations; in capacity building in the area of advocacy, both at the network and individual partner levels; and in the development of tools that would explain the dynamics around conflict and reconciliation on the island. Projects like Cyprus 2015 and the Social Cohesion and Reconciliation Index (SCORE), for example, developed evidence-based analyses that were provided to the UN and the leaders directly and debated in public. These improved both the public dialogue and the talks process itself; the gap between civil society and the peace process got smaller.

CCE - MAKING CIVIL SOCIETY INFLUENTIAL

In 2013, with the Crossroads for Civic Engagement (CCE) initiative, ACT endeavoured to continue to enlarge the space for civil society and to expand the influence of increasingly capable civil society organizations both locally and regionally. In the fifteen years since UNDP first provided funding, Cypriot NGOs had spearheaded hundreds of bicomunal initiatives that made a difference in people's lives. At the same time, they had established solid lines of communication and habits of cooperation within and between the communities. As a result, long held perceptions about civil society and lingering skepticism about its role were now being challenged and there was an increased drive to remove any remaining legal and regulatory obstacles that hindered civil society action. ACT placed a premium on helping Cyprus' "peace structures" advocate both on a mass scale and to key actors. Larger segments of society needed to be brought into the process at the same time as those in positions of influence were made aware of years of results and lessons learned. ACT's priority with CCE became ensuring that

there was a productive link forged between civil society and the peace process; that both benefited from evidence-based analysis and new, innovative solutions were applied to old problems; and that Cypriot experiences in civic engagement were leveraged to create regional relationships that would introduce much-needed perspective.

Interestingly, at the time of CCE's design, the 2014 Trust survey and follow-up focus groups indicated that public confidence in Cyprus' leaders was at an all-time low. More than 80% of those polled in both communities still believed that the voices of ordinary people were "not heard" or heard only "to a limited degree." When asked who they could trust, the short answer was no one – not political parties, not the government, not international organizations. However, when asked whether a consensus-building mechanism consisting of all political parties, business leaders and—most importantly—civil society could represent them, focus group participants indicated it would be highly credible—although they did not think such a body is feasible.

Building upon the September 2013 workshop "How Can an Inclusive Approach Help the Cyprus Peace Process?", UNDP took up this challenge and brought together civic, business and political party leaders from across the political spectrum and from both sides of the Green Line to design what is now known as the Cyprus Dialogue Forum. The result of intensive discussions that included the negotiators themselves, a forum emerged to support the negotiations process and to help implement an agreed-upon solution. Participants agreed upon a "Single-Text," which will serve as the Forum's mandate and charter, and officially launched the Forum publically in March of 2015. This pioneering endeavor is a good example of ACT filling a critical niche, even as budgetary resources dwindled.

The emergence of a network of strong, articulate, globally minded and increasingly active civil society organizations is an important part of UNDP ACT's legacy. Brought together through groundbreaking initiatives like the Cyprus Dialogue Forum, Cypriot NGOs are a source of know-how and problem solving as the talks process gathers momentum now and, as importantly, in the future when both sides have to wrestle with the challenges of implementing any agreement. ACT's investment in Cypriot civil society will continue to pay dividends for peace building and peace making.

IV. GUIDING PRINCIPLES AND METHODS

Several principles guided the work of ACT in its pursuit of ambitious programmatic results. These principles served to define the strategy ACT pursued in reaching out to stakeholders and in forging the partnerships that would result in success.

First, ACT set out to maintain transparency and to achieve inclusivity. In addition to being part of the programme's overall ethos, transparency was essential in overcoming the skepticism of motives and methods that existed in the post-"Annan Plan" period. All donor-funded activities were suspect, but ACT's in particular. UNDP's responsiveness to queries from all quarters and its openness in terms of mandate and objectives helped to confront the skeptics. Information on all project activities—past, current and planned—was made available on the internet and a robust public outreach component became part of every activity. Information was there for people to find and for the press to use. Indeed, by 2008, more than 15 articles were appearing in the press each week on ACT-funded activities. Further, UNDP and USAID actively sought to engage its PSC partners in the development of the programme, providing regular briefings and taking feedback onboard. Likewise, UNDP worked to vary the perspectives that would shape programming, considering the opinions of an ever wider circle of stakeholders. At a first structured "stakeholder consultation" in October 2006, ACT invited a myriad of important voices to comment on and contribute to how ACT could do better business.

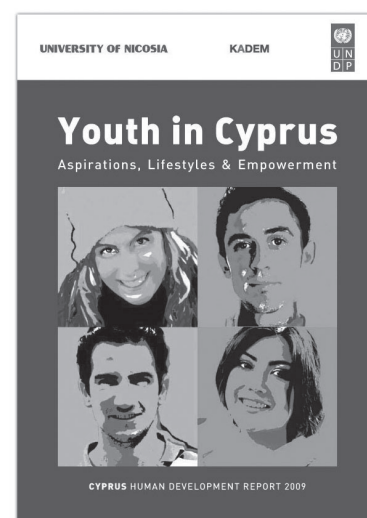
Related, ACT worked to revolutionize the business practices of development and peacebuilding work in Cyprus. In terms of donor relations, UNDP maintained a seamless relationship with USAID and was an important contributor to the consultations that brought together all of the donors engaged on the island. For years the largest supporter of bicomunal activities, ACT set the tone and the standard for such programming and seized every opportunity to create linkages and ensure complementarity. For example, ACT's work with the island's veterinarians and dairy farmers improved relations between the two sides in this critically important sector, but also laid the groundwork for additional programming funded by USAID through the Cyprus Partnership for Economic Growth and then the European Commission that advanced the competitiveness of the sector and hastened the adoption of EU standards across the island.

UNDP used best practices and new concepts from other development settings to advance ACT's objectives in new and different ways. In addition to achieving important programme results, these activities raised local awareness of global issues and methods. Engaging Greek Cypriots and Turkish Cypriots in a substantive discussion on the UN's Millennium Development Goals or on corporate social responsibility for example gave the two sides something to discuss that was not binary or focused solely on the island. An early example of this was ACT's support to the Cyprus Environmental Stakeholder Forum (CESF). CESF not only brought many environmental projects and stakeholders into a coherent network, improving the results of environmental programming island-wide, but it also forged a new role for Cypriot civil society internationally. For the first time, CESF—as a bicomunal, multi-disciplinary environmental network—addressed the UN's Commission on Sustainable Development in New York in 2007, representing an island-wide perspective at a global forum. Many members of the CESF also became part of the Technical Committee on Environmental Issues established in 2008 and are still working in support of the formal peace process. The CESF is a good example of ACT's success incubating groups and issues that have had, are having and will continue to have a direct and positive impact on both quality of life in the short term and on peace building in the long term.

Confronted with the question of how to be better global citizens, Cypriots had to reflect on their relationship to the world—something that is distorted by the unresolved conflict. These were helpful new perspectives from which to view the old problem. Working together on the landmark 2009 Youth Development Report, Greek Cypriots and Turkish Cypriots applied the tried and tested Human Development Report methodology to an issue of critical importance to Cypriot society and its future—the attitudes and aspirations of its youth. Through the report, ACT brought together a bicomunal team of researchers and analysts and contributed to the debate on youth attitudes within their communities and between the two communities. Just as importantly though, ACT used the Report to introduce cutting edge techniques that advanced the level of exchange and the quality of study. ACT served as a conduit through which new concepts were introduced, encouraging Cypriots to benchmark their case against others and to reflect collectively on the future. Greek Cypriots and Turkish Cypriots had something else to talk to each other and the world about.

Similar to bringing successful development tools to the programme basket, ACT also harnessed new methods and technologies to improve its outreach and, more importantly, that of its implementing partners. Faced with a media landscape unresponsive to civil society and to alternative messages as regards the settlement process, for instance, ACT supported the establishment of the Cyprus Community Media Centre (CCMC) as a way to empower civil society organizations and community groups with the tools needed to communicate their messages to a wider audience. ACT brought the power of the internet and digital media to those working for positive change. Through training in social media and dedicated production support, equipment loans and access to a state-of-the-art production studio, CCMC was able to give Cypriots the skills to control their own messages, to facilitate media contact over the Green Line and to begin to bridge the gap between mainstream media and civil society. By using some of the latest technology and methods, CCMC was able to promote productions that contribute to reconciliation, diversity and multiculturalism.

Similarly, in looking to solve the problem of how to better involve the ordinary citizen in the Cyprus peace process, ACT harnessed the smart technologies that play such an important role in the everyday lives of most people on the island. The Mahallae platform for civic engagement has captured ACT's peace building experience and made it available and accessible via the internet and, more importantly, has broadened the opportunity for citizen participation in peace work. Mahallae's innovation challenges—a novel way of engaging the tech-savvy public—have attracted dozens of new partners with new perspectives on how to address Cyprus' social problems, including the need for reconciliation.



FIVE INNOVATORS RISE TO THE FIRST MAHALLAE CHALLENGE

Solutions to even the largest of problems can come from anyone, anywhere. With that in mind, Mahallae.org—the digital neighborhood created to facilitate civic engagement on this divided island—introduced “Innovation Challenges” as a way of engaging groups to find technologically enabled ways to address some of the most pressing issues facing Cypriots today. Of the forty impressive ideas submitted, five were awarded start-up funding in the first “Challenge” in 2014. The YuBiz youth entrepreneurship platform, the WEME mentoring platform for young professional women, the “Socioholic Typewriter” flash fiction site, the “iVEE” volunteerism promotion on-line game and the “Hands On Famagusta” model are all excellent examples of social entrepreneurship at work.

To be effective, ACT recognized the need to stay relevant and responsive to changes in the climate on the island, political and otherwise. As a result, ACT put a premium on being flexible so that good designs were improved through implementation and opportunities that presented themselves were seized, not lost. While the goals of each activity were clear, their design was not prescriptive. Somewhat unusual for programmes like this, and reflective of the close working relationship between USAID and UNDP on the ground, there was an eagerness to adjust and course correct—a willingness to shift resources to activities that promised greater impact and more progress based on evolving circumstances. As a result, ACT was able to encourage its partners to do the same, pushing forward when opportunities presented themselves and pulling back if things did not work out as originally planned. While not foreseen as part of the workplan for the Peace It Together network of civil society groups, ACT made it possible for a bicomunal group of Peace It Together leaders to accept an invitation to address the UK House of Commons and the UK All-Party Parliamentary Group on Conflict Issues. In May 2012, in a landmark first for Cypriot civil society, a united group of Cypriots used examples of their own work (much of it supported by ACT) to illustrate how the peace process needed to be broadened to accommodate public concerns and priorities. Those briefings were to prove seminal to the creation of the Cyprus Dialogue Forum.

PIONEERING MULTIMEDIA “STUDIO” LAUNCHED IN NICOSIA’S BUFFER ZONE

Complementing the facilities already available at the Cyprus Community Media Centre (CCMC), “The Studio” provided a unique venue for civil society organizations to receive technical media skills training in audio/visual productions and to create their own messages and produce original media content highlighting their efforts in areas as diverse as health, environment, gender issues, diversity and peace and reconciliation. The establishment of “The Studio” in May 2013 highlighted not only the underlying cooperation between Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot professionals and organizations, but also the synergy that has been possible between activities supported by the United Nations, the United States and the European Union. While the creation of “The Studio” was supported by ACT, the European Commission Representation in Cyprus funded MyCYradio—Cyprus’ first multilingual web radio with is broadcast from “The Studio”.



Figure 1: At an ENGAGE Do Your Part for Peace project event in 2009, Demetris Christofias and Mehmet Ali Talat plant olive trees for peace surrounded by civil society activists showing their support for the process.



Figure 2: In 2011, Demetris Christofias and Dervis Eroglu—along with civil society pioneers from the Association for Historical Research and Dialogue—inaugurate the Home for Cooperation, a unique space in the Nicosia buffer zone where Cypriots work, play and create together.



Figure 3: In one of their first public appearances together after the resumption of intensive negotiations in 2015, Nicos Anastasiades and Mustafa Akıncı lent their support to the work of the chambers of commerce who have been working together over the divide to explain the economic benefits of a settlement.



Figure 4: The results of artistic collaboration through RENEWAL's FA/DE activity now adorn public spaces in Deryneia and the walled city of Famagusta.

There was also a conscious effort to push the envelope. Experience proved that one thing can lead to another. The avian influenza epidemics of 2006 provided the impetus for cooperation between Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriots on the H5N1 virus which was contagious to human beings. Able to devise a coordinated strategy to deal with that possible pandemic, the group then undertook the first systematic counts of waterbirds on the island. Through this study, the two sides' ability to manage shared resources improved and two internationally cited volumes were produced. Flexibility in programme design combined with nimbleness in implementation allowed ACT to grow activities like these and to pursue others that enjoyed local support and buy-in, something that in turn would contribute to their sustainability. Building on the BDP's work in the veterinary sector, ACT was able to fill another institutional gap that existed in the area of public health by facilitating discussions around not just avian flu, but other threats such as foot-and-mouth disease. What emerged was the Emergency Disease Forum (EDF) through which health experts met, exchanged information and planned for contingencies. The EDF model proved useful as the basis for cooperation by the Technical Committee on Health Issues also established in 2008 and which also came to include some EDF members. Thanks to the foundations laid by ACT, cooperation in this sector was all-that-much easier when it became part of the more formal peace process.

A focus on critical sectors that require island-wide response reflected ACT's preoccupation with sustainability. At the outset, consideration was given to how each activity or set of activities would be transitioned to a local champion or institutional home. While sustainability is often conceived in terms of funding, ACT also undertook to ensure that activities would be sustained based on their relevance and importance to the communities. This is reflected in the fact that so many bicomunal project groups became part of the formal technical committees set up to support the peace process and in the choice of particular activities. For example, it is inconceivable that either side will allow cultural heritage sites restored with ACT support to fall back into disrepair. These positive changes are permanent.

To ensure overall success, ACT strove to maintain balance in its programming—a balance between the two sides, a balance between sectors and a balance in its project mix. Bricks-and-mortar work produced tangible results that created space for progressively ambitious programming in the same and other areas. Working with the Bishopric of Morphou to repair a historic vernacular building in the village of Peristerona was an opportunity for ACT to encourage bicomunal exchanges not just on the mud bricks of the structure, but on the cultural and economic activities to which the community centre would become home. With a facility only two kilometers from a checkpoint, it became possible for the villagers on both sides of the divide to meet and plan activities that would rekindle their severed cultural and economic ties. Groups crystalized around folk dance, organic farming and music, for example, because Greek Cypriots and Turkish Cypriots from the region came together during the course of the construction and had a venue to use.

Less a principle than a method of engagement, ACT took a strategic view of communications. Most obviously, all opportunities to participate were advertised as widely as possible. Besides echoing the transparency pursued through consultations, inviting all Cypriots to get involved was a fundamental way of letting them know what ACT aimed to do, what activities it would support and why. Beyond advertising opportunities and activities, ACT encouraged its partners to use novel public awareness campaigns and

public service announcements to get the word out about the positive changes they were working toward. In this way, Cypriots on both sides of the divide worked together to advance shared causes as well as global issues. Indeed, in some cases, the latter were good ways to advance the former. For example, the thought-provoking “Labels Are for Clothes” campaign used visuals and messages developed to combat stereotypes based on gender, race or sexual orientation. They were as relevant in Cyprus as elsewhere, but also served to challenge stereotypes of the “other” community without having to do so explicitly. Again, a new way to tackle the same problem.

NINE O’CLOCK NEWS IN 2030: ENTERTAINING MOCUMENTARY CAPTURES ATTENTION AND IMAGINATIONS

Set in the year 2030, the **Nine O’Clock News** mockumentary premiered on the International Day of Peace 2011. The brainchild of the Cyprus Chamber of Commerce and Industry and the Turkish Cypriot Chamber of Commerce, the film was a bold, pioneering attempt to highlight the benefits of a solution. Through its Interdependence initiative with the two chambers, ACT encouraged the use of imagination and humor to help Cypriots visualize the economic and social benefits of peace by illustrating the future possibilities in joint trade, tourism and cultural activity after reunification. This creative approach resonated widely across the island, capturing imaginations and challenging the naysayers. Why not a Nicosia United football club?

Emphasis was placed on helping partners develop their messaging and in building their capacity to tell their story. Dozens of civil society organizations and bicomunal teams were improving the quality of life across the island through collaboration; ACT worked to get the word out so that people outside of the groups directly involved began to appreciate the results. The use of a robust communications strategy and a varied basket of public diplomacy tools began to help change the narrative on contact and then on reconciliation. Contact with the “other” community could produce a positive outcome in terms of a fun street fair, a useful guidebook for walking around divided Nicosia and even an island-wide forest fire prevention plan. It could restore a monument or change a policy. These kinds of results raised the general public’s awareness, chipping away at stereotypes and challenging the long-held belief that nothing was possible to improve the climate between the two sides. By spreading the word about their activities, ACT and its partners enlarged the space for discussion and debate all within the context of contact between the two sides. Also important, public recognition of the work being accomplished also resulted in greater credibility for the civil society organizations working to mobilize people and resources for positive change.

CYPRIOTS UNITE TO FIGHT FIRE

Working together, with the support of ACT, Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot fire and rescue experts developed the first joint action plan for combating fires in and around the UN-patrolled Buffer Zone that divides the island. This landmark effort grew out of discussions in the Technical Committee on Environmental Issues facilitated by UNDP ACT. It paired experts from both sides with residents of areas most at risk from fire. Using a participatory approach and local expertise, this bicomunal endeavour resulted in a common database and a comprehensive plan that will ensure improved response to the kinds of fires that had in the past challenged on-the-ground response and decimated acres of forest and agricultural land. By raising public awareness, involving volunteers and ensuring better communication over the Green Line, ACT was able to get this group to pioneer a joint solution to a shared problem. Besides addressing a matter of life-and-death, this initiative served to exemplify the kind of Greek Cypriot-Turkish Cypriot collaboration that should underpin a settlement to the island's longstanding division.

V. KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

After ten years of ACT programming, the island of Cyprus remains divided. This is true, but it is also true that the prospects for peace are dramatically improved thanks to the work of ACT and its partners across the island. Through the promotion of mutual understanding, respect and the tangible benefits of cooperation, ACT has transformed the landscape, making it more fertile for reconciliation. Without it there would be a dearth of experience in making collaboration work. Indeed, there would be far fewer examples of success to point to when debunking the myth that Greek Cypriots and Turkish Cypriots cannot live, work, study, create or prosper together. Through ACT, Cypriots have forged habits of cooperation and developed roadmaps for change, all of which now serve to inspire and complement progress in the political process.

ACT's objective was to promote peace and cooperation between the island's physically separated Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot communities. It was one of the few significant sources of support for bicomunal activities on the island and funded everything from youth camps that provided individual Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot children with their first life-changing encounter with someone from the "other" side to mentoring the negotiators themselves through a 2014 trip to South Africa to hear directly from those who dismantled apartheid. In addition to a database full of projects that improved quality of life on the island through bicomunal collaboration, ACT's legacy includes the vast network of capable people and organizations that will ultimately ensure that any political agreement results in an enduring peace for the island. Because of ACT's support to Cypriot civil society especially, the participation genie is out of the bottle; Cypriots are more involved and demanding their say at all levels, especially with regard to their future.

Annex I outlines in detail the multiple and varied projects and activities successfully implemented with ACT's support between 2005 and 2015. All of these are likewise part of the robust and interactive archive of peacebuilding activities available through the Mahallae platform for ease of access and reference. Each activity represents a contribution to Cyprus and a bridge over a divide. Each represents a series of interactions—in the form of meetings, games, festivals, conferences—that defied the division of the island with many of them producing a tangible output in the form of a book, volume, CD, database, work of art, documentary, library or public awareness campaign. Beyond that, many of the projects resulted in the transformation of actual facilities, buildings and monuments, improving them for use in the present and preserving them for future generations to enjoy. Yet other initiatives resulted in a policy change that will pay dividends for Cypriots well into the future whether it is in modernizing the legal framework for non-governmental organizations or adopting international best practices to support families with children suffering with attention deficit disorder or adults with severe handicaps. The Association for Historical Dialogue and Research's groundbreaking supplementary educational materials for example are a lasting and timeless resource for use by educators in classrooms across the island now and well into the future. Overall, the long list of ACT's peace-oriented activities has contributed to opening and maintaining countless channels of communication between Cyprus' communities. The breadth of these activities speaks to how extensive ACT's reach has been, directly and indirectly, into the many corners of Cyprus' polity, economy and societies.

CYPRIOI TEACHERS MAKE HISTORY

Through the ACT-supported Multiperspectivity and Intercultural Dialogue in Education project, Greek Cypriots and Turkish Cypriots working together and with international experts produced innovative supplementary teaching materials available for use in classrooms across the island. Designed for educators, researchers and students, the materials—available in Greek, Turkish and English—can be used in a variety of settings and cover key topics in Cyprus’ history. They introduce multi-perspective approaches to the teaching and learning of history and address some controversial topics in a constructive—indeed transformative—manner. Rather than perpetuate stereotypes and conflict, these materials foster intercultural dialogue while developing historical understanding and critical thinking. Perhaps as importantly, children and teachers who use these materials see that history can and should be fun; it isn’t about memorizing data and facts, but about journeying into the past and bringing lessons into the present. Some of the materials available from AHDR include: ***Thinking Historically about Missing Persons***; ***Learning to Investigate the History of Cyprus through Artefacts***; ***The Ottoman Period in Cyprus***; ***Our Children Our Games***; ***Introducing Oral History***; and the ***Nicosia is Calling...*** series.

CHANGE AT DIFFERENT LEVELS

Some activities—like the various camps that brought Cypriot youth together either on island to play a sport, do an experiment or paint a picture or off-island to meet peers from other conflicted societies—changed individuals, sometimes profoundly. Many of these individuals then touched others and were motivated to get and stay involved either in a cause or a civil society organization, often working on projects related to reconciliation. Several budding filmmakers and writers have worked to document these experiences. The stories are as effective in their retelling through documentaries or blogs, like the ***Images of the Future*** film produced by Chrystalla Avgoustis in 2009. There is a multiplier effect every time someone watches the DVDs or the YouTube clips that capture these moments of exploration, self-awareness, and transformation.

In some cases, what began as something of an experiment—using basketball to help kids from different sides of a conflict better understand one another, for example—proved to be effective in advancing tolerance and in mobilizing action. In 2005, ACT took a risk in supporting a feasibility study and pilot programme by Peace Players International, an organization with experience in other conflict settings, but new to Cyprus. That “Playing for Peace” activity grew into Peace Players Cyprus, a locally run NGO with a bicomunal board and a variety of sponsors that is now a mainstay of bicomunal youth programming with years of experience in bringing Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot young people together on and off the basketball court. ACT’s bet paid off; Peace Players Cyprus has reached hundreds of Cypriot young people and continues to make a difference.

HOME FOR COOPERATION IS HUB OF BICOMMUNAL ACTIVITY

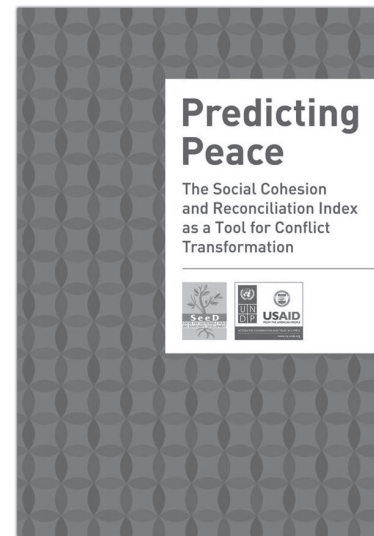
Uniquely situated in the UN-patrolled Buffer Zone that still divides Nicosia, the Home for Cooperation has become a hub of activity that emphasizes dialogue and understanding not just on the island, but between Cypriots and the rest of the world. Since opening its doors in 2011, the Home has literally become “home” to several civil society organizations, including the Home’s founder, the Association for Historical Dialogue and Research (AHDR). The Home is a comfortable and bustling meeting place for those working towards reconciliation at all levels. Daily it serves as a venue for the countless events that bring together people from all over the island and the globe. The Home for Cooperation—Education and Research Centre was purchased and restored by AHDR with funding from a number of donors including ACT who also provided institutional and project support to AHDR. The Home for Cooperation is the first centre of its kind on the divided island and stands as a symbol of how collective efforts on the part of civil society can bring about meaningful and lasting change even in the otherwise “dead zone”.

Other ACT activities resulted in the establishment of a physical space or a solid relationship that has become part of the architecture underpinning bicomunal contact now and into the future. No one can imagine a Nicosia without the Home for Cooperation in the Buffer Zone across from the Ledra Palace straddling the different communities as well as the lines between public and private space. Where would dialogue between the two sides on important trade and commercial issues be without the solid and ongoing cooperation between the Cyprus Chamber of Commerce and Industry and the Turkish Cypriot Chamber of Commerce?

Yet other activities supported by ACT revolutionized sectors, introducing island-wide, integrated strategies to shared problems that could not be addressed otherwise. Bicomunal teams solved common environmental, health, economic, educational or engineering problems benefitting the island as a whole. Besides the results of these projects, the teams that implemented them have since become the nuclei around which continued bicomunal progress is being made. For example, many of the experts involved in ACT’s environmental initiatives are now active members of the Technical Committee on Environmental Issues supporting the negotiations. Likewise, many of the members of the Technical Committees on Cultural Heritage and Crime and Criminal Matters have experience working together on ACT-supported initiatives. In these and other fields, ACT has put into place the ‘soft’ infrastructure that is able to respond to openings and will be able to overcome the challenges posed by the implementation of any settlement. ACT’s investment in these relationships is and will continue to pay off by providing experience and a solid track record of success on which to build.

Other ACT projects resulted in contributions to international scholarship—putting Cyprus into perspective and linking Cypriots to the region and beyond. Perhaps the best example is the Social Cohesion and Reconciliation Index (SCORE). Inspired by Cyprus’ experience, SCORE has developed a methodology that is relevant to other conflict settings and is currently being replicated in places as diverse as Bosnia and Herzegovina, Nepal and Ukraine. The SCORE results for Cyprus are salient for the dynamics

of conflict on the island, but they are also proving instructive in other conflict and transition settings and with them so too is the expertise of the local analysts who have been involved. In a similar vein, ACT's support first to the "Power of One" conference in October 2012 and then to the "Build Peace" conference in April 2015 allowed Cypriot organizations to forge regional and international links. Through these, not only does Cyprus recognize its potential as a crossroads between regions, but its civil society organizations are able to broaden their perspectives and widen their networks. One of the results of the "Power of One" conference that included over 200 people from 28 countries in central and eastern Europe, the Middle East and North Africa was five inter-regional partnerships that worked to address common problems inhibiting the development of civil society. These opportunities to collaborate globally provided Cypriot civil society organizations with much-needed perspective as well as new opportunities and more access, including in working towards sustainability.



INDICATORS OF SUCCESS

Beyond the number of meetings, projects and tangible outputs documented in annual reports and summarized in Annex I, what has ACT achieved? Actually solving the Cyprus Problem was clearly beyond its means and scope. That said, what ACT did do was make the Cyprus Problem easier to solve by improving dialogue, communication, understanding and ultimately trust between the two sides. While the job is by no means done, the on-island climate is far better for ACT's work. This has been reflected in various UN Secretaries General's reports on UNFICYP and on his mission of good offices in Cyprus to the Security Council over the years as well as several studies, evaluations and articles.

Unfortunately, despite the impressive number of physical crossings since the checkpoints were opened in 2003, 64% of Greek Cypriots and 51% of Turkish Cypriots reported not having any form of actual contact with people who live on the "other side" in the 2013 Trust Survey conducted for ACT by CYMAR Market Research and Prologue Consulting. A further 20% in each community would characterize contact as "incidental". Surveys further confirmed that the majority in both communities were reluctant to socialize with members of the "other" community; only 16% of Greek Cypriots report socializing with Turkish Cypriots while 40% of Turkish Cypriots socialize with Greek Cypriots. In terms of openness to various types of coexistence, almost 60% of Greek Cypriots accepted having neighbours or colleagues from the other community as well as having their children attend mixed schools. The majority of Turkish Cypriots however rejected these coexistence propositions. Both sides overwhelmingly rejected the possibility of having a boss from the other community (61% Greek Cypriot; 73% Turkish Cypriot) and disapproved of mixed marriages for their children/siblings (83% Greek Cypriot; 73% Turkish Cypriot).

TRUST TAKES TIME

By 2015, 83% of Greek Cypriots and 70% of Turkish Cypriots agreed that bicomunal activities have helped the two communities come closer together.

2015 Trust Survey, ACT

That is the bad news. The good news is that a noteworthy majority of Greek Cypriots (67%) and Turkish Cypriots (78%) shared the view that contact with members of the other community has a positive outcome on trust levels. Surveys confirmed that when contact takes place in a professional or bicomunal setting—like that provided by ACT activities—it is meaningful enough to change minds. As a result, bicomunal activities significantly improve relations and mutual understanding between the two communities and promote reconciliation and peaceful coexistence. According to a majority of Greek Cypriots (89%) and Turkish Cypriots (62%), participation in bicomunal events has a positive impact on the level of trust while a significant number of respondents in both communities (74% of Greek

Cypriots and 55% of Turkish Cypriots) view bicomunal activities as important contributors to the reconciliation process. According to the 2015 Trust Survey, the majority of Greek Cypriots (83%) and Turkish Cypriots (70%) credit bicomunal activities as having helped the two communities come closer together. Trust survey data confirms that even superficial contact at bicomunal activities can have a net positive impact on trust levels between members of the two communities. Contact changes people's attitudes and challenges the longstanding beliefs that can capture so many in the old-fashioned "ethno-nationalist" traps that have long hindered reconciliation. While it is impossible to disaggregate trust figures and other polling results to know what percentage difference may have been made by ACT specifically, it is clear that by creating so many opportunities for contact, ACT has had a positive influence on attitudes and trust levels. In so doing, it has improved the climate in which the two sides are negotiating and the likelihood that any agreement will result in lasting peace.

Participation and interest in activities organized by ACT and its partners increased steadily from ACT I to ACT II to ACT III, tapering off as the programme's resources contracted with ACT CCE. This is reflected in the participation figures as well as in the amount and depth of the press coverage on both sides of the divide. In addition to considering the number of participants in organized events, it is worth noting that ACT was effective at using social media tools and platforms to reach out to a growing and increasingly diverse audience. ACT tracked website, online film and YouTube views as well as Facebook connections as some indication of success in reaching different demographics. These numbers rose consistently. The Mahallae platform in particular has served to keep the peacebuilding community informed and networked while individual initiatives employ Facebook and other sites to quickly disseminate and exchange information. It is another of ACT's accomplishments that trying to engage effectively with the public has become second nature for all of its partners. They appreciate the importance of using the strategic communications tools that ACT itself has been using to amplify its messages.

Another indicator of ACT's success is the number of its partners now in positions of influence. Both individually and at the organizational level, ACT is represented through those it has worked with in the mainstream media, on the technical committees and working groups supporting the talks process, on the Boards of influential organizations and in consultative committees in countless areas. Each of these partners brings with them the experience of having worked collaboratively over various divides—something that will serve them well in their current roles and indirectly, if not directly, contribute to positive change.

Likewise, the number of ACT partners that are recognized for their contribution to peace building and continue to do peace-related work, including by attracting donor funding, is an indication of ACT's success in building civil society's capacity to work towards and advocate for peace. As part of the EU-funded Cypriot Civil Society in Action Programme in 2011, INTRAC prepared the report, ***Building Trust across the Cyprus Divide: Stories of Cooperation*** on the role of civil society. Using case studies to document how civil society contributed to peace-building in Cyprus, the report cites seven examples of trust and peace building work worthy of note and praise—namely, the Management Centre of the Mediterranean, the NGO Support Centre, Akova Women's Association, the Association for Historical Dialogue and Research, the Cyprus Community Media Centre, Kontea Cultural Heritage Circle and the partnership between youth organizations HASDER and Soma Akriton. All seven were initially funded by UNDP, either through the BDP or ACT.

CAPTURING THE STORY OF CITIZEN PEACEMAKING IN CYPRUS

During the ten years of ACT, Cypriot civil society came to claim a partnership role with the politicians in navigating a route towards shared objectives and, more importantly, reconciliation and peace. Building on the efforts of the first bicomunal pioneers, Cyprus' civil society activists developed the confidence and the skills to begin to challenge the status quo of Cyprus' division which included the social norms of non-interaction and non-recognition. This evolution in its global context is described in detail in a monograph entitled ***Citizen Peacemaking in Cyprus: The Story of Co-operation and Trust Across the Green Line*** published in 2013. Mahatma Gandhi is quoted as saying that "it is the action, not the fruit of the action, that is important...if you do nothing, there will be no result". ***Citizen Peacemaking in Cyprus*** outlines the actions and results of ACT in support of Cypriot civil society peace builders, documenting Cyprus' experience and contributing to international scholarship.

In the summer of 2015, a series of articles appeared in the international press reporting on the positive momentum generated by the renewed UN-facilitated talks process; they reflected the feeling that, for the first time in decades, an agreement is within reach. Without exception, all of the activists, civil society leaders, economists and analysts quoted in ***The New York Times*** and other publications were people who have worked with ACT in one way or another. In their comments, partners cited ACT-supported initiatives to illustrate signs of positive progress and hope—examples that prove peace is possible, examples to be replicated. In an article on 4 September 2015, lamenting ISIS' destruction of all "vestiges of history and heritage", the ***Financial Times*** cited the restored site of Hala Sultan Tekke mosque in the southern city of Larnaca as an example of one culture valuing and respecting another through site preservation and maintenance. The work at Tekke is noteworthy also for bringing together Greek Cypriots, Turkish Cypriots, Christians and Muslims; it was made possible by UNDP (mainly under BDP, but inaugurated under ACT). These references are important testimonials not just to ACT's accomplishments, but also to how far some partners have come in terms of being able and willing to go public in advocating for change.

EMPHASIS ON PARTICIPATION

On a fundamental level, ACT introduced participation at multiple levels—ensuring more and diverse voices are heard and demand to be heard from now on. By soliciting proposals from all quarters, ACT encouraged participation across society. People were invited to make a difference by working on things they cared about—improving waste management, saving endemic species, battling childhood diabetes, solving the “Cyprus Problem”, ensuring road safety, supporting traditional arts and culture or supporting sports activities. Throughout implementation, ACT adopted a participatory approach in the design, implementation and evaluation stages of projects. Through ACT, Cypriots participated in the crafting of actual solutions. Local communities were involved in every aspect of activities which helped to ensure that all perspectives were considered and that all stakeholders felt consulted. In most cases, this resulted in projects that had broad participation and deep resonance. While building consensus takes time within communities as well as between them, the resulting activities enjoyed more support and many continued even without ACT’s involvement. Projects in the communities of Kontea/Türkmenköy and Potamia and at the Armenian Church and Monastery and the Büyük Hamam for example brought together a wide range of interested parties; they took time to implement, but advanced mutual understanding in a meaningful and lasting way, introducing good international practices at the same time.

MULTIFACED RENEWAL SPANS DIVIDES

Following extensive consultations with stakeholders in the greater Famagusta region in 2013-2014, ACT designed an ambitious, multifaceted project to develop the economic and social potential of this artificially divided, underserved region through practical collaboration between Greek Cypriots and Turkish Cypriots. Many engaging bicommunally for the first time, the residents of Deryneia and the walled city of Famagusta collaborated on a wide variety of initiatives that provided important skills, broke down barriers, cultivated relationships, built trust and demonstrated the benefits of reconciliation. The Regional Network for Inter-communal Livelihoods (RENEWAL) bridged generational, communal, social, economic and geographical divides through activities that met the needs of the area’s residents while cultivating their shared interests and capturing their imaginations. Through public-private partnerships and with strong community involvement on both sides of the divide, RENEWAL sponsored a wide range of activities that used sports, the arts, food, tourism, technology and entrepreneurship to develop the capacity and networks of hundreds of Famagustians of all ages, professions and walks of life. In the words of one of the many participants, RENEWAL “helped us change for the better as people and as a community—now we can help change our island!”

At the level of the peace-making process, ACT was able build on the strong civil society networks developed over ten years of programming to respond to calls from both communities for more transparency. While almost all Cypriots reported supporting a peace process, few felt that it reflected their hopes and fears. Few felt heard. According to survey results, an overwhelming majority of citizens in both communities expressed the opinion that their leaders pay little or no attention to the voices

of ordinary citizens (90% in the Greek Cypriot community and 83% in the Turkish Cypriot community according to the 2012 CYMAR Market Research/Prologue Consulting results). The peace process had yet to be understood as something that concerned everyone—the whole of society—not just the political elites directly involved in it. While paradigm shifts do not happen overnight, ACT succeeded in putting into place a consultation mechanism that will ensure broader participation in peace building and peace making. The groundbreaking Cyprus Dialogue Forum is one of ACT’s most enduring accomplishments particularly because of the diversity of organizations included and the sense of local ownership that underpins its work. The creation of a mechanism like the Cyprus Dialogue Forum—combined likely with the change in leaderships in 2014 and 2015—has resulted in a larger percentage of Cypriots feeling “heard” by their leaders. According to the 2015 Trust Survey, 48% of Greek Cypriots and 25% of Turkish Cypriots perceive that their leaders do not at all listen to the voices of ordinary citizens.

TOWARDS MORE INCLUSIVE AND MORE EFFECTIVE PEACEMAKING: CYPRUS DIALOGUE FORUM

On-again, off-again for decades, the formal talks process is seen as distant by most people on both sides of Cyprus’ divide. While most Cypriots want a settlement, only a small minority feels consulted by their leaders or believes that a deal will actually address their hopes and fears. In an attempt to tackle this problem and create an inclusive space for structured dialogue to support and complement the formal negotiations, the Cyprus Dialogue Forum was created to bring together Cypriots from across the political spectrum, all walks of life and both sides of the Green Line. The Forum was formally launched in March 2015 after months of consensus building by local stakeholders, supported by ACT. With over 90 representatives of political parties, trade unions, business and professional associations and civil society participating, the Forum represents a turning point in the Cyprus peace process. For the first time, a space for broad-based participation and public debate exists to complement the formal negotiations process. Through the Forum, local stakeholders work together to resolve differences through the creation of joint visions and other instruments to support the infrastructure of peace. The Forum is working to strengthen the culture of dialogue and the flow of information between the wider public and the leaderships. At the same time, the Forum’s objective is to represent diverse public opinions to help shape the settlement talks and make the negotiations more credible with a skeptical public. The importance of such work is highlighted in several UN reports and the Forum’s inclusivity and solid local ownership have ensured that it enjoys the support of the negotiators in both communities. Having finalized the “Single Text” that governs its organization and function, the Forum will focus on three thematic areas in 2016—sociocultural development; economic growth; and human and community concerns. The intention is that the outcome of these deliberations will add momentum to the formal negotiations, and becoming a much-needed source of shared knowledge that will facilitate a more participatory peacemaking process. It is worth noting that over one quarter of the Forum’s participants are women and all participants are committed, as indicated in the statute, to encourage gender-balanced representation among members in order to help enhance women’s voices in the peace process in accordance with Security Council Resolution 1325.

One of the lessons to be learned from the ten years of ACT programming is that being able to cross the dividing line is necessary, but not sufficient for lasting reconciliation. Bicomunal contacts have

improved communication and forged habits of cooperation. Building each side's capacity to compromise and collaborate is essential to getting to a settlement and then to making that settlement stick. Confidence is built as, if not more, effectively from the bottom up than from the top down. By actively countering the taboos that exist in engaging with the "other" side—be it by buying their products, discussing their perceptions of historical events or working together on an environmental or cultural issues—ACT-supported activities have done as much as any large-scale confidence building measure to advance settlement and long-term peace.

PARTICIPATION PRESERVES UNIQUE PART OF CYPRUS' HISTORY: POTAMIA VILLAGE

Together, the Greek Cypriots and Turkish Cypriots of Potamia village put into practice the principles of participatory planning and used them as a means for reconciliation. In the middle of the divided island of Cyprus, the community of Potamia is one of the only remaining mixed villages where members of the two communities live in relative harmony. Its residents recognize the power and the potential of working together to preserve the past while building the future. Through the Potamia Heritage Project, and with support from ACT, the community implemented an ambitious plan to capture the story of Potamia and showcase it as a model of coexistence. Through town hall-type gatherings and public outreach, the community worked to mobilize support and resources for other activities, becoming an inspiring example of participatory planning and conflict resolution at the community level.

VI. CHALLENGES, REFLECTIONS AND CONCLUSIONS

Implementing a peace building programme in Cyprus during the decade 2005 to 2015 proved challenging for different reasons. The first is inherent to the task. Improving the prospects for peace on this long-divided and complicated island requires addressing the root causes of the conflict itself, which include suspicion, distrust and intolerance. Over time, these have been exacerbated first by a lack of contact and then by the type of superficial interaction that has characterized relations since the opening of the checkpoints in 2003. In trying to actively, intentionally and creatively build bridges between Greek Cypriots and Turkish Cypriots, ACT had to identify, confront and work to overcome deep-seated and entrenched views—some often reinforced by negative stereotypes and corrosive inequalities. Overcoming prejudices is not easy, especially when they may not be acknowledged. The complex relations and attitudes between the two sides in particular have been shaped by generations; they will take years to revise. Recognizing this, ACT designed a multi-faceted strategy that tried to target some of the root causes of the conflict while at the same time working to overcome practical obstacles and creating new dynamics in inter-communal relations. This takes time. Results can be slow to materialize, difficult to track and impossible to quantify.

Another challenge for ACT was working in a climate of skepticism. Many approach reconciliation and conflict resolution programming and concepts with suspicion—some dismissing them outright as naïve and misguided. Cypriots on both sides and throughout society also share a suspicion of outsiders, including—if not especially—those who fund and support bicomunal activities. Additionally, although there has been and continues to be enthusiastic support for charitable causes on both sides, setting public policy is seen as the purview of the government and politicians. As a result, the public is still unsure of the role of civil society organizations—ACT's main partners. For these reasons, it was essential that ACT dedicate time and energy to messaging and to building the capacity of its partners to address any naysayers. To be effective, ACT and its partners needed to succeed not only in carrying out activities, but also in getting the word out about what was being done, why and how. Transparency and good, proactive communications required resources and informed expertise. That said, confronting and resolving issues before they became problematic worked and was successful in dispelling some of the cynicism.

One of the most vivid examples of this is also one of the most recent. As part of the diverse basket of activities implemented under the Regional Network for Inter-Communal Livelihoods (RENEWAL) project, a Greek Cypriot and a Turkish Cypriot artist collaborated on wall mural projects in Deryneia and Famagusta. This activity was designed to engage schoolchildren from both communities in a collaborative process that would leave behind colourful symbols of cooperation and understanding between the two neighbouring communities artificially separated by the Buffer Zone. (See *Figure 4.*) Through its network, the RENEWAL team became aware of negative and threatening coverage of the event on the social media pages of hardline, nationalist, anti-reconciliation (and sometimes violent) groups. Immediately, the team redoubled its information campaign underscoring the purpose of the activity, using the social media and traditional word-of-mouth. Instead of being dissuaded, the community's reaction was one of wholehearted support. The local authorities, community leaders and ordinary citizens took an active interest in the activity and participated, offering both encouragement and 'protection' to the artists, the participants, the murals and, most importantly, the sentiment behind the activity. Had the RENEWAL team not been able to diffuse the situation, an activity meant to build confidence could easily have turned into something that eroded relations within as well as between the communities and dissuaded participation the next time.

As discussed in other parts of this report, Cypriot civil society organizations have made significant and irreversible strides forward in the last decade. They are at the forefront of change—mobilizing people and resources to try to promote human rights; improve standards of living; protect the environment; and advocate for better public health and education. Most importantly from ACT’s perspective, many of them strive to advance the reconciliation process that is essential to lasting peace. However, their work is still limited by their small size, their fledgling nature and a lack of resources for the sector. Corporate social responsibility programmes, public-private partnerships and EU programmes all offer opportunities through which the civil society sector can continue to grow and network.

By definition, ACT’s activities were meant to complement the UN-facilitated peace process, which had its up and downs, presenting ACT with another challenge during its ten years of programming. ACT had defined objectives and had to make consistent progress towards its targets. But, it was inevitably affected by the ebbs and flows of the formal talks process. At times when the talks seemed stalled or relations between the two sides deteriorated, interest in and enthusiasm for peace building waned. Conversely, when things seemed to be moving in a positive direction on the talks front, interest increased along with people’s (sometimes unrealistic) expectations. On the one hand, ACT was able to contribute directly, materially and substantially to the peace process throughout and especially when the political situation provided openings for small and large confidence-building initiatives. On the other hand, however, ACT’s resources and partners were often pulled in competing directions. If key project partners were also critical to the work of a technical committee, for example, progress on a particular ACT activity was slower than planned. During the intensive period of 2008-2009, for example, when the leaders were meeting weekly and relying on the working groups and technical committees to address many technical issues, ACT was called upon to provide facilitation and support on multiple fronts. Both staff and partners were in the thick of things. With its flexibility and experience, ACT was uniquely placed to overcome the hurdles that can impede bicomunal progress. As a result, it was a natural source of support and expertise.

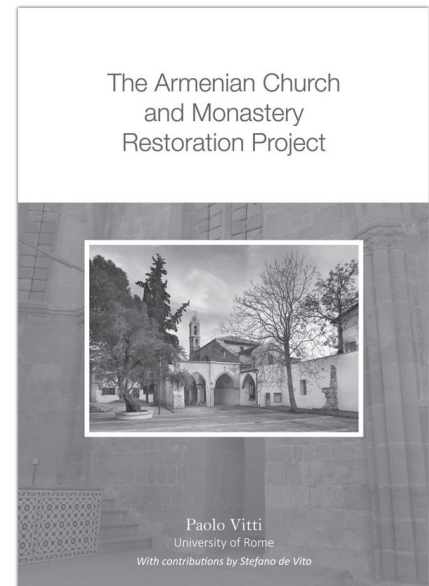
Without ACT’s experience and flexibility, none of the major confidence-building measures undertaken by the two sides since 2008—for example, the opening of a checkpoint in Limnitis/Yeşilirmak, the establishment of a Joint Communications Room to combat crime and the restoration of Apostolos Andreas to name a few—would have been possible. In the case of Limnitis/Yeşilirmak, when donor funding was slow to materialize, the good will created by the announcement of the opening of the new checkpoint was at risk of dissipating. ACT was able to respond with a contribution of nearly \$900,000 that made it possible to begin works and capitalize on the agreement to build much-needed confidence between the two sides. The importance of this and other talks-related confidence-building measures is documented in the UN Secretary General’s periodic reports to the Security Council. Likewise, while ACT’s contribution to the latest restoration project for Apostolos Andreas was small, it was instrumental. It established the multi-donor fund that made it possible for the Church of Cyprus and the Cyprus Foundations Administration to together fund the project implemented by UNDP Partnership for the Future.

As discussed, ACT’s successes reflect a consensus-building approach meant to cultivate a true sense of ownership on the part of partners. Doing this right often took time. Local buy-in is essential, but can be slow to materialize. This was a continual challenge for ACT. In the case of individual projects,

it was often necessary to bring various stakeholders along—stakeholders with varying if not conflicting viewpoints. To use one example, the strength of the Cyprus Dialogue Forum—namely its inclusivity and solid local ownership—is its Achilles’ heel; it can be slow in meeting its milestones. Many criticize the Forum for taking months not weeks to finalize the “Single Text” governing its functions without fully appreciating the profound significance of it being able to bring together so many disparate voices for the first time.

For ACT, ensuring constructive dialogue and exchange was the point. In most cases, it might have been easier and faster for ACT to simply get on with a particular activity itself—hiring a contractor to repair a building for example. As ‘efficient’ as this approach might have been, it would not have been effective in reaching ACT’s objectives. Cultural heritage initiatives illustrate this point most effectively. The restoration of the fourteenth century Armenian Church and Monastery complex in northern Nicosia, for example, would have taken far less time if ACT had treated it as a construction project. It didn’t. Instead, this was an opportunity to bring Armenian Cypriots, Greek Cypriots and Turkish Cypriots together with international experts to confront not just an architectural challenge, but the broader problems related to the use of shared space and the respectful care and use of cultural heritage sites on a divided island. Each step from the initial assessment of the structures on the site through to the planning for their use after the completion of the repairs was an opportunity ACT used to advance understanding and promote dialogue among a wide and varied group of stakeholders. Cultural heritage initiatives like this and those focused on the Orthodox chapel of St. Neophytos and the Maronite church of the Prophet Elias introduced religious leaders and faith-based groups to the mix of those working together to address a shared concern. These groups had had little to no previous contact and few if any tangible reasons to collaborate. Dialogue on these projects began breaking down barriers and wearing the groove that has since become a solid and regular channel of communication between religious leaders on the island.

Overall, ACT was challenged to maintain the right mix of urgency and patience. Urgency was dictated by the ongoing division and political dynamics; there was no time to lose in trying to improve the climate for settlement and peace. At the same time, patience was essential in overcoming the obstacles that presented themselves throughout the development and implementation of activities.



HIGH RISK, BUT HIGH PAY-OFF: A CASE STUDY OF CULTURAL HERITAGE INTERVENTIONS

While saving cultural heritage was never a main objective of ACT, some of the most tangible and recognizable examples of its commitment to peace are the monuments and sites where Cypriots from across the island and its political and ethnic divides toiled together for the sake of preserving a shared past and shaping a common future. Indeed, some of the programme's most compelling results are borne out of collaboration in the politically charged and often controversial field of cultural heritage.

Early on, the appeal of joint cultural heritage activities became evident and their potential to contribute to mutual understanding obvious. Physically separated and increasingly estranged, Greek Cypriots and Turkish Cypriots welcomed opportunities to improve both the quality of life and the possibility of dialogue in the divided capital of Nicosia, for example. Under the Nicosia Master Plan, UNDP supported brick-and-mortar work on the Venetian walls that surround the city as well as on dozens of historic properties within it. These are early examples of the power of cultural heritage to inspire cross-cultural collaboration even in the absence of progress on the political front and in the face of impossible circumstances. BDP and ACT facilitation (and funding), inspired local leadership, and sustained commitment made it possible for the two sides to cooperate in conceiving, planning, and implementing projects that restored individual buildings (including Taht-el-kale Mosque, the Shadow Theatre Museum, Ayios Neophytos church, and the Büyük Hamam), documented and stabilized sections of the UN-patrolled Buffer Zone and revitalized entire neighborhoods (Chrysaliniotissa and Arab Ahmet) or village centres (Peristerona, Kontea/Türkmenköy).

Beyond improving some of the physical elements of the island's shared cultural heritage, these activities confirmed what polls would later quantify—namely that an overwhelming majority of Cypriots see the protection of cultural heritage as an effective way to build the confidence of one community in the other. In fact, a 2008 public opinion survey noted that a staggering 92 percent of Greek Cypriots and 72 percent of Turkish Cypriots believe that protecting the cultural heritage of one community that is located within the territory of the other is an important way to improve understanding over the dividing line (Kaymak, Lordos and Tocci 2008).

While any settlement would ultimately be reached at the political level, ACT recognized that it would be up to Cypriots from both communities to implement any agreement and to ensure that what results is an enduring peace for the island. In the meantime, however, ways were needed for the two sides to work cooperatively in order to begin solving shared day-to-day problems regardless of, though not at odds with, the political process. Forging channels of communication and habits of cooperation could in fact pave the way for common action in any post-settlement arrangement while reinforcing the ongoing political processes by demonstrating the benefits of working together in the immediate term. Both sides could point to the results of bi-communal cultural heritage activities as proof that understanding exists and progress is possible. The inverse was also true in that Cypriots visiting orphaned sites on the other side of the dividing Green Line after 2003 were profoundly affected by the state of monuments, places of worship, and cemeteries. Addressing neglected and decaying sites of

cultural importance would serve to remove an irritant in fledgling contact between the two communities.

While there were lots of good reasons to support cultural heritage initiatives, including public support, forging the consensus necessary to implement preservation and restoration projects on both sides of the Green Line proved to be a Herculean task. The Greek Cypriots were reluctant to endorse Turkish-Cypriot work on cultural patrimony while the Turkish Cypriots were reticent to embrace international assistance in this area.

In order to be able to work in this high-risk, but high-payoff, field of cultural heritage in support of a settlement, it was necessary to calibrate every action carefully and to consider and avoid a long list of not-always obvious sensitivities on both sides of the Green Line and within the different communities. A prudent respect for each side's "red lines" made it possible to take on increasingly complicated projects that sought to intensify the level of engagement by and between multiple stakeholders at each step. ACT can boast a long list of cultural heritage accomplishments from supporting the (relatively simple) restoration of a traditional mud-brick building in a rural village to the (more complex) stabilization of the fourteenth-century Armenian Church and Monastery complex.

Local leadership was critical to success. ACT's work far exceeded expectations for what could be accomplished in this sensitive space in large part because of the capable local managers ACT employed and because of the support of carefully cultivated local champions. For example, the Bishopric of Morphou, the past and current residents of Kontea/Türkmenköy village, and the Cyprus Foundations Administration (EVKAF) were committed to the shared objective of protecting and preserving threatened cultural heritage such that they were willing to overcome the serious political difficulties in undertaking this work and then seeing it through.

ACT helped Cypriots protect, enhance, and enjoy the places that matter to them in order to facilitate cooperation, remove a thorn in the side of relations between the two and develop local capacity. Better managed cultural heritage sites can generate not only increased interest, but also resources for additional work in this area as well as for economic development more generally. ACT leaves behind dozens of sites across the island that stand as shining examples of cooperation. They testify to what is possible despite the conflict, division, mistrust, and all the associated complications. The models employed to build consensus in places like Kontea/Türkmenköy were successful and are being replicated now by groups of Cypriots committed to their shared cultural heritage. Furthermore, the nature of heritage projects is such that the tangible accomplishments left behind ensure that the next activity at that site will start at a better place and the list of successes to which one can refer when undertaking a similar project is longer and more convincing. Downturns on the political front cannot dismantle or otherwise undo the repair or restoration of a site.

Perhaps even more importantly, the results of the ACT's investments in Cyprus' cultural heritage include the networks of people who have the experience of working together. Beyond promoting mutual understanding, these projects have formed habits of cooperation—something that is essential to future coexistence. A testament to the importance of this work and the significance of its results is the establishment (and success) of the bi-communal

Technical Committee on Cultural Heritage in Cyprus. With funding from the European Union, also through UNDP Partnership for the Future, the Committee is working to implement a series of practical measures for the proper maintenance, preservation, physical protection, and restoration of the immovable cultural heritage of Cyprus. Even while formal talks were on hold, the committee's work continued improving conditions site by site.

Preserving Cyprus' cultural heritage has proven to be an effective unifying force—a unique way through which the two sides demonstrate respect for the “other,” build the goodwill essential to any future settlement, and save elements of the island's past that are in danger of being lost forever. Part of the ACT's legacy is the sites—mud-brick vernacular buildings, medieval chapels of various denominations and Ottoman baths—that it has helped preserve for future generations.

Annex I:
ACT Results Framework
2005-2015

ACT Phase I – Moving Beyond the BDP 2005-2008

Project Name/ Lead Partner(s)	Background	Objectives	Results
<i>Civil Society</i>	<p>Various research initiatives carried out by the Bi-Communal Development Programme, including the CIVICUS Civil Society Index (CSI) study in 2005, assessed the state of civil society in Cyprus, mapping out its strengths and weaknesses within the Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot communities. CIVICUS 2005 highlighted a series of structural difficulties and limitations that hindered the engagement of CSOs in decision-making processes. This project aimed to strengthen the capacity and advocacy capabilities of CSOs in order to advance civic engagement and promote cooperation and trust between the communities.</p>	<p>Through the provision of training programmes, consultancy services, coaching opportunities and the organization of events, to address priority issues such as the strengthening of the capacity of CSOs to advance civic engagement in Cyprus, and to create opportunities to promote community participation, cooperation, dialogue and trust within the Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot communities.</p>	<p>This project implemented a series of organizational capacity building programmes to improve the effectiveness of CSOs in Cyprus. The extensive experience and knowledge gained by the participants strengthened the capacity of CSOs on the island to promote civic engagement, cooperation and trust in both Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot communities, thereby strengthening the role of civil society as a key actor in increasing citizen dialogue and participation in decisions affecting the country's future.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 370 civil society organizations trained - 679 individuals trained - 120 civil society organizations received technical assistance
<p>Dissemination and follow up to the CIVICUS Civil Society Index for Cyprus</p>	<p>The CIVICUS civil society index was conducted in 2005 and found that Cypriot Civil Society needed to be strengthened and made more effective to support democratic citizen participation. This project sought to share the information already uncovered by the Civil Society Index (CSI) to encourage further dialogue about some of the key issues about Cypriot Civil Society.</p>	<p>Through dissemination and dialogue, to strengthen civil society through ongoing interaction amongst experts from both communities of the island. To share the CIVICUS research to better understand the complexities of civil society and stimulate dialogue within civil society, the private sector and amongst decision-makers. Helping to promote and build a strong civil society is a key feature of a healthy modern democratic society.</p>	<p>This project contributed to the strengthening of inter-communal relationships between the Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot communities through the joint collaboration of experts from both sides of the island while sharing the CIVICUS research. The results were used in the design of the civil society strengthening programme and helped raise awareness about the issues faced by Cypriot civil society.</p>

Project Name/ Lead Partner(s)	Background	Objectives	Results
<p>Cyprus Art Competition</p> <p>UNDP-ACT</p>	<p>The social expression of modern society is often most eloquently communicated through the medium of art. In Cyprus as in other post-conflict societies, art has played an important role in reconciliation efforts.</p>	<p>Through an island-wide arts competition, to provide a truly democratic platform to all Cypriots by allowing them to have a say on issues of common concern. The project allows people to express opinions and views on a range of topics through an artistic medium. It will give a voice to people across the island and will provide them with the chance to work with each other in collaboration with NGOs and other educational institutions.</p>	<p>This multicultural arts initiative encouraged tolerance and dialogue between Greek Cypriot, Turkish Cypriot, and other communities through education and communication, using art to promote awareness and discussion about issues that are of common concern to all Cypriots. Furthermore, it provided an opportunity for people from both communities to work together and in collaboration with other organizations, thus facilitating cooperation amongst all Cypriots.</p>
<p>International Civil Society Fair</p> <p>UNDP-ACT</p>	<p>A Civil Society Index for Cyprus (CIVICUS) report into the nature of civil society in Cyprus revealed that Cypriot Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) tended to work in relative isolation, with little or no interaction with each other and/or with other CSOs and networks in the international community. The only exceptions were the environmental CSOs. As a result, Cyprus was not benefitting from a diverse and locally and internationally networked civil society that can improve policy and quality of life in a number of areas.</p>	<p>Through the strengthening and formation of local and international CSO partnerships and networks, to raise the levels of active participation in civil society. Raising levels of active participation in civil society through the establishment of local and international CSO partnerships and networks serves to increase citizen dialogue and to strengthen a culture of reconciliation and support.</p>	<p>The international civil society fair raised awareness between CSOs and encouraged more collaboration, between both Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot organizations as well as between Cypriot and international organizations. The creation of local (and international) CSO partnerships and networks is expected to further strengthen the culture of reconciliation and cooperation between the Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot communities.</p> <p>1st International Civil Society Fair with 80 organizations and 2,000 visitors</p>
<p>Education Campaign on HIV/AIDS preventive measures</p> <p>RUBSI, CSRS, KAYAD, KENTHEA, and</p>	<p>The number of people with HIV/AIDS throughout Cyprus is increasing. Despite a fairly high level of knowledge relating to HIV/AIDS, there is still evidence of risky attitudes and behaviors among large proportions of the population in both communities. Furthermore,</p>	<p>This project aims to achieve the establishment and preservation of long-term cooperation between GC and TC CSOs, which will in turn lay the foundations for future partnerships between relevant stakeholders, and</p>	<p>This project informed and educated the public about the HIV virus and HIV/AIDS preventive measures through inter-communal and collaborative initiatives. It nurtured the partnerships between CSOs and decision makers across the divide and laid the foundation for</p>

Project Name/ Lead Partner(s)	Background	Objectives	Results
the Family Planning Association	despite some exchanges between the two communities, mainly through the intermediary of non-governmental organizations, there is currently no collaboration between the two communities in terms of properly and accurately informing people about the HIV virus.	initiate lasting collaboration at all levels (from both communities), for further educating the public about the HIV virus and HIV/AIDS preventive measures, so as to attempt to curb and reduce rising infections rates in Cyprus.	further collaboration.
ELT Enhancement in Primary Education Through Mentoring British Council	English Language Education has always played an important role in the education systems of both the Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot communities. Students begin learning English from the age of eight in the Turkish Cypriot community (TCC) and from approximately the age of nine in the Greek Cypriot community (GCC). This project will therefore involve the development and implementation of English Language Education initiatives within both communities in order to improve the standards of English language learning in all primary schools across the island and to better the communicative use of English by graduate students from these primary schools.	This project aims to increase the standards of English language learning within the GCC and TCC in order to improve the English language skills of primary school students throughout the island. The implementation of this collaborative educational initiative will consequently promote multiculturalism and dialogue between the two communities.	A core group of 30 mentors/trainers were trained and now offer their expertise and services to primary school teachers across the island. English language skills and teaching methodologies of primary school teachers in both communities increased.
Gene Net Cyprus Cyprus Institute of Neurology and Genetics	The Genetics Clinic in Cyprus was founded in 1995 and provides services at the Archbishop Makarios III Hospital and the Cyprus Institute of Neurology and Genetics (CING). From the start, the clinic has been providing clinical health care, along with educational and emotional support, to patients from both the Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot	To create networks and establish or expand existing bi-communal partnerships of patients, parents and health care professionals and undertake outreach campaigns in order to create new services and expand on the existing services already provided by the clinic, to the benefit of all Cypriots island-wide.	Inter-communal networks were developed and existing partnerships of patients, patient families and health care professionals were expanded. The project implemented outreach campaigns, as a means of encouraging active civic engagement and creating new services, as well as expanding existing services provided by the Genetic Clinic.

Project Name/ Lead Partner(s)	Background	Objectives	Results
	<p>communities. Currently the clinic is providing services to more than 2000 patients and families from all over Cyprus. For the care of Turkish Cypriot patients, the Genetics Clinic strives to collaborate with health care specialists from both communities. At present, there are several patients with similar and more common genetic conditions such as Down syndrome, as well as a number of patients with rarer genetic conditions. Furthermore, in the last few years there has been an increase in the number of Turkish Cypriot patients coming to the Genetics Clinic. Due to the influx of new patients, there has been an increase in the demand to create new services and expand the existing services already provided.</p>		<p>Leaflets and brochures were prepared as well as a website providing general information on common and rare genetic conditions, and on possible interventions where relevant, in Greek, Turkish and English.</p>
<p>Volunteer Network Management Centre of the Mediterranean (MC-Med)</p>	<p>The CIVICUS: Civil Society Index for Cyprus 2005 report revealed that Cypriots, on an informal level, do volunteer. However, numbers have shown that organized forms of volunteering are considerably low and acts of volunteerism that do occur seem to have no significant time commitment. On a larger scale, these findings reflect a weakness of the structure of civil society to engage, train and promote volunteers.</p>	<p>To establish a volunteer network composed of local and international Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) that is capable of promoting, supporting and celebrating civic engagement in volunteer action. Raising levels of active participation in civil society through the establishment of an island-wide volunteer network will serve to increase bi-communal citizen dialogue, thereby strengthening a culture of reconciliation and support.</p>	<p>By promoting volunteerism in Cyprus, the Volunteer Network Project encouraged Cypriots to use the skills they already possessed and create a powerful force capable of accomplishing real change and improvement. Such island-wide cooperation has encouraged more individuals to invest in the peaceful development of their communities and to establish new relationships with one another based on common interest.</p>

Project Name/ Lead Partner(s)	Background	Objectives	Results
<p>Civil Society Dialogue</p> <p>Cyprus EU Association</p>	<p>The Cyprus EU Association is an organization founded by experienced civil society volunteers. All of its founding members have been active in the community on different levels at different organizations.</p>	<p>To create a Civil Society Platform that will form the base to aggregate various bi-communal efforts that go unrecorded and uncoordinated as a way to bring together experienced civil society volunteers and young willing individuals to share experiences and learn from each other. To create a dialogue that will give civil society a common voice with regards to decisions affecting all Cypriots in all communities.</p>	<p>A Civil Society Platform was formed and provided exchanges, using structured dialogues, that gave civil society a common voice with regards to decisions affecting all communities island-wide.</p>
<p>Improving Health Care Response to Victims of Domestic Violence</p> <p>Frederick Research Centre</p>	<p>Often the public health consequences of domestic violence are overlooked. In order to ensure that the victims of domestic violence are being treated in the most effective way possible a review is required to ascertain where improvements can be made in the current health system.</p>	<p>To address the health response for victims of domestic violence. Assessing weaknesses within the current health system and making and implementing recommendations will lead to an improved service for all Cypriots. An education programme will also seek to inform the public of the effects of domestic violence and the services that are available to victims.</p>	<p>The promotion of dialogue between health care professionals in both communities strengthened bi-communal networking. Evaluations of the health services in the GCC were conducted and training was provided to health professionals island wide.</p> <p>The project promoted awareness, promoted networking and dialogue of health care professionals, and trained health care professionals on the effects and issues surrounding domestic violence.</p>
<p>Islandwide CSO Directory</p> <p>The Management Centre of the Mediterranean (MC-Med) and Intercollege.</p>	<p>A Civil Society Index for Cyprus (CIVICUS) report into the nature of civil society in Cyprus revealed that Cypriot Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) tended to work in relative isolation, with little or no interaction with each other and/or with other CSOs and networks in the international community.</p>	<p>To promote civic engagement and organizational networking by developing an island-wide CSO directory which will include CSOs in the Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot communities. It can be utilized as a comprehensive source of reference by local and international CSOs, the donor community, the public</p>	<p>The island-wide CSO directory promoted inter-communal and mono-communal organizational networking between CSOs locally and internationally and provided a comprehensive source of reference for those willing to engage in dialogue or partnerships with relevant CSOs.</p>

Project Name/ Lead Partner(s)	Background	Objectives	Results
		and private sectors, and others that require information about CSOs in Cyprus.	
<p data-bbox="109 424 398 563">Cyprus International Children's Organizations Network</p> <p data-bbox="109 611 349 715">Centre for the Study of Childhood and Adolescence (CSCA)</p>	<p data-bbox="439 424 965 563">Children's organizations in Cyprus are weak, needing organizational strengthening as well as better capacity to network across the island and internationally.</p>	<p data-bbox="1021 424 1491 603">To bring together local and international organizations, facilitate communication and strengthen wider community support to improve the lives of children in Cyprus.</p>	<p data-bbox="1541 424 2119 679">An interactive website facilitated the establishment of a strong multi-organizational network. This network created a forum for the exchange of ideas, the establishment of collaborations and the use of research findings to improve the lives of children in Cyprus and the broader region.</p>
<p data-bbox="109 759 342 863">Harmful and Addictive Habits Campaigns</p> <p data-bbox="109 911 320 975">Turkish Cypriot education experts</p>	<p data-bbox="439 759 965 1278">Drugs, psychologically harmful substances and smoking are all a threat to future generations. However, individuals from many countries are vulnerable to these habits due to a lack of knowledge. Dealing with alcohol and drug abuse has become a critical issue in many countries today, including Cyprus. With this project, various education experts, Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) and local authorities will collaborate to develop and implement a campaign for the general public, and an education programme for students, dealing with the prevention of harmful and addictive habits.</p>	<p data-bbox="1021 759 1491 1015">To educate the general public and the youth on the prevention of harmful and addictive habits such as alcohol and drugs. Alcohol and drug abuse is a common concern impacting both the Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot communities.</p>	<p data-bbox="1541 759 2119 1046">Education experts, a number of CSOs and other decision-makers raised awareness amongst the general public and the youth on the prevention of harmful and addictive habits using a campaign and education programme. The project contributed to cooperation and trust between the two communities by means of the establishment of the collaborative initiative.</p>
<p data-bbox="109 1323 389 1390">Childhood Lifestyles and Obesity</p> <p data-bbox="109 1437 286 1469">Cyprus Turkish</p>	<p data-bbox="439 1323 965 1461">Childhood obesity is a relatively recent phenomenon which poses a critical threat to the health of young people. A new generation is entering adulthood with unprecedented</p>	<p data-bbox="1021 1323 1491 1461">To promote the better health of children and young people in Cyprus by implementing a targeted education programme and providing tailored</p>	<p data-bbox="1541 1323 2119 1461">Through the provision of resources and expertise, this project helped the Cyprus Turkish Diabetes Association (CTDA) to improve their practices and achieve their mission. A survey</p>

Project Name/ Lead Partner(s)	Background	Objectives	Results
Diabetes Association, Cyprus Turkish Dieticians Association	levels of obesity. This increases concern that weight-related chronic diseases will be the most significant public health concern in the 21st century.	medical health services to treat childhood obesity and related illness.	was conducted, awareness was raised, and health and education materials were developed in partnership with policy makers at local and regional levels.
Health Care Needs Assessment of HIV in the Turkish Cypriot Community: Towards Prevention of HIV Cultural and Scientific Research Society	There is limited data available on the incidence and prevalence of infectious diseases in the Turkish Cypriot community (TCC). Data collected by primary health care experts (PHCE) is comprised of the number of cases, the number of new cases and the geographic distribution of infectious diseases. Though useful, such data is insufficient for providing evidence to ensure that health care resources go where they are most needed, have the greatest impact on improving health, and provide the best value for money. It is critical that health care needs assessments of HIV infection is carried out for effective prevention.	To improve services in order to positively impact HIV healthcare in the Turkish Cypriot community. The reporting, processing and storage of surveillance information on infectious diseases are inefficient in the TCC. Positive cases are currently reported, processed and stored in paper format which creates problems in the systematic monitoring of trends in HIV infection and generating community-wide statistics. It is important to enhance the technological infrastructure of health centres and accurate flow of information regarding infectious diseases in the TCC.	Results were shared with RUBSI (based in the GCC), who are undertaking an island wide educational campaign on HIV/AIDS. This project provided a base for cooperation and provided information on the type of interventions and measures needed in the TCC. It created and contributed to an environment for civic engagement. The project set an example and demonstrated the application of evidence-based approaches such as health care needs assessment in public health and set up cooperation networks and tools for future applications to emerging public health challenges such as HIV.
Chronic Disorders – Patient Rights and Quality of Care Thalassaemia International Federation (TIF)	The establishment of a baseline measure in regard to the rights of patients with chronic disorders and the delivery of quality care gives health experts a means to assess improvements in services following the implementation of a National Health Service in 2009. It provides key decision makers with information to assess the quality of health services offered to both communities so that Cypriot patients may benefit from a high standard of care.	The project aims to assess the current situation in Cyprus concerning the respect of patients' rights and the provision of quality care for patients with chronic disorders; detect weaknesses in both the current Cypriot legislation and service delivery in regard to the provision of quality care and respect of patients' rights; and make suggestions to improve and strengthen the care offered to those with chronic disorders.	The assessment was shared widely, raising awareness of patients' rights and providing a measure for comparison with other countries that have used the same standardized assessment tools. The matter of patients' rights is one that links all NGOs, and in this respect the networking and capacity developed through the collaboration with other NGOs, promoted permanent partnerships and increased the voice of NGOs throughout both communities.

Project Name/ Lead Partner(s)	Background	Objectives	Results
Organizational Strengthening - Turkish Cypriot Association of University Women (TCAUW)	TCAUW strives to help the Turkish Cypriot community to achieve administrative and managerial gender equality in all fields of life, to enable women's involvement in local and international society, to empower women's organizations, and to strengthen the civil society in the Turkish Cypriot community and in Cyprus as a whole.	To provide resources, expertise and know-how to TCAUW, which will enable it to not only improve its own practices and better achieve its mission, but will also allow it to support other CSOs with similar missions, contributing to civic engagement. To contribute to and promote civil society networking and civic engagement on gender equality issues that affect all Cypriot women across the island.	TCAUW continued its progress of structural development that was initiated by the establishment of the Multi-lingual Women's Research Library (WRL) and became a more professional organization with improved services and sustainability.
Organizational Strengthening – Local Action Group of Riverside Communities of Paphos (LAG)	In 1999, the local group of the Riverside Communities of Eastern Paphos (covering Episkopi, Nata, Eledio, Amargeti, Ayia Marina, Kelokedara and Salamiou), in cooperation with the Laona foundation, prepared a sustainable development plan for the area. This plan was known as the River Valleys Project, and was funded by the EU LIFE programme and other donors. The aim of the River Valleys Project was to assist the regeneration of the seven communities by enhancing their natural and cultural heritage and to combat degeneration and weak economic activity by encouraging sustainable development in rural and neglected areas and by supporting local decision making. During the project, it became clear that the LAG needed to increase its organizational capacity; strengthening it in order to continue with the active development of its area or responsibility.	To strengthen the LAG for active involvement in the development of its area, participation in local decision making and active engagement in the organization and implementation of the Master Plan for the whole riverside area of Eastern Paphos. The LAG's role involves the regeneration of local area for the gain of the surrounding community, as well as the preservation of natural Cypriot culture and heritage. It also encourages other areas to pursue similar programmes; spreading the benefit to the wider Cypriot community.	Laid the foundations for the regeneration of a specific local area. Encouraged other communities to focus on similar projects. Shared lessons learnt to provide a frame of reference for comparable projects throughout Cyprus.

Project Name/ Lead Partner(s)	Background	Objectives	Results
Organizational Strengthening – ADD-ADHD Support	<p>ADD-ADHD Support registered formally as an association in 2004 and immediately carried out an Attention Deficit Disorder-Attention Deficit Hyperactive Disorder (ADD-ADHD) Awareness Project, funded by the Bi-communal Development Programme. In the year following the project, the Board and volunteers assessed that to continue to perform at the achieved standard the organization needed to professionalize. A business plan was prepared, detailing the obtainment and employment of funding, the requirement to hire an Executive Director and an administrative assistant and the opening of an AD/HD Centre.</p>	<p>To make ADD-ADHD Support more sustainable and better networked within Cyprus, increasing the quality of support to the ADD-ADHD community island-wide.</p>	<p>ADD-ADHD Support professionalized through best-practice exchange with its five partner institutions in the Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot communities. The strengthening of networks, locally and internationally and encouragement of volunteer memberships from both communities will brought individuals and organizations together under one common goal: the continued and improved support of the Cypriot AD/HD community. The activities conducted within the parameters of this project improved the sustainability of ADD-ADHD Support. The training gained from the international experts in financial management, fundraising and communication were invaluable in helping ADD-ADHD Support operate more effectively, contributing to its financial soundness and organizational sustainability.</p>
Organizational Strengthening – Centre for the Advancement of Research & Development in Educational Technology (CARDET)	<p>CARDET has acted to promote research, innovation and development through evidenced-based practices, cutting-edge research and the empowerment of people throughout Cyprus. With a greater managerial and organizational capacity CARDET can continue to pursue its own mission and increase exponentially its work by taking other CSOs into the mentorship programme. CARDET’s mission is to inspire next generation education and to promote research, innovation and development through evidenced-based</p>	<p>To enhance the organizational and managerial capacity of CARDET by strengthening its human resources. With this solid foundation in place CARDET will continue in its mission to promote next generation education, inclusion, peace and reconciliation within Cyprus. This includes developing and implementing a mentoring programme for five other Civil Society Networks (CSOs) and establishing new, and strengthening existing, networks between CSOs in Cyprus and the</p>	<p>Improved managerial and organizational capacity within CARDET. Successfully mentored five other CSOs networks. Strengthened networks between CSOs in Cyprus and the EU. CARDET has become one of Cyprus’ most successful and internationally networked research and development NGOs. By 2015, CARDET has completed 130 projects in 40 countries with funding from EU, UN and Cypriot organizations and well as private sector partners.</p>

Project Name/ Lead Partner(s)	Background	Objectives	Results
	practices, cutting-edge research; empowering people throughout both the Greek Cypriot Community (GCC) and the Turkish Cypriot Community (TCC).	European Union (EU).	
Organizational Strengthening – Famagusta Cultural Association (FCA)	The Famagusta Cultural Association (FCA) focuses on tolerance, respect, peace and mutual understanding and provides children and young people with new communication skills. Through the FCA, children have opportunities to make friends and show their talent and abilities within an environment that encourages self-confidence and self-esteem. Adult participants also have the opportunity to use their free time effectively and efficiently through a range of activities.	To continue to achieve its aims and strengthen organizational performance, FCA teacher volunteers will be trained to address the current lack of administrative skills. As part of this project, other CSOs will be mentored; further increasing the avenues through which individuals can access opportunities to build mutual respect and self-awareness.	Enhanced FCA’s capacity. Provided mentoring to five less advanced CSOs in Cyprus. With an increased capacity, the FCA and the mentored CSOs actively engaged in decision making processes that enhanced organizational ability, allowing them to function at a higher level.
Organizational Strengthening - Women’s Association of Akova(AWA)	The Women’s Association of Akova (AWA) was set up in 2001 and has successfully instigated and implemented many activities. As the AWA has become more established and its activities and goals have increased it has become evident that more skill and expertise is required to function successfully. In order to become more sustainable and continue to achieve its aims as a Civil Society Organization (CSO), the AWA needs to strengthen its organizational and managerial capacity. Furthermore as the AWA is dependent on volunteers, it has been identified that expert knowledge and skills are sometimes lacking; this issue also needs to be addressed.	To strengthen the AWA and those CSOs selected to join the mentorship programme. These organizations will, in turn, be able to take a more active and positive role in society and reach out to strengthen bi-communal and international relationships. By enhancing the organizational and managerial capacity of AWA and the five CSOs, the organizations will be in a stronger position to actively engage in decision-making processes.	Helped establish an island wide network of CSOs that resulted in strengthened and long term bi-communal exchanges and partnerships. Published supporting materials in the appropriate language and conducted site visits and meetings that promoted a greater understanding of the roles of the differing organizations in society and regional development.

Project Name/ Lead Partner(s)	Background	Objectives	Results
Organizational Strengthening – AKTI	<p>AKTI Project and Research Centre (AKTI) was founded in 2000 and has been an active non-governmental organization (NGO) in the areas of environment, quality of life, environmental education and awareness, social issues and gender issues. In 2005 a Needs Assessment, carried out by the Board of Directors, determined that the organization had reached a critical level that required urgent improvement of its communication policy and organizational capacity. These improvements required financial and human resource support and would result in the organization maintaining its efficiency and effectiveness.</p>	<p>To further the mission of AKTI in educating the Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot communities in environmental and social issues. To bring together NGOs based in both communities: strengthening networks, create partnerships, increasing cooperation and broadening understanding of issues within their scope of expertise.</p>	<p>Since its inception, AKTI has been involved in several projects at local, bi-communal, European and international levels. In these projects AKTI has either acted as the primary coordinator or as a project partner. This project further enhanced AKTI's ability and human resources so that it could continue to achieve the best possible results. AKTI and its team remain at the forefront of environmental and bicomunal civic action</p>
Organizational Strengthening – Terra Cypriot	<p>Environmental volunteerism has not, as yet, become a firm concept within Cyprus, which has meant that many non-governmental organizations (NGOs) who rely on a level of volunteer support, have not had the requisite capabilities to effectively carry out their missions. This project is intended to strengthen the organizational capacity of Terra Cypria, allowing it to successfully continue its work, support smaller, less established environmental NGOs in their missions and work towards increasing the level of volunteer support and awareness.</p>	<p>To strengthen Terra Cypria's ability to promote environmental awareness within Cypriot society through educational programmes. These programmes aim to protect the island's natural resources and heritage, and facilitate Cyprus' harmonization with European environmental legislation and standards. By strengthening the organization, Terra Cypria can take greater advantage of situations that allow them to extend public awareness within the Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot communities, and address important environmental issues within Cyprus.</p>	<p>Developed cooperative relationships with both Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot NGOs; bringing them together to promote a unified strategy that deals with issues common to areas north and south of the Green Line. Strengthened both Terra Cypria as an organization in order for it promote environmental awareness island-wide and empower other, smaller, NGOs by training them to respond to EU directives, access funding programmes and enhance the wider environmental NGO network. This includes established EU NGOs such as WWF Europe, Eurosite and the European Environmental Bureau.</p>

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Organizational Strengthening – The Peace Centre	The Peace Centre has been active in its field for over fourteen years and its members have extensive experience in conflict resolution, peace building and management skills. The Peace Centre, like many other advocacy Civil Society Organizations (CSOs), suffers from organizational weaknesses and needs to strengthen its capacity to better fulfil its mission.	The project will supplement the Peace Centre’s renewed efforts to strengthen its advocacy activities that aim at building a culture of reconciliation and trust.	Strengthened the Peace Centre’s capacity and encouraged the sharing of knowledge and experience in this area between the Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot communities. Improved the Peace Centre sustainability in the long term. Provided mentoring to similar organizations and enhanced the capacity of lesser, well established CSOs.
Organizational Strengthening – Friends of Karpaz Society	The Friends of Karpaz Society feel that with time and devoted resources they can develop the necessary strengths and skills to become a developed and strong civil society organization to effectively lobby for the protection of the regions assets. Currently, the Society feels that the peninsula is under immediate threat and action needs to be taken sooner with influential European Union (EU) and international support.	To establish a sustainable civil society organization with strengthened networking, advocacy, mentoring and other skills required to engage local community in awareness raising and advocacy activities through island-wide and international partnerships. To play a functional role in creating awareness about civic engagement in civil society organizations and activities throughout Cyprus, which can serve to increase bi-communal citizen dialogue and participation in decisions affecting the island’s development.	Established a civil society organization that has the means to engage rural communities in awareness raising and advocacy activities through bi-communal and international partnerships. This promotion of inter-communal partnerships on issues of mutual concern strengthened cooperation, dialogue and exchange between the Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot communities.
Organizational Strengthening - Cyprus Biological Research Association (CBRA)	Environmental concerns such as construction in coastal zones, municipal and industrial waste problems, erosion, deforestation, decreasing air quality, decreasing water quantity and quality and land loss are increasing rapidly in Cyprus, as in the rest of the world. These problems are exacerbated	To strengthen the CBRA’s technical and organizational capacities to enable the organization, through their utilization of environmental educational initiatives and a training programme, to better educate and increase environmental knowledge and awareness of key	Strengthened the technical and organizational capacities of the CBRA, making CBRA more effective in increasing environmental understanding and awareness. Through an island-wide initiative and contributions made by experts from the CBRA, ECBA and CYMEPA, promoted cooperation between the Greek Cypriot and

Project Name/ Lead Partner(s)	Background	Objectives	Results
	<p>by a lack of environmental awareness and generalized ignorance to these dire issues. Therefore, environmental education has now become a vital necessity for increased public awareness of environmental issues and sustainable development. This project will thus aim to further strengthen the organizational and technical capacity of the CBRA to achieve these goals.</p>	<p>members of CSOs who in turn will educate and inform their own CSO members and also the wider community.</p>	<p>Turkish Cypriot communities, and with the CSO's, to become more educated on and aware of the damage being inflicted to the environment throughout the island.</p>
<p>Organizational Strengthening - Environmental Society of Lefke (ESL)</p>	<p>ESL was established in 1995. Since then, ESL has delivered a variety of local and bi-communal environmental projects and activities. ESL's past work includes a healthy environment project with the Cyprus Ecological and Environmental Federation as well as the development of bi-communal projects with AKTI (Greek Cypriot NGO), with support from UNOPS. In addition to ESL's bi-communal work, the organization has developed an environmental educational programme for primary schools in the Lefke area; raising awareness amongst school children to help improve the environment. It has been identified that further support is required for ESL to continue with, and broaden, its environmental education programme.</p>	<p>To improve ESL's capacity to provide education, through a school-based education programme, on key environmental issues that impact Cypriot society. The recruitment of environmental experts and training the trainers will further strengthen and expand the knowledge base on environmental issues within Cyprus.</p>	<p>Provided the ESL board of directors and members with the skills and knowledge to expand its remit and develop an island-wide strategy. Also encouraged the formation of sustainable partnerships and networks by ensuring that all partners feed into a wider capacity building strategy. Raised knowledge and awareness about environmental issues that impact Cypriot society, through the delivery of an environmental education programme for schools and building on training expertise in this area.</p>
<p>Promoting Public Awareness of Substance Abuse</p>	<p>Scientific research on drug abuse indicates a rising trend among the youth in the Turkish Cypriot Community (TCC). An investigation</p>	<p>To form a network of Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) whose purpose will be the development and</p>	<p>Creation of a network of CSOs, including Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot organizations, was established to develop and implement a joint</p>

Project Name/ Lead Partner(s)	Background	Objectives	Results
Drug Alcohol Tobacco Prevention Association	into the experimentation with drugs among the youth showed a rate of increase of 8%. The study also revealed an 85.9% increase in alcohol use and 35.2% increase in tobacco use. Furthermore, the study also suggests an increase in the rate of ecstasy and alcohol usage coupled with drugs and opiates such as heroin.	implementation of a joint action plan to prevent substance abuse in Cyprus, in order to prevent substance abuse and promote active engagement of civil society in this field. The rising trend of drug and alcohol abuse by youth is a concern which binds both communities in Cyprus.	action plan to prevent substance abuse throughout Cyprus and promote active participation of civil society in this field. An environment of bi-communal dialogue, cooperation and exchange was created through the collaborative efforts of the two communities working together to address an issue that is affecting both Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot youths.
Introducing Gender Perspectives to Children with Theatrical Plays Turkish Cypriot education experts	Cypriot children continue to be brought up with conventional gender perspectives. As a result, these children grow up to become individuals with stereotypical gender roles.	Through the theatrical play, students will become aware of issues such as, gender inequality, influence of gender in family life, and communication between genders. Local experts in the areas of gender and theatre will be selected to develop this concept, from the initial selection of a theatrical play to the actual performance.	This project promoted initial discussion and greater understanding of gender issues in schools and helped to establish this subject as a core topic for future networking and educational activities, involving young people from both communities. The play highlighted a number of gender issues specifically relevant to the target audience and useful in the class discussions that followed. In total 3,050 students and 110 teachers were reached. In addition, media attended the plays and this helped the subject of gender issues reach an even wider audience.
World Aids Day 2005 KENTHEA, TOLMI, the Mental Health Organization, Research Unit in Behavior & Social Issues (RUBSI)	The rate of HIV/AIDS is increasing throughout both the Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot communities in Cyprus; in part to a lack of adequate education and public awareness.	To involve health and education groups from around Cyprus in collaboration on a series of AIDS Day activities. To increase public awareness of the spread of HIV/AIDS in Cyprus and raise the level of education on the disease. To present the opportunity to establish the groundwork for a long term and comprehensive island-wide strategy for dealing with the issues and effects	The World AIDS Day activities focused on the common goal of increasing HIV/AIDS awareness and prevention. Relevant health and education bodies participated in discussions on HIV/AIDS and its effects both globally and locally. A series of conferences and training sessions were also run, with guest speakers who shared their knowledge and experience on dealing with the epidemic. In order to reach the wider public, concerts were held in both the communities.

Project Name/ Lead Partner(s)	Background	Objectives	Results
		<p>pertaining to HIV/AIDS.</p>	<p>Public awareness was raised through the use of press and media coverage and the use of promotional/educational materials. Much of the educational material was distributed in clubs, discos and at the concert in order to reach those most at risk. In order to maintain the awareness of HIV/AIDS the partner organizations later issued a press release, looking towards activities for World AIDS Day 2006.</p>
<p>Nicosia: Past, Present and Future</p> <p>Cyprus Academic Forum</p>	<p>With the partial opening of the physical divide that has fragmented Nicosia, the social climate is now changing, and the possibility for Nicosia to once again be viewed as a whole city is increasingly tangible.</p>	<p>In light of the current climate, to discuss ways in which Nicosia can be viewed in its entirety. To look at the city in the past and in its current state and use projections of its future. To discuss utilizing a multi-disciplinary platform including the areas of academia, the arts and the social sciences.</p>	<p>Local and international researchers participated with their views and the event was open to the wider public. In order to reach beyond attendees, the seminar was publicized via a website and a report of the proceedings was published. The event was open to the wider public and conducted on both sides of the divide. At the heart of the project was the aim to regard Nicosia as a whole city; looking beyond the physical boundaries currently separating the Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot communities.</p> <p>The seminar provided an open forum which allowed key representatives from a range of disciplines, from both communities, to consider Nicosia within a socio-historical context and looked at potential means of experiencing and observing the city as a whole. The results of the seminar were published in order to capture the points discerned so that the potentialities for Nicosia to be seen and enjoyed as a city in its entirety could be made available for consideration by the wider community.</p>

Project Name/ Lead Partner(s)	Background	Objectives	Results
<i>Cultural Heritage</i>			
<p data-bbox="109 347 360 491">Cultural Heritage Preservation – Armenian Church and Monastery</p> <p data-bbox="109 536 259 564">UNDP-ACT</p>	<p data-bbox="439 347 969 715">Located in the Arab Ahmet neighborhood of Nicosia, this 14th century Gothic monument and its related structures were in need of restoration having become an eyesore to the historic district and worse and irritant in relations between the two sides. In a 2005 cultural heritage survey, the ACM was identified as one of the most significant endangered monuments along the buffer zone in Nicosia.</p>	<p data-bbox="1019 347 1487 938">To allow for the immediate stabilization of the Armenian Monastery and Church and the development of a long-term conservation action plan leading to the establishment of new partnerships across the Green Line concerning the conservation and/or restoration of this historic site. To campaign for and increase public awareness of the importance of rescuing important cultural monuments along the Nicosia buffer zone, which will encourage the expansion and/or establishment of inter-communal partnerships for sustainable development of cultural heritage initiatives.</p>	<p data-bbox="1538 347 2121 826">The ACM complex was restored, protecting the monument and preserving its physical and architectural integrity. Recommendations were made for future maintenance, conservation and research. Though time-consuming and expensive, the project forged collaborative relationships between technical experts across the divide as well as the Greek Cypriot, Turkish Cypriot and Armenian Cypriot communities. The project was awarded a European Union Prize for Cultural Heritage/Europa Nostra in 2015, for which the citation applauds the reconciliation aspects of the project as well as the restoration work.</p>
<p data-bbox="109 986 367 1050">Restoration of Peristerona House</p> <p data-bbox="109 1098 387 1161">Cultural Institute of the Morphou Bishopric</p>	<p data-bbox="439 986 969 1465">The village of Peristerona, situated in the area of Morphou, used to be a large area inhabited by both Greek Cypriots and Turkish Cypriots coexisting peacefully side by side. Peristerona was a multicultural village and has a history of inter-communal harmony. The core focus of this project is the restoration of an old preserved two story house situated in the village so as to convert it into a Bi-communal Centre, which will assist in reviving the bi-communal history of the area, and publicizing the past peaceful coexistence of the two communities in Peristerona.</p>	<p data-bbox="1019 986 1487 1465">The restoration of a historical building in a village like Peristerona, which contains a history and strong symbolisms of peaceful coexistence, together with the establishment of the Bi-communal Centre, will assist in reviving the bi-communal peaceful past of this area. The participation of Turkish Cypriots from the area in this project will encourage more Turkish Cypriots from Peristerona and the wider Morphou area to visit the centre and to engage in meetings and social and cultural exchanges. The</p>	<p data-bbox="1538 986 2121 1353">Promoted dialogue and social and cultural exchange between the communities. Facilitated the establishment of a Bi-communal Centre which serves as a symbolic example of peaceful coexistence and cooperation in a rural village as well as a convenient and accessible venue for bicultural activities in a variety of fields. The close proximity of the Centre to the mosque and church in the village offers the opportunity for inter-faith exchange and dialogue.</p>

Project Name/ Lead Partner(s)	Background	Objectives	Results
		<p>opening of the Astromeritis checkpoint, near to which the Bi-communal Centre will be situated, will ensure movement of persons, with the centre being the point of attraction and the reason for Turkish Cypriots to visit the area.</p>	
<p>Restoration of the premises of the Day Care Centre at Paphos Gate for severely multi-handicapped persons from both the Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot communities</p> <p>Association for the Welfare of People with Mental Handicap</p>	<p>The Day Care Centre at Paphos Gate has been in operation since 1989 and accepts people with mental and other severe disabilities. The Centre has set an example to be emulated by other similar institutions as it attracts people from all Cypriot communities (Greek Cypriots, Turkish Cypriots, Maronites, Armenians). Furthermore, those people who, due the severity of their condition, have been turned away by other institutions are accepted by the Day Care Centre at Paphos Gate. However, the building which houses the Day Care Centre has structural problems and as a result it has been suggested that people be moved to alternative care facilities.</p>	<p>To restore the building, which houses the Day Care Centre, and ensure sustainability of the project. Once restored, this building will be put in service to people from all communities of Cyprus; therefore, it is extremely important for especially multi-handicapped persons.</p>	<p>The restored Day Centre plays a serious and decisive role in continuing to foster the ideals of community development and inter-communal relationships that promote multiculturalism and dialogue through education, rehabilitation and care of the disabled. The project contributes tremendously to the smooth integration of people with disabilities and exemplifies multi-community collaboration for social good.</p>
<p>Restoration of the Grand Turkish Bath</p> <p>EVKAF</p>	<p>The Grand Turkish Bath “Buyuk Hamam” is an ancient building of cut stones located in the walled city of Nicosia. Although there is no record of the year it was built, there is evidence that it was rented prior to 1594. The building does however reflect Ottoman architecture and so it is assumed that it was built between 1571 and 1590.</p>	<p>To restore the Grand Turkish Bath due to its importance as a cultural monument representing the social and cultural life of Cypriots during the Ottoman period.</p>	<p>This important cultural monument, which represents a vital aspect of the cultural life of all Cypriots, is now utilized to promote Turkish Cypriot culture and the establishment and expansion of inter-communal partnerships for cultural preservation and sustainable development. In addition, training and technical assistance was provided to improve the management of the site,</p>

Project Name/ Lead Partner(s)	Background	Objectives	Results
			including through the design of proper tender processes and business planning.
Restoration of Ayios Neophytos Chapel Cultural Heritage experts	This project will not only restore the Ayios Neophytos Chapel it will also create public awareness of the importance of the conservation of cultural heritage in Cyprus.	To strengthen inter-communal partnerships by bringing Cypriots together to document and repair a significant site.	Ayios Neophytos Chapel was restored for future generations through bicomunal collaboration. Public awareness on the importance of conserving Cyprus' cultural heritage was increased.
“Ottoman Monuments of Cyprus” Book Project – Translation and Publication of English version Turkish Cypriot Education Foundation	The cultural heritage portfolio of the ACT project has various goals, and essentially seeks to restore and rescue of buildings, objects/collections and monuments of great historic and cultural importance to build trust. An important feature of this work will be the ongoing documentation of this work, which among other things, will be used for raising awareness on the importance of the rich culture of Cyprus among local communities and across the island. From the communications perspective this represents an ambitious educational dimension which will support efforts to increase and sustain expressions of tolerance.	The translation and publication in English of the “Ottoman Monuments Book” will allow for a greater awareness and appreciation of Cyprus' Ottoman monuments and monuments that were influenced by the Ottoman period. The book aims to promote the cultural diversity of the island and its people, both on-island and abroad.	The translation and publication in English of the “Ottoman Monuments Book” will provided greater awareness and appreciation of Cyprus' Ottoman monuments as well as monuments or buildings that were Islamicised during the Ottoman period of Cyprus. The volume makes an important contribution to the body of scholarly work in this field and serves as a useful reference.
New Vision for the Core of Nicosia – Phase II Nicosia Master Plan (NMP)	The New Vision project falls within the framework of the Nicosia Master Plan, itself a bi-communal operation. In order to guide and support the bi-communal development of Nicosia's Core Area, the Nicosia Master Plan determined that it was necessary and urgent to produce a joint development plan.	As part of a wider plan for the joint development of Nicosia, to develop an outline plan. As part of the plan, to develop close liaison with experts on public-private partnerships (PPP) and key mechanisms involved in implementing any developments within the Nicosia Core Area. At each re-	The project saw the production of a final draft Outline Plan for the strategic development of the Nicosia Core Area. The process brought stakeholders into agreement on the key strategic elements of the plan while focusing the efforts of the Nicosia Municipality on the issue of joint-development of the city's Core Area. A traffic survey was also conducted as part of this process

Project Name/ Lead Partner(s)	Background	Objectives	Results
		draft stage, to collect feedback and comments from those groups and incorporate them into the plan.	to gauge the effects of future developments on traffic and local businesses.
<p data-bbox="109 424 344 453">Nicosia is Calling</p> <p data-bbox="109 499 387 600">The Association for Historical Dialogue and Research</p>	<p data-bbox="443 424 965 715">For decades, the Nicosia Master Plan (NMP) has contributed towards bringing people together across the divide to collaborate towards an improved city for all. There is however an even stronger need which has emerged which is the participation of young people in learning about the past, present and future of the whole Walled Nicosia.</p>	<p data-bbox="1021 424 1480 903">The production of useful and creative information and educational material for youth, educators and parents which will enhance the awareness of young Cypriots and other youth living on or visiting the island, about the cultural heritage of Nicosia, drawing their attention to certain restored historical and cultural sites of the walled city, equipping them with resources needed to conceptualize Nicosia as a place of unity and familiarizing them with principles and benefits of cooperation.</p>	<p data-bbox="1541 424 2119 754">Provided educators and youth with the resources required to conceptualize Nicosia as a place of unity and to familiarize them with the principles and benefits of cooperation across the divide thus promoting inter-communal relationships, dialogue and trust between the two communities. Raised awareness about the cultural heritage of Nicosia amongst the youth using appealing and easy to use educational materials.</p>
<p data-bbox="109 951 376 1054">Prophet Elias Monastery Fencing and Cleaning</p> <p data-bbox="109 1101 197 1129">EVKAF</p>	<p data-bbox="443 951 965 1393">The Holy Maronite / Catholic Church of Prophet Elias was a spiritual and educational centre. It was a place that was respected not only by the Maronites but also by the Greek Cypriots and Turkish Cypriots. It is the only Maronite / Catholic Monastery in Cyprus. Through the centuries, the Monastery as well as the ancient church of the Prophet Elias has suffered from bad weather and lack of maintenance. Cleaning, fencing and basic repairs are necessary in order to protect the Monastery from further damage.</p>	<p data-bbox="1021 951 1469 1206">To contribute to the preservation of Cyprus' rich and diverse cultural heritage, through the forming of inter-communal partnerships to establish a collaborative framework for the protection of these common cultural heritage assets.</p>	<p data-bbox="1541 951 2119 1353">Protected a culturally important and sacred monument for the Maronite community, which is a minority in Cyprus. Contributed to building inter-communal trust by resuming a constructive relationship between the Maronite community and the Turkish Cypriot community, using the preservation of an important Cypriot cultural heritage site as a focus for dialogue and cooperation, while contributing to an enhanced culture of tolerance and multiculturalism amongst all communities in Cyprus.</p>

Project Name/ Lead Partner(s)	Background	Objectives	Results
<i>Education and Youth</i>			
<p>Provision of Multicultural Youth Camp Trainings in Cyprus</p> <p>International Child Development Initiatives (ICDI), Cyprus College, and the Mediation Association</p>	<p>Many peacebuilders in Cyprus today focus on values of multiculturalism as a philosophy for promoting reconciliation between the Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot communities. This is also more valuable within the contexts of modern Europe and the reality of a culturally diverse society which needs to find a place for different ethnic groups. The initiative will promote the values of multiculturalism and offer Cypriots opportunities to embrace the diversity which is a reality of modern European societies. The different components of the Initiative will reinforce the capacity and provide a platform for Cypriots who work with youth and/or are engaged in youth camps to sustain their efforts.</p>	<p>To promote the establishment of successful and sustainable multicultural youth camps in Cyprus the design and delivery of comprehensive multicultural youth camp training programmes (for coordinators, instructors and youth leaders), creation of a network, organization of integrative events and development a multicultural youth camp model(s). All of these components will be carried out island-wide and will cover all communities in Cyprus to encourage Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot collaboration and bi-communality.</p>	<p>Promoted collaboration between organizations delivering multicultural youth camps in Cyprus, enriching each camp with shared knowledge and lessons learned. Helped establish successful and multicultural youth camps in Cyprus to promote Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot cooperation.</p>
<p>Espérer Juvenile Delinquency Early Intervention Programme</p> <p>Latsia Municipality and The Mediation Association</p>	<p>Within the last 10-12 years there has been a rising trend of juvenile delinquency throughout Cyprus, the most worry manifestation of which is not only the increasing number of youth engaging in substance abuse but also the higher numbers of young people entering into the criminal justice system. Furthermore, it has also been acknowledged by the Latsia Municipality that due to various local socio-economic factors, a number of children live in households with adults who engage in criminal behavior or</p>	<p>To reverse the rising trend of juvenile delinquency throughout Cyprus, the increasing numbers of young people engaging in substance abuse, the higher number of youths entering the criminal justice system, and the number of children living under conditions deemed at putting them at risk of developing social problems and fostering delinquency.</p>	<p>Advanced co-operation between both communities through joint efforts in confronting shared issues such as juvenile delinquency, substance abuse and the development of other social problems. Facilitated positive changes in young people's behavior in and out of school.</p>

Project Name/ Lead Partner(s)	Background	Objectives	Results
	<p>in family environments that are deemed to put them at risk of developing social problems and fostering delinquency. In response to these growing concerns, this project, together with the Latsia Municipality, will introduce and implement prevention programmes that have been employed with success internationally in order to address and tackle these issues. A parallel project will also be implemented in a Nicosia suburb in the Turkish Cypriot Community in order to deal with similar concerns.</p>		
<p>Doves Olympic Movement Camps 2006-2007</p> <p>The Centre of Leisure, Tourism and Sport Research and Development</p>	<p>It has been advocated by various international organizations such as the UN, the International Olympic Committee, the International Sports Federations and the European Union that sports is a useful tool in resolving a number of social problems such as poverty, juvenile delinquency, racism and conflict. Furthermore, it has been identified that one of the new challenges is the use of sports as a means to reduce nationalism in the multicultural world environment that exists today. Sports initiatives such as the Doves Olympic Movement which advocates the concept of sports and play as a common language between children of all ages and from diverse socioeconomic backgrounds, gender, religion and ethnicity, will be used as a base for the implementation of various bi-communal and mono-communal camps and activities in Cyprus.</p>	<p>Through the participation of Turkish Cypriot and Greek Cypriot youths in a series of camps and year-long activities based on the integration of the Doves Olympic Movement sports education initiative and Human Rights-based thematic areas, training will be provided within single community and bi-communal environments in order to promote inter-communal relationships and social integration, to encourage personal development and to facilitate the process of overcoming long-held negative beliefs and practices of the past between the communities.</p>	<p>Implementation of a series of camps and year-long events modelled on various sports education and Human Rights-based initiatives. Promoted personal development, social skills and integration and trust between the communities. Developed 60 youth leaders, promoted social integration and delivered training in both mono-community and inter-communal settings to assist approximately 100 children to foster trust and relationships, using sport, MDG and Human Rights-based thematic initiatives.</p>

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<p>Playing for Peace – Cyprus</p> <p>Peace Players International</p>	<p>Research carried out by two Playing for Peace founders has identified that the participation of Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot youth in a Playing for Peace basketball and life skills programme in Cyprus, could have a positive impact on fostering co-operation, integration, trust and smooth inter-communal relationships. Furthermore, responses from leaders in the Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot communities, and meetings held with sports club administrators, school teachers, contacts in the NGO sector and business leaders, has provided evidence that co-operation and co-ordination between the two communities is feasible.</p>	<p>To involve Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot youths in a Playing for Peace basketball and life skills programme that will combine a series of basketball coaching sessions, sporting activities and events and life skills clinics and workshops, which will be effective in fostering a sense of cooperation, interaction and positive inter-communal relationships between the two communities.</p>	<p>Promoted dialogue, cooperation, interaction and trust between the Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot communities, through the participation of youth from both communities in such programme. Fostered community involvement and ownership in its implementation in Cyprus. Developed the Playing for Peace programme model in schools and other organizations which assisted in the development of other effective cross-community initiatives.</p> <p>Building on these initial activities and with ACT's continued support, Peace Players has evolved into an NGO with brand recognition, local champions and an ability to attract consistent participation and funding.</p>
<p>Training Teachers in Social Research Methods</p> <p>Centre for the Study of Childhood and Adolescence</p>	<p>One of the weaknesses of the educational system in Cyprus is the prevailing lack of engagement by students in the production of knowledge and their overdependence on the role of teachers as transmitters of knowledge. The system is currently characterized by a heavy, prescriptive curriculum which usually results in students becoming detached from the learning process. This may lead to students becoming passive learners. The idea that students at the primary school level could engage in research and produce knowledge themselves still strikes many people as unconventional. However, where research has been integrated into the educational curriculum,</p>	<p>To continuously push the learning standards of pupils in the Cypriot education system, in keeping with European standards and norms. To invest in the critical thinking skills of young people so Cyprus can enjoy a society of responsible, active people to carry it forward.</p>	<p>Trained Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot teachers in the basics of social research and provided support to teachers to carry out projects with their students from both communities. Created opportunities for these teachers to meet and work and learn together. Promoted multiculturalism and dialogue. Specifically, it contributes to an increase in the involvement of students in social research and therefore in their social engagement.</p> <p>Produced and disseminated a useful volume entitled, Children as Social Researchers: A Resource Book for Teachers and Other Educators.</p>

Project Name/ Lead Partner(s)	Background	Objectives	Results
	<p>the results have been usually impressive; students are transformed from passive into active learners and become much more socially engaged. Such programmes are being tried out in many parts of the world today, including Cyprus.</p>		
<p>Cyprus Youth Dialogue Project</p> <p>Intercollege and KADEM</p>	<p>The aspirations, belief systems and values of the youth of Cyprus today, in all the island's communities, probably stands as the most significant variable determining the future of Cypriot society. As with most young people worldwide, young Cypriots face very specific challenges as they begin to mold their individual identities and seek ways to make a meaningful contribution to the society in which they live. Like other young people, young Cypriots can face tremendous physical and psychological changes, while at the same time taking on new responsibilities and experimenting with new found freedoms and independence. Most young people around the world also face the challenge of participating politically in the development of their society. In Cyprus this particular challenge is compounded by the de facto separation of the islands two main communities, and while their parents may still recall a time when Greek Cypriots and Turkish Cypriots lived together, this concept of inter-communal co-existence is alien for the vast majority of young people on the</p>	<p>The project will address the absence of contact and understanding between Young Greek Cypriots and youth Turkish Cypriots. The approach aims to 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 youth. The project will use this analysis to 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. In this sense 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.</p>	<p>Produced a body of evidence and report on youth aspirations, belief systems and values. Created a youth caucus which, representing a cross section of youth opinion on the island, provided an insight into the values and belief systems of youth. Using the evidence, produced 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. Stimulated a dynamic dialogue among young people on the island about their role in supporting an improved environment for reconciliation efforts.</p>

Project Name/ Lead Partner(s)	Background	Objectives	Results
	<p>island. This variation in attitudes between different generations of Cypriots was demonstrated in surveys showing that many young Cypriots seem to be moving away from bi-communal activities and discourse.</p>		
<p>Young Journalists European Peer Learning Programme</p> <p>Thomson Foundation, Crewhouse Media and BASIN-SEN</p>	<p>The media plays an important part in everyday life and people rely on the news to know what is happening in their own communities and around the world. Since crossing the green line has become possible, more and more journalists are writing about stories that relate to the other community/ies. The opportunities for journalists from both communities in Cyprus to interact and share ideas are increasing but can still be very limited. There is also scope to increase collaboration and information sharing with other European counterparts but currently there is no framework to support this.</p>	<p>To expand the skills of young Cypriot journalists so that they are able to apply their skills confidently and compete with their international counterparts. In particular, there is a real need for young journalists to gain specialist knowledge on specific themes such as the environment, women's issues, HIV/AIDS, the economy and social affairs. Specialization amongst Cypriot journalists is rare, which is another area this project will address.</p>	<p>The on-island peer learning introduced the young journalists to broader journalistic themes built the skills sets of the participants, while simultaneously creating a practical inter-communal working and learning environment for Greek Cypriots and Turkish Cypriots, who potentially represent the future of Cypriot journalism/media. The project provided young Cypriot journalists (between the ages of approximately 24-30 years) the opportunity to interact through a peer-learning experience. This will be preceded by an opportunity for several outstanding candidates to be exposed to an intensive peer learning course outside of Cyprus, within a European context. Upon returning to Cyprus, these young journalists served as resource people for the development and implementation of an on-island professional development programme for their peers.</p>
<p>Inter-Communal Professional Development of Teachers on Environmental Education and Technology</p>	<p>The integration of environmental education and technology, and the use thereof, creates new opportunities for Cypriot teachers to enrich their pedagogical knowledge on how to deal with health and environmental issues affecting Cyprus and the Mediterranean basin. Furthermore, it has been determined</p>	<p>To integrate environmental education and technology in order to improve pedagogical knowledge of Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot teachers on how to deal with health and environmental issues affecting Cyprus and the Mediterranean basin. This</p>	<p>Promoted multiculturalism, peace and reconciliation on the island by encouraging cooperation and building trust between the communities through collective participation and collaborative efforts in integrating environmental education and technology in order to improve pedagogical knowledge of Greek Cypriot and</p>

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<p>Integration (ENVETI)</p> <p>Centre for the Advancement of Research and Development in Educational Technology (CARDET)</p>	<p>that the improvement of pedagogical understanding of how different aspects of peace and reconciliation, including emotional and social elements, can be promoted through environmental education. A tangible benefit of the creation of new pedagogical material through the use of technologies is the enrichment of the awareness of Turkish Cypriot and Greek Cypriot teachers and students about issues concerning environmental problems in Cyprus and how solving these problems can bring the two communities together.</p>	<p>will involve learning on how different aspects of peace and reconciliation can be promoted through environmental education.</p>	<p>Turkish Cypriot teachers. Aided in bringing the two communities together through their efforts of solving these issues. Developed low-end open source technology infrastructure and required only modest funding for follow on maintenance.</p>
<p>Youth Camps: Building Cells of True Tolerance and Multiculturalism through Traditional Karate</p> <p>Limassol Traditional Karate Association</p>	<p>There currently exists a number of minority communities who reside in Limassol on a permanent basis. However, these groups remain marginalized from the rest of the community. The implementation of initiatives by this project, including the teaching of traditional karate and a summer camp in which members of the various communities will participate, will therefore play a functional role in promoting multiculturalism, dialogue and trust between the communities, and reduce feelings of segregation and marginalization.</p>	<p>To involve Armenian Cypriots, Greek Cypriots, Maronite Cypriots and Turkish Cypriots in a summer camp and in a traditional karate training programme in order to encourage and promote tolerance, mutual respect and understanding between the communities, and to reduce feelings of segregation and marginalization.</p>	<p>The participation of institutes such as the Limassol Traditional Karate Association and other partners in this project contributed towards the realization of the project's goals through their implementation of various activities which created a context that facilitated and assisted in the development of stronger ties between the participating communities, thus reducing feelings of segregation. Facilitated the creation of active and influential cells of tolerance, which can assist with the integration of marginalized communities in Cyprus.</p>
<p>Young Filmmakers Project</p> <p>UNDP-ACT</p>	<p>The use of film as an informal educational tool promoting awareness about issues that concern all young Cypriots will increase bi-communal tolerance and reconciliation</p>	<p>To provide young Cypriot filmmakers with the opportunity to address major issues of concern which affect them as young people in present day society.</p>	<p>This project played a fundamental role in promoting inter-communal relations by using film to raise awareness on important issues relevant to youth from both the GC and TC communities</p>

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	<p>throughout the island. Furthermore, enhancing civic participation by giving a voice to young people from both communities, and providing them with the opportunity of working with each other in collaboration with NGO's and other educational institutes, further strengthens inter-communal citizen dialogue and involvement in decisions impacting the future of Cyprus.</p>	<p>These issues will be identified by the participants themselves but could include drugs, the environment, the concept of a multi-cultural society, gender and women's issues, inter-generational conflicts, HIV/AIDS, and others. Furthermore, a major objective of this project will be for these concerns to be dealt with through a bi-communal lens involving cooperation between Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot filmmakers and writers.</p>	<p>by giving young people a voice to address these issues through a bi-communal lens involving cooperation between Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot filmmakers and writers by demonstrating how these social issues are common concerns binding the communities. Played an active role in demonstrating how social issues bind all communities and how addressing these concerns in a bi-communal manner can promote inter-communal dialogue and exchange, reconciliation and trust.</p>
<p>Environmental Summer Programmes for Young Educators and Young Citizens of Cyprus</p> <p>Environmental Studies Centre</p>	<p>It has been identified through a survey conducted by the University of the Aegean in the Greek Cypriot community that environmental consciousness is limited. Further to this, it has also been recognized that there is an insufficient use of the natural environment as an educational resource through practical environmental studies within both the Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot communities.</p>	<p>Through the participation of teachers and students in a series of inter-communal summer programmes, to address the lack of environmental conscience by equipping the participants with enhanced environmental knowledge, understanding and awareness, and with conservation skills which can then be applied in their own bi-communal co-operative mini projects, further promoting bi-communal relationships. This project will involve the participation of Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot teachers and students in two 6-day residential summer programmes/camps through which the participants will engage in environmental educational activities in order to increase their awareness and knowledge</p>	<p>Facilitated interaction and communication between the communities through the promotion of cooperative bi-communal mini-projects (in an effort to support, defend and preserve environmental heritage throughout the island. Used the environmental summer programmes, in which Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriots participated, as tools to not only increase their understanding of environmental systems, issues and concerns throughout Cyprus, but also as a way to facilitate the implementation of future cooperative bi-communal projects and to empower the participants to become active supporters and defenders of their environmental heritage.</p>

Project Name/ Lead Partner(s)	Background	Objectives	Results
		<p>of environmental issues; to expose them to exercises in the natural environment to develop a deeper understanding of the ecology of Cyprus, the threats to it and ways to protect it; to empower them to become active supporters and defenders of their environmental heritage; and to foster cooperation between the communities by sowing the seeds for future cooperative projects.</p>	
<p>Diversity Ambassadors</p> <p>Larnaca District Development Agency</p>	<p>A survey, titled Racism and Xenophobia, carried out at the Koutsofta-Panagides Lyceum in Nicosia, has uncovered that 50% of the student population have racist views, with 14% admitting to being racist, and that a large majority would not consider employing a foreign worker. Furthermore, in recent years, there have been many factors, such as the accession of Cyprus into the European Union easing the access of EU nationals into the Cyprus job market; the opening of the crossings since 2003 opening up the market to Turkish Cypriots; more immigrant workers undertaking low-income jobs; more women entering the workforce; homosexuals beginning to assert their rights to be accepted as equals in the workplace; disabled people becoming more common in the work force and younger people entering the job market. It is therefore important that a project such as this be implemented in</p>	<p>To reduce prejudice and discrimination towards minority groups within Cyprus, especially in the work place, and address the issues of diversity which are becoming more important in a Cyprus which is becoming more multicultural and diverse in every aspect. As Cyprus is becoming more and more multicultural and more diverse in every aspect, it is becoming increasingly important to understand how to address and manage this diversity to everyone's benefit. The people of different background, races, religion, culture, etc. create a diverse environment. Diversity features, might include: people from different communities and/or races, women in the workforce, people with disabilities, single mothers/parents, people of minorities, gays, etc.</p>	<p>Through a series of events, raised awareness of the value of diversity and Cyprus' obligations as a member of the EU to prevent discrimination. Promoted the concept that the newly diverse workforce needs to be managed effectively for the benefit of companies, as well as of the people that make up these companies, while accommodating the special needs of the demographically diverse workforce. These will become more appealing places to work and will thereby reduce absenteeism and turnover costs.</p>

Project Name/ Lead Partner(s)	Background	Objectives	Results
	<p>order to reduce prejudice and discriminating behaviors towards diverse groups of people, especially in the work environment.</p>		
<p>Road Safety in Cyprus</p> <p>Foundation of Social and Political Sciences</p>	<p>Road traffic accidents have become a major problem in Cyprus. The average number of road traffic fatalities has risen to 108 per year in the Greek Cypriot community; and to 60 per year in the Turkish Cypriot community. Statistics provide a clear indication of the dramatic and critical situation of road safety in Cyprus.</p>	<p>To raise awareness of the road safety problems in Cyprus, improve education, encourage improved licensing systems and raise the standard of driver training within both communities to reduce the number of accidents on Cyprus' roads. Cyprus has been ranked in the top three European countries, per capita, in terms of road fatalities.</p>	<p>This comprehensive road safety campaign stretched across communities, educated drivers and made policy recommendations. It increased public awareness throughout the island with a communication plan that was inclusive of Greek Cypriots and Turkish Cypriots. The project served to educate both communities on the current drivers' licensing system and offer suggestions for its improvement. It also increased the competence level of driving instructors through advanced training. In addition, the project stimulated critical thinking related to road safety across different age groups and education levels.</p>
<p>Action for Young Enterprises for Cyprus (AYEC)</p> <p>Cyprus International Institute of Management and Cyprus Academic Forum</p>	<p>Various factors such as Cyprus' accession into the European Union, intensified competition fueled by globalization, new technologies and new marketing strategies from low cost but high value added producers, could have a potentially destabilizing effect on the development of the socio-economic market in Cyprus that is composed predominantly of family-controlled small-scale operations. For this reason, this bi-communal project initiative will equip young graduates with small business and entrepreneurial skills.</p>	<p>To develop a bi-communal entrepreneurship development programme for enterprising Cypriot youth who aspire to launch business partnerships and start-up ventures as a way to promote cooperation and trust between the Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot communities. Through facilitating the development of creative and innovative entrepreneurial initiatives that promote a variety of products and services island-wide and abroad, the project will create growth opportunities for all Cypriots, and help</p>	<p>Through cooperation between the CAF (Cyprus Academic Forum), CIIM (Cyprus International Institute of Management), MC-MED (The Management Centre of the Mediterranean), Chambers of Commerce (Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot), Women's Co-op Bank, educational institutes and other training organizations, promoted cooperation and trust between the communities in their collaborative efforts to achieve the project goals, which included growth opportunities for all Cypriots on the island. Youth were equipped with the necessary small-business and entrepreneurial skills required to</p>

Project Name/ Lead Partner(s)	Background	Objectives	Results
		<p>in reducing destabilizing factors which can hinder socio-economic progress in Cyprus.</p>	<p>launch new business partnerships and start-up ventures, or even to transform existing small family firms into new avenues for growth, thereby combating destabilizing threats to the socio-economic development in Cyprus brought about by various factors.</p>
<p>Promoting Special Education for Children with Learning Disabilities</p> <p>Cyprus Dyslexia Association</p>	<p>A significant number of children in Cyprus have great difficulty in achieving their potential in the Cyprus school system due to various learning disabilities, and/or social and behavioral disabilities, that impede their ability to learn within the normal school curriculum. Consequently, these children face the risk of failure at school and marginalization in society which could cause additional social and psychological problems. Unfortunately, this problem is compounded by the fact that there is insufficient understanding of the situation in society, which further places the children's future development at risk. There is a need for the implementation of special education programmes throughout Cyprus in order to improve the learning conditions of people with special needs, to better train teachers and parents and advance policy changes across the island.</p>	<p>To create and implement special education programmes throughout Cyprus by the establishment of a Special Education Network which will strengthen the relationship between learning disability advocacy groups and will improve the learning conditions of people with learning disabilities and/or social and behavioral problems. This will involve providing training to parents through Parents Associations and to teachers, in order for a better understanding to be reached about the difficulties faced by those with disabilities.</p>	<p>Through contributions made by various experts from organizations in both communities working on dyslexia, Attention Deficit and Hyperactivity Disorder, autism and other behavioral difficulties, created island-wide awareness and advanced understanding on these issues and the hardships faced by those burdened with them. Encouraged cooperation and collaboration to deal with a problem that is impacting both communities. Facilitated the development and implementation of special education programmes throughout Cyprus in order to improve the learning conditions of people with special needs. Established the Network website which played a fundamental role in keeping all project partners and the public apprised of the progress of individual initiatives and the overall project itself, thus advancing public awareness of this cause. Relationships between learning disability advocacy groups were strengthened through the creation of the Special Education Network encouraging cooperation. The training materials and publications that were created as a result of various conferences, seminars, presentations and workshops that were held, are available to teachers, parents and children ensuring long-term sustainability.</p>

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<p>Doves Olympic Movement Summer Camps 2007-2008</p> <p>Centre for Leisure, Tourism and Sport (CLTS)</p>	<p>The Doves Olympic Movement is an educational sports initiative founded in 2003 that aims to utilize the Millennium Development goals of the United Nations under the framework of the philosophy and principles of the Olympic Movement. The programme aims to use sports to achieve educational objectives, but also emphasizes the use of sports as a tool for achieving stability, peace and personal development. It is intended to create a learning environment that will provide an essential educational context and financial resources that will facilitate the personal development of youth from across the island. Through the programme, children, parents and instructors from diverse socioeconomic, religious and ethnic backgrounds come together and engage in activities that facilitate character development and promote social inclusion.</p>	<p>To extend the initial 2005 camp activities.</p> <p>Through the participation of Turkish Cypriot and Greek Cypriot youths in a series of camps and year-long activities based on the integration of the Doves Olympic Movement sports education initiative and Human Rights-based thematic areas, training will be provided within single community and bi-communal environments in order to promote inter-communal relationships and social integration, to encourage personal development and to facilitate the process of overcoming long-held negative beliefs and practices of the past between the communities.</p>	<p>The camp activities brought young people from across the island closer together, allowing them to realize how much they have in common. Developed the skills of youth leaders, promoted social integration and provided training in both single-community and inter-communal settings to help children from all over Cyprus to come together and foster trust and relationships using sport, MDG and Human Rights-based thematic activities. Developed the skills of youth leaders and helped in the development of a model for inter-communal youth peer learning courses.</p>
<p>Volunteerism Lessons for Beginners</p> <p>Soma Akriton</p>	<p>A lack of satisfactory volunteerism can lead to a weak civil society. For this reason, this project will promote the act of volunteerism amongst the youth in Cyprus in order to increase the level of young volunteers.</p>	<p>To increase the number of young volunteers in Cyprus through a series of educational initiatives, including a series of camps and other activities, in order to promote volunteerism in Cyprus.</p>	<p>Implemented a series of bi-communal activities which contributed towards establishing a network and promoting co-operation between the communities. Increased awareness on the concept of volunteerism by targeting various youth groups in order to increase the level of young volunteers in Cyprus. Facilitated the establishment of networks between young people from different communities on the island promoting multi-cultural relationships.</p>

Project Name/ Lead Partner(s)	Background	Objectives	Results
<p data-bbox="109 272 338 341">History Teacher Training Project</p> <p data-bbox="109 384 383 528">Centre for Democracy and Reconciliation in Southeast Europe (CDRSEE)</p>	<p data-bbox="443 272 965 639">History teaching has often been a cause of division in Cyprus. It is therefore crucial to understand different perspectives, especially when dealing with the past. It is evident that the recent and more distant past of Cyprus still evokes strong emotions between the members of the Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot communities as it is a past that has from time to time been violent and certainly contentious.</p>	<p data-bbox="1021 272 1480 1054">To equip history teachers with the necessary skills to educate their students in a manner that leaves space for different perspectives and that encourages critical thinking. This initiative is thus important to Cypriots as through education; cooperation, dialogue and multiculturalism will be encouraged between the two communities. The aim of this project is to equip Cypriot history teachers with the skills to conduct multi-perspective history lessons that encourage critical thinking and analysis by students rather than just simple memorization. The achievement of this goal, in collaboration with the engagement of civil society organizations, will thus contribute to the strengthening of civil society and improve relations between Greek Cypriots and Turkish Cypriots.</p>	<p data-bbox="1541 272 2114 791">This bi-communal educational initiative played a fundamental role in facilitating cooperation and trust between Greek Cypriots and Turkish Cypriots as it equipped Cypriot teachers with the methods of conducting multi-perspective history lessons that encourage critical thinking and analysis by the students. Introduced future generations of individuals to critical thinking so they are capable of dealing with different perspectives, especially regarding the past, which is crucial in strengthening relations and trust between the two communities. Helped network Cypriot teachers abroad and introduced relevant best practices.</p>
<p data-bbox="109 1098 360 1203">Youth Camps: Science Camp for Girls</p> <p data-bbox="109 1246 333 1315">Learning in Physics Group</p>	<p data-bbox="443 1098 976 1465">Specific data on Cyprus shows that women hold only a small percentage as members and leaders of scientific boards. Research has shown that girls' interest in science remains lower than that of boys, as does their perception and self-confidence in their specific scientific abilities. It is therefore evident that drastic measures need to be taken in order to address these issues, starting from getting girls involved in authentic</p>	<p data-bbox="1021 1098 1491 1465">The overall aim of this project is to create a sustainable mechanism whereby young girls are encouraged to actively engage in authentic scientific activities that gives them first-hand experience with real science; cultivating positive attitudes amongst young women towards their participation in science and technology processes; and enhancing the interest of girls in science related studies.</p>	<p data-bbox="1541 1098 2114 1465">Brought together 50 Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot young girls to work together in a collaborative effort to address an issue of joint concern to both communities. In addition to improving young girls' perceptions about their own scientific abilities, and on science and scientific careers in general, this project built friendship relations between the Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot participants of the science camp thus promoting dialogue and respect between the</p>

Project Name/ Lead Partner(s)	Background	Objectives	Results
	<p>scientific activities from a young age. This project will endeavor to facilitate this process through the implementation of a bi-communal science camp programme for 50 young Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot young girls to work together in the context of an issue of joint concern to both communities.</p>		<p>two communities. Demystified human and social relationships away from the stereotypical intercommunal confrontation of opposites and moved towards productive paradigm shifts within small multicultural working and learning communities as a way of promoting cooperation, collaboration and prosperity in society.</p>
<p>Exploring Europe and Ourselves</p> <p>Cyprus College and POST</p>	<p>Traditionally in Cyprus, geography teaching has often been perceived as an example of how education in general and the curriculum in particular have provided means of developing national identities for the different communities of the island. However, there have been no recent studies of geography curricula and textbooks in Cyprus along the lines, for example of the current research that looks at new ways of approaching History teaching. This project will involve an investigation of how Europe is constructed in Geography and Social Studies textbooks in primary and secondary schools across the island. This new knowledge will be used to design teacher training and teaching materials that explore European and Cypriot identities through the concept of Europe and European geography. It is also hoped the impact of the project will be sustained in the future by broadening its scope to investigating how Europe is represented in History curricula and textbooks as well as other subjects across the island.</p>	<p>To stimulate critical thinking amongst participants on issues of European and Cypriot identities. Through this project 90 Cypriot teachers from all over the island will be trained to use European geography as a way to explore European and Cypriot identities. This will lead to suggestions being made for the improvement of European geography teaching in schools across the island. The competence of teachers to teach and learn about Europe in critical and flexible ways is to be increased, and relevant teaching resources will be made available.</p>	<p>Teachers from both the Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot communities worked together throughout the project, shared their experiences and developed a network. Increased awareness amongst educators, researchers, academics and others interested in the teaching and learning of geography on how Europe and Cyprus might be studied at school in critical and flexible ways, as well as the availability of relevant teaching resources. The research report's findings as well as the Conference Proceedings provided a long-term resource and reference for others pursuing research projects related to this field; these included an analysis of how Europe is constructed in current textbooks and what the needs of geography teachers are. The teaching materials produced remain a useful resource for teachers and pupils across the divide to engage with the geography of Europe in the classroom. Served as the basis for follow-up projects aimed at training teachers all over the island in using the teaching materials and developing them further with the involvement of pupils and parents.</p>

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<p>Youth Camps: Together, Anything Is Possible</p> <p>KAYAD</p>	<p>Whilst Cypriot culture is such that many Cypriots do engage in the act of volunteerism in their free time for their friends and families due to close family ties, there does exist a lack of understanding regarding volunteerism and social work which can be carried out in different ways throughout the communities as a whole.</p>	<p>To introduce and educate 26 youths, from both the Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot communities, on different levels of volunteerism in order to further develop understanding of what community service and volunteering can achieve.</p>	<p>Created the context within which a group of Greek Cypriots and Turkish Cypriots participated in a series of bi-communal activities which not only equipped them with a wealth of knowledge and awareness concerning the effectiveness of community service and volunteerism within their respective communities, but also encouraged interaction and cooperation between them in their collaborative efforts to achieve project goals. Publicized results through press releases to existing media, distribution of a newsletter and additional coverage by broadcast media. Generated interest in increased public participation in both areas of volunteer recruitment and requests for volunteers.</p>
<p>Reconciliation Pedagogies in Cyprus: Promoting social justice and peace</p> <p>Centre for the Advancement of Research and Development in Educational Technology (CARDET)</p>	<p>With the division between the two main communities on the island, there is also an absence of island-wide transdisciplinary debate on issues of multiculturalism, social justice and identity politics.</p>	<p>To promote multiculturalism and dialogue between Greek Cypriots and Turkish Cypriots, in an overall effort to increase cooperation, understanding, dialogue and trust between the two communities.</p>	<p>Brought Greek Cypriots and Turkish Cypriots closer together through articulating reconciliation and social justice pedagogies with the collaboration of a range of scholars and organizations.</p> <p>Brought the two communities together in a discourse on ‘reconciliation’ and ‘pedagogy’ as they confronted questions of multiculturalism, social justice and identity politics. Encouraged debate of a transdisciplinary, cross-cultural framework by drawing on a diverse range of fields and practices—philosophical, ethnographic, political, sociological, pedagogical and cultural, post-colonial and feminist studies.</p>

Project Name/ Lead Partner(s)	Background	Objectives	Results
<p data-bbox="109 272 315 416">Environmental Education for Educators – 3E Project</p> <p data-bbox="109 461 338 528">Frederick Research Centre</p>	<p data-bbox="439 272 969 453">Environmental education is a topic of common concern across the island and could serve as a constructive inroad for teachers and their students to benefit from working together.</p>	<p data-bbox="1016 272 1491 903">To support prospective teachers to construct and implement a new vision of peace education through raising their awareness about local environmental issues by organizing environmental education camps, an international conference on environmental education, educational workshops and outdoor activities. Instrumental to the Collaboration and interaction among prospective teachers, teacher educators, science education experts and environment experts that form a dynamic group of an array of interrelated philosophical perspectives, knowledge and expertise is key to the approach.</p>	<p data-bbox="1538 272 2125 715">Enhanced the interaction and exchange of ideas and experiences between the 30 Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot educators participating. Transferred knowledge on environmental issues that concern the whole island. The websites and educational materials are available to anyone who is interested. Promoted multiculturalism and dialogue across Cyprus through support to prospective teachers to construct and implement a new vision of peace education through developing a heightened awareness about local environmental issues.</p>
<p data-bbox="109 951 376 1203">Building a multi-ethnic and multi-national Cyprus to promote European values and regional and international peace</p> <p data-bbox="109 1248 349 1391">The Cyprus Neuroscience & Technology Institute (CNTI)</p>	<p data-bbox="439 951 969 1203">Investing in the young people of Cyprus is an essential investment in the future of the island. Encouraging young people to come together and creating opportunities for them to develop a common set of values can contribute to a future of peace and tolerance among people across the island.</p>	<p data-bbox="1016 951 1491 1465">To promote the emerging multi-ethnic and multicultural Cyprus, by reaching out to youth and their parents and teachers so that they must share a common vision and work together in practical ways. Recognizing that young citizens of today will be the decision-makers and future leaders of tomorrow, this project’s primary focus is on students and those adults in their immediate social environment: teachers and parents. In order to effectively promote tolerance and respect between the communities, the overall</p>	<p data-bbox="1538 951 2125 1391">Creation of a close network of the partner NGOs and the workshop participants. Engaged young people from across the island, as well as their parents and teachers, in a series of structured dialogue workshops aimed at building a shared vision for a multi-cultural and multi-ethnic Cyprus. Panel discussions in all districts of the island engaged the wider society and fostered public debate and dialogue. Specific activities generated in the workshops promoted multiculturalism and diversity within Cypriot society.</p>

Project Name/ Lead Partner(s)	Background	Objectives	Results
		<p>educational milieu needs to support and promote values such as respect for diversity, tolerance, cooperation, participation, and civic responsibility.</p>	
<p>Voicing and Staging the Experience: Multicultural Youth Camp Participants Take the Stage</p> <p>Intercultural Centre of Cyprus</p>	<p>Given the continuing political situation in Cyprus, the Intercultural Centre of Cyprus (ICC), in collaboration with the Rooftop Theatre Group, has decided to take theatrical activities one step further. Working with children and building on their experiences as part of bi-communal groups and activities through the UNDP-ACT summer camps programme, the medium of theatre is being explored as a means of expression, to promote collaboration between Cyprus' communities.</p>	<p>The groups involved in this project are keen to use creative methods such as theatre as a way to expressing the issues connected to living in Cyprus, and dealing with the island's division. Not only is it a healthy and productive way of channeling thoughts and ideas, it also allows opportunities for people from both communities to work together and to then share their ideas with wider audiences.</p>	<p>Created links between the youth participants, their parents and educators from both communities. Offered opportunities for discussion among audiences and made suggestions concerning the play and productions. With each play a questionnaire explored the experiences of those involved in the project keeping the channels of communication open between the group and parents, children and educators. Reinforced the ties established among the young people participating in the UNDP Youth Camps and gave them the opportunity and outlet to effectively communicate those experiences to the broader public.</p>
<p>Conflict Resolution and Peace Education (CRE/PE)</p> <p>Mediation Association, KAYAD, Peace Centre, British Council</p>	<p>Turkish Cypriot education experts realize that conflicts at school are affecting not only the quality of education, but also shaping the future of society in a negative fashion. As a result, a new course called '<i>Character Development and Social Skills</i>' was introduced at elementary schools during the 2004-2005 school year. However, teachers felt they needed better skills to teach the course, and consequently the project's aims to provide teachers the correct tools to teach Conflict Resolution and Peace Education.</p>	<p>To promote awareness of CRE/PE throughout Cyprus, and train 1,600 Turkish Cypriot elementary school teachers to teach this subject. The trained teachers will then introduce new skills, such as responsibility, tolerance, integrity, self-esteem, conflict resolution, cultural and interpersonal competence, restraint, decision-making and vision-building.</p>	<p>Helped young people to develop the necessary skills to engage in dialogue with the people of his/her own community, the other communities on the island, and the communities of the world. CRE/PE was integrated into elementary schools' curricula, and a comprehensive monitoring and evaluation plan was used to assess the situation before and after project implementation. In addition, a substantial number of teachers developed the skills to train their colleagues to teach CRE/PE. By the end of the project 1800 teachers were qualified to teach this subject.</p>

Project Name/ Lead Partner(s)	Background	Objectives	Results
<p>Camp Against Racism</p> <p>Dali Municipality</p>	<p>Cyprus has been facing the challenge of embracing multiculturalism and the Municipality of Dali has been no exception. In recent times the community has become home to a number of ethnic minorities. Farm workers with their families, asylum seekers, Pontics, Turkish Cypriots, are all adding to the ethnic diversity of Dali. Their children are attending local schools and they are slowly becoming a part of the society. As elsewhere the emergence of a multicultural society and the coexistence of different cultures is not without its difficulties. Today the Dali community is working to create an enabling environment for a tolerant and ethnically diverse youth culture.</p>	<p>To bring all the youth together, in an attempt to fight racial discrimination and reverse the social exclusion faced by people who do not have an ethnic Greek Cypriot background. To organize an anti-racism camp, where the children of the non-Greek families will be urged and encouraged to participate, and become part of a decision-making process for actions against racism to be carried out in Dali.</p>	<p>Improved opportunities for formal and informal education which promotes learning to build a multicultural society based on justice, tolerance and mutual respect. 40 young people participated in the 5-day camp that built a network which worked against racism in Dali, a large municipality outside of Nicosia. Shared the experience of the camp with the rest of the community through theatre.</p>
<p>School Milk Project</p> <p>MADISON Dairy Advisory Group (MADAG), Turkish Cypriot education experts, Milk Marketing Board, KOOP Milk</p>	<p>Children in the TCC consume less milk than their peers in the GCC and in other parts of the world. This can be having a deleterious effect on their health in the long term. To change this, an education campaign, focused in schools, can be introduced.</p>	<p>To increase the consumption of milk by the children of the TCC to promote good health through collaboration between MADAG the implementing agency, the Milk Marketing Board and the Turkish Cypriot education experts. Together these groups set about selecting schools throughout the Turkish Cypriot Community (TCC), educating staff on the milk project and ensuring the successful delivery of milk into the schools. The partners also promoted the project and the health benefits of milk through a constructed media and public awareness campaign.</p>	<p>Raised the awareness of children in 50 schools during a five-month milk distribution phase. The selected schools were those that were identified as most in need of the project's benefits. Public awareness was raised through a media campaign which included the integration on the health benefits of milk being made into textbooks for use by teachers within the TCC, and an event on the 21st of May 2006 based around Milk Day. Surveys taken as part of the project were analyzed by the implementing agency, and lessons learnt were derived in order for the project to be continued under the auspices of the implementing agency.</p>

Project Name/ Lead Partner(s)	Background	Objectives	Results
		<p>The project was evaluated by surveys that could be analysis to measure its success.</p>	
<p>Intercultural Dialogue and History</p> <p>Euroclio, Association for Historical Dialogue and Research</p>	<p>Since its foundation in 1993 EUROCLIO, the European Standing Conference on History Teachers Associations has worked to promote a broad-based dialogue about history education across Europe, seeking to: promote the values of tolerance and respect, social justice and multiple perspectives, to develop pedagogy, to support history educators and other related educators, and to develop their professional associations as active and critically aware members of civil society.</p>	<p>The aim of this project is to form a core group of highly committed and motivated history educators and trainers in a network of professionals empowered and developed for sustainable future cooperation. In Cyprus the role of civil society is crucial in enhancing democracy, environmental quality, peace, human rights, education, cross-cultural communication and contact. The Cyprus problem has been famous for its elements of ‘intractability’ and a long lack of physical contact between its two main communities. There is a great deal of pessimism on the future of Cyprus as a united island. However, civil society activities have been burgeoning during recent years, showing new ways in which people from across the divide can engage in meaningful dialogue to discuss a range of issues of common concern.</p>	<p>Created a network of educators from all over the island and encouraged them to form strong bonds within the group through enhanced professional development. Prepared them to continue to maintain links and cooperation across ‘the divide’ over time, and beyond the scope of the project. Laid the groundwork for future activities in this important area.</p>
<p>The Diversity Initiative</p> <p>The Management Centre of the Mediterranean</p>	<p>The Turkish Cypriot community is a multi-cultural society which exhibits considerable diversity. Not only is this true in relation to both nationality and ethnicity but across a wide range of other forms of identity</p>	<p>To improve opportunities for formal and informal education which promote learning to build a multi-cultural society based on justice, tolerance and mutual respect. To promote diversity in a</p>	<p>Developed a range of complementary human and other resources in the field of diversity promotion and management in the Turkish Cypriot community modelled on a similar initiative developed in the Greek Cypriot community with</p>

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	<p>including gender, age, ability, etc. Evidence suggests that there is considerable social inequality, causing conflictual relations within the population as a whole, and not only does this have an impact on community relations but also has material consequences. Other significant sections of the population—women, young people, the elderly, the disabled—frequently experience marginalization as an outcome of a general condition of social exclusion. Whilst there remains some consciousness about these issues and occasional action directed towards enhancing diversity, these activities are often limited and disconnected.</p>	<p>strategic effort across a variety of prominent sectors.</p>	<p>UNDP-ACT's support, which is called Diversity Ambassadors and is implemented by the Larnaca District Development Agency in collaboration with the Centre for the Study of Childhood and Adolescence. Incorporated the public sector, the private sector and civil society.</p>
<p>Youth Camps: Camping, Fitness and Education (CAFÉ)</p> <p>Frederick Institute of Technology (FIT)</p>	<p>A number of issues, such as environmental awareness and sports for personal growth and development, have been identified as being important in the lives of Greek Cypriots and Turkish Cypriots. The implementation of initiatives combining these two areas will therefore play a functional role in promoting multiculturalism, dialogue and trust between the two communities.</p>	<p>To provide information relating to environmental awareness and sports for personal growth and development, through participation in a series of lectures, field trips, camps and various other sporting activities, in order to encourage and promote dialogue and foster trust, mutual respect and understanding between the two communities.</p>	<p>Produced a television programme publicizing the project's objectives and event. Created a network of people from both communities promoting dialogue and tolerance. In addition to providing valuable information regarding the habitats, fauna and flora of Cyprus, the interactive environment that was created by the project through a combination of lectures, field trips, camps and sporting activities in which both Greek Cypriots and Turkish Cypriots participated, facilitated and assisted in developing stronger ties between the two communities.</p>
<p>Education for Peace</p> <p>POST</p>	<p>This project involves the comparative analysis of the old and the revised history textbooks of the first three grades of secondary schools</p>	<p>To implement a variety of research, workshop, training and educational initiatives, which encourage dialogue</p>	<p>Promoted tolerance, trust, understanding and education for peace. Analyzed old and revised history textbooks used in the Turkish Cypriot</p>

Project Name/ Lead Partner(s)	Background	Objectives	Results
	<p>in the Turkish Cypriot community, and the analysis and revision of various history teaching methodologies, in order to use education as the context within which to reduce stereotypes and to promote peace, tolerance and understanding.</p>	<p>relating to the teaching of history in the Turkish Cypriot community, to be effective tools in reducing stereotypes, promoting education for peace, and enhancing tolerance, trust and understanding.</p>	<p>community. Evaluated the revision and analysis of history teaching methodologies contributing towards the reduction of stereotypes and encouraging dialogue, trust and understanding. Reviewed the contributions made by project team members through various educational activities, workshops and presentations. Promoted the ideal of education for peace.</p>
<p>Life & Cultural Heritage of the Turkish Cypriot Community in Limassol</p> <p>Cyprus Conservation Foundation</p>	<p>This project has arisen from the work conducted by the Cyprus Conservation Foundation during a previous UNOPS project called 'A study of the Old Town Limassol', through which two Turkish Cypriot brothers Selchuk and Ozay Akif produced a wealth of information, based on their research and personal knowledge, which was considered too valuable to remain as only an appendix to the project report.</p>	<p>To produce a book comprising which will be of interest to all communities on the island because although its focus will be on the Turkish Cypriot community, there will also be cross-cultural referencing thus widening the target market. To publish a book such as this will act as another milestone on the road to reconciliation in Cyprus through its demonstration of the fact that peaceful multicultural coexistence between Greek Cypriots and Turkish Cypriots in a community such as Limassol once existed, and will also educate the youth on their heritage.</p>	<p>Using the book as a tool, raised awareness of the general public of the peaceful multicultural coexistence between Turkish Cypriots and Greek Cypriots once practiced in communities like Limassol. Contributed to the education of younger generations about their heritage. Produced a record of 'oral urban history' to demonstrate that peaceful inter-communal coexistence was possible in the past and educated the youth about their cultural heritage.</p>
<p>Youth Camps: Coexistence and Diversity Matter</p> <p>Peace Centre, WINPEACE, KAYAD, Under The Same Sky</p>	<p>It has been acknowledged that in order for peace and cooperation to exist between Cyprus, Turkey and Greece, societies need to attempt to build cross-border bi-communal relationships by means of not only co-operation and appreciation of differences by the respective communities, but also</p>	<p>To foster greater understanding and cross-cultural security, stability and integration between Cyprus, Greece and Turkey, through the participation of students from each country. This project will involve the participation of a group of 40 Greek Cypriot, Turkish</p>	<p>Created a close network of students in Cyprus, Greece and Turkey through their participation in the youth camp programme. Created a website containing relevant information and material pertaining to the project. Published a booklet containing stories concerning the project which was distributed to schools and other workshops.</p>

Project Name/ Lead Partner(s)	Background	Objectives	Results
	<p>through the altering of misperceptions, biased belief systems, stereotypes and prejudices held by individuals. The concept of a summer youth camp programme, consisting of a combination of varied activities touching on issues of peace education, history and art, conflict analysis and conflict resolution, in which Greek Cypriot, Turkish Cypriot, Greek and Turkish, students will participate in, will have a positive impact on the advancement of understanding, trust and co-operation between the youth and subsequently their communities.</p>	<p>Cypriot, Greek and Turkish students from Cyprus, Greece and Turkey respectively, in an 8-day summer youth camp programme in which the advancement of peace, co-operation, trust and understanding will be encouraged between the participants through their partaking in various inter-personal and group activities, workshop sessions, and day-trips, promoting the concepts of peace education, conflict analysis and conflict resolution.</p>	<p>Created an internet-newspaper based on the volunteer work of the students in Greece, Turkey and Cyprus, linked to the WINPEACE website and to other regional websites serving as a forum for students and young journalists to share their views and ideas, and to report about cultural aspects in their communities.</p>
<p>Youth Camps: Voyage of Understanding</p> <p>Tall Ships Youth Trust</p>	<p>Politico-historical issues combined with the division of the island still act as barriers to the smooth relationships between various communities within Cyprus, especially between the youth. The implementation of a bi-communal outreach initiative, such as this voyage, will therefore play a functional role in promoting collaboration, cooperation, dialogue and tolerance between the two communities.</p>	<p>Through a voyage by sea from Gibraltar to Mahon, promote team work, communication, problem solving and team management, which will encourage the type of behavioral change effective in promoting positive inter-communal relationships, dialogue, and cooperation between the two communities.</p>	<p>Provided participants with the tools to facilitate dialogue and tolerance between the two communities.</p> <p>The integration of activities, combining team work, communication, problem-solving and team management, in which participating Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot youths engaged in on the voyage, brought about progressive attitude change within the group that will aid in encouraging multiculturalism and dialogue, tolerance and mutual respect between the two communities.</p> <p>Provided a powerful and photogenic example of effective team building that attracted a lot of press attention and inspired several additional ideas of how to use sports and team activities to reach young people.</p>

Project Name/ Lead Partner(s)	Background	Objectives	Results
<p>International Children's Film Festival of Cyprus (ICFFCY)</p> <p>International Children's Film Festival of Cyprus</p>	<p>This project will involve the organization and implementation of an International Children's Film Festival in Cyprus, which will create an environment for intercultural learning and expression using the medium of film, and which will facilitate the advancing of the bi-communal educative process through the participation of both Greek Cypriots and Turkish Cypriots.</p>	<p>To provide a vehicle to teachers from both communities to use informal educational modalities to design a critical thinking curriculum which will expose the children to issues such as cultural diversity, tolerance and social concerns which impact all Cypriots, and will provide children from both communities with an opportunity to work together to create their own film, thus promoting inter-communal cooperation, participation and respect.</p>	<p>Contributed towards cooperation and trust between the Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot communities by bringing together children, teachers, artists and film directors from both communities in an educative multicultural experience. Created an environment for intercultural learning and expression using the medium of film. Through the participation and collaborative efforts of children, teachers, artists and film directors from both communities in the festival, further advanced the bi-communal educative process. Moreover, promoted bi-communal collaborations and networks by initiating a bi-communal teachers working group and by establishing relationships with the Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot partners in order to build strong links for future events.</p>
<p><i>Environment and Sustainable Development</i></p>			
<p>Emergency Disease Forum (EDF)</p> <p>EDF, World Health Organization (WHO), UNFICYP, local experts</p>	<p>Avian Influenza is present in the Eastern Mediterranean region, thus putting Cyprus at risk of an outbreak. This risk is enhanced by the fact that Cyprus sits on a major bird migration route. In order to deal with the threat of Avian Influenza and other pandemic preparedness issues, the only solution is for dialogue between veterinary and health experts from both communities The Emergency Disease Forum provides such an opportunity.</p>	<p>To prevent an outbreak of Avian Influenza in Cyprus. The avian influenza epidemic has spread from an initial focal point in South-East Asia to the borders of Europe, with the recent outbreaks in Turkey and Egypt posing a particular concern for nearby Cyprus, which is located on at least two wild bird migration pathways. Migratory birds, the carriers of H5N1, will not stop at the buffer zone, and an outbreak in</p>	<p>Served as a legitimate, politically safe space for veterinary experts to exchange information and coordinate. Ensured regular dialogue on island-wide public health threats, hence promoting further cooperation on these issues.</p> <p>The creation of the EDF, ensured an island-wide response to public health threats, such as avian influenza.</p>

Project Name/ Lead Partner(s)	Background	Objectives	Results
		<p>one community would have serious repercussions on the other.</p>	
<p>Development of Madison Dairy Advisory Group (MADAG) Training and Capacity-Building Programme</p> <p>Madison Dairy Advisory Group (MADAG)</p>	<p>The Madison Dairy Advisory Group (MADAG) was created by the Bi-Communal Development Programme in order to work on an intercommunal level to improve milk quality in Cyprus. As part of the mandate of MADAG, ACT has supported the construction of training facilities where a comprehensive training programme will be delivered to dairy farmers. Further consultation was used to conduct a sustainability plan and establish conditions for improved dairy waste and whey management.</p>	<p>To address specific problems faced by the dairy industry across the island; specifically, the improvement in the quality of milk production, and reduction of the negative environmental impacts. As part of an ongoing series of developments, the project would also assess the issues surrounding the establishment of a whey management strategy. Having been identified as an ongoing priority for the ACT programme, due to the potential for cooperation in the production of halloumi/hellim – a cheese whose origin is Cyprus and which accounts for one of Cyprus’ most significant exports, the MADAG project needed to develop a training programme for dairy farmers across Cyprus.</p>	<p>MADAG brought together experts from across Cyprus with the focus on achieving benefit for the dairy industry, island-wide. The project was inclusive of all dairy farmers throughout the island, furthering the additional aim of expanding existing relationships and establishing new inter-communal partnerships within the industry. The project saw fully operational training farms established and a tailored training of the trainers programme implemented, with good attendance by members of the dairy farming community. It included the preparation of a waste management strategy.</p> <p>Built foundations for bicomunal exchange and dialogue and improved standards in a critical economic sector.</p>
<p>Cyprus Environmental Stakeholder Forum</p> <p>ETEK, KTMMOB</p>	<p>One of the key objectives of the UNDP-ACT is the empowerment of civil society organizations to network at both local and international levels, amongst themselves and with other stakeholders, in order to form lasting partnerships. In a project sponsored by the Bi-Communal Development Programme, the Cyprus Technical Chamber (ETEK) and the Union of Chambers of</p>	<p>To develop a long term partnership of Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot environmental stakeholders that could provide a durable platform to address island-wide issues for environmentally sustainable development, which is of vital importance to the future of all Cypriots.</p>	<p>Promoted cooperation and dialogue between environmental stakeholders and set the stage for environmental experts to lead by example in the environmental technical committee. This partnership provided a platform to address common island-wide issues for environmentally sustainable development, once again facilitating interaction between Greek Cypriots and Turkish Cypriots. Involved Cypriot stakeholders</p>

Project Name/ Lead Partner(s)	Background	Objectives	Results
	<p>Turkish Cypriot Engineers and Architects (KTMMOB) produced a report regarding common environmental activities and further recommended action that involved setting up a durable process for working together on environmental issues. This follow-up project will establish conditions that could lead to a long term partnership of Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot stakeholders which could provide a durable platform to address island-wide issues for environmentally sustainable development.</p>		<p>from both communities in global international environmental events, providing opportunities for networking.</p>
<p>IBARESS II</p> <p>Forestry experts, Foundation for the Rehabilitation of Quarries</p>	<p>Following on from the success of the “Natural Solutions” workshop and the pursuant mycorrhizal technology project, “mycorrhiza” will be used in a pilot project to support partnerships for sustainable development by encouraging technology transfer and exchange of ideas between Cypriot foresters. The word “mycorrhiza”, derives from ancient Greek and means “fungus-roots”. It defines the intimate, mutually beneficial relationship (symbiosis) between specialized soil fungi and plant roots. Mycorrhizae are a natural substitute for chemical fertilizers and pesticides.</p>	<p>To encourage organizational networking and bi-communal understanding. This is being achieved by running combined training sessions, a workshop, site exchange visits and promoting the joint vision for improvements within the entire Cypriot forestry industry. Joint training of the participants will be aided by the guidance of an international expert who will oversee the inoculation process at selected sites and continue to assist in the monitoring and evaluation of the project. It is foreseen that at the conclusion of this project the results will be analyzed and the lessons learnt will be integrated into current practice for the Cypriot forestry efforts.</p>	<p>Brought together professional foresters, forestry students and other relevant stakeholders from throughout Cyprus who learned how to use mycorrhizae for reforestation of severely eroded landscapes throughout Cyprus. While providing the opportunity for an island-wide focus on reforestation, the project allowed for the education of the wider public on the issues of sustainable development. A valuable platform for research was established which continues to be developed, and has provided opportunities to demonstrate the benefits of mycorrhizal technologies to international environmental and forestry professionals.</p>

Project Name/ Lead Partner(s)	Background	Objectives	Results
<p>Prevention of the Development of Asthma and Allergies</p> <p>Cyprus International Institute</p>	<p>Asthma and allergies are a serious problem in Cyprus. This project will focus on the prevention of the development of asthma and allergies in children throughout Cyprus by seeking to establish a set of methodological tools to plan and monitor strategies of prevention of the health impacts of environmental and lifestyle changes. These factors include exposure to farm animals, endotoxins (microbial products), raw milk, diet, obesity, physical activity, overcrowding, viral illnesses, parasites and indoor allergens.</p>	<p>By planning, implementing and monitoring set methodologies and strategies in relation to asthma and allergy prevention, to establish a baseline that will allow health experts to gauge the effects of various environmental factors that impact the occurrence of asthma and allergies within Cypriot children. This information will be used to aid decision makers and health experts, with the ultimate aim of reducing the occurrence of asthma and allergies within children in both the Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot communities.</p>	<p>Fostered cooperation between health experts from both communities. Established a social and scientific alliance to train health workers. Enhanced collaboration in the research and monitoring process and in the development of a universal strategy, improving relations between the communities. Developed a comprehensive and inclusive health plan. Established the methodological tools to monitor and plan asthma and allergy prevention strategies that will benefit the children of Cyprus.</p>
<p>Epidemiology of Cancer in Cyprus</p> <p>Cyprus Institute of Neurology and Genetics (CING)</p>	<p>The causes of cancer can be divided into hereditary and environmental. Research estimates that 15-20% of cancers can be classified as familial (hereditary). This finding prompted research which is being used to identify predisposition genes. As a result of research, several predisposition genes have been discovered, such as APC (Adenomatous Polyposis Coli) which predisposes to familial polyposis, and BRCA1 (Breast Cancer 1) which increases the risk of breast and ovarian cancers. Recent advances in cancer genetics and the development of efficient genomic screening methods allow identification of high-risk individuals with a hereditary predisposition for developing breast/ovarian,</p>	<p>Through the establishment of inter-communal partnerships between healthcare professionals, to conduct an island-wide breast/ovarian and colon cancer screening programme. The programme will identify high-risk groups that carry hereditary mutations in genes known to predispose individuals to the development of breast/ovarian and colon cancers. Data will be collected on lifestyle and environmental factors in order to identify further high-risk factors, and to design appropriate risk reducing strategies.</p>	<p>Strengthened the relationship between the Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot medical communities by encouraging the more active involvement of Turkish Cypriot health professionals, as well as the recruitment and inclusion of Turkish Cypriot patients in the programme. Created an inter-communal network of medical professionals and a bi-communal database to benefit the public health systems of both communities. Helped expand services that are already being offered to the people of Cyprus. Cancer genetics is a new and evolving field and oncologists are experiencing increasing demand for such services. The capacity building activities of this project such as the formation of a bi-communal network of experts and the database ensured the long-</p>

Project Name/ Lead Partner(s)	Background	Objectives	Results
	<p>colon and other cancers. Once identified, affected individuals will be provided with improved management and surveillance programmes, which aim at early detection and diagnosis of their disease. In addition, once groups or individuals at high risk have been identified, intervention that can help reduce the negative impact of lifestyle and/or environmental factors can be instigated. The Department of Electron Microscopy/ Molecular Pathology (EM/MP) at the Cyprus Institute of Neurology and Genetics (CING) has the requisite infrastructure and expertise to carry out these genetic tests and has already played a pioneering role in the molecular characterization of BRCA1, BRCA2 and APC mutations observed in the Cypriot population.</p>		<p>term public health benefits will remain operational well after the completion of the project.</p>
<p>Recycling on Cycles</p> <p>AKTI (under the auspices of the Cyprus Environmental Stakeholder Forum – CESF), Biologists Association, Posidonion</p>	<p>Today in Cyprus, there is a generalized public interest in environmental issues, in environmental rights, and in initiatives such as recycling, but sometimes the essential information is not readily available. The project is based around the concept of a Mobile Information Centre (a modified caravan), travelling around Cyprus and setting up in temporary locations, such as village squares and fairs. The Mobile Information Centre will support a variety of activities that promote recycling and waste management. Such activities include</p>	<p>To provide Cypriots with information on their environmental rights according to the Aarhus Convention, on ways to manage waste (e.g. composting), and a range of other related topics that will assist them in preserving the environment for the benefit of all Cypriots.</p>	<p>Fostered environmental partnerships by traveling all around the island, a symbol for the unity of environmental problems. The caravan visited local authorities, schools, farmers and businesses; encouraging civic engagement and public participation on development issues. Helped expand new and existing partnerships through its links to CESF projects. Promoted the Aarhus Convention principles and United Nations Global Compact by focusing on the thematic area of ‘Cooperation on solid waste management, including recycling’. Increased awareness on such things as solid waste management, waste</p>

Project Name/ Lead Partner(s)	Background	Objectives	Results
	<p>practical demonstrations, education on waste management and competitions for children. It will target the wider communities as well as specific groups such as farmers and local authorities. The project will be supported by a helpdesk that will continue after the conclusion of the Mobile Information Centre's activities.</p>		<p>prevention and recycling. Further strengthened island-wide environmental consciousness and laid groundwork for future bicommunal collaborations.</p>
<p>Cooperation for the Conservation of Rare Endemic Plants of Cyprus Within the Buffer Zone</p> <p>Frederick Institute of Technology</p>	<p>The project seeks to bring Greek Cypriots and Turkish Cypriots together to preserve rare and threatened plants that are located within the buffer zone. The project will actively seek the participation of local and marginalized communities (within and adjacent to the buffer zone) in the plant conservation effort. The success of the project could facilitate the establishment of an island-wide network of Plant Micro Reserves (PMRs) aiming at the conservation of the rich plant diversity of the island.</p>	<p>To preserve and monitor rare, endemic and threatened plants, native to Cyprus. The project will focus on the detailed monitoring and effective conservation of the populations of '<i>Ophrys kotschyi</i>' and '<i>Tulipa cypria</i>', which are found in the buffer zone. By creating inter-communal partnerships it is foreseen that these important indigenous plants will be preserved and further conservation efforts to preserve such plants will be encouraged.</p>	<p>Supported the development and strengthening of existing inter-communal partnerships at academic, NGO and local community levels, in the area of biodiversity conservation in Cyprus. The participation of scientists from both communities initiated cooperation for the protection of the common natural environment and enhance the sustainability of the project and resulted in several large follow-on, EU-funded programmes in Cyprus. Conservation activities focused on the establishment, monitoring and management of two PMRs. The PMR concept involved the monitoring and conservation of small land plots of great value in terms of plant richness, endemism and rarity.</p>
<p>Sustainable Use of Abandoned Mines and Quarries</p> <p>Laona Foundation</p>	<p>Mining and quarrying have been taking place on the island since antiquity, and in some cases have left scars on the landscape, a problem of concern to both communities. When Cypriots are asked to identify the most pressing environmental problems on</p>	<p>To address the pressing issue of mining and quarrying activities in Cyprus, under the auspices of the Cyprus Environmental Stakeholder Forum. This project was submitted in response to the "island-wide environmental</p>	<p>Created a bi-communal study group culminating in a Think Tank to identify and address common environmental problems concerning abandoned mines and quarries throughout the island and their impact on land degradation, water contamination and waste creation. Involved</p>

Project Name/ Lead Partner(s)	Background	Objectives	Results
	<p>the island, the visual and environmental impact of mining and quarrying is invariably one of their main concerns.</p>	<p>projects” call for proposals and is aimed at finding solutions to remediate the environmental impact of the extractive industries on the island.</p>	<p>Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot professional bodies and NGOs. Findings disseminated in the spirit of the Aarhus Convention.</p>
<p>Waterbird Surveillance Programme</p> <p>Unit of Environmental Studies, Turkish Cypriot academics</p>	<p>The Influenza A (H5N1) virus (avian influenza) is an Influenza A virus subtype that occurs mainly in birds and is both highly contagious and potentially lethal amongst birds. While it does not usually infect people, infection in humans has occurred. Influenza viruses have a characteristic of great public concern: influenza viruses, including subtypes from different species, can swap genetic materials and merge. This re-assortment process, known as antigenic “shift”, results in a novel subtype different from both parent vaccines. As human populations have no immunity to this new subtype, and as no vaccines can offer protection, antigenic shifts have historically resulted in highly lethal pandemics.</p>	<p>Influenza A holds a risk for humans. To manage that risk it is important the Cyprus bird population be monitored for signs of contamination.</p>	<p>Inter-communal partnerships were established between academic organizations, NGOs and public stakeholders. A system was developed for rapid data sharing between the communities. Monitored waterbirds throughout Cyprus in order to collect data and provide a risk management defense against an outbreak of Influenza A within the Cyprus bird population.</p>
<p>Organizational Strengthening – Cyprus Organic Advisory Group (COAG)</p>	<p>The Cyprus Organic Advisory Group (COAG), which was created in early 2005, has successfully established itself as a bi-communal independent network of organic farming stakeholders. It has also made a significant impact by promoting organic farming at the state fair and other venues. Through the distribution of a questionnaire by COAG to members of</p>	<p>To create bi-communal awareness about the island wide benefits of organic farming for environmental preservation and waste management. To help COAG become the main channel for bi-communal exchange of techniques and ideas for organic farming, thus promoting inter-communal dialogue and cooperation</p>	<p>Through the collaborative efforts of COAG members, the International NGO Training and Research Centre (INTRAC) and other agricultural experts, COAG was established as an independent sustainable provider of organic farming services to both Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot communities. It became the main channel for bi-communal exchange of techniques and ideas for organic farming, thus promoting</p>

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	<p>the public last year in order to determine the attitudes of Greek Cypriots and Turkish Cypriots towards organic farming, it was revealed that a public awareness campaign is required in order to broaden the market for organic produce. Furthermore, parallel discussions with the farming community also established that conventional farmers are not hostile in principle to the conversion to more sustainable methods of farming, but that they require information, training and capacity building in order to be willing to take financial risks involved in altering their farming methods. COAG is also now in the process of implementing a project to promote organic farming in schools, and is currently supporting a bi-communal research project focusing on the use of mycorrhizae (a mutually-beneficial symbiosis between mushrooms and plant roots) as a new technique for organic vegetable farming. The role of this project will therefore be to assist COAG to move onto the next stage of its development which will include its registration as an independent organization and a diversification of its sources of income, in order to ensure its long-term sustainability.</p>	<p>between the GC and TC communities.</p>	<p>cooperation and dialogue between Greek Cypriots and Turkish Cypriots. Contributed to the establishment of organic farming as a lucrative economic possibility for Cyprus' ailing agricultural sector.</p>

Project Name/ Lead Partner(s)	Background	Objectives	Results
<p>Introducing Organic Farming in Schools</p> <p>Cyprus Organic Advisory Groups</p>	<p>COAG has successfully established itself as a neutral, independent network of organic farming stakeholders. It has achieved significant success promoting organic farming at the Cyprus State Fair and other venues. COAG recently distributed a questionnaire to members of the public to judge the attitudes of Cypriots from both communities towards organic farming and the initial results of this research reveal that a public awareness campaign is required.</p>	<p>To educate young people about organic farming by conducting a campaign targeting teachers and pupils of secondary schools.</p>	<p>Helped generate a common sense of shared environment in students and teachers alike. Raised awareness in the younger generation of the need to ensure environmental sustainability generally and the benefits of organic techniques specifically.</p> <p>The educational package established a solid base for schools to integrate organic farming into their curriculum, allowing the scheme to be expanded to more schools.</p>
<p>Global Compact Cyprus Survey</p> <p>Turkish Cypriot Chamber of Commerce, Cyprus Chamber of Commerce and Industry, UN Environment Programme</p>	<p><i>The Global Compact Cyprus Survey</i> is one of the first exercises in Cyprus to comprehensively assess the impact of business in both Cypriot communities, and to demonstrate the key links between these practices and their effect on the island as a whole. The impact of the initiative will be measured by assessing the increase in the level of awareness, and application of Global Compact corporate responsibility principles. The three <i>Global Compact Environmental</i> principles are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Businesses should support a precautionary approach to environmental challenges. -Businesses should undertake initiatives to promote greater environmental responsibility. -Businesses should encourage the development and diffusion of environmentally friendly technology. 	<p>To highlight the environmental impact of business activities on the environment on this small island, and the urgency with which the business sector needs to address environmental concerns. To stimulate the application of <i>Global Compact</i> corporate responsibility standards.</p>	<p>Served as a vehicle to stimulate a process of partnership between the Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot business communities, while also promoting inter-communal strategies for protecting the island's environmental assets. Provided additional impetus to UNDP-ACT's environmental programming, and helped define a vision of how it should support activities aimed at achieving inter-communal partnerships for sustainable development. The bi-communal bridges between the Turkish Cypriot Chamber of Commerce and the Cyprus Chamber of Commerce were further strengthened by collaboration on this project, leading to additional collaborative efforts.</p>

Project Name/ Lead Partner(s)	Background	Objectives	Results
<p>Network for a Sustainable Future</p> <p>AKTI</p>	<p>Networking remains weak in Cyprus. The aim of this project is to promote effective partnerships and networking among Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) in Cyprus and from the Mediterranean region and the European Union (EU) on issues relating to the environment, sustainable development and stakeholder participation processes. It will also be integrated into the wider umbrella of the Cyprus Environmental Stakeholder Forum (CESF), which will be an island-wide, multidisciplinary environmental advocacy and awareness platform.</p>	<p>To facilitate dialogue, partnerships and exchange between Greek Cypriots and Turkish Cypriots on common issues relating to the environment, sustainable coastal development, culture and history (cultural preservation), and community and youth work.</p>	<p>Facilitated dialogue, partnerships and exchange between Greek Cypriots and Turkish Cypriots on common issues relating to the environment, sustainable coastal development, culture and history (cultural preservation), and community and youth work.</p>
<p>Setting the Foundations for a Pan-Cyprian Network of Nature Conservation Organizations</p> <p>Unit of Environmental Studies, Intercollege</p>	<p>The proposed aim of this project is to raise awareness within the wider conservation community in Cyprus by promoting cooperation and enhancing the exchange of information and ideas between nature conservationists on the island, within the framework of the Cyprus Environmental Stakeholder Forum (CESF). This project will thus enable key figures within the field of nature conservation to familiarize themselves with each other's work and with the nature initiatives carried out in Cyprus on an island-wide basis. By raising the profiles of local initiatives and individuals, it will make it easier for potential collaborators from abroad to decide who to approach when looking for a relevant person in Cyprus to include on their projects.</p>	<p>To play a fundamental role in raising the profile of local conservation initiatives and of key individuals within the field of nature conservation throughout Cyprus, enabling the establishment of networks and inter-communal partnerships within the Cyprus scientific and nature conservation community. This will also be important in terms of international exposure by making it easier for potential collaborators from abroad to be able to decide who to approach when they are looking for a relevant person in Cyprus to include in their projects.</p>	<p>Promoted bi-communal dialogue and cooperation between the wider conservation community in Cyprus by enhancing the exchange of information between nature conservationists in both communities. Established networks and inter-communal partnerships within the Cyprus scientific and nature conservation community, further facilitating communication between the two communities. Underscored need for and possibility of island-wide solutions to shared problems.</p>

Project Name/ Lead Partner(s)	Background	Objectives	Results
<p>Mycorrhizae for Vegetable Farming</p> <p>Agriculture Research Institute (ARI), COAG</p>	<p>As an alternative to using chemical compounds that adversely impact human health and the environment, scientists are investigating and promoting the use the environmentally compatible methods of farming within the Cypriot agricultural industry.</p>	<p>To involve agriculture experts and professionals, including personnel from the Agriculture Research Institute, to run crop trials to investigate the benefits of mycorrhizal fungi, and give the opportunity to demonstrate the technology involved in using the micro-organisms. As part of the project an education workshop aimed at farmers from both communities was held, as well as a concluding seminar to reveal and discuss the results of the experiment process.</p>	<p>Relationships between farmers and agriculture experts were fostered as part of this project which provided opportunities for organizational networking. The groups involved were united by the common goal of leveraging the benefits of sustainable farming, and the ultimate benefits that could be achieved island-wide. While providing the opportunity for an island-wide focus on reforestation, the project also allowed for the education of the wider public on the issues of sustainable development. A valuable platform for research was created and will present future opportunities to demonstrate the benefits of mycorrhizal technologies to international environmental and forestry professionals.</p>
<p>Eco-Forum World Environment Day 2006</p> <p>Eco-Q</p>	<p>The relationship between the media and environmental NGOs in Cyprus is fairly weak. Environmental stakeholders want to determine how the media and NGOs can work together to raise awareness of environmental issues and what relationship, if any, should be created between environmental NGOs and the media to ensure that the public is well-informed about important environmental issues.</p>	<p>This project will bring together a wide range of environmental stakeholders (business leaders, NGOs, decision-makers, etc.) to inform them about environmental issues facing the island, and encourage them to network in order to find solutions to these environmental problems. This project will include a communications event aimed at raising awareness of environmental issues in Cyprus. A major theme of the initiative will be 'Deserts and Desertification;' local NGO projects and a number of lectures focused on this subject.</p>	<p>This project has raised the levels of awareness, in both communities, about common environmental challenges. In addition, the Eco-forum became an annual event, to maintain the relationships formed between stakeholders from both sides of the island. Business leaders discussed how they could implement the principles of the Global Compact in the Cyprus context, and how bi-communal collaboration on this issue could be beneficial.</p>

Project Name/ Lead Partner(s)	Background	Objectives	Results
<p>Environmentally Friendly Practices in Schools</p> <p>Turkish Cypriot business leaders</p>	<p>One of the reasons why some business leaders may sometimes be reluctant to implement environmentally-friendly practices, is because they are not aware of the advantages, or have over-estimated the costs to their company of doing so. The best way to overcome these misconceptions is to start by educating young people, who are the business leaders of the future, on the social and financial benefits of environmentally-friendly practices.</p>	<p>To educate children and their teachers about the benefits of saving water and energy. To allow schools to lead by example, hopefully leading businesses to follow suit. The objectives of the project have island-wide importance since it will preserve the natural resources and reduce the impact on environment which will benefit everyone in Cyprus. Furthermore the method developed in the project can be easily replicated in other locations.</p>	<p>Demonstrated, with practical examples, that by applying special inexpensive devices and adopting a responsible behavior it is possible to reduce the water and energy consumption and waste production in schools in particular, as well as society at large. Showed school children that environmentally friendly alternatives are possible. Information on the project and its results were disseminated to civil society across the island through the media, business leaders, by the institutions involved in the project and by students in their family environment. Educating young people in both communities about energy and water efficiency allowed them to share a common knowledge on a subject of mutual concern while improving environmental behaviors.</p>
<p>Island Agriculture: A Case Study of Farming Methods in Cyprus</p> <p>Birdlife Cyprus; COAG</p>	<p>While a great deal of research has been done on organic agriculture in general, from social, political, economic, cultural and environmental perspectives, much less has been done on the implications of adopting organic agricultural practices on islands. The experiences of organic farmers in Cyprus have remained, largely, undocumented.</p>	<p>To look at the advantages and disadvantages of organic farming in Cyprus. To determine how current policy promotes and/or impedes the development of sustainable agricultural practices. The experiences of Cypriot farmers, who have attempted to apply farming schemes aimed at promoting more ecologically sensitive farming methods, will also be documented.</p>	<p>The direct involvement of farmers and farmers' organizations in both communities, in cooperation with COAG (Cyprus Organics Advisory Group) and Birdlife Cyprus, contributed towards the development of durable partnerships for sustainable farming in Cyprus. Helped to raise the profile of organic agriculture in Cyprus. All sectors of the community, from producers to consumers, are now aware of the advantages of organic farming. Documented the viability of this type of farming on the island, and bi-communal partnerships have been formed to ensure the continued development of organic agriculture. Birdlife Cyprus and COAG continue working together to ensure the durability of</p>

Project Name/ Lead Partner(s)	Background	Objectives	Results
			<p>partnerships developed under this project. Finally, the stakeholders were given the key to measuring the effectiveness of current agricultural policy in promoting and supporting sustainable island farming practices. The project report outlines the methods used so that the study can be easily replicated.</p>
<p>Environment Café (Raising awareness among local communities about the benefits of sustainable tourism)</p> <p>Institute of Earth, Ocean, Atmospheric and Environmental Sciences (IEOAES), International Friends of Nature, Friends of Nature Cyprus</p>	<p>Despite the existence of a number of vital ecological areas in Cyprus, at both European and international levels, there is a general lack of awareness among local communities living in and around these areas of the biodiversity of Cyprus, the need to conserve it and the benefits that may be afforded to these communities by living in the vicinity of such areas. Overall, the concept of nature conservation is still unfamiliar to Cypriots, largely due to a general lack of information on this subject, and insufficient communication on its positive aspects. Furthermore, the involvement of local communities as stakeholders in the realization of nature conservation is often not considered, as evidenced by the very few locally based environmental businesses and facilities that exist, which emphasizes the importance of promoting locally based projects in order to raise awareness on this issue and its benefits.</p>	<p>To raise awareness about the benefits of nature conservation, financially and otherwise, to all Cypriots, throughout Cyprus, thus ensuring its long-term sustainability by encouraging a dialogue between the public, businesses, academic organizations, NGO's and other local decision makers in both the Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot communities.</p>	<p>Through dialogue the project helped Cypriots realize the positive benefits of cooperating to protect their common environmental assets. Raised awareness of the public, particularly decision makers and local communities, about the benefits, both financial and otherwise, of nature conservation, by facilitating dialogue between members of the public, academic organizations, NGOs, the private sector, and local decision makers in the Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot communities.</p>

Project Name/ Lead Partner(s)	Background	Objectives	Results
<p data-bbox="103 268 416 491">World Environment Day - Management and Assessment of the Ecology of Cyprus' Artificial Wetlands (MACAW)</p> <p data-bbox="103 533 416 900">The Institute of Earth, Ocean, Atmospheric and Environmental Sciences, Frederick Institute of Technology, Birdlife Cyprus, the SWIMMER Institute of the University of Liverpool, the University of Lefke.</p>	<p data-bbox="439 268 972 453">The artificial wetlands of Cyprus have become havens for biodiversity and need to be recognized and managed as such, but this requires concrete data on the flora and fauna of these areas.</p>	<p data-bbox="1016 268 1491 826">To prepare for a much larger, interdisciplinary project examining the hydro-ecology of the wetlands of Cyprus. This project will involve volunteers and academics in the Greek Cypriot Community (GCC), Turkish Cypriot Community (TCC) and the UK, who will visit artificial wetlands all over Cyprus to collect information about the plants and animals found there. Once the data has been collected, they will deliver an information campaign and produce specific policy recommendations for the management of these areas.</p>	<p data-bbox="1536 268 2096 715">Demonstrated how a bicomunal team of volunteers and representatives from academic institutions from both communities can work seamlessly together on the project. Acquired a wealth of data on flora and fauna in the wetlands of Cyprus and produced a documentary film, which was shown at the Eco-forum 2006, a bi-communal event, which took place on World Environment Day. In addition, the team produced a set of concrete recommendations for the management of artificial wetlands in order to preserve their immense biodiversity.</p>
<p data-bbox="103 944 416 1091">World Environment Day – The Sandstone Olive Tree Project</p> <p data-bbox="103 1133 416 1315">Sandstone Trading Company Ltd., ZAKAD (Olive Tree Preservation and Research Society)</p>	<p data-bbox="439 944 972 1426">The Sandstone Olive Tree project (formerly Olive Tree Rescue) was set up in May 2005, as a private limited company, to try save olive trees from developers. They work in partnership with developers and landowners in the Kyrenia area, and relocate unwanted trees (free of charge) to places where they are wanted and will be safe. They do not move trees that are not in imminent danger of being harmed. This project strives to raise awareness of this problem by involving developers, authorities and the community in the process of saving olive trees.</p>	<p data-bbox="1016 944 1491 1465">Within the framework of the Global Compact, this project will encourage cooperation between decision-makers, private developers and nature protection organizations, in order to preserve a vital element of Cyprus' natural heritage: the olive tree. Organizations such as Sandstone work tirelessly to save endangered olive trees, and this project will greatly enhanced public support for these efforts on both sides of the Green Line. This project will improve collaboration with public (local authorities) and</p>	<p data-bbox="1536 944 2096 1465">Sandstone worked towards obtaining permission from landowners to remove endangered trees from the route of the ring road. In addition, Sandstone worked to improve their relationships with developers, and private landowners in order to facilitate the relocation of endangered olive trees from development sites. To raise public awareness of their cause, Sandstone organized high profile tree transplants. These events were publicized via advertisements on television and in the press. In addition to the media, Sandstone also invited schools from both communities to participate. These bi-communal events helped to publicize the availability of mature olive trees for</p>

Project Name/ Lead Partner(s)	Background	Objectives	Results
		<p>voluntary sector agencies. Sandstone will be able to save many more endangered trees. The project will also raise public awareness of this cause. Public tree moving events, to which schools from both communities and media will be invited, will keep this issue fresh in people's minds.</p>	<p>relocation to public and private sites. Pioneered civil society-private sector partnership for a social cause and successfully mobilized broad social support for an environmental cause that captured public attention.</p>
<p>Desertification in Cyprus and its Impacts on the Wine Industry</p> <p>Unit for Environmental Studies, Research Centre, Intercollege</p>	<p>Desertification of vineyards may be caused either by very intensive land use (e.g. soil tillage, which results in reducing soil organic matter, soil pollution due to excessive application of agro-chemicals) or, at the other extreme, by land abandonment especially when this is followed by the progressive ruination of terraces. Desertification significantly affects the capacity of land to support biodiversity, the productivity of these areas and their sustainability, rural people's quality of life and social structure, and the preservation of the traditional landscape. Desertification is one of the most significant environmental problems that Cyprus faces. It is crucial for the island's farming communities and the wine industry to address this problem in a proactive manner.</p>	<p>To determine the extent of desertification through an analysis of financial data pertaining to the wine sector. To determine the extent of land abandonment and conduct an analysis of economic data pertaining to vineyards. To distribute results to authorities, farmers, farming organizations and the wine industry.</p>	<p>Forged links between civil society and researchers concerned with shared problem of desertification. Created a data bank, which is proving useful for future studies. Representatives from the farming community and wine industry received important agro-environmental training, which proved useful in formulation of future agricultural policy. Finally, enhanced collaboration between farmers, farmer organizations, local decision-makers and industry</p>

ACT Phase II – Deepening Engagement 2008-2011

Project Name/ Lead Partner(s)	Background	Objectives	Results
<p>Engage – Civic Engagement for Reconciliation</p> <p>The Management Centre and the NGO Support Centre</p>	<p>Cypriot civil society has been involved in peacebuilding efforts over several years, and the potential of civil society organizations (CSOs) to contribute to the peace process is undeniable. By building the capacity of civil society, the Engage project expands the space for a more inclusive reconciliation process by building relationships and supporting dialogue and participation.</p>	<p>To support civil society’s participation in peacebuilding initiatives and work in partnership with a variety of stakeholders across the island to provide a platform for dialogue and increased citizen involvement in reconciliation efforts. Through the implementation of a series of events and activities, the Engage project will open up new opportunities for active involvement in reconciliation and peacebuilding and promotes a culture of active civic participation.</p>	<p>Over 60 civil society organizations from both the Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot communities presented public declarations of support to the two leaders for the ongoing peace negotiations. Successfully launched the first ever televised island-wide peace campaign. Increased public dialogue for a possible federal solution through a series of popular federalism events in towns and villages across the island.</p> <p>Raised the voice of civil society through weekly newspaper columns and radio shows.</p> <p>Strengthened the civil society sector through influencing policy decisions.</p> <p>The Small Grants Programme provided civil society organizations and initiatives across the island with the opportunity to come together and take action together. Engage supported more than 100 initiatives including a series of historical walks organized by POST RI and the Greek Cypriot & Turkish Cypriot Teachers’ Platform, United Cyprus. Zuhail Mustafaogullari was one of the teachers who participated in the walks: “I recently attended the “Tours for Peace”. In addition to the beauty of the cultural and historical places visited, both Turkish Cypriot and Greek Cypriot participants gathered to walk together, talk together and share together, becoming good friends along the way. I think that in order to attain peace we need to understand</p>

Project Name/ Lead Partner(s)	Background	Objectives	Results
			<p>each other better and I am very happy to have been a part of such an effort by joining in this activity.”</p>
<p>Cyprus Community Media Centre</p> <p>UNDP-ACT: 30 CSO Consortium</p>	<p>The Cyprus Community Media Centre opened its doors in 2009, aiming to encourage community media in Cyprus and support local organizations and groups in communicating their message to the public. The Centre does this through training, support, provision of equipment, creating videos, holding public events, and offering tailored advice. CCMC is located in the heart of Nicosia’s buffer zone, on the Ledra Palace grounds, making it as inclusive and available as possible to all communities of the island. Community media plays an important role in diversifying the media landscape in many countries around the world. In Europe, community media policies have been implemented in many states and have proved effective in developing a stronger sense of social cohesion and promoting diversity through grassroots-based forms of media expression.</p>	<p>To increase the media space given to local groups to express their concerns to address one of the most significant gaps in civil society’s role in the social development of Cypriot society. CCMC’s community-based radio, television and Internet projects build the capacity of civil society organizations to become media producers, working together to increase opportunities for dialogue and cultural expression.</p>	<p>A 30-member strong consortium of Civil Society Organizations from both the Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot communities worked together to tell untold stories. Over 25 CSOs got their messages out through video, audio, and online platforms. Over 100 people were trained and made their own media across the island. Several formal agreements with mainstream media - TV, radio and newspapers – were forged, giving Civil Society a greater voice on both sides of the divide. Established Cyprus’ first intercommunal community media website.</p> <p>The Environmental Society of Lefke (ESL) made two short videos following the opening of the Limnitis checkpoint. The organization expressed their gratitude to CCMC for the training that took place in September: “We applied the knowledge we gained from the CCMC training while producing the videos; we are very thankful to CCMC for showing us how to produce videos with no budget and simple equipment. We will produce videos and share them with the wider public from now on!” said Tamer Dayioğlu, Secretary General of the ESL. The links to videos were posted on CCMC’s Facebook page and ESL shared the videos with their members via email.</p>

Project Name/ Lead Partner(s)	Background	Objectives	Results
<p>Cyprus 2015: Research and Dialogue</p> <p>Interpeace</p>	<p>The current peace process takes place in an environment of pronounced mistrust between both communities, as has been evidenced by numerous recent public opinion polls. In addition, there has also been a trend where, until now, negotiations on the Cyprus issue have been conducted without reference to the public of either community. This has carried the risk of making people feel that they are neither consulted nor informed about decisions which will affect their lives, leaving open the possibility that they will be presented a fait accompli, over which they have little choice. With such challenges in mind, efforts to find a political solution to the problem will have to address these and other similar confidence gaps in order to ensure the development of a public atmosphere that is receptive to the technical and political solutions that might be achieved through the direct negotiations, and prevent the repetition of a popular rejection. Indeed, one of the greatest challenges ahead is to ensure that a comprehensive solution enjoys broad societal ownership and that the people of Cyprus are properly prepared for a federal solution, understanding both the challenges and benefits this will bring.</p>	<p>To contribute towards a creative and constructive social debate for the long-term sustainable future of Cyprus and towards bridging the gap between public opinion and the peace process. The methods and tools used by Cyprus 2015 will include research and dialogue: research for action, which produces actionable policy proposals and participatory dialogue, which includes all schools of thought within each community and which takes place within and across the two communities. Cyprus 2015 will explore the opinions, views and thoughts of the public, in both the Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot communities, and develop them into policy proposals.</p> <p>The Cyprus 2015 initiative aspires to continue its activities in the future as Cyprus' first island-wide think tank, supporting not only the process leading up to a settlement, but also the process of post-settlement stabilization and reconciliation.</p>	<p>Publication of two inter-communal public opinion surveys which examine several facets of Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot public opinion in relation to the Cyprus problem. The consultations that took place in the preparation of the survey questionnaires include the leadership of each community, political parties of the two communities, the United Nations, the European Union, diplomatic missions, academics and civil society. The survey results have received significant television, radio and newspaper attention in both communities. The findings contribute towards the development of a road map for the constructive engagement and participation of the wider public in the peace process, in a way that will enhance the sense of societal ownership – and by extension the long term viability – of any future political settlement.</p>

Project Name/ Lead Partner(s)	Background	Objectives	Results
<p>Economic Interdependence</p> <p>Cyprus Chamber of Commerce and Industry and the Turkish Cypriot Chamber of Commerce</p>	<p>The construction of the European Union has demonstrated how various peoples gain strength from pooling their economic resources. The same imperative applies in Cyprus, a small island whose economy can only benefit from increased intra-island business-to-business partnerships. Economic interdependence between the two communities has increased substantially since the opening of the crossing points in 2003, and it is becoming clear how both communities could benefit economically from a comprehensive settlement, for example through improved access to new markets, and the savings made through the reconnection of infrastructure. Indeed, the island's future competitiveness and sustainability will require an extensive amount of economic convergence.</p>	<p>To foster and nurture economic interdependence between the Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot communities through a variety of interventions including research, joint business partnerships and raising public awareness of the benefits of economic cooperation. Thus, the Interdependence project will focus on demonstrating the economic benefits businesses and ordinary citizens stand to gain by working and co-coordinating with the other community. The strength of this initiative lies in its grounding in research, which examines the existing state of island-wide business interactions, and the potential to expand these efforts. The project will also offer appropriate recommendations for reinforced economic interdependence.</p>	<p>Launched the first island-wide Business Directory, listing both Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot businesses interested in trading with each other (www.cpnnet.net).</p> <p>Market Research Grants were awarded to 26 companies across the island helping them to capitalize on intra-island business opportunities.</p> <p>Green Line Trade Seminars throughout the island helped businesses get a much clearer understanding of the process. Business Partnership Grants were awarded to 6 consortia supporting the establishment of bicomunal business partnerships across a number of sectors.</p> <p>Detailed economic research was undertaken revealing the current extent of economic interdependence between the two communities and suggesting a framework for a Joint Economic Development Strategy.</p> <p>“NRG Radio” is a joint venture between Dance FM from the Turkish Cypriot community and NRG TV from the Greek Cypriot community, both recognized leaders in music entertainment broadcasting within their communities. As a recipient of a Bi-Communal Business Partnership Grant, NRG Radio aims to provide a new impulse with fresh English language programming all across the island. “We want to be the first joint radio station on the island and show people that bi-communal businesses can be very beneficial.” - NRG Radio partner.</p>

Project Name/ Lead Partner(s)	Background	Objectives	Results
<p data-bbox="103 268 365 416">Multiperspectivity and Intercultural Dialogue in Education</p> <p data-bbox="103 459 338 564">Association for Historical Dialogue and Research</p>	<p data-bbox="439 268 965 679">Mutliperspectivity is an approach in understanding, which takes into account other perspectives and demonstrates a willingness to regard a situation from a different point of view. Multiperspectivity is a valuable tool for promoting historical understanding and critical thinking and an essential precondition for all citizens that live in a multicultural society. Multiperspectivity is missing in the school systems on both sides of the island and in society more generally</p> <p data-bbox="439 719 965 1051">The MIDE project is organized in collaboration with key partners, such as civil society organizations and teacher trade unions across the island and internationally, including the Council of Europe, European Commission, EUROCLIO, The Elders, ICTJ, Kenyon College, Ohio, USA, and the Oxford University Centre for Inter-group Conflict, UK.</p>	<p data-bbox="1021 268 1480 1281">To address the needs of educators, practitioners and others who are engaged in examining the linkages between education and intercultural dialogue, multiperspectivity and co-operation. In seeking to strengthen the capacity of educators, the project looks at new methods and approaches to teaching, through a number of initiatives: Research: advocating for change and nurturing a more critical understanding of the links between the perceptions of history, attitudes and behaviors towards the other community, and history education Teacher Training: creating opportunities for educators to be exposed to and equipped with the latest techniques in history teaching Supplementary Education Materials: fostering multiperspectivity, historical understanding and critical thinking in social studies Library & Archive: collecting and sharing resources across Cyprus on history and history teaching Public Awareness: promoting greater understanding of multiperspectivity</p> <p data-bbox="1021 1321 1480 1466">The MIDE project is also part of a multi-donor-supported initiative by the AHDR to restore a landmark building in the UN Buffer Zone. Opening in Spring</p>	<p data-bbox="1541 268 2110 1166">Over 400 teachers trained on multi-perspective approaches to teaching. Published pioneering new supplementary teaching materials entitled Nicosia is Calling that present the divided capital as a place of unity and cooperation. Published a trilingual educational pack that exemplifies how productive collaboration in a post-conflict area can blossom. Developed strategic partnerships to develop an accurate historical archive on intercommunal relations in Cyprus Partnership with The Elders and the International Centre for Transitional Justice developed teaching materials on the missing persons in Cyprus. Increased public awareness and promotion of critical thinking island-wide through a series of video blogs, regular radio programmes and public service announcements on TV. Completed pioneering research on history education, perceptions of the past and intergroup relations across the island. Supported multiple activities that used newly opened Home for Cooperation as venue, helping to establish it as a hub of activity focused on education and reconciliation.</p>

Project Name/ Lead Partner(s)	Background	Objectives	Results
		<p>2011, the Home for Cooperation (H4C) will be the first ever shared space for Cypriots from all over the island to engage in historical inquiry and advance contemporary understanding, dialogue and peacebuilding. The H4C will house a multi-functional research and educational centre: a centre for young people, educators, historians and researchers; a space for exhibitions and archives, a library and a workspace for NGOs. "I had never thought I would sit next to a Greek Cypriot teacher and work with her. I would like to thank the AHDR for this opportunity." – Turkish Cypriot History Teacher</p>	
<p>Future Together: Participatory Development in Cyprus</p> <p>ETEK and KTMMOB</p>	<p>The initiative was inspired by the success of a bicomunal restoration project in the village of Kontea/Türkmenköy, where a grassroots movement of current and former residents became "keepers of each other's heritage" through a participatory and consultative process. It was found that local communities' support for various strategies, plans or projects very much depends on their sense of ownership, which in turn is built through a more inclusive, participatory approach. Participatory approaches have become the norm in the EU and in many other countries. In Cyprus, such approaches have been attempted to varying degrees of</p>	<p>To promote citizen and community participation in the decision-making processes that affect their lives, and in doing so, helps to create the conditions for a more inclusive reconciliation process. In partnership with the Cyprus Scientific and Technical Chamber (ETEK) and the Union of Chambers of Cyprus Turkish Engineers and Architects (KTMMOB), this project aims to engage Greek Cypriots and Turkish Cypriots further in planning of shared spaces, with a particular emphasis on cultural heritage and environmental initiatives.</p>	<p>Extracted lessons from already established participatory development models, such as the Kontea project, used them as a basis for dialogue on similar models inside and outside of Cyprus. Developed and delivered a Best Practices Guide and Training Manual for practitioners on the island and in the region.</p>

Project Name/ Lead Partner(s)	Background	Objectives	Results
	<p>success. However, these efforts have often remained ad hoc and isolated, and there is a need to share the lessons learned from such projects more widely. Future Together did so by organizing training for practitioners, but it was also felt that it is important to demonstrate these practices on the ground.</p>		
<p>Youth Activism</p> <p>Soma Akriton and the Mediation Association</p>	<p>Youth between the ages of 15 and 24 constitute one sixth of the total Cypriot population. Over the past years, many youth organizations have been involved in peacebuilding activities which have granted a large number of young Cypriots the opportunity to meet their peers from the other community, to build new friendships and learn about each other's views, perspectives, fears and hopes, while participating in joint activities. However, a large number of young people still remain disengaged from inter-communal activities or other peacebuilding initiatives. Due to the current political climate in Cyprus and the anticipated decisions regarding peace in Cyprus, there is an emerging need for Cypriot youth to take action for a peaceful, just and sustainable future for the island with a sense of ownership and pride.</p> <p>In partnership with Soma Akriton and the Mediation Association as the lead organizations of the Cyprus Network for</p>	<p>To energize Cypriot youth to actively participate in efforts to support reconciliation between the two communities. More than a dozen youth organizations, under the leadership of two organizations will lay the foundations for the formation of projects and activities which involve youth as active concerned citizens of a future Cyprus. Throughout this two-and-a-half-year project, various activities such as youth exchanges, dialogue opportunities, island-wide youth committees, festivals and research will be jointly designed and implemented to further engage youth in peacebuilding.</p> <p>The current member organizations of the Youth Network are: Soma Akriton, Mediation Association, EUC Research Centre, HASDER, International Centre for Sport Research and Development, Peace Players International,</p>	<p>More than 7,000 youth directly benefited from the project. Creative new outreach events were successfully organized, such as Earthdance, One Street(s) Festival and Nicosia tours—all of which attracted wider youth participation and extensive press coverage. As a result of participation, youth gained skills and sense of empowerment. Future youth leaders emerged out of the project, who are now playing a leading role in peacebuilding efforts. A strong alternative voice from Cypriot youth emerged through the project, which also made an impact with the wider public through printed and electronic media, including through the project's bilingual magazine, its website and social networking presence, TV public service announcements, and radio and TV broadcasts.</p> <p>“We are the future of the island and we choose peace.” - Eliana Hadjiandreou, Cypriots light a candle for peace “Despite the differences of religion and also the different ideas that each group holds regarding history, in the end we managed to show that not only is it possible, but actually essential for us all to find a way to coexist</p>

Project Name/ Lead Partner(s)	Background	Objectives	Results
	<p>Youth Development, this project inspires and energizes Cypriot youth to actively participate in efforts to support reconciliation between the two communities. The Youth Activism project values the involvement of the island's youth as active concerned citizens of a future Cyprus.</p>	<p>Environmental Studies Centre, Future Worlds Centre, ADHD Cyprus, Frederick Research Centre, University of Nicosia Research Foundation and KAYAD Community Centre.</p>	<p>peacefully in Cyprus.” - Valentinos Demetriou, Peaceful Nature Summer Camp “I believe the solution that every Cypriot hopes for will come from cooperation, creativity, tolerance and love: exactly the things that I experienced in this camp. I feel proud once again to be a Cypriot.” - Fezile Osum, Peaceful Nature Summer Camp.</p> <p>One StreetS Festival participant: “One StreetS gave us the chance to experience the true meaning of multiculturalism, the true significance of acceptance and understanding of other people’s differences and what peace really stands for... We can only truly embrace peace if we immerse ourselves in a circle of multicoloured and multicultural people and actively promote, in unison, the human values that everyone shares.” - Maria Papadopoulou, (aged 24).</p> <p>One StreetS Festival Project Coordinator: “I can only report what our students have told me. They were happy to discover that Greek Cypriots and Turkish Cypriots have so much in common. Many of them met Greek Cypriots for the first time, during the festival, and were impressed at how few the differences were. They felt happy to be included in a multicultural event, along with the locals of both sides, and enjoyed themselves immensely. They felt empowered and reassured in their effort to exchange positive emotions from the other participants and made many new friends.” - Deniz Urfali, (aged 28), Event Coordinator for Morphou.</p>

Project Name/ Lead Partner(s)	Background	Objectives	Results
<p>Cultural Heritage</p> <p>Various cultural organizations, religious leaders and NGOs</p>	<p>Through various partnerships, UNDP-ACT supported seven cultural heritage restoration projects to build mutual understanding, cooperation and respect. These projects were selected in Phase I of the programme, but many took several years to come to fruition.</p>	<p>To assist with cultural heritage projects that incorporate the active involvement and participation of individuals and organizations in the local communities. Cultural heritage can serve not only as the interface between past, present and future, but can also help establish a dialogue of civilizations, especially on an island such as Cyprus, which has so many rich and interconnected layers of history. In this light, cultural heritage restoration projects can help to establish mutual understanding, cooperation and respect between peoples, and thus contribute to a durable reconciliation.</p> <p>A total of seven cultural heritage restoration projects have been supported by ACT on sites important to all the communities of Cyprus, demonstrating and celebrating the island's wealth of cultural diversity.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Church of Agios Neophytos is dedicated to Saint Neophytos, who was born near Lefkara in 1134. Situated in the Buffer Zone, it suffered many years of neglect. UNDP partnered with the Department of Antiquities in 2006 in a coordinated effort to restore the church's former beauty. 2. Built in the late 16th Century, incorporating elements from the Church of Saint George of the Latins, the Grand Turkish Bath had fallen into disrepair until EVKAF undertook restoration works from 2008 – 2010, with support from UNDP-ACT. The reopening of the Grand Turkish Bath in the heart of old Nicosia reintroduces a monument, a forgotten cultural practice and an economic enterprise to the old city, 3. A new chapter opened in 2009 for the historical Peristerona House following an extensive two-year restoration project undertaken in partnership with the Bishopric of Morphou to revive the House's use as a cultural and environmental centre in the heart of Peristerona. In the Bishop's words, "The aim of the centre is to host events and activities that promote the cultural heritage and civilization of all Cypriots." 4. The history of Kontea as a multicultural village is reflected in the centuries-old rich cultural heritage of its buildings and monuments. The people of Kontea, past and present, share a love of place and have forged relationships on which cooperation has been possible. UNDP-

Project Name/ Lead Partner(s)	Background	Objectives	Results
			<p>ACT supported the Cultural Heritage Circle Preservation project because of this multicultural heritage and the enthusiasm from the past and present residents of the village. The participatory and consensus building approach adopted became a model for other village-focused rapprochement activities and inspired other communities to engage over the division for the sake of places that matter to both past and current residents. Initial activities funded by UNDP ACT were complemented by projects supported by private funding.</p> <p>5. The Day Care Centre at Paphos Gate in Nicosia has been in operation since 1989. The Centre offers care for people with disabilities, regardless of which community they belong to, and moreover accepts persons who are denied care by other institutions, due to the severity of their needs. UNDP-ACT supported the repair of the house on Maron Street, which is key to the Centre's continued and invaluable work.</p> <p>6. The Holy Maronite/Catholic Church of the Prophet Elias was once a spiritual and educational centre, respected not only by the Maronite community, but also by the Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot communities. It is the only Maronite/Catholic Monastery in Cyprus. Through the centuries, the Monastery as well as the ancient church of the Prophet Elias has suffered from bad weather and lack of maintenance. UNDP-ACT partnered with EVKAF to support the cleaning, fencing and basic repairs necessary</p>

Project Name/ Lead Partner(s)	Background	Objectives	Results
			<p>in order to protect the Monastery from further damage.</p> <p>7. The restoration project at the 13th Century Armenian Church and Monastery followed a comprehensive design process, which had the input of a wide range of stakeholders, including the Armenian community. Not only is the Armenian Church and Monastery an important cultural heritage asset for all Cypriots, its restoration has also contributed to improving intercommunal relations and revitalizing the walled city of Nicosia.</p>
<p>Support to Confidence-Building Measures</p> <p>Implemented by UNDP-ACT in collaboration with the Technical Committees, Working Groups, the Good Offices of the Secretary General, UNFICYP and the UN Committee on Missing Persons (CMP)</p>	<p>In collaboration with the UN family in Cyprus, UNDP-ACT provides support that helps to build a conducive environment for the island's peace process.</p> <p>This project aims to provide diverse technical and financial support to the ongoing peace process, and in particular to confidence-building measures proposed by the Technical Committees. A new round of UN-facilitated peace talks started in March 2008 between the leaders of the two communities and continued throughout 2009 and 2010. This process is different from the previous processes in that it is Cypriot-led. The Technical Committees emerged from an agreement between the Leaders as a way to provide impetus and support to the current round of peace talks. The Technical</p>	<p>This project contributes to building a conducive environment for the peace process. In particular, the implementation of the confidence-building measures proposed by the Technical Committees helps build trust between the two communities while demonstrating to the public at large that the two communities can work together on critical issues that are of importance to all inhabitants of Cyprus.</p>	<p>Provided facilitation and technical expertise to multiple Technical Committees.</p> <p>Supported specific confidence building measures and/or joint activities, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Art Exhibition (since May 2009) Launch of the Joint Communications Room (JCR) under the Technical Committee on Crime and Criminal Matters (July 2010) Opening of the Limnitis/ Yesilirmak crossing point (October 2010) Campaign on Awareness-Raising Measures for Water Saving by the Technical Committee on Environment (November 2010 to June 2011) World AIDS Day event, Cyprus Against AIDS by the Technical Committee on Health Matters (December 2010) Seminars on children at risk and on prevention of illegal drug use and abuse by the Technical Committee on Crime and Criminal Matters (April 2011).

Project Name/ Lead Partner(s)	Background	Objectives	Results
	<p>Committees are a mechanism to implement concrete confidence-building measures and provide technical input to the peace process and wider reconciliation efforts in the two communities. The project has also supported other key confidence-building measures outside of the peace process that have been vital in increasing confidence and paving the way for increased contact between the communities.</p>		<p>Voices from Members of the Technical Committees: “We believe that irrespective of the number of successes, the fact that after several decades of separation of the two communities, four persons, two from each side, are sitting one next to the other working in good faith trying to solve and overcome certain problems and difficulties, we believe is equally important, or even more important than the actual number of successes.” – Member of the Technical Committee on Crime and Criminal Matters during the Launch of JCR. “The lack of water is one of the most serious environmental problems we face in Cyprus. Nature does not recognize dividing lines. That is why I am convinced that this project will contribute towards addressing this issue effectively through cooperation between two communities.” – Member of the Technical Committee on Environment on the water campaign.</p>
<p>Support to the CMP</p> <p>Committee on Missing Persons</p>	<p>The CMP was established in April 1981 by agreement between the Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot communities under the auspices of the United Nations. It works to alleviate the suffering of those who lost a loved one during the tragic violence of past decades on this long divided island. Exhumations are carried out by bicomunal teams of Cypriot archaeologists and anthropologists.</p>	<p>To support the ongoing work of the CMP.</p>	<p>Funding to the CMP supported equipment purchases, exhumations, DNA testing and the construction of a Family Viewing Center in the UN Protected Area in Nicosia. Support to the CMP has resulted in the identification and return of the remains of 614 of the 2,000 officially reported missing persons cases.</p>

ACT Phase III – Bridging the Gap between Civil Society and Peace Making 2011-2013

Project Name/ Lead Partner(s)	Background	Objectives	Results
<p>ENGAGE – Civic Engagement for Reconciliation</p> <p>The NGO Support Centre, The Management Centre of the Mediterranean</p>	<p>Cypriot civil society has been involved in peacebuilding efforts over several years, and the potential of civil society organizations (CSOs) to contribute to the peace process is undeniable. Unfortunately, a large enough segment of civil society has not yet banded together across the island to demand change. By building the capacity of civil society, the Engage project will expand the space for a more inclusive reconciliation process based on successful networking, advocacy and subsequent policy improvements.</p>	<p>To support civil society’s participation in peacebuilding initiatives in partnership with a variety of stakeholders across the island. The project provides a platform for dialogue that aims to contribute to a better-informed public that is engaged in reconciliation. Engage brings key actors together to create an inclusive environment for reconciliation. Through a series of events and activities, the Engage project opens up new opportunities for active involvement in reconciliation and peacebuilding while promoting a culture of active civic participation.</p>	<p>Engage was listed by UNESCO as one of 450 projects and activities worldwide that promote the rapprochement of cultures. Engage was acknowledged in the UN Secretary General’s Assessment Reports for its contribution in support of the peace process in Cyprus. Advocacy campaigns were implemented, with more than 100 NGOs supporting the Engage initiative, through public declarations, to stand by the peace process. Successful launch of the first ever televised island-wide peace campaign. Increased public dialogue for a possible federal solution through a series of federalism events in towns and villages across the island. Raised the voice of civil society and promoted active citizenship and volunteerism through an island-wide media campaign, including weekly press columns and radio shows. Provided technical support and trainings for individual CSOs and networks across the island to help in the capacity building of Cypriot civil society. Prepared the 2010 CIVICUS Research Study mapping out Cypriot civil society and the role of the third sector. Supported diverse and creative projects from CSOs and initiatives across the island supported through the Small Grants Programme. ENGAGE On the Move events in 2012 reached 11,000 people across the island through three local festivals.</p>

Project Name/ Lead Partner(s)	Background	Objectives	Results
<p>MultiCommMedia</p> <p>The Cyprus Community Media Centre (CCMC)</p>	<p>Citizen engagement is the most direct method of closing the vertical communication gap, and improving the quality of governance. Citizen journalism such as “social networking” and “blogging” along with increased media skills in areas such as podcasts and short audio/visual documentaries can generate more inclusive, more representative and better informed public dialogue.</p> <p>The success of public discourse in Cyprus depends on its nature as a moderated medium for communication and information dissemination. Community generated media has the potential to bridge the gap between the two communities as well as the two media systems.</p>	<p>To use communications as a medium to better inform the general public about efforts towards reconciliation in Cyprus, as well as to bring together and work with key actors across Cypriot society to help create an inclusive environment for reconciliation. CCMC has achieved a great deal since it opened its doors in December 2009. It has expanded its membership base of civil society organizations, built relationships with the mass media, and empowered civil society activists with media tools. Its impact has been considerable at the civil society level, with large numbers of attendees at its training programmes resulting in increased capacity of local CSOs in media and communications, active use of its community spaces and a broadening network of partners.</p>	<p>A 44-member strong consortium of CSOs from across Cyprus worked on a range of issues including the environment, social problems, human rights, health, youth, education and gender. More than 170 videos, podcasts, radio shows and short documentaries about the work of civil society in Cyprus created in the first two years of operations. Over 350 people trained in various media skills, including strategic communications, press release writing, video production and editing. MultiCommMedia productions have been aired on various mainstream media outlets including SIM TV, The Cyprus Weekly, Radyo Maysi, 107.6 FM and CyBC Radio 2, giving civil society a greater voice all over the island. MultiCommMedia’s “On the Road” training initiative has taken workshops to various locations around the island, including Limassol and Lefke. CCMC’s website is the first community media website in Cyprus, and receives around 1,000,000 hits per year. CCMC’s advocacy work with the relevant media authorities has opened up the possibility of recognition of Community Media in Cyprus. Partnerships between mainstream media across the divide have been supported through the Incentive Awards Scheme for Media Collaboration.</p>
<p>The Social Cohesion and Reconciliation (SCORE)</p>	<p>The Social Cohesion and Reconciliation (SCORE) Index is an innovative approach for measuring the impact of peace-building efforts. It is essentially a statistical tool</p>	<p>To utilize peace and reconciliation data, which can be visualized as a “barometer”, allowing users to determine in which direction society</p>	<p>The methodology of SCORE was validated at an international conference in Nicosia in 2012, bringing together leading peace researchers and peace-building practitioners from around the</p>

Project Name/ Lead Partner(s)	Background	Objectives	Results
UNDP-ACT through the Cyprus 2015 project	that can measure and monitor over time changes in communities' capacities for Social Cohesion and Reconciliation. There already exist examples of indices attempting to measure Peace, and even a few targeting reconciliation, but the SCORE is unique in examining how social factors interact with and influence the process of reconciliation.	is moving along the "Reconciliation spectrum", and thus ultimately help practitioners target their interventions, donors to target their funding, and authorities to target their policies more strategically in terms of peace-building.	world, as well as extensive local consultations. The SCORE draws upon multiple indicators from different sources and sectors of society, but the interface is designed to be user-friendly, using a simple colour scale of 1 to 10. Attracted interest from practitioners in other contexts, including the Palestinian Territories, to expand the index beyond Cyprus to allow international comparisons between different post-conflict situations. The idea of a tool for measuring social cohesion and reconciliation, which has both a descriptive and predictive potential, has also attracted the attention of several UN agencies, international donors, and peace-building organizations operating in Cyprus, the Middle East and the Balkans.
Economic Interdependence The Cyprus Chamber of Commerce and Industry, The Turkish Cypriot Chamber of Industry	The European Union is built on the premise that has demonstrated how various peoples gain strength from pooling their economic resources and aligning their economic and social policies. The same imperative applies in Cyprus, a small island whose economy can only benefit from increased intra-island business-to-business partnerships. Economic interdependence between the two communities has increased substantially since the opening of the crossing points in 2003, and it is becoming clear how both communities could benefit economically from a comprehensive settlement, for	To foster and nurture economic interdependence between the two communities through a variety of interventions. These will include research, the support of joint business partnerships and raising public awareness of the benefits of economic cooperation. The Interdependence project will focus on demonstrating the economic benefits businesses and ordinary citizens stand to gain by working and co-coordinating with the other community. The strength of this initiative lies in the research	Launch of the first island-wide Business Directory, listing over 200 business from both the Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot interested in trading with each other (www.cpnnet.net). Market Research Grants awarded to 26 companies across the island helping them to capitalize on intra-island business opportunities. Green Line Trade Seminars throughout the island, helping hundreds of businesses get a much clearer understanding of the process. Business Partnership Grants awarded to 5 consortia supporting the establishment of bicomunal business partnerships across a number of sectors. Detailed economic research undertaken

Project Name/ Lead Partner(s)	Background	Objectives	Results
	<p>example through improved access to new markets, and the savings made through the reconnection of infrastructure. The island's future competitiveness and sustainability will require an extensive amount of economic convergence.</p>	<p>which underpins it and examines the existing state of island-wide business interactions, and the potential to expand these efforts. It will engage at the policy level to share the joint achievements of the Chambers with the relevant Technical Committee.</p>	<p>revealing the current extent of economic interdependence between the two communities and suggesting a framework for a Joint Economic Development Strategy. Extensive media coverage and promotion of the economic benefits of a solution to the wider public, in particular through the innovative "Nine O'Clock News in 2030" mockumentary and the "What If..." Film that included comment from economist Mustafa Besim and Nobel laureate Chris Pissarides.</p> <p>Following the catastrophic explosion on 11 July 2011 that severely damaged the Vasiliko power station, which was supplying 60% of electrical power to the Greek Cypriot community, the Chambers of Commerce made use of their cooperative relationship to help make the transfer of electrical power from north to south across the Green Line possible. This response to the tragic events highlighted the strengths of the partnership between the two Chambers, and the practical benefits of confidence building actions and the pressing need for intercommunal cooperation on matters such as energy.</p>
<p>Multiperspectivity and Intercultural Dialogue in Education</p> <p>Association for Historical Dialogue and Research</p>	<p>Multiperspectivity is an approach in understanding, which takes into account other perspectives and demonstrates a willingness to regard a situation from a different point of view. Multiperspectivity is a valuable tool for promoting historical understanding and critical thinking and an</p>	<p>To address the needs of educators, practitioners and others engaged in examining the linkages between education and intercultural dialogue, multiperspectivity and co-operation. The project will look at new methods and approaches to teaching, through a</p>	<p>Conducted pioneering research on history education, perceptions of the past and inter-group relations across the island, in a context where multiperspectivity in education was rare. Succeeded in the creation of a 'middle ground' for the examination of history from different perspectives.</p>

Project Name/ Lead Partner(s)	Background	Objectives	Results
	<p>essential precondition for all citizens that live in a multicultural society. Multiperspectivity is missing in the school systems on both sides of the island and in society more generally.</p> <p>The MIDE project is organized in collaboration with key partners, such as civil society organizations and teacher trade unions across the island, as well as international organizations such as the Council of Europe, the European Commission, EUROCLIO, The Elders, ICTJ, Kenyon College, Ohio, USA, and the Oxford University Centre for Inter-group Conflict, UK.</p>	<p>number of initiatives:</p> <p>Research: advocating for change and nurturing a more critical understanding of the links between the perceptions of history, attitudes and behaviors towards the other community, and history education.</p> <p>Teacher Training: creating opportunities for educators to be exposed to, and equipped with the latest techniques in history teaching.</p> <p>Supplementary Education Materials: fostering multiperspectivity, historical understanding and critical thinking in social studies. Library & Archive: collecting and sharing resources across Cyprus on the history of Cyprus, intercommunal relations and history teaching.</p> <p>Public Awareness: promoting multiperspectivity as an essential tool for building a culture of historical understanding, cooperation and mutual respect.</p>	<p>Over 400 teachers trained in multi-perspective approaches to teaching.</p> <p>Produced and published pioneering new supplementary teaching materials: Thinking Historically about Missing Persons, Learning to Investigate the History of Cyprus through Artefacts, The Ottoman Period in Cyprus, Our Children Our Games, Introducing Oral History and Home for Cooperation.</p> <p>Worked with strategic partners to develop The Cyprus Critical History Archive, focusing on intercommunal relations in Cyprus, which is accessible online.</p> <p>Forged partnerships with The Elders and the International Centre for Transitional Justice and developed teaching materials on missing persons in Cyprus.</p> <p>Increased public awareness and promotion of critical thinking island-wide, through a series of video blogs, regular radio programmes and public service announcements on TV.</p> <p>Continued support to the Home for Cooperation (H4C) which is a multidonor-supported initiative led by AHDR to restore a landmark building in the UN Buffer Zone. The H4C officially opened its doors on 6 May 2011, as the first ever shared space for Cypriots from all over the island to engage in historical inquiry and advance contemporary understanding, dialogue and peacebuilding. The H4C houses a multi-functional research and educational centre:</p>

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			<p>a centre for young people, educators, historians and researchers; a space for exhibitions and archives, a library and a workspace for NGOs. A real 'home' for Cypriot civil society, the H4C served and continues to serve as a hub for members of the Peace it Together network, while giving AHDR a base from which to continue building new partnerships on a local, regional and international level.</p>
<p>Future Together in Potamia</p> <p>ETEK, KTMMOB and Potamia</p>	<p>The Future Together project promotes citizen and community participation in the decision-making processes that affect their lives, and in doing so, helps to create the conditions for a more inclusive reconciliation process. The initiative was inspired by the success of a bicomunal restoration project in the village of Kontea/Türkmenköy, where a grassroots movement of current and former residents became “keepers of each other’s heritage” through a participatory and consultative process. In a first stage, Future Together extracted lessons from already established participatory development models, such as the Kontea project, followed by a dialogue on similar models inside and outside of Cyprus, leading to the development and delivery of a Best Practices Guide and Training Manual for practitioners on the island and in the region. It was found that local communities’ support for various strategies, plans or projects very much</p>	<p>To demonstrate the value of inclusive planning in Potamia, one of the last mixed villages on the island, where Turkish Cypriot and Greek Cypriot residents, as well as former residents, are being engaged through community consultations to manage a common project: the creation of a Library/ Museum which will capture the rich traditions and history of its inhabitants.</p>	<p>Phase I (2010-2011): Mapped existing participatory development efforts and performed a gap analysis. Phase II (2011-2012): Provided capacity-building of local stakeholders to integrate participatory principles into their work and share their knowledge with others. Phase III (2012-2013): Participatory Development best practices demonstrated in the context of a real development project, namely the Library/ Museum in the mixed village of Potamia.</p>

Project Name/ Lead Partner(s)	Background	Objectives	Results
	<p>depends on their sense of ownership, which in turn is built through a more inclusive, participatory approach. Participatory approaches have become the norm in the EU and in many other countries. In Cyprus, such approaches have been attempted to varying degrees of success. However, these efforts have often remained ad hoc and isolated, and there is a need to share the lessons learned from such projects more widely. Future Together did so by organizing training for practitioners, but it was also felt that it is important to demonstrate these practices on the ground.</p>		
<p>Youth Activism</p> <p>The Youth Power Network</p>	<p>Youth between the ages of 15 and 24 constitute one sixth of the total Cypriot population. Over the past years, many youth organizations have been involved in peacebuilding activities, which have granted a large number of young Cypriots the opportunity to meet their peers from the other community, to build new friendships, and learn about each other's views, perspectives, fears and hopes.</p> <p>Youth Power, formerly known as the Cyprus Network for Youth Development, inspires and energizes Cypriot youth to actively participate in efforts to support reconciliation between the two communities. More than a dozen youth organizations, with</p>	<p>To promote youth activism through various activities such as youth exchanges, dialogue opportunities, island-wide youth committees, festivals and research are being jointly designed and implemented to further engage youth in peacebuilding. The new phase of Youth Activism will reach out to even more organizations, decision makers and youth, particularly through its Small Grants initiative. The current member organizations of the Youth Power network are: Peace Players International, Soma Akriton, Mediation Association, EUC Research Centre, HASDER, International Centre for Sport Research and Development,</p>	<p>Outreach to the wider public through printed and electronic media including the project's bilingual magazine, website and social networking presence, TV public service announcements and radio and TV broadcasts.</p> <p>Youth Power Small Grants Scheme between February 2012 and July 2013 promoted partnerships, connecting various youth groups, NGOs and bicomunal initiatives. Young people from across the island were empowered and supported in implementing their ideas. 13 projects were implemented involving 6 network member organizations, external youth NGOs and hundreds of young people. The projects included activities in youth advocacy, literature, graffiti art, capoeira, cooking, cycling, theatre, research,</p>

Project Name/ Lead Partner(s)	Background	Objectives	Results
	<p>the administrative assistance of the newly formed Youth Power Secretariat lay the foundations for the formation of projects and activities that involve youth as active and concerned citizens of a future Cyprus.</p>	<p>Environmental Studies Centre, Future Worlds Centre, ADHD Cyprus, Frederick Research Centre, University of Nicosia Research Foundation and KAYAD Community Centre.</p>	<p>recycling and gardening.</p> <p>25 participants under the age of 35 attended Youth Power's 2013 Entrepreneurship Training course. 4 innovative business proposals received seed funding.</p> <p>Final event, Youth Power's YouthAid Festival, included small grant winners, network member organizations, entrepreneurship award winners, volunteers, key partners and youth. Festival featured banks from both communities, launched the Youth Power on-line platform, attracted over 700 people and received wide media coverage.</p>
<p>Support to Confidence Building Measures</p> <p>Implemented by UNDP-ACT in collaboration with the Technical Committees, the Office of the Special Adviser of the Secretary-General in Cyprus, and UNFICYP.</p>	<p>UDDP-ACT has provided diverse technical and financial support to the ongoing peace process, and in particular to confidence-building measures proposed by the Technical Committees. A new round of UN-facilitated peace talks started in March 2008 between the leaders of the two communities and continued throughout 2009 and 2010. This process is different from the previous processes in that it is Cypriot-led. The Technical Committees emerged from an agreement between the Leaders as a way to provide impetus and support to the current round of peace talks. The Technical Committees are a mechanism to implement concrete confidence-building measures and provide technical input to the peace process</p>	<p>To contribute to building a conducive environment for the peace process. In particular, the implementation of the confidence-building measures proposed by the Technical Committees help build trust between the two communities while demonstrating to the public at large that the two communities can work together on critical issues that are of importance to all inhabitants of Cyprus.</p>	<p>Continued to provide facilitation and technical expertise to multiple Technical Committees. Supported specific confidence building measures and/or joint activities, including:</p> <p>UNCOVERED art project, focused on the old Nicosia International Airport with installations at different locations including at newly opened Ledra Street crossing point (September to October 2011)</p> <p>World Diabetes Day event by the Technical Committee on Health Matters (November 2011)</p> <p>Asthma Awareness initiative by the Technical Committee on Health Matters (September 2012)</p> <p>Campaign on cooperation for the prevention of wildfires within the buffer zone by the Technical Committee on Environment (October 2012 to June 2013)</p>

Project Name/ Lead Partner(s)	Background	Objectives	Results
	<p>and wider reconciliation efforts in the two communities. The project has also supported other key confidence-building measures outside of the peace process that have been vital in increasing confidence and paving the way for increased contact between the communities.</p>		<p>Seed funding to establish international fund to restore Apostolos Andreas Monastery (February 2013)</p> <p>Voices from Members of the Technical Committees: “The event was evidence of how the commitment of the dedicated Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot professionals appointed in the Joint Committee on Public Health can make a difference. It is an example of what the sides can achieve when looking forward and working together for the welfare of the two communities.” – Member of the Technical Committee on Health Matters on the World Diabetes Day event.</p>
<p>Participatory Peacemaking</p> <p>UNDP-ACT</p>	<p>Following the failure of the Annan Plan to pass in referendum in 2004, it became increasingly clear that the peace process needed to be more participatory and inclusive to succeed. The idea for this valuable cooperation between ENGI and UNDP-ACT grew out of a previous collaboration. In partnership with the Causeway Institute, this initiative brought senior negotiators from the Northern Ireland peace process to share experiences of the Good Friday Agreement with civic and political leaders in Cyprus. In May 2012, UNDP-ACT and ENGI supported a delegation of Cypriot civil society leaders representing both communities, to speak at</p>	<p>To create opportunities for senior political and civic leaders of the two communities in Cyprus to discuss their role in the peace negotiations. The project will bring together senior representatives of the civic and political leadership from Cyprus, Northern Ireland, South Africa and the Balkans, to share experiences of peacemaking and reconciliation.</p>	<p>The project convened a high level meeting in Malta and two dialogue fora in Cyprus that brought together over 30 decision makers and opinion leaders in order to find ways to support and broaden the Cypriot peace process. These efforts assisted both communities in their efforts to promote a more inclusive peace process and resulted in what has become the Cyprus Dialogue Forum.</p>

Project Name/ Lead Partner(s)	Background	Objectives	Results
	<p>a meeting of the UK All Party Parliamentary Group on Conflict Issues. This was the first time that civil society representatives of the two communities presented a cohesive case for the structural reform of the peace process that would allow the harmonious collaboration of track 1 (the leaders), track 2 (civil society) and track 3 (the wider public).</p>		

ACT Phase IV – Crossroads for Civic Engagement – Making Civil Society Influential 2013-2015

Project Name/ Lead Partner(s)	Background	Objectives	Results
<p>Cyprus Dialogue Forum</p> <p>UNDP-ACT and 24 founding political, business and civic organizations</p>	<p>UNDP-ACT has been actively involved in supporting the formal peace negotiations on the Cyprus problem in two key areas, through direct support to the UN Good Offices and through the establishment and support of the Cyprus Dialogue Forum (CDF). A growing recognition among stakeholders to the Cypriot peace process that there was a need for a credible track two process to complement the formal peace talks and to facilitate participation and wider engagement in the peace process, led to the “How to make the Cyprus peace process more inclusive?” workshop in September 2013.</p>	<p>To cultivate a dialogue forum, in line with the recommendations that came out of the workshop. To develop an agreed approach, structures and agenda, and actions to support the formal peace process at the track two level through “single-text” documents that present a consensus, while recognizing dissenting views.</p> <p>The first “single-text” states “the legitimacy of the forum derives from the organizations participating in it, thus we are committed to serve as an open platform of co-operation and discussion between all political and non-political organizations in both communities.</p>	<p>The establishment of the CDF has been a significant development in the peace process. It now involves 96 organizations from both communities including political parties, business groups, trade unions, NGOs and wider civil society.</p> <p>The purpose and objectives of the forum are clearly defined in a “single-text” as follows: support the formal negotiations and all political efforts to reach a mutually agreed federal solution, be creating options and submitting suggestions for the negotiations process; create public awareness, acknowledge and incorporate the inputs of the wider public and help prepare both communities for a solution; create common understanding, multiperspectivity, shared vision of the future and build a culture of co-existence; and create space for citizens to also raise and address issues that are not included in the political process.</p> <p>Established a management structure comprising a plenary, implementing committee and five segments, 1) TC Political Parties, 2) GC Political Parties, 3) Trade Unions, 4) Business and Professional Associations and 5) NGOs.</p> <p>Over the course of 2014-2015 the CDF has achieved a number of significant milestones</p>

Project Name/ Lead Partner(s)	Background	Objectives	Results
			<p>including the launch of the single text document, a public announcement regarding its intention to support the peace talks and meetings with the US Vice President Joe Biden, with the SASG, and with the Leaders of both communities all of whom endorsed the Forum's work.</p>
<p>Civic Participation Course: Resources for Democracy</p> <p>NGO Support Centre, University of Nicosia and the Centre for Sustainable Peace and Democratic Development</p>	<p>A tremendous number of peace building programmes have taken place in Cyprus over the past decades with varying degrees of success. The role that civil society can and should play in reconciliation is just beginning to become clear to the general public. There is a clear need for more civic education in Cyprus as a whole. This project seeks to lay the groundwork for the creation of an established academic programme in Cyprus on the theme of Civic Participation that will provide students and CSO practitioners from Cyprus and the Euro-Mediterranean region with the theoretical understanding and practical knowledge in the field.</p>	<p>To capture the body of peace building knowledge developed in Cyprus over the past decades and couple it with local and international academic research. The project includes the development and delivery of a face to face course and two online modules that will be complemented with original audio and audio-visual academic material. As part of the project, a workshop will be held in Cyprus, with the participation of academics and CSO practitioners from the countries of the region.</p>	<p>The face to face course, entitled, 'State, Civil Society and Democracy', took place between October and December 2014. It was offered free of charge by the University of Nicosia. The course, probably the first of its kind, was held in the buffer zone by a team of Greek Cypriot, Turkish Cypriot and international academics and attracted participants from Cyprus and overseas.</p> <p>The course explores how lives and society are shaped by the relationship between the state and civil society and examines how civic participation, citizenship and state legitimacy are conceived. The original group's heterogeneity provided an opportunity to the participants to share their experiences and reconsider their existing convictions. The course has become part of the University of Nicosia's academic track in civic engagement and conflict resolution. An online version of the course is now available online.</p>
<p>Innovation for Peace and Development</p> <p>UNDP-ACT</p>	<p>The rapidly changing technological landscape of today's world allows us to not only access information and expertise at breathtaking speeds but also creates opportunities for</p>	<p>To create a digital headquarters to exchange knowledge and experience in civic engagement, social cohesion, and the creation of a peaceful society.</p>	<p>The Mahallae digital platform was established as the centre of gravity for peace innovation activities for civil society organizations working in countries of the Eastern Mediterranean.</p>

Project Name/ Lead Partner(s)	Background	Objectives	Results
	<p>transparent and efficient ways of solving today's challenges. Based on 15 years of experience UNDP-ACT has devised an innovation portfolio to promote new ways of supporting peace, reconciliation and civic engagement in Cyprus and within the wider Euro Mediterranean region.</p>	<p>Mahallae, based on a word meaning "neighborhood" in Arabic, Greek, and Turkish, will be designed to showcase not only the Cypriot experience, but also the experience of other international actors working to advance civic engagement and reconciliation in the Euro-Mediterranean region. Mahallae will be designed for use by not only NGO practitioners, researchers and businesses but also the everyday citizen. Rooted in the perspective that empowering citizens to contribute their unique perspectives and expertise will open up spaces for transforming today's conflicts and challenges, Mahallae is an ambitious yet thorough innovation platform that will be designed around 3 main spaces.</p> <p>1. Civic Mapping: Mahallae will be structured around a timeline of Cypriot peace-building experiences. The data, visualized through an interactive map, will be kept alive through crowdsourcing. Mahallae also features a dynamic networking and collaboration space that includes a roster of experts and a toolkit for online project formulation, consultations, and collaborations that can rapidly respond to needs and issues that emerge in the region.</p>	<p>The Cyprus Civic Mapping feature is live and includes a full database of peacebuilding projects implemented in Cyprus that is accessible, searchable and easy to use.</p> <p>The first 5 Mahallae Challenges under the thematic areas of Youth Entrepreneurship, Women and Dialogue were:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. i-Vee - a mobile game for encouraging volunteerism. 2. YuBiz - an online platform to help young entrepreneurs kick-start their business. 3. WE-ME - a mentorship platform and mobile app for women. 4. Socialholic Typewriter - a collaborative storytelling platform for micro-fiction. 5. Hands on Famagusta - a hybrid platform for developing a future vision for the Famagusta region. <p>The second 4 Mahallae Challenges for Famagusta:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Kooridor – A social sharing economy platform linking hosts and guests in Famagusta. 2. faRmagusta – A digital tool for ordering fresh organic produce and byproducts from local farmers. 3. HOBBA – An app to coordinate people who need a ride with people with cars in Cyprus. 4. Pocket Planter – An app that brings professional agricultural knowledge to the everyday user.

Project Name/ Lead Partner(s)	Background	Objectives	Results
		<p>2. Challenges: Solutions to “usual” problems facing our communities may be found in “unusual” places. Mahallae will harness the power of technology to formulate new, more effective and transparent ways of solving community challenges. Every so often, a new Mahallae Challenge will be announced, inviting individuals, organizations and businesses to come together and publicly collaborate to solve these challenges using the power of technology and innovation. The progress of the winning solutions will be viewable online, as part of the Mahallae platform as well.</p> <p>3. Interactive Tools: Mahallae will host a palette of interactive tools that not only showcase the work of Cypriot civil society in new and compelling ways but will act as calling cards to building knowledge partnerships with civil society counterparts in the European neighborhood.</p>	<p>A number of additional interactive tools, developed as part of other programmes, are available on Mahallae. These include SharedWorlds, a app that helps Greek speakers learn Turkish and Turkish speakers learn Greek, as well as the CCMC Story.</p> <p>In addition, UNDP-ACT partnered to co-host the 2nd Build Peace in Nicosia in April 2015. Build Peace said “Nicosia is at the crossroads of Europe and the Middle East. It is also the last divided capital city in the world. This is why we look forward to hosting the conference in Nicosia in 2015; Nicosia not only provides rich ground for discussion, but also issues a collective challenge. We can imagine building peace with technology in a Plexiglas building at a high-tech university. But do our ideas stand up in a building, a city and a region steeped in decades of complex conflict and with much greater economic challenges?” More than 250 peace practitioners from around the world took part.</p>
<p>Social Cohesion and Reconciliation Index (SCORE)</p> <p>The Centre for Sustainable Peace and Democratic Development</p>	<p>Globally, although a lot has been done in order to promote better intergroup relations and, ultimately, coexistence in divided societies, there is a dearth of tools which can adequately analyze the factors which underpin a peaceful society. Scholars as well as practitioners are thus often left</p>	<p>To create a tool that can be used to a) map social cohesion and reconciliation in society, b) monitor over time the levels of these two indicators, c) assess whether social cohesion and reconciliation are linked with each other, and d) make predictions on how the</p>	<p>The SCORE Index was developed and utilized in Cyprus in 2013, 2014, and 2015. The data and analysis is available on the SCORE platform. Comparisons can easily be made between years. Policy recommendations have been derived and shared with the UN Good Offices, the leaders and the public.</p>

Project Name/ Lead Partner(s)	Background	Objectives	Results
	<p>in the dark with regards to which of the peace-building activities, interventions, and policies that have come into effect, are in fact efficient and fruitful in promoting positive outcomes for intergroup relations. The idea of developing the index emerged as a result of a number of observations in Cyprus where a large number of peace-building and reconciliation programmes were implemented, particularly with the help of international donors (e.g. UNDP, EU, EEA grants and USAID). The first observation was that although these initiatives were systematically monitored and evaluated, including through trust surveys as well as programme- and project-level evaluations, it was impossible to predict or measure the impact that programmes were having on the overall reconciliation process. The need to evaluate peace-building programmes is not specific to the Cypriot context, and globally the demand to understand the impact of peace building and reconciliation projects have grown as governments and donors seek more effective ways to manage development outcomes. The second observation is related to the first and it concerns the fact that donors which are providing resources for reconciliation programmes often do so without a systematic application of existing theory and evidence. In order to consult with theory as well as systematic evidence</p>	<p>levels of the two could be affected in different hypothetical situations. The mapping of these two indicators by various demographic indicators such as geographical district and gender, can provide a useful disaggregation of the levels of social cohesion and reconciliation. This break down of information according to population characteristics and geographical areas can provide international organizations, local policy makers, stakeholders, and peace practitioners with much needed information to better target their programmes in order to promote social cohesion and reconciliation in areas as well as for groups of people that lag behind.</p> <p>Tracking the levels of the two indicators overtime is particularly useful when it comes to assessing whether and how a) peace-building programmes and b) events exogenous to peace-building programmes, have an effect on these two indicators of peace.</p>	<p>SeeD continues to use SCORE to generate lively and informative discussions of social cohesion and reconciliation (and related issues in Cyprus). The SCORE Index has also been implemented in Bosnia-Herzegovina, Nepal and Ukraine. The results and analyses will be added to the platform when available. SCORE is expected to be implemented in a number of other conflict zones in the near future.</p>

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	<p>before sponsoring and endorsing new peace-building programmes, these bodies need to have access to this kind of information. Unfortunately, programme evaluation results and information on evidence is scarce, and the theory underlying reconciliation programmes can often be hard to access or even comprehend.</p> <p>Policy-makers, donors and practitioners would therefore benefit from an information-rich knowledge base which would allow them to better integrate current reconciliation theory in their strategic thinking, design and select targeted interventions, predict and measure the impact of the interventions, and disseminate the results and resources in order to increase the effectiveness of reconciliation programmes in conflict and post-conflict settings.</p>		
<p>NGO Law Reform</p> <p>The NGO Initiative</p>	<p>Cyprus' legal framework for NGOs is antiquated and in need of revision. Discussions on a new legal and regulatory framework affecting NGOs in the Republic of Cyprus have taken place over the past few years, and although significant progress has been made to create a law on Public Benefit Organizations and modernize the law on Associations, Foundations and Clubs, much remains to be done.</p> <p>As is, registration of legitimate organizations</p>	<p>To bring the framework for NGOs in the Republic of Cyprus on par with European standards and best practices from other European countries.</p> <p>To create a comprehensive strategy and vision on how civil society and the government can work together to create an enabling environment for civil society on the island.</p> <p>The project will:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> I. Provide expert review of the current draft laws and initiate a dialogue with 	<p>The NGO Initiative has engaged in an effective dialogue with government stakeholders and political parties. The group is supported by a wide range of civil society organizations, and holds regular open consultation sessions with NGOs in order to exchange views about the legislative process. The NGO Initiative is cooperating with the European Centre for Not-for-Profit-Law and the Council of Europe, which supports their advocacy efforts with technical expertise in this field. The NGO Initiative provided comments on the revised legislation which is being drafted</p>

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	<p>can be delayed for years and members can be imprisoned for even minor infractions of the law, such as failure to submit a report on time.</p>	<p>stakeholders on their adoption.</p> <p>2. Support a broad public discussion on new laws and disseminate information on the implications of the reform process.</p> <p>3. Propose public policy options that facilitate the cooperation between the government and civil society and provide a strategic framework for the development of civil society.</p>	<p>by the two responsible Ministries, and the consultation between these stakeholders has been continuous. A fruitful cooperation between the NGO Initiative and the Commissioner for Volunteerism and NGOS has developed under the initiative. This resulted in co-authored policy paper, in cooperation with the INGO Conference of the Council of Europe on how to create an enabling environment for civil society.</p>
<p>Regional Network for Inter-Communal Livelihoods (RENEWAL)</p> <p>Educational Club Anagennis in Deryneia and MASDER business association in the Walled City of Famagusta</p>	<p>Beginning in the summer of 2013, UNDP-ACT explored the interest in an ambitious project to support the economic development of the Famagusta region through the revitalization of business and civil society cooperation, leading to improved livelihoods for local Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot communities. Over the years, the local communities in the Famagusta region have felt the division has been a particular factor in stifling economic opportunities and this has resulted in businesses in the Famagusta region being inward looking. This is the case for businesses in both Famagusta and Deryneia, which do not have much trade with the other community. Deryneia and adjacent beneficiary communities has a population of 14,000 and the economic base is comprised of light manufacturing and agriculture (strawberries and potatoes). Famagusta has a population of 45,000 and the Famagusta</p>	<p>To develop the economic and social potential of the Greater Famagusta Region (including Famagusta Walled City and Deryneia), striving to support the improvement of the climate for reconciliation. It aims to enhance collaboration among civil society stakeholders, facilitate youth entrepreneurship through empowerment and networking opportunities and lastly, lay the soft infrastructure for business development which will lead to the improvement of economic potential of the region.</p> <p>The project will focus on three pillars of activities:</p> <p>(a) Enhancing collaboration among civil society stakeholders in the region of Famagusta: Civil society organizations and groups of the two communities</p>	<p>Developed bi-communal links between communities in Famagusta and Deryneia, which is particularly important given the strategic and symbolic significance of Famagusta/Varosha and the central role it will have in any future settlement. Supported the opening of a new crossing point at Deryneia, which is due to be opened in late 2015. Facilitated contact between the two communities in advance of the opening of the crossing and created initial links particularly among young people. Implemented the Famagusta Region Challenge in collaboration with Mahallae; designed a regional tourism initiative to increase tourism to this under-visited area, which has not benefited from the tourism like the rest of the island; and implemented a series of sporting and cultural activities. The Famagusta Challenge was an open call to young entrepreneurs in the area to develop projects which used technology to support social and economic development in the region. RENEWAL</p>

Project Name/ Lead Partner(s)	Background	Objectives	Results
	<p>area has 60,000. There is a road between Deryneia and Famagusta that intersects the Buffer Zone.</p> <p>The RENEWAL project emerged from a series of wide consultations with stakeholders in the areas of Famagusta and Deryneia between January and March 2014 and builds on the needs of the local communities to develop the economic and social potential of the region by the creation of different opportunities for practical collaboration between Greek Cypriots and Turkish Cypriots.</p>	<p>will engage in cross-cultural activities and events based on the preferences and needs of the stakeholders and beneficiaries of the communities. These activities will contribute to building trust among communities and help demonstrate the benefits of reconciliation.</p> <p>(b) Supporting youth entrepreneurship through empowerment and networking opportunities. The project focuses on developing the skills of youth through business development and entrepreneurship skill training as well as helping to create networking opportunities between the youth in the two communities. At the present time, youth unemployment hovers at approximately 40% in the communities and youth are disenfranchised. Youth start-ups have been highlighted as the untapped potential of the region. Working with Cypriot organizations specializing in youth and entrepreneurship, a series of youth entrepreneurship workshops are organized during the duration of the project, starting in November 2014. These are events provide opportunities where youth and entrepreneurs from the two communities can come together, network and explore business</p>	<p>then supported four of these projects through financial assistance and mentoring to develop their idea and to look at the potential to develop a sustainable business. A range of social, cultural and sporting events were organized including a youth music festival, street art activities, entrepreneurship workshops for young people, film and food festivals, volleyball and chess tournaments. The project also organized public meetings in the TCC to discuss the proposed settlement and a federal solution.</p>

Project Name/ Lead Partner(s)	Background	Objectives	Results
		<p>collaboration opportunities.</p> <p>(c) Creating and supporting the soft infrastructure for business development that will help to lead to the improved economic potential of the region through supporting the development of local businesses as well as encouraging direct contact between businesses from both communities in the Famagusta region. Activities for business development are organized in a two stage process. Firstly, thorough needs assessments of businesses have been conducted in both communities to identify the local business needs with the aim of developing needs-driven business development training activities that will be organized for businesses in the Famagusta region. The project also aims to promote opportunities of business interaction between the two communities by providing brokering services for the facilitation of trade across the Green Line.</p>	
<p>Support to the CMP</p> <p>Committee on Missing Persons</p>	<p>The CMP was established in April 1981 by agreement between the Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot communities under the auspices of the United Nations. It works to alleviate the suffering of those who lost a loved one during the tragic violence of past decades on this long divided island.</p>	<p>To support the ongoing work of the CMP.</p>	<p>\$60,000 plus any unused balances of UNDP-ACT funds were provided to the CMP to support ongoing work and operations. Support to the CMP has by November 2015 resulted in the identification and return of the remains of 614 of the 2,000 officially reported missing persons cases.</p>

Project Name/ Lead Partner(s)	Background	Objectives	Results
	<p>Exhumations are carried out by bicomunal teams of Cypriot archaeologists and anthropologists.</p>		

About the cover design

A critical commodity in antiquity and a symbol of peace throughout history, the olive tree has been an integral part of the lives of the people of Cyprus since the Neolithic period. As such, it is fittingly used here not just as an iconic symbol of the island, but also as a metaphor for how Cypriots, from all walks of life, make their contribution to peace. The longevity of olive trees, which can live up to 700 years, mirrors the persistence and commitment of Cyprus' citizen peacemakers. Just as the growth patterns of olive trees become more intricate and interesting with age, so Cypriots have over the years developed more sophisticated, more effective, more participatory means for addressing the conflict that divides them. Finally, the most productive olive trees require nurture and care. Peacemaking in Cyprus is the vocation of deeply committed people who have worked diligently, often in the face of scathing criticism, to nurture social-political change at multiple levels. This report reviews a decade of achievements and celebrates the work of the many Cypriots who continue to build the vision of a dynamic and diverse society at peace with itself.

