



"Peace through understanding between cultures"

Volume II, Fall 2006

Newsletter

HasNa's mission is to bring young adults together through programs that combine work-related education with structured training in conflict resolution. HasNa's programs target young adults of different cultural backgrounds from areas where economic growth and community cohesion have been hindered. HasNa places a strong emphasis on a commitment to neutrality and fostering cooperation among groups.

Our goal is to help create peaceful and economically stable communities wherever cultural and economic diversity challenges the security of its inhabitants.

Talk of the Island



HasNa receives first major grant from the United States Institute of Peace for an innovative bi-communal radio program in Cyprus

In April 2006, the United States Institute of Peace awarded HasNa a grant of \$47,500 for *Talk of the Island*, the first live bi-communal call-in show in Cyprus.

Cyprus is politically divided between the Turkish Cypriots in the North and the Greek Cypriots in the South. *Talk of the Island* serves as a forum to encourage dialogue between the divided communities.

The program was initiated in October 2005 in collaboration with two Cypriot non-profits, the Management Centre from the North and the Center for Neuroscience and Technology Institute (CNTI) from the South.

In mid-July, 2006 the program made history when it received the green light from Cypriot authorities to connect two stations, one from the North and one from the South, to a single local line. In the past, only the United Nations had permission for this. The activation of the line enabled the radio stations to broadcast the programs live on both sides of the island.

Marcus Rosenbaum of National Public Radio (NPR) traveled to Cyprus in November 2005 to assist in the initiation of the program. System Wise consultant, Dr. Robert Wise traveled to Cyprus in August 2006 to evaluate data collection methods and discuss the implications of his findings for long-term funding.

Currently, *Talk of the Island* is broadcast live every Saturday from 10 to 11 a.m. by Radyo Mayis in the North and Radio Pyrgos in the South. Issues discussed in the program are relevant to the concerns of modern-day Cyprus, and the program hosts experts from both sides of the island to lead the discussions.

The USIP grant is very timely, but the next phase is vital to the program's future. The success of the program is dependant upon its ability to attract a large audience. The number of broadcasts must be increased from one to three times a week.

Listen to *Talk of the Island* on the internet at: www.talkoftheisland.org or:

<http://listen2myradio.com> Instructions: under Online Radios select "All Stations." Then select: "talkoftheisland." Another page with a box will open, select: "Press here". That will connect you to the radio.

HasNa Inc. is a registered 501(c) 3 non-profit organization.

Business Training Conducted for Turkish Women



CATOM women during the workshop

HasNa collaborated with Anatolian Artisans (AnArt) to train 21 low-income women from diverse cultural backgrounds. The training took place in Kilis, a city in southeastern Turkey. All the women who participated in the program were members of the local Women's Community Centers (CATOMs).

The training aimed to build the women's self-confidence and teach them how to start, manage and operate their own businesses.

Please help us train more women so they can be good role models for their daughters!

HasNa Trains Summer Camp Teachers in Turkey



Two summer camp teachers at the HasNa training

In June 2006, HasNa conducted a training program of summer camp teachers. Nevzer Stacey, president of HasNa, traveled to Sanliurfa, Turkey with Evangeline Wise, who specializes in teacher training, and Edna

Povich, an expert in conflict resolution training. Zekiye Haciosmanoglu, a volunteer and a long-time friend of HasNa, provided simultaneous translation for the sessions.

During the training, summer camp teachers were taught communication and questioning skills. The camp sessions immediately followed the training, and the teachers were able to apply what they learned in the training to their students, who are the children of local farmers.

Although the training took place in Sanliurfa, the summer camp teachers used their newly acquired skills in other campsites throughout Turkey.

Dennis Copeland Teaches English in Turkey



Mr. Copeland teaching in Sanliurfa

Since HasNa believes in continuous learning and also wants to be responsive to the needs of our participants, we sent Dennis Copeland, an accomplished English teacher, to Sanliurfa in November 2005. Mr. Copeland has had many years of experience teaching English in Turkey.

Earlier, when the participants attended the program in the States, HasNa had paid for their English language training. This time, the participants contributed to the English language training costs. The result was a collaborative effort.

During the classes, Mr. Copeland emphasized conversational English. Since the participants rated him so highly, we are sending him back to Sanliurfa in the fall to teach another group of past HasNa participants.

HasNa's Small Grants Program

HasNa's Small Grants Program was initiated in 2004. The grants support agricultural innovation projects, and their purpose is to encourage past HasNa participants to apply the skills they acquired in HasNa trainings to their own lives and communities through a series of pilot projects intended to promote change and development in the region.

In 2005, HasNa awarded two small grants. The first grant was awarded to Cetin Sen for his project: *Strawberry Cultivation as an Alternative Crop in the GAP Region*. Its goal was to increase the income of small farmers by introducing strawberry cultivation, which is more profitable than the current cotton crop grown in the region. In addition to planting strawberries, the project educated 40 farmers on strawberry cultivation.

The second small grant awarded last year was to Servet Abrak for his project: *Encouraging Fava Bean and Pea Cultivation in Winter in the GAP Region*. This project encouraged seasonal crop rotation, adding fava beans and peas as a winter crop, enabling small farms that practice irrigation farming to have the opportunity to earn more per square unit. Fava beans and peas were planted on three acres of land. Other farmers have also become interested in the project.



A woman planting fava beans

The small grants awarded for 2006 are:

- ❖ *Cultivating Plums as an Alternative Crop in the GAP Region*
- ❖ *Drip Irrigation for Pistachio Gardens in Sanliurfa*
- ❖ *Coordination of the HasNa Participants in Sanliurfa*

HasNa is also continuing to provide funds for the 2004 small grant project: The *Harran Su* Newspaper, which merged with the *TeknoGAP* newspaper in March 2006. The newspaper is distributed to farmers in the region and promotes understanding of agriculture, irrigation, farmer's rights, and water use in Sanliurfa and the surrounding area.

Be a Small Grants Donor!

Awards vary from \$2000 to \$5000 and grants are determined by a local committee in Turkey. Your donation for a small grant will allow you to closely follow the progress of the project you fund.

The Chairmen of the Water Users Associations Reconvene in Sanliurfa

In April 2005, HasNa designed a training program for the chairmen of the Water Users Associations to teach them about conflict resolution and management skills in order to enhance their productivity.

As with all HasNa programs we require a follow-up evaluation and make a point of sharing the findings with the participants. This program's evaluation found that the chairmen had not implemented their training skills, with the exception of Hasan Citirik who planted almonds and İsmail Felhan who planted potatoes. Their projects aimed to apply what they learned at HasNa about product diversification.

While Nevzer Stacey was in Turkey, she convened the chairmen to discuss the outcomes of their training. The meeting with the chairmen was very useful because it emphasized the recognition of failure and explored methods for improvement.

The chairmen have pledged financial support for the Training Center that we are planning to establish in Sanliurfa.

HasNa Events in DC

HasNa Movie Series

On October 18, 2005 HasNa had a fundraising event hosting the screening of the Turkish movie: Karpuz Kabugundan Gemiler Yapmak (Making Boats out of Watermelon Rinds) to benefit HasNa's programs.

HasNa Social Event

On September 22, 2005, HasNa co-sponsored a Greek-Turkish Networking Reception with The Hellenic American Women's Council. The reception took place in the Army and Navy Club, and was underwritten by Raymond James & Associates Inc.

Lecture on Turkish Women in Migration

On April 19, 2006 HasNa hosted a lecture at Georgetown University by Bulent Gulcubuk of Ankara University and Sebnem Akcapar of Georgetown University. The lecture was called "Women in Migration in Rural Turkey: A View from Two Turkish Researchers." The two scholars examined rural development and international migration, looking at the policy implications of these migratory social trends.

Nevzer Stacey conducts training program with Cypriot youth at American University

On July 27-28, 2006, HasNa President, Nevzer Stacey conducted a training program on voluntary community service for Cypriot university students, entitled the Leadership and Community Service Initiative. The workshop was designed for students from the north and south of Cyprus. This training was part of a project funded by AMIDEAST and took place at American University.

Upcoming Events

HasNa Social Event 2006

Join us for HasNa's annual social event at the Katzen Arts Center on December 11th. It will be an evening of Greek and Turkish food under the guidance of culinary experts from Athens and Istanbul, focusing on the "Shared Tastes" of both nations through music, food, wine, and Greek and Turkish folk dancing.

New Programs

Training of English Teachers

In addition to Mr. Dennis Copeland returning to Sanliurfa to teach English, HasNa is sending Mr. Bennett Lindauer to train English teachers in the region.

Training of CYDD staff in Conflict Resolution

HasNa will be conducting conflict resolution training for the staff of the Turkish NGO: Cagdas Yasami Destekleme Dernegi (CYDD), The Association for the Support of the Enlightenment of Individuals.

Sanliurfa Training Center

HasNa is preparing to set up a Training Center in Sanliurfa, Turkey to service past HasNa trainees as well as the communities in the region. The Center will include training in professional management, conflict resolution, English language training, and other fields as demand arises. HasNa hopes to establish this center in 2008.

A Spotlight on Volunteerism

Along with the work of its professional staff, HasNa relies heavily on its many volunteers.

This past summer, *John Krieger*, an attorney who is studying human rights at American University, volunteered in the office as an intern. His duties included research, editing, and writing.

Volunteers of the Year!

Bennett Lindauer, a Georgetown University English instructor who has taught several of HasNa's English training classes, has volunteered to go to Turkey this winter to train English language teachers in methods for teaching English.

Zekiye Haciosmanoglu, who has been a long-time friend and supporter of HasNa, has volunteered in several HasNa training programs. This year she helped translate for the camp teachers program in Sanliurfa.

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