



Newsletter

From the President

How does one foster cross-cultural understanding and economic empowerment that enables individuals to peacefully coexist in productive communities?

HasNa is five years old, and we have answers to some of the problems we set out to solve. Let me give you a couple of examples of why we are so encouraged. It was the fall of 2000. HasNa's first participants had arrived from southeastern Turkey. They were apprehensive about us, and we were uncertain about them. They looked at us as an unknown American organization with private donations running a program to improve the management of their water. Our goal was to enhance the participants' skills and create a harmonious, productive environment for them to work and live in. We wondered about their motives. Did they just want to have a paid trip to the U.S.? We also were anxious about making a difference and producing measurable outcomes.

It is now spring of 2005, and we have our graduates working together putting out a regional newspaper called *The Waters of Harran*. Twelve of them are working together on this paper, providing information and suggesting solutions to farmers. Other graduates are applying to the European Union for assistance in augmenting their projects. Still others are holding meetings to reach farmers to teach what they learned in the United States.

In Cyprus we have strengthened northern and southern non-governmental organizations to enhance communication between the two communities. We brought five Turkish and five Greek Cypriot journalists to the U.S. to sharpen their skills in unbiased reporting. They have given birth to an electronic journal called, *The HasNa Journal*. This is only the first step in creating channels of communication for the two communities so that information based on facts can form the basis of future interactions between two parts of the island.

We have planted healthy seeds. We have developed mutual trust and a commitment to peaceful integration and individual empowerment. Help us tend the seeds. There is a lot to learn from one another. -Nevzer G. Stacey



**Nevzer Stacey with Board Member
Ozgur Karaosmanoglu**

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HasNa IN TURKEY



Water Canals in Southeastern Turkey

In the arid region of southeastern Turkey where the population relies heavily on agricultural production, the Turkish government established a multi-billion dollar irrigation project and has handed over the project to local water associations for management of water distribution. Although the availability of water improved the chances of success for regional farmers, who received the water and how much became a delicate issue in this area. Without the know-how for communicating with diverse groups, the young leaders in charge of water distribution were faced with the difficult task of ensuring that water was distributed in a fair manner. Essentially, they held the keys

to peace or escalating conflict. For the past five years, Turkish irrigation engineers have participated in HasNa programs and learned skills in conflict resolution and improved techniques for water distribution. Graduates say the experience has changed their lives. Not only has the training assisted them in performing their duties, but they also found the conflict resolution training applicable to situations with their families, friends, and neighbors.

Highlight

Each water association is headed by a “chairman” who is also a landowner and community leader. After five years of hearing stories from the engineers about their training, the chairmen have decided to see for themselves. Read the next HasNa newsletter for a description of their experiences in the U.S.

HasNa IN CYPRUS

Cyprus is divided between Turkish Cypriots in the north and Greek Cypriots in the south. Ethnic tensions have ranged from terrible to tolerable over four decades. HasNa identified a lack of objectivity in journalism on the island as a serious and aggravating factor underlying the bad relations.

To address this problem, HasNa partnered with southern and northern non-governmental organizations to implement media programs and brought Greek and Turkish Cypriot journalists to the U.S. for training in conflict resolution and exposure to objective journalism. When they returned to



Cypriot Journalists in Training

Cyprus, the journalists created an electronic news bulletin, called *The HasNa Journal*, to enable islanders to communicate freely. HasNa has also implemented media workshops in Cyprus during which participants learned how to listen to the media, question what they hear and look further into the news. As reported by a participant:

“I have been involved with a number of bi-communal activities, and I can say that this workshop was one of the best.”

HasNa’s partners also confirm that the workshops were a success: “On reflection, one participant said ‘women of North and South have similar problems and hopes.’ This kind of a comment is significant[.] Although it might seem quite self-evident to some, this has not been the case between the two communities in Cyprus. . . The fact that individuals open up and recognize the similarities, common problems and struggles they share with one another brings our island closer to a peaceful coexistence and reconciliation.”

In Our Office . . .

Arrivals

Nezzer G. Stacey has taken on executive responsibilities as President. Before HasNa, she was a Study Director in the National Research Council, an arm of the National Academy of Sciences and a resident expert on transitions from education to the workplace.

Ms. Margo Oge is the newest board member. She is the Director of the Office of Transportation and Air Quality in the Environmental Protection Agency. Ms. Oge has been with the Environmental Protection Agency since 1980 and also served as Legislative Aide to Senator John Chafee of Rhode Island.

Ms. DeLacie Hester has been HasNa's program associate since August 2004. She is a licensed attorney, certified mediator and founded Law and Mediation Services prior to joining HasNa.



Garnie Ayanlha (left) and DeLacie Hester (right)

Ms. Garnie Ayanlha joined HasNa this year as an administrative assistant. Originally from Nigeria, Ms. Ayanlha moved to the United States in 1996. She has completed three years at George Washington University.

Departures

Ms. Patricia Scheid departed HasNa as Executive Director to pursue other career ambitions. We thank her for her contributions and wish her well.

Mr. Christopher Zachariadis's term as a member of HasNa's Board of Directors expired at the end of 2004. His participation was vital to assisting HasNa in developing its programs in Cyprus. We thank him for his contributions and wish him the very best.

HasNa Partners

IN WASHINGTON

The Center for Dispute Settlement provides conflict resolution training for all programs. CDS has applied alternative dispute resolution methods to settings involving institutions, individuals, and the community.

Mrs. Kathleen Owen has been a mediator, trainer and curriculum specialist with CDS for over fifteen years. She

Our Partners, Continued

is HasNa's lead conflict resolution trainer and has consistently received the highest marks from participants.

SystemWise Consulting, LLC has recently joined the HasNa team. SystemWise specializes in the use of carefully selected performance measures to improve organizational effectiveness and efficiency.

Dr. Robert Wise is a consultant with SystemWise and specializes in using measurement, evaluation, and statistical analysis to improve organizational performance. He will assist HasNa participants with learning how to apply their new skills and provide HasNa with evaluations of its programs.

IN CYPRUS

Cyprus Neuroscience and Technology Institute (CNTI) is located on the southern, Greek Cypriot side of Cyprus. CNTI is a leader in promoting projects that bridge the Greek and Turkish Cypriot communities. Dr. Yiannis Laouris is President of CNTI.



Dr. Yiannis Laouris

The Management Centre is located on the northern Turkish Cypriot side of Cyprus and focuses on capacity building with non-governmental organizations. Dr. Bulent Kanol is the Executive Director.



Dr. Bulent Kanol teaching at a training seminar

IN TURKEY

TEMAV is headquartered in Ankara, Turkey and has a branch office in southeastern Turkey. TEMAV provides research and consulting services to governments, businesses and individuals on the use of advanced technology in agriculture. Mr. Ibrahim Sahin is HasNa's primary contact at TEMAV.

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HasNa, Inc.

Fundraising Event!

HasNa is planning a fundraising event in the upcoming months for its Cyprus programs. In cooperation with our Cypriot NGO partners HasNa is developing a radio program that will broadcast throughout the entire island. Visit our website for more details as they develop: www.hasna.org. See you there!

Donations

Donations may be made out to HasNa Inc and mailed to 2401 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Suite 410, Washington D.C. 20037. In-kind donations are also appreciated. For more information, call 202-478-1034.

Tour of Southeastern Turkey and Visit with HasNa Graduates

In a custom designed tour, HasNa supporters will see the results of HasNa's work in action. Supporters will meet with HasNa graduates in their professional environments, homes and communities in southeastern Turkey. Trips to places of historical significance are also on the itinerary. Nevzer G. Stacey will accompany the group led by Mr. Faruk Pekin, General Manager of FEST Travel and

founding member of The Cultural Awareness Foundation. The trip will take place from May 20 – May 30, 2005.

Outreach

*The 9th Annual Global Business Conference:
"Entrepreneurship: A Global Perspective"*

Howard University invited Nevzer G. Stacey to join a panel of speakers at the Global Business Conference on April 14, 2005. Ms. Stacey spoke of her non-profit experience and gave insight on the importance of establishing partnerships in the localities where the organization operates.

*The Middle East Dialogue and Listening Initiative
"Careers in Conflict Resolution"*

Georgetown University invited DeLacie Hester to join a panel of speakers at the "MEDLI" Conference on April 3, 2005. Ms. Hester gave insight to students on how to start a career in conflict resolution and described multiple ways to engage in conflict resolution in Turkey and the Middle East.