

## CYPRUS

Cyprus is the second smallest beneficiary state in terms of population and size after Malta. With a GDP per person just 2% below the EU average, Cyprus ranks 2nd after Spain among the beneficiary states. The country ranks lower on human development (HDI) due to low scores on education and income, but its population enjoys a high life expectancy rate (80.0 yrs) and a relatively high level of gender equality (GII). In the funding period 2009-14, Cyprus has been allocated €7.9 million, up from €4.7 million in the previous five-year period.

Cyprus has a history of conflict and there is a need to foster contacts and understanding between the Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot communities. Therefore, the development and promotion of civil society and cooperation across the divide have been key priorities.



*Traditional dance at the opening of a new centre for environmental education supported by the Norway Grants in Salamiou village in Cyprus.*



**Population**  
0.8 million

**Gross Domestic Product (GDP)**  
(difference to EU average)  
€24 000 per person (-2%)

**Human Development Index (HDI)**  
35 (world)  
23 (EEA)

**Gender Inequality Index (GII)**  
15 (world)  
12 (EEA)

**EEA Grants (2004-09 / 2009-14)**  
€1.3 / 3.9 million

**Norway Grants (2004-09 / 2009-14)**  
€3.4 / 4 million

### OPPORTUNITIES 2009-2014

The largest share of funding will be allocated to **support for civil society**. An NGO fund worth €1.3 million is to be established under the EEA Grants, of which almost one-third is earmarked for bi-communal projects to promote dialogue and cooperation between the two communities in Cyprus. A further €600 000 under the Norway Grants will support the continued development and sustainability of activities of the Home for Cooperation (H4C). This centre, set up with funding support from Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway in the UN-controlled buffer zone in Nicosia, was opened in May 2011. It aims to foster closer cooperation and promote dialogue between civil society groups from the two communities.

Environmental protection also continues as an important priority sector. All funding in this area is to be channelled through a **dedicated biodiversity protection programme** aiming to restore natural habitats and landscapes at the Amiantos Asbestos Mine in Troodos National Forest Park.

**Improving public health and reducing health inequalities** will be an equally significant sector under the Norway Grants. Funding here will be targeted on specific projects to enhance the capacity of the Cypriot Bone Marrow Donor Registry and establish a translation facility at the Institute of Neurology and Genetics. The Norway Grants will also fund a new programme to **tackle domestic and gender-based violence**. This will provide funding for a new purpose-built shelter for battered women and children. The Norwegian Secretariat of the Shelter movement will cooperate here as a donor programme partner. Important funding will also go to the justice and home affairs sector. This will provide support to improve efficiency in detecting and combating money laundering.



The vision for the 'Home for Cooperation' is strengthening cooperation and dialogue between the two communities on the island.

A new feature is funding worth €40 000 to be invested in decent work and improved dialogue between **social partners and public authorities** in a programme run by Innovation Norway. A programme focusing on children and youth at risk under the EEA Grants will support a new day care centre for children and young people with mental and physical disabilities. Although less significant than in the previous round, support also continues for cultural heritage.

## ACHIEVEMENTS 2004-2009

In Cyprus, the funds were allocated in equal shares to **cultural heritage, civil society** and the **environmental** sector. Efforts to increase island-wide cooperation between the two communities were supported under the €1.5 million **NGO fund**. Representing over a third of the total allocation, this was the largest of the NGO funds in relative terms in any beneficiary state. Of the 33 projects supported by the fund, close to 40% were implemented in cooperation between organisations from the Greek and Turkish Cypriot communities. The NGO projects aimed at improving health and childcare services, and empowering young people to take part in civil society. Beyond the extensive support from the NGO Fund, €750 000

from the EEA and Norway Grants was awarded to the Association for Historical Dialogue and Research (AHDR) – comprised of Turkish-Cypriot and Greek-Cypriot educators and historians – to establish the **Home for Cooperation (H4C)**. This is the first and only bi-communal activity centre in Cyprus. It provides facilities for hosting conferences and exhibitions, and also houses a library, an archive and offices for various NGOs. In the **environmental field**, a former school building in Salamiou village was restored and turned into the Centre for Environmental Education. The centre has given a new boost to the area by attracting students and teachers from all over Cyprus to come together to study issues around sustainability and environment.

### DONOR PROGRAMME PARTNER

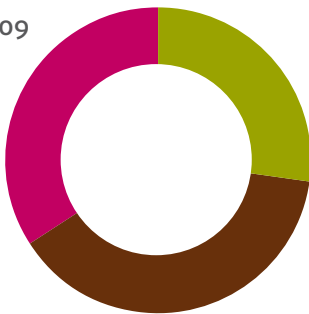
Domestic and Gender Based Violence: The Norwegian Secretariat of the Shelter Movement

### DONOR PROGRAMME OPERATOR

Global Fund for Decent Work and Tripartite Dialogue: Innovation Norway (IN)

## NET ALLOCATIONS

2004-2009



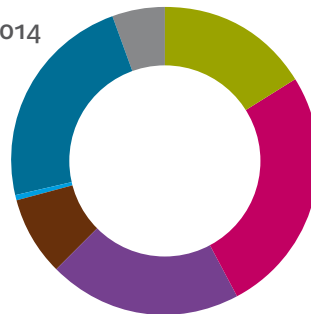
**Environment 2**  
€1.2 million

**Cultural heritage 3**  
€1.7 million

**Civil society 1**  
€1.5 million

Total: 6 projects - €4.4 million

2009-2014



**Environment and climate change**  
€1.2 million

**Cultural heritage**  
€0.6 million

**Human and social development**  
€1.5 million

**Civil society**  
€1.9 million

**Decent work/ social dialogue**  
€0.04 million

**Justice and home affairs**  
€1.7 million

**Other**  
€0.4 million

Total: €7.3 million