Jumpstart Conflict Resolution Workshop successfully implemented in Agros

A conflict resolution workshop, organized by Future Worlds Center as part of the Jumpstart-Youth Peace campaign, was successfully implemented last weekend (11-13 September 2009), at Rodon hotel in Agros village.

During the workshop, 30 youth, aged 18-30, from both Greek-Cypriot and Turkish-Cypriot communities had the chance to develop understanding of conflict, and explore different ways of handling it, by the use of interactive participatory methods.

After this introductory session, the participants focused exclusively on the Cyprus problem and engaged in discussions during which they explored their perceptions about the past, as well as their concerns about the current situation in Cyprus.

They also watched the documentary movie "Women of Cyprus", which deals with Cyprus recent history and political developments of 2004, and had the chance to engage in discussions on Media representation along with the film maker Vasiliki Katrivanou.

These sessions proved to be really productive for all participants. The youth seemed really interested to explore each other's perspective and learn more about the other's perceptions. Ultimately, this strengthened the communication of the group and created better possibilities for them to work together, organize further activities, and be proactive in the framework of "Jumpstart".

"Jumpstart, Youth Peace Campaign" is a joint initiative, implemented by Future Worlds Center and Youth Center Union, aiming at promoting intercultural dialogue and co-operation between Greek –Cypriot and Turkish –Cypriot youth, so that they can act as agents of change in their respective communities.

Follow-up actions include capacity-building trainings, further activities proposed and organized by the youth, as well as the implementation of a bus tour around the island that will carry the message of Peace and Reconciliation.

For more information, you can contact the co-coordinators of the project: Nicolina Markidou at: nicolina.markidou@gmail.com(Future Worlds Center) and Huseyin Kursat at <u>huseyin.kursat@gmail.com</u>