

2010

Humpty Dumpty Institute 2010 Annual Report

Humpty Dumpty Institute
HDI

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HDI SPOKESPERSON

Mary Wilson of the Supremes

HDI Annual Report 2010

Overseas Programs

Sri Lanka

HDI supported programs that provide 10,000 women and children with education, medical and public health, and water and sanitation services, in addition to a school feeding program that feeds 500 children on a daily basis. Our dairy development program trained over 2,000 farmers in improved farming methods and cleared over 700,000 m² of agricultural land. This program completed in 2009.

Laos

The Humpty Dumpty Institute has been the recipient of three straight USDA awards which has allowed HDI to do the critical job of eliminating unexploded ordnance (UXO) from around schools, markets, and communities, and ensuring that 25,000 school children get a nutritional breakfast every school day. UXO in Laos are a tragic reminder of the US-Vietnam War and pose a deadly threat for Laotian men, women, and children every single day. Additionally, Laos is one of the poorest countries in the world and the essential school-feeding program helps ensure that school children are able to spend the day at school without being hungry. Our partners in this project are International Relief and Development, Mines Advisory Group and UXO Lao.

Vietnam

Our "Mushrooms with a Mission" program is progressing well. We started less than a year ago with 9 families participating in the program in Quang Tri. These families produced nearly 3,000 kilo of wood ear mushrooms over the 4 month growing period. The families are under contract to sell the mushrooms to the program, which in turn packages and re-sells the dried mushrooms first to high-end markets in Vietnam, but eventually to markets around the world. The first batch of mushrooms were sold in Vietnam at a slight profit. These profits will be used to fund UXO clearance in the future. Our second growing season is upon us and we now have 50 participating families and we are expecting to produce 15,000 to 20,000 kilos of mushrooms this year. The Vietnamese Government has provided us with a processing facility and a "mother farm". We have standardized mushroom growing houses for all participating families and we have hired a premier marketing firm to help us with packaging and marketing. The Government of Taiwan was the early funder of this program (\$200,000). We received an additional \$200,000 from the US State Department.



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Mary Wilson Events

HDI's Spokesman, Mary Wilson of the Supremes, performed and lectured in Russia under a grant provided to the Humpty Dumpty Institute from the U.S. Embassy in Moscow. Miss Wilson is traveled in Russia and lectured on "American Values/American Ideals": The Intersection of the U.S. Civil Rights Movement and Motown" from January 24-February 2, 2010. While in Russia, she lectured and performed in Nizhny Novgorod, Krasnodar, Sochi, and Moscow. Miss Wilson then traveled to Kiev, Ukraine, on February 3-5, 2010 under the auspices of U.S. Embassy in Kiev where she opened an exhibition of Supremes gowns in honor of Black History Month.

Domestic Programs

Landmine Education Tour (LMET)

In November 2009, the Obama administration announced it would not to sign the Ottawa Convention banning land mines. This affirms the Bush-administration era policy formulated in 2004. The policy was widely criticized around the world both then and now. Critics have focused on the fact that the policy allows for the continued development of landmines and that the United States will not sign the treaty despite the fact that the US military no longer uses anti-personnel landmines in the Korean peninsula. Often overlooked in the criticism of U.S. policy on landmines is the fact that the United States is the single largest donor to humanitarian demining projects around the world.

Without much attention from the general public, the U.S. State Department and other federal agencies continue to provide substantial funding for humanitarian demining programs around the world. Over the last 15 years the U.S. State Department has spent \$1.5 billion on similar programs all over the world. This funding has led to the clearance of hundreds of thousands of square meters of land and hundreds of miles of roads which are now able to be used for commercial, agricultural, and educational-related purposes. U.S. landmine policy is still heavily criticized despite these efforts and the public has limited understanding of the political and financial commitments made by the U.S. government to support humanitarian demining. HDI will address this by continuing to provide forums for U.S. officials and others to explain that, despite not being a Treaty signatory, the U.S. has made more of a contribution to the eradication of landmines than any other country, and will continue to lead the way until the problem is solved.

HDI's Landmine Education Tour educates and informs high school and college/university students, community leaders, academics, and policy makers about the continuing prevalence of landmines in the developing world, how landmines impede



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economic and agricultural development around the world, and highlight the considerable contributions made by the U.S. to eradicate landmines and UXO around the globe. The tour is comprised of leaders and experts in the landmine/UXO and international development communities, the United Nations, diplomats from landmine affected countries, and relevant NGOs who present their work and what they are doing to eliminate landmines in a variety of forums, including town hall-style meetings, lectures/presentations, and group interviews.

Funded by the Office of Weapons Removal and Abatement at the US State Department, the tour has visited Seattle, Dallas, New Orleans, and Boston and has plans to visit Raleigh, Salt Lake City, Austin, TX, Phoenix.

Congressional Delegations

HDI's U.S. - U.N. programs have demonstrated the vitality of the U.N. to Members and Staff, and after our programs these Members and Staff have demonstrated an eager willingness to undertake serious engagement with the organization. HDI's programs have now been operating for eleven years and remain extremely popular among Members and Staff. Our U.N. programs are recommended by participants as among the most valuable and informative opportunities available to Congressional offices interested in learning more about the work of the United Nations. This word-of-mouth recommendation has an enormous multiplier effect.

Consistent with UNF's goals to build support on Capitol Hill and within the general Washington, D.C. community, HDI will continue to strive to present U.N. issues to this audience. We believe an enhanced partnership between UNF and HDI will best advance our mutual goal of strengthening the U.S.-U.N. relationship while optimizing available resources. In addition, as we reach out to other constituencies through our new programs for the Creative Community, Universities, and the Financial Industry, we hope that you will consider providing some additional resources for those projects as well. We believe that we will find ways to benefit our U.S. - U.N. activities from these new programs. We look forward to discussing this with you.

Educating Members of Congress and their Staff of the importance of the United Nations to U.S. policy goals remains crucial. This will be an especially important program year as a large number of new U.S. Representatives are likely to be elected in November 2010, many of whom will have little knowledge about the United Nations. The U.S. Congress and the United Nations are both focusing on a wide variety of issues that could lead to productive engagement. These include nuclear issues in the Middle East,



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the continued threat of terrorism, and peacekeeping/peace building operations worldwide.

Since 1998, more than 400 Congressional Members or staff have participated in HDI's flagship program sponsoring Congressional and staff delegations to United Nations Headquarters in New York City. These bipartisan delegations are off-the-record, and provide an unparalleled opportunity for participants to discuss relevant issues with senior officials and experts from the United Nations, the U.S. Mission to the United Nations, and the U.N. diplomatic corps. All expenses related to travel and accommodations are covered by HDI and are in full compliance with the rules of the Senate Select Committee on Ethics and the House Committee on Standards of Official Conduct.