

## Corporate Social Responsibility Project (Gaziantep)

In an effort to finance investment projects and the capital needs of SMEs in Turkey, Halkbank and the French Development Agency have signed an agreement on February 19, 2008. The agreement stipulates that Halkbank will implement a Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) Project to support the development of sustainable corporate practices by SMEs and also Halkbank.

The main objectives of the Loan Program and CSR Project are to support the development of SMEs in Turkey, help reduce developmental disparities between regions, support raising SME and Halkbank employees' awareness through the CSR program, and contribute to social development.

In parallel with this objective, RISK MED will provide the seminars and consultancy services within the scope of the CSR Project. Moreover, as a means of bringing international implementation experience to the project, RISK MED will collaborate with Adelphi Consult to provide these services.

The services provided by RISK MED will consist of two main components: a CSR Program within Halkbank and a CSR Program for SMEs. The services provided within each program include describing all of the aspects of CSR, the two important sub-topics of CSR, environmental legislation and occupational health and safety legislation, and the relevant management systems. This will provide both the bank management and employees and also SME representatives the opportunity to understand the importance and necessity of CSR. Moreover, the services aim to provide both parties with the requisite awareness to encourage the implementation of a CSR program.