



WE GO!

Women Economic-independence & Growth Opportunity

JUST/2014/RDAP/AG/VICT/7365



We GO!

Building economic independence:
the way out of intimate partner violence.



THE CHALLENGE

Intimate partner violence is a widespread problem in Europe. Based on data gathered by the European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights (FRA), **1 in 4 women** is physically or sexually abused by her own partner.

Women living in violent relationships often don't break them off, as they lack **financial independence** and wouldn't be able to provide for themselves and their children. Moreover, financial support programs are often amongst the most sacrificed activities led by **anti-violence centers**, due to the lack of human and financial resources.

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PROJECT'S OBJECTIVES

The two-year long **WE GO!** project (2016-2018) aims to improve programs addressed to women who experience intimate partner violence in Europe, with a special focus on activities led by **anti-violence centers** and promoting women's economic empowerment.

Thanks to the WE GO! project, the anti-violence centers will be able to better address women's economic needs, offering them the opportunity to exit violent relationships. The project will enhance cross-border cooperation among practitioners at EU level through identifying and spreading good practices from European countries. On the other side, thanks to innovative methodologies and programs, the capacity of the anti-violence centres to respond to women's economic needs will be improved.

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ACTIVITIES

1) Research and Comparative Analysis of current Programs addressed to women victims of intimate partner violence: thanks to established data collection methodologies, this activity will provide a profound data on women’s economic status, amongst those accessing anti-violence centers, at the European level.

2) Exchange meetings and knowledge building: thanks to the invaluable expertise of the anti-violence centers, the meetings’ outputs will also contribute to design a toolkit focused on good practices on intervention and innovative methodologies. These will be tested out during the project, which will be left as a legacy to the centers themselves.

3) Implementation of financial empowerment programs addressed to women victims of violence: the toolkit will be provided to all anti-violence centers in order to implement training activities directed to the centers’ workers, who will be testing out the methodologies featured in the centers programs.

4) Communication of project’s results: in addition to communication materials, public events will be held in Italy, Spain, Greece, and Bulgaria. The final project report will be presented at the conclusive event in Brussels, featuring recommendations addressed to national and European policy makers.

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METHODOLOGY

The project's methodology is based on two main components: the **exchange of experiences** and the **identification of good practices**. Training activities addressed to women have been built up based on participatory methodologies established throughout ActionAid's international, long-lasting experience within the communities it works with. These methodologies will be adjusted to each national context in which the project will take place, and tailored to the requirements the anti-violence centers involved may have.

The regulatory framework the project will be referring to is composed by international conventions on women's rights, as CEDAW and the Council of Europe Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence. The **principles of feminist economics** will be integrated in the economic empowerment trainings as well, with a special attention to **unpaid care work**.

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EXPECTED RESULTS

- **200 women** involved in training activities during the whole project lifetime;
- **35-50 anti-violence centers operators** involved in training activities;
- **50 professionals** involved in comparative analysis and exchange activities;
- **100 policy makers/institutional representatives** reached;
- **1,000 stakeholders** informed about the project's results.

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PARTNERSHIP

The project is funded by the European Commission's Rights, Equality and Citizenship Programme, and involves 15 non-profit organizations from 7 EU countries (Italy, Spain, United Kingdom, Greece, Cyprus, Sweden, Bulgaria)



[ActionAid Italy](#) is the Italian member of the International Federation of ActionAid, working in more than 45 countries worldwide to fight poverty and social exclusion through promoting human rights. Established in 1989, ActionAid Italy has the lead, within the federation, in the implementation of the programs in the North of the world, aimed to fight the so-called “new poverties” and promote human rights in Europe. The ActionAid Italy supporters’ network is extremely solid and locally grounded at national level: it includes 150.000 financial supporters, over 60 local activist groups and 8 regional development areas, disseminated over the entire country.

[IRS](#) is a wholly independent, non-profit cooperative currently counting 60 members. Our proceeds derive exclusively from activities developed specifically for our clients. IRS places great importance on consolidating our highly qualified internal research structure. At present, more than 40 researchers and a network of consultants guarantee the excellent quality of our products. We fine-tune our products to meet the specific needs of a wide target of clients, both public and private. This is made possible thanks to the wide spectrum of competencies available within the Institute. Our work is based on a multidisciplinary, fully integrated approach. IRS is part of various international research centre networks and closely collaborates with prestigious universities and qualified experts.

The [Mediterranean Institute of Gender Studies](#) (MIGS) is a non-profit organization which promotes and contributes to projects of social, political, and economic themes relating to gender with an emphasis on the Euro-Mediterranean region.





PARTNERSHIP



Euclid Network, European network for civil society and social enterprise was founded in 2007, and has a strong track record of networking, peer learning and policy impact in the civil society and social enterprise arenas. EN has delivered a range of European programmes in the fields of civil society capacity-building, social entrepreneurship, social innovation and responsible research & innovation. Our mission is to empower civil society and social enterprise to drive positive change.

SURT is a non-profit foundation made up of 95% women, that has worked with women and for women since 1993. We aim to be a transformational project, committed to the values of gender equality, inclusion, solidarity and social transformation.

Fundación Mujeres is an organization specialized in gender issues and promotion of equal opportunities between women and men, established in 1994. Its mission is to improve the social situation and quality of life of women, as well as the development of equal opportunity principles and policies in different areas of social, political and economic fields.

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[Gender Project for Bulgaria Foundation](#) (GPF) is an advocacy group for promotion of gender equality in all spheres of the private and social life in Bulgaria, Europe and globally. The main spheres of work are: Development Education and ODA policy; Economic Rights of Women; Political Empowerment of Women; Media and its Role for Overcoming Gender Stereotypes; Roma Women Empowerment; Domestic Violence. The team is organizing capacity building trainings on Gender Equality Concept and Gender Mainstreaming for different stakeholders; execute different researches; organize information and education campaigns.

[The Bulgarian Centre of Women in Technology \(BCWT\)](#) brings together stakeholders from the business, the government, the academia and the non-governmental sector, involving them in the process of supporting the increase of women's leadership and professional participation in the ICT sector, entrepreneurship, as well as the female share in the development of technologic and engineering products. The Centre cooperates in the implementation of regional innovation projects and stimulates research collaboration, exchange of best practices and creation of new resources in ICT.

[Animus Association Foundation](#) is a public-benefit non-government organization set up in 1997. The organization provides psychotherapeutic and psycho-social services to children and families at risk and to survivors of violence. The organization supports around 20 000 people a year by providing a number of services and programs such as Center for Rehabilitation, Counseling and Psychotherapy, Crisis Center for Survivors of Violence, Social Services Center for Children and Families, National Helpline for Children 116 111, National Hotline for Survivors of Violence, etc.

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The [Women's Centre of Karditsa](#), WCK, is a nonprofit organization. It is located in the town of Karditsa, Region Thessaly. WCK's main concern is the continuous operation of a network of people-executives and agencies in local, regional, national and transnational level, to provide the best and efficient services to women of Karditsa. It is a "tool" of the Local Government of the Municipality of Karditsa in particular!

[SEGE](#) is a Non Governmental Organization (NGO) with a Pan-Hellenic non-profit nature and regards women engaged in business activities in Greece. SEGE was founded in 1997 in Thessaloniki. It is governed by a 9-member board. SEGE provides to women entrepreneurs of Greece the environment to develop their businesses and themselves, it promotes youth entrepreneurship, improves recognition of their achievements in their businesses and promotes the growth of women-owned businesses through research and information. SEGE promotes ethics and morality in women entrepreneurship, while taking initiatives that demonstrate a sense of social responsibility.

[Folkuniversitetet](#) is a national Adult Education Association which offers a wide range of VET and adult education training courses throughout Sweden and in several European countries. Nowadays it is a leading organization in Sweden in Adult Education and Lifelong learning.

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The [Centro Veneto Progetti Donna-Auser](#) is a no profit, neutral and voluntary organization composed of women, born in March 1990. The center aims to prevent and take in charge every form of disadvantage for women and their children, with a specific attention to violence and abuse. In order to achieve these goals it works with prevention and intervention projects, training and other social experiences, in collaboration with the Presidency of the Council of Ministers, the Department of Equal Opportunities, local institutions, schools, districts, associations.

[Association "Donatella Tellini"](#) was born, with a different denomination, in 1987. Born as Women's Library, the Association develops activity as Centre against women's violence since 2007. As a library, it takes care of conservation, divulgation and collection of women's talents and thought's elaboration and it is specialized in women's culture, gender and feminist studies. As Centre anti-violence, it has the mission of bringing to light, understanding, combating, preventing violence and all social problems affecting women's lives, supporting all women in difficult circumstances or experiencing all forms of male violence.

The [C.I.F. \(Italian Women's Centre\)](#), founded in 1945, is an association of women who work in the civil, social and cultural field. From 1945 to 1961, the CIF founded, only in the province of Reggio Calabria, 117 kindergartens and 120 after-school which welcome over 5000 children (nurseries) and 3600 among adolescents and children (after-school). In the '50s until the '90s are active summer camps that operate by offering the possibility of medical and climatic treatment and educational experiences to hundreds of children.

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THANK YOU!