

The challenge

Intimate Partner Violence (IPV) is a form of violence against women which is widespread in Europe and severely affects women's human rights. According to the European Agency for Fundamental Rights, almost one in four women (22%) experience physical and/or sexual violence in a relationship with a man. Violence is rooted in the unbalanced power relations between women and men, and it is both a cause and consequence of gender inequality and discrimination, which prevent women from equally accessing political, social, cultural, and economic resources and opportunities.

The lack of economic independence is one of the main challenges women face when trying to leave their abusive partner. Anti-violence centres (AVCs) across Europe recognize that women often remain in violent relationships because of their financial dependence on the violent partner. This issue is coupled with the fact that women are considerably underrepresented in the labour market and in decision-making positions, with the overall female employment rate still being lower than that of men.

The project

Between 2015 and 2017, the European Union funded the WE GO! project with the goal to strengthen the support services for women suffering from IPV and to start a European dialogue on violence against women between 15 actors from different countries. **The second edition of WE GO! has started in December 2018** and it takes a further step up, aiming to support the economic empowerment of women who survived violence by strengthening the local and national support systems, exchanging European good practices and establishing cooperation networks between private and public stakeholders.

Our main activities

01. TRAININGS AND MUTUAL LEARNING for professionals/volunteers/social operators of services specialized in supporting women survivors of violence.

02. KNOWLEDGE EXCHANGE between NGOs, anti-violence centres, institutions, experts and private companies.

03. DESIGNING A DEVELOPMENT PLAN FOR 8 AVCS on how to create a network capable to ensure a better economic empowerment for the women they support.

04. CO-DEVELOPMENT OF CUSTOMIZED SOCIAL RELATIONSHIP PLANS, SKILLS ASSESSMENT AND INDIVIDUALISED CAREER PROGRAMMES for 100 women supported by AVCs.

05. AWARENESS RAISING for 80 private companies on how to support women survivors of violence and how to better understand the consequences of violence against women.

06. SUPPORTING 10 COMPANIES to adopt actions and policies aiming to prevent VAW and favour the labour inclusion of women through the **WE GO! Label**.

07. BUILDING MULTI-ACTORS TERRITORIAL PROTOCOLS to ensure the social and economic empowerment of survivors of violence against women.

08. NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL PUBLIC EVENTS to disseminate the goals, results and impact of the project.



To know more follow us on wegoproject.eu



To be involved and be part of the change contact us at womensrights.ita@actionaid.org

Our work pillars



Capacity Building: To strengthen the social and work inclusion of women survivors of violence.



Network Building: To improve the ability of local support systems to promote the social and work empowerment of women survivors of violence.

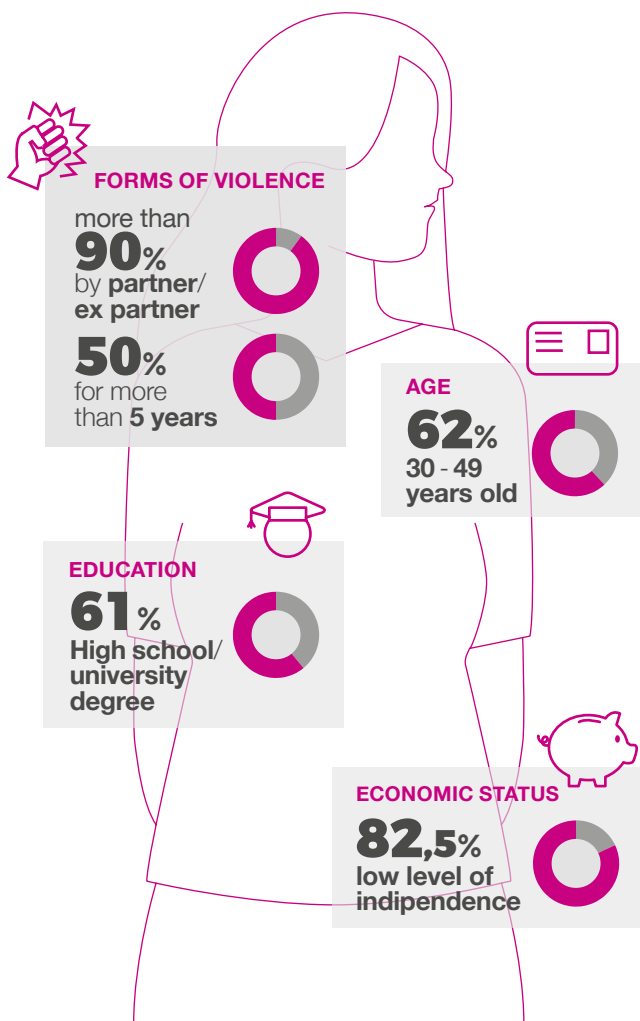


Awareness raising and direct actions with enterprises and institutions: To improve their awareness on the importance of providing coordinated responses to prevent and fight violence against women.

Our expected results

- » **4 EU countries** networking to find shared solutions to common needs;
- » **150 professionals/volunteers/social operators** trained to better meet the socio-economic needs of women survivors of violence;
- » **100 women** with improved social skills and networks;
- » **100 tailor-made plans of job matching**
- » **8 anti-violence centers** actively involved in the project;
- » **80 companies and private enterprises** sensitized on violence against women;
- » **150 Actors from public and private institutions** sensitized on issues related to violence against women and the importance of economic empowerment;
- » **4 territories** with improved coordination and cooperation skills;
- » **Civil society organisations, activists, researchers, policy makers** from 28 EU Member States benefiting from the project's know-how and tools available on the website.

Women supported by anti-violence centres



data: **552 women** from Bulgaria, Greece, Italy and Spain involved in the first edition of the project We Go!



Co-funded by the Rights, Equality and Citizenship (REC) Programme of the European Union

Partnership

The project involves 4 countries and six organizations:

- ActionAid Italia**, Italy
- Istituto per la Ricerca Sociale (IRS)**, Italy
- Relazioni Positive Società Cooperativa Sociale**, Italy
- Center for Sustainable Communities Development**, Bulgaria
- SURT - Fundació de dones**, Spain
- Women's Center Of Karditsa (WCK)**, Greece



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This leaflet has been produced with the financial support of the Rights, Equality and Citizenship (REC) Programme of the European Union. The contents of this leaflet are the sole responsibility of ActionAid International Italia Onlus and the project partners and can in no way be taken to reflect the views of the European Commission.

WEGO!



We Go II: BUILDING ECONOMIC INDEPENDENCE the way out of Intimate Partner Violence