CoPower

EUnita | EU Grant Advisory & Consultancy

CoPower national open calls

OPEN CALL ANALYSIS | Civil society applicants in Italy, Spain and Greece

Connecting Power: Scaling and Sharing Sub-Granting Experiences to Prevent and Combat Gender-Based Violence Across Europe

CERV DAPHNE project GA 101254774 | Financial support to third parties

Current first-round deadline: 23 November 2026. National submission times differ; see the country table below.

Prepared by EUnita — EU Grant Advisory & Consultancy | David Gaburici, Managing Partner

This analysis is addressed to organisations considering an application. It translates the official national calls and annexes into a practical decision and preparation guide. The national call text and its current annexes control each application.

1 Executive summary and strategic reading

CoPower will fund 30 national projects, ten in each of Italy, Spain and Greece, through sub-grants of €5,000–€50,000. Each country has €300,000 across two rounds. The first round has €200,000 per country and six planned awards; the second has €100,000 and four planned awards. These are country budgets, not one €300,000 pot shared by all applicants.

The strongest candidates are small or medium-sized civil society organisations that already work on gender-based violence, women's rights or human rights, know their local referral system, and can demonstrate safe services or credible prevention work. A compelling theme alone will not clear the legal-form, two-year establishment, experience, income, safeguarding and prior-funding checks.

EUnita reading: apply in the first round where the organisation can prove eligibility now. It offers more funding and up to 20 months of delivery; an unsuccessful applicant may use feedback and reapply in round two. The call is operationally demanding for a modest grant because payments, evidence, survivor protection and audit duties continue after award.

2 Call at a glance

Item	Verified position
Programme and instrument	Connecting Power / CoPower, EU CERV DAPHNE project GA 101254774; national financial support to third parties, administered by Oxfam Italia, ABD and ActionAid Hellas. This is not a direct application to the EU Funding & Tenders Portal.
National envelope	€900,000 across Italy, Spain and Greece: €300,000 per country; €200,000 first round and €100,000 second round in each country.
Award size	Fixed slots of €5,000–€50,000. Round 1: Stream 1 €50k, €50k, €20k; Stream 2 €50k, €25k, €5k. Round 2: Stream 1 €30k, €30k; Stream 2 €20k, €20k, per country.
Funding rate	No mandatory co-financing under the national call. Only eligible, approved expenditure is fundable; the organisation bears ineligible costs and any cash gap.
Applicant structure	One eligible organisation, or one lead and up to two eligible co-applicants. Associated partners may contribute but cannot receive or manage grant funds.
Duration	Round 1: 6–20 months; round 2: 6–16 months. No technology-readiness-level requirement.
Submission	Italy: Oxfam online form; Spain: ABD online form; Greece: email to ActionAid Hellas. See country requirements and times below.

3 What CoPower is funding

Choose one stream per proposal. Both streams expect survivor-centred, trauma-informed and intersectional practice. The evaluator will look for a specific service gap, safe access routes, a credible delivery team, measurable results and cost proportionality. A generic campaign, an unrelated research or technology project, or an event without a clear link to prevention and response is weak.

Stream	Purpose and credible activities	Funding per country
1 Inclusive protection	Improve access to coordinated, accessible support for women, girls and children affected by violence: specialist psychosocial or health support, safer referral pathways, shelters and spaces, frontline training, economic autonomy and early identification. Evidence of safeguarding, service competence and local coordination is central.	€180,000 total; €120,000 round 1 and €60,000 round 2.
2 Harmful practices	Prevent and respond to harmful practices through culturally and linguistically appropriate education, professional training, risk identification and confidential referral or protection routes. A stand-alone awareness event should show how it changes practice and connects people safely to support.	€120,000 total; €80,000 round 1 and €40,000 round 2.

The published allocation is a planning basis. The manual permits the selection committee to reallocate where too few valid proposals exist or context warrants it; applicants should use the national call's fixed slots and seek clarification before designing a different request.

4 Policy context and evaluator logic

CoPower is a sub-granting action under CERV-2025-DAPHNE, connected to European action against violence against women. The national calls reward practical, inclusive protection and prevention delivered by grassroots and smaller civil society organisations. The parent CERV call is context, not the applicant's submission route.

The score is split between the project (60 points) and the applicant or consortium (40). This makes the organisation's mandate, experience, local networks, management and financial capacity as material as the narrative. Safe participation by affected communities, realistic indicators and a credible continuation plan should be visible in the proposal, not left as broad commitments.

5 Calendar and submission routes

Country	Opening and deadlines	Channel and practical note
Italy	Round 1 opened 24 Aug 2026; 23 Nov 2026 at 15:00. Round 2: 1 Dec 2026–1 Mar 2027 at 15:00.	Oxfam Italia online form. Automated receipt followed by an organisational-capacity questionnaire; retain both records.
Spain	Round 1 opened 24 Aug 2026; 23 Nov 2026. Round 2: 1 Dec 2026–1 Mar 2027. The ABD call does not state an hour.	ABD online form. The central CoPower FAQ says 15:00 for round 1 and 26 Feb 2027 for round 2; the ABD national call and page govern Spain and say 1 Mar. Confirm the cutoff time with ABD and submit ahead of 15:00.
Greece	Round 1 opened 11 Sep 2026; 23 Nov 2026 at 23:59 Greece time. Round 2: 1 Dec 2026–1 Mar 2027 at 23:59 Greece time.	Email the complete package to subgranting.hellas@actionaid.org. Retain the receipt and complete the subsequent capacity questionnaire.

First-round assessment, due diligence and contracting are scheduled for December 2026–February 2027; implementation is indicated for March 2027–October 2028. Second-round assessment is scheduled for March–May 2027, with delivery from June 2027 to September 2028. The binding start and reporting dates will be in each signed agreement. Spain held an information session on 15 September 2026; Greece's launch event was also 15 September. No national FAQ question cutoff was verified.

Source discrepancies that matter: the central programme FAQ lists a second deadline of 26 February 2027 at 15:00; the national calls specify 1 March 2027, with Greece at 23:59 local time. Italy's web form displays a 20 MB upload limit while its call requires separate files of at most 2 MB: prepare to the stricter 2 MB rule. ABD's page says an entity may apply in only one round, while its national call permits an unsuccessful first-round applicant to reapply. Seek written clarification before relying on the later date or a Spanish resubmission.

6 Funding, budget and cash flow

Request one published fixed amount for the chosen country, round and stream. The request cannot exceed 40% of the average total income in the organisation's last two approved accounts, neither earlier than financial year 2023. In a consortium, the joint request must fit combined income and each funded member's managed share must also stay within 40% of its own two-year average. Thus partnership can unlock a larger project, but it does not let a small member hold an unsupported budget share.

Requested grant	Minimum average annual income needed
€5,000	€12,500
€20,000	€50,000
€25,000	€62,500
€30,000	€75,000
€50,000	€125,000

The manual sets a 50% advance, 30% interim payment after technical and financial review once accepted eligible expenditure reaches at least 60% of the advance, and a 20% final balance after completion and approval. For a €50,000 award, that is €25,000 / €15,000 / up to €10,000; the interim evidence trigger is at least €15,000 of accepted eligible expenditure. These are the stated mechanism, subject to the signed agreement and adjustment for delivery or unsupported costs. Budget for the gap before the interim and final payments.

The national calls cap indirect costs at 7% of total direct costs, human resources at 80% of each funded organisation's direct costs, and refurbishment of dedicated spaces at 5% of direct costs. Actual eligibility, documentation and any category calculation must follow the national budget template and management guide. The grant is not equity or revenue sharing; no de minimis condition was identified in the national call package. Avoid double funding of the same activity.

7 Who can apply and who should stop early

The lead or sole applicant must have been legally established for at least two years, have at least two years of relevant experience in GBV prevention or response, women's rights or human rights, and demonstrate capacity in the country of the national call. A funded co-applicant must also be at least two years old but needs at least one year of relevant experience. Each must meet the national legal-form and income rules, tax and social-contribution obligations, exclusions and conflict rules. Each must also be a small or medium-sized organisation: average income over the last two years of no more than €1,500,000, shown by accounts no earlier than financial year 2023. An associated partner cannot hold grant money.

Country	National legal and geographic gate
Italy	Lead and funded partners need a legal seat in Italy and an eligible non-company third-sector or civil-society form under the Italian call. RUNTS registration alone is not required; a social cooperative can participate as an associated partner without funds.
Spain	Lead and funded partners need a registered office in Spain. Eligible forms include qualifying nonprofit third-sector social-action entities; a social-initiative cooperative must have binding nonprofit protections in its statutes. Check stated objects against GBV, victim protection or equality.
Greece	Lead and funded partners need Greek establishment, registration and activity as eligible nonprofit civil-society or social-welfare entities. Individuals are excluded. The Greek application must be in Greek.

Do not spend on a full bid before checking exclusion history. A current CoPower beneficiary cannot receive another award; the call excludes applicants that participated as a beneficiary, lead, co-applicant or associated partner in a funded CERV-2025-DAPHNE Priority 1 project. Any activity funded by Connecting Spheres or POWER must be complete before the CoPower-funded project starts, and overlapping EU-funded work is barred. Each organisation can submit only one proposal per round, as lead or co-applicant but not both, and can receive only one grant under the national call.

Public authorities, universities, social enterprises and other organisations may be useful associated partners where allowed, but that role carries no grant budget. A Romanian organisation should monitor the later Spain–Romania transnational call; the current Spanish national call requires a Spanish registered lead and funded co-applicants.

8 Application package and proposal content

Prepare the national template set before opening the form. The standard package is: signed Annex 1 application; Annex 2 Excel budget; signed Annex 3 eligibility checklist; Annex 4 declaration; Annex 5 commitment letter if a funded partnership is proposed; the two latest approved accounts for each funded organisation; and two project-staff CVs. Institutional support letters are optional. Italy and Spain call for seven separate files, each no more than 2 MB, using PDF/A for the application and checklist; Greece requires separate files no more than 2 MB, using PDF for those two documents. The Greek call additionally specifies audited financial statements and E3/N tax forms where applicable to the accounting class.

The Annex 1 narrative covers the organisation, context and target groups, selected stream, objective and change sought, activities and timetable, delivery roles, participation and safeguarding, results and indicators, risk and sustainability, and budget logic. Its Section B Parts 1 and 2 cap is 25 pages in Italy and Spain, and 30 pages in Greece, excluding annexes. Respect the template's fonts and margins: Italy Calibri 9 minimum; Spain Barlow 9; Greece Calibri 10.

Italy accepts Italian or English; Spain Spanish or English; Greece Greek. A submission receipt is not the end of the validation process: the follow-up online organisational-capacity questionnaire is mandatory. Spain explicitly says an application is valid only after the completed questionnaire is received.

9 Evaluation, selection and contracting

Country	Score gate	Administrative and selection detail
Italy	At least 65/100 overall, including 39/60 project and 26/40 applicant.	Three working days to supply requested missing documents; five highest-ranked eligible proposals form a reserve list. Procedural review request within ten working days of notification.
Spain	At least 65/100 overall, including 40/60 project and 25/40 applicant.	Five working days to supply requested missing documents; five-proposal reserve list. The published extract does not establish a merits appeal.
Greece	At least 65/100 overall, including 39/60 project and 26/40 applicant.	Three working days to supply requested missing documents; five-proposal reserve list. Procedural review request within five working days.

The committee ranks eligible proposals within each round and stream. Thresholds alone do not secure an award: there are only three planned awards per stream in round one and two in round two in each country. Preselected applicants face due diligence; inadequate capacity or missing proof can move the award to the reserve list. Minor budget or activity revisions may be requested before contracting. The signed agreement will supply definitive reporting templates, visibility rules, dates and payment conditions. No separate model sub-grant agreement was in the public package reviewed.

10 Delivery duties and material risks

- Safeguarding and data: design safe referral and complaint routes, child-protection procedures where children are involved, informed participation, restricted access to case data and aggregated or anonymised reporting wherever possible. Survivor safety is a delivery condition, not just a narrative theme.
- Financial control: keep contracts, payroll or consultant-rate evidence, invoices, proof of payment, activity records and original accounting documents. The manual allows later checks and requires originals for six years after final payment; a request for records can require a response within ten working days.
- Cash and recovery: the second and final payments follow report approval. Unsupported spending, incomplete activities, partial results or serious non-compliance can reduce, suspend or recover funds. Agree partner transfers and reporting responsibilities in writing before contracting.
- Ethics, visibility and rights: avoid conflicts of interest, duplicate EU funding and party-political ties; follow the funder's ethics code if the organisation lacks its own and use EU visibility requirements. Do not assume unrestricted use of survivor stories, photos or personal data. The reviewed national calls do not set a special commercial IP transfer or market-uptake obligation.

11 Strong fits, weak fits and strategic angles

A strong fit has an established national civil-society legal entity; documented work with affected groups; credible frontline staff; a safe and accessible way to reach women and girls facing several barriers; relationships with specialist services; and finance systems that can support the requested fixed slot. Partnership is useful where expertise or geographic access is genuinely complementary and every funded member clears its own 40% income test.

Weak fits include a newly formed body, a for-profit lead outside the permitted national forms, an organisation without relevant documented experience, an event-led concept with no protection or prevention pathway, a proposal that mixes activities from both streams (each proposal must sit within one stream), or a team unable to manage safeguarding and evidence. For these profiles, the right decision is to build capacity or contribute as an associated partner where permitted.

Promising general approaches include: making existing services accessible in underserved areas; safer referral between specialist providers and community organisations; culturally competent early identification of harmful practices; and carefully evidenced autonomy support for survivors. These are strategic directions, not proposed projects or promises of eligibility.

12 EUnita scorecard

Dimension	Score / 5	Reason
Funding attractiveness	4	No required co-financing and a 50% advance, but small fixed awards and no recovery for ineligible costs.
Accessibility	3	Single applicant possible, yet legal-form, experience, language and income tests narrow the pool.
Competition	2	Only ten planned awards per country across both rounds and both streams; no application volume is published.
Implementation feasibility	3	Up to 20 months in round one, with demanding safeguarding, service delivery and evidence duties.
Cash flow	3	50/30/20 instalments help, but interim and final payments depend on accepted reports and spending.
Strategic value	4	Direct support for established local GBV work and useful capacity sharing.
Application burden	3	National templates, multiple signed annexes, accounts, CVs and post-submission questionnaire.

Overall EUnita opportunity score: 22/35 (63%). This is an advisory attractiveness and execution score for an eligible, relevant civil-society applicant, not an award probability. The low competition mark reflects the small number of grants; actual applicant numbers are unknown. The score does not override a failed national eligibility gate.

13 Future transnational calls

The same CoPower project plans later calls pairing Italy–Serbia, Spain–Romania and Greece–Albania. The manual anticipates €250,000 per country pair, five €50,000 awards, and a tentative 1 April–30 July 2027 application window; these dates are explicitly subject to confirmation. The transnational calls are not open for application in the reviewed package, and their country-specific call texts and Romanian version are not yet published. Treat them as MONITOR, including for Romanian organisations.

14 Official links and source documents

CoPower programme and FAQ: https://copower.oxfam.it/
CoPower feminist sub-granting manual: https://www.oxfamitalia.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/08/Manuale-CoPower.pdf
Italy application page, FAQ and all annex links: https://www.oxfamitalia.org/copower/
Italy national call: https://www.oxfamitalia.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/08/Bando_CoPower-1.pdf
Italy Annex 1 application: https://www.oxfamitalia.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/08/Allegato-1-Modulo-di-candidatura.docx
Italy Annex 2 budget: https://www.oxfamitalia.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/08/Allegato-2-Budget.xlsx
Italy current eligibility checklist V2: https://www.oxfamitalia.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/09/Allegato-3_Checklist-di-ammissibilita_V2.docx
Italy Annex 4 declaration: https://www.oxfamitalia.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/08/Allegato-4-Dichiarazione-donore.docx
Italy Annex 5 partnership letter: https://www.oxfamitalia.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/08/Allegato-5-Lettera-dimpegno.docx
Italy management and reporting guide: https://www.oxfamitalia.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/08/Linee-Guida-gestione-e-rendicontazione.pdf
Spain ABD call page, online form and annex links: https://abd.ong/convocatoria-copower/
Spain national call: https://abd.ong/wp-content/uploads/2026/08/0_Bases-Convocatoria-Co-POWER.pdf
Spain Annex 1 application: https://abd.ong/wp-content/uploads/2026/08/Anexo-1-Formulario-de-solicitud.docx
Spain Annex 2 budget: https://abd.ong/wp-content/uploads/2026/08/Anexo-2-Presupuesto-Traducido.xlsx
Spain Annex 3 eligibility checklist: https://abd.ong/wp-content/uploads/2026/08/Anexo-3-Lista-de-verificacion-de-elegibilidad.docx
Spain Annex 4 declaration: https://abd.ong/wp-content/uploads/2026/08/Anexo-4-Declaracion-Responsable.docx

Spain Annex 5 partnership letter: https://abd.ong/wp-content/uploads/2026/08/Anexo-5-Carta-de-compromiso-para-establecer-un-consorcio.docx
Spain management and justification guide: https://abd.ong/wp-content/uploads/2026/08/Directrices-de-gestion-y-justificacion.pdf
Greece ActionAid call page and annex links: https://actionaid.gr/copower
Greece national call: https://actionaid.gr/sites/default/files/Πρόσκληση_Υποβολής_CoPower.pdf
Greece Annex 1 application: https://actionaid.gr/sites/default/files/Παράρτημα_1_Έντυπο_αίτησης.docx
Greece Annex 2 budget: https://actionaid.gr/sites/default/files/Παράρτημα_2%20-%20Budget%20(GR).xlsx
Greece Annex 3 eligibility checklist: https://actionaid.gr/sites/default/files/Παράρτημα_3_Έλεγχος_επιλεξιμότητας.docx
Greece Annex 4 declaration: https://actionaid.gr/sites/default/files/Παράρτημα_4_Υπεύθυνη_δήλωση.docx
Greece Annex 5 partnership letter: https://actionaid.gr/sites/default/files/Παράρτημα_5_Επιστολή_δέσμευσης.docx
Greece management and reporting guide: https://actionaid.gr/sites/default/files/Κατευθυντήριες_οδηγίες.pdf
Parent CERV 2025 DAPHNE call fiche, programme context: https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/docs/2021-2027/cerv/wp-call/2025/call-fiche_cerv-2025-daphne_en.pdf

15 Final EUnita positions

National call and stream	Position for a prospective applicant
Italy Stream 1	CONDITIONAL GO if the organisation has proven specialist protection capacity, Italian legal eligibility, a safe service pathway and a grant slot supported by its accounts.
Italy Stream 2	CONDITIONAL GO where harmful-practices work is documented, culturally competent and tied to confidential protection or referral, with a viable fixed grant slot.
Spain Stream 1	CONDITIONAL GO for an eligible Spanish entity with established GBV services or referral networks; verify ABD's submission hour in writing.
Spain Stream 2	CONDITIONAL GO for an eligible Spanish entity with demonstrated harmful-practices expertise and a measurable prevention or response pathway.
Greece Stream 1	CONDITIONAL GO for a registered Greek nonprofit with relevant delivery evidence, Greek-language application capacity and a safe frontline model.
Greece Stream 2	CONDITIONAL GO for a registered Greek nonprofit with relevant harmful-practices experience, appropriate safeguarding and realistic delivery.
Transnational pairs	MONITOR. The later calls, including Spain–Romania, are scheduled provisionally and have no published application package yet.

For any organisation that fails a mandatory legal, prior-funding or income test, the applicant verdict is NO-GO for the current national round regardless of concept quality. Confirm the country-specific gates before authorising proposal work.

16 How EUnita can help

EUnita can run a documented go/no-go and eligibility check; select the right national stream and fixed grant slot; shape a safe, evidence-based project logic; build a proportionate partnership and budget; draft the application and annexes; check indicators, safeguarding, data and sustainability; and support submission and pre-contract clarification.

17 Contact

EUnita — EU Grant Advisory & Consultancy

David Gaburici, Managing Partner

david.gaburici@eunita.eu | +40 746 666 090 | www.eunita.eu