



EUROPEAN EDUCATION AND CULTURE EXECUTIVE AGENCY (EACEA)

EACEA.B – Creativity, Citizens, EU values and Joint operations
B.3 – Citizens and EU Values

GRANT AGREEMENT

Project 101290995 — BCG

PREAMBLE

This **Agreement** ('the Agreement') is **between** the following parties:

on the one part,

the **European Education and Culture Executive Agency (EACEA)** ('EU executive agency' or 'granting authority'), under the powers delegated by the European Commission ('European Commission'),

and

on the other part,

1. 'the coordinator':

COMUNE DI OLIENA (Olina), PIC 869298578, established in VIA V EMANUELE 4, OLIENA 08025, Italy,

Unless otherwise specified, references to 'beneficiary' or 'beneficiaries' include the coordinator and affiliated entities (if any).

If only one beneficiary signs the grant agreement ('mono-beneficiary grant'), all provisions referring to the 'coordinator' or the 'beneficiaries' will be considered — *mutatis mutandis* — as referring to the beneficiary.

The parties referred to above have agreed to enter into the Agreement.

By signing the Agreement and the accession forms, the beneficiaries accept the grant and agree to implement the action under their own responsibility and in accordance with the Agreement, with all the obligations and terms and conditions it sets out.

The Agreement is composed of:

Preamble

Terms and Conditions (including Data Sheet)

Annex 1	Description of the action ¹
Annex 2	Estimated budget for the action
Annex 3	Accession forms (if applicable) ²
Annex 3a	Declaration on joint and several liability of affiliated entities (if applicable) ³
Annex 4	Model for the financial statements
Annex 5	Specific rules (if applicable)

¹ Template published on [Portal Reference Documents](#).

² Template published on [Portal Reference Documents](#).

³ Template published on [Portal Reference Documents](#).

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DATA SHEET

1. General data

Project summary:

Project summary
The project “BCG – su Ballu Cantau e els Gegants: voices and steps in celebration” brings together the twinned municipalities of Oliena (Sardinia, Italy) and Oliana (Catalonia, Spain) to deepen a collaboration launched in 2018. Both communities share a strong sense of local identity and a unique intangible heritage: alongside the famous Catalan gegants and the Sardinian canto a tenore, Oliena treasures ancient traditional dances – passu torrau, ballu tundu, dennaru, s’arcui, s’arcui hantihu and su durdurinu – passed down through generations and still performed during religious festivals, weddings, and Carnival. The project aims to enhance these traditions as tools for intercultural dialogue. Two main events will showcase this heritage: in summer in Oliana, during the “festa major”, Sardinian guests will share their dances, songs and know-how with local associations; in autumn in Oliena, within the “Cortes Apertas” festival, Catalan citizens will take part in parades, workshops on dance, music and crafts. Each festival will include artistic performances, interactive labs, intergenerational exchanges, debates on European rights and school activities. Local traditions will thus become a driver of social cohesion and a space for reflection on EU values. The overall objective is to strengthen the sense of belonging to the European Union and promote solidarity among rural communities, creating a replicable model of twinning that combines intangible heritage, active citizen participation and inclusion. Special attention will be devoted to young people, women and vulnerable groups, ensuring equal opportunities and broad participation. The two communities, linked by their almost identical names, choose to turn cultural differences into a resource to build a stronger and profoundly European bond, embodying the motto “United in diversity”.

Keywords:

- Democratic engagement and civic participation
- European identity
- Solidarity
- Town twinning
- EU citizenship rights
- Cultural diversity and heritage
- Traditional dances, intercultural dialogue, intangible heritage, youth participation, inclusion, Sardinia-Catalonia, community empowerment, gender equality, local traditions.

Project number: 101290995

Project name: su Ballu Cantau e els Gegants: voci e passi in festa

Project acronym: BCG

Call: CERV-2025-CITIZENS-TOWN-TT

Topic: CERV-2025-CITIZENS-TOWN-TT

Type of action: CERV Lump Sum Grants

Granting authority: European Education and Culture Executive Agency

Grant managed through EU Funding & Tenders Portal: Yes (eGrants)

Project starting date: first day of the month following the entry into force date

Project end date: starting date + months of duration

Project duration: 12 months

Consortium agreement: No

2. Participants

List of participants:

N°	Role	Short name	Legal name	Ctry	PIC	Max grant amount
1	COO	Oliena	COMUNE DI OLIENA	IT	869298578	33 820.00
2	AP	OLIANA	AJUNTAMENT OLIANA	ES	869095751	0.00
Total						33 820.00

Coordinator:

– COMUNE DI OLIENA (Oliena)

3. Grant**Maximum grant amount, total estimated eligible costs and contributions and funding rate:**

Maximum grant amount (Annex 2)	Maximum grant amount (award decision)
33 820.00	33 820.00

Grant form: Lump Sum

Grant mode: Action grant

Budget categories/activity types: Lump sum contributions

Cost eligibility options: n/a

Budget flexibility: No

4. Reporting, payments and recoveries**4.1 Continuous reporting** (art 21)

Deliverables: see Funding & Tenders Portal Continuous Reporting tool

4.2 Periodic reporting and payments

Reporting and payment schedule (art 21, 22):

Reporting					Payments	
Reporting periods			Type	Deadline	Type	Deadline (time to pay)
RP No	Month from	Month to				
					Initial prefinancing	n/a
					Final payment	90 days from receiving periodic report
1	1	12	Periodic report	60 days after end of reporting period		

Prefinancing payments and guarantees: n/a

Reporting and payment modalities (art 21, 22):

Mutual Insurance Mechanism (MIM): No

Restrictions on distribution of initial prefinancing: The prefinancing may be distributed only if the minimum number of beneficiaries set out in the call conditions (if any) have acceded to the Agreement and only to beneficiaries that have acceded.

Interim payment ceiling (if any): 100% of the maximum grant amount

No-profit rule: n/a

Late payment interest: ECB + 3.5%

Bank account for payments:

IT98M0101586781000000002524 SARDIT31XXX

Conversion into euros: n/a

Reporting language: Language of the Agreement or other EU official language, if specified in the call conditions

4.3 Certificates (art 24): n/a

4.4 Recoveries (art 22)

First-line liability for recoveries:

Beneficiary termination: Beneficiary concerned

Final payment: Coordinator

After final payment: Beneficiary concerned

Joint and several liability for enforced recoveries (in case of non-payment):

Limited joint and several liability of other beneficiaries — up to the maximum grant amount of the beneficiary

Joint and several liability of affiliated entities — n/a

5. Consequences of non-compliance, applicable law & dispute settlement forum

Applicable law (art 43):

Standard applicable law regime: EU law + law of Belgium

Dispute settlement forum (art 43):

Standard dispute settlement forum:

EU beneficiaries: EU General Court + EU Court of Justice (on appeal)

Non-EU beneficiaries: Courts of Brussels, Belgium (unless an international agreement provides for the enforceability of EU court judgements)

6. Other

Specific rules (Annex 5): Yes

Standard time-limits after project end:

Confidentiality (for X years after final payment): 5

Record-keeping (for X years after final payment): 5 (or 3 for grants of not more than EUR 60 000)

Reviews (up to X years after final payment): 5 (or 3 for grants of not more than EUR 60 000)

Audits (up to X years after final payment): 5 (or 3 for grants of not more than EUR 60 000)

Extension of findings from other grants to this grant (no later than X years after final payment): 5 (or 3 for grants of not more than EUR 60 000)

Impact evaluation (up to X years after final payment): 5 (or 3 for grants of not more than EUR 60 000)

CHAPTER 1 GENERAL

ARTICLE 1 — SUBJECT OF THE AGREEMENT

This Agreement sets out the rights and obligations and terms and conditions applicable to the grant awarded for the implementation of the action set out in Chapter 2.

ARTICLE 2 — DEFINITIONS

For the purpose of this Agreement, the following definitions apply:

Actions — The project which is being funded in the context of this Agreement.

Grant — The grant awarded in the context of this Agreement.

EU grants — Grants awarded by EU institutions, bodies, offices or agencies (including EU executive agencies, EU regulatory agencies, EDA, joint undertakings, etc.).

Participants — Entities participating in the action as beneficiaries, affiliated entities, associated partners, third parties giving in-kind contributions, subcontractors or recipients of financial support to third parties.

Beneficiaries (BEN) — The signatories of this Agreement (either directly or through an accession form).

Affiliated entities (AE) — Entities affiliated to a beneficiary within the meaning of Article 190 of EU Financial Regulation 2024/2509⁴ which participate in the action with similar rights and obligations as the beneficiaries (obligation to implement action tasks and right to charge costs and claim contributions).

Associated partners (AP) — Entities which participate in the action, but without the right to charge costs or claim contributions.

Purchases — Contracts for goods, works or services needed to carry out the action (e.g. equipment, consumables and supplies) but which are not part of the action tasks (see Annex 1).

Subcontracting — Contracts for goods, works or services that are part of the action tasks (see Annex 1).

In-kind contributions — In-kind contributions within the meaning of Article 2(38) of EU Financial Regulation 2024/2509, i.e. non-financial resources made available free of charge by third parties.

⁴ For the definition, see Article 190 Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2024/2509 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 September 2024 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union (recast) ('EU Financial Regulation') (OJ L, 2024/2509, 26.9.2024): "**affiliated entities** [are]:

- (a) entities that form a sole beneficiary [(i.e. where an entity is formed of several entities that satisfy the criteria for being awarded a grant, including where the entity is specifically established for the purpose of implementing an action to be financed by a grant)];
- (b) entities that satisfy the eligibility criteria and that do not fall within one of the situations referred to in Article 138(1) and 143(1) and that have a link with the beneficiary, in particular a legal or capital link, which is neither limited to the action nor established for the sole purpose of its implementation".

Fraud — Fraud within the meaning of Article 3 of EU Directive 2017/1371⁵ and Article 1 of the Convention on the protection of the European Communities' financial interests, drawn up by the Council Act of 26 July 1995⁶, as well as any other wrongful or criminal deception intended to result in financial or personal gain.

Irregularities — Any type of breach (regulatory or contractual) which could impact the EU financial interests, including irregularities within the meaning of Article 1(2) of EU Regulation 2988/95⁷.

Grave professional misconduct — Any type of unacceptable or improper behaviour in exercising one's profession, especially by employees, including grave professional misconduct within the meaning of Article 138(1)(c) of EU Financial Regulation 2024/2509⁸.

Applicable EU, international and national law — Any legal acts or other (binding or non-binding) rules and guidance in the area concerned.

Portal — EU Funding & Tenders Portal; electronic portal and exchange system managed by the European Commission and used by itself and other EU institutions, bodies, offices or agencies for the management of their funding programmes (grants, procurements, prizes, etc.).

CHAPTER 2 ACTION

ARTICLE 3 — ACTION

The grant is awarded for the action **101290995 — BCG** ('action'), as described in Annex 1.

ARTICLE 4 — DURATION AND STARTING DATE

The duration and the starting date of the action are set out in the Data Sheet (see Point 1).

CHAPTER 3 GRANT

ARTICLE 5 — GRANT

5.1 Form of grant

⁵ Directive (EU) 2017/1371 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 5 July 2017 on the fight against fraud to the Union's financial interests by means of criminal law (OJ L 198, 28.7.2017, p. 29).

⁶ OJ C 316, 27.11.1995, p. 48.

⁷ Council Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 2988/95 of 18 December 1995 on the protection of the European Communities financial interests (OJ L 312, 23.12.1995, p. 1).

⁸ 'Professional misconduct' includes, in particular, the following: violation of ethical standards of the profession; wrongful conduct with impact on professional credibility; breach of generally accepted professional ethical standards; false declarations/misrepresentation of information; participation in a cartel or other agreement distorting competition; violation of IPR; attempting to influence decision-making processes by taking advantage, through misrepresentation, of a conflict of interests, or to obtain confidential information from public authorities to gain an advantage; incitement to discrimination, hatred or violence or similar activities contrary to the EU values where negatively affecting or risking to affect the performance of a legal commitment.

The grant is an action grant⁹ which takes the form of a lump sum grant for the completion of work packages.

5.2 Maximum grant amount

The maximum grant amount is set out in the Data Sheet (see Point 3) and in the estimated budget (Annex 2).

5.3 Funding rate

Not applicable

5.4 Estimated budget, budget categories and forms of funding

The estimated budget for the action (lump sum breakdown) is set out in Annex 2.

It contains the estimated eligible contributions for the action (lump sum contributions), broken down by participant and work package.

Annex 2 also shows the types of contributions (forms of funding)¹⁰ to be used for each work package.

5.5 Budget flexibility

Budget flexibility does not apply; changes to the estimated budget (lump sum breakdown) always require an amendment (see Article 39).

Amendments for transfers between *work packages* are moreover possible only if:

- the work packages concerned are not already completed (and declared in a financial statement) and
- the transfers are justified by the technical implementation of the action.

ARTICLE 6 — ELIGIBLE AND INELIGIBLE CONTRIBUTIONS

6.1 and 6.2 General and specific eligibility conditions

Lump sum contributions are eligible ('eligible contributions'), if:

- (a) they are set out in Annex 2 and
- (b) the work packages are completed and the work is properly implemented by the beneficiaries and/or the results are achieved, in accordance with Annex 1 and during in the period set out in Article 4 (with the exception of work/results relating to the submission of the final periodic report, which may be achieved afterwards; see Article 21)

They will be calculated on the basis of the amounts set out in Annex 2.

⁹ For the definition, see Article 183(2)(a) EU Financial Regulation 2024/2509: '**action grant**' means an EU grant to finance "an action intended to help achieve a Union policy objective".

¹⁰ See Article 125 EU Financial Regulation 2024/2509.

6.3 Ineligible contributions

‘Ineligible contributions’ are:

- (a) lump sum contributions that do not comply with the conditions set out above (see Article 6.1 and 6.2)
- (b) lump sum contributions for activities already funded under other EU grants (or grants awarded by an EU Member State, non-EU country or other body implementing the EU budget), except for the following case:
 - (i) Synergy actions: not applicable
- (c) other:
 - (i) country restrictions for eligible costs: not applicable.

6.4 Consequences of non-compliance

If a beneficiary declares lump sum contributions that are ineligible, they will be rejected (see Article 27).

This may also lead to other measures described in Chapter 5.

CHAPTER 4 GRANT IMPLEMENTATION

SECTION 1 CONSORTIUM: BENEFICIARIES, AFFILIATED ENTITIES AND OTHER PARTICIPANTS

ARTICLE 7 — BENEFICIARIES

The beneficiaries, as signatories of the Agreement, are fully responsible towards the granting authority for implementing it and for complying with all its obligations.

They must implement the Agreement to their best abilities, in good faith and in accordance with all the obligations and terms and conditions it sets out.

They must have the appropriate resources to implement the action and implement the action under their own responsibility and in accordance with Article 11. If they rely on affiliated entities or other participants (see Articles 8 and 9), they retain sole responsibility towards the granting authority and the other beneficiaries.

They are jointly responsible for the *technical* implementation of the action. If one of the beneficiaries fails to implement their part of the action, the other beneficiaries must ensure that this part is implemented by someone else (without being entitled to an increase of the maximum grant amount and subject to an amendment; see Article 39). The *financial* responsibility of each beneficiary in case of recoveries is governed by Article 22.

The beneficiaries (and their action) must remain eligible under the EU programme funding the grant

for the entire duration of the action. Lump sum contributions will be eligible only as long as the beneficiary and the action are eligible.

The **internal roles and responsibilities** of the beneficiaries are divided as follows:

(a) Each beneficiary must:

- (i) keep information stored in the Portal Participant Register up to date (see Article 19)
- (ii) inform the granting authority (and the other beneficiaries) immediately of any events or circumstances likely to affect significantly or delay the implementation of the action (see Article 19)
- (iii) submit to the coordinator in good time:
 - the prefinancing guarantees (if required; see Article 23)
 - the financial statements and certificates on the financial statements (CFS): not applicable
 - the contribution to the deliverables and technical reports (see Article 21)
 - any other documents or information required by the granting authority under the Agreement
- (iv) submit via the Portal data and information related to the participation of their affiliated entities.

(b) The coordinator must:

- (i) monitor that the action is implemented properly (see Article 11)
- (ii) act as the intermediary for all communications between the consortium and the granting authority, unless the Agreement or granting authority specifies otherwise, and in particular:
 - submit the prefinancing guarantees to the granting authority (if any)
 - request and review any documents or information required and verify their quality and completeness before passing them on to the granting authority
 - submit the deliverables and reports to the granting authority
 - inform the granting authority about the payments made to the other beneficiaries (report on the distribution of payments; if required, see Articles 22 and 32)
- (iii) distribute the payments received from the granting authority to the other beneficiaries without unjustified delay (see Article 22).

The coordinator may not delegate or subcontract the above-mentioned tasks to any other beneficiary or third party (including affiliated entities).

However, coordinators which are public bodies may delegate the tasks set out in Point (b)(ii) last

indent and (iii) above to entities with ‘authorisation to administer’ which they have created or which are controlled by or affiliated to them. In this case, the coordinator retains sole responsibility for the payments and for compliance with the obligations under the Agreement.

Moreover, coordinators which are ‘sole beneficiaries’¹¹ (or similar, such as European research infrastructure consortia (ERICs)) may delegate the tasks set out in Point (b)(i) to (iii) above to one of their members. The coordinator retains sole responsibility for compliance with the obligations under the Agreement.

The beneficiaries must have **internal arrangements** regarding their operation and co-ordination, to ensure that the action is implemented properly.

If required by the granting authority (see Data Sheet, Point 1), these arrangements must be set out in a written **consortium agreement** between the beneficiaries, covering for instance:

- the internal organisation of the consortium
- the management of access to the Portal
- different distribution keys for the payments and financial responsibilities in case of recoveries (if any)
- additional rules on rights and obligations related to background and results (see Article 16)
- settlement of internal disputes
- liability, indemnification and confidentiality arrangements between the beneficiaries.

The internal arrangements must not contain any provision contrary to this Agreement.

ARTICLE 8 — AFFILIATED ENTITIES

Not applicable

ARTICLE 9 — OTHER PARTICIPANTS INVOLVED IN THE ACTION

9.1 Associated partners

The following entities which cooperate with a beneficiary will participate in the action as ‘associated partners’:

- **AJUNTAMENT OLIANA (OLIANA)**, PIC 869095751

Associated partners must implement the action tasks attributed to them in Annex 1 in accordance with Article 11. They may not charge contributions to the action (no lump sum contributions) and the costs for their tasks are not eligible (may not be included in the estimated budget in Annex 2).

The tasks must be set out in Annex 1.

¹¹ For the definition, see Article 190(2) EU Financial Regulation 2024/2509: “Where several entities satisfy the criteria for being awarded a grant and together form one entity, that entity may be treated as the **sole beneficiary**, including where it is specifically established for the purpose of implementing the action financed by the grant.”

The beneficiaries must ensure that their contractual obligations under Articles 11 (proper implementation), 12 (conflict of interests), 13 (confidentiality and security), 14 (ethics), 17.2 (visibility), 18 (specific rules for carrying out action), 19 (information) and 20 (record-keeping) also apply to the associated partners.

The beneficiaries must ensure that the bodies mentioned in Article 25 (e.g. granting authority, OLAF, Court of Auditors (ECA), etc.) can exercise their rights also towards the associated partners.

9.2 Third parties giving in-kind contributions to the action

Other third parties may give in-kind contributions to the action (i.e. personnel, equipment, other goods, works and services, etc. which are free-of-charge), if necessary for the implementation.

Third parties giving in-kind contributions do not implement any action tasks. They may not charge contributions to the action (no lump sum contributions) and the costs for the in-kind contributions are not eligible (may not be included in the estimated budget in Annex 2).

The third parties and their in-kind contributions should be set out in Annex 1.

9.3 Subcontractors

Subcontractors may participate in the action, if necessary for the implementation.

Subcontractors must implement their action tasks in accordance with Article 11. The beneficiaries' costs for subcontracting are considered entirely covered by the lump sum contributions for implementing the work packages (irrespective of the actual subcontracting costs incurred, if any).

The beneficiaries must ensure that their contractual obligations under Articles 11 (proper implementation), 12 (conflict of interest), 13 (confidentiality and security), 14 (ethics), 17.2 (visibility), 18 (specific rules for carrying out action), 19 (information) and 20 (record-keeping) also apply to the subcontractors.

The beneficiaries must ensure that the bodies mentioned in Article 25 (e.g. granting authority, OLAF, Court of Auditors (ECA), etc.) can exercise their rights also towards the subcontractors.

9.4 Recipients of financial support to third parties

If the action includes providing financial support to third parties (e.g. grants, prizes or similar forms of support), the beneficiaries must ensure that their contractual obligations under Articles 12 (conflict of interest), 13 (confidentiality and security), 14 (ethics), 17.2 (visibility), 18 (specific rules for carrying out action), 19 (information) and 20 (record-keeping) also apply to the third parties receiving the support (recipients).

The beneficiaries must also ensure that the bodies mentioned in Article 25 (e.g. granting authority, OLAF, Court of Auditors (ECA), etc.) can exercise their rights also towards the recipients.

ARTICLE 10 — PARTICIPANTS WITH SPECIAL STATUS

10.1 Non-EU participants

Participants which are established in a non-EU country (if any) undertake to comply with their obligations under the Agreement and:

- to respect general principles (including fundamental rights, values and ethical principles, environmental and labour standards, rules on classified information, intellectual property rights, visibility of funding and protection of personal data)
- for the submission of certificates under Article 24: use qualified external auditors which are independent and comply with comparable standards as those set out in EU Directive 2006/43/EC¹²
- for the controls under Article 25: allow for checks, reviews, audits and investigations (including on-the-spot checks, visits and inspections) by the bodies mentioned in that Article (e.g. granting authority, OLAF, Court of Auditors (ECA), etc.).

Special rules on dispute settlement apply (see Data Sheet, Point 5).

10.2 Participants which are international organisations

Participants which are international organisations (IOs; if any) undertake to comply with their obligations under the Agreement and:

- to respect general principles (including fundamental rights, values and ethical principles, environmental and labour standards, rules on classified information, intellectual property rights, visibility of funding and protection of personal data)
- for the submission of certificates under Article 24: to use either independent public officers or external auditors which comply with comparable standards as those set out in EU Directive 2006/43/EC¹³
- for the controls under Article 25: to allow for the checks, reviews, audits and investigations by the bodies mentioned in that Article, taking into account the specific agreements concluded by them and the EU (if any).

For such participants, nothing in the Agreement will be interpreted as a waiver of their privileges or immunities, as accorded by their constituent documents or international law.

Special rules on applicable law and dispute settlement apply (see Article 43 and Data Sheet, Point 5).

10.3 Pillar-assessed participants

Pillar-assessed participants (if any) may rely on their own systems, rules and procedures, in so far as they have been positively assessed and do not call into question the decision awarding the grant or breach the principle of equal treatment of applicants or beneficiaries.

‘Pillar-assessment’ means a review by the European Commission on the systems, rules and procedures

¹² Directive 2006/43/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 May 2006 on statutory audits of annual accounts and consolidated accounts (OJ L 157, 9.6.2006, p. 87).

¹³ Directive 2006/43/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 May 2006 on statutory audits of annual accounts and consolidated accounts (OJ L 157, 9.6.2006, p. 87).

which participants use for managing EU grants (in particular internal control system, accounting system, external audits, financing of third parties, rules on recovery and exclusion, information on recipients and protection of personal data; see Article 157 EU Financial Regulation 2024/2509).

Participants with a positive pillar assessment may rely on their own systems, rules and procedures, in particular for:

- record-keeping (Article 20): may be done in accordance with internal standards, rules and procedures
- currency conversion for financial statements (Article 21): may be done in accordance with usual accounting practices
- guarantees (Article 23): for public law bodies, prefinancing guarantees are not needed
- certificates (Article 24):
 - certificates on the financial statements (CFS): may be provided by their regular internal or external auditors and in accordance with their internal financial regulations and procedures
 - certificates on usual accounting practices (CoMUC): are not needed if those practices are covered by an ex-ante assessment

and use the following specific rules, for:

- recoveries (Article 22): in case of financial support to third parties, there will be no recovery if the participant has done everything possible to retrieve the undue amounts from the third party receiving the support (including legal proceedings) and non-recovery is not due to an error or negligence on its part
- checks, reviews, audits and investigations by the EU (Article 25): will be conducted taking into account the rules and procedures specifically agreed between them and the framework agreement (if any)
- impact evaluation (Article 26): will be conducted in accordance with the participant's internal rules and procedures and the framework agreement (if any)
- grant agreement termination (Article 32): the final grant amount and final payment will be calculated taking into account also costs relating to contracts due for execution only after termination takes effect, if the contract was entered into before the pre-information letter was received and could not reasonably be terminated on legal grounds
- liability for damages (Article 33.2): the granting authority must be compensated for damage it sustains as a result of the implementation of the action or because the action was not implemented in full compliance with the Agreement only if the damage is due to an infringement of the participant's internal rules and procedures or due to a violation of third parties' rights by the participant or one of its employees or individual for whom the employees are responsible.

Participants whose pillar assessment covers procurement and granting procedures may also do

purchases, subcontracting and financial support to third parties (Article 6.2) in accordance with their internal rules and procedures for purchases, subcontracting and financial support.

Participants whose pillar assessment covers data protection rules may rely on their internal standards, rules and procedures for data protection (Article 15).

The participants may however not rely on provisions which would breach the principle of equal treatment of applicants or beneficiaries or call into question the decision awarding the grant, such as in particular:

- eligibility (Article 6)
- consortium roles and set-up (Articles 7-9)
- security and ethics (Articles 13, 14)
- IPR (including background and results, access rights and rights of use), communication, dissemination and visibility (Articles 16 and 17)
- information obligation (Article 19)
- payment, reporting and amendments (Articles 21, 22 and 39)
- rejections, reductions, suspensions and terminations (Articles 27, 28, 29-32)

If the pillar assessment was subject to remedial measures, reliance on the internal systems, rules and procedures is subject to compliance with those remedial measures.

Participants must inform the coordinator without delay of any changes to the systems, rules and procedures that were part of the pillar assessment. The coordinator must immediately inform the granting authority.

Pillar-assessed participants that have also concluded a framework agreement with the EU, may moreover — under the same conditions as those above (i.e. not call into question the decision awarding the grant or breach the principle of equal treatment of applicants or beneficiaries) — rely on provisions set out in that framework agreement.

SECTION 2 RULES FOR CARRYING OUT THE ACTION

ARTICLE 11 — PROPER IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ACTION

11.1 Obligation to properly implement the action

The beneficiaries must implement the action as described in Annex 1 and in compliance with the provisions of the Agreement, the call conditions and all legal obligations under applicable EU, international and national law.

11.2 Consequences of non-compliance

If a beneficiary breaches any of its obligations under this Article, the grant may be reduced (see Article 28).

Such breaches may also lead to other measures described in Chapter 5.

ARTICLE 12 — CONFLICT OF INTERESTS

12.1 Conflict of interests

The beneficiaries must take all measures to prevent any situation where the impartial and objective implementation of the Agreement could be compromised for reasons involving family, emotional life, political or national affinity, economic interest or any other direct or indirect interest ('conflict of interests').

They must formally notify the granting authority without delay of any situation constituting or likely to lead to a conflict of interests and immediately take all the necessary steps to rectify this situation.

The granting authority may verify that the measures taken are appropriate and may require additional measures to be taken by a specified deadline.

12.2 Consequences of non-compliance

If a beneficiary breaches any of its obligations under this Article, the grant may be reduced (see Article 28) and the grant or the beneficiary may be terminated (see Article 32).

Such breaches may also lead to other measures described in Chapter 5.

ARTICLE 13 — CONFIDENTIALITY AND SECURITY

13.1 Sensitive information

The parties must keep confidential any data, documents or other material (in any form) that is identified as sensitive in writing ('sensitive information') — during the implementation of the action and for at least until the time-limit set out in the Data Sheet (see Point 6).

If a beneficiary requests, the granting authority may agree to keep such information confidential for a longer period.

Unless otherwise agreed between the parties, they may use sensitive information only to implement the Agreement.

The beneficiaries may disclose sensitive information to their personnel or other participants involved in the action only if they:

- (a) need to know it in order to implement the Agreement and
- (b) are bound by an obligation of confidentiality.

The granting authority may disclose sensitive information to its staff and to other EU institutions and bodies.

It may moreover disclose sensitive information to third parties, if:

- (a) this is necessary to implement the Agreement or safeguard the EU financial interests and

(b) the recipients of the information are bound by an obligation of confidentiality.

The confidentiality obligations no longer apply if:

- (a) the disclosing party agrees to release the other party
- (b) the information becomes publicly available, without breaching any confidentiality obligation
- (c) the disclosure of the sensitive information is required by EU, international or national law.

Specific confidentiality rules (if any) are set out in Annex 5.

13.2 Classified information

The parties must handle classified information in accordance with the applicable EU, international or national law on classified information (in particular, Decision 2015/444¹⁴ and its implementing rules).

Deliverables which contain classified information must be submitted according to special procedures agreed with the granting authority.

Action tasks involving classified information may be subcontracted only after explicit approval (in writing) from the granting authority.

Classified information may not be disclosed to any third party (including participants involved in the action implementation) without prior explicit written approval from the granting authority.

Specific security rules (if any) are set out in Annex 5.

13.3 Consequences of non-compliance

If a beneficiary breaches any of its obligations under this Article, the grant may be reduced (see Article 28).

Such breaches may also lead to other measures described in Chapter 5.

ARTICLE 14 — ETHICS AND VALUES

14.1 Ethics

The action must be carried out in line with the highest ethical standards and the applicable EU, international and national law on ethical principles.

Specific ethics rules (if any) are set out in Annex 5.

14.2 Values

The beneficiaries must commit to and ensure the respect of basic EU values (such as respect for human dignity, freedom, democracy, equality, the rule of law and human rights, including the rights of minorities).

¹⁴ Commission Decision 2015/444/EC, Euratom of 13 March 2015 on the security rules for protecting EU classified information (OJ L 72, 17.3.2015, p. 53).

Specific rules on values (if any) are set out in Annex 5.

14.3 Consequences of non-compliance

If a beneficiary breaches any of its obligations under this Article, the grant may be reduced (see Article 28).

Such breaches may also lead to other measures described in Chapter 5.

ARTICLE 15 — DATA PROTECTION

15.1 Data processing by the granting authority

Any personal data under the Agreement will be processed under the responsibility of the data controller of the granting authority in accordance with and for the purposes set out in the Portal Privacy Statement.

For grants where the granting authority is the European Commission, an EU regulatory or executive agency, joint undertaking or other EU body, the processing will be subject to Regulation 2018/1725¹⁵.

15.2 Data processing by the beneficiaries

The beneficiaries must process personal data under the Agreement in compliance with the applicable EU, international and national law on data protection (in particular, Regulation 2016/679¹⁶).

They must ensure that personal data is:

- processed lawfully, fairly and in a transparent manner in relation to the data subjects
- collected for specified, explicit and legitimate purposes and not further processed in a manner that is incompatible with those purposes
- adequate, relevant and limited to what is necessary in relation to the purposes for which they are processed
- accurate and, where necessary, kept up to date
- kept in a form which permits identification of data subjects for no longer than is necessary for the purposes for which the data is processed and
- processed in a manner that ensures appropriate security of the data.

The beneficiaries may grant their personnel access to personal data only if it is strictly necessary for implementing, managing and monitoring the Agreement. The beneficiaries must ensure that the personnel is under a confidentiality obligation.

¹⁵ Regulation (EU) 2018/1725 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 October 2018 on the protection of natural persons with regard to the processing of personal data by the Union institutions, bodies, offices and agencies and on the free movement of such data, and repealing Regulation (EC) No 45/2001 and Decision No 1247/2002/EC (OJ L 295, 21.11.2018, p. 39).

¹⁶ Regulation (EU) 2016/679 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 27 April 2016 on the protection of natural persons with regard to the processing of personal data and on the free movement of such data, and repealing Directive 95/46/EC ('GDPR') (OJ L 119, 4.5.2016, p. 1).

The beneficiaries must inform the persons whose data are transferred to the granting authority and provide them with the Portal Privacy Statement.

15.3 Consequences of non-compliance

If a beneficiary breaches any of its obligations under this Article, the grant may be reduced (see Article 28).

Such breaches may also lead to other measures described in Chapter 5.

ARTICLE 16 — INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS (IPR) — BACKGROUND AND RESULTS — ACCESS RIGHTS AND RIGHTS OF USE

16.1 Background and access rights to background

The beneficiaries must give each other and the other participants access to the background identified as needed for implementing the action, subject to any specific rules in Annex 5.

‘Background’ means any data, know-how or information — whatever its form or nature (tangible or intangible), including any rights such as intellectual property rights — that is:

- (a) held by the beneficiaries before they acceded to the Agreement and
- (b) needed to implement the action or exploit the results.

If background is subject to rights of a third party, the beneficiary concerned must ensure that it is able to comply with its obligations under the Agreement.

16.2 Ownership of results

The granting authority does not obtain ownership of the results produced under the action.

‘Results’ means any tangible or intangible effect of the action, such as data, know-how or information, whatever its form or nature, whether or not it can be protected, as well as any rights attached to it, including intellectual property rights.

16.3 Rights of use of the granting authority on materials, documents and information received for policy, information, communication, dissemination and publicity purposes

The granting authority has the right to use non-sensitive information relating to the action and materials and documents received from the beneficiaries (notably summaries for publication, deliverables, as well as any other material, such as pictures or audio-visual material, in paper or electronic form) for policy information, communication, dissemination and publicity purposes — during the action or afterwards.

The right to use the beneficiaries’ materials, documents and information is granted in the form of a royalty-free, non-exclusive and irrevocable licence, which includes the following rights:

- (a) **use for its own purposes** (in particular, making them available to persons working for the granting authority or any other EU service (including institutions, bodies, offices, agencies, etc.) or EU Member State institution or body; copying or reproducing them in whole or in part, in unlimited numbers; and communication through press information services)

- (b) **distribution to the public** (in particular, publication as hard copies and in electronic or digital format, publication on the internet, as a downloadable or non-downloadable file, broadcasting by any channel, public display or presentation, communicating through press information services, or inclusion in widely accessible databases or indexes)
- (c) **editing or redrafting** (including shortening, summarising, inserting other elements (e.g. meta-data, legends, other graphic, visual, audio or text elements), extracting parts (e.g. audio or video files), dividing into parts, use in a compilation)
- (d) **translation**
- (e) **storage** in paper, electronic or other form
- (f) **archiving**, in line with applicable document-management rules
- (g) the right to authorise **third parties** to act on its behalf or sub-license to third parties the modes of use set out in Points (b), (c), (d) and (f), if needed for the information, communication and publicity activity of the granting authority and
- (h) **processing**, analysing, aggregating the materials, documents and information received and **producing derivative works**.

The rights of use are granted for the whole duration of the industrial or intellectual property rights concerned.

If materials or documents are subject to moral rights or third party rights (including intellectual property rights or rights of natural persons on their image and voice), the beneficiaries must ensure that they comply with their obligations under this Agreement (in particular, by obtaining the necessary licences and authorisations from the rights holders concerned).

Where applicable, the granting authority will insert the following information:

“© – [year] – [name of the copyright owner]. All rights reserved. Licensed to the [name of granting authority] under conditions.”

16.4 Specific rules on IPR, results and background

Specific rules regarding intellectual property rights, results and background (if any) are set out in Annex 5.

16.5 Consequences of non-compliance

If a beneficiary breaches any of its obligations under this Article, the grant may be reduced (see Article 28).

Such a breach may also lead to other measures described in Chapter 5.

ARTICLE 17 — COMMUNICATION, DISSEMINATION AND VISIBILITY

17.1 Communication — Dissemination — Promoting the action

Unless otherwise agreed with the granting authority, the beneficiaries must promote the action and its

results by providing targeted information to multiple audiences (including the media and the public), in accordance with Annex 1 and in a strategic, coherent and effective manner.

Before engaging in a communication or dissemination activity expected to have a major media impact, the beneficiaries must inform the granting authority.

17.2 Visibility — European flag and funding statement

Unless otherwise agreed with the granting authority, communication activities of the beneficiaries related to the action (including media relations, conferences, seminars, information material, such as brochures, leaflets, posters, presentations, etc., in electronic form, via traditional or social media, etc.), dissemination activities and any infrastructure, equipment, vehicles, supplies or major result funded by the grant must acknowledge the EU support and display the European flag (emblem) and funding statement (translated into local languages, where appropriate):



Funded by the
European Union



Co-funded by the
European Union



Funded by the
European Union



Co-funded by the
European Union

The emblem must remain distinct and separate and cannot be modified by adding other visual marks, brands or text.

Apart from the emblem, no other visual identity or logo may be used to highlight the EU support.

When displayed in association with other logos (e.g. of beneficiaries or sponsors), the emblem must be displayed at least as prominently and visibly as the other logos.

For the purposes of their obligations under this Article, the beneficiaries may use the emblem without first obtaining approval from the granting authority. This does not, however, give them the right to exclusive use. Moreover, they may not appropriate the emblem or any similar trademark or logo, either by registration or by any other means.

17.3 Quality of information — Disclaimer

Any communication or dissemination activity related to the action must use factually accurate information.

Moreover, it must indicate the following disclaimer (translated into local languages where appropriate):

“Funded by the European Union. Views and opinions expressed are however those of the author(s) only and do not necessarily reflect those of the European Union or [name of the granting authority]. Neither the European Union nor the granting authority can be held responsible for them.”

17.4 Specific communication, dissemination and visibility rules

Specific communication, dissemination and visibility rules (if any) are set out in Annex 5.

17.5 Consequences of non-compliance

If a beneficiary breaches any of its obligations under this Article, the grant may be reduced (see Article 28).

Such breaches may also lead to other measures described in Chapter 5.

ARTICLE 18 — SPECIFIC RULES FOR CARRYING OUT THE ACTION

Not applicable

SECTION 3 GRANT ADMINISTRATION

ARTICLE 19 — GENERAL INFORMATION OBLIGATIONS

19.1 Information requests

The beneficiaries must provide — during the action or afterwards and in accordance with Article 7 — any information requested in order to verify eligibility of the lump sum contributions declared, proper implementation of the action and compliance with the other obligations under the Agreement.

The information provided must be accurate, precise and complete and in the format requested, including electronic format.

19.2 Participant Register data updates

The beneficiaries must keep — at all times, during the action or afterwards — their information stored in the Portal Participant Register up to date, in particular, their name, address, legal representatives, legal form and organisation type.

19.3 Information about events and circumstances which impact the action

The beneficiaries must immediately inform the granting authority (and the other beneficiaries) of any of the following:

- (a) **events** which are likely to affect or delay the implementation of the action or affect the EU's financial interests, in particular:

- (i) changes in their legal, financial, technical, organisational or ownership situation (including changes linked to one of the exclusion grounds listed in the declaration of honour signed before grant signature)
 - (ii) linked action information: not applicable
- (b) **circumstances** affecting:
 - (i) the decision to award the grant or
 - (ii) compliance with requirements under the Agreement.

19.4 Consequences of non-compliance

If a beneficiary breaches any of its obligations under this Article, the grant may be reduced (see Article 28).

Such breaches may also lead to other measures described in Chapter 5.

ARTICLE 20 — RECORD-KEEPING

20.1 Keeping records and supporting documents

The beneficiaries must — at least until the time-limit set out in the Data Sheet (see Point 6) — keep records and other supporting documents to prove the proper implementation of the action (proper implementation of the work and/or achievement of the results as described in Annex 1) in line with the accepted standards in the respective field (if any); beneficiaries do not need to keep specific records on the actual costs incurred.

The records and supporting documents must be made available upon request (see Article 19) or in the context of checks, reviews, audits or investigations (see Article 25).

If there are on-going checks, reviews, audits, investigations, litigation or other pursuits of claims under the Agreement (including the extension of findings; see Article 25), the beneficiaries must keep these records and other supporting documentation until the end of these procedures.

The beneficiaries must keep the original documents. Digital and digitalised documents are considered originals if they are authorised by the applicable national law. The granting authority may accept non-original documents if they offer a comparable level of assurance.

20.2 Consequences of non-compliance

If a beneficiary breaches any of its obligations under this Article, lump sum contributions insufficiently substantiated will be ineligible (see Article 6) and will be rejected (see Article 27), and the grant may be reduced (see Article 28).

Such breaches may also lead to other measures described in Chapter 5.

ARTICLE 21 — REPORTING

21.1 Continuous reporting

The beneficiaries must report on the progress of the action (e.g. **deliverables, milestones, outputs/outcomes, critical risks, indicators**, etc; if any), in the Portal Continuous Reporting tool and in accordance with the timing and conditions it sets out (as agreed with the granting authority).

Standardised deliverables (e.g. progress reports not linked to payments, reports on cumulative expenditure, special reports, etc; if any) must be submitted using the templates published on the Portal.

21.2 Periodic reporting: Technical reports and financial statements

In addition, the beneficiaries must provide reports to request payments, in accordance with the schedule and modalities set out in the Data Sheet (see Point 4.2):

- for additional prefinancings (if any): **an additional prefinancing report**
- for interim payments (if any) and the final payment: a **periodic report**

The prefinancing and periodic reports include a technical and financial part.

The technical part includes an overview of the action implementation. It must be prepared using the template available in the Portal Periodic Reporting tool.

The financial part of the additional prefinancing report includes a statement on the use of the previous prefinancing payment.

The financial part of the periodic report includes:

- the financial statement (consolidated statement for the consortium)
- the explanation on the use of resources (or detailed cost reporting table): not applicable
- the certificates on the financial statements (CFS): not applicable.

The **financial statement** must contain the lump sum contributions indicated in Annex 2, for the work packages that were completed during the reporting period.

For the last reporting period, the beneficiaries may exceptionally also declare partial lump sum contributions for work packages that were not completed (e.g. due to force majeure or technical impossibility).

Lump sum contributions which are not declared in a financial statement will not be taken into account by the granting authority.

By signing the financial statement (directly in the Portal Periodic Reporting tool), the coordinator confirms (on behalf of the consortium) that:

- the information provided is complete, reliable and true
- the lump sum contributions declared are eligible (in particular, the work packages have been completed, that the work has been properly implemented and/or the results were achieved in accordance with Annex 1; see Article 6)
- the proper implementation and/or achievement can be substantiated by adequate records and

supporting documents (see Article 20) that will be produced upon request (see Article 19) or in the context of checks, reviews, audits and investigations (see Article 25).

In case of recoveries (see Article 22), beneficiaries will be held responsible also for the lump sum contributions declared for their affiliated entities (if any).

21.3 Currency for financial statements and conversion into euros

The financial statements must be drafted in euro.

21.4 Reporting language

The reporting must be in the language of the Agreement, unless otherwise agreed with the granting authority (see Data Sheet, Point 4.2).

21.5 Consequences of non-compliance

If a report submitted does not comply with this Article, the granting authority may suspend the payment deadline (see Article 29) and apply other measures described in Chapter 5.

If the coordinator breaches its reporting obligations, the granting authority may terminate the grant or the coordinator's participation (see Article 32) or apply other measures described in Chapter 5.

ARTICLE 22 — PAYMENTS AND RECOVERIES — CALCULATION OF AMOUNTS DUE

22.1 Payments and payment arrangements

Payments will be made in accordance with the schedule and modalities set out in the Data Sheet (see Point 4.2).

They will be made in euro to the bank account indicated by the coordinator (see Data Sheet, Point 4.2) and must be distributed without unjustified delay (restrictions may apply to distribution of the initial prefinancing payment; see Data Sheet, Point 4.2).

Payments to this bank account will discharge the granting authority from its payment obligation.

The cost of payment transfers will be borne as follows:

- the granting authority bears the cost of transfers charged by its bank
- the beneficiary bears the cost of transfers charged by its bank
- the party causing a repetition of a transfer bears all costs of the repeated transfer.

Payments by the granting authority will be considered to have been carried out on the date when they are debited to its account.

22.2 Recoveries

Recoveries will be made, if — at beneficiary termination, final payment or afterwards — it turns out that the granting authority has paid too much and needs to recover the amounts undue.

The general liability regime for recoveries (first-line liability) is as follows: At final payment, the coordinator will be fully liable for recoveries, even if it has not been the final recipient of the undue amounts. At beneficiary termination or after final payment, recoveries will be made directly against the beneficiaries concerned.

Beneficiaries will be fully liable for repaying the debts of their affiliated entities.

In case of enforced recoveries (see Article 22.4):

- the beneficiaries will be jointly and severally liable for repaying debts of another beneficiary under the Agreement (including late-payment interest), if required by the granting authority (see Data Sheet, Point 4.4)
- affiliated entities will be held liable for repaying debts of their beneficiaries under the Agreement (including late-payment interest), if required by the granting authority (see Data Sheet, Point 4.4).

22.3 Amounts due

22.3.1 Prefinancing payments

The aim of the prefinancing is to provide the beneficiaries with a float.

It remains the property of the EU until the final payment.

For **initial prefinancings** (if any), the amount due, schedule and modalities are set out in the Data Sheet (see Point 4.2).

For **additional prefinancings** (if any), the amount due, schedule and modalities are also set out in the Data Sheet (see Point 4.2). However, if the statement on the use of the previous prefinancing payment shows that less than 70% was used, the amount set out in the Data Sheet will be reduced by the difference between the 70% threshold and the amount used.

Prefinancing payments (or parts of them) may be offset (without the beneficiaries' consent) against amounts owed by a beneficiary to the granting authority — up to the amount due to that beneficiary.

For grants where the granting authority is the European Commission or an EU executive agency, offsetting may also be done against amounts owed to other Commission services or executive agencies.

Payments will not be made if the payment deadline or payments are suspended (see Articles 29 and 30).

22.3.2 Amount due at beneficiary termination — Recovery

In case of beneficiary termination, the granting authority will determine the provisional amount due for the beneficiary concerned.

This will be done on the basis of work packages already completed in previous interim payments. Payments for ongoing/not yet completed work packages which the beneficiary was working on before termination (if any) will therefore be made only later on, with the next interim or final payments when those work packages have been completed.

The **amount due** will be calculated in the following step:

Step 1 — Calculation of the total accepted EU contribution

Step 1 — Calculation of the total accepted EU contribution

The granting authority will first calculate the ‘accepted EU contribution’ for the beneficiary, on the basis of the beneficiary’s lump sum contributions for the work packages which were approved in previous interim payments.

After that, the granting authority will take into account grant reductions (if any). The resulting amount is the ‘total accepted EU contribution’ for the beneficiary.

The **balance** is then calculated by deducting the payments received (if any; see report on the distribution of payments in Article 32), from the total accepted EU contribution:

$$\begin{aligned} & \{\text{total accepted EU contribution for the beneficiary} \\ & \text{minus} \\ & \{\text{prefinancing and interim payments received (if any)}\} \}. \end{aligned}$$

If the balance is **negative**, it will be **recovered** in accordance with the following procedure:

The granting authority will send a **pre-information letter** to the beneficiary concerned:

- formally notifying the intention to recover, the amount due, the amount to be recovered and the reasons why and
- requesting observations within 30 days of receiving notification.

If no observations are submitted (or the granting authority decides to pursue recovery despite the observations it has received), it will confirm the amount to be recovered and ask this amount to be paid to the coordinator (**confirmation letter**).

22.3.3 Interim payments

Interim payments reimburse the eligible lump sum contributions claimed for work packages implemented during the reporting periods (if any).

Interim payments (if any) will be made in accordance with the schedule and modalities set out the Data Sheet (see Point 4.2).

Payment is subject to the approval of the periodic report and the work packages declared. Their approval does not imply recognition of compliance, authenticity, completeness or correctness of their content.

Incomplete work packages and work packages that have not been delivered or cannot be approved will be rejected (see Article 27).

The **interim payment** will be calculated by the granting authority in the following steps:

Step 1 — Calculation of the total accepted EU contribution

Step 2 — Limit to the interim payment ceiling

Step 1 — Calculation of the total accepted EU contribution

The granting authority will first calculate the ‘accepted EU contribution’ for the action for the reporting period, by calculating the lump sum contributions for the approved work packages.

After that, the granting authority will take into account grant reductions from beneficiary termination (if any). The resulting amount is the ‘total accepted EU contribution’.

Step 2 — Limit to the interim payment ceiling

The resulting amount is then capped to ensure that the total amount of prefinancing and interim payments (if any) does not exceed the interim payment ceiling set out in the Data Sheet (see Point 4.2).

Interim payments (or parts of them) may be offset (without the beneficiaries’ consent) against amounts owed by a beneficiary to the granting authority — up to the amount due to that beneficiary.

For grants where the granting authority is the European Commission or an EU executive agency, offsetting may also be done against amounts owed to other Commission services or executive agencies.

Payments will not be made if the payment deadline or payments are suspended (see Articles 29 and 30).

22.3.4 Final payment — Final grant amount — Revenues and Profit — Recovery

The final payment (payment of the balance) reimburses the remaining eligible lump sum contributions claimed for the implemented work packages (if any).

The final payment will be made in accordance with the schedule and modalities set out in the Data Sheet (see Point 4.2).

Payment is subject to the approval of the final periodic report and the work packages declared. Their approval does not imply recognition of compliance, authenticity, completeness or correctness of their content.

Work packages (or parts of them) that have not been delivered or cannot be approved will be rejected (see Article 27).

The **final grant amount for the action** will be calculated in the following steps:

Step 1 — Calculation of the total accepted EU contribution

Step 2 — Limit to the maximum grant amount

Step 3 — Reduction due to the no-profit rule

Step 1 — Calculation of the total accepted EU contribution

The granting authority will first calculate the ‘accepted EU contribution’ for the action for all reporting periods, by calculating the lump sum contributions for the approved work packages.

After that, the granting authority will take into account grant reductions (if any). The resulting amount is the ‘total accepted EU contribution’.

Step 2 — Limit to the maximum grant amount

Not applicable

Step 3 — Reduction due to the no-profit rule

Not applicable

The **balance** (final payment) is then calculated by deducting the total amount of prefinancing and interim payments already made (if any), from the final grant amount:

$$\begin{aligned} &\{\text{final grant amount} \\ &\text{minus} \\ &\{\text{prefinancing and interim payments made (if any)}\}\}. \end{aligned}$$

If the balance is **positive**, it will be **paid** to the coordinator.

The final payment (or part of it) may be offset (without the beneficiaries’ consent) against amounts owed by a beneficiary to the granting authority — up to the amount due to that beneficiary.

For grants where the granting authority is the European Commission or an EU executive agency, offsetting may also be done against amounts owed to other Commission services or executive agencies.

Payments will not be made if the payment deadline or payments are suspended (see Articles 29 and 30).

If the balance is **negative**, it will be **recovered** in accordance with the following procedure:

The granting authority will send a **pre-information letter** to the coordinator:

- formally notifying the intention to recover, the final grant amount, the amount to be recovered and the reasons why
- requesting observations within 30 days of receiving notification.

If no observations are submitted (or the granting authority decides to pursue recovery despite the observations it has received), it will confirm the amount to be recovered (**confirmation letter**), together with a **debit note** with the terms and date for payment.

If payment is not made by the date specified in the debit note, the granting authority will **enforce recovery** in accordance with Article 22.4.

22.3.5 Audit implementation after final payment — Revised final grant amount — Recovery

If — after the final payment (in particular, after checks, reviews, audits or investigations; see Article 25) — the granting authority rejects lump sum contributions (see Article 27) or reduces the grant (see Article 28), it will calculate the **revised final grant amount** for the beneficiary concerned.

The **beneficiary revised final grant amount** will be calculated in the following step:

Step 1 — Calculation of the revised total accepted EU contribution

Step 1 — Calculation of the revised total accepted EU contribution

The granting authority will first calculate the ‘revised accepted EU contribution’ for the beneficiary, by calculating the ‘revised accepted contributions’.

After that, it will take into account grant reductions (if any). The resulting ‘revised total accepted EU contribution’ is the beneficiary revised final grant amount.

If the revised final grant amount is lower than the beneficiary’s final grant amount (i.e. its share in the final grant amount for the action), it will be **recovered** in accordance with the following procedure:

The **beneficiary final grant amount** (i.e. share in the final grant amount for the action) is calculated as follows:

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{total accepted EU contribution for the beneficiary} \\ \text{divided by} \\ \text{total accepted EU contribution for the action} \end{array} \right\} \times \text{final grant amount for the action}.$$

The granting authority will send a **pre-information letter** to the beneficiary concerned:

- formally notifying the intention to recover, the amount to be recovered and the reasons why and
- requesting observations within 30 days of receiving notification.

If no observations are submitted (or the granting authority decides to pursue recovery despite the observations it has received), it will confirm the amount to be recovered (**confirmation letter**), together with a **debit note** with the terms and the date for payment.

Recoveries against affiliated entities (if any) will be handled through their beneficiaries.

If payment is not made by the date specified in the debit note, the granting authority will **enforce recovery** in accordance with Article 22.4.

22.4 Enforced recovery

If payment is not made by the date specified in the debit note, the amount due will be recovered:

- (a) by offsetting the amount — without the coordinator or beneficiary’s consent — against any amounts owed to the coordinator or beneficiary by the granting authority.

In exceptional circumstances, to safeguard the EU financial interests, the amount may be offset before the payment date specified in the debit note.

For grants where the granting authority is the European Commission or an EU executive

agency, debts may also be offset against amounts owed by other Commission services or executive agencies.

- (b) by drawing on the financial guarantee(s) (if any)
- (c) by holding other beneficiaries jointly and severally liable (if any; see Data Sheet, Point 4.4)
- (d) by holding affiliated entities jointly and severally liable (if any, see Data Sheet, Point 4.4)
- (e) by taking legal action (see Article 43) or, provided that the granting authority is the European Commission or an EU executive agency, by adopting an enforceable decision under Article 299 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the EU (TFEU) and Article 100(2) of EU Financial Regulation 2024/2509.

The amount to be recovered will be increased by **late-payment interest** at the rate set out in Article 23.5, from the day following the payment date in the debit note, up to and including the date the full payment is received.

Partial payments will be first credited against expenses, charges and late-payment interest and then against the principal.

Bank charges incurred in the recovery process will be borne by the beneficiary, unless Directive 2015/2366¹⁷ applies.

For grants where the granting authority is an EU executive agency, enforced recovery by offsetting or enforceable decision will be done by the services of the European Commission (see also Article 43).

22.5 Consequences of non-compliance

22.5.1 If the granting authority does not pay within the payment deadlines (see above), the beneficiaries are entitled to **late-payment interest** at the reference rate applied by the European Central Bank (ECB) for its main refinancing operations in euros, plus the percentage specified in the Data Sheet (Point 4.2). The ECB reference rate to be used is the rate in force on the first day of the month in which the payment deadline expires, as published in the C series of the *Official Journal of the European Union*.

If the late-payment interest is lower than or equal to EUR 200, it will be paid to the coordinator only on request submitted within two months of receiving the late payment.

Late-payment interest is not due if all beneficiaries are EU Member States (including regional and local government authorities or other public bodies acting on behalf of a Member State for the purpose of this Agreement).

If payments or the payment deadline are suspended (see Articles 29 and 30), payment will not be considered as late.

Late-payment interest covers the period running from the day following the due date for payment (see above), up to and including the date of payment.

¹⁷ Directive (EU) 2015/2366 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 25 November 2015 on payment services in the internal market, amending Directives 2002/65/EC, 2009/110/EC and 2013/36/EU and Regulation (EU) No 1093/2010, and repealing Directive 2007/64/EC (OJ L 337, 23.12.2015, p. 35).

Late-payment interest is not considered for the purposes of calculating the final grant amount.

22.5.2 If the coordinator breaches any of its obligations under this Article, the grant may be reduced (see Article 28) and the grant or the coordinator may be terminated (see Article 32).

Such breaches may also lead to other measures described in Chapter 5.

ARTICLE 23 — GUARANTEES

23.1 Prefinancing guarantee

If required by the granting authority (see Data Sheet, Point 4.2), the beneficiaries must provide (one or more) prefinancing guarantee(s) in accordance with the timing and the amounts set out in the Data Sheet.

The coordinator must submit them to the granting authority in due time before the prefinancing they are linked to.

The guarantees must be drawn up using the template published on the Portal and fulfil the following conditions:

- (a) be provided by a bank or approved financial institution established in the EU or — if requested by the coordinator and accepted by the granting authority — by a third party or a bank or financial institution established outside the EU offering equivalent security
- (b) the guarantor stands as first-call guarantor and does not require the granting authority to first have recourse against the principal debtor (i.e. the beneficiary concerned) and
- (c) remain explicitly in force until the final payment and, if the final payment takes the form of a recovery, until five months after the debit note is notified to a beneficiary.

They will be released within the following month.

23.2 Consequences of non-compliance

If the beneficiaries breach their obligation to provide the prefinancing guarantee, the prefinancing will not be paid.

Such breaches may also lead to other measures described in Chapter 5.

ARTICLE 24 — CERTIFICATES

Not applicable

ARTICLE 25 — CHECKS, REVIEWS, AUDITS AND INVESTIGATIONS — EXTENSION OF FINDINGS

25.1 Granting authority checks, reviews and audits

25.1.1 Internal checks

The granting authority may — during the action or afterwards — check the proper implementation of

the action and compliance with the obligations under the Agreement, including assessing lump sum contributions, deliverables and reports.

25.1.2 Project reviews

The granting authority may carry out reviews on the proper implementation of the action and compliance with the obligations under the Agreement (general project reviews or specific issues reviews).

Such project reviews may be started during the implementation of the action and until the time-limit set out in the Data Sheet (see Point 6). They will be formally notified to the coordinator or beneficiary concerned and will be considered to start on the date of the notification.

If needed, the granting authority may be assisted by independent, outside experts. If it uses outside experts, the coordinator or beneficiary concerned will be informed and have the right to object on grounds of commercial confidentiality or conflict of interest.

The coordinator or beneficiary concerned must cooperate diligently and provide — within the deadline requested — any information and data in addition to deliverables and reports already submitted. The granting authority may request beneficiaries to provide such information to it directly. Sensitive information and documents will be treated in accordance with Article 13.

The coordinator or beneficiary concerned may be requested to participate in meetings, including with the outside experts.

For **on-the-spot visits**, the beneficiary concerned must allow access to sites and premises (including to the outside experts) and must ensure that information requested is readily available.

Information provided must be accurate, precise and complete and in the format requested, including electronic format.

On the basis of the review findings, a **project review report** will be drawn up.

The granting authority will formally notify the project review report to the coordinator or beneficiary concerned, which has 30 days from receiving notification to make observations.

Project reviews (including project review reports) will be in the language of the Agreement, unless otherwise agreed with the granting authority (see Data Sheet, Point 4.2).

25.1.3 Audits

The granting authority may carry out audits on the proper implementation of the action and compliance with the obligations under the Agreement.

Such audits may be started during the implementation of the action and until the time-limit set out in the Data Sheet (see Point 6). They will be formally notified to the beneficiary concerned and will be considered to start on the date of the notification.

The granting authority may use its own audit service, delegate audits to a centralised service or use external audit firms. If it uses an external firm, the beneficiary concerned will be informed and have the right to object on grounds of commercial confidentiality or conflict of interest.

The beneficiary concerned must cooperate diligently and provide — within the deadline requested —

any information (including complete accounts, individual salary statements or other personal data) to verify compliance with the Agreement. Sensitive information and documents will be treated in accordance with Article 13.

For **on-the-spot** visits, the beneficiary concerned must allow access to sites and premises (including for the external audit firm) and must ensure that information requested is readily available.

Information provided must be accurate, precise and complete and in the format requested, including electronic format.

On the basis of the audit findings, a **draft audit report** will be drawn up.

The auditors will formally notify the draft audit report to the beneficiary concerned, which has 30 days from receiving notification to make observations (contradictory audit procedure).

The **final audit report** will take into account observations by the beneficiary concerned and will be formally notified to them.

Audits (including audit reports) will be in the language of the Agreement, unless otherwise agreed with the granting authority (see Data Sheet, Point 4.2).

25.2 European Commission checks, reviews and audits in grants of other granting authorities

Where the granting authority is not the European Commission, the latter has the same rights of checks, reviews and audits as the granting authority.

25.3 Access to records for assessing simplified forms of funding

The beneficiaries must give the European Commission access to their statutory records for the periodic assessment of simplified forms of funding which are used in EU programmes.

25.4 OLAF, EPPO and ECA audits and investigations

The following bodies may also carry out checks, reviews, audits and investigations — during the action or afterwards:

- the European Anti-Fraud Office (OLAF) under Regulations No 883/2013¹⁸ and No 2185/96¹⁹
- the European Public Prosecutor's Office (EPPO) under Regulation 2017/1939
- the European Court of Auditors (ECA) under Article 287 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the EU (TFEU) and Article 263 of EU Financial Regulation 2024/2509.

If requested by these bodies, the beneficiary concerned must provide full, accurate and complete

¹⁸ Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 883/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 September 2013 concerning investigations conducted by the European Anti-Fraud Office (OLAF) and repealing Regulation (EC) No 1073/1999 of the European Parliament and of the Council and Council Regulation (Euratom) No 1074/1999 (OJ L 248, 18/09/2013, p. 1).

¹⁹ Council Regulation (Euratom, EC) No 2185/96 of 11 November 1996 concerning on-the-spot checks and inspections carried out by the Commission in order to protect the European Communities' financial interests against fraud and other irregularities (OJ L 292, 15/11/1996, p. 2).

information in the format requested (including complete accounts, individual salary statements or other personal data, including in electronic format) and allow access to sites and premises for on-the-spot visits or inspections — as provided for under these Regulations.

To this end, the beneficiary concerned must keep all relevant information relating to the action, at least until the time-limit set out in the Data Sheet (Point 6) and, in any case, until any ongoing checks, reviews, audits, investigations, litigation or other pursuits of claims have been concluded.

25.5 Consequences of checks, reviews, audits and investigations — Extension of findings

25.5.1 Consequences of checks, reviews, audits and investigations in this grant

Findings in checks, reviews, audits or investigations carried out in the context of this grant may lead to rejections (see Article 27), grant reduction (see Article 28) or other measures described in Chapter 5.

Rejections or grant reductions after the final payment will lead to a revised final grant amount (see Article 22).

Findings in checks, reviews, audits or investigations during the action implementation may lead to a request for amendment (see Article 39), to change the description of the action set out in Annex 1.

Checks, reviews, audits or investigations that find systemic or recurrent errors, irregularities, fraud or breach of obligations in any EU grant may also lead to consequences in other EU grants awarded under similar conditions ('extension to other grants').

Moreover, findings arising from an OLAF or EPPO investigation may lead to criminal prosecution under national law.

25.5.2 Extension from other grants

Findings of checks, reviews, audits or investigations in other grants may be extended to this grant, if:

- (a) the beneficiary concerned is found, in other EU grants awarded under similar conditions, to have committed systemic or recurrent errors, irregularities, fraud or breach of obligations that have a material impact on this grant and
- (b) those findings are formally notified to the beneficiary concerned — together with the list of grants affected by the findings — within the time-limit for audits set out in the Data Sheet (see Point 6).

The granting authority will formally notify the beneficiary concerned of the intention to extend the findings and the list of grants affected.

If the extension concerns **rejections of lump sum contributions**: the notification will include:

- (a) an invitation to submit observations on the list of grants affected by the findings
- (b) the request to submit revised financial statements for all grants affected
- (c) the correction rate for extrapolation, established on the basis of the systemic or recurrent errors, to calculate the amounts to be rejected, if the beneficiary concerned:

- (i) considers that the submission of revised financial statements is not possible or practicable or
- (ii) does not submit revised financial statements.

If the extension concerns **grant reductions**: the notification will include:

- (a) an invitation to submit observations on the list of grants affected by the findings and
- (b) the **correction rate for extrapolation**, established on the basis of the systemic or recurrent errors and the principle of proportionality.

The beneficiary concerned has **60 days** from receiving notification to submit observations, revised financial statements or to propose a duly substantiated **alternative correction method/rate**.

On the basis of this, the granting authority will analyse the impact and decide on the implementation (i.e. start rejection or grant reduction procedures, either on the basis of the revised financial statements or the announced/alternative method/rate or a mix of those; see Articles 27 and 28).

25.6 Consequences of non-compliance

If a beneficiary breaches any of its obligations under this Article, lump sum contributions insufficiently substantiated will be ineligible (see Article 6) and will be rejected (see Article 27), and the grant may be reduced (see Article 28).

Such breaches may also lead to other measures described in Chapter 5.

ARTICLE 26 — IMPACT EVALUATIONS

26.1 Impact evaluation

The granting authority may carry out impact evaluations of the action, measured against the objectives and indicators of the EU programme funding the grant.

Such evaluations may be started during implementation of the action and until the time-limit set out in the Data Sheet (see Point 6). They will be formally notified to the coordinator or beneficiaries and will be considered to start on the date of the notification.

If needed, the granting authority may be assisted by independent outside experts.

The coordinator or beneficiaries must provide any information relevant to evaluate the impact of the action, including information in electronic format.

26.2 Consequences of non-compliance

If a beneficiary breaches any of its obligations under this Article, the granting authority may apply the measures described in Chapter 5.

CHAPTER 5 CONSEQUENCES OF NON-COMPLIANCE

SECTION 1 REJECTIONS AND GRANT REDUCTION

ARTICLE 27 — REJECTION OF CONTRIBUTIONS

27.1 Conditions

The granting authority will — at interim payment, final payment or afterwards — reject any lump sum contributions which are ineligible (see Article 6), in particular following checks, reviews, audits or investigations (see Article 25).

The rejection may also be based on the extension of findings from other grants to this grant (see Article 25).

Ineligible lump sum contributions will be rejected.

27.2 Procedure

If the rejection does not lead to a recovery, the granting authority will formally notify the coordinator or beneficiary concerned of the rejection, the amounts and the reasons why. The coordinator or beneficiary concerned may — within 30 days of receiving notification — submit observations if it disagrees with the rejection (payment review procedure).

If the rejection leads to a recovery, the granting authority will follow the contradictory procedure with pre-information letter set out in Article 22.

27.3 Effects

If the granting authority rejects lump sum contributions, it will deduct them from the lump sum contributions declared and then calculate the amount due (and, if needed, make a recovery; see Article 22).

ARTICLE 28 — GRANT REDUCTION

28.1 Conditions

The granting authority may — at beneficiary termination, final payment or afterwards — reduce the grant for a beneficiary, if:

- (a) the beneficiary (or a person having powers of representation, decision-making or control, or person essential for the award/implementation of the grant) has committed:
 - (i) substantial errors, irregularities or fraud or
 - (ii) serious breach of obligations under this Agreement or during its award (including improper implementation of the action, non-compliance with the call conditions, submission of false information, failure to provide required information, breach of ethics or security rules (if applicable), failure to cooperate with checks, reviews, audits and investigations, etc.), or
- (b) the beneficiary (or a person having powers of representation, decision-making or control, or person essential for the award/implementation of the grant) has committed — in other EU grants

awarded to it under similar conditions — systemic or recurrent errors, irregularities, fraud or serious breach of obligations that have a material impact on this grant (extension of findings; see Article 25.5).

The amount of the reduction will be calculated for each beneficiary concerned and proportionate to the seriousness and the duration of the errors, irregularities or fraud or breach of obligations, by applying an individual reduction rate to their accepted EU contribution.

28.2 Procedure

If the grant reduction does not lead to a recovery, the granting authority will formally notify the coordinator or beneficiary concerned of the reduction, the amount to be reduced and the reasons why. The coordinator or beneficiary concerned may — within 30 days of receiving notification — submit observations if it disagrees with the reduction (payment review procedure).

If the grant reduction leads to a recovery, the granting authority will follow the contradictory procedure with pre-information letter set out in Article 22.

28.3 Effects

If the granting authority reduces the grant, it will deduct the reduction and then calculate the amount due (and, if needed, make a recovery; see Article 22).

SECTION 2 SUSPENSION AND TERMINATION

ARTICLE 29 — PAYMENT DEADLINE SUSPENSION

29.1 Conditions

The granting authority may — at any moment — suspend the payment deadline if a payment cannot be processed because:

- (a) the required report (see Article 21) has not been submitted or is not complete or additional information is needed
- (b) there are doubts about the amount to be paid (e.g. ongoing extension procedure, queries about eligibility, need for a grant reduction, etc.) and additional checks, reviews, audits or investigations are necessary, or
- (c) there are other issues affecting the EU financial interests.

29.2 Procedure

The granting authority will formally notify the coordinator of the suspension and the reasons why.

The suspension will **take effect** the day the notification is sent.

If the conditions for suspending the payment deadline are no longer met, the suspension will be **lifted** — and the remaining time to pay (see Data Sheet, Point 4.2) will resume.

If the suspension exceeds two months, the coordinator may request the granting authority to confirm if the suspension will continue.

If the payment deadline has been suspended due to the non-compliance of the report and the revised report is not submitted (or was submitted but is also rejected), the granting authority may also terminate the grant or the participation of the coordinator (see Article 32).

ARTICLE 30 — PAYMENT SUSPENSION

30.1 Conditions

The granting authority may — at any moment — suspend payments, in whole or in part for one or more beneficiaries, if:

- (a) a beneficiary (or a person having powers of representation, decision-making or control, or person essential for the award/implementation of the grant) has committed or is suspected of having committed:
 - (i) substantial errors, irregularities or fraud or
 - (ii) serious breach of obligations under this Agreement or during its award (including improper implementation of the action, non-compliance with the call conditions, submission of false information, failure to provide required information, breach of ethics or security rules (if applicable), failure to cooperate with checks, reviews, audits and investigations, etc.), or
- (b) a beneficiary (or a person having powers of representation, decision-making or control, or person essential for the award/implementation of the grant) has committed — in other EU grants awarded to it under similar conditions — systemic or recurrent errors, irregularities, fraud or serious breach of obligations that have a material impact on this grant (extension of findings; see Article 25.5).

If payments are suspended for one or more beneficiaries, the granting authority will make partial payment(s) for the part(s) not suspended. If suspension concerns the final payment, the payment (or recovery) of the remaining amount after suspension is lifted will be considered to be the payment that closes the action.

30.2 Procedure

Before suspending payments, the granting authority will send a **pre-information letter** to the beneficiary concerned:

- formally notifying the intention to suspend payments and the reasons why and
- requesting observations within 30 days of receiving notification.

If the granting authority does not receive observations or decides to pursue the procedure despite the observations it has received, it will confirm the suspension (**confirmation letter**). Otherwise, it will formally notify that the procedure is discontinued.

At the end of the suspension procedure, the granting authority will also inform the coordinator.

The suspension will **take effect** the day after the confirmation notification is sent.

If the conditions for resuming payments are met, the suspension will be **lifted**. The granting authority will formally notify the beneficiary concerned (and the coordinator) and set the suspension end date.

During the suspension, no prefinancing will be paid to the beneficiaries concerned. For interim payments, the periodic reports for all reporting periods except the last one (see Article 21) must not contain any financial statements from the beneficiary concerned (or its affiliated entities). The coordinator must include them in the next periodic report after the suspension is lifted or — if suspension is not lifted before the end of the action — in the last periodic report.

ARTICLE 31 — GRANT AGREEMENT SUSPENSION

31.1 Consortium-requested GA suspension

31.1.1 Conditions and procedure

The beneficiaries may request the suspension of the grant or any part of it, if exceptional circumstances — in particular *force majeure* (see Article 35) — make implementation impossible or excessively difficult.

The coordinator must submit a request for **amendment** (see Article 39), with:

- the reasons why
- the date the suspension takes effect; this date may be before the date of the submission of the amendment request and
- the expected date of resumption.

The suspension will **take effect** on the day specified in the amendment.

Once circumstances allow for implementation to resume, the coordinator must immediately request another **amendment** of the Agreement to set the suspension end date, the resumption date (one day after suspension end date), extend the duration and make other changes necessary to adapt the action to the new situation (see Article 39) — unless the grant has been terminated (see Article 32). The suspension will be **lifted** with effect from the suspension end date set out in the amendment. This date may be before the date of the submission of the amendment request.

During the suspension, no prefinancing will be paid. Moreover, no work may be done. Ongoing work packages must be interrupted and no new work packages may be started.

31.2 EU-initiated GA suspension

31.2.1 Conditions

The granting authority may suspend the grant or any part of it, if:

- (a) a beneficiary (or a person having powers of representation, decision-making or control, or person essential for the award/implementation of the grant) has committed or is suspected of having committed:

- (i) substantial errors, irregularities or fraud or
 - (ii) serious breach of obligations under this Agreement or during its award (including improper implementation of the action, non-compliance with the call conditions, submission of false information, failure to provide required information, breach of ethics or security rules (if applicable), failure to cooperate with checks, reviews, audits and investigations, etc.), or
- (b) a beneficiary (or a person having powers of representation, decision-making or control, or person essential for the award/implementation of the grant) has committed — in other EU grants awarded to it under similar conditions — systemic or recurrent errors, irregularities, fraud or serious breach of obligations that have a material impact on this grant (extension of findings; see Article 25.5)
- (c) other:
- (i) linked action issues: not applicable
 - (ii) additional GA suspension grounds: not applicable.

31.2.2 Procedure

Before suspending the grant, the granting authority will send a **pre-information letter** to the coordinator:

- formally notifying the intention to suspend the grant and the reasons why and
- requesting observations within 30 days of receiving notification.

If the granting authority does not receive observations or decides to pursue the procedure despite the observations it has received, it will confirm the suspension (**confirmation letter**). Otherwise, it will formally notify that the procedure is discontinued.

The suspension will **take effect** the day after the confirmation notification is sent (or on a later date specified in the notification).

Once the conditions for resuming implementation of the action are met, the granting authority will formally notify the coordinator a **lifting of suspension letter**, in which it will set the suspension end date and invite the coordinator to request an amendment of the Agreement to set the resumption date (one day after suspension end date), extend the duration and make other changes necessary to adapt the action to the new situation (see Article 39) — unless the grant has been terminated (see Article 32). The suspension will be **lifted** with effect from the suspension end date set out in the lifting of suspension letter. This date may be before the date on which the letter is sent.

During the suspension, no prefinancing will be paid. Moreover, no work may be done. Ongoing work packages must be interrupted and no new work packages may be started.

The beneficiaries may not claim damages due to suspension by the granting authority (see Article 33).

Grant suspension does not affect the granting authority's right to terminate the grant or a beneficiary (see Article 32) or reduce the grant (see Article 28).

ARTICLE 32 — GRANT AGREEMENT OR BENEFICIARY TERMINATION

32.1 Consortium-requested GA termination

32.1.1 Conditions and procedure

The beneficiaries may request the termination of the grant.

The coordinator must submit a request for **amendment** (see Article 39), with:

- the reasons why
- the date the consortium ends work on the action ('end of work date') and
- the date the termination takes effect ('termination date'); this date must be after the date of the submission of the amendment request.

The termination will **take effect** on the termination date specified in the amendment.

If no reasons are given or if the granting authority considers the reasons do not justify termination, it may consider the grant terminated improperly.

32.1.2 Effects

The coordinator must — within 60 days from when termination takes effect — submit a **periodic report** (for the open reporting period until termination).

The granting authority will calculate the final grant amount and final payment on the basis of the report submitted and taking into account the lump sum contributions for activities implemented before the end of work date (see Article 22). Partial lump sum contributions for work packages that were not completed (e.g. due to technical reasons) may exceptionally be taken into account.

If the granting authority does not receive the report within the deadline, only lump sum contributions which are included in an approved periodic report will be taken into account (no contributions if no periodic report was ever approved).

Improper termination may lead to a grant reduction (see Article 28).

After termination, the beneficiaries' obligations (in particular Articles 13 (confidentiality and security), 16 (IPR), 17 (communication, dissemination and visibility), 21 (reporting), 25 (checks, reviews, audits and investigations), 26 (impact evaluation), 27 (rejections), 28 (grant reduction) and 42 (assignment of claims)) continue to apply.

32.2 Consortium-requested beneficiary termination

32.2.1 Conditions and procedure

The coordinator may request the termination of the participation of one or more beneficiaries, on request of the beneficiary concerned or on behalf of the other beneficiaries.

The coordinator must submit a request for **amendment** (see Article 39), with:

- the reasons why

- the opinion of the beneficiary concerned (or proof that this opinion has been requested in writing)
- the date the beneficiary ends work on the action ('end of work date')
- the date the termination takes effect ('termination date'); this date must be after the date of the submission of the amendment request.

If the termination concerns the coordinator and is done without its agreement, the amendment request must be submitted by another beneficiary (acting on behalf of the consortium).

The termination will **take effect** on the termination date specified in the amendment.

If no information is given or if the granting authority considers that the reasons do not justify termination, it may consider the beneficiary to have been terminated improperly.

32.2.2 Effects

The coordinator must — within 60 days from when termination takes effect — submit:

- (i) a **report on the distribution of payments** to the beneficiary concerned
- (ii) a **termination report** from the beneficiary concerned, for the open reporting period until termination, containing an overview of the progress of the work
- (iii) a second **request for amendment** (see Article 39) with other amendments needed (e.g. reallocation of the tasks and the estimated budget of the terminated beneficiary; addition of a new beneficiary to replace the terminated beneficiary; change of coordinator, etc.).

The granting authority will calculate the amount due to the beneficiary on the basis of the reports submitted in previous interim payments (i.e. beneficiary's lump sum contributions for completed and approved work packages).

Lump sum contributions for ongoing/not yet completed work packages will have to be included in the periodic report for the next reporting periods when those work packages have been completed.

If the granting authority does not receive the report on the distribution of payments within the deadline, it will consider that:

- the coordinator did not distribute any payment to the beneficiary concerned and that
- the beneficiary concerned must not repay any amount to the coordinator.

If the second request for amendment is accepted by the granting authority, the Agreement is **amended** to introduce the necessary changes (see Article 39).

If the second request for amendment is rejected by the granting authority (because it calls into question the decision awarding the grant or breaches the principle of equal treatment of applicants), the grant may be terminated (see Article 32).

Improper termination may lead to a reduction of the grant (see Article 31) or grant termination (see Article 32).

After termination, the concerned beneficiary's obligations (in particular Articles 13 (confidentiality and security), 16 (IPR), 17 (communication, dissemination and visibility), 21 (reporting), 25 (checks, reviews, audits and investigations), 26 (impact evaluation), 27 (rejections), 28 (grant reduction) and 42 (assignment of claims)) continue to apply.

32.3 EU-initiated GA or beneficiary termination

32.3.1 Conditions

The granting authority may terminate the grant or the participation of one or more beneficiaries, if:

- (a) one or more beneficiaries do not accede to the Agreement (see Article 40)
- (b) a change to the action or the legal, financial, technical, organisational or ownership situation of a beneficiary is likely to substantially affect the implementation of the action or calls into question the decision to award the grant (including changes linked to one of the exclusion grounds listed in the declaration of honour)
- (c) following termination of one or more beneficiaries, the necessary changes to the Agreement (and their impact on the action) would call into question the decision awarding the grant or breach the principle of equal treatment of applicants
- (d) implementation of the action has become impossible or the changes necessary for its continuation would call into question the decision awarding the grant or breach the principle of equal treatment of applicants
- (e) a beneficiary (or person with unlimited liability for its debts) is subject to bankruptcy proceedings or similar (including insolvency, winding-up, administration by a liquidator or court, arrangement with creditors, suspension of business activities, etc.)
- (f) a beneficiary (or person with unlimited liability for its debts) is in breach of social security or tax obligations
- (g) a beneficiary (or person having powers of representation, decision-making or control, or person essential for the award/implementation of the grant) has been found guilty of grave professional misconduct
- (h) a beneficiary (or person having powers of representation, decision-making or control, or person essential for the award/implementation of the grant) has committed fraud, corruption, or is involved in a criminal organisation, money laundering, terrorism-related crimes (including terrorism financing), child labour or human trafficking
- (i) a beneficiary (or person having powers of representation, decision-making or control, or person essential for the award/implementation of the grant) was created under a different jurisdiction with the intent to circumvent fiscal, social or other legal obligations in the country of origin (or created another entity with this purpose)
- (j) a beneficiary (or person having powers of representation, decision-making or control, or person essential for the award/implementation of the grant) has committed:
 - (i) substantial errors, irregularities or fraud or

- (ii) serious breach of obligations under this Agreement or during its award (including improper implementation of the action, non-compliance with the call conditions, submission of false information, failure to provide required information, breach of ethics or security rules (if applicable), failure to cooperate with checks, reviews, audits and investigations, etc.)
- (k) a beneficiary (or person having powers of representation, decision-making or control, or person essential for the award/implementation of the grant) has committed — in other EU grants awarded to it under similar conditions — systemic or recurrent errors, irregularities, fraud or serious breach of obligations that have a material impact on this grant (extension of findings; see Article 25.5)
- (l) despite a specific request by the granting authority, a beneficiary does not request — through the coordinator — an amendment to the Agreement to end the participation of one of its affiliated entities or associated partners that is in one of the situations under points (d), (f), (e), (g), (h), (i) or (j) and to reallocate its tasks, or
- (m) other:
 - (i) linked action issues: not applicable
 - (ii) additional GA termination grounds: not applicable.

32.3.2 Procedure

Before terminating the grant or participation of one or more beneficiaries, the granting authority will send a **pre-information letter** to the coordinator or beneficiary concerned:

- formally notifying the intention to terminate and the reasons why and
- requesting observations within 30 days of receiving notification.

If the granting authority does not receive observations or decides to pursue the procedure despite the observations it has received, it will confirm the termination and the date it will take effect (**confirmation letter**). Otherwise, it will formally notify that the procedure is discontinued.

For beneficiary terminations, the granting authority will — at the end of the procedure — also inform the coordinator.

The termination will **take effect** the day after the confirmation notification is sent (or on a later date specified in the notification; ‘termination date’).

32.3.3 Effects

- (a) for **GA termination**:

The coordinator must — within 60 days from when termination takes effect — submit a **periodic report** (for the last open reporting period until termination).

The granting authority will calculate the final grant amount and final payment on the basis of the report submitted and taking into account the lump sum contributions for activities implemented before termination takes effect (see Article 22). Partial lump sum contributions

for work packages that were not completed (e.g. due to technical reasons) may exceptionally be taken into account.

If the grant is terminated for breach of the obligation to submit reports, the coordinator may not submit any report after termination.

If the granting authority does not receive the report within the deadline, only lump sum contributions which are included in an approved periodic report will be taken into account (no contributions if no periodic report was ever approved).

Termination does not affect the granting authority's right to reduce the grant (see Article 28) or to impose administrative sanctions (see Article 34).

The beneficiaries may not claim damages due to termination by the granting authority (see Article 33).

After termination, the beneficiaries' obligations (in particular Articles 13 (confidentiality and security), 16 (IPR), 17 (communication, dissemination and visibility), 21 (reporting), 25 (checks, reviews, audits and investigations), 26 (impact evaluation), 27 (rejections), 28 (grant reduction) and 42 (assignment of claims)) continue to apply.

(b) for **beneficiary termination**:

The coordinator must — within 60 days from when termination takes effect — submit:

- (i) a **report on the distribution of payments** to the beneficiary concerned
- (ii) a **termination report** from the beneficiary concerned, for the open reporting period until termination, containing an overview of the progress of the work
- (iii) a **request for amendment** (see Article 39) with any amendments needed (e.g. reallocation of the tasks and the estimated budget of the terminated beneficiary; addition of a new beneficiary to replace the terminated beneficiary; change of coordinator, etc.).

The granting authority will calculate the amount due to the beneficiary on the basis of the reports submitted in previous interim payments (i.e. beneficiary's lump sum contributions for completed and approved work packages).

Lump sum contributions for ongoing/not yet completed work packages will have to be included in the periodic report for the next reporting periods when those work packages have been completed.

If the granting authority does not receive the report on the distribution of payments within the deadline, it will consider that:

- the coordinator did not distribute any payment to the beneficiary concerned and that
- the beneficiary concerned must not repay any amount to the coordinator.

If the request for amendment is accepted by the granting authority, the Agreement is **amended** to introduce the necessary changes (see Article 39).

If the request for amendment is rejected by the granting authority (because it calls into question the decision awarding the grant or breaches the principle of equal treatment of applicants), the grant may be terminated (see Article 32).

After termination, the concerned beneficiary's obligations (in particular Articles 13 (confidentiality and security), 16 (IPR), 17 (communication, dissemination and visibility), 21 (reporting), 25 (checks, reviews, audits and investigations), 26 (impact evaluation), 27 (rejections), 28 (grant reduction) and 42 (assignment of claims)) continue to apply.

SECTION 3 OTHER CONSEQUENCES: DAMAGES AND ADMINISTRATIVE SANCTIONS

ARTICLE 33 — DAMAGES

33.1 Liability of the granting authority

The granting authority cannot be held liable for any damage caused to the beneficiaries or to third parties as a consequence of the implementation of the Agreement, including for gross negligence.

The granting authority cannot be held liable for any damage caused by any of the beneficiaries or other participants involved in the action, as a consequence of the implementation of the Agreement.

33.2 Liability of the beneficiaries

The beneficiaries must compensate the granting authority for any damage it sustains as a result of the implementation of the action or because the action was not implemented in full compliance with the Agreement, provided that it was caused by gross negligence or wilful act.

The liability does not extend to indirect or consequential losses or similar damage (such as loss of profit, loss of revenue or loss of contracts), provided such damage was not caused by wilful act or by a breach of confidentiality.

ARTICLE 34 — ADMINISTRATIVE SANCTIONS AND OTHER MEASURES

Nothing in this Agreement may be construed as preventing the adoption of administrative sanctions (i.e. exclusion from EU award procedures and/or financial penalties) or other public law measures, in addition or as an alternative to the contractual measures provided under this Agreement (see, for instance, Articles 137 to 148 EU Financial Regulation 2024/2509 and Articles 4 and 7 of Regulation 2988/95²⁰).

SECTION 4 FORCE MAJEURE

ARTICLE 35 — FORCE MAJEURE

²⁰ Council Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 2988/95 of 18 December 1995 on the protection of the European Communities financial interests (OJ L 312, 23.12.1995, p. 1).

A party prevented by force majeure from fulfilling its obligations under the Agreement cannot be considered in breach of them.

‘Force majeure’ means any situation or event that:

- prevents either party from fulfilling their obligations under the Agreement
- was unforeseeable, exceptional situation and beyond the parties’ control
- was not due to error or negligence on their part (or on the part of other participants involved in the action) and
- proves to be inevitable in spite of exercising all due diligence.

Any situation constituting force majeure must be formally notified to the other party without delay, stating the nature, likely duration and foreseeable effects.

The parties must immediately take all the necessary steps to limit any damage due to force majeure and do their best to resume implementation of the action as soon as possible.

CHAPTER 6 FINAL PROVISIONS

ARTICLE 36 — COMMUNICATION BETWEEN THE PARTIES

36.1 Forms and means of communication — Electronic management

EU grants are managed fully electronically through the EU Funding & Tenders Portal (‘Portal’).

All communications must be made electronically through the Portal in accordance with the Portal Terms and Conditions and using the forms and templates provided there (except if explicitly instructed otherwise by the granting authority).

Communications must be made in writing and clearly identify the grant agreement (project number and acronym).

Communications must be made by persons authorised according to the Portal Terms and Conditions. For naming the authorised persons, each beneficiary must have designated — before the signature of this Agreement — a ‘legal entity appointed representative (LEAR)’. The role and tasks of the LEAR are stipulated in their appointment letter (see Portal Terms and Conditions).

If the electronic exchange system is temporarily unavailable, instructions will be given on the Portal.

36.2 Date of communication

The sending date for communications made through the Portal will be the date and time of sending, as indicated by the time logs.

The receiving date for communications made through the Portal will be the date and time the communication is accessed, as indicated by the time logs. Formal notifications that have not been accessed within 10 days after sending, will be considered to have been accessed (see Portal Terms and Conditions).

If a communication is exceptionally made on paper (by e-mail or postal service), general principles apply (i.e. date of sending/receipt). Formal notifications by registered post with proof of delivery will be considered to have been received either on the delivery date registered by the postal service or the deadline for collection at the post office.

If the electronic exchange system is temporarily unavailable, the sending party cannot be considered in breach of its obligation to send a communication within a specified deadline.

36.3 Addresses for communication

The Portal can be accessed via the Europa website.

The address for paper communications to the granting authority (if exceptionally allowed) is the official mailing address indicated on its website.

For beneficiaries, it is the legal address specified in the Portal Participant Register.

ARTICLE 37 — INTERPRETATION OF THE AGREEMENT

The provisions in the Data Sheet take precedence over the rest of the Terms and Conditions of the Agreement.

Annex 5 takes precedence over the Terms and Conditions.

The Terms and Conditions take precedence over the Annexes other than Annex 5.

Annex 2 takes precedence over Annex 1.

ARTICLE 38 — CALCULATION OF PERIODS AND DEADLINES

In accordance with Regulation No 1182/71²¹, periods expressed in days, months or years are calculated from the moment the triggering event occurs.

The day during which that event occurs is not considered as falling within the period.

‘Days’ means calendar days, not working days.

ARTICLE 39 — AMENDMENTS

39.1 Conditions

The Agreement may be amended, unless the amendment entails changes to the Agreement which would call into question the decision awarding the grant or breach the principle of equal treatment of applicants.

Amendments may be requested by any of the parties.

39.2 Procedure

²¹ Regulation (EEC, Euratom) No 1182/71 of the Council of 3 June 1971 determining the rules applicable to periods, dates and time-limits (OJ L 124, 8/6/1971, p. 1).

The party requesting an amendment must submit a request for amendment signed directly in the Portal Amendment tool.

The coordinator submits and receives requests for amendment on behalf of the beneficiaries (see Annex 3). If a change of coordinator is requested without its agreement, the submission must be done by another beneficiary (acting on behalf of the other beneficiaries).

The request for amendment must include:

- the reasons why
- the appropriate supporting documents and
- for a change of coordinator without its agreement: the opinion of the coordinator (or proof that this opinion has been requested in writing).

The granting authority may request additional information.

If the party receiving the request agrees, it must sign the amendment in the tool within 45 days of receiving notification (or any additional information the granting authority has requested). If it does not agree, it must formally notify its disagreement within the same deadline. The deadline may be extended, if necessary for the assessment of the request. If no notification is received within the deadline, the request is considered to have been rejected.

An amendment **enters into force** on the day of the signature of the receiving party.

An amendment **takes effect** on the date of entry into force or other date specified in the amendment.

ARTICLE 40 — ACCESSION AND ADDITION OF NEW BENEFICIARIES

40.1 Accession of the beneficiaries mentioned in the Preamble

The beneficiaries which are not coordinator must accede to the grant by signing the accession form (see Annex 3) directly in the Portal Grant Preparation tool, within 30 days after the entry into force of the Agreement (see Article 44).

They will assume the rights and obligations under the Agreement with effect from the date of its entry into force (see Article 44).

If a beneficiary does not accede to the grant within the above deadline, the coordinator must — within 30 days — request an amendment (see Article 39) to terminate the beneficiary and make any changes necessary to ensure proper implementation of the action. This does not affect the granting authority's right to terminate the grant (see Article 32).

40.2 Addition of new beneficiaries

In justified cases, the beneficiaries may request the addition of a new beneficiary.

For this purpose, the coordinator must submit a request for amendment in accordance with Article 39. It must include an accession form (see Annex 3) signed by the new beneficiary directly in the Portal Amendment tool.

New beneficiaries will assume the rights and obligations under the Agreement with effect from the date of their accession specified in the accession form (see Annex 3).

Additions are also possible in mono-beneficiary grants.

ARTICLE 41 — TRANSFER OF THE AGREEMENT

In justified cases, the beneficiary of a mono-beneficiary grant may request the transfer of the grant to a new beneficiary, provided that this would not call into question the decision awarding the grant or breach the principle of equal treatment of applicants.

The beneficiary must submit a request for **amendment** (see Article 39), with

- the reasons why
- the accession form (see Annex 3) signed by the new beneficiary directly in the Portal Amendment tool and
- additional supporting documents (if required by the granting authority).

The new beneficiary will assume the rights and obligations under the Agreement with effect from the date of accession specified in the accession form (see Annex 3).

ARTICLE 42 — ASSIGNMENTS OF CLAIMS FOR PAYMENT AGAINST THE GRANTING AUTHORITY

The beneficiaries may not assign any of their claims for payment against the granting authority to any third party, except if expressly approved in writing by the granting authority on the basis of a reasoned, written request by the coordinator (on behalf of the beneficiary concerned).

If the granting authority has not accepted the assignment or if the terms of it are not observed, the assignment will have no effect on it.

In no circumstances will an assignment release the beneficiaries from their obligations towards the granting authority.

ARTICLE 43 — APPLICABLE LAW AND SETTLEMENT OF DISPUTES

43.1 Applicable law

The Agreement is governed by the applicable EU law, supplemented if necessary by the law of Belgium.

Special rules may apply for beneficiaries which are international organisations (if any; see Data Sheet, Point 5).

43.2 Dispute settlement

If a dispute concerns the interpretation, application or validity of the Agreement, the parties must bring action before the EU General Court — or, on appeal, the EU Court of Justice — under Article 272 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the EU (TFEU).

For non-EU beneficiaries (if any), such disputes must be brought before the courts of Brussels, Belgium — unless an international agreement provides for the enforceability of EU court judgements.

For beneficiaries with arbitration as special dispute settlement forum (if any; see Data Sheet, Point 5), the dispute will — in the absence of an amicable settlement — be settled in accordance with the Rules for Arbitration published on the Portal.

If a dispute concerns administrative sanctions, offsetting or an enforceable decision under Article 299 TFEU (see Articles 22 and 34), the beneficiaries must bring action before the General Court — or, on appeal, the Court of Justice — under Article 263 TFEU.

For grants where the granting authority is an EU executive agency (see Preamble), actions against offsetting and enforceable decisions must be brought against the European Commission (not against the granting authority; see also Article 22).

ARTICLE 44 — ENTRY INTO FORCE

The Agreement will enter into force on the day of signature by the granting authority or the coordinator, depending on which is later.

SIGNATURES

For the coordinator

For the granting authority



ANNEX 1



Citizens, Equality, Rights and Values Programme (CERV)

Description of the action (DoA)

Part A

Part B

DESCRIPTION OF THE ACTION (PART A)

COVER PAGE

Part A of the Description of the Action (DoA) must be completed directly on the Portal Grant Preparation screens.

PROJECT	
Grant Preparation (General Information screen) — Enter the info.	
Project number:	101290995
Project name:	su Ballu Cantau e els Gegants: voci e passi in festa
Project acronym:	BCG
Call:	CERV-2025-CITIZENS-TOWN-TT
Topic:	CERV-2025-CITIZENS-TOWN-TT
Type of action:	CERV-LS
Service:	EACEA/B/03
Project starting date:	first day of the month following the entry into force date
Project duration:	12 months

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List of milestones (outputs/outcomes) 10

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PROJECT SUMMARY

Project summary

Grant Preparation (General Information screen) — Provide an overall description of your project (including context and overall objectives, planned activities and main achievements, and expected results and impacts (on target groups, change procedures, capacities, innovation etc)). This summary should give readers a clear idea of what your project is about.

Use the project summary from your proposal.

The project “BCG – su Ballu Cantau e els Gegants: voices and steps in celebration” brings together the twinned municipalities of Oliena (Sardinia, Italy) and Oliana (Catalonia, Spain) to deepen a collaboration launched in 2018. Both communities share a strong sense of local identity and a unique intangible heritage: alongside the famous Catalan gegants and the Sardinian canto a tenore, Oliena treasures ancient traditional dances – passu torrau, ballu tundu, dennaru, s’arcu, s’arcu hantihu and su durdurinu – passed down through generations and still performed during religious festivals, weddings, and Carnival. The project aims to enhance these traditions as tools for intercultural dialogue.

Two main events will showcase this heritage: in summer in Oliana, during the “festa major”, Sardinian guests will share their dances, songs and know-how with local associations; in autumn in Oliana, within the “Cortes Apertas” festival, Catalan citizens will take part in parades, workshops on dance, music and crafts. Each festival will include artistic performances, interactive labs, intergenerational exchanges, debates on European rights and school activities. Local traditions will thus become a driver of social cohesion and a space for reflection on EU values.

The overall objective is to strengthen the sense of belonging to the European Union and promote solidarity among rural communities, creating a replicable model of twinning that combines intangible heritage, active citizen participation and inclusion. Special attention will be devoted to young people, women and vulnerable groups, ensuring equal opportunities and broad participation. The two communities, linked by their almost identical names, choose to turn cultural differences into a resource to build a stronger and profoundly European bond, embodying the motto “United in diversity”.

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

PARTICIPANTS

Grant Preparation (Beneficiaries screen) — Enter the info.

Number	Role	Short name	Legal name	Country	PIC
1	COO	Oliena	COMUNE DI OLIANA	IT	869298578
2	AP	OLIANA	AJUNTAMENT OLIANA	ES	869095751

LIST OF WORK PACKAGES

Work packages						
Grant Preparation (Work Packages screen) — Enter the info.						
Work Package No	Work Package name	Lead Beneficiary	Effort (Person-Months)	Start Month	End Month	Deliverables
WP1	Project Management, Coordination, Communication and Implementation of the Two Town Twinning Events	1 - Oliena	1.00	1	12	D1.1 – Town twinning event 1 Oliana D1.2 – Town twinning event 2 Oliana

Work package WP1 – Project Management, Coordination, Communication and Implementation of the Two Town Twinning Events

Work Package Number	WP1	Lead Beneficiary	1 - Oliena
Work Package Name	Project Management, Coordination, Communication and Implementation of the Two Town Twinning Events		
Start Month	1	End Month	12

Objectives

This work package covers the overall management, coordination, communication, implementation, monitoring and follow-up of the BCG project throughout its 12 month duration. It ensures the preparation and delivery of the two main town twinning events in Oliana (Spain) and Oliena (Italy), while also covering preparatory school and youth activities, dissemination, evaluation and sustainability actions. The WP contributes to strengthening intercultural dialogue, active citizenship, European awareness, inclusion, gender equality and the valorisation of intangible cultural heritage.

Description

This work package covers the overall management, coordination, communication, implementation, monitoring and follow-up of the BCG project throughout its 12-month duration. It ensures the preparation and delivery of the two main town twinning events in Oliana (Spain) and Oliena (Italy), while also covering preparatory school and youth activities, dissemination, evaluation and sustainability actions. The WP contributes to strengthening intercultural dialogue, active citizenship, European awareness, inclusion, gender equality and the valorisation of intangible cultural heritage.

The WP includes the following main tasks: project coordination and steering; quality assurance and monitoring; communication and dissemination; preparatory meetings and webinars with schools and young people; planning, promotion, logistics and implementation of the event in Oliana; planning, promotion, logistics and implementation of the event in Oliena; final evaluation, EU survey completion and sustainability follow-up. The Comune di Oliena acts as lead beneficiary and coordinates the overall implementation in cooperation with Ajuntament Oliana and the local supporting stakeholders already described in the proposal.

STAFF EFFORT

Staff effort per participant <i>Grant Preparation (Work packages - Effort screen) — Enter the info.</i>		
Participant	WP1	Total Person-Months
1 - Oliena	1.00	1.00
Total Person-Months	1.00	1.00

LIST OF DELIVERABLES

Deliverables

Grant Preparation (Deliverables screen) — Enter the info.

The labels used mean:

Public — fully open ( automatically posted online)

Sensitive — limited under the conditions of the Grant Agreement

EU classified —RESTREINT-UE/EU-RESTRICTED, CONFIDENTIEL-UE/EU-CONFIDENTIAL, SECRET-UE/EU-SECRET under Decision [2015/444](#)

Deliverable No	Deliverable Name	Work Package No	Lead Beneficiary	Type	Dissemination Level	Due Date (month)
D1.1	Town twinning event 1 Oliana	WP1	1 - Oliana	OTHER	PU - Public	8
D1.2	Town twinning event 2 Oliana	WP1	1 - Oliana	OTHER	PU - Public	10

Deliverable D1.1 – Town twinning event 1 Oliana

Deliverable Number	D1.1	Lead Beneficiary	1 - Oliana
Deliverable Name	Town twinning event 1 Oliana		
Type	OTHER	Dissemination Level	PU - Public
Due Date (month)	8	Work Package No	WP1

Description
Title of the event: Festa de l'Agermanament Europeu a Oliana Place: Oliana, Catalonia, Spain Indicative dates of the event: August 2026 (indicatively 3 days, in connection with the local Festa Major; exact dates to be confirmed) Number of countries involved: 2 (Italy and Spain) Number of individual direct participants: around 1,000 Number of invited international participants: 56–70 from Italy (delegation from Oliana, including representatives of the municipality, local associations, young people and citizens) Brief Description of the target groups: The event will involve local citizens from Oliana and the surrounding area, the invited international delegation from Oliana, young people (especially aged 18–30), women, local cultural associations and volunteers, schools and educators, elderly tradition bearers, people with disabilities and other vulnerable groups, as well as local decision-makers and community stakeholders. Special attention will be given to inclusion, gender balance and intergenerational participation. Agenda of the event: Day 1 – Arrival of the Italian delegation; welcome and registration; institutional opening ceremony with the two municipalities; presentation of the town twinning initiative and of the European dimension of the project; introductory cultural session on the heritage of Oliana and Oliana; welcome evening with artistic performances. Day 2 – Intercultural workshops on local traditions; presentation and demonstration of Oliana's traditional dances (su passu torrau, su ballu tundu, su dennaru, s'arcu, s'arcu hantihu and su durdurinu); exchange of good practices between associations and local authorities, including awareness-raising on rights, equality and non-discrimination; youth debate on Europe and active citizenship; evening musical performances and community gathering. Day 3 – Public parade/cercavila with local groups and the visiting delegation; meetings with citizens and associations; final public session on the twinning process and future cooperation; closing ceremony with reaffirmation of the twinning bond and symbolic gift/donation; collection of feedback and final dissemination actions. Supporting documentation to be uploaded with the deliverable: invitation, final agenda, signed attendance list, presentations and workshop materials, event report, evaluation report and feedback questionnaire.

Deliverable D1.2 – Town twinning event 2 Oliana

Deliverable Number	D1.2	Lead Beneficiary	1 - Oliana
Deliverable Name	Town twinning event 2 Oliana		
Type	OTHER	Dissemination Level	PU - Public
Due Date (month)	10	Work Package No	WP1

Description
Title of the event: Festival dell'Amicizia Europea a Oliana

Place: Oliena, Sardinia, Italy

Indicative dates of the event: October 2026 (indicatively 3 days; exact dates to be confirmed)

Number of countries involved: 2 (Italy and Spain)

Number of individual direct participants: around 1,000

Number of invited international participants: 56–70 from Spain (delegation from Oliena, including representatives of the municipality, local associations, young people and citizens)

Brief Description of the target groups: The event will involve local citizens from Oliena and the surrounding area, the invited Catalan delegation from Oliena, young people (especially aged 18–30), women, local cultural associations and volunteers, schools and educators, elderly tradition bearers, people with disabilities and other vulnerable groups, as well as local decision-makers and community stakeholders. Special attention will be given to inclusion, gender balance, intergenerational dialogue and participation of groups at risk of marginalisation.

Agenda of the event:

Day 1 – Arrival of the Spanish delegation; welcome and registration; institutional opening ceremony with the two municipalities and visibility of EU support; presentation of the twinning pathway and of the European dimension of the project; introductory intercultural session; welcome evening with music and community gathering.

Day 2 – Friendship parade and public intercultural celebration; workshops on the traditional dances of Oliena (su passu torrau, su ballu tundu, su dennaru, s'arcu, s'arcu hantihu and su durdurinu), accompanied by organetto, canto a tenore and monodic vocal traditions; explanation of the historical and cultural meaning of the dances and participatory learning sessions for Catalan guests; thematic workshops on youth participation, women's role in traditions, minority languages, European identity, rights, equality and non-discrimination; school-related and intergenerational activities; evening programme of music, dances and public encounters.

Day 3 – Exchange of cultural practices between associations; guided visits to local heritage and community spaces; final public session on the results of the twinning activities and future cooperation; closing ceremony with exchange of gifts, public conclusions and collection of feedback.

Supporting documentation to be uploaded with the deliverable: invitation, final agenda, signed attendance list, presentations and workshop materials, event report, evaluation report and feedback questionnaire.

LIST OF MILESTONES

(None)

LIST OF CRITICAL RISKS

(None)

IMPORTANT NOTICE

What is the Application Form?

The Application Form is the template for EU grants applications; it must be submitted via the EU Funding & Tenders Portal before the call deadline.

The Form consists of 2 parts:

- Part A contains structured administrative information
- Part B is a narrative technical description of the project.

Part A is generated by the IT system. It is based on the information which you enter into the Portal Submission System screens.

Part B needs to be uploaded as PDF (+ annexes) in the Submission System. The templates to use are available there.

How to prepare and submit it?

The Application Form must be prepared by the consortium and submitted by a representative. Once submitted, you will receive a confirmation.

Character and page limits:

- page limit normally **45** pages (unless otherwise provided in the Call document)
- supporting documents can be provided as an annex and do not count towards the page limit
- minimum font size — Arial 9 points
- page size: A4
- margins (top, bottom, left and right): at least 15 mm (not including headers & footers).

Please abide by the formatting rules. They are NOT a target! Keep your text as concise as possible. Do not use hyperlinks to show information that is an essential part of your application.

 If you attempt to upload an application that exceeds the specified limit, you will receive an automatic warning asking you to shorten and re-upload your application. For applications that are not shortened, the excess pages will be made invisible and thus disregarded by the evaluators.

 **Please do NOT delete any instructions in the document. The overall page limit has been raised to ensure equal treatment of all applicants.**

 **This document is tagged. Be careful not to delete the tags; they are needed for the processing.**

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION (PART B)

COVER PAGE

Part B of the Application Form must be downloaded from the Portal Submission System, completed and then assembled and re-uploaded as PDF in the system. Page 1 with the grey IMPORTANT NOTICE box should be deleted before uploading.

Note: Please read carefully the conditions set out in the Call document (for open calls: published on the Portal). Pay particular attention to the award criteria; they explain how the application will be evaluated.

PROJECT	
Project name:	su Ballu Cantau e els Gegants: voci e passi in festa
Project acronym:	BCG
Coordinator contact:	Pasquale Puligheddu – Comune di Oliena

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#@PRJ-SUM-PS@# [This document is tagged. Do not delete the tags; they are needed for the processing.]

PROJECT SUMMARY

Project summary

See Abstract (Application Form Part A).

#\$PRJ-SUM-PS\$# #@REL-EVA-RE@# #@PRJ-OBJ-PO@#

1. RELEVANCE

1.1 Background and general objectives

Background and general objectives

Describe the background and rationale of the project.

How is the project relevant to the scope of the call? How does the project address the general objectives of the call? What is the project's contribution to the priorities of the call?

Which target groups will be supported/assisted by/in the project. Why have you chosen to focus on them?

Il progetto nasce dalla volontà dei Comuni di **Oliena** (Sardegna, circa 6 500 abitanti) e **Oliana** (Catalogna, circa 1 800 abitanti) di trasformare la loro affinità culturale e storica in una collaborazione strutturata a livello europeo. Sebbene geograficamente distanti, entrambe le comunità condividono una ricca tradizione folklorica, un forte senso di identità locale e – non a caso – un nome quasi identico. L'obiettivo generale è **rafforzare i legami tra i cittadini** di questi due territori rurali, valorizzando le tradizioni e promuovendo un incontro interculturale che rafforzi la consapevolezza dei valori e dei diritti dell'Unione europea. Oltre ai celebri Gegants Catalani (una delle componenti salienti delle feste popolari in Catalogna) ed al canto a tenore sardo, che nel 2005 è stato inserito dall'UNESCO tra i Patrimoni orali e immateriali dell'umanità, Oliena vanta un ricco repertorio di danze tradizionali (**su passu torrau, su ballu tundu, su dennaru, s'arcu, s'arcu hantihu e su durdurinu**) che saranno protagoniste del gemellaggio. I primi tre balli, diffusi in Sardegna, sono relativamente semplici e assimilabili a quelli di molte altre comunità, mentre s'arcu, s'arcu hantihu e su durdurinu sono più complessi, antichi e tipici di Oliena; in particolare su durdurinu, di probabile origine pagana, richiede abili ballerini accompagnati da una voce monodica e rappresenta l'essenza della tradizione olienese. Nel corso del progetto queste danze saranno presentate e condivise con gli ospiti catalani, come **esempio di patrimonio immateriale preservato e tramandato** di padre in figlio.

L'iniziativa prevede **due festival interculturali**:

- **Festa de l'Agermanament Europeu a Oliana** (in estate, ad agosto), in concomitanza con la festa major, con una delegazione italiana di **almeno 56 partecipanti**.
- **Festival dell'Amicizia Europea a Oliena** (autunno), quando la delegazione catalana ricambierà la visita, si riaffermerà il patto di gemellaggio con il Comune di Oliana che porderà in dono un "Gigante" ad Oliena per suggellare l'amicizia;

Inoltre, **il prossimo gennaio** (coincidente con la festa di Sant'Antonio) si terrà a Oliena un **incontro preparatorio** tra sindaci e assessori alla cultura per gettare le basi organizzative. Durante il progetto saranno organizzati **incontri e webinar nelle scuole** e laboratori dedicati alle **lingue minoritarie** (sardo e catalano), con il supporto di Focus Europe ETS (con oltre dieci anni di esperienza di attività nelle scuole sia in loco che a Bruxelles) che fornirà materiali didattici per rendere i giovani orgogliosi cittadini europei.

Questa iniziativa si inquadra perfettamente negli obiettivi del **bando CERV "Gemellaggi di città"**, che sostiene progetti volti a favorire scambi tra cittadine e cittadini europei, a rafforzare la comprensione reciproca e a promuovere la partecipazione democratica. Gli eventi programmati sono concepiti come **festival interculturali** aperti alla comunità, rispondendo alla categoria di **eventi culturali e festival** prevista dal bando. Ognuno prevede la partecipazione di **almeno 56 persone provenienti dall'altro paese** ed oltre **1.000 partecipanti diretti complessivi**, integrando momenti di dialogo civico,

laboratori tematici e attività di sensibilizzazione su diritti e valori europei.

In particolare, gli eventi coniugheranno:

- **Solidarietà e coesione sociale**, creando occasioni di incontro e scambio tra due comunità rurali di Paesi diversi;
- **Partecipazione democratica e cittadinanza europea**, con spazi di discussione e coinvolgimento delle amministrazioni locali, scambio di buone pratiche (anche sui protocolli contro la violenza di genere, come il "Punto Lila" catalano), e un potenziamento del comitato di gemellaggio già esistente dal 2018 in chiave europea;
- **Inclusione e pari opportunità**, con delegazioni equilibrate per genere e età, accessibilità per le persone con disabilità e attività rivolte a minori e gruppi vulnerabili;
- **Tutela e promozione della diversità culturale**, valorizzando patrimoni immateriali unici (balli, canti, linguaggi) e stimolando la costruzione di una rete europea di città affini per combattere euroscetticismo e promuovere il plurilinguismo.

Il progetto si rivolge all'insieme della popolazione di Oliena e Oliana, con particolare attenzione a gruppi che possono trarne un beneficio specifico:

- **Giovani (18-30 anni)**: sono il futuro delle comunità rurali ma spesso hanno poche opportunità di confrontarsi con coetanei europei. Renderli protagonisti degli scambi rafforzerà il loro senso di appartenenza all'UE e le competenze civiche.
- **Anziani depositari delle tradizioni**: portatori di memoria storica (canti, balli, costume etc), saranno coinvolti in attività intergenerazionali per trasmettere e innovare le tradizioni.
- **Donne**: spesso protagoniste invisibili delle feste popolari contribuiscono in modo decisivo alle tradizioni locali ma incontrano barriere nell'accesso a reti più ampie. Il progetto crea opportunità di visibilità e empowerment in un contesto transnazionale.
- **Associazioni e gruppi locali** (folkloristici, scuole, pro loco, gruppi sportivi): funzionano da moltiplicatori dell'impatto e garantiranno un coinvolgimento capillare della cittadinanza, fornendo contenuti artistici, logistici ed educativi.

Questi target sono stati scelti perché rappresentano le componenti della popolazione maggiormente interessate dal "gap" che il progetto intende colmare: da un lato i giovani e le donne, spesso poco coinvolti nei processi europei; dall'altro gli anziani e le associazioni locali, custodi delle tradizioni e perno della comunità. Coinvolgerli attivamente risponde allo spirito della call e assicura che ogni cittadino, indipendentemente da età, genere o condizione, possa sentirsi parte del gemellaggio e trarne beneficio.

1.2 Needs analysis and specific objectives

Needs analysis and specific objectives (n/a for Programme Contact Points)

Provide a needs assessment. A need is a gap between what is and what should/ would be helpful or useful.

The needs assessment should be your starting point. Specify what needs will be addressed and how they have been identified. It should be specific and focus on the actual needs of the target group. It should include relevant, reliable data and, a robust analysis clearly demonstrating the need for the action (therefore, avoid references to generic statements and information about the problems and needs of the target group). The needs assessment should incorporate gender equality issues and non-discrimination considerations that identify the differences between and among women and men, girls and boys, in terms of their relative position in society and the distribution of resources, opportunities, constraints and power in a given context. The data supporting the needs assessment should be disaggregated by sex, as well as age or disability, whenever possible. You can refer to existing research, studies and previous projects that already demonstrate the need for action.

If your project is supported by a public authority, annex the Letter of support.

Oliena e Oliana, piccoli centri rurali in Sardegna e Catalogna, condividono sfide tipiche delle aree interne europee: isolamento culturale, spopolamento giovanile e rischio di perdita del patrimonio immateriale. L'analisi delle necessità ha individuato in particolare:

- **Isolamento e scarsa internazionalizzazione**: a Oliena gli stranieri residenti sono appena l'1,3 % della popolazione, indice di una bassa esposizione quotidiana alla diversità culturale. C'è quindi un forte bisogno di **"aprire una finestra sull'Europa"**, creando occasioni strutturate

di scambio con cittadini di un altro Stato membro e valorizzando le lingue minoritarie (sardo e catalano) per rendere tangibili i diritti di cittadinanza e i valori comuni dell'UE

- **Spopolamento giovanile e partecipazione civica limitata:** le nuove generazioni spesso lasciano il territorio per studio o lavoro e chi resta vive una sensazione di marginalità. Il progetto intende rispondere soprattutto a chi resta, offrendo ruoli attivi a ragazze e ragazzi (attività di volontariato, rappresentanza nelle delegazioni internazionali, partecipazione ai workshop) e organizzando incontri e webinar nelle scuole di Oliena per preparare gli studenti su temi europei, storia locale e tradizioni, con il supporto di Focus Europe ETS. Queste attività rafforzeranno il senso di appartenenza all'UE e di radicamento locale, facendoli sentire parte di un movimento più ampio. Far partecipare attivamente i ragazzi e le ragazze del posto a un progetto europeo contribuirà a migliorarne competenze, fiducia e radicamento sul territorio, contrastando in parte la tendenza di sfiducia verso l'Europa e le istituzioni locali.
- **Tutela e rinnovo delle tradizioni culturali:** Sia Oliena che Oliana vantano un patrimonio folclorico ricco che però rischia di affievolirsi se non viene trasmesso e adattato ai tempi. Il bisogno qui è duplice: tutelare le tradizioni locali coinvolgendo attivamente la popolazione nella loro pratica, e innovarle attraverso il confronto con altre culture europee. Ad esempio, i giovani di Oliana stanno rilanciando la danza tradizionale locale delle "cascabes", ora insegnata nelle scuole. Il progetto prevede festival in cui le tradizioni saranno condivise, documentate e innovate, coinvolgendo giovani e anziani in laboratori congiunti. Questo scambio stimolerà un rinnovato orgoglio identitario e al contempo un arricchimento reciproco, stimolando anche un dialogo intergenerazionale affinché il patrimonio immateriale sia condiviso in maniera inclusiva e dinamica, creando contaminazioni positive.
- **Consapevolezza dei diritti e prevenzione della violenza:** il bando incoraggia iniziative che promuovono la conoscenza dei diritti di cittadinanza e la lotta contro la violenza domestica e il bullismo. In questo ambito, il progetto prevede uno **scambio di buone pratiche** sulla prevenzione della violenza di genere: Oliana (in quanto ente spagnolo) dispone di protocolli avanzati (come ad esempio i **"Punti Lila"**) che tutelano le donne durante gli eventi pubblici; Oliena potrà apprendere da queste esperienze e adattare al contesto locale. Durante i festival verranno organizzate sessioni di sensibilizzazione sui diritti, sul contrasto alla violenza e sulla protezione dei minori, coinvolgendo anche i partecipanti più giovani. Nelle scuole poi si affronterà anche il tema del bullismo.
- **Parità di genere e non discriminazione:** entrambi i comuni riconoscono la necessità di integrare pienamente donne e gruppi vulnerabili nella vita comunitaria. La call richiede una prospettiva di genere nelle attività e nella comunicazione. Il progetto prevede di applicare analisi di genere, raccogliere dati disaggregati e garantire l'accessibilità per persone con disabilità. Inoltre, mira a una composizione delle delegazioni e dei team organizzativi composta almeno al 50% da donne e all'eliminazione di barriere fisiche e culturali.

Le esigenze individuate sono state validate insieme alle associazioni culturali e sociali del territorio che hanno trasmesso lettere di supporto. Queste realtà hanno sottolineato l'urgenza di valorizzare le tradizioni, favorire la partecipazione giovanile e promuovere l'inclusione e il loro coinvolgimento assicura che gli obiettivi del progetto rispondano a bisogni reali della comunità.

Per rispondere ai bisogni evidenziati, il progetto persegue i seguenti obiettivi specifici (OS):

- **OS1 – Rafforzare il dialogo interculturale e la comprensione reciproca:** organizzare due festival gemellati che combinino spettacoli tradizionali, laboratori interculturali e momenti di confronto sui diritti e i valori europei. Questi incontri favoriranno la nascita di legami personali durevoli tra cittadini di paesi diversi.
- **OS2 – Potenziare la partecipazione di giovani, minori e gruppi vulnerabili:** coinvolgerli nella co-progettazione e realizzazione delle attività (volontariato, ruoli artistici, interazione nei workshop), garantendo che le delegazioni internazionali siano composte da almeno 56 partecipanti, di cui almeno il 50 % under 30 e con parità di genere. Prevedere azioni specifiche per bambini e adolescenti nel rispetto dei loro diritti, nonché webinar formativi e laboratori linguistici dedicati alle minoranze (sardo e catalano).
- **OS3 – Valorizzare e preservare il patrimonio culturale immateriale in chiave europea:**

documentare e diffondere le tradizioni locali attraverso i festival, stimolare il trasferimento di conoscenze tra generazioni (anziani-giovani) e favorire contaminazioni positive (esibizioni congiunte, scambi di costumi e repertori). Le danze di Oliena e i gegants catalani diventeranno strumenti di coesione sociale e riflessione sulla diversità culturale.

- **OS4 – Promuovere l'uguaglianza, i diritti e la prevenzione della violenza:** integrare il mainstreaming di genere e la non discriminazione in tutte le fasi del progetto, con analisi di genere e disaggregazione dei dati, assicurando pari opportunità di leadership per donne e uomini. Organizzare sessioni di sensibilizzazione sui diritti di cittadinanza e sull'accesso ai servizi, includendo la prevenzione della violenza domestica e del bullismo, e promuovere lo scambio di buone pratiche tra Oliana e Oliena sui protocolli di tutela delle donne. Sensibilizzare almeno 200 cittadini per comune su questi temi tramite questionari pre e post evento..

Il raggiungimento di questi obiettivi specifici permetterà di ridurre il divario tra la situazione attuale (isolamento, limitata partecipazione, tradizioni minacciate) e la situazione auspicata: **comunità più aperte, inclusive e consapevoli dei valori europei.**

#@COM-PLE-CP@#

1.3 Complementarity with other actions and innovation — European added value

Complementarity with other actions and innovation (n/a for Programme Contact Points)

Explain how the project builds on the results of past activities carried out in the field and describe its innovative aspects. Explain how the activities are complementary to other activities carried out by other organisations.

Illustrate the European dimension of the activities: trans-national dimension of the project; impact/interest for a number of EU countries; possibility to use the results in other countries, potential to develop mutual trust/cross-border cooperation among EU countries, etc.

Which countries will benefit from the project (directly and indirectly and why have you chosen them)? Where will the activities take place?

Clarify to what extent the project builds on synergies with other EU projects. If applicable, explain to what extent your project builds on previous project results in this field (state of play, relation to existing/recent developments, approaches, achievements, other EU programmes).

Note: The project should also complement or add benefits to the EU Member States' interventions in the area of gender equality and non-discrimination mainstreaming.

Oliena e Oliana hanno una lunga esperienza nell'organizzazione di feste folcloriche, sagre e celebrazioni patronali che richiamano un vasto pubblico locale e regionale. Nel tempo queste iniziative hanno creato un tessuto di volontariato ben organizzato, repertori documentati di canti e danze e competenze nella gestione di manifestazioni pubbliche. Il progetto si innesta su queste risorse esistenti, ma introduce un elemento innovativo: per la prima volta le comunità collaborano in maniera strutturata a livello transnazionale. Finora le feste si svolgevano esclusivamente in contesti nazionali; il gemellaggio farà compiere un salto dal locale all'europeo, integrando esplicitamente finalità civiche (valorizzazione dei diritti dell'UE, uguaglianza di genere e non discriminazione) in eventi culturali. L'invito "CERV" incoraggia proprio a "migliorare la partecipazione democratica attraverso attività culturali" e a proporre azioni che facciano sperimentare la ricchezza del patrimonio europeo ed è quello che intende perseguire l'azione progettuale.

Il progetto è complementare ad altre iniziative sia a livello locale che europeo. A livello locale, integra e arricchisce i programmi culturali comunali esistenti: Oliena organizza ogni anno i riti della Settimana santa che culminano il Giorno di Pasqua con "S'Incontru" e la festa di San Lussorio ad agosto, mentre Oliana ha la Festa Major ad agosto e rappresentazioni tradizionali nella Settimana Santa. Questi eventi però finora non prevedevano una collaborazione strutturata con altre municipalità europee. Attraverso il gemellaggio, le feste tradizionali locali verranno aperte alla partecipazione internazionale, con delegazioni ospiti e contenuti nuovi (esibizioni condivise Italia-Spagna), portando un valore aggiunto senza sostituirsi alle usanze consolidate. Le amministrazioni comunali vedono questo progetto come un valido complemento alle proprie politiche culturali e giovanili: invece di organizzare un'ulteriore festa ex novo, si potenziano quelle esistenti inserendo scambi e workshop europei, ottimizzando così risorse e pubblico. Questa sinergia ottimizza risorse e pubblico, evitando duplicazioni. Inoltre, la collaborazione bilaterale permetterà lo scambio di buone pratiche: Oliana potrà ispirarsi ai comitati rionali di Oliena per la gestione partecipativa delle feste, mentre Oliena potrà ispirarsi a iniziative catalane come il "Seguici Festiu", un progetto che mira a proteggere, coltivare e promuovere la cultura e l'immaginario popolare, adattandoli ai tempi e alle generazioni che cambiano.. Questo corrisponde alla raccomandazione della call di "condividere e diffondere buone pratiche tra le autorità pubbliche e le organizzazioni della società

civile”.

La progettazione si fonda su una dimensione transnazionale reale: le attività principali si svolgeranno in Italia e in Spagna e coinvolgeranno cittadini di entrambi i Paesi, con scambi linguistici (italiano, sardo, catalano, castigliano) e culturali che favoriranno la comprensione reciproca. Questo approccio consente di moltiplicare l'esperienza della diversità del patrimonio comune europeo e di promuovere la parità di genere, come raccomandato dall'invito. I risultati avranno un potenziale replicabile da altri comuni europei, specialmente nelle zone rurali che condividono problemi simili di isolamento e spopolamento. Tutti i materiali prodotti (guide, video, kit didattici) saranno resi disponibili online affinché altri enti possano adattarli.

I beneficiari diretti sono i cittadini italiani e spagnoli, attraverso le comunità di Oliena e Oliana, scelte per l'affinità dei nomi e la complementarità dei loro contesti. Il progetto collegando Sardegna e Catalogna, due periferie europee con tradizioni forti e sfide analoghe, dimostra che anche aree rurali possono generare innovazione sociale. Oltre all'effetto locale, l'iniziativa avrà ricadute su scala europea anche grazie al supporto di **Focus Europe ETS – La Rete dei Territori Europei**, network di cui Oliena fa parte. Focus Europe, con esperienza quasi ventennale nei programmi europei, ha fornito una lettera di sostegno e si impegna a diffondere i risultati del gemellaggio nella propria rete, replicando il modello in altre comunità. La “Rete dei Territori Europei” di Focus Europe, sta già supportando e promuovendo progetti analoghi, come il gemellaggio in costruzione fra Ardara in Irlanda e Ardara in Sardegna per citarne uno simile, dimostrando la capacità di trasferire le buone pratiche su scala transnazionale. Grazie a questo sostegno, i contenuti culturali e metodologici prodotti da Oliena e Oliana potranno essere condivisi e adattati da altre realtà europee, ampliando il valore aggiunto del progetto e rispondendo all'obiettivo del bando di “moltiplicare l'esperienza pratica della ricchezza e della diversità del patrimonio comune dell'Unione” e di “sviluppare e diffondere buone pratiche tra le autorità pubbliche e le organizzazioni della società civile”.

La proposta, infine, si integra con iniziative europee quali l'Anno Europeo dei Giovani 2022 e l'Anno Europeo delle Competenze 2023, che promuovono competenze interculturali e il protagonismo giovanile. Sostiene le strategie nazionali e comunitarie sul mainstreaming di genere e sull'inclusione, grazie all'analisi di genere richiesta dal bando. Sarà possibile collegare i messaggi del progetto a campagne europee contro la violenza di genere e sui diritti dei minori, rendendo i festival piattaforme di sensibilizzazione. Infine, i toolkit elaborati da precedenti progetti “CERV” sul dialogo interculturale e l'uguaglianza potranno essere adattati per i nostri workshop, generando ulteriori sinergie. In sintesi, l'azione non solo collega iniziative locali e nazionali, ma crea ponti con politiche europee, rafforzando l’“Europa della solidarietà e della partecipazione”.

#§COM-PL-CP§# #§PRJ-OBJ-PO§# #§REL-EVA-RE§# #@QUA-LIT-QL@# #@CON-MET-CM@#

2. QUALITY

2.1 Concept and methodology

Concept and methodology

Outline the approach and methodology behind the project. Explain why they are the most suitable for achieving the project's objectives. Include ethical and safety considerations to ensure that target groups are not subjected to harm in any way.

Note: Methodology is not a list of activities but are instruments, approaches that will be used, applied and created.

Il progetto adotta un **approccio partecipativo e incentrato sui cittadini**, combinando educazione non formale, dialogo interculturale e coinvolgimento comunitario. L'idea di fondo è che i due eventi principali non siano meri spettacoli, ma processi collettivi “di e per” la comunità, co-progettati dai partner e dai gruppi locali.

La metodologia ruota attorno a tre pilastri: partecipazione attiva, inclusività e scambio bidirezionale. L'obiettivo non è proporre un elenco di attività, ma delineare gli strumenti che consentiranno di raggiungere gli obiettivi: scambi culturali strutturati, co-creazione, apprendimento esperienziale, mentoring e uso consapevole degli strumenti digitali. I partecipanti internazionali non saranno semplici spettatori, ma verranno invitati a vivere le tradizioni dell'altro Paese, favorendo un apprendimento interculturale immersivo. Ci ispiriamo ai principi del learning-by-doing e dello scambio alla pari: cittadini di Oliena e Oliana apprenderanno gli uni dagli altri in condizioni di parità e reciprocità, abbattendo barriere gerarchiche (ognuno è al tempo stesso “insegnante” della propria cultura e

“studente” di quella altrui). Questo approccio è il più adatto a raggiungere gli obiettivi perché stimola empatia e comprensione profonda molto più di un semplice convegno frontale. Inoltre, si presterà attenzione a creare un ambiente informale e festoso (trattandosi di festival) in cui il messaggio europeo sia trasmesso in modo coinvolgente e non calato dall'alto.

Strumenti e metodi chiave.

1. **Gemellaggi culturali e delegazioni.** Ogni festival prevede la partecipazione di **minimo 56 cittadini** della città gemella, selezionati in modo da rappresentare diverse fasce d'età e gruppi sociali. I partecipanti saranno, per quanto possibile, ospitati da famiglie del luogo e abbinati per interesse comune. Questo strumento facilita l'incontro diretto e reciproco, in linea con l'invito a migliorare la partecipazione democratica attraverso attività culturali e a generare benefici che vadano oltre i partecipanti diretti.
2. **Co-progettazione e partecipazione.** Prima di ogni evento si terranno riunioni aperte che coinvolgeranno amministrazioni, associazioni, giovani, scuole e gruppi vulnerabili. La co-creazione garantisce che i contenuti rispondano ai bisogni reali della comunità e promuove il diritto dei cittadini a essere protagonisti. Saranno previste consultazioni specifiche per i giovani studenti, nel rispetto del loro diritto di essere ascoltati.
3. **Educazione non formale e workshop partecipativi.** Nei festival predomineranno: laboratori tematici (sul futuro dei giovani nelle aree rurali, sul ruolo delle donne nelle tradizioni, sui diritti dell'UE e la prevenzione della violenza), sessioni che affrontino gli stereotipi, simulazioni e giochi cooperativi che promuovono la conoscenza dei diritti di cittadinanza e la sensibilizzazione sulle questioni di genere. Saranno organizzati **laboratori esperienziali di danza tradizionale** in cui i partecipanti potranno apprendere e provare le danze tipiche olienensi (su passu torrau, su ballu tundu, su dennaru, s'arcu, s'arcu hantihu e su durdurinu), con spiegazioni sui diversi livelli di difficoltà e accompagnamento musicale (organetto, canto a tenore, voce monodica). Inoltre, **verranno organizzati incontri e webinar nelle scuole secondarie di Olina** per preparare gli studenti sui temi dell'UE, sulla storia e le tradizioni sardo-catalane e sulla tutela delle minoranze linguistiche; questi incontri includeranno **discussioni sulle lingue minoritarie** (sardo e catalano) e saranno supportati da materiali didattici e competenze metodologiche forniti da Focus Europe ETS.
4. **Micro-gemellaggi e mentoring settoriale.** Oltre agli eventi di massa, l'obiettivo è attivare gemellaggi tra gruppi omologhi (scuole, bande musicali, artigiani) che continueranno dopo i festival. Questi scambi peer-to-peer consentono trasferimenti di competenze e buone pratiche, consolidando rapporti duraturi e una rete transnazionale.
5. **Strumenti digitali e inclusione.** Una piattaforma online condivisa affiancherà gli eventi per preparare i partecipanti, documentare le attività e mantenere i contatti. Applicazioni interattive (come Slido o strumenti analoghi) permetteranno a tutti di contribuire, anche a chi è timido o ha difficoltà linguistiche. I contenuti digitali prodotti saranno accessibili e disaggregati per età e genere per monitorare l'impatto.

La metodologia integra criteri etici e di sicurezza in ogni fase: verrà adottato un codice di condotta che promuove il rispetto e il linguaggio inclusivo, sarà garantita l'accessibilità per persone con disabilità, e verranno predisposti spazi e tempi adeguati alle diverse esigenze culturali e religiose. Per i minori si applicheranno politiche di tutela con autorizzazione genitoriale e supervisione adulta. Nei workshop dedicati alla prevenzione della violenza, sarà promosso uno scambio di buone pratiche: Olina condividerà i propri protocolli di tutela (come ad esempio i “Punti Lila” spagnoli) per proteggere le donne durante gli eventi pubblici, in modo che Olina possa adattarli alla realtà sarda, con l'auspicio che siano d'esempio per l'intero territorio nazionale.

La combinazione di scambi immersivi, co-progettazione, apprendimento non formale, micro gemellaggi e strumenti digitali è la più adatta a raggiungere gli obiettivi perché:

- stimola empatia e comprensione reciproca tramite esperienze dirette;
- garantisce che le attività rispondano ai bisogni dei cittadini e che questi si sentano co-creatori del progetto;
- promuove la conoscenza dei diritti, l'uguaglianza di genere e la prevenzione della violenza, come richiesto dal bando;

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- rende l'iniziativa inclusiva e replicabile, grazie all'uso consapevole del digitale e all'attenzione ai gruppi vulnerabili.

Grazie alla sua flessibilità e alla centralità dei partecipanti, la metodologia consente di adattare le attività ai feedback raccolti e di assicurare che l'esperienza sia veramente "di e per la comunità", in linea con le priorità del programma CERV.

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2.2 Consortium set-up

Consortium cooperation and division of roles (if applicable) *(n/a for Town Twinning and Programme Contact Points)*

Describe the participants (Beneficiaries, Affiliated Entities and Associated Partners, if any) and explain how they will work together to implement the project. How will they bring together the necessary expertise? How will they complement each other?

In what way does each of the participants contribute to the project? Show that each has a valid role and adequate resources to fulfil that role.

Note: When building your consortium you should think of organisations that can help you reach objectives and solve problems.

n/a

2.3 Project teams, staff and experts

Project teams and staff

Describe the project teams and how they will work together to implement the project.

List the staff included in the project budget (budget category A) by function/profile (e.g. project manager, senior expert/advisor/researcher, junior expert/advisor/researcher, trainers/teachers, technical personnel, administrative personnel etc. — use the same profiles as in the detailed budget table, if any *(n/a for pre-fixed Lump Sum Grants)*) and describe briefly their tasks. Provide CVs of all key actors (if required).

Note: Please ensure a gender-balanced representation in the composition of project teams and staff performing the action.

Name and function	Organisation	Role/tasks/professional profile and expertise
Sebastiano Antioco (M), SINDACO	Comune di Oliena	Il Sindaco riveste il ruolo di rappresentante legale del Comune, attribuendogli un'autorità di primaria importanza nell'ambito amministrativo. In particolare, il suo ruolo come leader del progetto implica la supervisione e il coordinamento dell'intero processo progettuale, comprese le seguenti responsabilità: Rappresentante politico e legale; presiede il Comitato di pilotaggio; assicura supporto istituzionale e coerenza con le politiche comunali. Se necessario, il Sindaco ha la facoltà di assegnare personale amministrativo del Comune di Caltagirone per offrire supporto operativo nell'implementazione delle attività del progetto.
Congiu Pierantonio (F), Assessora all'Agricoltura e alle Politiche Giovanili	Comune di Oliena	In qualità di Assessora delegata all'Agricoltura e alle Politiche Giovanili, contribuisce al progetto curando in particolare il coinvolgimento del settore agro-alimentare e delle imprese rurali, favorendo la valorizzazione dei prodotti tipici nelle attività dei festival. Coordina inoltre le iniziative rivolte ai giovani, stimolando la loro partecipazione attiva e assicurando che le attività siano coerenti con le politiche giovanili del Comune. Supporta il project manager nella progettazione di workshop tematici e nello sviluppo di azioni di capacity-building per i ragazzi e le ragazze del territorio.

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Puligheddu Pasquale (M), Assessore ai Servizi Sociali, Pubblica Istruzione e Cultura	Comune di Oliena	Responsabile politico per i servizi sociali, l'istruzione e la cultura, contribuisce al progetto garantendo l'allineamento con le politiche educative e culturali del Comune. Coordina i rapporti con le scuole e le associazioni culturali locali, favorendo la partecipazione di studenti, insegnanti e famiglie agli eventi. Supervisiona inoltre gli aspetti di inclusione sociale e di accessibilità, assicurando che il progetto sia realmente aperto a tutti i cittadini, compresi i gruppi vulnerabili. Promuove la diffusione dei valori di solidarietà e uguaglianza attraverso attività educative e culturali integrate negli eventi. Pianifica attività, supervisiona tempi e budget, gestisce i rapporti con EACEA; garante dell'integrazione del mainstreaming di genere e non discriminazione.
	Focus Europe ETS (Allegata Lettera di Supporto)	Ente del Terzo Settore riconosciuto nel 2024 che dal 2007 supporta comuni e altri enti locali nell'accesso ai fondi UE, promuovendo lo sviluppo territoriale. Opera con sedi in Italia, Spagna e Belgio e facilita progettazione, formazione e internazionalizzazione. La rete riunisce oltre cento autorità locali e organizzazioni internazionali, fornendo opportunità di finanziamento, training e cooperazione. Ruolo nel progetto: sosterrà a titolo volontario i project manager dei comuni nel coordinamento, fornirà consulenza metodologica e supporto nella redazione dei report. Metterà a disposizione della propria rete per la disseminazione dei risultati e la replicazione del modello di gemellaggio in altre comunità. Grazie all'esperienza ventennale in programmi europei, contribuirà anche all'analisi di sostenibilità e al reperimento di futuri finanziamenti.
	Comitato San Lussorio	Comitato che organizza l'antica festa religiosa e popolare di San Lussorio ad Oliena. Raduna volontari e fedeli per preparare processioni, riti liturgici, spettacoli musicali e momenti conviviali, preservando una tradizione secolare. Ruolo nel progetto: curerà l'inserimento del gemellaggio nel calendario festivo, fornendo esperienza logistica e coordinando il coinvolgimento di confraternite e gruppi parrocchiali. Contribuirà alla trasmissione delle tradizioni religiose e civili attraverso laboratori e incontri con gli ospiti catalani; collaborerà alla promozione delle pari opportunità nella festa e alla sensibilizzazione contro stereotipi di genere.
	Consulta Giovanile di Oliena (Allegata Lettera di Supporto)	Organo consultivo e propositivo del Comune composto da ragazze e ragazzi del territorio; promuove la partecipazione giovanile, l'educazione alla cittadinanza attiva e progetti culturali e sportivi per i giovani. Ruolo nel progetto: fungerà da tramite con le giovani generazioni, contribuendo alla co-progettazione delle attività e alla mobilitazione di volontari. Organizzerà workshop dedicati alle esigenze dei giovani e darà supporto nell'accoglienza dei pari età catalani, promuovendo l'apprendimento linguistico e il dialogo interculturale.
	Gruppo Folk Battos Moros (Allegata Lettera di Supporto)	Storico gruppo folkloristico che custodisce le danze tradizionali, i costumi e i canti della Barbagia; partecipa a festival in Sardegna e all'estero ed è portatore del "canto a tenore" (patrimonio UNESCO). Ruolo nel progetto: sarà protagonista delle sfilate e delle esibizioni a Oliena e Olina, trasmettendo ai partecipanti il significato dei balli e dei canti tradizionali. L'associazione offrirà anche supporto organizzativo nella preparazione dei cortei e nella selezione dei brani da eseguire.
	Pro Loco	Associazione di promozione del territorio che coordina eventi turistico-culturali (Cortes Apertas, mercatini, iniziative

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	Oliena	gastronomiche) e offre servizi di accoglienza ai visitatori. Ruolo nel progetto: supporterà l'accoglienza degli ospiti e l'organizzazione delle visite guidate, curando il contatto con strutture ricettive e ristoratori. Svolgerà funzioni di segreteria organizzativa e supporterà la diffusione dell'evento mediante i propri canali di comunicazione.
	Gruppo Folk Su Gologone (Allegata Lettera di Supporto)	Gruppo di canto polifonico e danza sarda, noto per l'interpretazione del "canto a tenore" e per la ricerca sulle melodie pastorali. Ruolo nel progetto: animerà le serate musicali e i laboratori di canto a tenore. Insegnerà agli ospiti spagnoli l'uso della voce nei canti tradizionali, facilitando scambi con i gruppi corali catalani.
	ADI (Allegata Lettera di Supporto)	Associazione Diocesiana Insieme, si occupa di ragazzi disabili e anziani disabili, sia con problematiche motorie che cognitive. Si cooccupano di aggregazione sociale e di inclusion, collabora con tutte le altre associazioni.
Ricard Perez (M), Sindaco	Ajuntament Oliana	In qualità di Primo cittadino e rappresentante legale del Comune di Oliana, il Sindaco garantisce il supporto politico e istituzionale al progetto. Presiede il Comitato di pilotaggio insieme al Sindaco di Oliana, supervisiona le attività in Catalogna e assicura la coerenza del progetto con le politiche comunali locali. Ha inoltre il compito di favorire il coinvolgimento delle istituzioni regionali (Generalitat de Catalunya, Diputació de Lleida), aumentando l'impatto e la visibilità delle azioni sul territorio.
Anna Codina (F), Assessora Alla Partecipazione Dei Cittadini	Ajuntament Oliana	L'Assessora Codina, sarà coordinatrice locale del progetto per Oliana, con responsabilità specifica nel coinvolgimento della cittadinanza, delle associazioni e dei gruppi giovanili. Cura l'organizzazione delle attività preparatorie e la supervisione logistica durante il festival in Catalogna, garantendo un'ampia partecipazione della comunità e un approccio inclusivo. Si occupa inoltre di assicurare l'integrazione della prospettiva di genere e dell'accessibilità per i gruppi vulnerabili nelle attività locali.
	Associacions Di entitats d'Oliana	Federazione di associazioni culturali, sportive e sociali di Oliana Aggrega numerose realtà associative del territorio, promuove la cooperazione e organizza eventi comuni (festa major, carnevali, iniziative benefiche). Ruolo nel progetto: punto di riferimento per la mobilitazione delle associazioni locali; coordina attività di gruppi di gegants, bande/musiche e scuole durante il festival di Oliana. Insieme al Comune cura la logistica della delegazione sarda e sostiene la diffusione del progetto nelle reti associative, favorendo la partecipazione di volontari e famiglie ospitanti.
Joan Figueras (M), Assessore alle Feste e alle Associazioni	Ajuntament Oliana	Responsabile del coordinamento della partecipazione delle entità locali e culturali di Oliana nell'ambito del progetto. Anima e garantisce il coinvolgimento attivo di associazioni, collettivi e gruppi festivi, rafforzando il tessuto comunitario. Facilita la collaborazione tra le diverse realtà affinché le attività del festival rispecchino la ricchezza culturale e sociale del Comune.
Antoni Patsí (M), Assessore a Istruzione, Salute e Ambiente		Coordina le azioni legate a educazione, salute e ambiente. Integra valori di sostenibilità, benessere e formazione nelle attività progettuali, con impatto positivo sulla comunità scolastica e sulla cittadinanza. Garantisce l'adozione di buone pratiche ambientali nell'organizzazione del festival e promuove la sensibilizzazione su salute ed educazione come assi della partecipazione sociale.

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Josep M. ^a Armengol (M), Assessore all'Urbanistica e al Turismo		Integra la dimensione urbanistica e turistica nel progetto. Valorizza spazi pubblici e luoghi patrimoniali come scenari delle attività, assicurando che la pianificazione urbana favorisca partecipazione e accessibilità. Cura la proiezione turistica del Comune, promuovendo Oliana come destinazione culturale e sostenibile e ampliando la visibilità del festival oltre l'ambito locale.
	Comisión de Hermanamiento de Oliana	Organismo stabile fin dagli inizi dell'accordo di cooperazione tra Oliana e i Comuni gemellati. Mantiene vivi i legami di amicizia, scambio culturale e cooperazione, assicurandone la continuità nel tempo. Collabora all'organizzazione di attività congiunte, favorisce la partecipazione dei cittadini e la trasmissione intergenerazionale dei valori di fraternità e cooperazione europea. Apporta esperienza, memoria storica e coesione al progetto, rafforzando l'identità europea del Comune.
	Associació Gegants Y Grallers d'Oliana (Allegata Lettera di Supporto)	Associazione radicata da decenni che mantiene vive le tradizioni popolari attraverso i gegants e la musica di gralla. Garantisce la presenza di elementi autentici della cultura popolare catalana, portando identità, coesione comunitaria e partecipazione intergenerazionale. Assicura l'ancoraggio territoriale del festival e coinvolge pubblici di tutte le età.
	Voliaks – Colla de diablers di Oliana (Allegata Lettera di Supporto)	Gruppo culturale e festivo che preserva la tradizione del fuoco nelle celebrazioni popolari (correfocs, spettacoli pirotecnici). Apporta energia scenica e partecipazione giovanile, coinvolgendo le nuove generazioni nella salvaguardia e nel rinnovamento delle tradizioni. Opera in coordinamento con il Comune per sicurezza e permessistica.
	Departament de Cultura de la Generalitat de Catalunya (Lettera di supporto allegata)	L'ente regionale responsabile della promozione culturale e patrimoniale in Catalogna. In qualità di sostenitore istituzionale, garantirà l'allineamento del progetto con le politiche culturali regionali, faciliterà i contatti con le istituzioni culturali catalane e promuoverà la valorizzazione delle lingue e delle tradizioni minoritarie. Contribuirà alla disseminazione dei risultati attraverso i propri canali e supporterà la ricerca di sinergie con altri programmi culturali europei.
	Consell Marcal de l'Alt Urgel (Lettera di supporto allegata)	Organismo di coordinamento sovracomunale che promuove lo sviluppo socio-culturale e la cooperazione tra i comuni della comarca. Nel progetto fungerà da facilitatore per l'aggregazione delle associazioni e delle scuole del territorio dell'Alt Urgel, sostenendo la logistica della delegazione italiana e promuovendo il gemellaggio presso altri comuni della comarca. Collaborerà con il Comune di Oliana nell'organizzazione di workshop e nella promozione del patrimonio culturale locale, mettendo a disposizione la propria rete istituzionale e di volontariato.

Outside resources (subcontracting, seconded staff, etc)

If you do not have all skills/resources in-house, describe how you intend to get them (contributions of members, partner organisations, volunteers, subcontracting, etc).

If there is subcontracting, please also complete the table in section 4. Moreover, ensure that subcontractors are aware of gender mainstreaming and non-discrimination mainstreaming.

Il progetto sarà interamente gestito con risorse interne dei Comuni partner (Oliana e Oliana) e con il

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contributo volontario delle associazioni locali e dei cittadini.

Non è previsto alcun ricorso a **subcontracting** o a personale distaccato: tutte le attività saranno realizzate direttamente dagli staff comunali coinvolti e dal tessuto associativo locale.

Inoltre, **Focus Europe ETS**, in linea con la propria missione statutaria, fornirà supporto volontario ai project manager comunali, collaborando alle attività di monitoraggio, alla redazione dei report finali e alla diffusione dei risultati attraverso la propria rete europea.

Questa scelta rafforza il senso di ownership comunitaria e la sostenibilità del progetto, evitando costi aggiuntivi e valorizzando le risorse già presenti.

2.4 Consortium management and decision-making

Consortium management and decision-making (if applicable) (n/a for Town Twinning and Programme Contact Points)

Explain the management structures and decision-making mechanisms within the consortium. Describe how decisions will be taken and how regular and effective communication will be ensured. Describe methods to ensure planning and control.

Note: The concept (including organisational structure and decision-making mechanisms) must be adapted to the complexity and scale of the project.

N/A

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2.5 Project management, quality assurance and monitoring and evaluation strategy

Project management, quality assurance and monitoring and evaluation strategy

Describe the measures planned to ensure that the project implementation is of high quality and completed in time.

Describe the methods to ensure good quality, monitoring, planning and control.

Describe the evaluation methods and indicators (quantitative and qualitative) to monitor and verify the outreach and coverage of the activities and results (including unit of measurement, baseline and target values). The indicators proposed to measure progress should be relevant, realistic and measurable.

Note: The monitoring and evaluation strategy should also incorporate gender and non-discrimination considerations in order to measure changes and assess impact on gender equality issues. The indicators should be gender responsive so that they can measure gender equality changes over time. For instance, a gender responsive indicator can measure the increase in women's rate of employment or changes in social attitudes towards gender roles in work-life balance. The evaluation should be participatory and inclusive to all stakeholders, ensuring that women's and men's voices are prevalent throughout the entire evaluation process.

Per assicurare che il progetto venga completato in tempo e con un livello qualitativo elevato, adotteremo una struttura di project management integrata con misure di qualità e un sistema di monitoraggio e valutazione articolato. Tutti i processi saranno permeati dai principi di pari opportunità e non discriminazione, come raccomandato dalla call.

Ruoli e responsabilità: Il **Comune di Oliena** sarà Coordinatore (COO) e gestirà i rapporti con la Commissione UE; il **Comune di Oliana** sarà partner. Entrambi nomineranno un project manager che co-presiederà il **Comitato di pilotaggio** (presieduto dai sindaci e composto da rappresentanti delle amministrazioni, delle associazioni locali e da un membro di Focus Europe ETS). Il comitato si riunirà mensilmente online e in tre momenti chiave (kick-off, mid-term e chiusura) per monitorare l'avanzamento, discutere criticità e prendere decisioni condivise. **Focus Europe ETS – La Rete dei Territori Europei**, di cui Oliena fa parte, supporterà i project manager in modo volontario e, grazie alla sua missione statutaria e all'esperienza ventennale nei programmi UE, collaborerà (sempre a titolo volontario) alle attività di monitoraggio e alla stesura dei rapporti finali. Questo coinvolgimento rafforza ulteriormente la capacità del partenariato di condividere e replicare buone pratiche.

Work Packages e Gantt: In conformità al bando, il progetto è presentato con un unico work package

che integra gestione, comunicazione, pianificazione e realizzazione degli eventi (Festa de l'Agermanament a Oliana e Festival dell'Amicizia Europea a Oliana), nonché attività preparatorie (incontro istituzionale di gennaio e webinar nelle scuole). Il WP copre i dodici mesi del progetto e prevede la pianificazione, l'attuazione, il monitoraggio e la chiusura delle attività. Report interni mensili evidenzieranno progressi, ritardi, rischi e azioni correttive. Per ogni deliverable scritto si applicherà il principio dei "quattro occhi" (revisione incrociata tra partner) per garantire coerenza, bilinguismo e linguaggio inclusivo.

Misure di garanzia della qualità.

- **Indicatori di qualità:** Definiremo indicatori quantitativi e qualitativi per monitorare la qualità delle attività:
 - **Partecipazione:** almeno 1 000 partecipanti totali per ciascun evento, di cui almeno 41 provenienti dalla città gemella; coinvolgimento di almeno 10 stakeholder/associazioni per comune.
 - **Soddisfazione:** $\geq 80\%$ dei partecipanti dichiara nei questionari post-evento di essere "soddisfatto" o "molto soddisfatto" delle attività.
 - **Materiali inclusivi:** 100 % dei materiali di progetto conformi alle linee guida UE su visibilità, linguaggio inclusivo e accessibilità, verificati con checklist interne e, se necessario, consulto di un esperto.
 - **Trasparenza e governance:** tutte le riunioni del comitato con quorum; decisioni documentate; nessun conflitto irrisolto.
- **Procedure di qualità:** Per garantire l'accessibilità e la sicurezza si predisporranno piani di emergenza per gli eventi, assicurazioni per i partecipanti internazionali, spazi fisici accessibili (rampe, sedute riservate). Sarà redatto un **codice di condotta** che vieta discriminazioni e linguaggio d'odio, e tutti i volontari e gli operatori seguiranno una formazione preliminare su inclusione, diritti umani e gestione dei conflitti. Un esperto di genere potrà essere coinvolto a titolo volontario per supportare la revisione dei materiali.

Strategia di monitoraggio e valutazione (M&E).

Saranno utilizzati indicatori di output, risultato e impatto con baseline e target chiari.

Output:

- due festival;
- almeno due workshop tematici per evento;
- $\geq 1\,000$ partecipanti per evento;
- 112–120 partecipanti internazionali complessivi (minimo 56 per evento);
- sezione dedicata sui siti istituzionali;
- video finale e pubblicazione bilingue;
- almeno 4 webinar preparatori nelle scuole..

Risultati immediati:

- **Conoscenza interculturale:** $\geq 70\%$ dei partecipanti dichiara di aver aumentato significativamente la conoscenza dell'altra cultura (valutato tramite questionario pre/post evento).
- **Consapevolezza UE:** incremento di ≥ 20 punti percentuali dei partecipanti che si sentono "connessi all'UE" e consapevoli dei diritti di cittadinanza.
- **Competenze interculturali:** $\geq 80\%$ dei partecipanti internazionali riferisce di aver acquisito nuove competenze relazionali o linguistiche.
- **Parità di genere:** almeno 50 % di donne nei team organizzativi; $\geq 70\%$ dei partecipanti segnala una maggiore sensibilità sui temi di genere; bilanciamento della partecipazione (target $50\% \pm 5$) con dati disaggregati per sesso, età e disabilità.

Impatto (medio-lungo termine):

- sottoscrizione della Dichiarazione Congiunta che riafferma il Patto di gemellaggio del 2018;
- pianificazione di almeno due nuove iniziative congiunte entro un anno;

- introduzione permanente di pratiche inclusive negli eventi;
- aumento del 20 % della presenza femminile nei ruoli di leadership locali;
- incremento del 20 % dell'adesione giovanile alle associazioni culturali, giovanili e sportive;
- creazione e sviluppo di una rete europea di città con tradizioni affini o sensibilità comuni (tutela delle minoranze linguistiche, lotta all'euroscetticismo).

Metodi di raccolta dati:

- **Questionari pre/post** (in digitale disponibili via QR code) con domande chiuse e aperte per misurare percezioni e conoscenze;
- **Registri presenze** con dati volontari su età, genere, provenienza;
- **Interviste e focus group** (almeno 10 partecipanti intervistati e 2 focus group) per approfondire esperienze e considerazioni su genere e inclusione;
- **Monitoraggio media e social**: conteggio di articoli (≥ 5) e analisi della portata social ($\geq 5\,000$ visualizzazioni);
- **Analisi gender-responsive**: tutti i dati saranno disaggregati per sesso, età e disabilità per identificare eventuali disparità.

Valutazione partecipativa e inclusiva: la raccolta dei feedback sarà aperta a donne e uomini di tutte le età, così da permettere a ogni voce di emergere. La valutazione finale conterrà una sezione dedicata all'impatto su uguaglianza di genere e non discriminazione e fornirà raccomandazioni per migliorare l'accessibilità e l'inclusività future.

Questa impostazione assicura che l'attuazione del progetto sia di alta qualità e completata nei tempi, che il monitoraggio e la valutazione siano basati su indicatori realistici e misurabili, e che siano integrati i principi di genere e inclusione come richiesto dal bando.

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2.6 Cost effectiveness and financial management

Cost effectiveness and financial management (n/a for prefixed Lump Sum Grants)

Describe the measures adopted to ensure that the proposed results and objectives will be achieved in the most cost-effective way.

Indicate how the financial resources will be allocated and managed within the consortium, based on the distribution and implementation of the tasks.

Present cost effectiveness measures per cost categories (e.g. staff profiles adapted to the tasks to be performed, subcontracting costs estimated based on recent offers).

n/a

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2.7 Risk management

Critical risks and risk management strategy (n/a for Town Twinning)

Describe critical risks, uncertainties or difficulties related to the implementation of your project, and your measures/strategy for addressing them.

Indicate for each risk (in the description) the impact and the likelihood that the risk will materialise (high, medium, low), even after taking into account the mitigating measures.

Note: Uncertainties and unexpected events occur in all organisations, even if very well-run. The risk analysis will help you to predict issues that could delay or hinder project activities. A good risk management strategy is essential for good project management. The strategy should also incorporate risk mitigation measures that redress any gender inequalities and multiple discriminatory effects in project implementation. For instance, to ensure full participation of target groups in project activities, gender, age or disability-specific constraints should be taken into account. The target groups may face more than one barrier to access project activities (accessibility barriers; language barriers, availability of childcare provision, etc.). Therefore, it is essential to identify these risks and undertake preventive measures in order to ensure full participation of women and men in all their diversity in project design and implementation.

Risk No	Description of risk	Work package No	Proposed risk-mitigation measures
N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

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3. IMPACT

3.1 Impact and ambition

Impact and ambition

Define the short, medium and long-term effects of the project.

Who are the target groups? How will the target groups benefit concretely from the project and what would change for them? In what way will the gap identified be reduced? How will the activities contribute to improve the situation (difference between starting point/state of play and the situation after the end of the project?) How will the activities contribute to the promotion and advancement of gender equality and non-discrimination mainstreaming?

Does the project aim to trigger change/innovation? If so, describe them and the degree of ambition (progress beyond the status quo).

Note: Results/outcomes are immediate changes that materialise for the target groups after the end of the project (e.g. improved knowledge, increased awareness). Results/outcomes are different to deliverables. Deliverables are activities undertaken and outputs produced with the resources allocated to the project, e.g. training courses, conferences, manuals, video etc.

When defining expected results/outcomes and deliverables please consider if and how they will reduce, maintain, or increase inequalities between women and men, boys and girls, in all their diversity. What gender, age and disability differentiated results can be expected? How expected results will affect women and men, boys and girls from a range of diverse social groups, differently?

Il progetto mira a generare benefici tangibili e duraturi per le comunità di Oliena e Oliana, riducendo il gap di isolamento culturale e promuovendo una cittadinanza europea attiva e inclusiva. In primo luogo, circa 1 000 cittadini complessivi parteciperanno ai due festival e almeno 112 partecipanti internazionali (min.56 per ciascun evento) vivranno un'esperienza diretta di interculturalità e cittadinanza europea, traducibile in maggiore conoscenza reciproca e apertura mentale. L'ampio sostegno ricevuto dalle associazioni locali (folk group, consulta giovanile, associazioni di volontariato) e dagli enti istituzionali catalani, formalizzato anche attraverso le lettere di supporto, fungerà da moltiplicatore d'impatto: queste realtà parteciperanno alla co-creazione delle attività e, grazie ai loro canali, assicureranno un coinvolgimento capillare e la diffusione dei risultati ben oltre la durata del progetto.

Di seguito vengono illustrati gli effetti attesi nel breve, medio e lungo termine, con un'attenzione a come questi impatteranno i diversi gruppi target (giovani, anziani, donne, persone con disabilità) e contribuiranno alla parità di genere e alla non discriminazione.

Breve termine (entro la conclusione degli eventi)

- Aumento della conoscenza e della consapevolezza europea:** immediatamente dopo i festival, almeno il 70 % dei partecipanti dichiarerà, attraverso questionari post-evento, di aver migliorato la conoscenza delle tradizioni del paese partner e dei valori e diritti dell'Unione Europea. Almeno il 20 % dei partecipanti (con disaggregazione paritaria per genere) indicherà di aver discusso per la prima volta temi quali la cittadinanza UE, la parità di genere e la prevenzione della violenza di genere.
- Creazione di legami sociali e fiducia:** Un effetto immediato sarà anche l'incremento dell'orgoglio e della fiducia all'interno di ciascuna comunità: vedere la propria piccola città in grado di ospitare un evento internazionale di successo farà crescere l'autostima collettiva e la percezione di contare qualcosa in Europa. ogni partecipante internazionale stabilirà almeno un contatto duraturo con un membro della comunità ospitante; cresceranno l'orgoglio civico e la percezione di contare in Europa.
- Empowerment di gruppi vulnerabili:** giovani e donne saranno protagonisti nei ruoli organizzativi e nelle esibizioni (target 50 % di donne nei team e tra gli artisti). In seguito alle

campagne di sensibilizzazione durante i festival, ci aspettiamo un aumento delle richieste di informazioni su servizi contro la violenza e sui diritti dei minori, segnale che il progetto avrà rotto il silenzio su questi temi. Le persone con disabilità beneficeranno di eventi pienamente accessibili, rafforzando la loro autostima e favorendo la consapevolezza dell'intera comunità sulle esigenze di accessibilità. Nel breve termine i target group beneficeranno di una maggiore conoscenza, consapevolezza e motivazione: i giovani avranno vissuto la loro prima esperienza europea senza dover lasciare il paese, gli anziani si sentiranno valorizzati nel tramandare i propri saperi a un pubblico internazionale, le donne vedranno riconosciuto il proprio ruolo fondamentale nelle tradizioni (tramite premi, menzioni di eccellenze femminili locali durante le cerimonie), e i decisori locali avranno nuovi spunti per guardare alle politiche comunali con una visione più europea.

Medio termine (6-24 mesi dopo il progetto)

1. **Rafforzamento del gemellaggio e rete europea di città:** auspichiamo che Oliena e Oliana rafforzino il loro patto di gemellaggio ufficiale sulla scia del successo del progetto, impegnandosi a continuare scambi regolari. Il comitato di gemellaggio potenziato avvierà, oltre agli scambi regolari tra Oliena e Oliana, una rete europea di città con tradizioni culturali affini in Paesi come Austria, Croazia e Francia. Una nuova rete sarà anche orientata alla lotta all'euroscetticismo e alla tutela delle minoranze linguistiche.
2. **Rafforzamento delle tradizioni e innovazione culturale:** i comitati organizzatori delle feste integreranno elementi appresi dagli scambi (come un invitato internazionale fisso a Oliena o laboratori di canto a tenore ad Oliana), rinnovando le tradizioni locali senza snaturarle. L'inserimento delle danze tipiche di Oliena nel programma permetterà di preservarle e diffonderle oltre i confini locali, rendendo i giovani più consapevoli e orgogliosi delle proprie radici. Le comunità catalane, conoscendo e sperimentando questi balli, comprenderanno meglio la diversità culturale europea; allo stesso tempo, lo scambio promuoverà la creatività e l'innovazione nei repertori locali. Si prevede che almeno il 10 % delle attività annuali delle associazioni locali includa riferimenti o collaborazioni con la città gemella.
3. **Cambio mentalità nei cittadini:** ci aspettiamo anche un impatto in termini di cambiamento di atteggiamenti e mentalità: superata l'euforia immediata, ciò che resterà potrebbe essere una comunità più curiosa verso l'esterno, più tollerante e più europeista. I cittadini di Oliena e Oliana avranno ora un riferimento concreto quando penseranno all'Europa (non più solo Bruxelles lontana, ma amici in Sardegna/Catalogna, progetti comuni) e questo tenderà a riflettersi in maggiore partecipazione a iniziative europee future (ad es. potremmo vedere un aumento di candidature da queste città a programmi come Erasmus+ per i giovani, o una maggiore partecipazione ad eventi di Europe Direct locali). Inoltre, la condivisione da parte di Oliana dei propri protocolli anti-violenza (come i "Punti Lila") potrà ispirare iniziative simili in Sardegna, contribuendo alla diffusione di pratiche più efficaci per la tutela delle donne durante eventi pubblici.
4. **Parità ed Inclusione:** si punta a un aumento del 20 % della presenza femminile nei ruoli direttivi delle associazioni culturali e a un impegno concreto dei Comuni per l'abbattimento di barriere architettoniche durante le feste.

Lungo termine (oltre due anni)

1. **Comunità gemelle e rete europea:** Oliena e Oliana rafforzeranno il loro status di "città Sorelle", con scambi culturali regolari e la possibile inclusione di altre comunità. Ciò darà vita a nuove "reti di città" di piccoli centri rurali che collaborano per valorizzare patrimoni immateriali, promuovendo un'Europa delle regioni interconnesse. Ciò potrebbe tradursi, ad esempio, in un flusso costante di scambi culturali annuali (finanziati anche con risorse locali e/o altri fondi) e nuove proposte progettuali su bandi europei.
2. **Sviluppo socio-economico e attrattività:** maggiore visibilità internazionale e collaborazione transnazionale potranno frenare il declino demografico e stimolare micro-iniziative turistiche e culturali congiunte (come ad esempio un agriturismo a Oliena che propone ai suoi ospiti tour anche in Catalogna attraverso il contatto con Oliana, o viceversa un pacchetto turistico "Sardegna-Catalogna" creato da agenzie locali sfruttando il legame creato).
3. **Cambiamento sociale e culturale:** l'interiorizzazione dei valori europei (solidarietà, rispetto

dei diritti, uguaglianza) si tradurrà in comunità più inclusive; la partecipazione di donne e giovani a ruoli di leadership diventerà la norma; gli anziani continueranno a sentirsi valorizzati, riducendo il gap intergenerazionale.

Benefici per i target group e riduzione delle disuguaglianze

- **Giovani:** potranno concretamente arricchire il proprio curriculum personale e sociale. Benefici immediati includono il miglioramento delle competenze linguistiche (molti dovranno comunicare in una seconda lingua, italiano/spagnolo/inglese, uscendo dalla comfort zone), l'aumento dell'autostima e del senso di iniziativa (aver organizzato o partecipato a un evento internazionale è una realizzazione di cui andare fieri). In prospettiva, i giovani di Oliena e Oliana saranno più propensi a vedere un futuro anche nel proprio territorio, sapendo che anche da lì possono accedere a esperienze europee e il gap di opportunità percepito si ridurrà. Inoltre, avendo ampliato la loro rete sociale, i ragazzi potrebbero collaborare in futuro (ad esempio un giovane di Oliena decidere di fare l'Erasmus a Barcellona avendo già amici catalani conosciuti tramite Oliana e viceversa un Catalano in Sardegna). In questo senso, il progetto riduce concretamente il gap di isolamento giovanile e di mancanza di orizzonti, aprendo strade nuove ed una visione che si apra all'Europa.
- **Anziani:** recupereranno centralità sociale, trasmettendo saperi e riducendo l'isolamento; svilupperanno atteggiamenti più aperti verso i giovani e gli stranieri superando alcuni pregiudizi e pregiudizi, riducendo un gap generazionale e culturale.
- **Donne:** beneficeranno di opportunità di leadership, riconoscimento pubblico e rete di supporto tra Sardegna e Catalogna; l'adozione di protocolli come i "Punti Lila" e lo scambio di buone pratiche previsto potrà migliorare la tutela delle donne anche sul territorio.
- **Persone con disabilità** e altri gruppi marginalizzati: sperimenteranno eventi pienamente accessibili e inclusivi, migliorando autostima e visibilità. La comunità sarà più consapevole delle loro esigenze, riducendo le barriere sociali.

Nel complesso, il progetto produrrà risultati immediati (maggior conoscenza, nuovi legami, consapevolezza dei diritti), attiverà cambiamenti strutturali nel medio periodo (rete europea, parità rafforzata, scambi regolari) e promuoverà impatti sociali ed economici nel lungo periodo (crescita di reti transnazionali, maggiore attrattività territoriale).

Il progetto ambisce chiaramente a innescare un cambiamento duraturo e innovativo.

L'innovazione qui non è tecnologica ma sociale: vogliamo introdurre un nuovo modo di intendere le feste popolari (da evento locale a piattaforma di dialogo europeo) e un nuovo paradigma di collaborazione tra piccoli comuni di diversi paesi. Se il progetto avrà il successo previsto e sperato, si può generare una forte mobilitazione civica transnazionale.

L'ambizione è quindi di fungere anche da progetto pilota: sebbene rivolto principalmente a due comunità, contiene elementi replicabili e scalabili. La progressione oltre lo status quo sarà evidente anche internamente: le amministrazioni locali, dopo aver gestito con successo un progetto europeo, acquisiranno capacità progettuali nuove, che le abiliteranno a partecipare ad altri bandi UE in futuro su temi anche più complessi.

Riassumendo, l'impatto atteso è ampio: a fine progetto avremo sicuramente cittadini più consapevoli, comunità più unite e inclusive, e un ponte stabile tra Sardegna e Catalogna. I risultati e gli outcome previsti (maggior conoscenza, amicizie transfrontaliere, sensibilizzazione ai valori UE) incideranno diversamente su ogni individuo, ma in modo positivo per tutti: ognuno tornerà a casa arricchito e con un po' meno barriere mentali, contribuendo a ridurre le disuguaglianze iniziali e a tessere il filo di una comunità locale più equa e orientata al futuro europeo.

Il progetto rappresenta un modello replicabile di gemellaggio che trasforma il patrimonio immateriale in piattaforma di cittadinanza attiva europea, rendendo concreto il motto "Unità nella diversità".

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3.2 Communication, dissemination and visibility

Communication, dissemination and visibility of funding

Describe the communication and dissemination activities which are planned in order to promote the activities/results and maximise the impact (to whom, which format, how many, etc.). Clarify how you will reach the target groups, relevant stakeholders, policymakers and the general public and explain the choice of the dissemination channels.

Describe how the visibility of EU funding will be ensured.

Communication and dissemination activities should also contribute to the promotion of gender equality and non-discrimination. Communication materials should use gender inclusive language and positive visual representations. E.g.: when developing videos or leaflets ensure that women and men, in all their diversity, are equally represented in a non-stereotypical fashion and portrayed in active empowered roles. In addition, consider using communication channels that they are accessible to general audience, in particular to persons with disabilities, or people from marginalised groups.

La comunicazione e la disseminazione saranno organizzate come un unico pacchetto di lavoro con l'obiettivo di promuovere le attività e i risultati presso il maggior numero possibile di persone, massimizzandone l'impatto e garantendo la visibilità del finanziamento UE.

Gli strumenti e i messaggi saranno adattati ai vari pubblici: cittadini locali, stakeholder (associazioni culturali, scuole, enti turistici), decisori politici (amministrazioni regionali, locali, eurodeputati ecc.), e grande pubblico a livello nazionale ed europeo. La strategia darà particolare attenzione alla parità di genere e alla non discriminazione, utilizzando un linguaggio inclusivo e immagini che rappresentino donne e uomini in ruoli attivi e non stereotipati; si cercherà di rendere i contenuti quanto più accessibili possibile.

Canali e attività.

- **Comunicazione locale e regionale:** saranno distribuiti volantini e manifesti bilingui in digitale nei comuni e nei paesi limitrofi, sfruttando i canali tradizionali (siti web istituzionali, bacheche comunali, altoparlanti pubblici) e quelli radiofonici o televisivi regionali. Si produrranno comunicati stampa e si coinvolgeranno le Unioni dei Comuni locali, province e regioni per pubblicizzare le attività e presentare i risultati finali. Un esempio ne è già il supporto ricevuto da alcuni enti istituzionali, come ad esempio il Departament de Cultura de la Generalitat de Catalunya e il Consell Comarcal de l'Alt Urgell.
- **Social media e piattaforma online:** creeremo una pagina web dedicata all'interno dei siti istituzionali e profili social utilizzando hashtag comuni dedicati. Saranno pubblicati post regolari, dirette streaming e video-interviste. Tutti i contenuti digitali saranno accessibili e rispetteranno criteri di inclusione e parità. La piattaforma di discussione, e il rispettivo strumento da utilizzare, verrà definita alla prima riunione di coordinamento.
- **Coinvolgimento delle scuole e dei giovani:** le scuole saranno invitate a co-creare materiali (ad esempio video, fumetti, blog) da condividere online; gli studenti potranno realizzare reportage degli eventi e li diffonderanno tramite i loro canali utilizzando gli hashtag comuni. Saranno coinvolti anche minorenni, nel rispetto dei loro diritti e garantendo la partecipazione in sicurezza. Inoltre, importante sarà il coinvolgimento delle associazioni delle associazioni culturali e giovanili che hanno inviato lettere di supporto e che promuoveranno gli eventi tramite le loro newsletter, pagine social e reti di volontari, fungendo da moltiplicatori territoriali.
- **Disseminazione tramite Focus Europe ETS:** Focus Europe si impegna a diffondere i risultati attraverso la propria rete europea di enti locali. Utilizzerà la mailing list (con migliaia di contatti istituzionali in tutta Europa) e presenterà il progetto in altri eventi e progetti europei e locali in cui è coinvolto. In questo modo i materiali e le buone pratiche saranno replicati e condivisi con una platea europea ampia, contribuendo a creare sinergie con altre iniziative affini.

Visibilità del finanziamento UE. Tutti i prodotti comunicativi riporteranno chiaramente il logo e la dicitura ufficiale del Programma CERV, conformemente alle disposizioni dell'accordo di sovvenzione. Durante gli eventi saranno esposte bandiere europee e verrà spiegato al pubblico che l'iniziativa è cofinanziata dall'UE; gli speaker dei festival citeranno esplicitamente il sostegno europeo. I materiali saranno pubblicati online (anche come deliverable obbligatori) sul sito del Comune di Oliena e sui canali partner, in ottemperanza alle linee guida.

Contributo alla parità di genere e alla non discriminazione. Ogni attività di comunicazione e disseminazione contribuirà a promuovere l'uguaglianza di genere e la diversità: useremo un linguaggio rispettoso e immagini che rappresentano la pluralità.

Questa strategia garantirà una diffusione capillare delle attività e dei risultati, assicurando visibilità all'UE e promuovendo un'immagine inclusiva del gemellaggio che valorizzi la diversità e l'uguaglianza di genere.

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3.3 Sustainability and continuation

Sustainability, long-term impact and continuation

Describe the follow-up of the project after the EU funding ends. How will the project impact be ensured and sustained?

What will need to be done? Which parts of the project should be continued or maintained? How will this be achieved? Which resources will be necessary to continue the project? How will the results be used?

Are there any possible synergies/complementarities with other (EU funded) activities that can build on the project results?

La sostenibilità e la continuità del progetto sono state concepite fin dall'inizio per garantire che l'esperienza non si esaurisca con il termine del finanziamento UE, ma proietti i suoi benefici nel lungo periodo.

Per raggiungere questo scopo sono previste diverse azioni:

Rafforzamento del gemellaggio e comitato permanente per gli scambi: Le due municipalità, già gemellate dal 2018 con atto formale, utilizzeranno il progetto per “**europaizzare**” tale legame, inserendolo in un quadro più ampio di cooperazione transnazionale sostenuto dall'UE. Il **Comitato di Gemellaggio** esistente verrà **ampliato** (maggiore rappresentanza e competenze, con la presenza di esperti di politiche europee, minoranze linguistiche e promozione culturale) e rilanciato con un orizzonte europeo; il suo compito sarà coordinare le attività future, avviare nuovi progetti e **allargare la rete ad altre città** interessate. L'obiettivo è realizzare un calendario biennale di eventi alternati (un anno in Italia, l'anno successivo in Spagna) e predisporre scambi permanenti tra scuole, associazioni e realtà produttive, garantendo la continuità del partenariato e la progressiva integrazione del gemellaggio Oliena–Olina in strategie di sviluppo comunitarie.

Costruzione di una rete europea di città. Il Comitato potenziato guiderà la creazione di una rete di città non soltanto accomunate da tradizioni simili (danze popolari, festival dei giganti), ma anche da **temi sociali condivisi** come la difesa delle minoranze linguistiche (es. sardo, catalano e altre lingue regionali), la valorizzazione delle identità locali e la **lotta all'euroscetticismo**. Si prevede di coinvolgere città di altri Paesi Europei per condividere buone pratiche, ampliare gli scambi culturali e creare alleanze sui temi della parità di genere, della partecipazione giovanile e della non discriminazione.

Ricerca di co-finanziamenti e sinergie. Per garantire la continuità del progetto dopo la sovvenzione CERV, il Comune di Oliena ha già avviato interlocuzioni con la **Regione Sardegna**, con fondazioni private e con sponsor locali per reperire risorse aggiuntive; parallelamente, il Comune di Olina si sta attivando presso istituzioni locali. Tali contributi consentiranno di ampliare la partecipazione, sostenere i costi degli scambi e attuare le attività di follow-up. Inoltre, **Focus Europe ETS** continuerà a fornire assistenza tecnica volontaria per la ricerca di finanziamenti europei (Erasmus+, CERV – Reti di città, Interreg Mediterraneo, CREA, ecc.) e per la replicazione del modello in altre comunità rurali. Parallelamente, le organizzazioni sostenitrici del Progetto (sia sarde che catalane) utilizzeranno la loro rete di contatti per individuare ulteriori co-finanziamenti e sostenere l'organizzazione degli eventi futuri; il coinvolgimento di entità come il **Departament de Cultura de la Generalitat** e il **Consell Comarcal de l'Alt Urgell** garantirà un ancoraggio istituzionale e nuove opportunità di cooperazione transnazionale.

Manutenzione e utilizzo dei risultati. Tutti i materiali prodotti (pagine web, video, kit didattici, pubblicazioni digitali) rimarranno accessibili online per almeno cinque anni e saranno messi a disposizione di scuole e associazioni. La piattaforma digitale del progetto verrà trasformata in un **forum permanente di scambio** per facilitare la comunicazione e la co-progettazione tra le comunità. Sarà valutata la consegna di copie dei materiali alle biblioteche e agli archivi comunali. I rapporti di valutazione e le raccomandazioni finali saranno condivisi con i consigli comunali di entrambi i Paesi per orientare le politiche future.

Prosecuzione degli scambi culturali e scolastici: verranno programmati scambi regolari tra bande musicali, cori, scuole, gruppi di giganti e laboratori artigianali. Le scuole secondarie potranno avviare

ulteriori progetti Erasmus+ e partenariati transnazionali. Il Comune di Oliena e quello di Oliana manterranno l'impegno a organizzare almeno un'iniziativa congiunta all'anno, includendo delegazioni di altre città della rete.

Nuovi progetti UE e Sinergie con altre iniziative: le competenze acquisite durante il progetto abilitano i Comuni a candidarsi ad altri bandi europei (Erasmus+, CERV – Reti di città, Interreg Mediterraneo, CREA), ampliando la rete e promuovendo sinergie con iniziative come il **New European Bauhaus** e l'**Anno Europeo delle Competenze**. Focus Europe ETS diffonderà le buone pratiche attraverso la propria rete e potrà replicare il modello in altre comunità che condividono nomi o tradizioni affini, contribuendo al mainstreaming dei diritti e della parità di genere in progetti culturali.

Impatto di lungo termine e gender mainstreaming. La sostenibilità del progetto non riguarda solo la continuità degli eventi, ma anche la permanenza dei cambiamenti sociali innescati: procedure permanenti di accessibilità e comunicazione inclusiva per gli eventi pubblici, rafforzamento del protagonismo femminile, tutela delle minoranze linguistiche e diffusione di pratiche anti-violenza. La rete transnazionale ridurrà il rischio di isolamento culturale, e il patrimonio immateriale condiviso diventerà un fattore di attrattività turistica e coesione sociale.

In conclusione, il progetto rafforza le basi di un gemellaggio stabile e replicabile, capace di produrre un impatto duraturo, generare nuovi progetti europei e promuovere un cambiamento culturale verso l'uguaglianza e la non discriminazione.

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#@WRK-PLA-WP@#

Timetable

Timetable (projects up to 2 years)																								
ACTIVITY	MONTHS																							
	M 1	M 2	M 3	M 4	M 5	M 6	M 7	M 8	M 9	M 10	M 11	M 12	M 13	M 14	M 15	M 16	M 17	M 18	M 19	M 20	M 21	M 22	M 23	M 24
T1.1 – Coordinamento di progetto																								
T1.2 – Monitoraggio e quality assurance																								
T1.3 – Comunicazione e disseminazione																								
T1.4 – Incontri/Webinar scuole																								
T1.5 – Pianificazione evento Oliana																								
T1.6 – Promozione e coinvolgimento locale (Oliana)																								
T1.7 – Logistica e accoglienza delegazioni (Oliana)																								

[illegible]

Timetable (projects of more than 2 years)

Fill in cells in beige to show the duration of activities. Repeat lines/columns as necessary.

Note: Use actual calendar years and quarters. In the timeline you should indicate the timing of each activity per WP. You may add additional columns if your project is longer than 6 years.

Fill in cells in beige to show the duration of activities. Repeat lines/columns as necessary.

Note: Use actual calendar years and quarters. In the timeline you should indicate the timing of each activity per WP. You may add additional columns if your project is longer than 6 years.

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5. OTHER

5.1 Ethics and EU values

Ethics and EU values

Describe ethics issues that may arise during the project implementation and the measures you intend to take to solve/avoid them.

Describe how you will ensure gender and non-discrimination mainstreaming in the project cycle. This means integrating gender equality and non-discrimination considerations in the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of project activities. Projects activities should be pro-active and contribute to the equal empowerment of women and men, girls and boys, in all their diversity, and ensure that they achieve their full potential, enjoy the same rights and opportunities. Gender and non-discrimination mainstreaming are a key mechanism for achieving gender equality and combating multiple and intersecting discrimination. In the delivery of project activities gender mainstreaming shall be ensured by systematically monitoring access, participation, and benefits among different genders, and by incorporating remedial action that redresses any gender inequalities and discriminatory effects in implementation of planned activities. The activities shall also seek to reduce levels of discrimination suffered by particular groups (as well as those at risk of multiple discrimination) and to improve equality outcomes for individuals.

If your project has a direct or indirect impact on children and their rights, indicate it clearly here. Make sure that your project is based on a child rights approach, i.e. that all the rights of the EU Charter of Fundamental Rights and the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) and the Optional protocols, are promoted, respected, protected and fulfilled. The project should address children as rights holders and should ensure their participation in the design and implementation of the project. If you will have direct contacts with children you will have to provide a child protection policies in line with the [Keeping Children Safe Child Safeguarding Standards](#).

Explain how you intend to address privacy/data protection issues related to data collection, analysis and dissemination.

Outline measures to be taken and the policies in place to guarantee compliance with the EU values mentioned in Article 2 of the Treaty on the European Union and Article 21 of the EU Charter of Fundamental Rights.

Durante l'implementazione del progetto verranno seguite rigorose linee guida etiche per garantire che tutte le attività siano conformi ai valori dell'Unione Europea e rispettino i diritti fondamentali di tutti i partecipanti.

Gender and non-discrimination mainstreaming.

In linea con le indicazioni della call CERV, la dimensione di genere e l'uguaglianza saranno integrate in tutte le fasi progettuali:

- **Progettazione inclusiva:** nella definizione del programma si terrà conto delle esigenze di donne, uomini, ragazze e ragazzi, persone con disabilità e appartenenti a minoranze. Un'analisi di genere iniziale, inserita nel Piano di Monitoraggio, identificherà eventuali barriere alla partecipazione; i dati raccolti saranno disaggregati per sesso, età e disabilità.
- **Partecipazione equilibrata:** obiettivo del 50 % di donne in tutte le delegazioni, nei comitati organizzativi e tra i formatori; promozione di ruoli paritari (ad es. donne come maestre di ballo o moderatrici dei dibattiti).
- **Contenuti e comunicazione:** i workshop affronteranno stereotipi di genere e discriminazioni multiple; il linguaggio e le immagini utilizzati nelle attività e nella disseminazione saranno inclusivi e non stereotipati.

Approccio basato sui diritti dell'infanzia.

Poiché il progetto coinvolge scuole e minori, sarà applicato un approccio che riconosce i bambini come titolari di diritti, in conformità con la Carta dei diritti fondamentali dell'UE e la Convenzione ONU sui diritti dell'infanzia. Le attività li coinvolgeranno in modo appropriato, valorizzandone la partecipazione creativa ma garantendo tutela e sicurezza: saranno raccolti i consensi informati dei genitori, verranno previste aree a misura di bambino e formatori qualificati. Sarà inoltre designato un/una **Child Protection Focal Point** incaricato/a di monitorare l'applicazione delle politiche di salvaguardia dei minori e di gestire eventuali segnalazioni, in linea con gli standard internazionali di Child Safeguarding.

Protezione dei dati e privacy.

La raccolta di dati (presenze, questionari di gradimento) sarà limitata a informazioni strettamente necessarie (sesso, età, provenienza) e avverrà previa informativa e consenso. I dati saranno trattati nel rispetto del Regolamento UE 2016/679 (GDPR), conservati in forma anonima o pseudonimizzata e utilizzati esclusivamente per scopi di monitoraggio e reportistica. Le informazioni saranno accessibili

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solo al personale autorizzato e non verranno trasferite a terzi senza consenso esplicito.

Conformità ai valori dell'UE.

L'intero progetto è finalizzato a promuovere i valori sanciti dall'Articolo 2 del Trattato sull'Unione Europea e dalla Carta dei diritti fondamentali: rispetto della dignità umana, libertà, democrazia, uguaglianza, stato di diritto e diritti umani. Attraverso eventi culturali inclusivi e momenti di riflessione, i cittadini saranno sensibilizzati ai diritti di cittadinanza europea, al rifiuto della violenza e all'importanza della solidarietà. Ogni partecipante, indipendentemente da genere, etnia, religione, età o condizione di disabilità, sarà accolto e rispettato in modo paritario. Le amministrazioni di Oliena e Oliana si impegnano a contrastare ogni forma di odio e discriminazione, assicurando che il gemellaggio diventi uno spazio di dialogo e coesione.

Le attività saranno inoltre coerenti con l'**Articolo 21 della Carta dei Diritti Fondamentali dell'UE**, che vieta ogni forma di discriminazione, e contribuiranno a rafforzare una cultura locale improntata ai valori europei di inclusione e uguaglianza.

#§ETH-ICS-EI\$# #@SEC-URI-SU@#

5.2 Security

Security

Not applicable.

#§SEC-URI-SU\$# #@DEC-LAR-DL@#

6. DECLARATIONS

Double funding

Information concerning other EU grants for this project

⚠ Please note that there is a strict prohibition of double funding from the EU budget (except under EU Synergies actions).

YES/NO

We confirm that to our best knowledge neither the project as a whole nor any parts of it have benefitted from any other EU grant (including EU funding managed by authorities in EU Member States or other funding bodies, e.g. EU Regional Funds, EU Agricultural Funds, etc). If NO, explain and provide details.

YES

We confirm that to our best knowledge neither the project as a whole nor any parts of it are (nor will be) submitted for any other EU grant (including EU funding managed by authorities in EU Member States or other funding bodies, e.g. EU Regional Funds, EU Agricultural Funds, etc). If NO, explain and provide details.

YES

Financial support to third parties (if applicable)

If in your project the maximum amount per third party will be more than the threshold amount set in the Call document, justify and explain why the higher amount is necessary in order to fulfil your project's objectives.

n/a

#§DEC-LAR-DL\$#

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ANNEXES

LIST OF ANNEXES

Standard

Detailed budget table/Calculator (annex 1 to Part B) — *mandatory for Lump Sum Grants (see [Portal Reference Documents](#))*

CVs (annex 2 to Part B) — *mandatory, if required in the Call document*

Annual activity reports (annex 3 to Part B) — *mandatory, if required in the Call document*

List of previous projects (annex 4 to Part B) — *mandatory, if required in the Call document*

Special

Other annexes (annex X to Part B) — *mandatory, if required in the Call document*

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LIST OF PREVIOUS PROJECTS

List of previous projects					
Please provide a list of your previous projects for the last 4 years.					
Participant	Project Reference No and Title, Funding programme	Period (start and end date)	Role (COO, BEN, AE, OTHER)	Amount (EUR)	Website (if any)
[name]					
[name]					

HISTORY OF CHANGES		
VERSION	PUBLICATION DATE	CHANGE
1.0	01.04.2021	Initial version (new MFF).
2.0	01.06.2022	Consolidation, formatting and layout changes. Tags added.
2.0	15.01.2025	Update for 2025 calls.
3.0	03.04.2026	This version of Part B was updated in the Grant Agreement Preparation phase following the recommendations received from the European Education and Culture Executive Agency (EACEA).

CERV Programme - Citizens engagement and participation strand: Town Twinning					
Estimated EU contribution					
ATTENTION: The list of events has to correspond with the list of work-packages described in part B. Please use the same order and use a line by event! You have only one WORK-PACKAGE with 1 or more EVENTS					
Project title:	su Ballu Cantau e els Gegants: voci e passi in festa				
Event Number	Country of the event	City	Number of International direct participants	Total number of direct participants (international + national)	Lump Sum (automatic)
1	Spain	Oliana	56/70	1000	EUR 16.910
2	Italy	Oliena	56/70	1000	EUR 16.910
3					EUR 0
4					EUR 0
5					EUR 0
6					EUR 0
Total Budget Amount:					EUR 33.820

Maximum EU Contribution = EUR 50.745

Estimated EU Contribution:

EUR 33.820

End of document

CERV Programme - Citizens engagement and participation strand:Town Twinning	
Number of International participants	Lum sum amount
>205	EUR 50.745
191/205	EUR 47.360
176/190	EUR 43.975
161/175	EUR 40.590
146/160	EUR 37.210
131/145	EUR 33.830
116/130	EUR 30.450
101/115	EUR 27.905
86/100	EUR 24.530
71/85	EUR 20.300
56/70	EUR 16.910
41/55	EUR 12.690
25/40	EUR 8.455

CHILD PROTECTION POLICY DECLARATION

(To be filled in and signed by the participants, assembled by the coordinator and uploaded in a single file in the Portal Submission System as part of the application.

⚠ This declaration must be filled out **ONLY** by participants that are public bodies. Participants that are private bodies must provide a **FULL COPY** of their child protection policy (CPP) covering the four areas described in the [Keeping Children Safe Child Safeguarding Standards](#).)

CHILD PROTECTION POLICY DECLARATION	
Participant:	Comune di Oliena
PIC number:	869298578
Project name and acronym:	su Ballu Cantau e els Gegants: voci e passi in festa - BCG
CHILD PROTECTION POLICY	
We hereby confirm that: 1) The child protection measures that our organisation will adopt within the framework of the above-mentioned project are in line with the guidelines Keeping children safe: the international Child Safeguarding Standards. These measures are based on the following set of principles: - All children have equal rights to protection from harm. - Everybody has a responsibility to support the protection of children. - Our organisation has a duty of care to children with whom we work, are in contact with, or who are affected by our work and operations. - All actions on child safeguarding are taken in the best interests of the child, which are paramount. 2) Moreover, our organisation will ensure in each activity of the project: - Informed consent — Child participants and their families will be made aware of the purpose of the project and its activities, so that the child participant is able to make an informed decision as to whether they will participate in it or not. Additional information (including about national referral services) will also be provided if a child participant becomes distressed in any way during their participation. - Voluntary participation — Child participants are free to withdraw their participation at any time, without any explanations or justification. - Do no harm — Harm can be both physical and/or psychological and therefore can be in the form of stress, pain, anxiety, diminishing self-esteem or an invasion of privacy. It is imperative that the activities do not in any way harm (unintended or otherwise) child participants. - Background check — Everyone who will be in direct contact with child participants under this project will have their criminal record checked. - Data protection and privacy — The project will follow the EU General Data Protection regulation (GDPR) for the acquisition, use and diffusion of participants' personal data.	Yes
Additional information (optional)	
Insert text	

SIGNATURE OF THE AUTHORISED PERSON	
Name and function:	Alessia Cucca, Assessore Bilancio, PNRR, fondi europei e Digitalizzazione. Responsabile del Progetto
Date of signature:	15-09-2025
Signature and stamp:	

HISTORY OF CHANGES		
VERSION	PUBLICATION DATE	CHANGE
1.0	15.01.2025	Initial version.

ANNEX 2

ESTIMATED BUDGET (LUMP SUM BREAKDOWN) FOR THE ACTION

Forms of funding	Estimated EU contribution	
	Estimated eligible lump sum contributions (per work package)	Maximum grant amount ¹
	WP1 Project Management, Coordination, Communication and Implementation of the Two Town Twinning Events	
	Lump sum contribution	
	a	b = a
1 - Oliena	33 820.00	33 820.00
2 - OLIANA		
Σ consortium	33 820.00	33 820.00

¹ The 'maximum grant amount' is the maximum grant amount fixed in the grant agreement (on the basis of the sum of the beneficiaries' lump sum shares for the work packages).

ANNEX 4 XXX LUMP SUM MGA — MULTI & MONO

FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR THE ACTION FOR REPORTING PERIOD [NUMBER]

	EU contribution											
	Eligible lump sum contributions (per work package)											Requested EU contribution
	WP1 [name]	WP2 [name]	WP3 [name]	WP4 [name]	WP5 [name]	WP6 [name]	WP7 [name]	WP8 [name]	WP9 [name]	WP10 [name]	WP [XX]	
	Forms of funding	[Lump sum contribution// Financing not linked to costs/	[Lump sum contribution// Financing not linked to costs/	[Lump sum contribution// Financing not linked to costs/	[Lump sum contribution// Financing not linked to costs/	[Lump sum contribution// Financing not linked to costs/	[Lump sum contribution// Financing not linked to costs/	[Lump sum contribution// Financing not linked to costs/	[Lump sum contribution// Financing not linked to costs/	[Lump sum contribution// Financing not linked to costs/	[Lump sum contribution// Financing not linked to costs/	
Status of completion	COMPLETED	COMPLETED	COMPLETED	COMPLETED	COMPLETED	COMPLETED	COMPLETED	PARTIALLY COMPLETED	PARTIALLY COMPLETED	COMPLETED	NOT COMPLETED	
	a	b	c	d	e	f	g	h	i	j	k	l = a + b+ c + d+ e+ f+ g+ h+ i+ j+ k
1 – [short name beneficiary]												
1.1 – [short name affiliated entity]												
2 – [short name beneficiary]												
2.1 – [short name affiliated entity]												
X – [short name associated partner]												
Total consortium												

The consortium hereby confirms that:

The information provided is complete, reliable and true.

The lump sum contributions declared are eligible (in particular, the work packages have been completed and the work has been properly implemented and/or the results were achieved; see Article 6).

The proper implementation of the action/achievement of the results can be substantiated by adequate records and supporting documentation that will be produced upon request or in the context of checks, reviews, audits and investigations (see Articles 19, 21 and 25).

ANNEX 5

SPECIFIC RULES

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS (IPR) — BACKGROUND AND RESULTS — ACCESS RIGHTS AND RIGHTS OF USE (— ARTICLE 16)

Rights of use of the granting authority on results for information, communication, dissemination and publicity purposes

The granting authority also has the right to exploit non-sensitive results of the action for information, communication, dissemination and publicity purposes, using any of the following modes:

- **use for its own purposes** (in particular, making them available to persons working for the granting authority or any other EU service (including institutions, bodies, offices, agencies, etc.) or EU Member State institution or body; copying or reproducing them in whole or in part, in unlimited numbers; and communication through press information services)
- **distribution to the public** in hard copies, in electronic or digital format, on the internet including social networks, as a downloadable or non-downloadable file
- **editing** or **redrafting** (including shortening, summarising, changing, correcting, cutting, inserting elements (e.g. meta-data, legends or other graphic, visual, audio or text elements extracting parts (e.g. audio or video files), dividing into parts or use in a compilation
- **translation** (including inserting subtitles/dubbing) in all official languages of EU
- **storage** in paper, electronic or other form
- **archiving** in line with applicable document-management rules
- the right to authorise **third parties** to act on its behalf or sub-license to third parties, including if there is licensed background, any of the rights or modes of exploitation set out in this provision
- **processing**, analysing, aggregating the results and **producing derivative works**
- **disseminating** the results in widely accessible databases or indexes (such as through ‘open access’ or ‘open data’ portals or similar repositories, whether free of charge or not.

The beneficiaries must ensure these rights of use for the whole duration they are protected by industrial or intellectual property rights.

If results are subject to moral rights or third party rights (including intellectual property rights or rights of natural persons on their image and voice), the beneficiaries must ensure that they

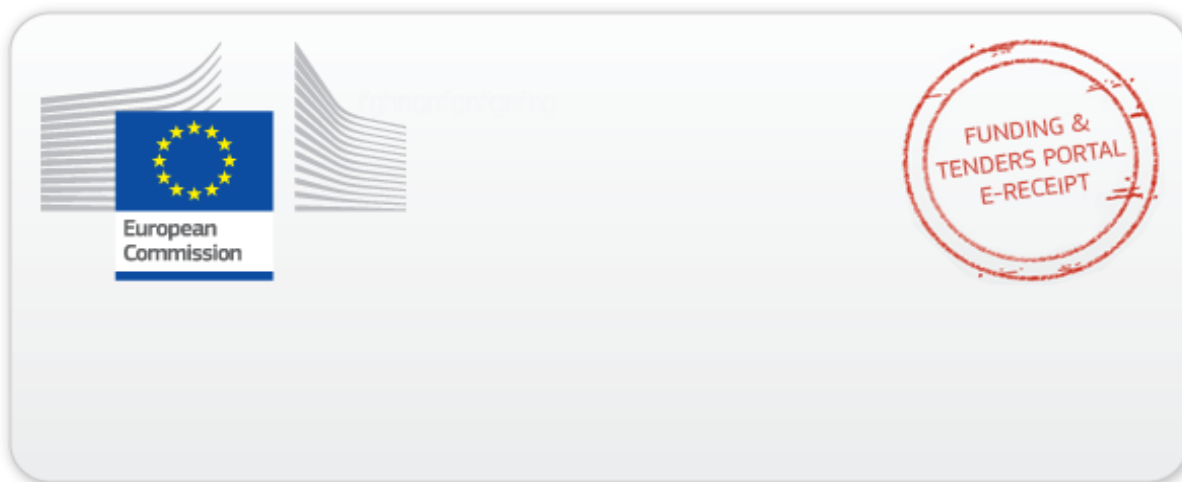
comply with their obligations under this Agreement (in particular, by obtaining the necessary licences and authorisations from the rights holders concerned).

COMMUNICATION, DISSEMINATION AND VISIBILITY (— ARTICLE 17)

Additional communication and dissemination activities

The beneficiaries must engage in the following additional communication and dissemination activities:

- present the project (including project summary, coordinator contact details, list of participants, European flag and funding statement and project results) on the beneficiaries' websites or social media accounts
- for actions involving **publications**, mention the action and the European flag and funding statement on the cover or the first pages following the editor's mention
- for actions involving public **events**, display signs and posters mentioning the action and the European flag and funding statement
- upload the public **project results** to the Rights and Values Project Results platform, available through the Funding & Tenders Portal.



This electronic receipt is a digitally signed version of the document submitted by your organisation. Both the content of the document and a set of metadata have been digitally sealed.

This digital signature mechanism, using a public-private key pair mechanism, uniquely binds this eReceipt to the modules of the Funding & Tenders Portal of the European Commission, to the transaction for which it was generated and ensures its full integrity. Therefore a complete digitally signed trail of the transaction is available both for your organisation and for the issuer of the eReceipt.

Any attempt to modify the content will lead to a break of the integrity of the electronic signature, which can be verified at any time by clicking on the eReceipt validation symbol.

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(<https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/support/faq>)