

OBJECTIVE 01

To increase accountability and visibility of CSOs toward the public including measures to improve enabling environment for civil society



NAMELESS GENDER EQUALITY PLATFORM

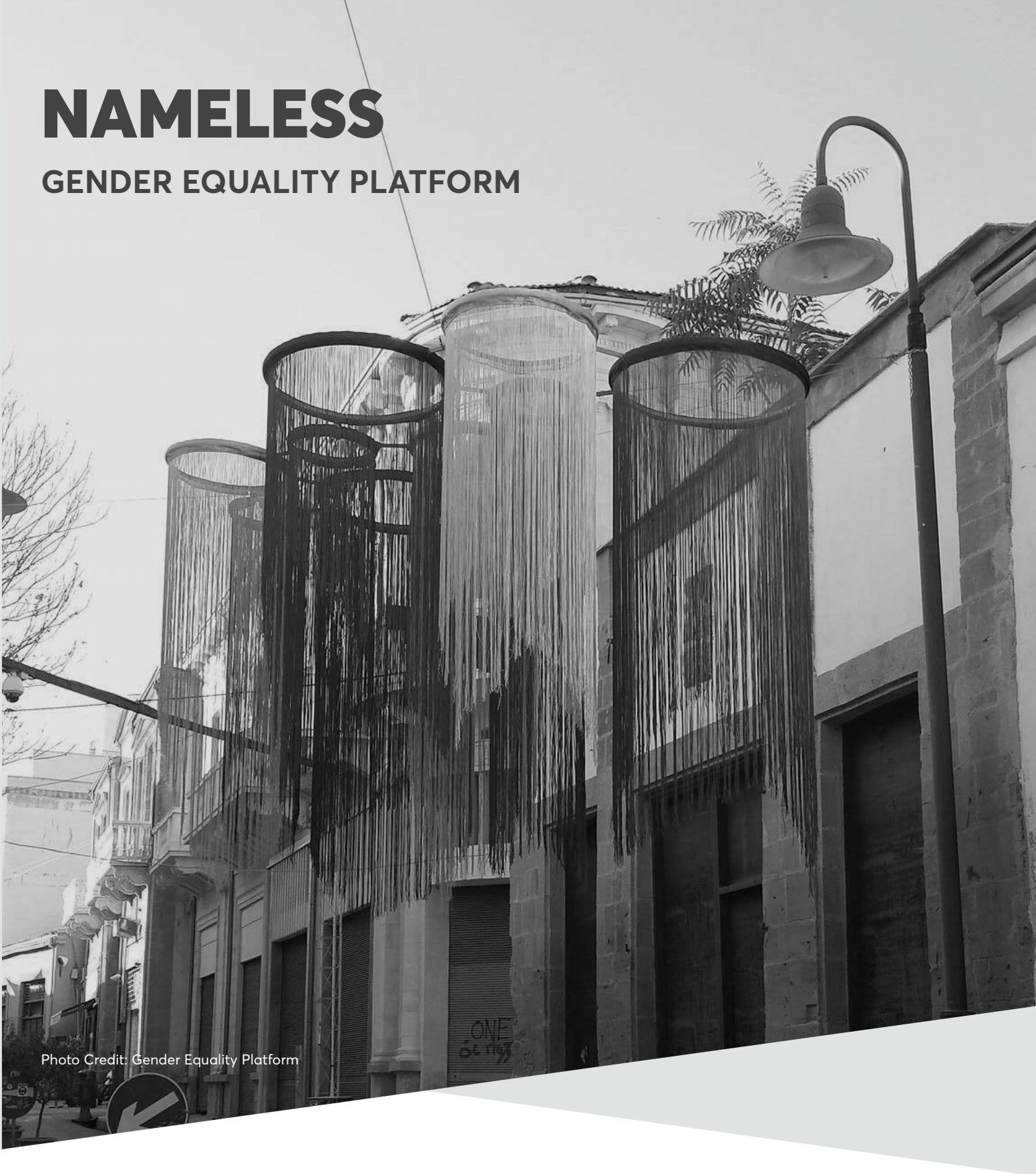


Photo Credit: Gender Equality Platform

THIS ACTION INVOLVED

Design of the artistic public space intervention work themed “unite against violence”.

Installation of the artwork in the buffer zone on 25 November 2016.

Wide dissemination of the brochure on domestic violence via print and social media.

ABOUT THE GENDER EQUALITY PLATFORM

The Gender Equality Platform was formed in 2014 by twenty-four different civil society organizations to promote gender equality in the northern part of Cyprus through a variety of means such as activism, workshops, training sessions and conferences.

STORY OF THE ACTION

The Gender Equality Platform wanted to reveal the hidden facts about gender-based violence in Cyprus through artistic expression in order to raise awareness on, and attract attention to, violence against women. On 25 November 2016, which is the International Day for the elimination of violence against women, the Gender Equality Platform wanted to give a voice to the trauma of women victims of violence in both communities and make it visible through arts. The designed art work entitled “Nameless” was placed in the “public sphere” as a symbol of cooperation and struggle, and was dedicated to women who have lost their lives or been silenced because of war, gender-based violence or patriarchy.

“Violence against women exists in people’s daily lives in a similar way as it does during conflict and war. In the middle of a divided island, artwork with the theme ‘unite against violence’ was hung for all to see.”

Hüseyin Özinal



Photo Credit: Gender Equality Platform

The Platform faced challenges while hanging the art within the buffer zone, but managed to do it eventually. On the other hand, the press conference had to be cancelled and the leaflets were not disseminated within the buffer zone, highlighting the sensitivity of the topic.

“The primary target of this artwork was the people who were crossing the green line. They took and carried the message with them. We believe that we managed to reach out to a pretty diverse audience.”

Pembe Birinci

TO FIND
MORE ABOUT
THE ACTION

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Through the social media campaign and the interest of some journalists, the action reached many people. With the support received from the Nicosia local community, the art piece was moved and placed on a different street within the Nicosia walled city in the northern part of Nicosia and more leaflets were disseminated to spread the call to “unite against violence”.



RIGHTS-BASED APPROACH

The Gender Equality Platform wanted to raise awareness on the persistent human rights violations against women through expressive art. It was solely a rights-based action from top to bottom, which created challenges with the duty bearers, due to the chosen venue for hanging the art piece. The team strove through the challenges and activated journalists and diverted the attention to the core messages, which highlighted the scope of the whole action. Then, they collaborated with the Nicosia local community and secured the spreading of the message through the art piece for a longer period.



Photo Credit: Gender Equality Platform

WHAT'S NEXT?

The Platform is continuing its vigorous efforts to raise awareness on gender equality through various actions.



This Project
is funded
by the
European Union.

