



CEV SOLIDARITY FUND 2026

INFO DAY - FUND TYPE I: PROJECT-BASED APPLICATIONS

Supporting Volleyball as a Platform for
Inclusion, Innovation & Sustainable Growth

Application Deadline: **31 March 2026**

Projects launching from July 2026



CEV SOLIDARITY FUND 2026

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Part 1: About CEV Solidarity Fund



WHAT IS CEV SOLIDARITY FUND

An initiative supporting National Federations, clubs, and individuals across CEV's 56 member federations. The fund focuses on inclusion, digital transformation, sustainability, and grassroots development.



We want Volleyball to be the most engaging, responsible and inspiring sport enjoyed by all generations across Europe.

We want to lead, promote and develop Volleyball together with our member federations and stakeholders, by ensuring it is done in fair, transparent and sustainable way.



Volleyball Community

- Improve Top Events
- Enhance competition system
- Secure sport pathway
- Enlarge the grassroots community



Popularize Volleyball

- Improve media presence
- Create awareness among general public
- Increase reputation for public authorities



Fan Engagement

- Develop loyalty
- Bring the game closer
- Improve fans' experience
- Expand CEV's global footprint
- Leverage technology



Financial Growth

- Focused brand growth
- Diversify revenue streams
- Monetize products
- Sustainable investment



Governance

- Regulatory improvements
- Women representation
- Transparency at core
- Stakeholders involvement
- Transfer of knowledge

TOGETHERNESS

RESPONSIBILITY

EXCELLENCE

INCLUSIVENESS

INTEGRITY



WHAT IS FUND TYPE I?

➔ Who are we empowering?

- CEV-affiliated National Federations
- Regional Federations
- Volleyball Clubs
- Individuals

➔ Important Notice

- No endorsement letter from the National Federation is required
- Each applicant may submit only one application per call



STRATEGIC FOCUS AREAS



Strengthen
grassroots
volleyball



Support
innovative &
impactful
projects



Promote
inclusion &
equality & safe
sport



Encourage
digital
transformation



Foster
environmentally
sustainable
practices



FUNDING CATEGORIES & PROJECT DURATION



1

1-YEAR PROJECT : PILOT / LOCAL

- Duration: 12 months
- Grant: Up to €20,000
- Suitable for pilot or small-scale initiatives



2

2-YEAR PROJECT : DEVELOPMENT

- Duration: 24 months
- Grant: Up to €40,000
- Structured projects with broader reach



3

3-YEAR PROJECT : STRATEGIC/SCALABLE

- Duration: 36 months
- Grant: Up to €80,000
- High-impact projects with strong scalability and long-term legacy

- Funding for multi-year projects may be approved on an annual instalment basis, subject to satisfactory reporting and progress.



APPLICATION FORM, TEMPLATES & EVALUATION: THE CONNECTION

Your score depends on how well these three elements align:

01

Application Form

(Project description, objectives, risks, community impact)

02

Templates

(Timeline, team, budget, KPIs)

03

Evaluation Criteria

(100-point scoring grid)



DECISION-MAKING BODIES

The evaluation process follows a structured, multi-step procedure:

CEV OFFICE COMMITTEE

Composition: 2-3 CEV office staff members.

Roles:

- Receive applications
- Evaluate and make recommendations to the Decision-Making Panel
- Monitor ongoing projects and provide feedback
- Provide administrative support

DECISION MAKING PANEL

Composition: CEV President, 3 Board Members, 1 CEV Office Committee member

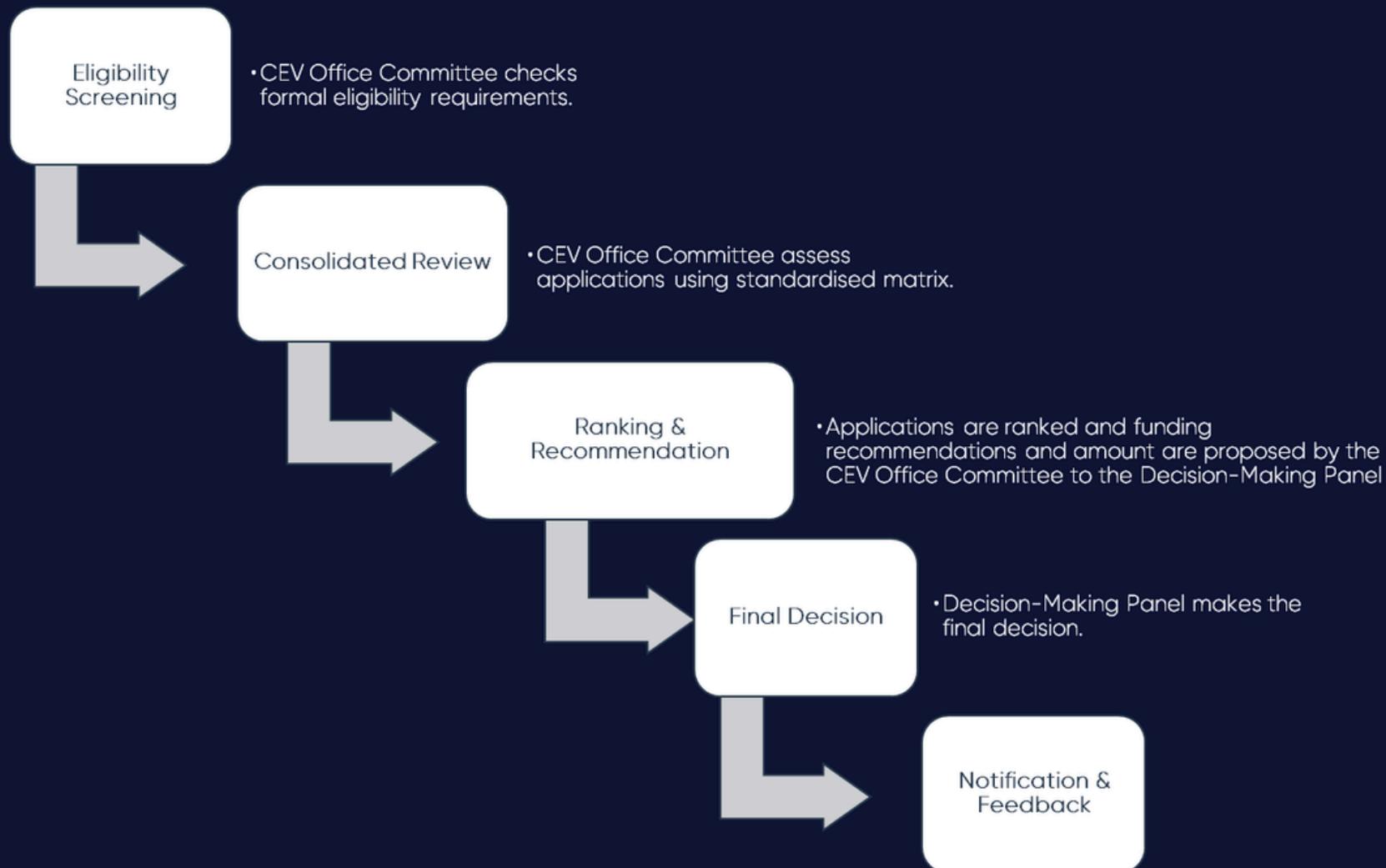
Roles:

- Review the recommendations submitted by the CEV Office Committee
- Make final decisions on the recipients and the amount of funding
- Determine whether to renew funding for the following year (if applicable)

EVALUATION & DECISION-MAKING PROCEDURE



The evaluation process follows a structured, multi-step procedure:





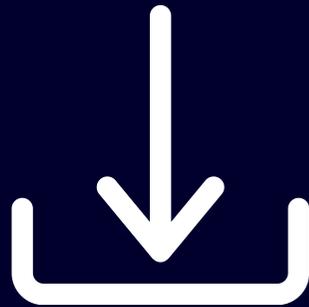
HOW TO APPLY

Applications must be submitted through the dedicated application form

Before completing the form, applicants are strongly advised to:



Read the Guidelines



Download & complete the 4 mandatory templates



Complete the application form and ensure internal consistency across all documents

Preparation Guide :



- Incomplete or late applications will not be considered.
- All applicants will receive a copy of the application, which functions as an automatic acknowledgment of receipt.



APPLICATION TIMELINE



Please note:

Multi-year projects may be approved on an annual instalment basis, subject to satisfactory progress and reporting.



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Part 2: Evaluation Criteria Overview

EVALUATION CRITERIA OVERVIEW



Projects are assessed across four criteria:

Quality of Project Design & Feasibility (30 pt.)

Clarity, realism, planning, risk management, sustainability

Strategic Fit & Volleyball Focus (25 pt.)

Alignment with CEV priorities and volleyball centrality

Transparency & Monitoring (25pt.)

Financial logic, KPIs, reporting capacity.

Community Engagement & Impact (20pt.)

Inclusion, safe sport, measurable impact and legacy.

Total: 100 points

- ✓ **Score at least 70/100 points overall**
- ✓ **Obtain at least 50% of the points in each individual criterion**
- ✓ **Only the completed applications will be considered**

CRITERION 1

QUALITY OF PROJECT DESIGN & FEASIBILITY (30 POINTS)



Is your project:

- *Clearly defined*
- *Realistic in scope*
- *Logically structured*
- *Deliverable by your team*
- *Sustainable beyond CEV funding*

Application Form:

- Project Description
- Objectives (2–4 clear objectives)
- Other related projects
 - Risk Management
- Sustainability & Legacy

From the Templates:

Timeline & Milestones
Implementation Team

Questions:

- ✓ Do objectives match activities?
- ✓ Does the timeline reflect the scale of ambition?
- ✓ Is the team capable of delivering the project?
- ✓ Are risks concrete and realistic?
- ✓ Is sustainability credible?

CRITERION 2

STRATEGIC FIT & VOLLEYBALL FOCUS (25 POINTS)



This criterion evaluates:

- *Alignment with CEV Strategic Focus Areas*
- *Volleyball as the central platform*
- *Integration of gender equality*
- *Relevance to the selected funding category*

Application Form:

- Target Groups
- Selected Strategic Focus Area(s)
- Strategic Fit Explanation

Templates:

Timeline – Do activities reflect the chosen focus?
KPIs – Do indicators measure the selected priorities?

Questions:

- ✓ Does the project address the focus area?
- ✓ Is gender equality embedded across interventions?
- ✓ Is volleyball central throughout the design?

CRITERION 3

TRANSPARENCY & MONITORING (25 POINTS)



This criterion evaluates:

- *Financial clarity and proportionality*
- *Budget coherence with project activities*
- *Defined monitoring mechanisms*
- *Measurable Key Performance Indicators (KPIs)*
- *Capacity to report and ensure accountability*

Application Form:

- Declaration of other funding sources
- Co-funding and partner contributions
- Confirmation of template submission

Templates:

- Budget Plan & Cost Justification
- Monitoring & KPIs

Questions:

- ✓ Does the budget reflect the activities described in the timeline?
 - ✓ Is the budget realistic?
 - ✓ Is the requested amount proportional to the selected funding category?
- ✓ Are there auditable accounts and visible spending decisions?
- ✓ Are KPIs measurable and aligned with project objectives?

CRITERION 4

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT & IMPACT (20 POINTS)



This criterion evaluates:

- Clear identification of relevant stakeholders and beneficiaries*
- Inclusive language and accessible structures*
- Credible pathway to long-term change and impact*

Application Form:

- Community Engagement
- Estimated number of beneficiaries (community impact)

From the Templates:

- KPIs measuring (participation, inclusion and impact)

Evaluators check:

- ✓ Are partners (if applicable) & stakeholders clearly identified?
- ✓ Is the estimated impact realistic for the project scale?
- ✓ Is long-term continuation credible?
- ✓ Are inclusion and safe sport measures visible in the design?



FROM EVALUATION CRITERIA TO TEMPLATES

Your project will be assessed by cross-checking:

- ◆ What you describe in the Application Form
- ◆ What you structure in the Templates
- ◆ How both align with the Evaluation Criteria

The Templates are not administrative attachments.
They are core evaluation tools.

Failure to upload the completed Templates file will result in ineligibility.



THE 4 MANDATORY TEMPLATES

All applicants must complete and upload the CEV Solidarity Fund Templates file.

- 1. Project Timeline & Key Milestones**
- 2. Implementation Team**
- 3. Budget Plan & Cost Justification**
- 4. Monitoring & KPIs**

These sheets are core evaluation tools.

Failure to upload a fully completed Templates file will result in ineligibility.





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Part 3: Frequently Asked Questions

ELIGIBILITY & WHO CAN APPLY



Projects must take place within the geographical area of the 56 CEV member National Federations. Initiatives involving entities outside this scope will not be given the priority.

Only one application per applicant is permitted. There is no predefined quota per country.

The project lead and implementation team will be subject to a thorough review. In cases of an overlap, we will assess the situation carefully to determine its validity and relevance.

ELIGIBILITY & WHO CAN APPLY



Applications may be submitted for an existing project. However, applicants must clearly demonstrate how the support from the CEV Solidarity Fund will create tangible added value and lead to measurable impact within the proposed scope. Please also note that ensuring appropriate visibility of the CEV Solidarity Fund will be a mandatory legal requirement.

The project does not necessarily need to be implemented through the official organisational structures. The purpose of this call is to encourage innovative ideas that can develop and thrive beyond traditional bureaucratic frameworks as well.

APPLICATION FORM AND REQUIRED DOCUMENTS



No endorsement letters are required.

BUDGET AND ELIGIBLE COSTS



At this stage, it is not possible to determine the exact number of projects that will be funded. It will depend on the overall volume of applications received and the level of funding requested by each project.

The project is funded on a lump-sum basis. Specific budget lines may be adjusted after the grant is awarded. However, beneficiaries must clearly demonstrate that the activities and outcomes outlined in the application have been fully delivered as committed.

SELECTION CRITERIA & EVALUATION



Regional cooperation is welcomed; however, it will not be automatically regarded as added value. The key consideration remains the clarity of the KPIs and the project's ability to deliver meaningful and measurable impact.

Sustainability: Public accessibility of the project materials will be essential. In addition, projects that present a clear strategy for securing complementary funding sources, partnerships, or other financial mechanisms to ensure continuation beyond the funding period will be viewed positively.

SELECTION CRITERIA & EVALUATION



There is no fixed rule on whether a project should be 1, 2, or 3 years.

If your project is scalable and designed for long-term development, you may apply for the 3-year category. If you are unsure about its long-term impact, you can apply for a shorter funding period and further develop or expand it in future calls.

If a project is assessed positively but considered more suitable for a shorter funding period, CEV may revert with such a recommendation. However, this cannot be guaranteed.



OTHERS

Clarification on equality in interventions: This does not imply that every project must focus equally on both genders. Rather, it refers to the use of inclusive language, inclusive structures, and an overall contribution to a more equitable and respectful culture within the volleyball ecosystem.

There is no predefined preference for:

- Grassroots vs. elite initiatives
- Youth vs. adult participation
- Local vs. larger-scale projects