



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.



BRINGING CEV'S STRATEGY TO LIFE



The CEV Solidarity Fund complements CEV's Strategic Plan by providing targeted funding to bring the priorities to life across our member federations.

WHY CEV SOLIDARITY FUND?

The CEV Solidarity Fund supports the long-term growth of Volleyball by turning CEV's strategic vision into concrete actions across Europe.

To help Volleyball grow by:

- **Empowering the Volleyball Community**
: Supporting education and development for children, players, coaches, employees, and clubs.
- **Creating Opportunities**
: Enabling more events and activities at all levels to strengthen engagement and visibility.
- **Driving Transformation**
: Funding projects that make Volleyball more inclusive, digital, and sustainable in line with CEV's Strategic Plan.



FUND ALLOCATION

56

MEMBER FEDERATIONS

All affiliated organisations without debts are eligible to apply.

2

FUND TYPES

Project-based applications and CEV-led initiatives

31.01.2026

APPLICATION DEADLINE

Application deadline to be January 2026, with projects launching shortly after.



FUND TYPES



TYPE 1: Project-Based Applications

- Eligibility: NFs, clubs, and individuals with NF's endorsement
- Project designed by the applicants and CEV to evaluate and make final decisions on support period and amount.
- Periodic evaluation required.



- Eligibility: Depends on open application (individuals, clubs, NFs)
- Project designed by CEV.
- Examples: Material support, Athletes' Dual Career, Educational opportunities, Female coaches empowerment, etc.

TYPE 2: CEV-LED INITIATIVES

The background image shows a man with grey hair and glasses, wearing a dark blue polo shirt, standing and speaking to a group of people seated in blue stadium seats. The people are mostly men and women, some wearing white shirts. The man is gesturing with his hands as he speaks. The scene is set in a large indoor arena.

FUND TYPE I. Project-Based Applications

PROJECT DURATION, MONITORING, EVALUATION

1

DURATION

1 year, renewable upon evaluation. Maximum duration is 3 years.

2

MONITORING

Self-assessment based on adapted criteria, conducted bi-annually.

3

EVALUATION

CEV actively involved. Bi-annual in first year, annual thereafter.





STRATEGIC FOCUS AREAS

The CEV Solidarity Fund supports the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) 3, 4, 5, 9, 10, and 13, and is in line with the European Union’s strategic priorities for 2024-2029.

Key focus areas include:



GRASSROOTS DEVELOPMENT & MASS PARTICIPATION

Fostering the growth of Volleyball at grassroots level by promoting participation among a wider population, increasing the sport’s visibility, and encouraging a healthy, active lifestyle.



DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION

Embracing technology to advance the sport.



INCLUSION & DIVERSITY

Promoting equal access, opportunities and representation in Volleyball.



ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

Supporting eco-friendly Volleyball initiatives.

PROJECT ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

1 QUALITY OF PROJECT DESIGN & FEASIBILITY

- Clear and realistic objectives, budget, timeline
- Technical & operational capacity

2 STRATEGIC FIT & VOLLEYBALL FOCUS

- Alignment with CEV core values
- Volleyball as the core activity



3 TRANSPARENCY & MONITORING

- Transparent financial plans
- Measurable outcomes & monitoring plan
- Potential for co-funding

4 COMMUNITY & IMPACT

- Community engagement and impact
- Safe sport and inclusion policies
- Lasting benefits beyond the funding period

EVALUATION FRAMEWORK

- Minimum score for consideration: 70/100 points.
- A minimum half the points must be obtained in every criterion.
- Projects will be evaluated in 5 key criteria, each weighted by its importance and complexity:

CRITERIA	DESCRIPTION	WEIGHT
QUALITY OF PROJECT DESIGN & FEASIBILITY	• Clear goals, timeline, and budget • Team technical & operational capacity to deliver the project • Risk assessment and sustainability • Leveraging a digital platform or system to effectively oversee and manage the project	30 points
STRATEGIC FIT & VOLLEYBALL FOCUS	• Alignment with CEV priorities and values • Volleyball as the central activity	25 points
TRANSPARENCY & MONITORING	• Team's ability to track, report and evaluate progress and compliance • Auditable accounts and visible spending decisions • Measurement of the project impact and monitoring responsibilities • Clear KPIs	25 points
COMMUNITY & IMPACT	• Community engagement and impact • Safe sport and inclusion policies • Potential to create lasting benefits beyond the funding period, helping to build a lasting legacy	20 points



PROJECT ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA: CHECKLIST

1 QUALITY OF PROJECT DESIGN & FEASIBILITY

- Has the project established budget plan (1-3 years) for funding needs?
- Is the implementation plan realistic (timeline, objectives, resources and team capacity)?
- What risks are associated with the project, and what strategies are in place to mitigate those risks?
- Does the project use innovative digital platforms or technologies to improve delivery, reach, or impact?

2 STRATEGIC FIT & VOLLEYBALL FOCUS

- Do the vision, mission, and goals of the project align with CEV's core values?
- Is Volleyball the main activity of the project, used as the main platform through which broader goals are pursued (e.g. promoting healthy lifestyle, education, inclusion)?



PROJECT ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA: CHECKLIST

3

TRANSPARENCY & MONITORING

- Are there auditable accounts and visible spending decisions?
- Is there a sustainability plan in place to ensure that the benefits of the project continue after the support ends (project legacy)?

4

COMMUNITY & IMPACT

- What will be the impact on the community, and how will it be measured?
- Is the project inclusive?
- Are there policies against discrimination, mistreatment, and harassment within the project?



TIMELINE- DECISION MAKING PROCESS



2026



Jan

Feb

Mar

Apr



~ 31.01.2026

Application Deadline

Application deadline for Type 1 projects

~ 15.03.2026

Evaluation & Decision-Making Process

CEV Office Committee reviews all submissions and recommends finalists to the Decision-Making Panel
Decision-Making Panel selects the final recipients

~ 31.03.2026

Administrative Finalisation

01.04.2026 ~

Project Implementation



FUND TYPE II.
CEV-LED INITIATIVES

WHAT IS CEV-LEAD INITIATIVE?

Through CEV-Lead initiatives, CEV will support aspiring individuals who are endorsed by their respective National Federations, in areas that align with CEV's strategic priorities. This may include initiatives such as, but not limited to:

- Support for grassroots and grassroots coaches;
- Material Support;
- Guidance for athletes exploring dual-career pathways;
- Educational opportunities for National Federation staff.

The CEV-Lead Initiatives may be announced at any point during the year and will be communicated to National Federations via the CEV website, emails, and social media channels. These initiatives are designed to empower key individuals who play a vital role in the sustainable development of Volleyball across Europe.



EXAMPLE 1: FEMALE COACHES EMPOWERMENT



12 BENEFICIARIES

Two female coaches (at all levels) from each zonal association form a cohort for one year.



DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES

CEV Coaches Convention participation, networking events, and mentorship from high-level coaches.



PROGRAMME OUTLINE

Covers conventions, networking, mentorship, and contingency.



EXAMPLE 2: ATHLETE CAREER TRANSITION SUPPORT

ELIGIBILITY

- Volleyball athletes with a demonstrated record of participation in CEV competitions
- Preparing for second career
- Good English proficiency

PROGRAMME OUTLINE

- CEV Volleyball Management Program
- Networking opportunities
- CEV Event participation
- eLearning annual subscription

PROGRAMME BENEFITS

- CEV Volleyball Management Program
- Networking & promotional opportunities: regular interactions & participation in 1 conference/networking event
- Support for eLearning Courses (e.g. Coursera Plus or equivalent) annual subscription
- Invitation to 1 CEV top events

PROJECT DURATION, MONITORING, EVALUATION

1

APPLICATION

Individual application: CV, motivation letter, activity plan, National Federation endorsement letter, interview

2

DURATION

Dependent on the duration of the initiative, defined by CEV

3

MONITORING

Self-assessment and activity report

4

EVALUATION

Quality of the activity report, participation in bi-monthly meetings



TIMELINE- DECISION MAKING PROCESS



2026



Jan

Feb

Mar

Apr

May

Jun

Jul

Aug

Sep



~ 31.07.2026

Announcement & Application Deadline

Announcement and the application deadline for Type 2 projects

~ 31.08.2026

Evaluation & Decision-Making Process

CEV Office Committee reviews all submissions and recommends finalists to the Decision-Making Panel
Decision-Making Panel selects the final recipients

01.09.2026 ~

Project Initiation

**EVALUATION PROCESS &
PLATFORM**

DECISION-MAKING BODIES

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

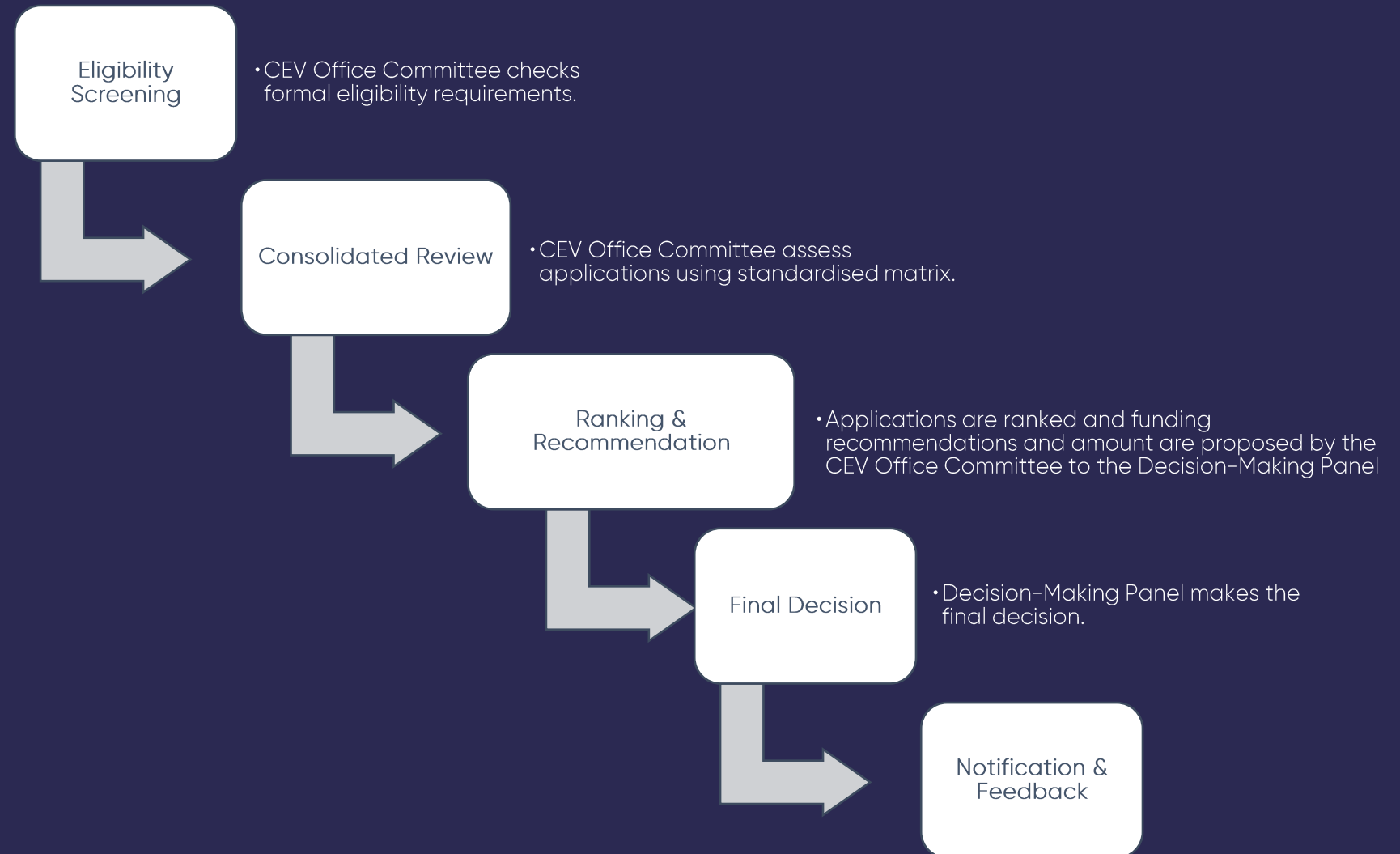
Composition: CEV President, 3 Board Members, 1 CEV Office Committee member

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 PROCESS



MORE INFORMATION...

Relevant documents, the application form, and updates will be communicated through the CEV Development webpage.

A webinar for the prospective applicants will be also organised in December (exact date to be confirmed)