

The CEB Award for social cohesion

Principles and guidelines

Article 1: The Award

1.1 The CEB Award for social cohesion is awarded every year, starting in 2020, in order to acknowledge and reward remarkable contributions to social cohesion.

1.2 The Award is bestowed to a project¹ at an early stage of implementation / an advanced project idea which addresses pressing social issues and makes a significant contribution to social cohesion in an innovative and effective way.

1.3 The Award consists of a sum of €25,000 (twenty-five thousand euros) in prize money and a trophy commending the award winner's contribution. The prize money must be used solely for the implementation or expansion of the winning project.

Article 2: Eligibility

2.1 Individuals who are at least 18 years old or organisations from CEB member countries² are eligible for nomination. The beneficiaries and impact of the initiative or project must also be in a CEB member country.

2.2 All initiatives or projects which have received / are currently receiving funding in the form of a loan or grant from the CEB are not eligible to be nominated for the Award.

2.3 Preference may be given to individuals, micro-enterprises and organisations with no more than 50 employees.

Article 3: Nominations

3.1 A call for nominations is published on the CEB website along with the nomination process in January each year.

3.2 Several nominations may be submitted by any one individual or organisation in any given year.

¹ Project is defined herein as an individual or collective undertaking with clear objective, expected results and implementation plan.

² Albania, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Holy See, Finland, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Kosovo, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Republic of Moldova, Malta, Montenegro, Netherlands, North Macedonia, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, San Marino, Serbia, Slovak Republic, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey.

3.3 Nominations must provide details of the nominee's actions that contribute to social cohesion and the reasons that the nominee's actions are considered outstanding. Supporting documents demonstrating the above may be required.

3.4 Nominations can be submitted in either of the two official languages of the Council of Europe Development Bank: English or French.

Article 4: Preselection Panel

4.1 A Preselection Panel comprising three CEB members of staff with a recognised expertise in various aspects of social development examines all the nominations received and submits a shortlist of eligible nominees to the Jury.

4.2 The members of the Preselection Panel are appointed by the Governor.

Article 5: Jury

5.1 The Jury consists of five members.

5.2 The members of the Jury are as follows:

a) the Council of Europe Director General for Democracy, who will also act as the President of the Jury;

b) the Chairperson of the CEB Governing Board;

c) an established academic renowned for his/her work in the field of social development, social entrepreneurship or a similar field and/or affiliated to a reputable academic institution with a particular strength in the above or related areas;

d) a senior representative or official of a partner institution relating to the CEB and its social mission;

e) a practitioner in social development who has excelled in this field and has a proven track record, such as an NGO representative, a social entrepreneur, etc.

5.3 The [up to three-year] appointments under c, d and e above are made by the Governor following a proposal by the Preselection Panel.

Article 6: Selection Procedure

6.1 The nominations received are submitted to the Preselection Panel.

6.2 The Preselection Panel checks all nominations received against the eligibility criteria (see Article 2).

6.3 For each of the nominees meeting all eligibility criteria, each member of the Preselection Panel awards a score in the following three categories, on the basis of a pre-established selection grid:

- a) impact
- b) sustainability
- c) innovation and replicability

6.4 The Preselection Panel draws up a shortlist of the nominees with the highest total score and asks them to submit additional information and supporting documents.

6.5 The CEB Office of the Chief Compliance Officer (OCCO) conducts due diligence checks on the shortlisted nominees. Shortlisted nominations which satisfy due diligence requirements are then submitted to the Jury.

Article 7: Decision on the Award Winner

7.1 Jury members convene in Paris in May each year to reach a decision on the winner. Travel expenses and accommodation for this meeting will be covered by the CEB.

7.2 All the nominees shortlisted by the Preselection Panel are re-assessed by the Jury.

7.3 The Jury chooses, preferably by consensus, the nominee who will be named the award winner.

7.4 The award winner will be notified by the President of the Jury, who will also announce the winning nominee at the ceremony.

Article 8: Award Ceremony

8.1 The Award is bestowed at an official ceremony in the country hosting the annual CEB Joint Meeting in the summer of each year.

8.2 The CEB is responsible for the organisation of the ceremony as well as the public promotion of the Award and its winner throughout the process.

8.3 The Award is bestowed by the CEB Governor and the President of the Jury.