

- Association founded 1889
- Affiliated to FIFA in 1904



Flag



Association emblem



World map



## Football in the Netherlands

The success story of the Netherlands football association, KNVB, one of the founder members of FIFA, is something to be proud of. The Dutch have taken part in seven European Championships, winning the title once, in 1988. Equally famous are the epic battles against Germany and Argentina in the 1974 and 1978 World Cup finals, ending in defeats that still smart, but not without enriching European football history with thrilling new chapters. When professional football was introduced in 1954, it led to a split in the league. The Netherlands consequently devised a unique qualifying system that served financial rather than sporting purposes. A club can only be relegated from the 1<sup>st</sup> division if it withdraws, for instance for financial reasons, to the amateur leagues. The Netherlands have also played a pioneering role in other branches of football. Futsal has been played there since 1969 and a powerful women's football section has existed since 1971. Among the countless players who are too numerous to mention here, several of them with roots from the Caribbean region have done the Dutch overseas territories proud with their footballing careers.

## Goal Project

The first project that the Netherlands submitted to the *Goal* Bureau on 4 February 2008 was in favour of the CONCACAF association of Suriname that has already benefited from two *Goal* projects. It is the kind of development aid that a top association such as the Dutch association can offer smaller members. The plans comprise a national centre for youth football to be built in Essed la Fuente. The complex will provide training and match opportunities for youths, women, schools and disabled athletes. Construction is due to be completed by the end of 2009.



### Project

National football centre in Essed la Fuente (Suriname)

### Project approved

4 February 2008

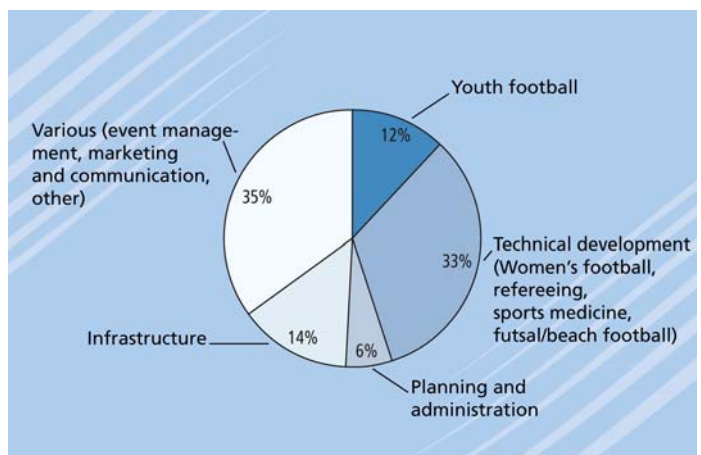
### Status

Implementation

### Financed by

<b>Goal</b>	USD	400,000
<b>Total cost</b>	USD	400,000

## Use of FAP funds



**Football education and courses**

	No of courses until 1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
<b>FUTURO III regional courses</b>																					
Refereeing (men and women)																					
Coaching (men)						●															
Coaching (women)																					
Administration and management																					
Football medicine																					
<b>Seminars</b>																					
Women's football																					
Futsal																					
Com-Unity																					
MA Seminars																					
<b>MA courses</b>																					
Administration																					
Refereeing (men and women)																					
Coaching (men and women)																					
Beach soccer																					
Futsal																					
Olympic solidarity coaching courses																					
<b>Development courses and academies (1975 - 1990)</b>	1																				
<b>FUTURO I-II courses for all football branches</b>																					

●: Course host country    □: Course participant in another country

**Women's football**

When, in 1995, today's FIFA President said "The future of football is feminine", it was more than mere lip service. It reflected a strong belief in the huge potential that women's football has to develop. Ever since, FIFA has given targeted support for the efforts of associations who offer women the same opportunities to develop as male players. Launched in 1998, FIFA's Financial Assistance Programme (FAP) introduced a requirement in 2004 for the associations and confederations to invest at least 4% of their FAP funding into women's football. This threshold was increased to 10% in 2005. On top of this commitment, FIFA also promotes the women's game in more general ways by directly financing women's matches and organising competitions and symposiums. Thanks to its development programmes, FIFA is also playing an active role in the training of administrators, coaches, referees and sports doctors.



Does an organised women's football set-up exist?	yes
If so, since when?	1971
From which age on, players are registered?	10
Women's teams (open or over 16 years)	1,898
Women's teams (below 16 years, youth)	2,500
National competition (or women's league)	yes
Regional competitions	yes
University competitions	yes
School competitions	yes
Futsal competitions	yes
National "A" team	yes
National youth teams: age categories	U-15, U-17, U-19



The women's national team of the Netherlands