The FIFA Grassroots Program can be developed in every environment (schools, communities and clubs), for children (boys and girls) between 6 and 12 years old.
GRASSROOTS PHILOSOPHY

The Game is the Best Teacher

- Everyone has the opportunity to play
- Football can be played anywhere
- There is no discrimination
- The game must be simple, exciting and rewarding
- Small sided games
- Fair play must be respected
WHO IS INVOLVED?

The FIFA Grassroots Programme, which is implemented in close cooperation with the member associations, involves everybody concerned with children’s education in the participating countries (governments, NGOs, communities, schools, etc.)
CRITERIA FOR PARTICIPATION

- Stable Member Association
- Demonstrate preparation/commitment
- Good relationship with government and other stakeholders
- Notify interest to FIFA (application form with any relevant information)
- Have a long term plan (sustainable)
PROJECT COMPONENTS – FIFA ASSISTANCE

- MAs COURSES - FESTIVALS
- SEMINARS
- TEACHING MATERIAL
- SPORT EQUIPMENT
- FINANCE
- AGREEMENT
MA COURSES – FESTIVALS - SEMINARS

- MA courses and festivals:
  - National level
  - Tailor made programs
  - Flexibility, adaptation to specific situations
  - Educate coach-educators

- Seminars:
  - Regional basis
  - Educate instructors, inform MAs
KEY TOPICS – GRASSROOTS COURSE

- Grassroots Philosophy
- Grassroots teaching manual
- Organisation of festivals/tournaments
- Small sided games
- The coach educator
- Characteristics of the children
- Relations with the government
- Practical sessions
KEY TOPICS – GRASSROOTS FESTIVALS

- The number of teams/players will determine:
  - Size of the festival
  - Number of pitches, ist organisation and number of stations
    (technical exercises and small sided games)

- Good organisation
  - Material
  - Schedule
  - Rotations
  - Preparation
  - Drink/food/first aid
SMALL SIDED GAMES

- Players touch the ball five times more in 4 v 4 and 50% more in 7 v 7.
- Players attempted three times more 1 versus 1 in 4 v 4 and two times more in 7 v 7.
- Goals were scored an average of every 2 minutes in 4 v 4 and 4 minutes in 7 v 7.
- There were between two and four times more technical skills performed by goalkeepers in 7 v 7 than 11 v 11.
- The ball is out of play 8% of the game in 4 v 4, 14% in 7 v 7 and 34% in 11 v 11.
- Grassroots manual
- Grassroots CD
- Grassroots brochure
- E-learning (online interactive tool)
- Launch of Grassroots logo in 2010
- Balls (size 4)
- Bibs (5 colours and all sizes)
- Markers
- Cones (small - big)
- Mini-goals
- Ball nets
- T-Shirts
A detailed budget must be provided in due time, in order to support:

- Organisation of the course
- Organisation of the festival
- Grassroots long-term plan
AGREEMENT – MEORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

- Agreement to be signed between FIFA and the Member Association, after a course/seminar.
- Commitment of the Member Association to develop grassroots.
- Commitment of FIFA to support the MA.
- Involvement of government and any other stakeholders.
POSITIVE VALUES OF GRASSROOTS FOOTBALL

- Have fun through a healthy activity
- Fair Play
- Team spirit
- Learn to lose/win
- Physical and mental development
- Increase football practice all over the country
Grassroots football can be played everywhere, by everyone, involving everybody.