

- Association founded 1948
- Affiliated to FIFA in 1950



Flag



Association emblem



World map



Football in Iraq

Iraqi football has a long history and the game itself is extremely popular. The national team has qualified for many continental championships, and even reached the Final of the Asian Games football tournament. Iraq have also twice sent a representative XI to compete in the final competitions of the FIFA World Youth Championship (1977 Tunisia; 1989 Saudi Arabia). In 2002, Iraq won the West Asian Championship, although the country was firmly in the grip of political turmoil. This triumph remains Iraqi football's greatest day to date. Countless Iraqi players have earned moves abroad, primarily to clubs in the Middle East. The current President of the association, Hussain Saeed, was also one of the best players to have emerged from Iraq. However, the wars of the last 15 years have unfortunately set the country back and reconstruction work will not be completed overnight. Having said that, football in Iraq has never died. People always tried, whenever possible, to play matches in the domestic and regional league championships. Against all odds the national teams sensational run in the Asian Cup reaching the quarter finals in China in July 2004 and the Olympic Games in Athens in August 2004 where they reached the medal round and took the fourth place! People back home heralded such success stories as the first shots of recovery of Iraq football.

The first Goal Project

On 1 May 2003 the Goal Bureau added Iraq to its list of beneficiary countries. Following inspection visits in June and August 2003 priority was given to the construction of a new association headquarters and, in a second phase, a training centre. The project proposal for the new headquarters was approved by the Goal Bureau at a meeting in October 2003. Owing to the ravages of war and the sharp rise in costs across the country, it became necessary to increase the previous budget, which the Goal Bureau endorsed on 7 November 2005. The new centre of Iraqi football will be built on land made available by the government in a part of Baghdad that has been reserved for sport. The costs of building the association headquarters will be met from the Goal project and FIFA's Financial Assistance Programme, while the technical centre will be funded by the Iraqi government.



Financing of Goal project

Project

Association headquarters in Baghdad

Project approved

15 October 2003

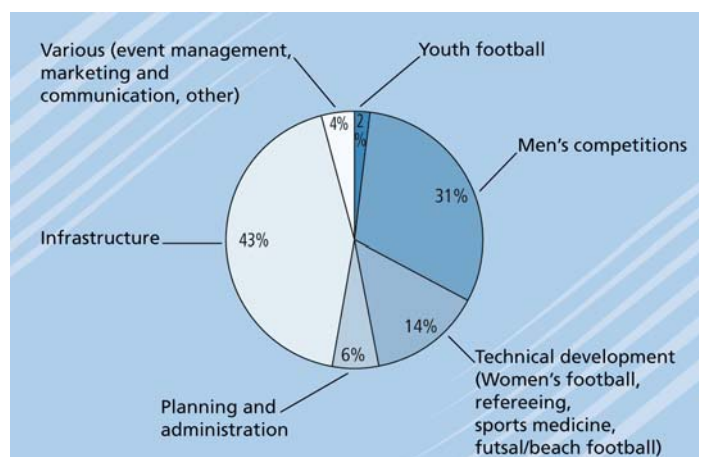
Status

Implementation

Financed by

Goal	USD	400,000
	USD	300,000
FAP	USD	326,750
Total cost	USD	1,026,750

Use of FAP funds



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Second and third Goal projects

The ongoing lack of security in the capital, Baghdad, is holding up the completion and opening of the headquarters and technical centre built under project 1. A new project in the more secure north of the country will provide a technical centre in Arbil with seminar rooms and offices as well as accommodation for national team players using the centre as a training camp. The plan approved by the Goal Bureau on 22 October 2008 has been divided into two phases. The second phase will consist of the laying of an artificial turf pitch.

Project

Technical centre in Arbil (northern Iraq)

Project approved on

22 October 2008

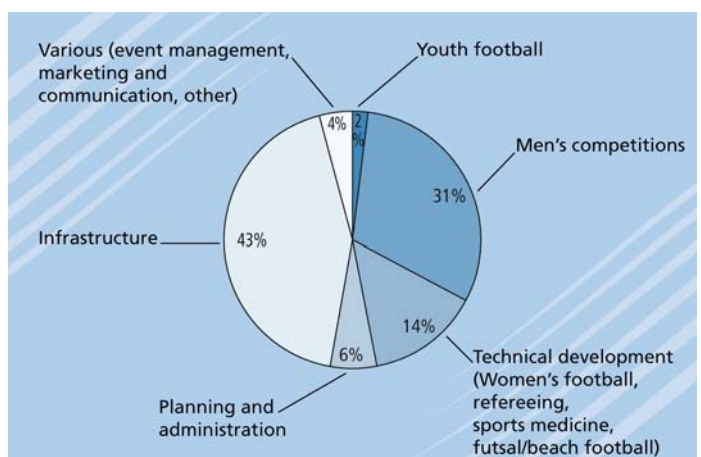
Status

Implementation

Financed by

Goal 2	USD	400,000
Goal 3	USD	400,000
Total cost	USD	800,000

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
		FUTURO III regional courses																			
Refereeing (men and women)																					
Coaching (men)																					
Coaching (women)																☐					
Administration and management																					
Football medicine																					
Seminars																					
Women's football																					
Futsal																					
Com-Unity																					
MA Seminars																					
MA courses																					
Administration																					
Refereeing (men and women)				●			●		●			●									
Coaching (men and women)																					
Beach soccer																					
Futsal																					
Olympic solidarity coaching courses							●														
Development courses and academies (1975 - 1990)																					
FUTURO I-II courses for all football branches	1									●											

●: 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?	2000
From which age on, players are registered?	n/a
Women's teams (open or over 16 years)	12
Women's teams (below 16 years, youth)	12
National competition (or women's league)	n/a
Regional competitions	n/a
University competitions	n/a
School competitions	n/a
Futsal competitions	yes
National "A" team	n/a
National youth teams: age categories	n/a