

- Association founded 1933
- Affiliated to FIFA in 1948



Flag



Association emblem



World map



## Football in Afghanistan

Founded in 1933 and a FIFA affiliate since 1948, the Afghanistan Football Federation was one of the founder members of the Asian Football Confederation in 1954. The national team played its first match in 1941 and was last seen on the international stage in 1984 during the qualifying competition for the Asian Cup. The Russian invasion and later the Taliban regime made it impossible to keep football going at domestic and international level. Many players continued their careers in other countries. Only after the fall of the Taliban in 2002 could the football-mad nation contemplate a bright future once again. The national team made a comeback at international level in September 2002, taking part in the Asian Games football tournament in Busan. Although the team's results were disappointing, the players' joy at returning to the football fold was very clear to see. And just a few months later at the SAFF Cup in Bangladesh, a significant improvement in standards was already discernible.



## The Goal Project

In collaboration with FIFA, the AFC, and the German, English and Iranian FAs, the Afghanistan Football Federation has drawn up a long-term development plan for the rebuilding of the football set-up. The *Goal* Programme has contributed USD 610,000 for the construction of new headquarters for the national association and a new technical centre, the renovation of regional offices and laying a new artificial turf surface at the national stadium. It will be some time before the necessary infrastructure is in place and the administrative and technical organisation has been built. Nonetheless, football is already being played very actively. During its first inspection visit, FIFA presented 500 adidas/*Goal* footballs to the national association for use in youth football across all regions of the nation.

On 22 October 2008 the *Goal* Bureau approved additional financial support for the construction of an artificial turf pitch in Kabul. Due to the repeated destruction of the largely completed first project because of the current situation, which is similar to a state of war, this additional amount was deemed necessary in order to finish the artificial pitch.

## Financing of Goal project

### Project

Association headquarters, training centre and football turf pitch in Kabul (Koshahal Mena)

### Project approved

15 October 2003 and  
22 October 2008

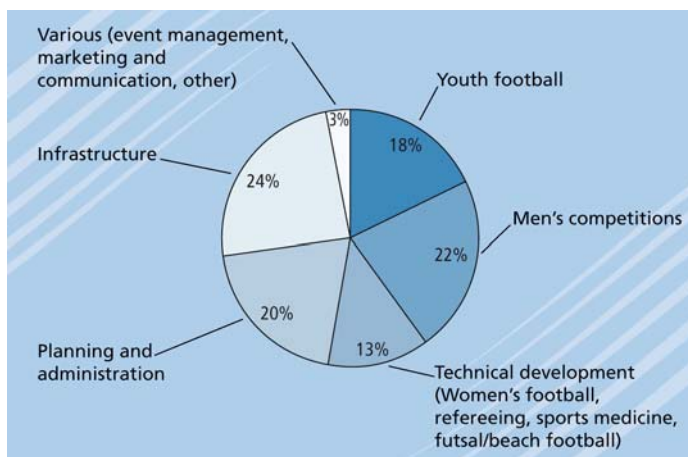
### Status

Implementation

### Financed by

<b>Goal</b>	USD 1,000,000
<b>FAP</b>	USD 209,827
<b>Total cost</b>	USD 1,209,827

## 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	1																				
<b>Development courses and academies (1975 - 1990)</b>																					
<b>FUTURO I-II courses for all football branches</b>	2																				

●: 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.



Theory lesson in Kabul

Does an organised women's football set-up exist?	yes
If so, since when?	2004
From which age on, players are registered?	16
Women's teams (open or over 16 years)	17
Women's teams (below 16 years, youth)	0
National competition (or women's league)	yes
Regional competitions	no
University competitions	no
School competitions	no
Futsal competitions	no
National "A" team	no
National youth teams: age categories	no



Practical training during a women's football workshop