

- Association founded 1952
- Affiliated to FIFA in 1966



Flag



Association emblem



World map



## Football in Gambia

In the last five years, football in Gambia has experienced a considerable upturn. All seven regions of the nation are represented by clubs in the first, second and third divisions of the national championship. For the last two years, an official women's championship has also been organised. Gambia kicked off the qualifiers for the African Cup of Nations 2004 with an historic draw against Senegal (quarter-finalists at the 2002 FIFA World Cup Korea/Japan™ and silver-medallists at the African Cup of Nations 2002) and also enjoyed a short stint at the top of their qualifying group. At youth level, Gambia qualified for the African U-17 Championship for the first time in 2003, when the event was held in Swaziland. Gambia's most famous players are Jatto Ceesay (captain of the national team and currently with Willem II in the Netherlands), Edrissa Sonko, Ebou Sillah (playing for Roda FC in the Netherlands) and Seffo Soley (with Genk in Belgium).

## The first Goal Project

On 9 February 2002, the Goal Bureau endorsed a project to build a technical centre in Banjul, the cost of which will be covered by Goal and the FIFA Financial Assistance Programme. The complex will be used for general development work in Gambia. As part of the Gambia Football Association's long-term plans, the focus will fall on youth and women's football until 2008. Work will be carried out to form national teams at U-17, U-20 and U-23 level. The centre will then be used for as an education centre and as an academy for the most promising footballers among the nation's girls and boys. The national association hopes to extend the upturn of recent years and to improve performances in international competitions through youth development work.



## Financing of Goal project

### Project

National technical centre in Banjul

### Project approved

9 February 2002

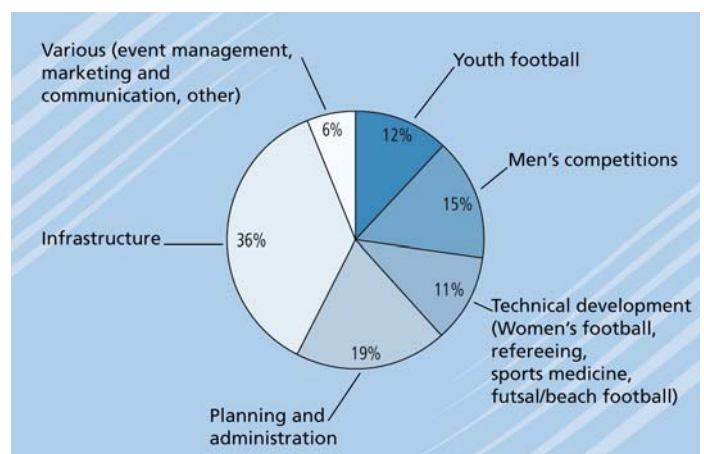
### Status

completed

### Financed by

<b>Goal</b>	USD	400,000
<b>FAP</b>	USD	100,000
<b>Total cost</b>	USD	500,000

## Use of FAP funds



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## Second Goal project

A training centre was built in Banjul as part of project 1 and now the Gambian association is benefiting from a second *Goal* project. The *Goal* Bureau approved the erection of association headquarters in Banjul, where Gambian football will benefit from modern infrastructure and from where all football activities will be coordinated. The government has donated the land needed for the new building.



## Financing of Goal project

### Project

Association headquarters in Banjul

### Project approved on

15 March 2006

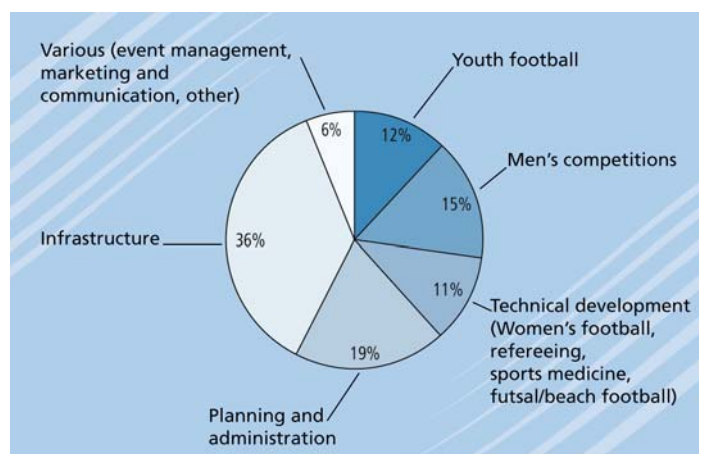
### Status

Implementation

### Financed by

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

## Use of FAP funds



	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>Football education and courses</b>																					
<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>	<b>2</b>				•					•											
<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?	1998
From which age on, players are registered?	14
Women's teams (open or over 16 years)	12
Women's teams (below 16 years, youth)	11
National competition (or women's league)	yes
Regional competitions	no
University competitions	no
School competitions	yes
Futsal competitions	no
National "A" team	no
National youth teams: age categories	n/a



MA course for women's football, 2007

### **Win in Africa with Africa**

Under this motto, FIFA is seeking to use football pointedly as a development tool. At the same time, the governing body is aiming to focus attention on Africa in the build-up to the 2010 FIFA World Cup™ and project a positive image of a continent that is working hard for its own development.. The Win in Africa with Africa campaign was endorsed by the FIFA Congress in Marrakesh and assigned a USD 70 million budget by the Congress in Munich.

At its heart lies the initiative to provide every African nation with an international-standard artificial turf pitch. The remainder of the eight-point programme is intended to develop domestic competitions, train African sports executives, promote sports medicine and address topical issues relating to the FIFA World Cup™ in South Africa.

*Further information on Win in Africa with Africa:*  
[http://www.fifa.com/mm/goalprojectWinAF\\_E.pdf](http://www.fifa.com/mm/goalprojectWinAF_E.pdf)