



CAF® | TotalEnergies  
**AFRICA CUP  
OF NATIONS**  
**MOROCCO 25**

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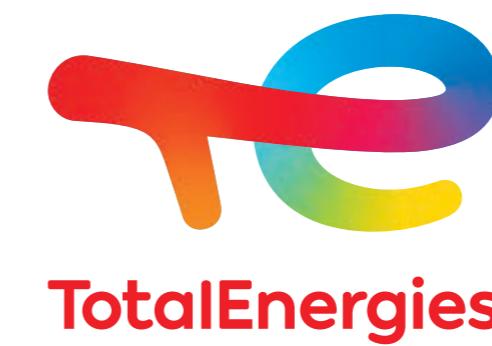
# THE ULTIMATE GUIDE





## Faisons de l'Afrique la capitale du football

TotalEnergies, partenaire du football africain.



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# GROWTH OF THE TOTALENERGIES CAF AFRICA CUP OF NATIONS

From a three-team competition in 1957, the TotalEnergies CAF Africa Cup of Nations (AFCON) has evolved into a major global sporting event, mirroring the commercial rise of African football. From the expansion of participating teams to the rise in prize money, and the record audiences achieved at the 2023 edition in Côte d'Ivoire, the AFCON takes pride in place among the world's top football competitions.

## Origins and Format Growth

The inaugural AFCON in 1957 featured three national teams, Egypt, Ethiopia, and Sudan, with no qualifying competition and a straightforward final-four arrangement.

Over the ensuing decades, the tournament has undergone several format expansions, reflecting broader growth in the number of African Member Associations, improved infrastructure and heightened international interest.

By 1968 the tournament had expanded to eight teams, which remained the format for many editions. In 1992, AFCON expanded again to 12

finalists, introducing a quarter-final stage for the first time.

The next major leap came in 1996, when the field was increased to 16 teams, a format that remained in place for over two decades. Most recently, starting with the 2019 edition, the tournament embraced a 24-team format.

This progression, from three to eight to 12 to 16 to 24 teams, mirrors the maturation of African football: more nations able to compete at the highest continental level, more matches and group-stage permutations, greater complexity in scheduling and logistics, and a widening audience.

## Prize Money and Commercial Growth

Another key indicator of AFCON's development is the substantial increase in prize money and commercial revenues.

In earlier decades, the financial rewards were modest compared to what is on offer for teams in 2025.

Year	Winner's Prize	Runner-Up
2000	USD 500,000	USD 250,000
2010	USD 1 million	USD 750,000
2019	USD 4.5 million	USD 2.5 million
2023	USD 7 million	USD 4 million

## PRIZE MONEY EVOLUTION

## AFCON EXPANSION TIMELINE



rights generating USD 95 million to illustrate AFCON's global appeal.

Ticket sales and fan engagement also hit new highs, with ticketing revenues increased by 800 percent in 2023 compared to the previous edition, and much stronger online impressions and video views recorded.

What this all amounts to is an AFCON that is not only a major sporting prize but a genuinely global entertainment property. More teams mean more matches; more matches

mean more exposure; more exposure means more commercial value, and that in turn fuels further investment in infrastructure, broadcast, marketing and grassroots development.

This success can filter down to all aspects of African football, providing the fundign and energy to grow the game further.

Making African football globally competitive amd self-sustaining has been a key driver for CAF President Dr Patrice Motsepe and the AFCON has its roll to play.

### Record Audiences and Global Reach

The 2023 edition of AFCON, hosted by Côte d'Ivoire, was the most far-reaching edition in the tournament's history as it attracted almost 2 billion viewers across the world.

Matches were broadcast in nearly 180 countries, leveraging partnerships with major global broadcasters such as BBC, Sky, Canal+, beIN, SuperSport and free-to-air networks across Africa and beyond, taking the games into the living rooms of fans all over the world.

On the digital front, the tournament delivered unprecedented engagement: there were 2.2 billion video views and 3.6 billion views on TikTok alone, a phenomenal leap.

Ticketing outcomes also broke records with a 1.2 million increase in fan attendance for the tournament compared to 2021, and ticketing revenues rose eightfold.

The 2023 final, played at the 60,000-capacity Alassane Ouattara Stadium in Abidjan, capped off the tournament in style with a home victory.

### Impact and Future Outlook

The journey of AFCON, growing from three teams in 1957 to 24 in 2025, is more than a numerical evolution.

It reflects the rising ambition of African football, greater organisational capacity across the continent, improved stadium infrastructure, expanded broadcast and digital platforms, and increasingly professionalised national associations and federations.

The incremental growth in prize money shows that

African football is being taken more seriously on the global commercial stage, enabling teams and federations to invest further in development, facilities, and youth talent.

The 2023 edition's audience and engagement numbers demonstrate that AFCON is now truly a mass-market global sporting event.

Looking ahead, the tournament faces further opportunities. As more nations develop competitive programmes, the quality of football and the competitiveness of

matches should continue to improve.

At the same time, maintaining momentum in commercial growth, ensuring equitable access, and managing logistical complexity (with 24 teams across multiple venues) will remain critical.

For media, sponsors, federations, and broadcasters, the narrative is clear: the TotalEnergies CAF Africa Cup of Nations is no longer simply a continental competition. It is a globally visible brand, a showcase for African talent, a commercial opportunity,

and a barometer of football's growth on the continent.

The 2023 edition in Côte d'Ivoire marked both a watershed and a blueprint, more teams, bigger audiences and the next decade promises even greater ambition.

In short, the AFCON has matured from modest roots into one of the world's most dynamic football tournaments. Its trajectory, from expansion of teams, through rising prize money, to record audiences, speaks of a game and a continent on the move.





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**MOROCCO 25**

# STADIUMS

**STADE OLYMPIQUE ANNEXE COMPLEXE SPORTIF PRINCE MOULAY ABDELLAH**  
City: Rabat | Capacity: 21,000



**COMPLEXE SPORTIF PRINCE MOULAY ABDELLAH**  
City: Rabat | Capacity: 69,500



**COMPLEXE SPORTIF PRINCE HÉRITIER MOULAY EL HASSAN**  
City: Rabat | Capacity: 22,000



**STADE EL BARID**  
City: Rabat | Capacity: 18,000



**GRAND STADE D'AGADIR**

City: Agadir | Capacity: 45,480



**GRAND STADE DE MARRAKECH**

City: Marrakech | Capacity: 45,240



**GRAND STADE DE TANGER**

City: Tangier | Capacity: 75,600



**STADE MOHAMMED V**

City: Casablanca | Capacity: 67,000



**COMPLEXE SPORTIF DE FES**

City: Fes | Capacity: 45,000



**CAF** TotalEnergies  
**AFRICA CUP OF NATIONS**  
**MOROCCO 25**

STADIUMS		SUNDAY 21 DEC	MONDAY 22 DEC	TUESDAY 23 DEC	WEDNESDAY 24 DEC	THURSDAY 25 DEC	GROUP STAGE				
COMPLEXE SPORTIF PRINCE MOULAY ABDELLAH RABAT 1	1 20:00 MAR v COM						13 21:00 MAR v MLI				
COMPLEXE SPORTIF PRINCE HÉRITIER MOULAY EL HASSAN RABAT 2				9 16:00 ALG v SDN				21 18:30 ALG v BFA			
STADE MOHAMMED V CASA		2 15:00 MLI v ZAM		10 13:30 BFA v EQG			14 18:30 ZAM v COM	22 16:00 EQG v SDN	26 20:00 COM v MLI		
STADE EL BARID RABAT 3			8 13:30 COD v BEN				18 18:30 UGA v TAN			32 20:00 BOT v COD	
COMPLEXE SPORTIF DE FES FES			5 18:30 NGA v TAN				17 21:00 NGA v TUN			29 17:00 UGA v NGA	
STADE ANNEXE OLYMPIQUE COMPLEXE SPORTIF PRINCE MOULAY ABDELLAH RABAT 4			6 21:00 TUN v UGA				20 13:30 BEN v BOT			30 17:00 TAN v TUN	
GRAND STADE DETANGER TANGER			7 16:00 SEN v BOT				19 16:00 SEN v COD			31 20:00 BEN v SEN	
GRAND STADE DE MARRAKECH MARRAKECH		4 18:00 RSA v ANG		11 18:30 CIV v MOZ			16 13:30 ANG v ZIM	23 21:00 CIV v CMR	28 17:00 ZIM v RSA		
GRAND STADE D'AGADIR AGADIR		3 21:00 EGY v ZIM		12 21:00 CMR v GAB			15 16:00 EGY v RSA	24 13:30 GAB v MOZ	27 17:00 ANG v EGY		

REST DAYS		THURSDAY 01 JAN	FRIDAY 2 JAN	ROUND OF 16			QUARTER-FINAL		SEMI-FINAL		3RD PLACE		FINAL	
				SATURDAY 3 JAN	SUNDAY 4 JAN	MONDAY 5 JAN								
				39 17:00 1A v 3C/D/E										
								43 17:00 1E v 2D						
				38 20:00 2A v 2C										
					40 20:00 2B v 2F									
						42 20:00 1C v 3A/B/F								
				37 17:00 1D v 3B/E/F										
								44 17:00 1B v 3A/C/D						
								45 17:00 W38 v W37						
								46 20:00 W40 v W39						
									47 17:00 W43 v W42					
									48 20:00 W41 v 44					
										49 18:00 W45 v W48				
										50 21:00 W47 v W46				
											51 17:00 L49 v L50			
											52 20:00 W49 v W50			

GROUP A	GROUP B	GROUP C	GROUP D	GROUP E	GROUP F
MOROCCO (MAR)	EGYPT (EGY)	NIGERIA (NGA)	SENEGAL (SEN)	ALGERIA (ALG)	CÔTE D'IVOIRE (CIV)
MALI (MLI)	SOUTH AFRICA (RSA)	TUNISIA (TUN)	DR CONGO (COD)	BURKINA FASO (BFA)	CAMEROON (CMR)
ZAMBIA (ZAM)	ANGOLA (ANG)	UGANDA (UGA)	BENIN (BEN)	EQUATORIAL GUINEA (EOG)	GABON (GAB)
COMOROS (COM)	ZIMBABWE (ZIM)	TANZANIA (TAN)	BOTSWANA (BOT)	SUDAN (SDN)	MOZAMBIQUE (MOZ)

# MATCH SCHEDULE

21 DEC 2025 – 18 JAN 2026

# OFFICIAL MATCH BALL

The official match ball for the TotalEnergies CAF Africa Cup of Nations Morocco 2025, named ITRI, features a striking design with traditional Moroccan zellij geometric patterns, characterised by central star geometry, floral petal outlines and circular symmetry.

Built on PUMA's advanced Orbita 6 technology, the ball seamlessly blends heritage with innovation, delivering the performance standards required for elite-level competition while celebrating African culture.

The unique design also features 'Flow of Movement' patterns that capture the distinctive rhythm and dynamic playing style of African football. The ball's colour palette expresses passion, hope and pride while also paying homage to Morocco's national identity.

The design process began shortly after Morocco was confirmed as host nation in 2023 and progressed through several stages of cultural research, creative explorations, performance testing and refinement.

The collaboration brought together CAF's creative development team and PUMA's global design unit to ensure the ball authentically reflects Moroccan artistry and heritage.

## CULTURAL SIGNIFICANCE

- The ball's **star geometry** symbolises ambition, light, and the pursuit of excellence on Africa's biggest footballing stage.
- **Petal shapes** represent celebration, growth and the festive spirit that defines the TotalEnergies CAF AFCON Morocco 2025
- **Circular symmetry** reflects the unity of the 24 nations coming together for the tournament in a celebration of Africa.

# OFFICIAL MASCOT

CAF and the Local Organising Committee (“LOC”) have unveiled the Official Mascot for the TotalEnergies CAF Africa Cup of Nations (AFCON) Morocco 2025, named ‘ASSAD’.

Inspired by the Atlas lion, one of Morocco’s most iconic national symbols and a unifying and powerful figure across the African continent. His name, meaning “lion” in Arabic, embodies strength, pride, and cultural authenticity that resonates deeply with fans both in Morocco and throughout Africa.

As an ambassador for the tournament, ASSAD embodies the joy, passion, and energy that define Africa’s

most prestigious football competition. He will play a crucial role in building an emotional connection and engaging audiences of all ages, especially children and families, who are central to football’s culture and its future.

Assad will play a leading role in fan engagement across stadiums, fan zones, and community events. He will support global marketing and promotional campaigns, enrich digital content and interactive experiences, and contribute to CAF’s long-term brand narrative.

Assad’s visual identity centres on a friendly, youthful lion whose expressive features and energetic personality

reflect the warmth, creativity, and diversity of Africa. His colour palette and overall style align seamlessly with the TotalEnergies CAF AFCON Morocco 2025 brand, ensuring a unified and dynamic tournament look.

Assad has been created not only for TotalEnergies CAF AFCON Morocco 2025, but for the future of African football. He will continue to feature in CAF grassroots and youth development programmes, school and community football initiatives, and future digital storytelling. As a long-term ambassador for African football, Assad aims to inspire and connect with the next generation across the continent.





Orange  
is here



When  
they play

In the stands or on your screens,  
Orange is here to connect everyone  
to African football.



Where it  
all happens

Max it

# MOROCCO

**Morocco will stage the TotalEnergies CAF Africa Cup of Nations for the first time since 1988, and as the country prepares to also co-host the FIFA World Cup 2030, it is ready to welcome visitors from across the globe.**



# TEAM BASE CAMPS

For the first time in the history of the TotalEnergies CAF Africa Cup of Nations, every team competing at the tournament in Morocco will be based in its own dedicated camp for the entire tournament.

The innovation marks a major logistical and professional step forward for African football, aligning the competition with the standards seen at the FIFA World Cup and European Championships.

Each of the 24 national teams will be assigned a Team Base Camp, consisting of a five-star hotel and a nearby exclusive training facility.

Once they arrive, the teams will remain at their designated base for the duration of the tournament, eliminating the constant travel between cities that has characterised previous editions.

This system is designed to provide stability, ensure top-quality

preparation, and allow players and technical staff to maintain a consistent daily rhythm.

The six host cities, Rabat, Casablanca, Marrakech, Agadir, Fes and Tangier, have been chosen not only for their stadiums but also for their world-class infrastructure.

Morocco's own national team will be stationed at the state-of-the-art Mohammed VI Football Complex in Salé, while other heavyweights such as Nigeria, South Africa and Senegal will be based respectively in Fes, Marrakech, and Tangier. Each camp offers high-performance training pitches, modern gyms, medical and recovery rooms, and controlled access to guarantee comfort and privacy.

CAF and the Moroccan Local Organising Committee selected and inspected each location carefully, ensuring that all 24

teams receive equal standards of hospitality and technical support.

The model aims to minimise fatigue, ease logistical pressure, and foster fairness across the competition. It also allows teams to build stronger connections with their temporary "home" cities, engaging local supporters and communities while staying grounded in a familiar environment.

Beyond the technical benefits, the Team Base Camp concept underscores CAF's growing commitment to professionalism and player welfare. By offering world-class facilities and a consistent support structure, it recognises the demands of modern international football.

The approach should enhance performance levels, improve recovery between matches, and create an overall smoother tournament experience.

## RABAT

HOTEL	TEAM
Mohammed VI Football Complex	<b>Morocco</b>
The View	<b>Tunisia</b>
Le Caroussel	<b>Uganda</b>
Fairmont	<b>Tanzania</b>
Conrad Arzana	<b>DR Congo</b>
Tour Hassan	<b>Benin</b>
Dawliz	<b>Botswana</b>
Rabat Marriott	<b>Algeria</b>

## CASABLANCA

Barcelo Anfa	<b>Mali</b>
Sofitel T.Blanche	<b>Zambia</b>
Radisson Blu	<b>Comoros</b>
Le Casablanca	<b>Burkina Faso</b>
Casa Marriott	<b>Equatorial Guinea</b>
Marriott Courtyard	<b>Sudan</b>

## AGADIR/ TAGHAZOUT

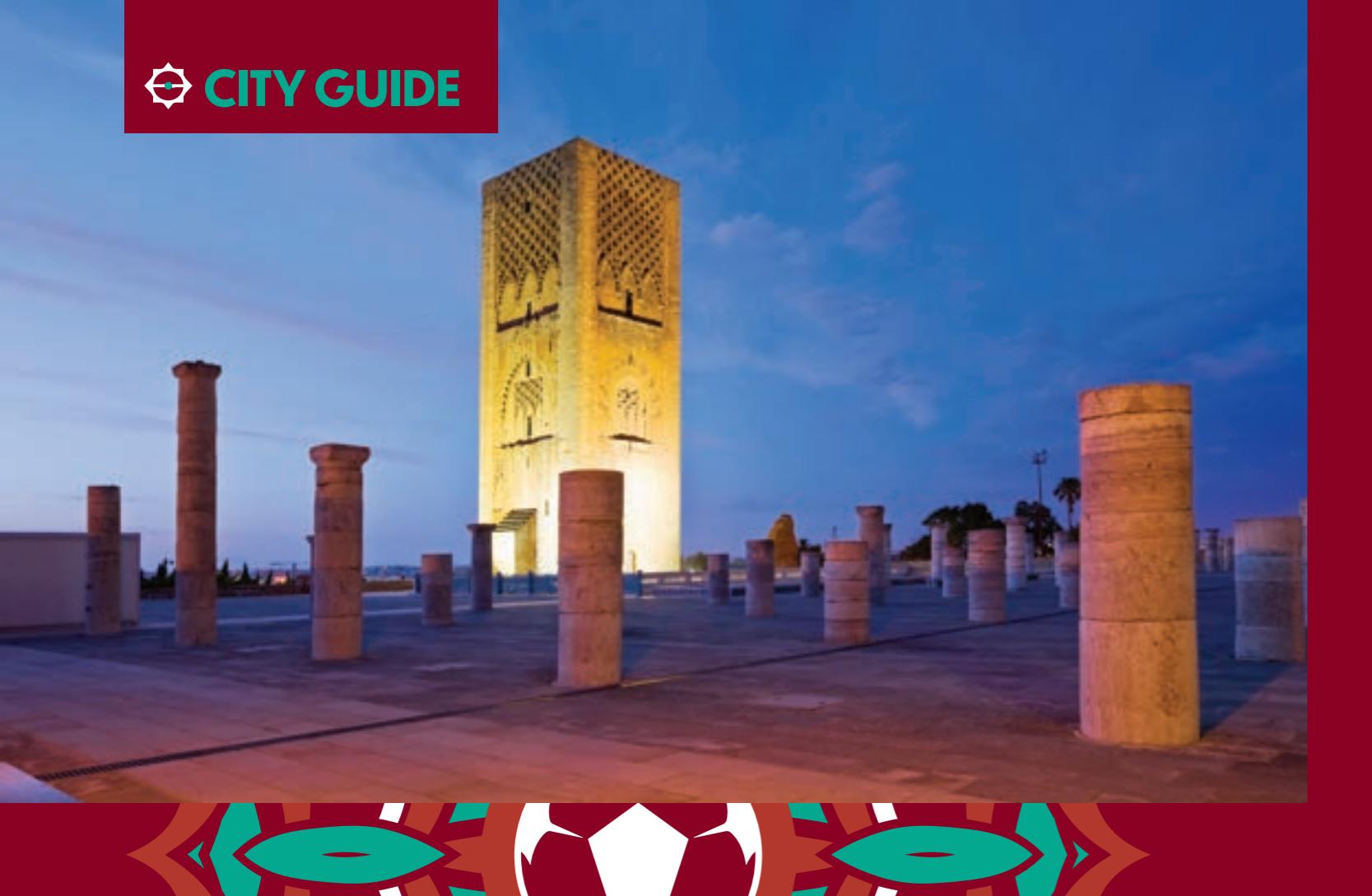
Fairmont Taghazout Bay	<b>Egypt</b>
Hyatt Regency Taghazout	<b>Cameroon</b>
Hyatt Place Taghazout Bay	<b>Gabon</b>
Hilton TGH Bay	<b>Mozambique</b>

## MARRAKECH

Four Seasons	<b>South Africa</b>
Fairmont	<b>Angola</b>
Sofitel	<b>Zimbabwe</b>
Hyatt Park	<b>Côte d'Ivoire</b>

## FES

Saharai	<b>Nigeria</b>
Fairmont	<b>Senegal</b>



# RABAT

## KEY EMERGENCY CONTACTS

### RABAT

- General Emergency (Police/Fire/Ambulance): **19** (landline) | **112** (mobile)
- Police (Urban/City): **19**
- Royal Gendarmerie (Highways & Rural Areas): **177**
- Ambulance / Civil Protection: **15**
- Fire Brigade: **15**
- Taxi Dispatch (Rabat Centre): **+212 537 72 65 65**
- Rabat University Hospital (CHU Ibn Sina): **+212 537 77 57 57**
- Sheikh Zaid Hospital (Private): **+212 537 68 68 68**
- Rabat-Salé Airport (Information): **+212 537 80 80 90**
- Tourist Police (Assistance for visitors): **+212 537 73 32 46**

The political and administrative capital of Morocco, Rabat is nestled on the Atlantic coast at the confluence of the Bouregreg River and the ocean. The city blends heritage, modernity, and a passion for sport. Since 2012, Rabat has been a UNESCO World Heritage Site, recognized for its cultural wealth and youthful energy driven by universities, dynamic neighbourhoods, and a thriving football culture. During AFCON 2025, Rabat will be one of the tournament's epicentres, with four venues ready to host matches: the Moulay Abdellah Stadium, the Moulay Hassan Stadium, the Al Barid Stadium, and the new Olympic Stadium, all superb, modern venues.

### A City of Many Faces

Founded in the 12th century by the Almohads, Rabat has evolved from a military stronghold to the political and institutional heart of Morocco, home to the Royal Palace, Parliament, ministries, and embassies. Yet beyond its official role, Rabat offers a vibrant soul. Visitors wander through the blue and white streets of the Kasbah des Oudayas, a fortress overlooking the Atlantic, or explore the bustling medina with its artisans and markets. With nearly 1.8 million inhabitants, the city is known for its charm and gentle pace of life.

### Football at the Core

In Rabat, football is more than a pastime – it is an identity. Local pitches in

every neighbourhood reflect the city's deep-rooted passion.

Fath Union Sport (FUS), founded in 1946, is one of the capital's leading clubs, crowned national champion in 2016 and CAF Cup winner in 2010. Another powerhouse is AS FAR, multiple Moroccan champions and winner of the African Champions Cup in 1985. The city also boasts historic clubs such as Stade Marocain (1919), Hilal of Rabat, Union of Touarga, and Youssefia Club. Their legacies, along with grounds like Chouhoud and Belvedere, make Rabat a football stronghold.

This reputation was reinforced in July 2025 when FIFA inaugurated its African headquarters at the Mohammed VI Football



## COMPLEXE SPORTIF PRINCE MOULAY ABDELLAH

Capacity: **69,500**

Only seven kilometers from the centre of Rabat, the Complexe Sportif Prince Moulay Abdellah is one of the Kingdom's most iconic venues.

Inaugurated on 5 September 2025 during the FIFA World Cup 2026 qualifiers, it seats 68,095 (expandable to 68,700 for the FIFA World Cup 2030). It is the second-largest stadium in Morocco, behind the Grand Stade de Tanger.

Renovated in 2000, 2014, and 2023, the stadium now meets the highest international standards. Its athletics track has been removed, creating a football-only arena with modern media zones.

Regular home of Morocco's national team, it has hosted AFCON 1988, the FIFA Club World Cups of 2014 and 2022, the 2019 African Games, and the TotalEnergies CAF Women's Africa Cup of Nations 2022.

### AFCON 2025 Fixtures

- Match 1:** 21 December  
Morocco vs Comoros (Group A, 20:00)
- Match 13:** 26 December  
Morocco vs Mali (Group A, 21:00)
- Match 25:** 29 December  
Zambia vs Morocco (Group A, 20:00)
- Match 39:** 4 January  
1st Group A vs 3rd Group C/D/E (R16, 17:00)
- Match 47:** 9 January  
Winner 40 vs Winner 39 (QF, 20:00)
- Match 50:** 14 January  
Winner 47 vs Winner 46 (SF, 21:00)
- Match 52:** 18 January  
Winner 49 vs Winner 50 (Final, 20:00)

Complex near Rabat. Designed by architect Mourad Aziz El Kohen, the facility supports African federations in developing women's football, youth competitions, infrastructure, and governance.

#### A City Ready to Welcome

As AFCON approaches, Rabat is prepared to host delegations and fans from across Africa and beyond. Its hotel network ranges from luxury to affordable stays, ensuring comfort for all visitors. The city is well connected: the Al Boraq high-speed rail line links Rabat to Casablanca in under an hour, while Rabat-Salé International Airport, 15 km from the centre, offers connections to Europe and Africa. Beyond football, visitors can explore landmarks such as the Hassan Tower and Mohammed V Mausoleum, relax on the beaches of Skhirat and Harhoura, or stroll the Bouregreg corniche.

#### Getting Around

Rabat has invested heavily in modern transport infrastructure. Buses and trams form the backbone of mobility. More than 350 buses currently link Rabat, Salé, and Témara, with the fleet expected to reach 500. The Rabat-Salé tramway, opened in 2011, runs 22 km across 41 stations, including the Hassan-II Bridge linking the twin cities. The city is also a hub in Morocco's national rail network. Rabat-Ville

and Rabat-Agdal stations connect travellers north and south, with Agdal modernised in 2018 to host the TGV, linking Tangier to Casablanca. Regional commuters rely on the Rapid Shuttle Train (TNR), which runs every 30 minutes between Casablanca, Rabat, and Kenitra. Road infrastructure has been modernised too. The 42 km Rabat bypass highway opened in 2016, featuring the Mohammed VI Bridge, Africa's longest cable-stayed bridge. Other projects such as the Hassan-II Bridge and the Oudayas Tunnel have eased congestion and opened pedestrian spaces near historic sites.

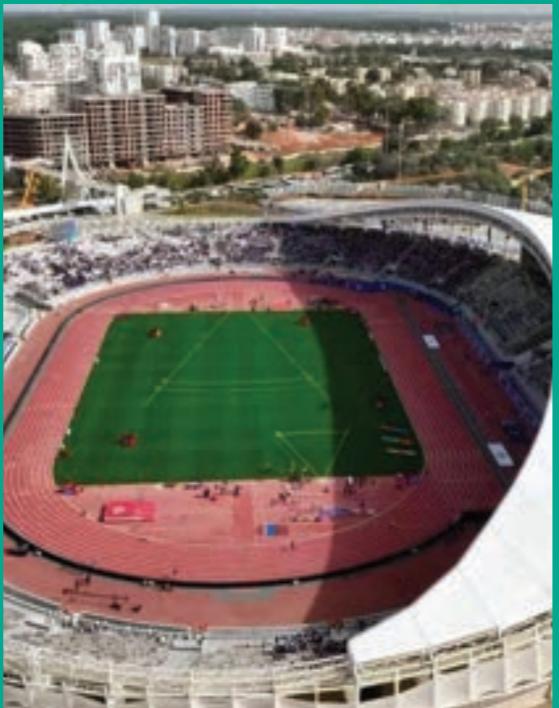
#### Cultural and Tourist Treasures

Rabat offers plenty to discover between matches. The medina's Souk Es Sebbat immerses visitors in traditional Moroccan life, while the Kasbah of the Oudayas offers panoramic views of the Atlantic. Other landmarks include the Hassan Tower, Mohammed V Mausoleum, and the modern Mohammed VI Tower. Rabat also prides itself on being a cultural capital. The Mohammed VI Museum of Modern and Contemporary Art showcases Moroccan and international artists, while the Mohammed V National Theater hosts concerts, plays, and performances.

For relaxation, visitors can enjoy the Botanical Garden and seaside walks.



## RABAT STADIUM GUIDE



### STADE ANNEXE OLYMPIQUE COMPLEXE SPORTIF PRINCE MOULAY ABDELLAH

Capacity: 21,000

Part of the Stade Annexe Olympique Complexe Sportif Prince Moulay Abdellah was completed in just nine months and inaugurated on 25 May 2025 during the Mohammed VI International Meeting.

The venue has a World Athletics-certified 400m track, a natural-grass pitch, crescent-shaped roof, and advanced lighting.

Facilities include underground parking, cryotherapy rooms, lounges, and TV studios.

#### AFCON 2025 Fixtures

- Match 6:** 23 December  
Tunisia vs Uganda (Group C, 21:00)
- Match 20:** 27 December  
Benin vs Botswana (Group D, 13:30)
- Match 30:** 30 December  
Tanzania vs Tunisia (Group C, 17:00)



## RABAT STADIUM GUIDE



### COMPLEXE SPORTIF PRINCE HÉRITIER MOULAY EL HASSAN

Capacity: 22,000

Built on the historic site of FUS Rabat, this urban stadium offers 22,000 seats without an athletics track, bringing fans closer to the action.

Its glazed terracotta façade, inspired by Berber motifs, promotes natural ventilation and reflects daylight.

Spread across five levels, it houses VIP boxes, lounges, media zones, and command centres, with access points to optimise crowd movement.

#### AFCON 2025 Fixtures

- Match 9:** 24 December  
Algeria vs Sudan (Group E, 16:00)
- Match 21:** 28 December  
Algeria vs Burkina Faso (Group E, 18:30)
- Match 33:** 31 December  
Equatorial Guinea vs Algeria (Group E, 17:00)
- Match 43:** 6 January  
Winner Group E vs Runner-up Group D (R16, 17:00)



## RABAT STADIUM GUIDE



### STADE EL BARID

Capacity: 18,000

Located in the Agdal district, Stade El Barid serves as home to Union Touarga SC.

It has a natural grass pitch, VVIP and VIP areas, media stands, and landscaped forecourts with shops and dining. Minimalist in style, its sunken pitch ensures excellent sightlines for fans from all angles.

#### AFCON 2025 Fixtures

- Match 8:** 23 December  
DR Congo vs Benin (Group D, 13:30)
- Match 18:** 27 December  
Uganda vs Tanzania (Group C, 18:30)
- Match 32:** 30 December  
Botswana vs DR Congo (Group D, 20:00)
- Match 40:** 4 January  
2nd Group B vs 2nd Group F (R16, 20:00)



# CASABLANCA

## KEY EMERGENCY CONTACTS

### CASABLANCA

- General Emergency (Police/Fire/Ambulance): **19** (landline) | **112** (mobile)
- Police (Urban/City): **19**
- Royal Gendarmerie (Highways & Rural Areas): **177**
- Ambulance / Civil Protection: **15**
- Fire Brigade: **15**
- Hôpital Ibn Sina (University Hospital): **+212 522 48 10 00**
- Clinique Internationale de Casablanca (Private): **+212 522 25 25 25**
- Hôpital Cheikh Zayd (Private): **+212 522 57 57 00**

Casablanca, Morocco's economic heartbeat, is a dynamic port city of over 4 million people where modernity blends with deep tradition and an unrivalled passion for football. At its centre stands the iconic Mohammed V Stadium, a temple of the game set to host several matches of the TotalEnergies CAF Africa Cup of Nations Morocco 2025.

### A City of Heritage and Modernity

Founded in the 7th century as Anfa, Casablanca long served as a strategic port

before becoming the Kingdom's economic capital. Today it hosts the national stock exchange and headquarters of leading Moroccan and international firms. Yet it retains its heritage, with the lively medina and the majestic Hassan II Mosque – partly built over the ocean – anchoring the city's cultural identity.

### Football in Casablanca

Football is the city's lifeblood. Home to two of Africa's most decorated clubs, Wydad (1937) and Raja (1949), Casablanca stages their fiery derby at



the Stade Mohammed V, ranked among the world's most intense rivalries.

Other historic clubs, including Racing Club (1917) and TAS, reinforce its reputation as among Africa's top footballing capital.

### Getting Around

Mohammed V International Airport links Casablanca to major world capitals, while the high-speed Al Boraq train and Casa-Voyageurs and Casa-Port stations provide efficient rail travel. A modern tramway and extensive bus network make the city easy to navigate.

### What to See

Beyond football, visitors can tour the Hassan II

Mosque, stroll the Ain Diab corniche, or explore the Habous Quarter. Cultural highlights include the Villa des Arts and Abderrahman Slaoui Museum, while local markets and restaurants showcase Morocco's rich culinary traditions. Cosmopolitan and energetic, Casablanca is set to shine as one of AFCON 2025's standout destinations for fans from around the world.

### TOTALENERGIES CAF AFCON 2025 Fixtures

- Match 2:** 22 December: **Mali vs Zambia** (Group A, 15:00)
- Match 10:** 24 December: **Burkina Faso vs Equatorial Guinea** (Group E, 13:30)
- Match 14:** 26 December: **Zambia vs Comoros** (Group A, 18:30)
- Match 22:** 28 December : **Equatorial Guinea vs Sudan** (Group E, 16:00)
- Match 26:** 29 December: **Comoros vs Mali** (Group A, 20:00)
- Match 34:** 31 December: **Sudan vs Burkina Faso** (Group E, 17:00)
- Match 38:** 3 January: **2nd Group A vs 2nd Group C** (Round of 16, 20:00)
- Match 51:** 17 January: **Third-Place Play-Off** (17:00)



## CASABLANCA STADIUM GUIDE



### STADE MOHAMMED V

Capacity: **67,000**

Located in Casablanca's Maârif district, the STADE Mohammed V is one of Africa's great football monuments. Opened on March 6, 1955, and fondly nicknamed "Donor," it has staged Morocco's greatest moments and hosted many of the continent's top competitions.

With a capacity of 67,000, it will welcome eight matches at the TotalEnergies CAF Africa Cup of Nations Morocco 2025.

Originally named after French-Moroccan boxer Marcel Cerdan, the venue was later known as the Stade d'Honneur before adopting its current name during the 1983 Mediterranean Games.

Part of a wider sports complex, it also features a 15,000-seat multipurpose arena, hotel, Olympic swimming pool, media centre, and medical facilities. Known as the "temple of Casablanca football," Mohammed V is home to Wydad AC, Raja CA, and the Casablanca Derby.



# AGADIR

## KEY EMERGENCY CONTACTS

### AGADIR

- General Emergency (Police/Fire/Ambulance): **19** (landline) | **112** (mobile)
- Police (Urban/City): **19**
- Royal Gendarmerie (Highways & Rural Areas): **177**
- Ambulance / Civil Protection: **15**
- Fire Brigade: **15**
- Hôpital Ibn Sina (University Hospital): **+212 522 48 10 00**
- Clinique Internationale de Casablanca (Private): **+212 522 25 25 25**
- Hôpital Cheikh Zayd (Private): **+212 522 57 57 00**

Located on Morocco's Atlantic coast, 508 km from Casablanca and 235 km from Marrakech, Agadir is the heart of the Souss-Massa region. Known as the "Capital of Souss", it had a population of over 500,000 in 2024, with nearly a million in its greater prefecture. A fast-growing city, Agadir is predominantly home to the Chleuh (Amazigh) people, though Darija (Moroccan Arabic) is widely spoken.

### Football in Agadir

Football pulses through Agadir's veins. The city's

beloved club, Hassania Union Sport d'Agadir (HUSA), consistently competes in Morocco's top league.

The modern Grand Stade d'Agadir, with a capacity of 45,000, is set to host matches for the TotalEnergies CAF Africa Cup of Nations Morocco 2025 and the FIFA World Cup 2030.

### Getting Around

Agadir's public transport, managed by Alsa since 2010, operates over 40 bus lines. A Bus Rapid Transit (BHNS) system is planned to connect the



port to Tikiouine. Agadir Al Massira Airport, the country's third busiest, offers flights to Europe. The A3 highway, opened in 2010, links Agadir to Marrakech, while expressways connect to Taroudant, Tiznit, and Taghazout. Although Agadir lacks a train station, a high-speed rail line from Marrakech to Agadir is in development.

### What to see

A renowned seaside resort, Agadir boasts 10 km of pristine beaches and a lively corniche. Overlooking the bay, the Agadir Oufella Kasbah offers breathtaking views and stands as a resilient symbol after the 1960 earthquake. The bustling Souk El Had,

with 3,000 stalls, is a must-visit for crafts and local cuisine.

Other notable attractions include the Jardim de Olhao, marking Agadir's twinning with Portugal's Algarve; the Valley of the Birds; the fishing port; the upscale Marina; and the Médina Polizzi. The Amazigh Heritage Museum showcases the region's rich history through intricate jewelry, carpets, and pottery.

### TOTALENERGIES CAF AFCON 2025 Fixtures

- Match 3:** 22 December: **Egypt vs Zimbabwe** (Group B, 21:00)
- Match 12:** 24 December: **Cameroon vs Gabon** (Group F, 21:00)
- Match 15:** 26 December: **Egypt vs South Africa** (Group B, 16:00)
- Match 24:** 28 December: **Gabon vs Mozambique** (Group F, 13:30)
- Match 27:** 29 December: **Angola vs Egypt** (Group B, 17:00)
- Match 36:** 31 December: **Mozambique vs Cameroon** (Group F, 20:00)
- Match 41:** 5 January: **Winner Group B vs Third Group A/C/D** (Round of 16, 17:00)
- Match 48:** 10 January: **Winner Match 41 vs Winner Match 44** (Quarter-final, 20:00)

## AGADIR STADIUM GUIDE



### GRAND STADE D'AGADIR

Capacity: **45,480**

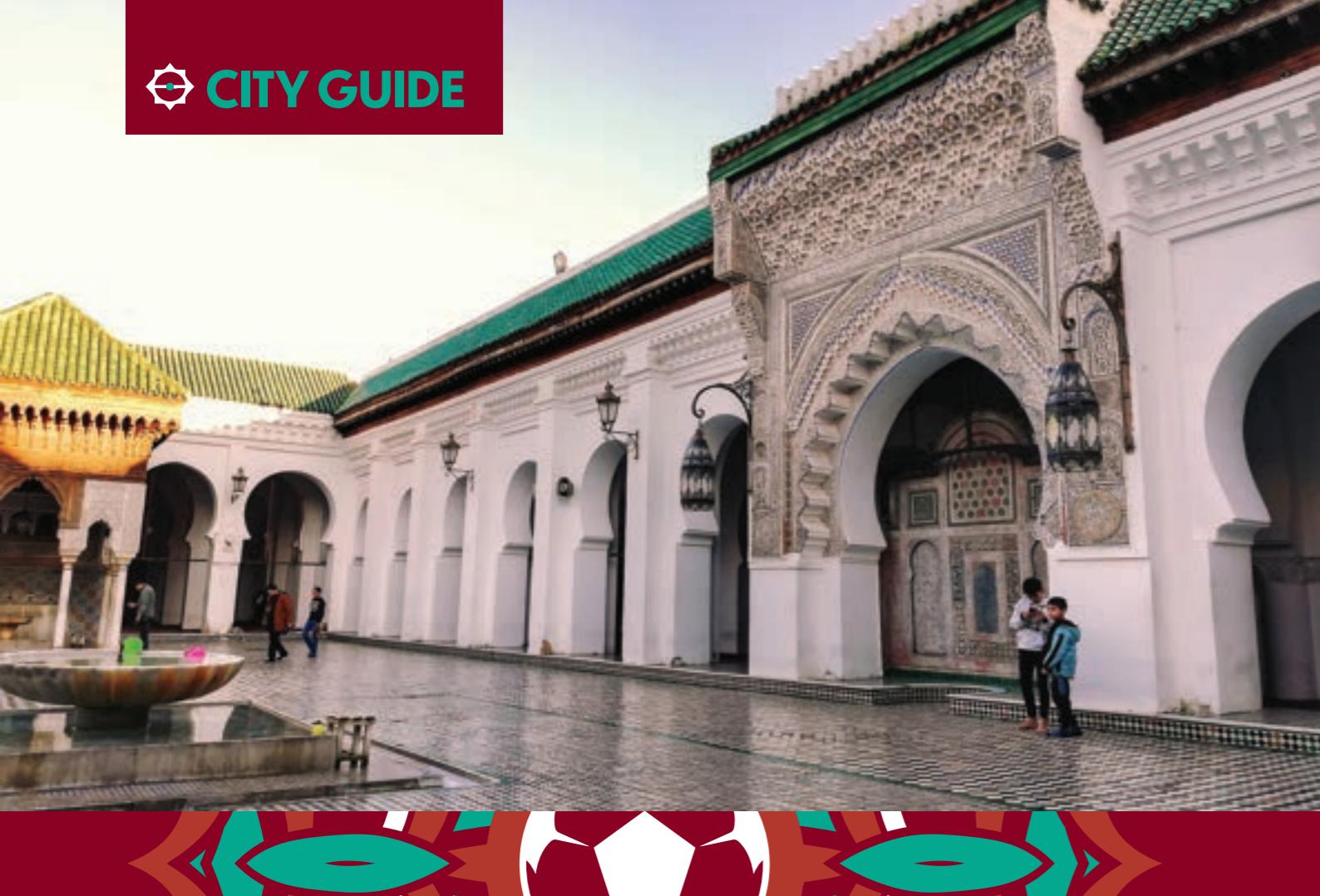
Located in the heart of Agadir on Morocco's Atlantic coast, the Grand Stade d'Agadir is set to come alive with the TotalEnergies CAF Africa Cup of Nations Morocco 2025.

Inaugurated on 11 October 2013, this modern jewel has quickly become a landmark of Moroccan football, hosting both Hassania Agadir fixtures and major international competitions.

The stadium took nearly 10 years to complete, at a cost of around 860 million dirhams. With a capacity of 45,480, a natural grass pitch, and world-class facilities, it fully meets international standards.

From its very first matches, Hassania Agadir's win over JS Kabylie and Morocco's draw with South Africa, the stadium has been a reference point for major football events.

Soon after, it hosted the FIFA Club World Cup 2013, as well as qualifiers for the TotalEnergies CAF Africa Cup of Nations 2017.



# FES

## KEY EMERGENCY CONTACTS

### FES

- General Emergency (Police/Fire/Ambulance): **19** (landline) | **112** (mobile)
- Police (Urban/City): **19**
- Royal Gendarmerie (Highways & Rural Areas): **177**
- Ambulance / Civil Protection: **15**
- Fire Brigade: **15**
- Hôpital Universitaire Hassan II: **+212 535 93 00 00**
- Clinique Al Kawtar (Private): **+212 535 61 19 00**
- Polyclinique Atlas (Private): **+212 535 64 01 23**

Nestled 180 km east of Rabat, between the Rif Mountains and the Middle Atlas, Fes is one of Morocco's four imperial cities and its spiritual capital. Founded in the late 8th century by Moulay Idriss I, it emerged as a major center of Islamic civilization, rivaling cities like Baghdad, Damascus, Cairo, and Cordoba.

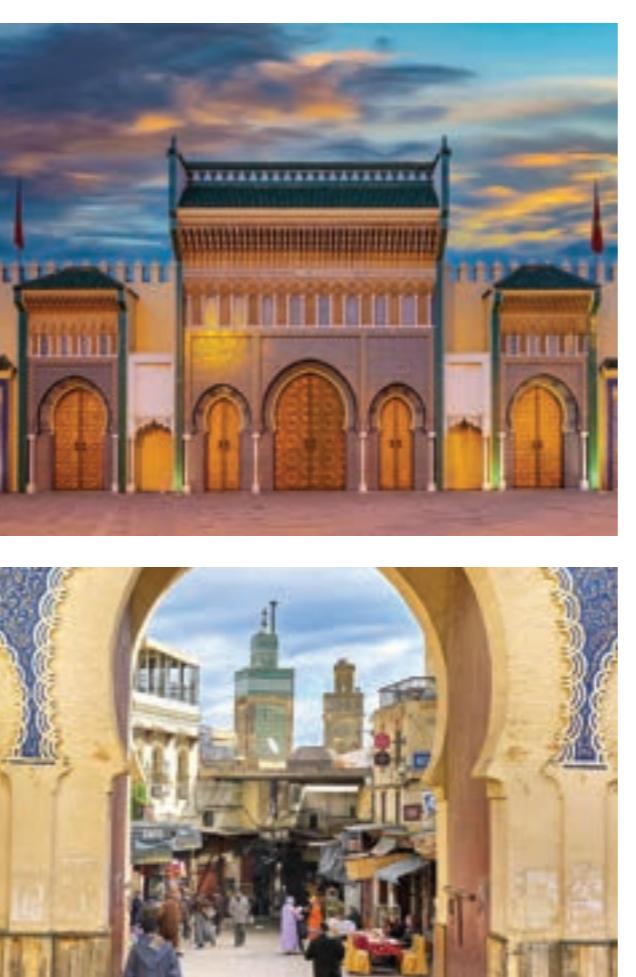
Often called the "Athens of Africa" or the "Baghdad of the Maghreb", Fes seamlessly blends rich tradition, cultural vibrancy, and social dynamism.

The city is divided into

three distinct areas: the historic medina, a UNESCO World Heritage Site; the royal enclosure; and the modern districts established during the French protectorate. With a population exceeding one million, Fes is Morocco's second-largest urban center.

### Football in Fes

Fes is home to two storied football clubs: Wydad Athlétique de Fes (founded in 1948) and Maghreb Association Sportive de Fes (MAS, founded in 1946), one of Morocco's



most decorated teams. Notably, MAS won the TotalEnergies CAF Confederation Cup in 2011. The Fes Sports Complex, with a capacity of 37,000 and an athletics track, hosts major competitions.

### Getting Around

Fes is well-connected by the Fes-Ville train station and Fes-Saïss International Airport, 15 km away, with flights to Casablanca and Europe.

The A2 highway links Fès to Rabat and Oujda. The city's public transport includes about 100 buses, with plans to expand to 250 by 2035.

### What to see

The medina is a historical

gem, featuring ancient ramparts, mosques, madrasas, fondouks, and palaces.

Must-see sites include the Al Qarawiyyin Mosque and University, the Bou Inania Madrasa, the Guernize tanneries, Bab Boujloud gate, and the Batha Palace gardens, all spectacular in their own way.

The annual Festival of World Sacred Music draws thousands, cementing Fès as a global cultural and spiritual hub.

### TOTALENERGIES CAF AFCON 2025 Fixtures

- Match 5:** 23 December: **Nigeria vs Tanzania** (Group C, 18:30)
- Match 17:** 27 December: **Nigeria vs Tunisia** (Group C, 21:00)
- Match 29:** 29 December: **Uganda vs Nigeria** (Group C, 17:00)
- Match 42:** 05 January: **Winner Group C vs Third Group A/B/F** (Round of 16, 20:00)



## FES STADIUM GUIDE



### COMPLEXE SPORTIF DE FES

Capacity: **45,000**

The Complex Sportif de Fes is a premier football stadium located on the road linking Fès to Sefrou.

With a capacity of 45,000, it blends the charm of traditional Moroccan architecture with modern facilities, offering world-class amenities and a vibrant atmosphere for both national and international matches.

Planning began in 1992, with construction starting in 1994, with the stadium completed in 2003. As part of Morocco's bids for the FIFA World Cups in 2006 and 2010, the stadium was upgraded, adding 5,000 seats to reach its current 45,000 capacity.

The stadium was officially inaugurated on 25 November 2007 with the Throne Cup final between FAR Rabat and Rachad Bernoussi.

Since then, Maghreb de Fes has called it home, while the venue has also hosted major domestic and international fixtures.



# MARRAKECH

## KEY EMERGENCY CONTACTS

### MARRAKECH

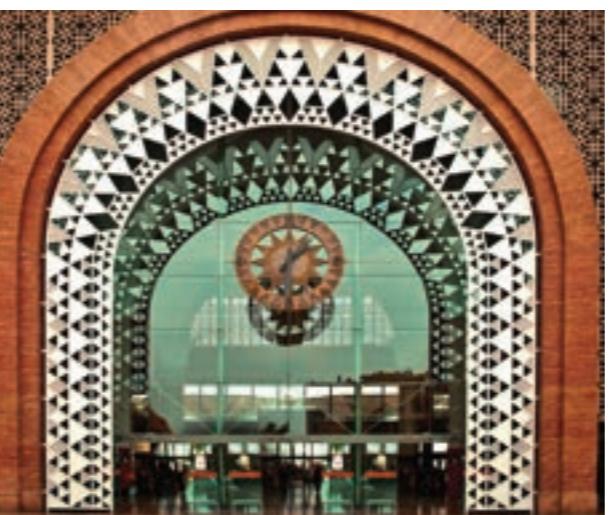
- General Emergency (Police/Fire/Ambulance): **19** (landline) | **112** (mobile)
- Police (Urban/City): **19**
- Royal Gendarmerie (Highways & Rural Areas): **177**
- Ambulance / Civil Protection: **15**
- Fire Brigade: **15**
- Hôpital Ibn Tofail (University Hospital): **+212 524 44 79 99**
- Clinique Internationale de Marrakech (Private): **+212 524 44 44 44**
- Clinique Almoustakbal (Private): **+212 524 30 00 00**

Nestled at the foot of the Atlas Mountains, Marrakech, dubbed the "Red City" for its ochre-hued walls and buildings, is one of Morocco's largest and most vibrant cities, with a population exceeding one million. As an imperial capital for nearly 350 years under the Almoravids, Almohads, and Saadians, it boasts an extraordinary heritage, exemplified by its 600-hectare medina, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Today, Marrakech is Morocco's tourism capital with its sunny climate, modern infrastructure, and warm hospitality. As a host

city for the TotalEnergies CAF Africa Cup of Nations Morocco 2025, Marrakech will blend its rich history and culture with the excitement of international football, offering visitors an unforgettable experience.

#### Football in Marrakech

The Kawkab de Marrakech stands as the city's most iconic football club, leaving a lasting mark on Moroccan football. Other local teams, such as Olympique, Mouloudia, Najm, and Ittifaq, reflect the city's deep passion for the sport and its dynamic sporting culture.



#### Getting Around

Marrakech is well-connected, with the A3 highway linking it to Casablanca, Agadir, and Essaouira. Marrakech-Ménara International Airport, the country's second busiest, welcomes over four million passengers annually and continues to expand. The city's modern railway station offers fast, convenient connections to Rabat and Casablanca.

#### What to see

At the heart of the city lies Jemaa el-Fna Square, a UNESCO Intangible Cultural Heritage site, alive with musicians, storytellers, and vibrant street food stalls. The medina and its bustling souks immerse visitors in a sensory explosion of

colours and aromas. Iconic landmarks include the opulent Bahia Palace, the historic El Badi Palace, the Ben Youssef Madrasa, and the Saadian Tombs. For green escapes, the Majorelle Garden, Menara Gardens, and The Secret Garden enchant visitors. Cultural gems like the Yves Saint Laurent Museum, Dar Si Said Museum, and Marrakech Museum further enrich the city's offerings.

#### TOTALENERGIES CAF AFCON 2025 Fixtures

- Match 4:** 22 December: **South Africa vs Angola** (Group B, 18:00)
- Match 11:** 24 December: **Côte d'Ivoire vs Mozambique** (Group F, 18:30)
- Match 16:** 26 December: **Angola vs Zimbabwe** (Group B, 13:30)
- Match 23:** 28 December: **Côte d'Ivoire vs Cameroon** (Group F, 21:00)
- Match 28:** 29 December: **Zimbabwe vs South Africa** (Group B, 17:00)
- Match 35:** 31 December: **Gabon vs Côte d'Ivoire** (Group F, 20:00)
- Match 44:** 6 January: **Winner Group F vs Second Group E** (Round of 16, 20:00)
- Match 47:** 10 January: **Winner Match 43 vs Winner Match 42** (Quarter-final, 17:00)



## GRAND STADE DE MARRAKECH

Capacity: **45,240**

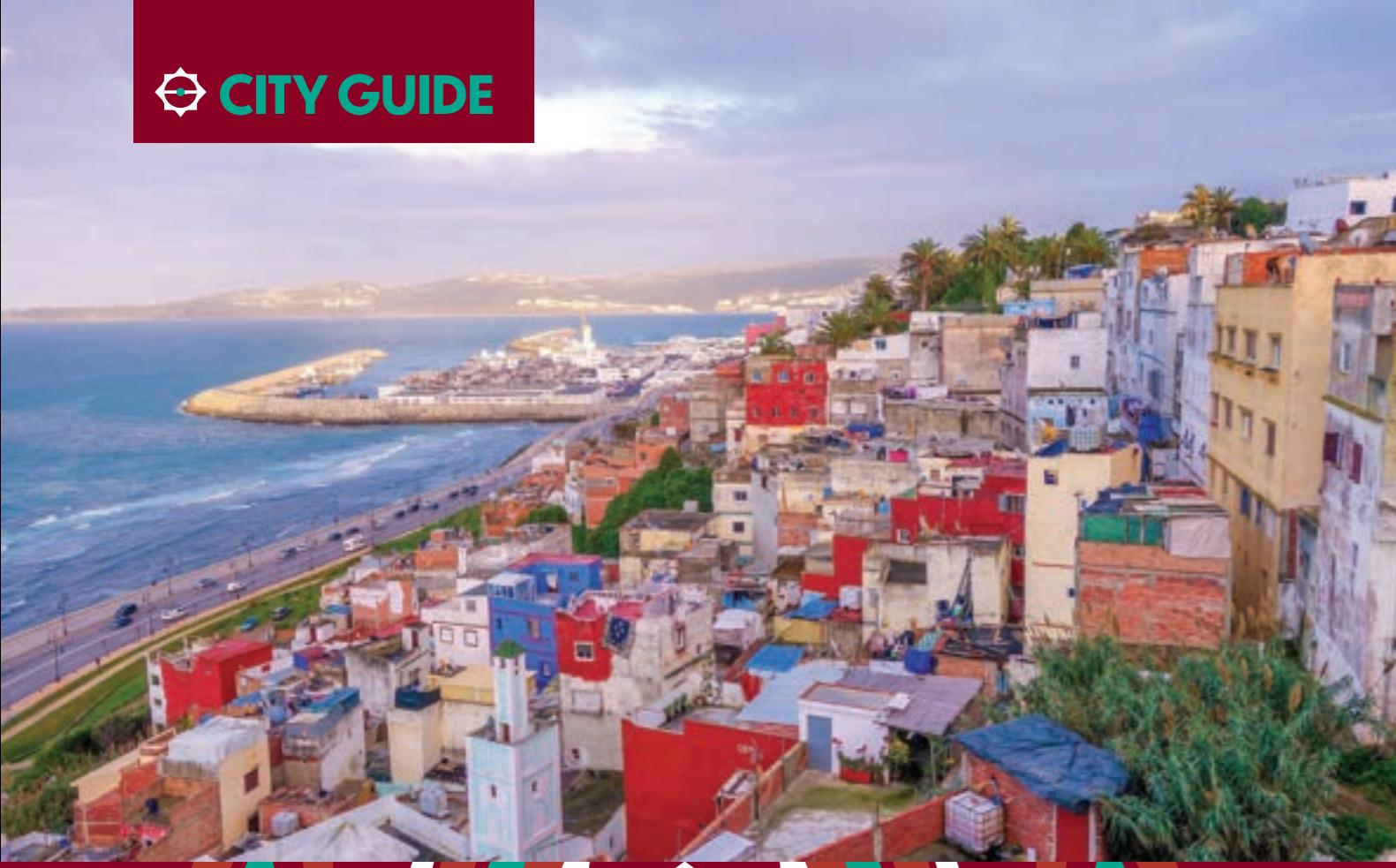
Located 11km north of the city centre, Grand Stade de Marrakech is one of Morocco's premier sports complexes.

With a capacity of 45,240 seats, it combines modern design with versatility, offering world-class facilities for both football and athletics, while delivering a vibrant atmosphere for national and international competitions.

Built to meet international standards, the stadium was inaugurated on 5 January 2011, with two prestigious friendlies: Wydad AC vs Paris Saint-Germain (1-1) and Kawkab Marrakech vs Olympique Lyonnais (0-0).

The complex also features a 5,000-seat auxiliary stadium with an athletics track, a 1,000 m<sup>2</sup> media centre, medical and first aid facilities.

The royal box has 200 seats, the honour stand 600 and 700 seats are reserved for spectators with disabilities, making sure it is a venue that caters for everybody who loves the game.



# TANGIER

## KEY EMERGENCY CONTACTS

### TANGIER

- General Emergency (Police/Fire/Ambulance): **19** (landline) | **112** (mobile)
- Police (Urban/City): **19**
- Royal Gendarmerie (Highways & Rural Areas): **177**
- Ambulance / Civil Protection: **15**
- Fire Brigade: **15**
- Tangier University Hospital (Hôpital Mohammed V): **+212 539 93 22 22**
- Clinique du Croissant Rouge (Private): **+212 539 93 14 14**
- Clinique Internationale de Tanger (Private): **+212 539 33 33 33**

Nestled in the northwest corner of Morocco, Tangier is the capital of the Tangier-Tétouan-Al Hoceïma region and the prefecture of Tangier-Assilah. Strategically perched on the Strait of Gibraltar, just 14 kilometers from Spain's shores, it is a bustling city with around 1-million residents. Tangier thrives as both a sought-after tourist destination and one of Morocco's most dynamic economic hubs, second only to Casablanca.

#### Football in Tangier

Football is at the heart of Tangier's culture. The city's

flagship club, Ittihad Riadi de Tangier (IRT), competes in Morocco's top-tier Botola Pro league. Matches are played at the modern Grand Stade de Tangier, inaugurated in 2011, with a capacity of over 65,000. This iconic stadium hosts national finals, international fixtures, and Moroccan national team games, transforming into a vibrant celebration on match days with passionate fans filling the air with spirited chants. The stadium is also a venue for major sporting and cultural events, cementing Tangier's status as a premier sports destination.



#### Getting Around

Navigating Tangier is straightforward, thanks to its diverse transport options. Blue petit taxis zip through the city, offering quick rides between neighborhoods, while white grand taxis connect to nearby towns and regional destinations. Modernized urban buses now serve a wide area, including peripheral zones. Tangier's Tanger-Ville train station is the northern terminus of the Al Boraq high-speed rail, linking the city to Rabat and Casablanca in record time. The Port of Tangier Ville offers regular ferry crossings to Spain, and Ibn Battouta International Airport connects to major European and African cities. For greater flexibility, car rentals or the growing availability of ride-hailing services provide convenient ways to explore Tangier and its surroundings.

#### What to see

Tangier captivates with its rich heritage and diverse landscapes. The medina, with its lively narrow streets, brims with colorful souks, artisanal shops, and

traditional cafés. Perched above the city, the Kasbah overlooks the Strait of Gibraltar and houses a museum showcasing Morocco's history and art. The Corniche and nearby beaches invite leisurely strolls along the Atlantic-Mediterranean divide. Just outside the city, Cape Spartel and the Caves of Hercules blend history, legend, and stunning vistas. Tangier's vibrant cultural scene shines through its museums and galleries, such as the Museum of Contemporary Art and the Lorin Gallery, reflecting the city's artistic energy. The Grand Socco and Petit Socco, iconic squares where locals and visitors mingle, embody Tangier's cosmopolitan soul, offering an authentic glimpse into the spirit of this dynamic city on the strait, which is a must for visitors.

#### TOTALENERGIES CAF AFCON 2025 Fixtures

- Match 7:** 23 December: **Senegal vs Botswana** (Group D, 16:00)
- Match 19:** 27 December: **Senegal vs DR Congo** (Group D, 16:00)
- Match 31:** 30 December: **Benin vs Senegal** (Group D, 20:00)
- Match 37:** 3 January: **Winner Group D vs Third Group B/E/F** (Round of 16, 17:00)
- Match 45:** 9 January: **Winner Match 38 vs Winner Match 37** (Quarter-final, 17:00)
- Match 49:** 14 January: **Winner Match 45 vs Winner Match 48** (Semi-final, 18:00)



## TANGIER STADIUM GUIDE



### GRAND STADE DE TANGER

Capacity: **75,600**

Nestled 10 km southwest of Tangier's vibrant city center, the Grand Stade de Tanger stands as a cornerstone of Moroccan football. Opened in 2011, this architectural gem is named after Ibn Battuta, the legendary 14th-century Tangier-born explorer, reflecting the city's rich historical legacy.

Boasting a capacity of 75,600, including over 7,000 media seats and 500 VIP spaces, the stadium ranks among Morocco's largest venues.

It serves as the home of Ittihad Tanger and meets global standards with cutting-edge amenities. These include a 600 m<sup>2</sup> media center, advanced medical facilities, 17 access gates.

Its prime location, 4 km from Tangier Ibn Battouta Airport and 10 km from Tanger-Ville railway station, ensures seamless access for fans and visiting delegations.

Since its inauguration, the Grand Stade de Tanger has hosted a series of prestigious international events. Highlights include the French Trophée des Champions (2011: LOSC vs Marseille; 2017: PSG vs Monaco), the Spanish Super Cup (2018: Barcelona vs Sevilla), and the FIFA Club World Cup 2022, where Al Hilal triumphed over Flamengo.



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# TOTALENERGIES CAF AFRICA CUP OF NATIONS RECORDS

## TEAM RECORDS

### MOST TITLES WON

**7**

Egypt  
1957, 1959, 1986, 1998,  
2006, 2008, 2010

### MOST WINS AT THE FINALS TOURNAMENT

**60**  
Egypt



### MOST GAMES PLAYED AT THE FINALS TOURNAMENT

**111**  
Egypt

### MOST TOURNAMENTS HOSTED

**5**  
Egypt  
1959, 1974, 1986, 2006,  
2019

### MOST SUCCESSIVE APPEARANCES AT THE FINALS

**17**  
Tunisia  
(1994-2025)

### MOST CLEAN SHEETS AT A SINGLE TOURNAMENT

**6**  
Cameroon  
2002

### MOST CONSECUTIVE TITLES WON

**3**  
Egypt  
2006, 2008, 2010

### MOST APPEARANCES IN A FINAL

**10**  
Egypt  
1957, 1959, 1962, 1986,  
1998, 2006, 2008,  
2010, 2017, 2021

### MOST GOALS AT THE FINALS TOURNAMENT

**175**  
Egypt

### MOST APPEARANCES AT THE FINALS TOURNAMENT

**27**  
Egypt  
1957, 1959, 1962, 1963,  
1970, 1974, 1976, 1980,  
1984, 1986, 1988, 1990,  
1992, 1994, 1996, 1998,  
2000, 2002, 2004,  
2006, 2008, 2010,  
2017, 2019, 2021, 2023,  
2025

## COACH RECORDS

### COACH WITH MOST TOURNAMENT MATCHES

**38**  
Claude LeRoy



### COACH WITH MOST TOURNAMENT APPEARANCES

**9**  
Claude LeRoy  
(Cameroon 1986, 1988,  
Senegal 1990, 1992,  
DR Congo 2006, Ghana  
2008, DR Congo 2013,  
Congo 2015,  
Togo 2017)

### COACH TO HAVE WON WITH MULIPLE TEAMS

**2**  
Herve Renard  
Zambia  
(2012) &  
Côte d'Ivoire  
(2015)

### WINNER AS A PLAYER AND COACH

Mahmoud Al Gohari  
(Egypt)  
1957 and 1998

Stephen Keshi  
(Nigeria)  
1994 and 2013

### COACH WITH MOST TITLES

**3**  
Charles Gyamfi  
(Ghana)  
1963, 1965, 1982

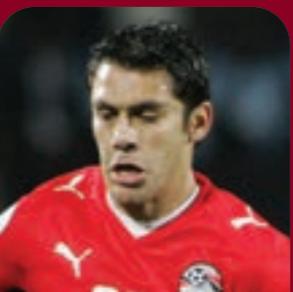
**3**  
Hassan Shehata  
(Egypt)  
2006, 2008, 2010

## TOTALENERGIES CAF AFRICA CUP OF NATIONS BEST PLAYER

### YEAR BEST PLAYER

1957	Ad-Diba (EGYPT)
1959	Mahmoud El-Gohary (EGYPT)
1962	Mengistu Worku (ETHIOPIA)
1963	Hassan El-Shazly (EGYPT)
1965	Osei Kofi (GHANA)
1968	Kazadi Mwamba (DR CONGO)
1970	Laurent Pokou (CÔTE D'IVOIRE)
1972	Jean-Pierre Tokoto (CAMEROON)
1974	Ndaye Mulamba (DR CONGO)
1976	Ahmed Faras (MOROCCO)
1978	Karim Abdul Razak (GHANA)
1980	Christian Chukwu (NIGERIA)
1982	Fawzi Al-Issawi (LIBYA)
1984	Théophile Abega (CAMEROON)
1986	Roger Milla (CAMEROON)
1988	Roger Milla (CAMEROON)
1990	Rabah Madjer (ALGERIA)
1992	Abedi Pele (GHANA)
1994	Rashidi Yekini (NIGERIA)
1996	Kalusha Bwalya (ZAMBIA)
1998	Benni McCarthy (SOUTH AFRICA)
2000	Lauren (CAMEROON)
2002	Rigobert Song (CAMEROON)
2004	Jay-Jay Okocha (NIGERIA)
2006	Ahmed Hassan (EGYPT)
2008	Hosny Abd Rabo (EGYPT)
2010	Ahmed Hassan (EGYPT)
2012	Christopher Katongo (ZAMBIA)
2013	Jonathan Pitroipa (BURKINA FASO)
2015	Christian Atsu (GHANA)
2017	Christian Bassogog (CAMEROON)
2019	Ismaël Bennacer (ALGERIA)
2021	Sadio Mane (SENEGAL)
2023	William Troost-Ekong (NIGERIA)

## PLAYER RECORDS



### MOST TOURNAMENT APPEARANCES

**8**

Rigobert Song  
(Cameroon)  
1996, 1998, 2000,  
2002, 2004, 2006,  
2008, 2010

**8**

Ahmed Hassan  
(Egypt)  
1996, 1998, 2000,  
2002, 2004, 2006,  
2008, 2010

**8**

Andre Ayew  
(Ghana)  
2008, 2010, 2012,  
2015, 2017, 2019,  
2021, 2023

**8**

Youssef Msakni  
(Tunisia)  
2010, 2012, 2013,  
2015, 2017, 2019,  
2021, 2023

### MOST MATCHES PLAYED AT THE FINALS TOURNAMENT

**36**

Rigobert Song  
(Cameroon)

**36**

Andre Ayew  
(Ghana)

### MOST GOALS IN A MATCH

**9**

Egypt 6 Nigeria 3, 1963

### MOST TITLES WON AS A PLAYER

**4**

Ahmed Hassan  
(Egypt)  
1998, 2006, 2008, 2010

**4**

Essam El Hadary  
(Egypt)  
1998, 2006, 2008, 2010

### MOST HATTRICKS

**2**

Hassan El-Shazly  
(Egypt)  
1963, 1970

### MOST GOALS SCORED IN A SINGLE TOURNAMENT

**9**

Mulumba Ndaye  
DR Congo, 1974

### MOST GOALS SCORED IN A SINGLE MATCH

**5**

Laurent Pokou  
(Côte d'Ivoire 6  
Ethiopia 1, 1970)

### FASTEAST GOAL SCORED

**23**  
seconds

Ayman Mansour  
(Egypt 4 Gabon 0, 1994)



### MOST TOURNAMENT GOALS

**18**

Samuel Eto'o  
(Cameroon)

COUNTRY	TITLE WINS	RUNNER-UP	THIRD-PLACE	TOTAL
<b>Egypt</b>	<b>7</b> (1957, 1959*, 1986*, 1998, 2006*, 2008, 2010)	<b>3</b> (1962, 2017, 2021)	<b>3</b> (1963, 1970, 1974*)	<b>13</b>
<b>Cameroon</b>	<b>5</b> (1984, 1988, 2000, 2002, 2017)	<b>2</b> (1986, 2008)	<b>2</b> (1972*, 2021*)	<b>9</b>
<b>Ghana</b>	<b>4</b> (1963*, 1965, 1978*, 1982)	<b>5</b> (1968, 1970, 1992, 2010, 2015)	<b>1</b> (2008*)	<b>10</b>
<b>Nigeria</b>	<b>3</b> (1980*, 1994, 2013)	<b>5</b> (1984, 1988, 1990, 2000*, 2023)	<b>8</b> (1976, 1978, 1992, 2002, 2004, 2006, 2010, 2019)	<b>16</b>
<b>Côte d'Ivoire</b>	<b>3</b> (1992, 2015, 2023*)	<b>2</b> (2006, 2012)	<b>4</b> (1965, 1968, 1986, 1994)	<b>9</b>
<b>Algeria</b>	<b>2</b> (1990*, 2019)	<b>1</b> (1980)	<b>2</b> (1984, 1988)	<b>5</b>
<b>DR Congo</b>	<b>2</b> (1968, 1974)		<b>2</b> (1998, 2015)	<b>4</b>
<b>Zambia</b>	<b>1</b> (2012)		<b>2</b> (1974, 1994)	<b>6</b>
<b>Tunisia</b>	<b>1</b> (2004*)		<b>2</b> (1965*, 1996)	<b>4</b>
<b>Sudan</b>	<b>1</b> (1970*)		<b>2</b> (1959, 1963)	<b>4</b>
<b>Senegal</b>	<b>1</b> (2021)		<b>2</b> (2002, 2019)	<b>3</b>
<b>South Africa</b>	<b>1</b> (1996*)		<b>1</b> (1998)	<b>4</b>
<b>Ethiopia</b>	<b>1</b> (1962*)		<b>1</b> (1957)	<b>3</b>
<b>Morocco</b>	<b>1</b> (1976)		<b>1</b> (2004)	<b>3</b>
<b>Congo</b>	<b>1</b> (1972)			<b>1</b>
<b>Mali</b>		<b>1</b> (1972)	<b>2</b> (2012, 2013)	<b>3</b>
<b>Burkina Faso</b>		<b>1</b> (2013)	<b>1</b> (2017)	<b>2</b>
<b>Uganda</b>		<b>1</b> (1978)		<b>1</b>
<b>Guinea</b>		<b>1</b> (1976)		<b>1</b>
<b>Libya</b>		<b>1</b> (1982*)		<b>1</b>

\*Denotes team hosted the tournament

# STADIUMS

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City: Rabat | Capacity: 69,500



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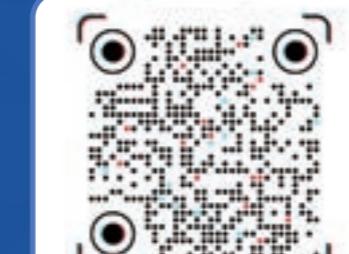
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AFRICA CUP  
OF NATIONS  
MOROCCO 25

# GROUP A

Hosts **Morocco** enter the tournament ranked among the top 12 in the world, noted for their defensive organisation and high pressing game under coach Walid Regragui.

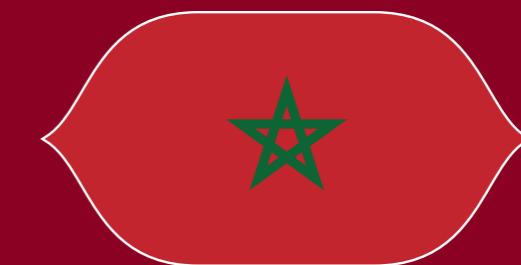
They conceded just two goals in six qualifiers, scoring 26 times at the same time, and often dominate possession with their host of stars in elite leagues.

**Mali** have qualified for every AFCON since 2008, regularly reaching the knockout stages. Their midfield is a strength, with the team also conceding only a single goal in their 2025 qualifying campaign.

They are compact and difficult to break down.

**Zambia** bring pace and organisation and topped a tough qualification pool that also included Cote d'Ivoire, though seven goals in six games shows they are both tough to beat but also struggle to break other teams down.

Likewise **Comoros** rely on compact defensive organisation and counter-attacks, and also topped a tough qualification pool ahead of Tunisia. They debuted in 2021 and are appearing at their second finals.



MOROCCO



MALI



ZAMBIA



COMOROS

# MOROCCO

**Nickname:** The Atlas Lions  
**AFCON Appearances:** 20 (debut in 1972)  
**Best Performance:** Winners (1976)  
**FIFA Ranking (November 2025):** 11  
**CAF Ranking (November 2025):** 1

## COACH

### Walid Regragui

Nationality: Morocco  
 Date of birth: 23 September, 1975  
 Start of Tenure: 2022

Walid Regragui has become one of Africa's most respected tacticians. Appointed in 2022, he led the Atlas Lions to a historic FIFA World Cup semi-final that same year – the first by an African nation. A former international right-back, Regragui combines tactical discipline with motivational leadership, blending European precision and African flair to elevate Morocco into a consistent global contender.

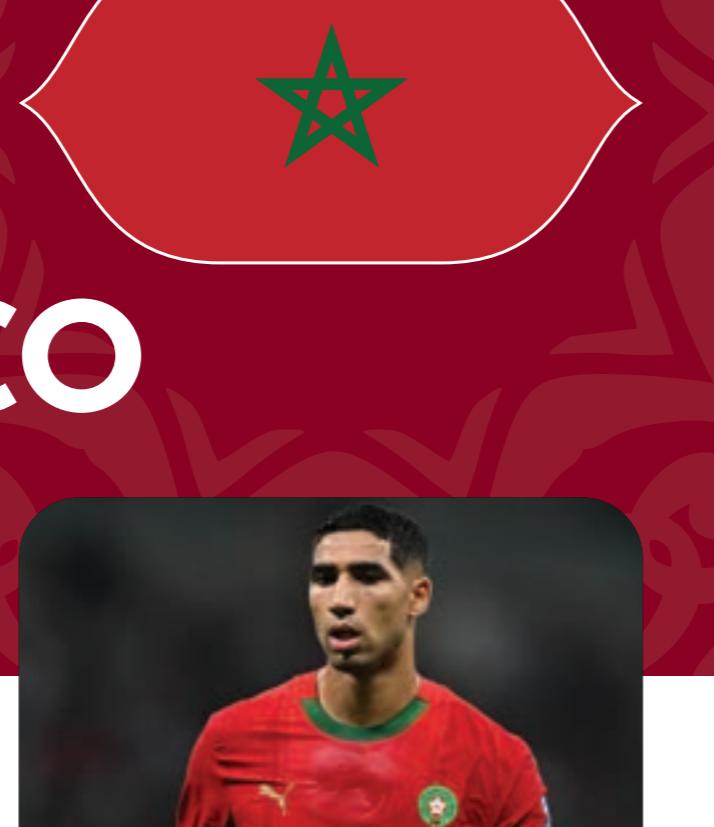
## PLAYER TO WATCH

### Achraf Hakimi

Date of birth: 4 November, 1998  
 Position: Defender  
 Current club: Paris St Germain (France)

Achraf Hakimi is a dynamic Moroccan full-back renowned for his pace, versatility, and attacking instincts. Born in Madrid and developed at Real Madrid's academy, he has starred for Borussia Dortmund, Inter Milan, and Paris Saint-Germain. A key figure for Morocco's national team, Hakimi played a vital role in their 2022 World Cup semi-final appearance. His explosive runs and technical quality make him one of world football's most complete modern defenders.

YEAR	FINISH	POS	P	W	D	L	GF	GA
1972	Group stage	5th	3	0	3	0	3	3
1976	Champions	1st	6	4	2	0	11	6
1978	Group stage	6th	3	1	1	1	2	4
1980	Third place	3rd	5	2	1	2	4	3
1986	Fourth place	4th	5	1	2	2	4	5
1988	Fourth place	4th	5	1	3	1	3	3
1992	Group stage	9th	2	0	1	1	1	2
1998	Quarter-finals	6th	4	2	1	1	6	3
2000	Group stage	11th	3	1	1	1	1	2
2002	Group stage	9th	3	1	1	1	3	4
2004	Runners-up	2nd	6	4	1	1	14	4
2006	Group stage	13th	3	0	2	1	0	1
2008	Group stage	11th	3	1	0	2	7	6
2012	Group stage	12th	3	1	0	2	4	5
2013	Group stage	10th	3	0	3	0	3	3
2017	Quarter-finals	7th	4	2	0	2	4	3
2019	Round of 16	9th	4	3	1	0	4	1
2021	Quarter-finals	5th	5	3	1	1	8	5
2023	Round of 16	11th	4	2	1	1	5	3
<b>TOTALS</b>			<b>74</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>66</b>



## HOW THEY QUALIFIED

PLAYER	POS	MIN	ST	SI	G	H 4-1 v Gabon (06/09/2024)	A 1-0 v Lesotho (09/09/2024)	H 5-0 v CAR (12/10/2024)	A 4-0 v CAR (15/10/2024)	A 5-1 v Gabon (15/11/2024)	H 7-0 v Lesotho (18/11/2024)
<b>Yassine Bounou</b>	<b>G</b>	302	4	0	0	<b>90</b>		<b>32</b>		<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>
<b>Munir Mohamedi</b>	<b>G</b>	238	2	1	0		<b>90</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>90</b>		
<b>Aguerd Nayef</b>	<b>D</b>	507	6	0	0	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>81</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>
<b>Adam Masina</b>	<b>D</b>	14	0	1	0						<b>14</b>
<b>Sofyan Amrabat</b>	<b>D</b>	450	5	0	0	<b>90</b>		<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>
<b>Noussair Mazraoui</b>	<b>D</b>	270	3	0	0	<b>90</b>				<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>
<b>Abdel Abqar</b>	<b>D</b>	114	1	1	0	<b>90</b>		<b>24</b>			
<b>Achraf Hakimi</b>	<b>D</b>	450	5	0	1	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>
<b>Yunis Abdelhamid</b>	<b>D</b>	90	1	0	0		<b>90</b>				
<b>Adam Aznou</b>	<b>D</b>	169	2	1	0		<b>90</b>			<b>3</b>	<b>76</b>
<b>Jamal Harkass</b>	<b>D</b>	360	4	0	1			<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>
<b>Youssef Belammari</b>	<b>M</b>	180	2	0	0			<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>		
<b>Bilal El Khannous</b>	<b>M</b>	161	1	3	0	<b>80</b>		<b>25</b>		<b>11</b>	<b>45</b>
<b>Azzedine Ounahi</b>	<b>M</b>	389	5	1	2	<b>15</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>45</b>
<b>Ismael Saibari</b>	<b>M</b>	77	0	3	2				<b>22</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>45</b>
<b>Brahim Diaz</b>	<b>M</b>	233	3	1	7	<b>74</b>	<b>33</b>			<b>64</b>	<b>62</b>
<b>Hakim Ziyech</b>	<b>M</b>	108	1	1	2	<b>75</b>	<b>33</b>				
<b>Amir Richardson</b>	<b>M</b>	67	1	1	0	<b>10</b>	<b>57</b>				
<b>Amine Adli</b>	<b>M</b>	89	1	2	0	<b>10</b>	<b>56</b>		<b>23</b>		
<b>Oussama Targhalline</b>	<b>M</b>	90	1	0	0		<b>90</b>				
<b>Reda Belahyane</b>	<b>M</b>	9	0	1	0				<b>9</b>		
<b>Ilias Akhomach</b>	<b>A</b>	87	1	2	0	<b>16</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>14</b>			
<b>Eliesse Ben Seghir</b>	<b>A</b>	265	4	0	2			<b>65</b>	<b>68</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>45</b>
<b>Ayoub El Kaabi</b>	<b>A</b>	246	3	3	1	<b>22</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>28</b>
<b>Youssef En-Nesyri</b>	<b>A</b>	191	1	4	3		<b>33</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>Abde Ezzalzouli</b>	<b>A</b>	428	5	1	2	<b>80</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>68</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>90</b>
<b>Soufiane Rahimi</b>	<b>A</b>	308	4	1	3	<b>68</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>67</b>		<b>63</b>
<b>Osame Sahraoui</b>	<b>A</b>	22	0	1	0					<b>22</b>	
<b>Zakaria Aboukhla</b>	<b>A</b>	26	0	1	0						<b>26</b>

## GROUP A FIXTURES

DATE	K/O	Fixture
21/12	20:00	Morocco vs Comoros
26/12	21:00	Morocco vs Mali
29/12	20:00	Zambia vs Morocco

## VENUE

Prince Moulay Abdellah Stadium, Rabat  
 Prince Moulay Abdellah Stadium, Rabat  
 Prince Moulay Abdellah Stadium, Rabat

# KARIM EL AHMADI: “THERE IS NO ROOM FOR SECOND OR THIRD PLACE”

Excitement is building nationwide as Morocco prepare to host the TotalEnergies CAF Africa Cup of Nations for the first time since 1988, with world-class venues and a fervent home crowd expected to provide a striking backdrop.

Former Morocco midfielder **KARIM EL AHMADI** reflects on his own tournament memories

and the expectations surrounding current coach Walid Regragui's side.

He believes this squad's blend of rising talent and seasoned leaders can reinforce Morocco's status as a standard-bearer of African football.

And, as he puts it, there is only one objective: lift the trophy on home soil for the first time

**You played two AFCONs, in 2017 and 2019. What memories do you have from the competition?**

**El Ahmadi:** AFCON 2019 in Egypt is a good memory. We finished top of our group with Côte d'Ivoire, a tough pool, and won all our matches. Then we faced Benin. Everyone thought it would be easy, but that is AFCON: even the so-called smaller nations can beat the big

ones. We lost on penalties, but our group stage was excellent. It was a great experience. Within the squad we expected more, because we were coming off the World Cup in Russia, Morocco's first qualification for a long time. Expectations were high, ours too as players. To be honest, it was the best Morocco team I played in, in terms of experience and quality. We were ready to achieve something. It was a shame to go out to Benin, but overall it remains a positive memory.

**What makes AFCON so special in your view?**  
**El Ahmadi:** What makes AFCON unique is that players are not playing for a club, a wage or money. They play to make their people and families happy and to bring a trophy back to their country.



For me, AFCON is special because you play for your nation and your people. And at AFCON there are no small teams, everyone fights to win. Look at Zambia, who won it in 2012. Even the outsiders are dangerous.

**Morocco will face Comoros at the Prince Moulay Abdellah Stadium in Rabat. The stands will be full and the backing huge. How do you manage that pressure?**

**El Ahmadi:** Yes, there will be pressure. But for me the supporters give extra motivation; they push players to go beyond 100 per cent. Moroccan players have enough experience to handle that pressure, it will even be a strength. We saw it in Qatar: it felt as if we were playing in Morocco because of the number of fans. At this tournament it will be the same, and with better pitches and infrastructure, other teams will benefit too.

I remember tournaments where the pitches and facilities were not good. It was difficult. This time the conditions will be ideal, and that will help big teams like Senegal or Côte d'Ivoire as well. But for Morocco, the crowd will be an extra motivation.

**What are the main strengths of this Morocco side?**

**El Ahmadi:** The biggest strength is the collective. We saw at the last World Cup that it was not only about individuals but a real team. Today there is a huge amount of talent and many good players. In every position there are three or four options. The strength comes from difference-makers: Hakimi on the right, Mazraoui on the left, En-Nesyri up front, Amrabat in midfield for defensive balance. And, above all, we have a top goalkeeper in Yassine Bounou, which is essential to win AFCON. The hardest part will be for Regragui:

choosing his starting XI with so many top players.

**You still speak with players in the squad. What do they tell you about this AFCON?**

**El Ahmadi:** They all say the same thing: there is no room for second or third place. There is only one target, to win AFCON and keep the trophy in Morocco. That is every player's biggest motivation.

**Finally, Karim, what do you wish for Morocco at this AFCON, on and off the pitch?**

**El Ahmadi:** On the pitch, I hope we play very well and win AFCON. Off it, I hope all visitors enjoy Morocco. There is so much to discover for tourists. I hope people appreciate the country and want to come back every year. Above all, that visitors from every nation feel welcome and have a great time in Morocco, which is a wonderful place to visit.

## GROUP A

## MALI

**Nickname:** Les Aigles (The Eagles)  
**AFCON Appearances:** 14 (debut in 1972)  
**Best Performance:** Runners-Up (1972)  
**FIFA Ranking (November 2025):** 54  
**CAF Ranking (November 2025):** 8



## COACH

## Tom Saintfiet

Nationality: Belgium  
 Date of birth:  
**29 March, 1973**  
 Start of tenure: **2024**

With vast experience around the world, Saintfiet returned to Africa to lead Mali from August 2024. Known for pragmatism and maximizing his squads, he set up his trademark 4-2-3-1, balancing defensive solidity with offensive creativity. With careful preparation and strong rapport with players, he oversaw a flawless qualifying campaign. His goal is to make Mali contenders against Africa's best, blending youth and experience.

## PLAYER TO WATCH

## Yves Bissouma

Date of birth:  
**30 August 1996**  
 Position: Central midfielder  
 Club: Tottenham Hotspur (England)



YEAR	FINISH	POS	P	W	D	L	GF	GA
1972	Runners-up	2nd	5	1	3	1	11	11
1994	Fourth place	4th	5	2	0	3	4	8
2002	Fourth place	4th	6	2	2	2	5	5
2004	Fourth place	4th	6	3	1	2	10	10
2008	Group stage	10th	3	1	1	1	1	3
2010	Group stage	9th	3	1	1	1	7	6
2012	Third place	3rd	6	3	1	2	6	5
2013	Third place	3rd	6	2	2	2	7	8
2015	Group stage	10th	3	0	3	0	3	3
2017	Group stage	12th	3	0	2	1	1	2
2019	Round of 16	11th	4	2	1	1	6	3
2021	Round of 16	11th	4	2	2	0	4	1
2023	Quarter-finals	7th	5	2	2	1	6	4
<b>TOTALS</b>								
			<b>59</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>69</b>

## HOW THEY QUALIFIED

PLAYER	POS	MIN	ST	SI	G	H 1-1 v Mozambique (06/09/2024)	A 1-0 v Eswatini (10/09/2024)	H 1-0 v Guinea Bissau (11/10/2024)	A 0-0 v Guinea Bissau (15/10/2024)	H 1-0 v Mozambique (15/11/2024)	A 6-0 v Eswatini (18/11/2024)
<b>Djigui Diarra</b>	<b>G</b>	540	6	0	0	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>
<b>Amadou Dante</b>	<b>D</b>	180	2	0	0					<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>
<b>Abdoulaye Diaby</b>	<b>D</b>	450	5	0	0	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	
<b>Salim Diakite</b>	<b>D</b>	352	4	0	0	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>82</b>	<b>90</b>		
<b>Fode Doucoure</b>	<b>D</b>	360	4	0	0	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	
<b>Mamadou Fofana</b>	<b>D</b>	513	6	0	0	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>63</b>
<b>Sikou Niakate</b>	<b>D</b>	90	1	0	0						<b>90</b>
<b>Ibrahima Cisse</b>	<b>D</b>	27	0	1	0						<b>27</b>
<b>Ousmane Diallo</b>	<b>D</b>	8	0	1	0			<b>8</b>			<b>90</b>
<b>Chieck Konate</b>	<b>D</b>	90	1	0	0						<b>45</b>
<b>Yves Bissouma</b>	<b>M</b>	469	6	0	2	<b>90</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>89</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	
<b>Mohamed Camara</b>	<b>M</b>	346	4	1	0	<b>45</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>82</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>67</b>	
<b>Lassana Coulibaly</b>	<b>M</b>	91	2	1	0	<b>45</b>		<b>1</b>	<b>45</b>		
<b>Aliou Dieng</b>	<b>M</b>	540	6	0	0	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	
<b>Kamory Doumbia</b>	<b>M</b>	146	2	0	2					<b>68</b>	<b>78</b>
<b>Dorgeles Nene</b>	<b>M</b>	169	2	0	3					<b>79</b>	<b>90</b>
<b>Amadou Haidara</b>	<b>M</b>	53	0	2	0		<b>8</b>	<b>45</b>			
<b>Mamadou Sangare</b>	<b>M</b>	147	1	3	0	<b>15</b>	<b>25</b>		<b>62</b>		<b>45</b>
<b>Fredy Coulibaly</b>	<b>M</b>	12	0	1	0						<b>12</b>
<b>Ibrahima Sissoko</b>	<b>A</b>	23	0	1	0						<b>23</b>
<b>Mamadou Doumbia</b>	<b>A</b>	94	1	2	1	<b>1</b>	<b>66</b>				<b>27</b>
<b>Sekou Koita</b>	<b>A</b>	171	0	6	0	<b>27</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>50</b>
<b>Lassine Sinayoko</b>	<b>A</b>	59	1	0	0				<b>59</b>		
<b>El-Bilal Toure</b>	<b>A</b>	298	4	0	2			<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>40</b>
<b>Sirine Doucoure</b>	<b>A</b>	90	1	0	0	<b>90</b>					
<b>Sory Diarra</b>	<b>A</b>	63	1	0	0	<b>63</b>					
<b>Adama Traore</b>	<b>A</b>	234	2	3	0	<b>63</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>22</b>	
<b>Moussa Djenepe</b>	<b>A</b>	152	3	0	0	<b>75</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>59</b>			
<b>Amady Camara</b>	<b>A</b>	99	0	2	0	<b>27</b>	<b>72</b>				
<b>Ibrahima Kone</b>	<b>A</b>	75	1	1	0					<b>12</b>	<b>63</b>

## GROUP A FIXTURES

DATE	K/O	Fixture
22/12	15:00	<b>Mali vs Zambia</b>
26/12	21:00	<b>Morocco vs Mali</b>
29/12	20:00	<b>Comoros vs Mali</b>

## VENUE

Mohammed V Stadium, Casablanca  
 Prince Moulay Abdellah Stadium, Rabat  
 Mohammed V Stadium, Casablanca

GROUP  
A

# ZAMBIA

**Nickname:** Chipolopolo (Copper Bullets)  
**AFCON Appearances:** 19 (debut in 1974)  
**Best Performance:** Winners (2012)  
**FIFA Ranking (November 2025):** 90  
**CAF Ranking (November 2025):** 19



## COACH

### Moses Sichone

Nationality: Zambia  
 Date of Birth:  
**31 May 1977**  
 Start of Tenure: **2025**

Former Zambia assistant coach Sichone was handed the reins of the national team when the Football Association of Zambia parted ways with Avram Grant in October 2025. With little time to prepare for the TotalEnergies CAF AFCON, they opted for continuity and Sichone to lead the team to the global showpiece.

He is a former Zambia international centre-back who played in Germany and Cyprus and has had caretaker reins of the team in the past when he was temporarily in charge in 2022. He played for Zambia at the 2000 TotalEnergies CAF AFCON when the team finished third in their pool.

## PLAYER TO WATCH

### Patson Daka

Date of Birth:  
**9 October 1998**  
 Position: Centre-forward  
 Club: Leicester City (England)

Patson Daka remains Zambia's reference point in the final third. Explosive over short distances and relentless in pressing, he stretches back lines and finishes with minimal touches, qualities that translate perfectly to tournament football. A former CAF Young Player of the Year who lifted the Austrian Bundesliga with Salzburg before moving to England, Daka combines movement with the directness that has long defined Zambian forwards. His chemistry with wide runners and set-piece threat make him central to Zambia's plan: if Daka is supplied early and often, Chipolopolo's ceiling rises markedly.

YEAR	FINISH	POS	P	W	D	L	GF	GA
1974	Runners-up	2nd	5	3	0	2	9	7
1978	Group stage	5th	3	1	1	1	3	2
1982	Third place	3rd	5	3	0	2	7	3
1986	Group stage	7th	3	0	1	2	2	4
1990	Third place	3rd	5	3	1	1	3	2
1992	Quarter-finals	7th	3	1	0	2	1	2
1994	Runners-up	2nd	5	3	1	1	7	2
1996	Third place	3rd	6	4	1	1	15	6
1998	Group stage	10th	3	1	1	1	4	6
2000	Group stage	13th	3	0	2	1	3	5
2002	Group stage	14th	3	0	1	2	1	3
2006	Group stage	11th	3	1	0	2	3	6
2008	Group stage	9th	3	1	1	1	5	6
2010	Quarter-finals	6th	4	1	1	2	5	5
2012	Champions	1st	6	5	1	0	9	3
2013	Group stage	12th	3	0	3	0	2	2
2015	Group stage	13th	3	0	2	1	2	3
2023	Group stage	20th	3	0	2	1	2	3
<b>TOTALS</b>			<b>69</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>83</b>	<b>70</b>



## HOW THEY QUALIFIED

PLAYER	POS	MIN	ST	SI	G	A 0-2 v Ivory Coast (06/09/2024)	H 3-2 v Sierra Leone (10/09/2024)	H 0-0 v Chad (11/10/2024)	A 1-0 v Chad (15/10/2024)	H 1-0 v Ivory Coast (15/11/2024)	H 2-0 v Sierra Leone (19/11/2024)
Toaster Nsabata	G	270	3	0	0				90	90	90
Tresford Mulenga	G	250	3	0	0	90	90	70			
Francis Mwansa	G	20	0	1	0			20			
Stopilla Felix Sunzu	D	360	4	0	0	90	90		90	90	90
Kabaso Chongo	D	540	6	0	0	90	90	90	90	90	90
Lubambo Musonda	D	180	2	0	0	90	90				
Benedict Chepeshi	D	270	3	0	0		90	90	90		
Frankie Musonda	D	92	1	2	0			1	1	90	
Tandi Mwape	D	154	1	1	0		64	90			
Gift Mphande	D	240	3	0	0	90		60	90		
Larry Bwalya	M	1	0	1	0				1		
Benson Sakala	M	271	3	1	0	90	1	90	90		
Clatous Chama	M	282	2	3	0	64	89	63		45	21
Emmanuel Banda	M	249	3	0	1			90	90	69	
Lameck Banda	M	135	2	0	0	90	45				
Kelvin Kampamba	M	318	4	1	0		24	90	90	45	69
Kings Kangwa	M	540	6	0	1	90	90	90	90	90	
Kelvin Kapumbu	M	180	2	0	0				90	90	
Golden Mafwenta	M	22	0	2	0			1	21		
Joseph Banda	M	274	3	2	0	1	63	30	90	90	
Miguel Chaiwa	M	206	3	0	0	90	90	26			
Obino Chisala	M	426	5	0	0		66	90	90	90	90
Kennedy Musonda Jr.	A	507	6	0	4	75	90	90	83	89	80
Edward Chilufya Jr.	A	26	1	0	0	26			27	7	10
Francisco Mwepu	A	44	0	3	0						
Chipyoka Songa	A	27	0	1	0			27			
Jackson Kampamba	A	1	0	1	1				1		
Kingstone Mutandwa	A	15	0	1	0	15					
Ricky Banda	A	45	0	1	0		45				

## GROUP A FIXTURES

DATE	K/O	Fixture
22/12	15:00	<b>Mali vs Zambia</b>
26/12	18:30	<b>Zambia vs Comoros</b>
29/12	20:00	<b>Zambia vs Morocco</b>

## VENUE

Mohammed V Stadium, Casablanca  
 Mohammed V Stadium, Casablanca  
 Prince Moulay Abdellah Stadium, Rabat

# COMOROS

**Nickname:** Les Coelacanthes (The Coelacanths)  
**AFCON Appearances:** 1 (debut in 2021)  
**Best Performance:** Round of 16 (2021)  
**FIFA Ranking (November 2025):** 108  
**CAF Ranking (November 2025):** 24



YEAR	FINISH	POS	P	W	D	L	GF	GA	
2021	Round of 16	16th	4	1	0	3	4	7	
		TOTALS		4	1	0	3	4	7

## COACH

### Stefano Cusin

Nationality: Italy  
Date of birth:  
**28 October, 1968**  
Start of Tenure: **2023**

Appointed Comoros coach in September 2023, Stefano Cusin quickly rebuilt and revitalised the team, leading them to a historic qualification for the AFCON in 2025. Known for his pragmatic style, he blends defensive discipline with fluid attacking play and tactical flexibility. Formerly coach of South Sudan and clubs such as Al-Ittihad Tripoli, Al Jazira, and assistant at Wolverhampton Wanderers, Cusin has a record of transforming teams into competitive, organised units.

## PLAYER TO WATCH

### Youssouf M'Changama

Date of birth:  
**28 August, 1990**  
Position: Midfielder  
Current club: Al Batin (Saudi Arabia)

Youssouf M'Changama, Comoros' most capped player, will feature in his second AFCON in Morocco after inspiring their 2021 knockout-stage run. A creative midfielder known for precise passing, vision, and powerful shooting, he often operates as a free "number 10." With experience at Troyes, Ajaccio, Auxerre, and Guingamp, his leadership and skill make him vital to Stefano Cusin's Comoros side.



## HOW THEY QUALIFIED

PLAYER	POS	MIN	ST	SI	G	H-1-v Gambia (04/09/2024)	A 1-1-v Madagascar (09/09/2024)	A 1-0-v Tunisia (11/10/2024)	H-1-1-v Tunisia (15/10/2024)	A 2-1-v Gambia (15/11/2024)	H-1-0-v Madagascar (18/11/2024)
Ben Salim Boina	G	90	1	0	0						90
Yannick Pandor	G	450	5	0	0	90	90	90	90	90	
Mohamed Youssouf	D	180	2	0	0			90	90		
Bendjaloud Youssouf	D	35	0	2	0	20	15				
Saïd Bakari	D	540	6	0	0	90	90	90	90	90	
Abdel-Hakim Abdallah	D	383	5	1	0	90	45	65	12	81	90
Kassim M'Dahoma	D	412	5	0	0	90	90	65	77	90	
Ahmed Soilihi	D	39	0	3	0			25	13	1	
Ismaël Boura	D	213	2	1	0	45		78	90		90
Younn Zahary	D	90	1	0	0						90
Rémy Vita	D	123	1	3	0			25	12	9	77
Warmed Omari	D	540	6	0	0	90	90	90	90	90	90
Yakine M'Madi	D	28	0	3	0			2	1		25
Youssouf M'Changama	M	293	3	1	2	77	90			81	45
Iyad Mohamed	M	267	3	1	0	42		90	90	45	
Zaydou-Dine Youssouf	M	135	2	0	0					90	45
Raimane Daou	M	13	0	1	0	13					
Bourhane Yacine	M	493	6	0	1	90	90	88	90	45	90
El Fardou Ben	M	54	0	3	0	13	9				32
Rayan Lutin	M	194	2	1	0	48	81				65
Faïz Selemani	A	448	6	0	1	70	75	90	78	90	45
Myziane Maolida	A	382	5	1	1	77	81	90	64	12	58
Faïz Mattoir	A	64	0	5	0	13	15	1	26	9	
Ibroihim Djoudja	A	22	0	2	0		9				13
Rafiki Said	A	455	5	1	2	77	75	90	90	78	45

## GROUP C FIXTURES

DATE	K/O	Fixture
21/12	20:00	<b>Morocco vs Comoros</b>
26/12	18:30	<b>Zambia vs Comoros</b>
29/12	20:00	<b>Comoros vs Mali</b>

## VENUE

Prince Moulay Abdellah Stadium, Rabat  
Mohammed V Stadium, Casablanca  
Mohammed V Stadium, Casablanca





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MOROCCO 25

# GROUP B

**Egypt**, the continent's record seven-time champions, topped their qualification group, scoring 12 goals and conceding two. Their squad features an experienced core led by Mohamed Salah, combining technical skill with a structured defensive system.

**South Africa** won their group with four wins and two draws, scoring 16 and conceding five, demonstrating both attacking capability and defensive organisation.

**Angola** finished top of their group, while **Zimbabwe** return after missing the previous tournament and finished second in their pool, hoping to make an impact with a new coach.

Each team brings distinct tactical qualities: Egypt's possession-oriented approach, South Africa's balanced attacking and defensive record, Angola's disciplined structure, and Zimbabwe's compact defensive style.



EGYPT



SOUTH AFRICA



ANGOLA



ZIMBABWE

# EGYPT



## COACH

### Hossam Hassan

Nationality: Egypt

Date of birth:

**10 August, 1966**

Start of Tenure: **2024**

Hossam Hassan, Egypt's all-time leading goalscorer, is one of Africa's most iconic football players, now turned coach. Known for his fiery passion and relentless drive, he earned over 170 international caps and won three TotalEnergies CAF Africa Cup of Nations titles as a player. As a coach, Hassan brings intensity and discipline to the national team, blending experience, charisma, and national pride in his mission to restore Egypt's dominance in African football.

## PLAYER TO WATCH

### Omar Marmoush

Date of birth:

**7 February, 1999**

Position: Forward

Current club: **Manchester City (England)**

Omar Marmoush is a talented Egyptian forward known for his pace, creativity and eye for goal. Born in Cairo, he began his career with Wadi Degla before moving to Germany, where he developed at VfL Wolfsburg and later joined Eintracht Frankfurt. Comfortable playing as a striker or winger, Marmoush combines technical flair with relentless energy, becoming a key attacking threat for Manchester City after moving to the Premier League in January 2025.

YEAR	FINISH	POS	P	W	D	L	GF	GA
<b>1957</b>	<b>Champions</b>	1st	2	2	0	0	6	1
<b>1959</b>	<b>Champions</b>	1st	2	2	0	0	6	1
<b>1962</b>	Runners-up	2nd	2	1	0	1	4	5
<b>1963</b>	Third place	3rd	3	2	1	0	11	5
<b>1970</b>	Third place	3rd	5	3	1	1	10	5
<b>1974</b>	Third place	3rd	5	4	0	1	13	5
<b>1976</b>	Fourth place	4th	6	1	2	3	9	12
<b>1980</b>	Fourth place	4th	5	2	1	2	6	7
<b>1984</b>	Fourth place	4th	5	2	2	1	6	6
<b>1986</b>	<b>Champions</b>	1st	5	3	1	1	5	1
<b>1988</b>	Group stage	6th	3	1	1	1	3	1
<b>1990</b>	Group stage	8th	3	0	0	3	1	6
<b>1992</b>	Group stage	11th	2	0	0	2	0	2
<b>1994</b>	Quarter-finals	5th	3	1	1	1	4	1
<b>1996</b>	Quarter-finals	7th	4	2	0	2	5	6
<b>1998</b>	<b>Champions</b>	1st	6	4	1	1	10	1
<b>2000</b>	Quarter-finals	5th	4	3	0	1	7	3
<b>2002</b>	Quarter-finals	6th	4	2	0	2	3	3
<b>2004</b>	Group stage	9th	3	1	1	1	3	3
<b>2006</b>	<b>Champions</b>	1st	6	4	2	0	12	3
<b>2008</b>	<b>Champions</b>	1st	6	5	1	0	15	5
<b>2010</b>	<b>Champions</b>	1st	6	6	0	0	15	2
<b>2017</b>	Runners-up	2nd	6	3	2	1	5	3
<b>2019</b>	Round of 16	10th	4	3	0	1	5	1
<b>2021</b>	Runners-up	2nd	7	3	3	1	4	2
<b>2023</b>	Round of 16	12th	4	0	4	0	7	7
<b>TOTALS</b>								
<b>111</b>								
<b>60</b>								
<b>24</b>								
<b>27</b>								
<b>175</b>								
<b>97</b>								



**Nickname:** The Pharaohs  
**AFCON Appearances:** 27 (debut in 1957)  
**Best Performance:** Winners (1957, 1959, 1986, 1998, 2006, 2008, 2010)  
**FIFA Ranking (November 2025):** 34  
**CAF Ranking (November 2025):** 3

## HOW THEY QUALIFIED

PLAYER	POS	MIN	ST	SI	G	H 3-0 v Cape Verde (06/09/2024)	A 4-0 v Botswana (10/09/2024)	H 2-0 v Mauritania (11/10/2024)	A 1-0 v Mauritania (15/10/2024)	A 1-1 v Cape Verde (15/11/2024)	H 1-1 v Botswana (19/11/2024)
<b>Mohamed El Shenawy</b>	<b>G</b>	450	5	0	0	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	
<b>Oifa Shobeir</b>	<b>G</b>	90	1	0	0						<b>90</b>
<b>Hossam Abdelmaguid</b>	<b>D</b>	31	0	1	0						<b>31</b>
<b>Ahmed Eid</b>	<b>D</b>	270	3	0	0			<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	
<b>Mohamed Hamdi</b>	<b>D</b>	424	5	0	0	<b>79</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	
<b>Mohamed Hani</b>	<b>D</b>	270	3	0	0	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>			<b>90</b>	
<b>Rami Rabia</b>	<b>D</b>	439	5	0	1	<b>79</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	
<b>Khaled Sobhi</b>	<b>D</b>	156	2	0	0			<b>90</b>		<b>66</b>	
<b>Ahmed Ramadan</b>	<b>D</b>	75	1	2	0	<b>11</b>				<b>5</b>	<b>59</b>
<b>Mohamed Abdelmonem</b>	<b>D</b>	239	3	0	0			<b>59</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	
<b>Omar Kamal</b>	<b>D</b>	85	1	0	0						<b>85</b>
<b>Marwan Ateya</b>	<b>M</b>	450	5	0	0	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	
<b>Nabil Dunga</b>	<b>M</b>	84	0	1	0						<b>84</b>
<b>Mohamed Elneny</b>	<b>M</b>	55	0	2	0	<b>40</b>	<b>15</b>				
<b>Hamdi Fathy</b>	<b>M</b>	377	4	1	0	<b>90</b>	<b>83</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>90</b>	
<b>Ahmed Kouka</b>	<b>M</b>	122	1	3	0	<b>11</b>	<b>15</b>		<b>6</b>	<b>90</b>	
<b>Mahmoud Saber</b>	<b>M</b>	164	2	1	0			<b>12</b>	<b>83</b>	<b>69</b>	
<b>Trezeguet</b>	<b>M</b>	345	4	1	4	<b>66</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>28</b>		<b>86</b>
<b>Nasser Maher</b>	<b>M</b>	98	1	2	0		<b>7</b>	<b>1</b>			<b>90</b>
<b>Mohamed Shehata</b>	<b>M</b>	13	1	1	0				<b>7</b>	<b>6</b>	
<b>Osama Faisal</b>	<b>A</b>	281	3	1	0			<b>90</b>		<b>84</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>Omar Marmoush</b>	<b>A</b>	354	4	0	1	<b>90</b>		<b>90</b>	<b>84</b>		<b>90</b>
<b>Mohamed Mostafa</b>	<b>A</b>	154	2	2	0	<b>50</b>			<b>31</b>		<b>5</b>
<b>Mohamed Salah</b>	<b>A</b>	255	3	0	2	<b>90</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>90</b>			
<b>Zalaka</b>	<b>A</b>	4	0	1	0						<b>4</b>
<b>Ziso</b>	<b>A</b>	311	4	1	0	<b>66</b>	<b>83</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>62</b>		<b>22</b>
<b>Ibrahim Adel</b>	<b>A</b>	131	1	4	2	<b>24</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>85</b>	
<b>Mostafa Fathi</b>	<b>A</b>	58	0	5	1	<b>24</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>1</b>		<b>21</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Taher Mohamed</b>	<b>A</b>	158	2	0	1					<b>90</b>	<b>68</b>

## GROUP B FIXTURES

DATE	K/O	Fixture
22/12	21:00	<b>Egypt vs Zimbabwe</b>
26/12	16:00	<b>Egypt vs South Africa</b>
29/12	17:00	<b>Angola vs Egypt</b>

## VENUE

Grand Stade d'Agadir, Agadir<br

# MOHAMED SALAH'S AFCON GOALS

Egypt striker **MOHAMED SALAH** has been one of the greatest strikers to come out of the African continent, but heading into the TotalEnergies CAF Africa Cup of Nations Morocco 2025, he has yet to lift the coveted trophy.

He has come close, including defeats in the 2017 and 2021 finals, but the trophy continues to elude both him and the Egyptian team, who won the last of their record seven titles in 2010.

Salah will no doubt be a crucial player for The Pharaohs in Morocco, and a contender for the Golden Boot, having scored seven times previously in the continental finals in 19 appearances over four editions.

Hassan El-Shazly holds the record for the most goals for Egypt at the TotalEnergies CAF AFCON with 12, one more than Salah's current coach Hossam Hassan.

Here is a look back at Salah's strikes and what they meant.



## TotalEnergies CAF Africa Cup of Nations, Gabon 2017

**Group D: vs Ghana (1-0)**

Salah scored the only goal of the game early on as he netted after 11 minutes to take Egypt to the top of Group D at the expense of Ghana. It was a beautiful goal too as Salah blasted in a free-kick from 25 yards.



## TotalEnergies CAF Africa Cup of Nations, Gabon 2017

**Semi-finals: vs Burkina Faso (1-1)**

Salah scored another superb goal in the semi-finals as he was teed up on the edge of the box and curled his shot into the far top corner of the net. It showed all his power and precision, as The Pharaohs triumphed on penalties to reach the final, where they lost 2-1 to Cameroon.

## TotalEnergies CAF Africa Cup of Nations, Egypt 2019

**Group A: vs DR Congo (2-0)**

Egypt made it two wins out of two in Group A with two first-half goals against DR Congo, the second of which was scored by Salah. He was picked out on the right-hand side of the box, twisted and turned his defender before firing low inside the near post from 15 yards.



## TotalEnergies CAF Africa Cup of Nations, Egypt 2019

**Group A: vs Uganda (2-0)**

Salah was making a habit of scoring spectacular goals at the TotalEnergies CAF AFCON finals and netted another free-kick against Uganda. This one was placed into the bottom right corner of the net from 25 yards with another show of precision and power. It would be his last goal at the finals as Egypt were stunned on home soil by South Africa in the Round of 16.



## TotalEnergies CAF Africa Cup of Nations, Cameroon 2021

**Group D: vs Guinea-Bissau (1-0)**

Egypt had lost their pool opener 1-0 to Nigeria and needed to bounce back when they faced Guinea-Bissau. Salah is always the man for the big occasion and he netted midway through the second half to give his side the win. He showed excellent technique to volley the ball into the net from eight yards with his left foot.



## TotalEnergies CAF Africa Cup of Nations, Cameroon 2021

**Quarter-finals: vs Morocco (2-1)**

Egypt met North African rivals Morocco in the quarter-finals and came away with a 2-1 extra-time victory. After they fell behind early, Salah equalised on 53 minutes. For once it was a routine goal as Morocco goalkeeper Bono could only parry a header from a corner and Salah reacted quickest to the loose ball to tap home from a few yards out. Egypt made the final but lost on penalties to Senegal.



## TotalEnergies CAF Africa Cup of Nations, Côte d'Ivoire 2023

**Group B: vs Mozambique (2-2)**

Salah rescued a point for Egypt in their Group B opener when he netted a 97th-minute penalty to make the score 2-2. A hamstring injury meant he played no further part in the competition and it remains his seventh and last TotalEnergies CAF AFCON goal. Egypt exited in the Round of 16 after losing on penalties to DR Congo.



# SOUTH AFRICA

**Nickname:** Bafana Bafana (The Boys)  
**AFCON Appearances:** 11 (debut in 1996)  
**Best Performance:** Winners (1996)  
**FIFA Ranking (November 2025):** 61  
**CAF Ranking (November 2025):** 11

## COACH

### Hugo Broos

Nationality: Belgium  
 Date of birth:  
**10 April 1952**  
 Start of tenure: **2021**

Hugo Broos guided Cameroon to a surprise fifth continental title in 2017 with a young squad, defeating Egypt in the final. He repeated his impact with South Africa, leading Bafana Bafana to third place at the TotalEnergies CAF AFCON Côte d'Ivoire 2023. Appointed in May 2021, Broos is now South Africa's longest-serving coach. A former international defender with 24 caps and a 1986 World Cup appearance, he is renowned for getting the best out of emerging talent. His faith in unheralded players has been repaid with standout performances, earning him recognition at the 2024 CAF Awards and admiration as a motivator.

## PLAYER TO WATCH

### Teboho Mokoena

Date of birth:  
**24 January 1997**  
 Position: **Central midfielder**  
 Club: **Mamelodi Sundowns (South Africa)**

Teboho Mokoena has become one of South Africa's most important midfielders. A SuperSport United academy graduate, he made his senior debut in 2017 and has since established himself as a regular starter, known for his composure, work rate and powerful long-range shot. His reputation soared at the TotalEnergies CAF AFCON Côte d'Ivoire 2023, where he played every minute and anchored the midfield as South Africa secured third place. Tireless running, sharp distribution, defensive discipline and set-piece quality make him indispensable.



YEAR	FINISH	POS	P	W	D	L	GF	GA
1996	Champions	1st	6	5	0	1	11	2
1998	Runners-up	2nd	6	3	2	1	9	6
2000	Third place	3rd	6	3	2	1	8	6
2002	Quarter-finals	6th	4	1	2	1	3	3
2004	Group stage	11th	3	1	1	1	3	5
2006	Group stage	16th	3	0	0	3	0	5
2008	Group stage	13th	3	0	2	1	3	5
2013	Quarter-finals	6th	4	1	3	0	5	3
2015	Group stage	15th	3	0	1	2	3	6
2019	Quarter-finals	7th	5	2	0	3	3	4
2023	Third place	3rd	7	2	4	1	7	3
<b>TOTALS</b>			<b>50</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>48</b>

## HOW THEY QUALIFIED

PLAYER	POS	MIN	ST	SI	G	H 2-2 vs Uganda (06/09/2024)	A 3-2 vs South Sudan (10/09/2024)	H 5-0 vs Congo (11/10/2024)	A 1-1 vs Congo (15/10/2024)	A 2-0 vs Uganda (15/11/2024)	H 3-0 vs South Sudan (19/11/2024)
<b>Sipho Chaine</b>	<b>G</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>		<b>90</b>				
<b>Veli Mothwa</b>	<b>G</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>90</b>					<b>16</b>
<b>Sage Stephens</b>	<b>G</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>						
<b>Ronwen Williams</b>	<b>G</b>	<b>344</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>		<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>74</b>	
<b>Fawaz Basadien</b>	<b>D</b>	<b>109</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>					<b>19</b>	<b>90</b>
<b>Rushwin Dorley</b>	<b>D</b>	<b>540</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>
<b>Khuliso Mudau</b>	<b>D</b>	<b>532</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>82</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>
<b>Grant Kekana</b>	<b>D</b>	<b>180</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>			<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>		
<b>Nyiko Mobbie</b>	<b>D</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>				<b>21</b>		
<b>Aubrey Modiba</b>	<b>D</b>	<b>431</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>71</b>	
<b>Thapelo Morena</b>	<b>D</b>	<b>252</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>79</b>
<b>Mothobi Mvala</b>	<b>D</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>					<b>90</b>	
<b>Siyabonga Ngezana</b>	<b>D</b>	<b>254</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>				<b>74</b>
<b>Nkosinathi Sibisi</b>	<b>D</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>				<b>2</b>		<b>16</b>
<b>Bathusi Aubaas</b>	<b>M</b>	<b>321</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>			<b>67</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>74</b>
<b>Sinoxolo Kwayiba</b>	<b>M</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>			<b>9</b>			
<b>Luke Le Roux</b>	<b>M</b>	<b>94</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>			<b>23</b>		<b>71</b>	
<b>Patrick Maswanganyi</b>	<b>M</b>	<b>143</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>				<b>50</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>74</b>
<b>Thalente Mbatha</b>	<b>M</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>18</b>		<b>6</b>		<b>16</b>
<b>Relebohile Mofokeng</b>	<b>M</b>	<b>74</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>24</b>			<b>16</b>
<b>Teboho Mokoena</b>	<b>M</b>	<b>531</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>81</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>
<b>Elias Mokwana</b>	<b>M</b>	<b>304</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>88</b>	<b>45</b>	
<b>Sphephelo Sithole</b>	<b>M</b>	<b>153</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>81</b>	<b>72</b>				
<b>Devin Titus</b>	<b>M</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>						<b>11</b>
<b>Themba Zwane</b>	<b>M</b>	<b>294</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>74</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>40</b>		
<b>Oswin Appolis</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>442</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>84</b>	<b>90</b>
<b>Lyle Foster</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>244</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>68</b>			
<b>Evidence Makgopa</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>					<b>71</b>	
<b>Iqraam Rayners</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>233</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>90</b>

## GROUP B FIXTURES

DATE	K/O	Fixture
22/12	18:00	South Africa vs Angola
26/12	16:00	Egypt vs South Africa
29/12	17:00	Zimbabwe vs South Africa

## VENUE

Grand Stade de Marrakech, Marrakech  
 Grand Stade d'Agadir, Agadir  
 Grand Stade de Marrakech, Marrakech

# ANGOLA

**Nickname:** Palancas Negras (Black Sable Antelopes)  
**AFCON Appearances:** 10 (debut in 1996)  
**Best Performance:** Quarterfinals (2008, 2010, 2023)  
**FIFA Ranking (November 2025):** 89  
**CAF Ranking (November 2025):** 18

## COACH

### Patrice Beaumelle

Nationality: France

Date of birth:

**24 April 1978**

Start of tenure: **2025**

Patrice Beaumelle was named as new Angola coach in September 2025, taking over from the long-serving Pedro Goncalves. The 47-year-old Beaumelle has been a long standing fixture on the African coaching circuit, mostly as assistant to compatriot Herve Renard, including a stint in Angola between 2010-2012.

He previously served as head coach of Zambia and Côte d'Ivoire, and took Algerian club Mouloudia Alger to the group phase of last season's TotalEnergies CAF Champions League.

## PLAYER TO WATCH

### Cristóvão Paciência (Mabululu)

Date of Birth: **1 June 1992**

Position: **Centre-Forward**

Club: **Al Ahli SC (Libya)**



YEAR	FINISH	POS	P	W	D	L	GF	GA
<b>1996</b>	Group stage	13th	3	0	1	2	4	6
<b>1998</b>	Group stage	13th	3	0	2	1	5	8
<b>2006</b>	Group stage	9th	3	1	1	1	4	5
<b>2008</b>	Quarter-finals	6th	4	1	2	1	5	4
<b>2010</b>	Quarter-finals	5th	4	1	2	1	6	5
<b>2012</b>	Group stage	11th	3	1	1	1	4	5
<b>2013</b>	Group stage	14th	3	0	1	2	1	4
<b>2019</b>	Group stage	18th	3	0	2	1	1	2
<b>2023</b>	Quarter-finals	6th	5	3	1	1	9	4
<b>TOTALS</b>								
			<b>31</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>43</b>

Cristóvão Mabululu is one of Angola's most influential forwards, renowned for his strength, aerial ability, and clinical finishing inside the box. Standing at 1.78m, he has been a key figure for the Palancas Negras. After successful spells with Primeiro de Agosto and Al Ittihad Tripoli, he joined Al Ahli SC in 2024. Mabululu's goal against Namibia at the TotalEnergies CAF AFCON 2023 was awarded the Goal of the Year at the CAF Awards 2024, showcasing his technical skill and importance to the Angolan national team.



## HOW THEY QUALIFIED

PLAYER	POS	MIN	ST	SI	G	A 1-0 v Ghana (05/09/2024)	H 2-1 v Sudan (xx/09/2024)	H 2-0 v Niger (11/10/2024)	A 1-0 v Niger (15/10/2024)	H 1-1 v Ghana (15/11/2024)	A 0-0 v Sudan (18/11/2024)
<b>Neblu</b>	<b>G</b>	540	6	0	0	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>
<b>Jonathan Buatu</b>	<b>D</b>	90	1	0	0						<b>90</b>
<b>Clinton Mata</b>	<b>D</b>	102	1	1	0	<b>90</b>	<b>12</b>				
<b>Bastos</b>	<b>D</b>	438	5	0	0	<b>90</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>
<b>Núrio Fortuna</b>	<b>D</b>	238	3	0	0	<b>90</b>				<b>90</b>	<b>58</b>
<b>Jordy Gaspar</b>	<b>D</b>	168	2	0	0		<b>78</b>				<b>90</b>
<b>Augusto Carneiro</b>	<b>D</b>	77	0	2	0					<b>32</b>	<b>45</b>
<b>Sandro Cruz</b>	<b>D</b>	46	1	0	0			<b>46</b>			
<b>David Carmo</b>	<b>D</b>	325	4	0	0	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>55</b>		<b>90</b>	
<b>Pedro Bondo</b>	<b>D</b>	181	2	2	0		<b>90</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>1</b>		<b>45</b>
<b>Gaspar</b>	<b>D</b>	540	6	0	0	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>
<b>Hossi</b>	<b>D</b>	225	2	1	0				<b>45</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>
<b>Fredy</b>	<b>M</b>	374	5	0	0	<b>86</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>73</b>	
<b>Estrela</b>	<b>M</b>	16	0	2	0	<b>15</b>			<b>1</b>		
<b>Show</b>	<b>M</b>	435	5	0	0	<b>75</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	
<b>Modesto</b>	<b>M</b>	135	2	0	0			<b>90</b>	<b>45</b>		
<b>Randy Nteka</b>	<b>M</b>	278	3	3	1	<b>60</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>90</b>
<b>Domingos Andrade</b>	<b>M</b>	1	0	1	0					<b>1</b>	
<b>Maestro</b>	<b>M</b>	262	2	4	0	<b>4</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>89</b>
<b>Mabululu</b>	<b>A</b>	254	3	0	0	<b>76</b>	<b>88</b>	<b>90</b>			
<b>M'Bala Nzola</b>	<b>A</b>	81	1	1	0					<b>58</b>	<b>23</b>
<b>Gelson Dala</b>	<b>A</b>	208	2	1	0	<b>86</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>32</b>			
<b>Milson</b>	<b>A</b>	278	3	3	2	<b>14</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Zito Luvumbo</b>	<b>A</b>	357	4	2	0	<b>30</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>73</b>	<b>90</b>
<b>Zini</b>	<b>A</b>	193	2	2	2		<b>2</b>		<b>90</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>67</b>
<b>Gilberto</b>	<b>A</b>	19	0	3	0			<b>2</b>	<b>10</b>		<b>7</b>
<b>Depu</b>	<b>A</b>	4	0	1	0	<b>4</b>				<b>1</b>	<b>83</b>
<b>Chico Banza</b>	<b>A</b>	84	1	1	0						

## GROUP B FIXTURES

DATE	K/O	Fixture
22/12	10:00	<b>South Africa vs Angola</b>
26/12	13:30	<b>Angola vs Zimbabwe</b>
29/12	17:00	<b>Angola vs Egypt</b>

## VENUE

Grand Stade de Marrakech, Marrakech  
 Grand Stade de Marrakech, Marrakech  
 Grand Stade d'Agadir, Agadir

# ZIMBABWE

**Nickname:** The Warriors

**AFCON Appearances:** 6 (debut in 2004)

**Best Performance:** Group Stages  
(2004, 2006, 2017, 2019, 2021)

**FIFA Ranking (November 2025):** 129

**CAF Ranking (November 2025):** 36

## COACH

### Mario Marinica

Nationality: Romanian

Date of Birth:

**13 December 1964**

Start of Tenure: **2025**

Marinica was unveiled as new Zimbabwe coach in November 2025, some six weeks before the TotalEnergies CAF AFCON Morocco 2025.

The 61-year-old from Romania, who began as a junior coach at Leyton Orient in England, has taken charge of two African national teams previously, Malawi, at the 2021 TotalEnergies AFCON finals in Cameroon, and Liberia, who fired him midway through the TotalEnergies CAF AFCON Morocco 2025 qualifiers.

Marinica replaces German coach Michael Nees, whom Zimbabwe sacked after they failed to win a game in their 2026 World Cup qualifying campaign.

## PLAYER TO WATCH

### Marvelous Nakamba

Date of Birth:

**11 January 1994**

Position: **Defensive Midfielder**  
Club: **Luton Town (England)**

Nakamba is a key player in the middle of the park for Zimbabwe and dictates the tempo of their play from his defensive midfield position. With plenty of overseas experience that has seen him play for Nancy in France, Vitesse in the Netherlands, Club Brugge in Belgium, and the English duo of Aston Villa and Luton Town, the 31-year-old will be a key figure for the side in Morocco. He made his Zimbabwe debut in 2015 and while injuries have kept him out of the side in stages, but he can still be a rock in front of the defence.



YEAR	FINISH	POS	P	W	D	L	GF	GA
<b>2004</b>	Group stage	14th	3	1	0	2	6	8
<b>2006</b>	Group stage	13th	3	1	0	2	2	5
<b>2017</b>	Group stage	14th	3	0	1	2	4	8
<b>2019</b>	Group stage	21st	3	0	1	2	1	6
<b>2021</b>	Group stage	17th	3	1	0	2	3	4
<b>TOTALS</b>			<b>15</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>31</b>



## HOW THEY QUALIFIED

PLAYER	POS	MIN	ST	SI	G	A 0-0 v Kenya (06/09/2024)	H 0-0 v Cameroon (10/09/2024)	A 1-0 v Namibia (10/10/2024)	H 3-1 v Namibia (14/10/2024)	H 1-1 v Kenya (15/11/2024)	A 1-2 v Cameroon (19/11/2024)
<b>Washington Arubi</b>	<b>G</b>	540	6	0	0	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>
<b>Brendan Galloway</b>	<b>D</b>	116	2	0	0			<b>90</b>	<b>26</b>		
<b>Teenage Hadebe</b>	<b>D</b>	246	2	3	0		<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>
<b>Gerald Takwara</b>	<b>D</b>	416	5	0	0	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>56</b>	
<b>Jordan Zemura</b>	<b>D</b>	540	6	0	0	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>
<b>Divine Lunga</b>	<b>D</b>	143	1	3	0			<b>11</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>90</b>
<b>Munashe Garananga</b>	<b>D</b>	360	4	0	0	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>			<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>
<b>Godknows Murwira</b>	<b>D</b>	480	5	1	0	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>86</b>
<b>Khama Billiat</b>	<b>M</b>	500	6	0	1	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>85</b>	<b>90</b>
<b>Marvelous Nakamba</b>	<b>M</b>	259	3	0	0			<b>79</b>		<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>
<b>Marshall Munetsi</b>	<b>M</b>	450	5	0	0	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>
<b>Andrew Rinomhota</b>	<b>M</b>	524	6	0	0	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>74</b>
<b>Richard Hachiro</b>	<b>M</b>	20	0	2	0			<b>11</b>	<b>9</b>		
<b>Tawanda Chirewa</b>	<b>M</b>	62	1	1	0	<b>58</b>	<b>4</b>				
<b>Walter Musona</b>	<b>A</b>	313	4	1	2	<b>58</b>	<b>86</b>		<b>81</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>Prince Dube</b>	<b>A</b>	222	2	3	1	<b>82</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>9</b>		<b>31</b>
<b>Obriel Chirinda</b>	<b>A</b>	11	0	1	0		<b>11</b>				
<b>Terrence Dzvukamanja</b>	<b>A</b>	199	2	2	1			<b>69</b>	<b>81</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>31</b>
<b>Tawanda Maswanhise</b>	<b>A</b>	187	2	2	1	<b>32</b>			<b>24</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>59</b>
<b>Douglas Mapfumo</b>	<b>A</b>	249	3	3	0	<b>8</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>59</b>
<b>Daniel Msandami</b>	<b>A</b>	101	1	1	0	<b>32</b>		<b>69</b>			
<b>Tymon Machope</b>	<b>A</b>	4	0	1	0						<b>4</b>

## GROUP B FIXTURES

DATE	K/O	Fixture
22/12	21:00	<b>Egypt vs Zimbabwe</b>
26/12	13:30	<b>Angola vs Zimbabwe</b>
29/12	17:00	<b>Zimbabwe vs South Africa</b>

## VENUE

Grand Stade d'Agadir, Agadir  
Grand Stade de Marrakech, Marrakech  
Grand Stade de Marrakech, Marrakech

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# GROUP C

**Nigeria** topped their qualification group and have a strong record in recent TotalEnergies CAF AFCON tournaments, consistently reaching the latter stages, and were beaten finalists two years ago.

**Tunisia** finished second in their qualification group, scoring seven and conceding six goals, reflecting a compact defensive approach combined with efficient attacking play. **Uganda** were runners-up in their pool, marking a return to AFCON

after missing the previous two editions. **Tanzania** also finished second in their qualification group.

Teams in Group C display a mix of goal-scoring efficiency and defensive organisation, with Nigeria and Uganda showing notable attacking output, while Tunisia and Tanzania rely on structured defensive play.

Across the group, the teams' qualification statistics demonstrate a combination of experience, technical skill and tactical diversity.



**NIGERIA**



**TUNISIA**



**UGANDA**



**TANZANIA**

# NIGERIA

**Nickname:** Super Eagles  
**AFCON Appearances:** 21 (debut in 1963)  
**Best Performance:** Winners (1980, 1994, 2013)  
**FIFA Ranking (November 2025):** 38  
**CAF Ranking (November 2025):** 5

## COACH

### Eric Chelle

Nationality: Mali

Date of Birth:

**11 November 1977**

Start of Tenure: **2025**

Eric Chelle was appointed head coach of Nigeria in January 2025 after a successful spell in charge of Mali, where he led the Eagles to the quarter-finals at AFCON 2023. Born in Côte d'Ivoire to a Malian mother, and raised in France, Chelle enjoyed a solid playing career in Ligue 1 and Ligue 2 before moving into management. He is known for favouring high pressing, quick attacking transitions and tactical flexibility. For Nigeria, he has inherited a star-studded squad that includes superstars Victor Osimhen and Ademola Lookman, and is tasked with blending individual talent into a balanced unit capable of competing for the title.

## PLAYER TO WATCH

### Victor Osimhen

Date of Birth:

**29 December 1998**

Position: Striker

Club: Galatasaray (Turkey)

Nigeria's talisman Victor Osimhen is regarded as one of the best strikers in the world. A relentless runner with explosive pace and outstanding aerial strength, Osimhen was the CAF Men's Player of the Year in 2023 after firing Napoli to a historic Serie A title. He was also central to Nigeria's run to the AFCON 2023 final, scoring crucial goals and leading the line with determination. At 26, Osimhen remains in his prime and will once again carry Nigeria's attacking hopes, supported by a cast of high-calibre forwards and playmakers. He currently plays for Galatasaray in Turkey on loan from Napoli.



YEAR	FINISH	POS	P	W	D	L	GF	GA
1963	Group stage	6th	2	0	0	2	3	10
1976	Third place	3rd	6	3	1	2	11	10
1978	Third place	3rd	5	2	2	1	8	5
1980	<b>Champions</b>	1st	5	4	1	0	8	1
1982	Group stage	6th	3	1	0	2	4	5
1984	Runners-up	2nd	5	1	3	1	7	8
1988	Runners-up	2nd	5	1	3	1	5	3
1990	Runners-up	2nd	5	3	0	2	5	6
1992	Third place	3rd	5	4	0	1	8	5
1994	<b>Champions</b>	1st	5	3	2	0	9	3
2000	Runners-up	2nd	6	4	2	0	12	5
2002	Third place	3rd	6	3	2	1	5	2
2004	Third place	3rd	6	4	1	1	11	5
2006	Third place	3rd	6	4	1	1	7	3
2008	Quarter-finals	7th	4	1	1	2	3	3
2010	Third place	3rd	6	3	1	2	6	4
2013	<b>Champions</b>	1st	6	4	2	0	11	4
2019	Third place	3rd	7	5	0	2	9	7
2021	Round of 16	9th	4	3	0	1	6	2
2023	Runners-up	2nd	7	4	2	1	8	4
<b>TOTALS</b>			<b>104</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>146</b>	<b>95</b>

## HOW THEY QUALIFIED

PLAYER	POS	MIN	ST	SI	G	H 3-0 v Benin (07/09/2024)	A 0-0 v Rwanda (10/09/2024)	H 1-0 v Libya (11/10/2024)	A 3-0 v Libya* (15/10/2024)	A 1-1 v Benin (14/11/2024)	H 1-2 v Rwanda (18/11/2024)
Stanley Nwabali	G	360	4	0	0	90	90	90	90	90	90
Maduka Okoye	G	90	1	0	0						90
Olisa Ndah	D	27	0	1	0	27					
Gabriel Osho	D	135	2	0	0				45	90	
William Troost-Ekong	D	450	5	0	0	90	90	90	90	90	90
Oluwasemilogo Ajayi	D	181	2	1	0	90	90	1			
Calvin Bassey	D	333	4	0	0	63	90	90	90	90	90
Bright Osayi-Samuel	D	98	1	1	0				8	90	
Bruno Onyemaechi	D	450	5	0	0	90	90	90	90	90	90
Ola Aina	D	352	4	0	0	90	90	90	90	82	
Wilfred Ndidi	M	314	4	0	0	80	70	74	90	90	90
Frank Onyeka	M	127	1	3	0		20	61	1	45	
Raphael Onyedika	M	181	1	4	0	10	20	16	45	90	
Fisayo Dele-Bashiru	M	190	2	2	1	27	70	16		77	
Alhassan Yusuf	M	45	1	0	0					45	
Alexander Iwobi	A	209	3	0	0	63		74	72		
Moses Simon	A	297	2	3	0	27	45	90	45	90	
Kelechi Iheanacho	A	90	2	0	0				45	45	
Taiwo Awoniyi	A	17	0	2	0		1	16			
Umar Mesbah	A	1	0	1	0					1	
Victor Osimhen	A	166	1	3	2	18	45		90	13	
Samuel Chukwueze	A	182	2	2	1	63	45	29		45	
Ademola Lookman	A	360	4	0	2	90	90	90	90	90	
Victor Boniface	A	298	4	1	0	72	45	74	18	89	

\*Nigeria's away fixture against Libya scheduled for 15 October 2024 was awarded 3-0 in their favour.

## GROUP C FIXTURES

DATE	K/O	Fixture
23/12	18:30	<b>Nigeria vs Tanzania</b>
27/12	21:00	<b>Nigeria vs Tunisia</b>
30/12	17:00	<b>Uganda vs Nigeria</b>

## VENUE

Complex Sportif de Fes, Fes  
 Complex Sportif de Fes, Fes  
 Complex Sportif de Fes, Fes



# TUNISIA

**Nickname:** Carthage Eagles

**AFCON Appearances:** 22 (debut in 1962)

**Best Performance:** Winners (2004)

**FIFA Ranking (November 2025):** 40

**CAF Ranking (November 2025):** 6

## COACH

### Sami Trabelsi

Nationality: Tunisia

Date of birth:

**4 February, 1968**

Start of Tenure: **2025**

Sami Trabelsi is an experienced Tunisian football coach and former international defender known for his tactical intelligence and calm leadership. A member of Tunisia's 1998 World Cup squad, he transitioned seamlessly into management, leading the national team between 2011 and 2013. After leaving Qatar-based club Al-Sailiya in 2023, Trabelsi was reappointed coach of Tunisia in February 2025 and remains respected for developing disciplined, organised sides and promoting young talent.

## PLAYER TO WATCH

### Hamza Rafia

Date of birth:

**22 April, 1999**

Position: **Midfielder**

Current club: **Lecce (Italy)**

The creative midfielder is celebrated for his flair, vision, and technical skill. Born in Tunisia and raised in France, he developed through Lyon's academy before joining Juventus, where he made his senior debut in 2021. Now a key figure for the Tunisian national team, Rafia combines European composure with North African creativity, offering versatility in attacking roles and a growing reputation as one of Tunisia's brightest playmakers.



YEAR	FINISH	POS	P	W	D	L	GF	GA
1962	Third place	3rd	2	1	0	1	5	4
1963	Group stage	5th	2	0	1	1	3	5
1965	Runners-up	2nd	3	1	1	1	6	3
1978	Fourth place	4th	5	1	2	2	4	5
1982	Group stage	7th	3	0	1	2	1	4
1994	Group stage	9th	2	0	1	1	1	3
1996	Runners-up	2nd	6	2	2	2	10	9
1998	Quarter-finals	5th	4	2	1	1	6	5
2000	Fourth place	4th	6	2	2	2	6	9
2002	Group stage	11th	3	0	2	1	0	1
2004	<b>Champions</b>	1st	6	4	2	0	10	4
2006	Quarter-finals	6th	4	2	1	1	7	5
2008	Quarter-finals	5th	4	1	2	1	7	6
2010	Group stage	12th	3	0	3	0	3	3
2012	Quarter-finals	6th	4	2	0	2	5	5
2013	Group stage	12th	3	1	1	1	2	4
2015	Quarter-finals	7th	4	1	2	1	5	5
2017	Quarter-finals	8th	4	2	0	2	6	7
2019	Fourth place	4th	7	1	4	2	6	5
2021	Quarter-finals	8th	5	2	0	3	5	3
2023	Group stage	20th	3	0	2	1	1	2
<b>TOTALS</b>			<b>83</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>99</b>	<b>97</b>

## HOW THEY QUALIFIED

PLAYER	POS	MIN	ST	SI	G	H 1-0 v Madagascar (05/09/2024)	A 2-1 v Gambia (08/09/2024)	H 0-1 v Comoros (11/10/2024)	A 1-1 v Comoros (15/10/2024)	A 3-2 v Madagascar (14/11/2024)	H 0-1 v Gambia (18/11/2024)
<b>Aymen Dahmen</b>	<b>G</b>	135	1	1	0					45	90
<b>Amanallah Memmiche</b>	<b>G</b>	405	5	0	0	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	45	
<b>Ali El Abdi</b>	<b>D</b>	330	4	0	2	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>			90	60
<b>Yassine Meriah</b>	<b>D</b>	540	6	0	1	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	90	90
<b>Wajdi Kechrida</b>	<b>D</b>	112	1	1	0					22	90
<b>Montassar Talbi</b>	<b>D</b>	450	5	0	0	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	90	
<b>Alaa Ghram</b>	<b>D</b>	90	1	0	0						90
<b>Raed Bouchniba</b>	<b>D</b>	338	4	0	0	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	68	
<b>Mohamed Hamida</b>	<b>D</b>	180	2	0	0				<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	
<b>Mahmoud Ghorbel</b>	<b>D</b>	90	1	0	0						90
<b>Amin Cherni</b>	<b>D</b>	30	0	1	0						30
<b>Farjani Sassi</b>	<b>M</b>	187	2	2	1	<b>20</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>73</b>	<b>4</b>		
<b>Ellyes Skhiri</b>	<b>M</b>	149	2	1	0			<b>17</b>	<b>68</b>	<b>64</b>	
<b>Nader Ghandri</b>	<b>M</b>	8	0	3	0	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>4</b>			
<b>Aïssa Laïdouni</b>	<b>M</b>	537	6	0	0	<b>87</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	90	90
<b>Hannibal Mejbri</b>	<b>M</b>	129	1	2	0			<b>17</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>26</b>	
<b>Hamza Rafia</b>	<b>M</b>	424	5	0	1	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	64	
<b>Mohamed Romdhane</b>	<b>M</b>	355	4	2	1	<b>70</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>61</b>
<b>Moradha Ouanes</b>	<b>M</b>	167	2	0	0	<b>87</b>	<b>80</b>				
<b>Idris El Mizouni</b>	<b>M</b>	85	1	0	0						85
<b>Sayfallah Ltaief</b>	<b>A</b>	222	3	0	1	<b>56</b>				76	90
<b>Youssef Msakni</b>	<b>A</b>	154	2	0	0			<b>86</b>	<b>68</b>		
<b>Amor Layouni</b>	<b>A</b>	74	0	2	0					45	29
<b>Seifeddine Jaziri</b>	<b>A</b>	156	2	0	0			<b>73</b>	<b>83</b>		
<b>Haithem Jouini</b>	<b>A</b>	79	0	2	0	<b>34</b>	<b>45</b>				
<b>Ali Ben Youssef</b>	<b>A</b>	101	2	0	0	<b>56</b>	<b>45</b>				
<b>Anas Mohamed</b>	<b>A</b>	50	1	1	0					45	5
<b>Bilel Mejri</b>	<b>A</b>	21	0	4	0	<b>3</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>7</b>		
<b>Hamza Khadhraoui</b>	<b>A</b>	34	0	1	0	<b>34</b>					
<b>Bilel Aït Malek</b>	<b>A</b>	70	0	4	0			<b>4</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>30</b>
<b>Hazem Mastouri</b>	<b>A</b>	157	2	0	0					90	67
<b>Rabii Homri</b>	<b>A</b>	60	1	0	0						60
<b>Nabil Makni</b>	<b>A</b>	23	0	1	0						23

## GROUP C FIXTURES

DATE	K/O	Fixture
23/12	21:00	<b>Tunisia vs Uganda</b>
27/12	21:00	<b>Nigeria vs Tunisia</b>
30/12	17:00	<b>Tanzania vs Tunisia</b>

## VENUE

Stade Prince Moulay Abdellah Olympique Annexe, Rabat  
Complex Sportif de Fes, Fes  
Stade Prince Moulay Abdellah Olympique Annexe, Rabat



# TUNISIA'S RADHI JAÏDI: 'AFRICAN FOOTBALL IS SET TO FLOURISH'



Tunisia legend **RADHI JAÏDI** was a TotalEnergies CAF Africa Cup of Nations winner in 2004 and had a stellar career in Europe and with the national team.

He has since transitioned into coaching and the commentary box as an analyst, where he shares in incredible experience in the game.

He believes African football is poised to flourish as he shares his thoughts in this exclusive interview.

**You are regarded as one of the pioneers of Tunisian and African footballers in Europe ...**

**Radhi Jaidi:** My journey from Stade Gabèsien to Espérance, and then from Espérance to the Premier League, was transformational. It shaped me not only as a professional footballer but also as an ambassador for African football. Leaving Tunisia to play at the highest level in England meant carrying the identity of my country and continent with pride. Espérance

taught me resilience, discipline, and adaptability, and it opened doors for many other Tunisian players. It also instilled a responsibility to represent Africa with dignity, hard work, and belief.

**You've represented Tunisia at two FIFA World Cups and won the TotalEnergies CAF Africa Cup of Nations 2004. What moments stand out the most when you reflect on your very successful international career?**

Wearing the national

team shirt was always an honour for me. Playing in two World Cups and especially winning the 2004 Africa Cup of Nations are unforgettable chapters in my career. Lifting the trophy on home soil in Tunisia is the most powerful memory, not just because of the win, but because of the unity it created among Tunisians. Even today, people stop me to celebrate and congratulate me for that achievement. Walking onto the pitch, listening to the national anthem, knowing I represented millions of people, that feeling stays with me forever.

**African football has evolved tremendously since your playing days. From your perspective, what are the biggest improvements you've seen?**

African football has improved significantly. We saw it at the 2022 World Cup, African players now compete in top leagues and African coaches are gaining respect in global tournaments. However, there is still progress to be made in government support, long-term planning, youth development, and creating professional environments. The potential is enormous, and with the right structures, Africa can compete at the highest level.

**How do you see the role of former African players in shaping the next generation of football leaders and coaches on the continent?**

Former African players have a huge role in shaping the future. Each legend



I would say carries the responsibility to give back, through coaching, administration, mentoring, media, or other football-related areas. Leadership is not only about titles; it's about influence, vision, and leading by example. We must create leaders who understand the modern game and can identify solutions for African football.

**Having managed and worked in different football environments, Tunisia, England, the United States, Belgium, what have you learned about adaptability, and what can African coaches take from that experience?**

I've learned that adaptability, resilience, and understanding are crucial. Each environment has its own culture, pace, and expectations. Fans behave differently, and you must learn the local

culture, a lesson only experience can teach. African coaches can benefit from being open-minded, continuously learning, and staying true to their identity. Understanding the human side of each individual is also vital for growth.

**Tunisian football has produced many talented generations. What is needed for Tunisia to make a deeper impact on the world stage in the coming years?**

Tunisia produces talented players, but to compete globally, we need continuity. Challenges include infrastructure, youth development, and stability. Investing in local coaches and national team projects will help bridge the gap with top nations. The potential is there, but it must be supported with short- and long-term strategies for growth.

# UGANDA

**Nickname:** The Cranes  
**AFCON Appearances:** 8 (debut in 1962)  
**Best Performance:** Runners-up (1978)  
**FIFA Ranking (November 2025):** 85  
**CAF Ranking (November 2025):** 17

## COACH

### Paul Put

Nationality: Belgium  
Date of Birth: **26 May 1956**  
Start of Tenure: **2023**

Paul Put, one of African football's most travelled coaches, took charge of the Cranes in 2023 and delivered immediate results by guiding them back to the AFCON. His career spans stints with Burkina Faso, Guinea and Kenya, with his most celebrated achievement being Burkina Faso's surprise run to the TotalEnergies CAF AFCON 2013 final. Known for instilling tactical discipline and mental resilience, Put has adapted Uganda's traditional defensive strength to modern demands, focusing on transitions and collective compactness. His vast continental experience has given the Cranes a steadier hand, and his pragmatic style ensures Uganda are organised.

## PLAYER TO WATCH

### Khalid Aucho

Date of Birth: **3 August 1993**  
Position: **Defensive Midfielder**

Club: **Singida Black Stars (Tanzania)**



YEAR	FINISH	POS	P	W	D	L	GF	GA
<b>1962</b>	Fourth place	4th	2	0	0	2	1	5
<b>1968</b>	Group stage	8th	3	0	0	3	2	8
<b>1974</b>	Group stage	6th	3	0	1	2	3	5
<b>1976</b>	Group stage	8th	3	0	0	3	2	6
<b>1978</b>	Runners-up	2nd	5	3	0	2	9	7
<b>2017</b>	Group stage	13th	3	0	1	2	1	3
<b>2019</b>	Round of 16	13th	4	1	1	2	3	4
<b>TOTALS</b>			<b>23</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>38</b>

Uganda's captain Khalid Aucho embodies the Cranes' spirit of resilience and discipline. A combative holding midfielder, he breaks up play, dictates tempo and provides leadership in high-pressure moments. Aucho has played across multiple African and international leagues, including in Kenya, South Africa, Egypt, India and Tanzania, giving him valuable experience of different footballing cultures. Formerly with Tanzanian giants Yanga SC and now with Singida Black Stars, Aucho brings authority both on and off the pitch.



## HOW THEY QUALIFIED

PLAYER	POS	MIN	ST	SI	G	A 2-2 v South Africa (06/09/2024)	H 2-0 v Congo (09/09/2024)	H 1-0 v South Sudan (11/10/2024)	A 2-1 v South Sudan (15/10/2024)	H 0-2 v South Africa (15/11/2024)	A 2-0 v Congo (19/11/2024)
<b>Watenga Israel</b>	<b>G</b>	540	6	0	0	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>
<b>Elvis Bwomono</b>	<b>D</b>	90	1	0	0	<b>90</b>					
<b>Elio Capradossi</b>	<b>D</b>	164	2	0	0	<b>90</b>	<b>74</b>				
<b>Aziz Kayondo</b>	<b>D</b>	450	5	0	1	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	
<b>Joseph Ochaya</b>	<b>D</b>	8	0	1	0	<b>8</b>					
<b>Halid Lwaliwa</b>	<b>D</b>	286	3	2	0		<b>16</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>90</b>
<b>Timothy Awany</b>	<b>D</b>	90	1	1	0				<b>45</b>	<b>45</b>	
<b>Isaac Muleme</b>	<b>D</b>	90	1	0	0						<b>90</b>
<b>Bevis Mugabi</b>	<b>D</b>	540	6	0	1	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>
<b>Kenneth Semakula</b>	<b>M</b>	450	5	0	0		<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>
<b>Joel Sserunjogi</b>	<b>M</b>	2	0	1	0		<b>2</b>				
<b>Khalid Aucho</b>	<b>M</b>	458	6	0	0	<b>90</b>	<b>88</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>Ronald Ssekiganda</b>	<b>M</b>	315	4	0	0	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>45</b>			<b>90</b>
<b>Bobosi Byaruhanga</b>	<b>M</b>	159	0	3	0			<b>45</b>		<b>34</b>	<b>80</b>
<b>Travis Mutyaba</b>	<b>M</b>	326	4	2	1	<b>45</b>	<b>74</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>90</b>
<b>Taddeo Lwanga</b>	<b>M</b>	146	2	0	0				<b>90</b>	<b>56</b>	
<b>Hakim Kiwanuka</b>	<b>M</b>	34	0	1	0					<b>34</b>	
<b>Denis Omede</b>	<b>A</b>	504	6	0	2	<b>90</b>	<b>88</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>90</b>
<b>Rogers Matto</b>	<b>A</b>	502	6	0	1	<b>82</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>
<b>Allan Okello</b>	<b>A</b>	214	2	3	0	<b>45</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>63</b>	
<b>Joackiam Ojera</b>	<b>A</b>	18	0	1	0	<b>18</b>					
<b>Muhammad Shaban</b>	<b>A</b>	44	1	0	0		<b>44</b>				
<b>Stephen Mukwala</b>	<b>A</b>	146	1	4	0	<b>72</b>	<b>2</b>		<b>30</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>Jude Ssemugabi</b>	<b>A</b>	222	2	2	1		<b>46</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>56</b>	
<b>Derrick Nsibambi</b>	<b>A</b>	60	1	0	0				<b>60</b>		
<b>Calvin Kabuye</b>	<b>A</b>	82	1	0	0						<b>82</b>

## GROUP C FIXTURES

DATE	K/O	Fixture
23/12	21:00	<b>Tunisia vs Uganda</b>
27/12	18:30	<b>Uganda vs Tanzania</b>
30/12	17:00	<b>Uganda vs Nigeria</b>

## VENUE

Stade Prince Moulay Abdellah Olympique Annexe, Rabat  
Stade El Barid, Rabat  
Complexe Sportif de Fes, Fes

# TANZANIA

**Nickname:** Taifa Stars  
**AFCON Appearances:** 4 (debut in 1980)  
**Best Performance:** Group stages (1980, 2019, 2023)  
**FIFA Ranking (November 2025):** 112  
**CAF Ranking (November 2025):** 27



## COACH

### Miguel Gamondi

Nationality: Argentina

Date of Birth:

**1 December 1963**

Start of Tenure: **2025**

Argentine coach Gamondi was appointed caretaker coach in November 2025 just ahead of the TotalEnergies CAF AFCON after the departure of Hemed 'Morocco' Suleiman.

Gamondi remains in charge of Tanzanian club Singida Black Stars, who he joined at the start of the 2025/26 season.

Gamondi, 62, is a well-travelled tactician who has led top club sides across Africa.

He has experience of working in Morocco at MAS Fes and Wydad Casablanca, and also led top Tanzanian side Young Africans and was co-coach at Mamelodi Sundowns in South Africa when they lifted the league title in 2005/06.

## PLAYER TO WATCH

### Ibrahim Hamad

Date of Birth:

**12 November 1997**

Position: Centre-Back

Club: **Young Africans**

The dependable defender was born in Zanzibar and represented that nation before becoming part of the Tanzania national team.

He has been a stalwart for the Taifa Stars since making his debut in 2023 and part of the rapid improvement in the side in that time.

Hamad is a strong defender who can chip in with the odd goal and leads from the back with his assured performances. He plays for top Tanzanian side Young Africans, who he has helped to silverware in recent seasons and is also a key part of their backline in TotalEnergies CAF Interclub competition.

YEAR	FINISH	POS	P	W	D	L	GF	GA
<b>1980</b>	Group stage	7th	3	0	1	2	3	6
<b>2019</b>	Group stage	24th	3	0	0	3	2	8
<b>2023</b>	Group stage	22nd	3	0	2	1	1	4
<b>TOTALS</b>			<b>9</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>18</b>

## HOW THEY QUALIFIED

PLAYER	POS	MIN	ST	SI	G	H 0-0 v Ethiopia (04/09/2024)	A 2-1 v Guinea (10/09/2024)	A 0-1 v DRC (10/10/2024)	H 0-2 v DRC (15/10/2024)	A 2-0 v Ethiopia (16/11/2024)	H 1-0 v Guinea (19/11/2024)
<b>Manula Salum</b>	<b>G</b>	180	2	0	0					90	90
<b>Ally Salim</b>	<b>G</b>	360	4	0	0	90	90	90	90		
<b>Dickson Job</b>	<b>D</b>	461	6	0	0	90	11	90	90	90	90
<b>Hamad Ibrahim</b>	<b>D</b>	540	6	0	0	90	90	90	90	90	90
<b>Hussein Mohamed</b>	<b>D</b>	540	6	0	0	90	90	90	90	90	90
<b>Kapombe Shomari</b>	<b>D</b>	180	2	0	0					90	90
<b>Miroshi Novatus</b>	<b>D</b>	246	3	0	0	90	90			66	
<b>Msindo Pascal</b>	<b>D</b>	65	0	4	0	45	18	1		1	
<b>Mwaikenda Lusajo</b>	<b>D</b>	333	4	1	0	90	90	90	58		5
<b>Bakari Mwamnyeto</b>	<b>D</b>	111	0	2	0		79		32		
<b>Ibrahim Ame</b>	<b>D</b>	19	0	2	0				5	14	
<b>Salum Feisal</b>	<b>M</b>	535	6	0	2	90	90	90	90	90	85
<b>Yahya Mudathir</b>	<b>M</b>	460	5	1	1	31	90	90	74	85	90
<b>Edwin Balua</b>	<b>M</b>	131	2	0	0	59	72				
<b>Adolf Bitezeko</b>	<b>M</b>	294	3	1	0			90	90	24	90
<b>Himid Mao Mkami</b>	<b>M</b>	94	1	3	0	59	18	1	16		
<b>Mzize Clement</b>	<b>A</b>	466	6	0	0	90	90	90	84	66	46
<b>Samatta Ally</b>	<b>A</b>	334	4	0	0			83	90	85	76
<b>Suleiman Hamisi</b>	<b>A</b>	90	1	0	0				90		
<b>Msuva Simon</b>	<b>A</b>	90	1	0	2					90	
<b>Nickson Kibabage</b>	<b>A</b>	45	1	0	0	45					
<b>Junior Waziri</b>	<b>A</b>	103	1	1	0	31	72				
<b>Cyprian Kachwele</b>	<b>A</b>	8	0	2	0		1	7			
<b>Denis Kibu</b>	<b>A</b>	216	2	2	0			57	90	24	45
<b>Nassor Hamoud</b>	<b>A</b>	38	0	2	0			33		5	
<b>Selemani Mwalimu</b>	<b>A</b>	6	0	1	0				6		

## GROUP C FIXTURES

DATE	K/O	Fixture
23/12	18:30	<b>Nigeria vs Tanzania</b>
27/12	18:30	<b>Uganda vs Tanzania</b>
30/12	18:00	<b>Tanzania vs Tunisia</b>

## VENUE

Complexe Sportif de Fes, Fes

Stade El Barid, Rabat

Stade Prince Moulay Abdellah Olympique Annexe, Rabat

# STADIUMS

## STADE OLYMPIQUE ANNEXE COMPLEXE SPORTIF PRINCE MOULAY ABDELLAH

City: Rabat | Capacity: 21,000





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# GROUP D

**Senegal** topped their qualification group with five wins and one draw, scoring ten goals and conceding just one, entering the competition as defending champions with strong knockout experience.

**DR Congo** won their group with four wins and two losses, while **Benin** finished second in their qualification group scoring seven goals and conceding seven.

**Botswana** were runners-up in their pool and appear at the finals for just the second time.

This group presents a mix of historically successful sides and teams with limited experience on this stage.

Senegal have consistently reached the latter stages of recent AFCON tournaments, while DR Congo were semi-finalists two years ago.

Neither of those two will underestimate the challenge of Benin and Botswana, who have shown numerous times in the past few years they can match anybody on their day and must be respected.



SENEGAL



DR CONGO



BENIN



BOTSWANA

# SENEGAL

**Nickname:** Lions de la Téranga (Lions of Teranga)  
**AFCON Appearances:** 18 (debut in 1965)  
**Best Performance:** Winners (2021)  
**FIFA Ranking (November 2025):** 19  
**CAF Ranking (November 2025):** 2

## COACH

### Pape Thiaw

Nationality: Senegal

Date of birth:

**5 February 1981**

Start of tenure: **2024**

Winner of the TotalEnergies CAF CHAN 2022, Thiaw quickly left his mark on the full Senegal selection as well and has been lauded for style of play and results. His preferred 4-3-3 emphasizes possession, rapid transitions and width in attack.

With a solid defence, dynamic midfield trio, and lively forward line, Senegal aim not only to win but also to play attractive, effective football.

With an array of stars in his squad, he must manage when to rotate and which players are key to his ambitions with the TotalEnergies CAF AFCON and 2026 FIFA World Cup on the horizon.

## PLAYER TO WATCH

### Iliman Ndiaye

Date of birth:

**6 March 2000**

Position: Winger

Club: **Everton (England)**

The winger, who can play on either the left or the right, has emerged as a top talent with quick feet and an eye for a spectacular goal. He has emerged as a star player at English Premier League side Everton, where he plays on the left or the right, though mostly the latter since the arrival at the club on loan of Jack Grealish.

Ndiaye was born in France but later lived in Senegal and then moved to England. He rose to prominence at Sheffield United before a move to Olympique de Marseille that did not work out.

Back in England at Everton, he has been a star and could light up the TotalEnergies CAF AFCON with his skill.



YEAR	FINISH	POS	P	W	D	L	GF	GA
<b>1965</b>	Fourth place	4th	3	1	1	1	5	2
<b>1968</b>	Group stage	5th	3	1	1	1	5	5
<b>1986</b>	Group stage	5th	3	2	0	1	3	1
<b>1990</b>	Fourth place	4th	5	1	2	2	3	3
<b>1992</b>	Quarter-finals	5th	3	1	0	2	4	3
<b>1994</b>	Quarter-finals	8th	3	1	0	2	2	3
<b>2000</b>	Quarter-finals	7th	4	1	1	2	6	6
<b>2002</b>	Runners-up	2nd	6	4	2	0	6	1
<b>2004</b>	Quarter-finals	6th	4	1	2	1	4	2
<b>2006</b>	Fourth place	4th	6	2	0	4	7	8
<b>2008</b>	Group stage	12th	3	0	2	1	4	6
<b>2012</b>	Group stage	13th	3	0	0	3	3	6
<b>2015</b>	Group stage	9th	3	1	1	1	3	4
<b>2017</b>	Quarter-finals	5th	4	2	2	0	6	2
<b>2019</b>	Runners-up	2nd	7	5	0	2	8	2
<b>2021</b>	Champions	1st	7	5	2	0	9	2
<b>2023</b>	Round of 16	9th	4	3	1	0	9	2
<b>TOTALS</b>			<b>71</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>58</b>



## HOW THEY QUALIFIED

PLAYER	POS	MIN	ST	SI	G	H 1-1 v Burkina Faso (06/09/2024)	A 1-0 v Burundi (09/09/2024)	H 4-0 v Malawi (11/10/2024)	A 1-0 v Malawi (15/10/2024)	A 1-0 v Burkina Faso (14/11/2024)	H 1-0 v Burundi (19/11/2024)
<b>Edouard Mendy</b>	<b>G</b>	270	3	0	0	90			90	90	90
<b>Seny Dieng</b>	<b>G</b>	270	3	0	0	90	90	90	90		
<b>Ismail Jakobs</b>	<b>D</b>	201	2	1	0	21	90	90			
<b>Abdou Diallo</b>	<b>D</b>	180	2	0	0	90					90
<b>Formose Mendy</b>	<b>D</b>	232	3	0	0	90	52	90			
<b>Kalidou Koulibaly</b>	<b>D</b>	519	6	0	0	90	90	90	90	90	69
<b>Moussa Niakhate</b>	<b>D</b>	360	4	0	0	90	90	90	90	90	
<b>Abdoulaye Seck</b>	<b>D</b>	111	1	1	0	90					21
<b>Lamine Camara</b>	<b>M</b>	197	2	2	0	22	90	65			20
<b>Pathe Ciss</b>	<b>M</b>	3	0	1	0						3
<b>Habib Diarra</b>	<b>M</b>	283	3	2	3	90		38	59	26	70
<b>El Hadji Diouf Malick</b>	<b>M</b>	271	3	1	0	1		90	90	90	90
<b>Idrissa Gueye</b>	<b>M</b>	408	5	1	0	82	61	25	60	90	90
<b>Pape Gueye</b>	<b>M</b>	381	4	1	1	90	90	81	30	90	
<b>Pape Sarr</b>	<b>M</b>	248	3	2	0	68	1		90	2	87
<b>Nampalys Mendy</b>	<b>M</b>	17	0	2	0	8		9			
<b>Boulaye Dia</b>	<b>A</b>	95	1	1	1			25	70		
<b>Krepin Diatta</b>	<b>A</b>	180	2	0	0					90	90
<b>Nicolas Jackson</b>	<b>A</b>	358	5	0	1	82	61	81	70	64	
<b>Sadio Mane</b>	<b>A</b>	540	6	0	3	90	90	90	90	90	90
<b>Abdallah Sima</b>	<b>A</b>	1	0	1	0		1				
<b>Cherif Ndiaye</b>	<b>A</b>	103	1	1	0					26	77
<b>Ismaila Sarr</b>	<b>A</b>	333	4	1	1	69	90	90	20	64	
<b>Iliman Ndiaye</b>	<b>A</b>	260	3	3	0	1	29	65	31	88	46
<b>Habib Diallo</b>	<b>A</b>	79	0	5	0	8	29	9	20		13
<b>Cheikh Sabaly</b>	<b>A</b>	45	0	1	0						45

## GROUP D FIXTURES

DATE	K/O	Fixture	Venue
23/12	18:00	<b>Senegal vs Botswana</b>	Grand Stade de Tanger, Tangier
27/12	16:00	<b>Senegal vs DR Congo</b>	Grand Stade de Tanger, Tangier
30/12	20:00	<b>Benin vs Senegal</b>	Grand Stade de Tanger, Tangier



# PAPE THIAW TARGETS TITLES FOR SENEGAL



Senegal head coach **PAPE THIAW** has set high ambitions for his team ahead of the TotalEnergies CAF Africa Cup of Nations (AFCON) 2025 in Morocco.

Thiaw acknowledges the challenges ahead but exuded confidence in the Lions of Teranga's ability to compete for their second continental title.

"It will not be easy at all. These are all teams that have proven themselves," Thiaw said, emphasizing

the heightened competitiveness of African football.

"There are no more small teams in Africa, but we are Senegal, and we will do everything to be there."

Senegal, seeded in Group D, will face the Democratic Republic of Congo, Benin, and Botswana. The group presents a mix of familiar foes and unknown challenges.

The DR Congo, semi-finalists at the 2023 AFCON,

represent a formidable opponent, while Benin and Botswana bring their own unique threats.

For Thiaw, every match in the group stage will require focus and preparation.

"We know the strengths of DR Congo and Benin, but we must not underestimate Botswana. Our aim is clear, to win every game and progress as far as possible."

"All the teams present at this AFCON deserve respect. Each of the 24 qualified

teams has earned its spot. There is no easy path to this stage.

"There are practically no more 'small teams' in Africa. We are witnessing a levelling up across the continent. The quality of football has improved everywhere. Teams that were once seen as underdogs are now formidable opponents."

Buoyed by recent successes, including their 2023 TotalEnergies CAF African Nations Championship (CHAN) victory with the local Lions, Senegal has shown consistency on the continental stage.

Ranked second in Africa, the Lions of Teranga enter the tournament as one of the favourites.

"When you are ranked second in Africa and 18th in the world, you must always aim for the Grail in every competition," Thiaw stated. "Our goal is to clinch our second AFCON title, and we will fight to make it happen."

As Senegal prepares for the tournament, Thiaw's message to the players and fans is clear: determination and hard work will be the keys to success this time round in Morocco.

"We have shown what we are capable of, and we will leave no stone unturned in our pursuit of victory," he said.

Senegal's first AFCON triumph came in 2021 when they defeated Egypt in a tense final in Cameroon. Since then, the team has maintained its reputation as one of Africa's powerhouses.

Led by experienced players like Kalidou Koulibaly and Sadio Mané, Senegal boasts a balanced mix of youth and experience.

Thiaw's tactical acumen and ability to inspire his team will be crucial as Senegal aims to overcome their group-stage opponents and push deep into the tournament.

At just 44 years old, Thiaw has already made a name for himself as one of Africa's most promising coaches.

Appointed head coach of Senegal in December 2024, he carries the mantle of maintaining the nation's dominance on the continental stage.

Renowned for his attacking philosophy and dynamic approach, Thiaw has brought modern football tactics to Senegal, building a team that balances flair and discipline.

His coaching career reached a turning point on February 4, 2023, when he led Senegal to victory at the TotalEnergies African Nations Championship (CHAN).

His team triumphed over Algeria in a dramatic



penalty shootout (0-0, 5-4 on penalties), earning him the Best Coach of the Tournament accolade and proving he understands the unique challenges of tournament football.

Following this success, Thiaw joined the backroom staff of Aliou Cissé as an assistant coach, gaining valuable experience with the senior national team.

"I had the chance to have an exceptional experience being on the bench of the Senegal team (at the last AFCON)," Thiaw said. "It's something extraordinary that enriches me both personally and professionally."

"Winning the TotalEnergies CAF African Nations Championship for the first time in the country's history was an unforgettable moment. I would like to thank Algeria once again for its

exemplary organisation as host country."

As a former striker, Pape Thiaw's coaching philosophy is rooted in proactive, attacking football. He prefers systems like 4-3-3 and 4-2-3-1, enabling rapid transitions and high pressing.

His teams excel at recovering possession quickly and converting defence into attack.

Thiaw has emphasized the importance of aggression, intensity and creativity. He has often said, "I play offensively, and after every loss of possession, we must immediately recover the ball."

This ethos reflects his commitment to maintaining both defensive solidity and offensive fluidity and his tactical decisions have earned widespread acclaim.

# DR CONGO

**Nickname:** Les Léopards (The Leopards)  
**AFCON Appearances:** 22 (debut in 1965)  
**Best Performance:** Winners (1968, 1974)  
**FIFA Ranking (November 2025):** 56  
**CAF Ranking (November 2025):** 9



## COACH

### Sébastien Desabre

Nationality: French

Date of birth:

**2 August 1976**

Start of tenure: **2022**

With 15 years of African football experience, starting with ASEC Mimosas in 2010, Desabre brings deep knowledge and experience. For his second TotalEnergies CAF AFCON with DR Congo, he sticks to his favoured 4-2-3-1, balancing defensive structure with offensive freedom. The system emphasizes strong midfield recovery, creative attacking trios, and a target striker to finish moves. The 49-year-old has vast experience in African football, having also led several top clubs sides down the years.

## PLAYER TO WATCH

### Fiston Mayele

Date of birth:

**24 June, 1994**

Position: Forward

Club: Pyramids FC (Egypt)

Top scorer of the TotalEnergies CAF Champions League 2024/25 with 7 goals, he is a lethal finisher with pace, movement, and depth runs. His goals helped Egyptian club Pyramids FC to the continental title and he is a key man up front for his national team. His consistent club performances have made him indispensable to the Leopards, where he embodies a decisive offensive threat. His form and scoring instinct could be key for DR Congo's high ambitions in Morocco.

YEAR	FINISH	POS	P	W	D	L	GF	GA
1965	Group stage	5th	2	0	0	2	2	8
1968	Champions	1st	5	4	0	1	10	2
1970	Group stage	7th	3	0	1	2	2	5
1972	Fourth place	4th	5	1	2	2	9	11
1974	Champions	1st	6	4	1	1	14	8
1976	Group stage	7th	3	0	1	2	3	6
1988	Group stage	7th	3	0	2	1	2	3
1992	Quarter-finals	6th	3	0	2	1	2	3
1994	Quarter-finals	7th	3	1	1	1	2	3
1996	Quarter-finals	8th	3	1	0	2	2	3
1998	Third place	3rd	6	3	1	2	10	9
2000	Group stage	12th	3	0	2	1	0	1
2002	Quarter-finals	6th	4	1	1	2	3	4
2004	Group stage	15th	3	0	0	3	1	6
2006	Quarter-finals	8th	4	1	1	2	3	6
2013	Group stage	10th	3	0	3	0	3	3
2015	Third place	3rd	6	1	4	1	7	7
2017	Quarter-finals	6th	4	2	1	1	7	5
2019	Round of 16	14th	4	1	1	2	6	6
2023	Fourth place	4th	7	1	5	1	6	5
<b>TOTALS</b>			<b>80</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>94</b>	<b>104</b>

## HOW THEY QUALIFIED

PLAYER	POS	MIN	ST	SI	G	H 1-0 v Guinea (04/09/2024)	A 2-0 v Ethiopia (09/09/2024)	H 1-0 v Tanzania (10/10/2024)	A 2-0 v Tanzania (15/10/2024)	A 0-1 v Guinea (16/11/2024)	A 1-2 v Ethiopia (19/11/2024)
Lionel Mpasi-Nzau	G	90	1	0	0						90
Dimitriy Bertrand	G	450	5	0	0	90	90	90	90	90	
Gedeon Kalulu	D	315	3	1	0			90	90	90	45
Chancel Mbemba	D	450	5	0	0	90	90	90	90	90	
Axel Tuanzebe	D	180	2	0	0	90	90				
Samuel Moutossamy	D	450	5	0	0	90	90	90	90	90	
Dylan Batubinsika	D	90	1	0	1						90
Peter Kioso	D	45	1	0	0						45
Arthur Masuaku	D	360	4	0	0	90		90	90	90	
Joris Kayembe	D	212	2	3	0	1	90	1		30	90
Henoc Inonga	D	540	6	0	0	90	90	90	90	90	90
Charles Pickel	M	400	5	0	0	80	80	90	90	60	
Edo Kayembe	M	359	4	1	1	90	45	72	82		70
Gael Kakuta	M	45	1	0	0		45				
Noah Sadiki	M	165	2	4	0	10	10	16	8	76	45
Ngalayel Mukau	M	120	1	1	0					30	90
William Balikwisha	M	59	0	2	0					14	45
Theo Bongonda	A	382	4	1	1	80	58	90	72	82	
Samuel Essende	A	251	3	1	0	63	69	74			45
Meschack Elia	A	191	2	4	2	10	21	63	30	60	7
Oscar Kabwit	A	20	0	1	0						20
Silas Katompa Mvumpa	A	170	2	1	0			27	60		83
Simon Banza	A	148	2	0	0				72	76	
Fiston Mayele	A	188	1	5	1	27	21	18	18	14	90
Chadrac Akolo	A	32	1	0	0		32				
Nathaniel Mbuku	A	71	1	2	0				18	8	45
Yoane Wissa	A	159	2	0	0	90	69				

## GROUP D FIXTURES

DATE	K/O	Fixture
23/12	13:30	DR Congo vs Benin
27/12	18:00	Senegal vs DR Congo
30/12	20:00	Botswana vs DR Congo

## VENUE

Stade El Barid, Rabat  
 Grand Stade de Tanger, Tangier  
 Stade El Barid, Rabat



# BENIN

**Nickname:** Les Guépards (The Cheetahs)  
**AFCON Appearances:** 5 (debut in 2004)  
**Best Performance:** Quarter-finals (2019)  
**FIFA Ranking (November 2025):** 92  
**CAF Ranking (November 2025):** 20

## COACH

### Gernot Rohr

Nationality: German  
 Date of birth: 29 September 1953  
 Start of tenure: 2023

After spells with Gabon, Niger, Burkina Faso, and Nigeria, Gernot Rohr is now leading his fifth African national team with Benin. An experienced man and pragmatic tactician, the German has imposed discipline and his vision of the game, balancing defensive solidity and attacking efficiency, to help his teams progress and turn Benin into a dangerous continental opponent. A bronze medalist at in 2019 with Nigeria, Rohr knows the recipe for success in Africa: build solid, disciplined teams capable of getting the most out of each player's talent.

## PLAYER TO WATCH

### Steve Mounié

Date of birth: 29 September 1994  
 Position: Forward  
 Club: Alanyaspor (Turkey / on loan from FC Augsburg, Germany)



YEAR	FINISH	POS	P	W	D	L	GF	GA
2004	Group stage	16th	3	0	0	3	1	8
2008	Group stage	15th	3	0	0	3	1	7
2010	Group stage	14th	3	0	1	2	2	5
2019	Quarter-finals	8th	5	0	4	1	3	4
	<b>TOTALS</b>		<b>14</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>24</b>

At 31, Steve Mounié approaches the TotalEnergies CAF AFCON Morocco 2025 with maturity.

Having scored twice in the qualifiers, the Beninese striker is among the few survivors from the 2019 squad that reached the quarter-finals, the nation's best-ever result in the competition.

As captain, Mounié is a powerful and technical striker whose size and physical presence make him a natural target man. Excellent in the air, he disrupts defensive lines, shields the ball, and creates openings for teammates.

## HOW THEY QUALIFIED

PLAYER	POS	MIN	ST	SI	G	A 0-3 v Nigeria (07/09/2024)	H 2-1 v Libya (10/09/2024)	H 3-0 v Rwanda (11/10/2024)	A 1-2 v Rwanda (15/10/2024)	H 1-1 v Nigeria (14/11/2024)	A 0-0 v Libya (19/11/2024)
Marcel Dandjinou	G	540	6	0	0	90	90	90	90	90	90
Cedric Hountondji	D	270	3	0	0	90	90	90			
Moïse Adiléhou	D	15	0	1	0					15	
David Kiki	D	180	2	0	0	90					90
Olivier Verdon	D	285	3	1	0	90	90	15	90		
Yohan Roche	D	450	5	0	0	90	90	90	90	90	90
Mohamed Tijani	D	360	4	0	1		90	90	90	90	90
Abdoul Moumini	D	450	5	0	0	90	90	90	90	90	90
Sessi D'Almeida	M	477	6	0	0	67	90	75	80	75	90
Mattéo Ahlinvi	M	2	0	2	0		1		1		
Imourane Hassane	M	540	6	0	1	90	90	90	90	90	90
Junior Olaïtan	M	512	6	0	1	82	90	81	90	90	79
Dodo Dokou	M	532	6	0	0	90	90	82	90	90	90
Mariano Ahouangbo	M	8	0	1	0	8					
Gislain Ahoudo	M	9	0	2	0		8				1
Romaric Amoussou	M	9	0	1	0		9				
Tamimou Ouro	M	180	2	0	0				90	90	
Stephen Mounié	A	540	6	0	2	90	90	90	90	90	90
Aiyegun Tosin	A	263	3	1	0	78	13			82	90
Jodel Dossou	A	179	2	2	0	23	77	53	26		
Steve Traore	A	10	0	1	0				10		
Andreas Hountondji	A	131	1	4	2	12		37	64	7	11

## GROUP D FIXTURES

DATE	K/O	Fixture
23/12	13:30	DR Congo vs Benin
27/12	13:30	Benin vs Botswana
30/12	20:00	Benin vs Senegal

## VENUE

Stade El Barid, Rabat  
 Stade Prince Moulay Abdellah Olympique Annexe, Rabat  
 Grand Stade de Tanger, Tangier

# BOTSWANA

**Nickname:** Dipitse (The Zebras)  
**AFCON Appearances:** 2 (debut in 2012)  
**Best Performance:** Group Stages (2012)  
**FIFA Ranking (November 2025):** 138  
**CAF Ranking (November 2025):** 40

## COACH

**Morena Ramoreboli**  
 Nationality: South African

Date of Birth:  
**1 January 1982**  
 Start of Tenure: **2025 (Permanent)**

Morena Ramoreboli was confirmed as Botswana's permanent head coach in 2025 after a successful spell as interim coach. His immediate impact was historic: guiding the Zebras back to the TotalEnergies CAF AFCON the first time since 2012. The achievement underlined his reputation as a coach who maximizes the potential of his teams through discipline, motivation, and tactical awareness. Before taking on the national role, Ramoreboli enjoyed domestic and continental success with Jwaneng Galaxy, leading the club to league titles and notable runs in the CAF Champions League.

## PLAYER TO WATCH

**Tumisang Orebonye**  
 Date of Birth:  
**26 March 1996**  
 Position: Centre-forward  
 Club: Wydad AC (Morocco)



YEAR	FINISH	POS	P	W	D	L	GF	GA
2012	Group stage	16th	3	0	0	3	2	9
	<b>TOTALS</b>		<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>9</b>

Tumisang Orebonye has risen to prominence as Botswana's most potent attacking threat. Known for his physical presence, clever runs in the box and ability to link play, he has built his reputation across several clubs in North Africa after earlier domestic stints at home. He has won major continental honours, including the CAF Confederation Cup and CAF Super Cup with USM Alger. Recently, after spells with AS FAR and Al Ittihad Tripoli, Orebonye signed a two-year deal with Moroccan giants Wydad Athletic Club.



## HOW THEY QUALIFIED

PLAYER	POS	MIN	ST	SI	G	A 0-1 v Mauritania (07/09/2024)	H 0-4 v Egypt (10/09/2024)	A 0-1 v Cape Verde (10/10/2024)	H 1-0 v Cape Verde (15/10/2024)	H 1-1 v Mauritania (15/11/2024)	A 1-1 v Egypt (19/11/2024)
Goitseone Phoko	G	540	6	0	0	90	90	90	90	90	90
Thabo Leinanyane	D	90	1	0	0						90
Motsholetsi Sikele	D	129	1	1	0	90		39			
Mosha Gaolaolwe	D	518	6	0	0	89	69	90	90	90	90
Lebogang Ditsele	D	90	1	0	0						90
Mothusi Johnson	D	270	3	0	0			90	90	90	
Ricky Ratlhogo	D	1	0	1	0						1
Thatayaone Dithlhokwe	D	540	6	0	0	90	90	90	90	90	90
Alford Velaphi	D	360	4	0	0		90	90	90	90	90
Tebogo Kopelang	D	231	2	2	0	90	90	6			45
Chicco Molefe	D	90	1	0	0						90
Kitso Mangolo	D	179	2	0	0	89	90				
Koketsso Majafi	D	200	3	1	0	58	52		45		45
Gift Moyo	M	18	0	2	0				1	17	
Segolame Boy	M	47	1	1	0			46		1	
Gilbert Baruti	M	279	3	3	1	32	21	63	45	73	45
Thatayaone Kgamanyane	M	1	0	1	0	1					
Gape Mohutsiwa	M	277	4	0	0	73	69	90		45	
Godiraone Modingwane	M	297	3	1	0			27	90	90	90
Tlameilo Kolagano	M	1	0	1	0	1					
Gape Thibedi	M	21	0	1	0		21				
Olebogeng Ramotse	M	332	3	2	0	17	90	90	90	45	
Kabelo Seakaneng	A	483	6	0	0	90	90	78	90	90	45
Omaatla Kebatho	A	88	1	3	1			12	14	17	45
Thabang Sesinyi	A	276	2	4	1	32	38	12	76	73	45
Tumisang Orebonye	A	528	6	0	1	90	90	78	90	90	90
Molaodi Tlhalefang	A	59	1	1	0	58					1

## GROUP D FIXTURES

DATE	K/O	Fixture
23/12	16:00	Senegal vs Botswana
27/12	13:30	Benin vs Botswana
30/12	20:00	Botswana vs DR Congo

## VENUE

Grand Stade de Tanger, Tangier  
 Stade Prince Moulay Abdellah Olympique Annexe, Rabat  
 Stade El Barid, Rabat

# STADIUMS



## STADE EL BARID

City: Rabat | Capacity: 18,000



CAF  
AFRICA CUP  
OF NATIONS  
MOROCCO 25

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# GROUPE

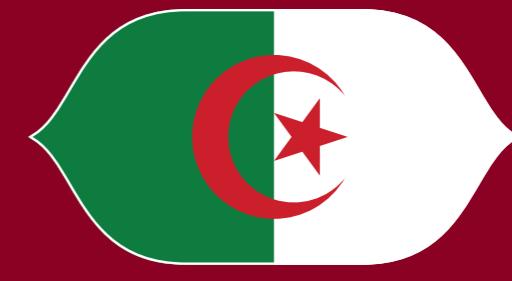
**Algeria** topped their qualification group with five wins and one draw, scoring 16 goals and conceding only two, an efficient display. They have a record of technical, possession-based play.

**Burkina Faso** finished second in their group, as did **Equatorial Guinea**, while **Sudan** were also runners-up in their group with two wins, two draws, and two losses, scoring just four and conceding six.

It looks in some ways a tough pool to call with Algeria having the greater pedigree, but with three other sides of a similar quality, and it is likely to be a fierce battle for points.

Algeria were TotalEnergies CAF AFCON winners in 2019 but exited in the group stages in the last two editions without winning a game.

And watch for the other sides, who all have ambitions of their own.



ALGERIA



BURKINA FASO



EQUATORIAL GUINEA



SUDAN

# ALGERIA

**Nickname:** The Fennecs  
**AFCON Appearances:** 21 (debut in 1968)  
**Best Performance:** Winners (1990, 2019)  
**FIFA Ranking (November 2025):** 35  
**CAF Ranking (November 2025):** 4



## COACH

### Vladimir Petković

Nationality: **Bosnia & Herzegovina**  
Date of birth:  
**16 February, 2000**  
Position: **Forward**  
Current club: **Olympique Marseille (France)**

Vladimir Petković, born in 1963 in Sarajevo to a Bosnian-Croat family, is a seasoned football manager and former midfielder. Appointed Algeria's national team coach in February 2024, he previously led Switzerland to the 2018 World Cup and Euro 2020 quarterfinals, stunning France en route. At Lazio, he secured the 2013 Coppa Italia. He is known for attacking, high-pressure tactics, and has Algeria in good form since his appointment.

## PLAYER TO WATCH

### Amine Gouiri

Date of birth:  
**16 February, 2000**  
Position: **Forward**  
Current club: **Olympique Marseille (France)**

Amine Gouiri, born February 16, 2000, in Bourgoin-Jallieu, France, to Algerian parents, is a dynamic striker for Ligue 1's Olympique Marseille. Rising through Lyon's academy, he debuted in 2017 and shone as France U17's top scorer at the 2017 Euros with seven goals.

After stints at Nice and Rennes, scoring 15 league goals in 2022–23, he joined Marseille in January 2025 for €22 million.

Known for silky runs and versatility, Gouiri switched allegiance to the Fennecs in 2023.

YEAR	FINISH	POS	P	W	D	L	GF	GA
1968	Group stage	6th	3	1	0	2	5	6
1980	Runners-up	2nd	5	2	2	1	6	7
1982	Fourth place	4th	5	2	1	2	5	6
1984	Third place	3rd	5	3	2	0	8	1
1986	Group stage	6th	3	0	2	1	2	3
1988	Third place	3rd	5	1	3	1	4	4
1990	Champions	1st	5	5	0	0	13	2
1992	Group stage	10th	2	0	1	1	1	4
1996	Quarter-finals	5th	4	2	1	1	5	3
1998	Group stage	15th	3	0	0	3	2	5
2000	Quarter-finals	6th	4	1	2	1	5	4
2002	Group stage	15th	3	0	1	2	2	5
2004	Quarter-finals	8th	4	1	1	2	5	7
2010	Fourth place	4th	6	2	1	3	4	10
2013	Group stage	13th	3	0	1	2	2	5
2015	Quarter-finals	6th	4	2	0	2	6	5
2017	Group stage	10th	3	0	2	1	5	6
2019	Champions	1st	7	6	1	0	13	2
2021	Group stage	20th	3	0	1	2	1	4
2023	Group stage	18th	3	0	2	1	3	4
<b>TOTALS</b>			<b>80</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>97</b>	<b>93</b>



## HOW THEY QUALIFIED

	H 2-0 v Eq. Guinea (05/09/2024)	A 3-0 v Liberia (10/09/2024)	H 5-1 v Togo (10/10/2024)	A 1-0 v Togo (14/10/2024)	A 0-0 v Eq. Guinea (14/11/2024)	H 1-1 v Liberia (17/11/2024)
<b>PLAYER</b>	<b>POS</b>	<b>MIN</b>	<b>ST</b>	<b>SI</b>	<b>G</b>	
Anthony Mandréa	G	180	2	0	0	90
Alexis Guendouz	G	270	3	0	0	90
Alexandre Oukidja	G	90	1	0	0	90
Aïssa Mandi	D	540	6	0	1	90
Ramy Bensebaini	D	495	6	0	1	90
Youcef Atal	D	92	1	2	0	7
Mohamed Tougaï	D	540	6	0	0	90
Jaouen Djimmy Hadjam	D	262	3	0	0	82
Mohamed Farsi	D	191	2	2	0	76
Naoufel Khacef	D	8	0	1	0	8
Rayan Ait Nouri	D	270	3	0	0	90
Saadi Radouani	D	19	0	1	0	19
Mohamed Madani	D	45	0	1	0	45
Ismaël Bennacer	M	78	1	0	0	78
Houssem Aouar	M	243	3	0	2	83
Himad Abdelli	M	15	0	1	0	15
Ramiz Zerrouki	M	431	5	0	0	90
Adem Zorgane	M	231	3	2	1	7
Yassine Benzia	M	177	2	3	0	11
Ahmed Kendouci	M	124	1	2	0	14
Amir Sayoud	M	3	0	1	0	3
Ibrahim Maza	M	1	0	1	0	1
Hicham Boudaoui	M	135	1	1	0	45
Riyad Mahrez	A	301	4	0	1	83
Baghdad Bou nedjah	A	261	3	2	2	79
Saïd Benrahma	A	359	4	2	2	77
Aimen Mahious	A	19	0	1	0	19
Mohammed Amoura	A	201	2	2	2	45
Amine Gouiri	A	283	3	3	4	12
Anis Hadj Moussa	A	1	0	1	0	1
Amin Chiakha	A	1	0	1	0	1
Fares Chaibi	A	75	1	0	0	75

## GROUP E FIXTURES

DATE	K/O	Fixture
24/12	16:00	Algeria vs Sudan
28/12	18:30	Algeria vs Burkina Faso
31/12	17:00	Equatorial Guinea vs Algeria

## VENUE

Complexe Sportif Prince Heritier Moulay El Hassan, Rabat  
Complexe Sportif Prince Heritier Moulay El Hassan, Rabat  
Complexe Sportif Prince Heritier Moulay El Hassan, Rabat

# BURKINA FASO

**Nickname:** Les Étalons (The Stallions)  
**AFCON Appearances:** 14 (debut in 1978)  
**Best Performance:** Runners-Up (2013)  
**FIFA Ranking (November 2025):** 62  
**CAF Ranking (November 2025):** 12



## COACH

### Brama Traoré

Nationality: Burkinabè

Date of birth:

**22 March 1962**

Start of tenure: **2024**

A former midfielder with 29 caps, Brama Traoré first managed the Burkina Faso U20 and U23 sides, earning a silver medal with the U20s at the most recent Jeux de la Francophonie in DR Congo.

Between 2012 and 2015, he was assistant coach under Paul Put before becoming head coach of the Stallions in March 2024.

Attack-minded, Traoré favours an offensive 4-3-3 system, pushing his wingers to make repeated runs, his midfielders to project forward quickly, and his striker to constantly occupy opposing defences.

## PLAYER TO WATCH

### Edmond Tapsoba

Date of birth:

**2 February 1999**

Position: Centre-back

Club: **Bayer Leverkusen (Germany)**

A feared defender in the Bundesliga with Bayer Leverkusen, where he won the German championship in 2024, Tapsoba also dominates on the African stage.

A Burkina Faso international since 2016, he has become a cornerstone of the team, dictating tempo from the back.

Renowned for anticipation, reading of the game, and positioning, he intercepts passes before attacks can develop. His controlled aggression allows him to neutralize threats without destabilizing the defence.

YEAR	FINISH	POS	P	W	D	L	GF	GA
<b>1978</b>	Group stage	8th	3	0	0	3	2	9
<b>1996</b>	Group stage	15th	3	0	0	3	3	9
<b>1998</b>	Fourth place	4th	6	2	2	2	8	9
<b>2000</b>	Group stage	15th	3	0	1	2	4	8
<b>2002</b>	Group stage	13th	3	0	1	2	2	4
<b>2004</b>	Group stage	14th	3	0	1	2	1	6
<b>2010</b>	Group stage	13th	2	0	1	1	0	1
<b>2012</b>	Group stage	15th	3	0	0	3	2	6
<b>2013</b>	Runners-up	2nd	6	2	3	1	7	3
<b>2015</b>	Group stage	16th	3	0	1	2	1	4
<b>2017</b>	Third place	3rd	6	3	3	0	8	3
<b>2021</b>	Fourth place	4th	7	2	3	2	9	10
<b>2023</b>	Round of 16	13th	4	1	1	2	4	6
<b>TOTALS</b>			<b>52</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>78</b>

## HOW THEY QUALIFIED

PLAYER	POS	MIN	ST	SI	G	A 1-1 v Senegal (06/09/2024)	H 3-1 v Malawi (10/09/2024)	H 4-1 v Burundi (10/10/2024)	A 2-0 v Burundi (13/10/2024)	H 0-1 v Senegal (14/11/2024)	A 0-3 v Malawi (18/11/2024)
<b>Hervé Koffi</b>	<b>G</b>	180	2	0	0	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>				
<b>Farid Ouédraogo</b>	<b>G</b>	360	4	0	0		<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>
<b>Steeve Yago</b>	<b>D</b>	349	4	0	0	<b>90</b>			<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>79</b>
<b>Edmond Tapsoba</b>	<b>D</b>	450	5	0	0	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	
<b>Valentin Nouma</b>	<b>D</b>	75	1	0	0						<b>75</b>
<b>Issa Kaboré</b>	<b>D</b>	450	5	0	0	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	
<b>Nasser Djiga</b>	<b>D</b>	270	3	0	0	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>				<b>90</b>
<b>Issoufou Dayo</b>	<b>D</b>	360	4	0	1			<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>
<b>Mohamed Ouédraogo</b>	<b>D</b>	195	2	1	0		<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>			<b>15</b>
<b>Saïdou Simporé</b>	<b>M</b>	312	3	2	0	<b>21</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	
<b>Ibrahim Touré</b>	<b>M</b>	180	2	0	0			<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>		
<b>Trova Boni</b>	<b>M</b>	127	2	1	0	<b>69</b>	<b>13</b>				<b>45</b>
<b>Dramane Salou</b>	<b>M</b>	12	0	2	0		<b>5</b>		<b>7</b>		
<b>Sacha Bansé</b>	<b>M</b>	395	5	0	1	<b>90</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>69</b>		<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>
<b>Clément Pitroipa</b>	<b>M</b>	15	0	1	0						<b>15</b>
<b>Cédric Badolo</b>	<b>M</b>	372	4	2	0	<b>82</b>	<b>77</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>83</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>45</b>
<b>Josué Tiendrébéogo</b>	<b>M</b>	101	1	1	0					<b>26</b>	<b>75</b>
<b>Bertrand Traoré</b>	<b>A</b>	104	1	1	1			<b>78</b>	<b>26</b>		
<b>Aziz Ki</b>	<b>A</b>	69	1	0	0			<b>69</b>			
<b>Mohamed Konaté</b>	<b>A</b>	172	2	2	1	<b>82</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>64</b>		
<b>Hassane Bandé</b>	<b>A</b>	411	5	1	1	<b>69</b>	<b>77</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>
<b>Lassina Traoré</b>	<b>A</b>	394	4	2	2	<b>21</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>77</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>
<b>Ousseini Bouda</b>	<b>A</b>	130	1	3	1	<b>8</b>	<b>13</b>			<b>64</b>	<b>45</b>
<b>Dango Ouattara</b>	<b>A</b>	140	2	1	2	<b>45</b>		<b>69</b>	<b>26</b>		
<b>Hamed Ouattara</b>	<b>A</b>	11	0	1	0						<b>11</b>
<b>Ousmane Camara</b>	<b>A</b>	162	1	4	0	<b>45</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>12</b>		<b>26</b>	<b>45</b>
<b>Abdoul Kader Ouattara</b>	<b>A</b>	149	2	1	0	<b>8</b>	<b>77</b>		<b>64</b>		

## GROUP E FIXTURES

DATE	K/O	Fixture
24/12	13:30	<b>Burkina Faso vs Equatorial Guinea</b>
28/12	18:30	<b>Algeria vs Burkina Faso</b>
31/12	17:00	<b>Sudan vs Burkina Faso</b>

## VENUE

Stade Mohamed V, Casablanca

Complexe Sportif Prince Heritier Moulay El Hassan, Rabat  
Stade Mohamed V, Casablanca

# EQUATORIAL GUINEA

**Nickname:** Nzalang Nacional (National Thunder)  
**AFCON Appearances:** 5 (debut in 2012)  
**Best Performance:** Fourth place (2015)  
**FIFA Ranking (November 2025):** 97  
**CAF Ranking (November 2025):** 21



## COACH

### Juan Michá

Nationality:  
**Equatorial Guinea**  
 Date of birth:  
**28 July 1975**  
 Start of Tenure: **2020**

Juan Michá, appointed first as interim coach in 2020, has overseen one of the nation's most successful eras, guiding the Nzalang Nacional to the AFCON quarterfinals in 2021 and 2023.

Known for his tactical organisation and motivational leadership, he builds compact, disciplined teams capable of upsetting stronger opponents.

Michá emphasises teamwork, defensive solidity, and quick counterattacks, earning respect as a key architect of Equatorial Guinea's modern football rise.

## PLAYER TO WATCH

### Luís Asué

Date of birth: **9 July 2001**  
 Position: **Forward**  
 Current club: **Shanghai Shenhua (China)**

YEAR	FINISH	POS	P	W	D	L	GF	GA
<b>2012</b>	Quarter-finals	7th	4	2	0	2	3	5
<b>2015</b>	Fourth place	4th	6	2	3	1	5	5
<b>2021</b>	Quarter-finals	7th	5	2	1	2	3	4
<b>2023</b>	Round of 16	10th	4	2	1	1	9	4
<b>TOTALS</b>			<b>19</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>18</b>

Luís Asué is a dynamic forward for Equatorial Guinea, known for his pace, strength, and direct attacking style. A key figure for the national team, he offers versatility across the front line and an instinct for goal. He was their top-scorer in qualifying with two goals. Asué's relentless work rate and ability to exploit defensive gaps make him a constant threat.

Asué won the Golden Boot at the last TotalEnergies CAF AFCON when he netted five times at the 2023 finals in Côte d'Ivoire.

## HOW THEY QUALIFIED

PLAYER	POS	MIN	ST	SI	G	A 0-2 v Algeria (05/09/2024)	H 2-2 v Togo (09/09/2024)	H 1-0 v Liberia (11/10/2024)	A 2-1 v Liberia (14/10/2024)	H 0-0 v Algeria (14/11/2024)	A 0-3 v Togo (17/11/2024)
<b>Jesus Owono</b>	<b>G</b>	450	5	0	0	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	
<b>Manuel Sapunga</b>	<b>G</b>	90	1	0	0						<b>90</b>
<b>Carlos Akapo</b>	<b>D</b>	237	3	0	0			<b>90</b>	<b>81</b>	<b>66</b>	
<b>Marvin Anieboh</b>	<b>D</b>	463	5	1	0	<b>13</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>
<b>Saul Coco</b>	<b>D</b>	180	2	0	0	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>				
<b>Basilio Ndong</b>	<b>D</b>	450	5	0	0	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>
<b>Esteban Orozco</b>	<b>D</b>	540	6	0	0	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>
<b>Nestor Senra</b>	<b>D</b>	167	2	0	0	<b>77</b>					<b>90</b>
<b>Cosme Envana</b>	<b>D</b>	33	0	1	0						<b>33</b>
<b>Cristian Ebea</b>	<b>D</b>	67	1	2	0		<b>1</b>		<b>9</b>		<b>57</b>
<b>Omar Mascarel</b>	<b>M</b>	339	4	0	0	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>			<b>90</b>	<b>69</b>
<b>Federico Bikoro</b>	<b>M</b>	82	0	4	0			<b>10</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>32</b>
<b>Jannick Buyla</b>	<b>M</b>	307	3	2	1	<b>77</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>84</b>	
<b>Santiago Eneme</b>	<b>M</b>	273	3	1	0	<b>6</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>87</b>		
<b>Pablo Ganet</b>	<b>M</b>	252	3	3	0	<b>66</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>33</b>
<b>Gael Akogo</b>	<b>M</b>	35	0	2	0			<b>2</b>			<b>33</b>
<b>Luis Nsue</b>	<b>M</b>	24	0	1	0						<b>24</b>
<b>Pedro Obiang</b>	<b>M</b>	501	6	0	0	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>84</b>	<b>57</b>
<b>Alex Balboa</b>	<b>M</b>	24	0	1	0	<b>24</b>					
<b>Jose Machin</b>	<b>M</b>	326	4	0	0			<b>88</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>58</b>
<b>Luis Asué</b>	<b>A</b>	373	5	0	2	<b>66</b>	<b>79</b>		<b>87</b>	<b>84</b>	<b>57</b>
<b>Dorian Hanza</b>	<b>A</b>	133	1	4	1	<b>13</b>	<b>11</b>		<b>3</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>90</b>
<b>Josete Miranda</b>	<b>A</b>	156	2	1	0	<b>24</b>	<b>58</b>				<b>74</b>
<b>Iban Salvador</b>	<b>A</b>	309	4	0	1	<b>84</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>56</b>		
<b>Jordan Guiterez</b>	<b>A</b>	109	1	3	0			<b>10</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>90</b>
<b>Domingo Mba</b>	<b>A</b>	22	0	2	0			<b>1</b>			<b>21</b>

## GROUP A FIXTURES

DATE	K/O	Fixture
24/12	13:30	<b>Burkina Faso vs Equatorial Guinea</b>
28/12	15:00	<b>Equatorial Guinea vs Sudan</b>
31/12	17:00	<b>Equatorial Guinea vs Algeria</b>

## VENUE

Stade Mohammed V, Casablanca  
 Stade Mohammed V, Casablanca  
 Complexe Sportif Prince Heritier Moulay El Hassan, Rabat

# SUDAN

**Nickname:** Falcons of Jediane  
**AFCON Appearances:** 10 (debut in 1957)  
**Best Performance:** Winners (1970)  
**FIFA Ranking (November 2025):** 118  
**CAF Ranking (November 2025):** 31

## COACH

**James Kwesi Appiah**

Nationality: Ghana

Date of Birth:

**30 June 1960**

Start of Tenure: **2023**

Former Ghana coach James Kwesi Appiah was appointed in late 2023 and has already made history by guiding Sudan through a successful qualification campaign despite the backdrop of civil conflict at home. A calm and respected figure, Appiah is known for instilling discipline, tactical clarity and belief in his squads.

His international experience, including leading Ghana at the 2014 FIFA World Cup, has given Sudan's young team a steady hand.

He has emphasised structure, quick transitions and mental resilience, making Sudan competitive even against more fancied opposition.

## PLAYER TO WATCH

**Mohamed Abdelrahman**

Date of Birth:

**10 November 1993**

Position: **Forward**

Club: **Al-Hilal Omdurman (Sudan)**



YEAR	FINISH	POS	P	W	D	L	GF	GA
<b>1957</b>	Third place	3rd	1	0	0	1	1	2
<b>1959</b>	Runners-up	2nd	2	1	0	1	2	2
<b>1963</b>	Runners-up	2nd	3	1	1	1	6	5
<b>1970</b>	<b>Champions</b>	1st	5	4	0	1	8	3
<b>1972</b>	Group stage	7th	3	0	2	1	4	6
<b>1976</b>	Group stage	7th	3	0	2	1	3	4
<b>2008</b>	Group stage	16th	3	0	0	3	0	9
<b>2012</b>	Quarter-finals	8th	4	1	1	2	4	7
<b>2021</b>	Group stage	21st	3	0	1	2	1	4
<b>TOTALS</b>								
			<b>27</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>42</b>

A talismanic figure for the Falcons, Abdelrahman is Sudan's most reliable source of goals. Quick, powerful, and clinical in front of goal, he has consistently delivered in CAF club competitions with Al-Hilal and carried that form onto the international stage.

His goals in the qualifiers were instrumental in securing Sudan's ticket to Morocco, and his ability to stretch defences and score from half-chances makes him the player opponents will fear most. For a side that relies on narrow margins, Abdelrahman's finishing touch could define their tournament.



## HOW THEY QUALIFIED

PLAYER	POS	MIN	ST	SI	G	H 1-0 v Niger (04/09/2024)	A 1-2 v Angola (09/09/2024)	A 0-0 v Ghana (10/10/2024)	H 2-0 v Ghana (15/10/2024)	A 0-4 v Niger (15/11/2024)	H 0-0 v Angola (19/11/2024)
<b>Mohamed Mustafa</b>	<b>G</b>	400	5	0	0	<b>85</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>		<b>90</b>
<b>Ali Aboeshren</b>	<b>G</b>	140	1	2	0	<b>5</b>	<b>45</b>			<b>90</b>	
<b>Mustafa Karshom</b>	<b>D</b>	270	3	0	1	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>			
<b>Bakhit Khamis</b>	<b>D</b>	360	4	0	0	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>		<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	
<b>Mohamed Saeed</b>	<b>D</b>	360	4	0	0			<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>
<b>Suliman Allah</b>	<b>D</b>	1	0	1	0				<b>1</b>		
<b>Abdelrahman Kuku</b>	<b>D</b>	450	5	0	0		<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>
<b>Ahmed Yousif Tabanja</b>	<b>D</b>	186	2	1	0			<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>		<b>6</b>
<b>Abdelrahman Ali</b>	<b>D</b>	90	1	0	0	<b>90</b>					
<b>Mohamed Abuagla</b>	<b>D</b>	339	4	0	0	<b>69</b>			<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>
<b>Salaheldin Alhassan</b>	<b>M</b>	264	3	1	0	<b>21</b>	<b>83</b>			<b>70</b>	<b>90</b>
<b>Mohamed Alrashed</b>	<b>M</b>	88	1	2	0		<b>7</b>	<b>61</b>		<b>20</b>	
<b>Al-Gozoli Nooh</b>	<b>M</b>	18	0	3	0		<b>1</b>		<b>10</b>	<b>7</b>	
<b>Abdelrazig Omer</b>	<b>M</b>	270	3	0	0	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>				<b>90</b>
<b>Walieddin Khidir</b>	<b>M</b>	450	5	0	0	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>		<b>90</b>
<b>Abobaker Eisa</b>	<b>A</b>	449	6	0	1	<b>86</b>	<b>83</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>84</b>
<b>Mohamed Eisa</b>	<b>A</b>	83	0	6	0	<b>22</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>John Mano</b>	<b>A</b>	9	0	2	0	<b>4</b>		<b>5</b>			
<b>Ramadan Agab</b>	<b>A</b>	540	6	0	0	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>
<b>Mohamed Abdelrahman</b>	<b>A</b>	498	6	0	1	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>85</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>83</b>
<b>Saif Thierry Bhakit</b>	<b>A</b>	405	5	1	0	<b>68</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>83</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>Eid Mugadam</b>	<b>A</b>	29	0	1	0			<b>29</b>			
<b>Ahmed Al-Tash</b>	<b>A</b>	132	2	1	1			<b>29</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>23</b>	
<b>Ammar Taifour</b>	<b>A</b>	46	0	2	0				<b>45</b>	<b>1</b>	
<b>Yasir Mozamil</b>	<b>A</b>	67	0	1	0					<b>67</b>	

## GROUP E FIXTURES

DATE	K/O	Fixture
24/12	16:00	<b>Algeria vs Sudan</b>
28/12	16:00	<b>Equatorial Guinea vs Sudan</b>
31/12	17:00	<b>Sudan vs Burkina Faso</b>

## VENUE

Complexe Sportif Prince Heritier Moulay El Hassan, Rabat  
Stade Mohammed V, Casablanca  
Stade Mohammed V, Casablanca



# SUDAN COACH JAMES KWESI APPIAH: “WE ARE HERE TO COMPETE”



War-torn Sudan will arrive at the TotalEnergies CAF Africa Cup of Nations Morocco 2025 with a story of resilience that transcends football.

Against all odds, the Nile Crocodiles sealed qualification, edging out Ghana in their group despite being forced to play all their “home” matches abroad due to conflict in Sudan.

At the centre of this remarkable achievement is **JAMES KWESI APPIAH**, a familiar face in African football. The 65-year-old Ghanaian tactician led his own country at the 2014 FIFA World Cup and has guided Sudan with a calm authority during one of the nation’s most turbulent periods.

Sudan are in a daunting Group E alongside Algeria,

Burkina Faso and Equatorial Guinea – three sides with World Cup and AFCON pedigree.

For a country with no domestic league for over two years and players scattered across Africa and beyond, simply qualifying is a triumph. But as Appiah makes clear in this exclusive interview, Sudan are not coming to Morocco as passengers.

**Sudan qualified for AFCON in remarkable fashion, eliminating Ghana. How do you reflect on that achievement?**

**Appiah:** It was very special, especially given the circumstances. Many people expected Ghana to qualify, but football has changed – no one can be taken for granted anymore. Of course, as a Ghanaian, I would have liked both teams to qualify, but my job is with Sudan. The players showed great commitment and deserved this success.

**Qualification was achieved despite the war at home. How difficult has it been to manage the team in these circumstances?**

It has been extremely tough. For more than two years, Sudan has had no league football, so selecting players has been challenging. We always had to play away from home, but the key was to change the players’ mentality – to make them see every venue as “home” and give their best for the people of Sudan. The commitment of those from Al Hilal and Al Merreikh, along with others based in Africa, was crucial.

**How has the absence of a domestic league affected your preparations?**

It’s been a huge obstacle. Almost all our players are based locally or in

neighbouring countries, with a few in Malaysia and Libya. Without a functioning league, you rely on commitment and hard work in camp. My technical team has also been working tirelessly despite the challenges, and that unity has helped us succeed.

**What does Sudan’s preparations for AFCON look like now?**

We are monitoring a few players abroad and plan to use the Arab Cup in November as part of our build-up. That competition will give us match practice before heading to Morocco. We may also arrange one or two friendlies before then. The focus is to get the group sharp and united.

**You have been drawn in a tough group with Algeria, Burkina Faso and Equatorial Guinea. How do you approach such opponents?**

We respect them, but we will not fear them. If you go into games thinking about names like Messi or Ronaldo, you lose the battle mentally before it begins. My message to the players is simple: believe in yourselves and play to prove what Sudan can do. We are here to compete, not just to participate.

**If Sudan reach the knockout stages, what will be the next target?**

Step by step. First, qualify from the group. After that,



the aim will be to eliminate whoever we face in the knockouts. Once you get there, anything is possible.

**the expectations of Sudanese fans at home and abroad?**

Yes, expectations are high. The Sudanese people have suffered a lot, and football is giving them hope. Compared to nations with Europe-based stars, our challenge is greater, but we will give everything to make the people proud. That will be our goal at this tournament.

**What message do you have for Sudanese fans who will travel to Morocco?**

Sudanese are scattered across Africa due to the conflict, so I expect many to come and support us. Their presence in the stadiums will give the players great strength. I urge them to rally behind the team so we can raise the Sudanese flag together.

**What headline would you love to read about Sudan after AFCON?**

“Sudan – AFCON Champions 2025.” That is the dream we are all chasing.

# STADIUMS



## GRAND STADE D'AGADIR

City: Agadir | Capacity: 45,480



# APSONIC BRAND PROFILE



APSONIC advocates the brand philosophy of "Good Quality, Good Life" and continuously meets the travel and lifestyle needs of local consumers through high-quality, cross-regional, and diversified power products.



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In 2025, APSONIC once again partnered with CAF to become the official partner of the 2025 and 2027 TotalEnergies CAF Africa Cup of Nations. APSONIC is also the only motorcycle brand in the world to have sponsored 3 consecutive TotalEnergies CAF Africa Cup of Nations tournaments (the 34th, 35th, and 36th).



CAF® TotalEnergies

AFRICA CUP  
OF NATIONS  
MOROCCO 25

# GROUP F

Defending champions **Côte d'Ivoire** finished second in their qualification group with four wins and two losses, scoring 12 goals and conceding three to show efficiency at both ends of the pitch.

**Cameroon** topped their group with four wins and two draws, while **Gabon** finished second in their pool, scoring seven goals but conceding nine. **Mozambique** also finished second in their pool

and are a tricky opponent for anyone.

Côte d'Ivoire and Cameroon have extensive TotalEnergies CAF AFCON histories, with multiple previous titles and consistent qualifications.

Gabon and Mozambique bring emerging experience with competitive qualifying records.

All four sides will be confident of advancing from the group.



CÔTE D'IVOIRE



CAMEROON



GABON



MOZAMBIQUE

# CÔTE D'IVOIRE



**Nickname:** Les Éléphants (The Elephants)  
**AFCON Appearances:** 26 (debut in 1965)  
**Best Performance:** Winners (1992, 2015, 2023)  
**FIFA Ranking (November 2025):** 42  
**CAF Ranking (November 2025):** 7

## COACH

### Emerse Faé

Nationality: Côte d'Ivoire

Date of birth:

**24 January 1984**

Start of tenure: **2024**

Emerse Faé's story is a true 'Fairy Tale of Faé'. Taking charge on his 40th birthday, during TotalEnergies CAF AFCON 2023 on home soil, with the team on the brink of elimination, and going on to win the title, his arrival is remembered as a remarkable success story. The TotalEnergies CAF AFCON 2025 in Morocco is viewed as the chance for the young tactician to reaffirm his talent.

Known for tactical intelligence, game reading, and building team unity, Faé inspires trust and maximizes individual strengths within a cohesive unit.

## PLAYER TO WATCH

### Sebastien Haller

Date of birth:

**22 June 1994**

Position: **Striker**

Club: **Utrecht (Netherlands)**

The player who scored the winning goal in the final of the TotalEnergies CAF Africa Cup of Nations Côte d'Ivoire 2023, Haller remains an important striking option for the side. He brings a different option with his height and aerial ability but is also good with the ball at his feet.

The triumph two years ago came just after he had recovered from cancer, making it all the more remarkable. He is back at Utrecht this season after leaving Borussia Dortmund in August 2025.

YEAR	FINISH	POS	P	W	D	L	GF	GA
<b>1965</b>	Third place	3rd	3	2	0	1	5	4
<b>1968</b>	Third place	3rd	5	3	1	1	9	6
<b>1970</b>	Fourth place	4th	5	2	1	2	11	9
<b>1974</b>	Group stage	7th	3	0	1	2	2	5
<b>1980</b>	Group stage	6th	3	0	2	1	2	3
<b>1984</b>	Group stage	5th	3	1	0	2	4	4
<b>1986</b>	Third place	3rd	5	3	0	2	7	5
<b>1988</b>	Group stage	6th	3	0	3	0	2	2
<b>1990</b>	Group stage	6th	3	1	0	2	3	5
<b>1992</b>	<b>Champions</b>	1st	5	2	3	0	4	0
<b>1994</b>	Third place	3rd	5	3	1	1	11	5
<b>1996</b>	Group stage	11th	3	1	0	2	2	5
<b>1998</b>	Quarter-finals	7th	4	2	2	0	10	6
<b>2000</b>	Group stage	9th	3	1	1	1	3	4
<b>2002</b>	Group stage	16th	3	0	1	2	1	4
<b>2006</b>	Runners-up	2nd	6	3	2	1	6	5
<b>2008</b>	Fourth place	4th	6	4	0	2	16	9
<b>2010</b>	Quarter-finals	8th	3	1	1	1	5	4
<b>2012</b>	Runners-up	2nd	6	5	1	0	9	0
<b>2013</b>	Quarter-finals	5th	4	2	1	1	8	5
<b>2015</b>	<b>Champions</b>	1st	6	3	3	0	9	4
<b>2017</b>	Group stage	11th	3	0	2	1	2	3
<b>2019</b>	Quarter-finals	5th	5	3	1	1	7	3
<b>2021</b>	Round of 16	10th	4	2	2	0	6	3
<b>2023</b>	<b>Champions</b>	1st	7	4	1	2	8	8
<b>TOTALS</b>								
<b>106</b> <b>48</b> <b>30</b> <b>28</b> <b>152</b> <b>111</b>								

## HOW THEY QUALIFIED

	H 2-0 v Zambia (06/09/2024)	A 2-0 v Chad (10/09/2024)	H 4-1 v Sierra Leone (11/10/2024)	A 0-1 v Sierra Leone (15/10/2024)	A 0-1 v Zambia (15/11/2024)	H 4-0 v Chad (19/11/2024)
<b>Yahia Fofana</b>	<b>G</b>	540	6	0	0	90
<b>Emmanuel Agbadou</b>	<b>D</b>	450	5	0	1	90
<b>Ousmane Diomande</b>	<b>D</b>	90	1	0	0	
<b>Guela Doue</b>	<b>D</b>	218	2	3	0	10
<b>Odilon Kossounou</b>	<b>D</b>	6	0	2	0	1
<b>Evan Ndicka</b>	<b>D</b>	450	5	0	0	90
<b>Christopher Operi</b>	<b>D</b>	540	6	0	0	90
<b>Wilfried Singo</b>	<b>D</b>	353	4	1	0	80
<b>Eric Bailly</b>	<b>D</b>	90	1	0	0	
<b>Mohammed Diomande</b>	<b>M</b>	60	0	2	0	15
<b>Seko Fofana</b>	<b>M</b>	153	2	1	0	
<b>Franck Kessie</b>	<b>M</b>	471	6	0	2	90
<b>Jean Seri</b>	<b>M</b>	302	4	0	0	90
<b>Mario Dorgeless</b>	<b>M</b>	130	1	2	0	10
<b>Traore Hamed</b>	<b>M</b>	82	0	3	0	
<b>Jean-Eudes Aholou</b>	<b>M</b>	145	2	0	0	
<b>Jean Kouassi</b>	<b>A</b>	68	1	0	0	
<b>Christian Kouame</b>	<b>A</b>	4	0	1	0	4
<b>Amad Diallo</b>	<b>A</b>	99	1	1	0	70
<b>Benie Traore</b>	<b>A</b>	161	1	4	0	29
<b>Simon Adingra</b>	<b>A</b>	278	4	0	1	86
<b>Vakoun Bayo</b>	<b>A</b>	103	1	1	1	
<b>Jeremie Boga</b>	<b>A</b>	117	1	1	0	
<b>Oumar Diakite</b>	<b>A</b>	307	3	3	3	71
<b>Evann Guessand</b>	<b>A</b>	272	4	1	0	80
<b>Jean-Philippe Krasso</b>	<b>A</b>	352	4	2	3	19
<b>Nicolas Pepe</b>	<b>A</b>	85	1	0	1	
<b>Karim Konate</b>	<b>A</b>	15	0	2	0	

## GROUP F FIXTURES

DATE	K/O	Fixture
24/12	18:30	<b>Côte d'Ivoire vs Mozambique</b>
28/12	21:00	<b>Côte d'Ivoire vs Cameroon</b>
31/12	20:00	<b>Gabon vs Côte d'Ivoire</b>

## VENUE

Grand Stade de Marrakech, Marrakech  
 Grand Stade de Marrakech, Marrakech  
 Grand Stade de Marrakech, Marrakech



## EMERSE FAÉ'S GREATEST TEST IN MOROCCO

In the long history of the TotalEnergies CAF Africa Cup of Nations (AFCON), only two tacticians have managed to win the title twice in succession: Ghana's Charles Kumi Gyamfi, who triumphed in 1963 and 1965 (and returned in 1982), and Egypt's Hassan Shehata, whose unmatched treble in 2006, 2008 and 2010 remains a benchmark for African coaching excellence.

Their names are written in gold for their tactical intelligence, their ability to mould dominant teams, and their consistency across eras.

**ÉMERSE FAÉ**, winner of TotalEnergies CAF AFCON Côte d'Ivoire 2023, stands on the brink of joining this exclusive circle as he leads his side into the 2025 edition in Morocco to defend their title.

**FROM CRISIS TO TRIUMPH**  
Faé's early journey as Côte d'Ivoire coach was anything but straightforward. Once a key midfielder for the Elephants in the mid-2000s, he was thrust into the head coach role on his 40th birthday, a symbolic promotion for the former U-17 world champion of 2001.

Yet beneath the pride lay turmoil. The Ivorian team

was in crisis, on the verge of elimination after a 4–0 defeat to Equatorial Guinea during the group stage. The atmosphere was heavy; morale was low. Faé's first mission was not tactical but psychological, to restore belief.

"When I arrived, my message was clear: I have a group of 27 players, and I'm counting on everyone," he recalled. "They understood that it was with all 27 that we would win the AFCON."

That unity became the team's driving force. A narrow 1–0 win over Zambia, combined with results elsewhere, allowed Côte d'Ivoire to sneak into the knockouts as one of the best third-placed teams.

From there, the Elephants' story became one of the most dramatic comebacks in tournament history: a penalty shootout victory over reigning champions Senegal (1–1, 5–4 on pens), a stunning extra-time win against Mali (2–1), a composed semifinal against DR Congo (1–0), and finally, a memorable 2–1 triumph over Nigeria in the final.

In just a few weeks, Faé transformed from interim coach to national hero. His approach, rooted in honesty, closeness, and trust, restored confidence and revealed new talent. He listened before leading, united before conquering, and had instant success.



### A SPECIAL RELATIONSHIP WITH AFCON

"I dreamed of winning the AFCON as a player. I didn't do it, I didn't know how to do it. But I had the chance to do it as a coach," said the Nantes-born tactician.

Faé's history with the tournament runs deep. He featured in three AFCONS as a player, 2006, 2008, and 2010, campaigns defined by brilliance, frustration, and unfulfilled potential.

The 2006 edition was particularly painful for him and the team. Alongside

Didier Drogba, Emmanuel Eboué, and the Touré brothers, Côte d'Ivoire fielded one of Africa's most gifted generations. Yet, despite their talent, they fell to Egypt in the final after a tense goalless draw and penalty heartbreak (0–0, 4–2).

In 2008, the Elephants narrowly missed out again, finishing fourth. Two years later, their "last dance" ended with a 3–2 extra-time defeat to Algeria in

the quarterfinals. Those experiences shaped Faé's competitive edge and deepened his desire to one day lift the trophy, a dream he would finally achieve from the dugout nearly 15 years later.

### MOROCCO: THE NEXT CHAPTER

Faé now approaches TotalEnergies CAF AFCON 2025 in Morocco with a sense of calm assurance and growing ambition. Under his guidance,

Côte d'Ivoire also sealed qualification for the 2026 FIFA World Cup, ending a 12-year absence.

During that campaign, the Elephants were flawless: undefeated, boasting the tournament's best defence (no goals conceded)

and scoring 25 goals in 10 matches. The achievement made Faé the first Ivorian coach to guide his nation to a World Cup finals.

"It's not an achievement, it's logical," he smiled. "We're African champions, top seeds, and we have one of the best squads on the

continent, so we have to perform."

Drawn in Group F, Côte d'Ivoire will open their title defence on 24 December against Mozambique in Marrakech. For Faé, it is both a symbolic and sentimental return, Morocco was the country where his AFCON story truly began, having hosted the qualifying match that kept his 2023 campaign alive.

"I like challenges. I want to show people it wasn't a fluke," he said. "It's the start of a great career, and qualifying again was essential. We won at home last time, and it's important to be here in Morocco to defend the title."

While Faé acknowledges Morocco's role in his journey, his focus remains firmly Ivorian.

"I recognise Morocco's contribution to our title," he said. "But if we meet again at this AFCON, both teams will proudly defend their chances."

# CAMEROON

**Nickname:** Les Lions Indomptables (The Indomitable Lions)  
**AFCON Appearances:** 22 (debut in 1970)  
**Best Performance:** Winners (1984, 1988, 2000, 2002, 2017)  
**FIFA Ranking (November 2025):** 57  
**CAF Ranking (November 2025):** 10



## COACH

### David Pagou

Nationality: Cameroon  
 Date of birth:  
**13 January 1969**  
 Start of Tenure: **2025**

Appointed as head coach on December 1, 2025 following the departure of the Belgian Marc Brys, Pagou has had little time to work with the team. He is a well-respected coach within Cameroon football circles, but little known outside of the country.

This will be his first head coach role in international football and he starts with a TotalEnergies CAF Africa Cup of Nations finals. He recently took charge of top Cameroon club Coton Sport, but has also led Stade Renard, Aigle Royal and PWD Bamenda in the past.

He is known for his disciplined approach and will look to bring that onto the pitch for the team.

## PLAYER TO WATCH

### Bryan Mbeumo

Date of birth: **7 June, 1999**  
 Position: Forward  
 Current club:  
**Manchester United**

Mbeumo is expected to play his first TotalEnergies CAF AFCON having had to withdraw from the last edition in Côte d'Ivoire following an ankle injury. The main star of the Indomitable Lions' offensive line, the striker, who joined Manchester United this season, knows he is expected to take over from Aboubakar Vincent.

An explosive, creative striker with a good vision, Mbeumo also stands out for his speed, his direct dribbling, his great efficiency in front of goal and his ability to create chances.

He is also known for his stamina and aggression on the field, and his defensive work.

YEAR	FINISH	POS	P	W	D	L	GF	GA
1970	Group stage	5th	3	2	0	1	7	5
1972	Third place	3rd	5	3	1	1	10	5
1982	Group stage	5th	3	0	3	0	1	1
1984	Champions	1st	5	3	1	1	9	3
1986	Runners-up	2nd	5	3	2	0	8	5
1988	Champions	1st	5	3	2	0	4	1
1990	Group stage	5th	3	1	0	2	2	3
1992	Fourth place	4th	5	2	2	1	4	3
1996	Group stage	9th	3	1	1	1	5	7
1998	Quarter-finals	8th	4	2	1	1	5	4
2000	Champions	1st	6	3	2	1	11	5
2002	Champions	1st	6	5	1	0	9	0
2004	Quarter-finals	6th	4	1	2	1	7	6
2006	Quarter-finals	5th	4	3	1	0	8	2
2008	Runners-up	2nd	6	4	0	2	14	8
2010	Quarter-finals	7th	4	1	1	2	6	8
2015	Group stage	13th	3	0	2	1	2	3
2017	Champions	1st	6	3	3	0	7	3
2019	Round of 16	13th	4	1	2	1	4	3
2021	Third place	3rd	7	4	3	0	14	7
2023	Round of 16	14th	4	1	1	2	5	8
<b>TOTALS</b>			<b>95</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>142</b>	<b>90</b>

## HOW THEY QUALIFIED

PLAYER	POS	MIN	ST	SI	G	H-0 v Namibia (07/09/2024)	A-0-0 v Zimbabwe (10/09/2024)	H-4-1 v Kenya (11/10/2024)	A-1-0 v Kenya (14/10/2024)	A-0-0 v Namibia (13/11/2024)	H-2-1 v Zimbabwe (19/11/2024)
André Onana	G	540	6	0	0	90	90	90	90	90	90
Jean-Charles Castelletto	D	179	1	3	0			71	90	6	12
Michael Ngadeu-Ngadjui	D	450	5	0	0	90	90	90	90	90	
Nouhou Tolo	D	450	6	0	0	22	68	90	90	90	90
Christopher Woh	D	379	5	0	0	90	90	19		90	90
Flavien Boyomo	D	90	1	0	0					90	
Jackson Tchatchoua	D	495	6	0	0	90	90	90	90	45	90
Guy-Marcelin Kilama	D	135	0	3	0	68	22			45	
Darlin Yongwa	D	12	0	1	0					12	
Jules Ntcham	M	1	0	1	0		1				
Pierre Malong	M	79	1	2	0		22	12	45		
André-Frank Anguissa	M	428	5	0	0	90	68	90	90		90
Bryan Mbeumo	M	360	4	0	1	90	90	90	90		
Carlos Baleba	M	245	3	0	0	90	90	65			
Yvan Neyou	M	147	1	3	0	21	22			84	20
Martin Hongla	M	467	6	0	1	69	68	78	84	90	78
Martin Atemengue	M	31	0	2	0			25	6		
Boris Enow	M	45	0	1	1				45		
Vincent Aboubakar	A	528	6	0	3	90	90	78	90	90	90
Nicolas Ngamaleu	A	92	1	3	0			26	6	59	1
Georges-Kevin N'Koudou	A	134	1	2	1	13				31	90
Christian Bassogog	A	441	6	0	1	77	68	64	84	78	70
Frank Magri	A	181	2	2	0		22	12		78	69
Patrick Soko	A	33	0	2	0					12	21

## GROUP F FIXTURES

DATE	K/O	Fixture
24/12	21:00	<b>Cameroon vs Gabon</b>
28/12	21:00	<b>Côte d'Ivoire vs Cameroon</b>
31/12	20:00	<b>Mozambique vs Cameroon</b>

## VENUE

Grand Stade d'Agadir, Agadir  
 Grand Stade de Marrakech, Marrakech  
 Grand Stade d'Agadir, Agadir

# GABON

**Nickname:** Les Panthères (The Panthers)  
**AFCON Appearances:** 9 (debut in 1994)  
**Best Performance:** Quarter-finals (1996, 2012)  
**FIFA Ranking (November 2025):** 78  
**CAF Ranking (November 2025):** 15

## COACH

### Thierry Mouyouma

Nationality: Gabon

Date of birth:

**27 September 1975**

Start date: **2023**

Appointed head of the Gabonese team in October 2023, replacing Frenchman Patrice Neveu, this competition represents an imposing challenge for the 50-year-old technician who will be only the second Gabonese coach to lead his country to a final phase of the competition after Alain Da Costa Soares. Mouyouma favours flexible tactical systems, in particular the attacking 4-3-3, depending on the players and the opponent. His strategy is based on rapid transition, with the exploitation of technical and fast players. He also sometimes plays in a 3-4-3 and a 3-5-2, which shows his ability to alternate between different formations.

## PLAYER TO WATCH

### Pierre-Emerick Aubameyang

Date of birth:

**18 June 1989**

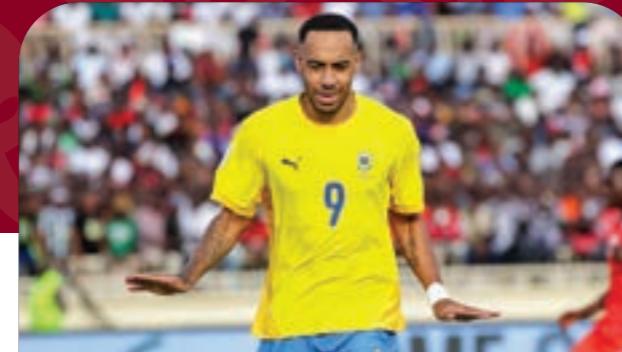
Position: **Forward**

Current club:  
**Olympique de Marseille (France)**

Unquestionably the leader of the offensive line of the Gabonese team, he is the top scorer in the history of the Panthers.

Joint top-scorer of the 2012 TotalEnergies CAF AFCON with three goals and African Player of the Year 2015, Aubameyang will be keen to make his mark as he participates for the fifth time.

With good versatility in attacking positions, Aubameyang also stands out for his goalscoring instinct and his quality of shot. Technically sharp, he also has a good vision of the game that allows him to make assists for his teammates.



YEAR	FINISH	POS	P	W	D	L	GF	GA
<b>1994</b>	Group stage	12th	2	0	0	2	0	7
<b>1996</b>	Quarter-finals	7th	3	1	1	1	4	3
<b>2000</b>	Group stage	16th	3	0	1	2	2	6
<b>2010</b>	Group stage	10th	3	1	1	1	2	2
<b>2012</b>	Quarter-finals	5th	4	3	1	0	7	3
<b>2015</b>	Group stage	12th	3	1	0	2	2	3
<b>2017</b>	Group stage	9th	3	0	3	0	2	2
<b>2021</b>	Round of 16	12th	4	1	3	0	5	4
<b>TOTALS</b>			<b>25</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>30</b>



## HOW THEY QUALIFIED

PLAYER	POS	MIN	ST	SI	G	A 1-4 v Morocco (06/09/2024)	H 2-0 v CAR (10/09/2024)	H 0-0 v Lesotho (11/10/2024)	A 2-0 v Lesotho (15/10/2024)	H 1-5 v Morocco (15/11/2024)	A 1-0 v CAR (18/11/2024)
<b>Loïce Mbaba</b>	<b>G</b>	450	5	0	0	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	
<b>Junior Noubi Fotso</b>	<b>G</b>	90	1	0	0						<b>90</b>
<b>Bruno Ecuele Manga</b>	<b>D</b>	114	1	1	0	<b>24</b>					<b>90</b>
<b>Aaron Appindangoyé</b>	<b>D</b>	405	5	0	0	<b>66</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>69</b>	
<b>Anthony Oyono</b>	<b>D</b>	451	5	1	0	<b>78</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>83</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>
<b>Urie-Michel Mboula</b>	<b>D</b>	251	3	2	0		<b>1</b>	<b>83</b>	<b>81</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>65</b>
<b>Alex Moucketou-Moussonda</b>	<b>D</b>	450	5	0	0	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	
<b>Jacques Ekomie</b>	<b>D</b>	360	4	0	0	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>			<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>
<b>Jeremy Oyono</b>	<b>D</b>	80	1	2	0	<b>1</b>	<b>70</b>			<b>9</b>	
<b>Sidney Obissa</b>	<b>D</b>	25	0	1	0						<b>25</b>
<b>Mario Lemina</b>	<b>M</b>	270	3	0	0			<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	
<b>Guélor Kanga</b>	<b>M</b>	519	6	0	1	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>90</b>
<b>Medwin Biteghé</b>	<b>M</b>	316	3	2	0	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>1</b>		<b>90</b>
<b>Brimau Nzengui</b>	<b>M</b>	66	1	0	0	<b>66</b>					
<b>Eric Bocoum</b>	<b>M</b>	146	2	1	0		<b>80</b>	<b>45</b>		<b>21</b>	
<b>Clench Loufilou</b>	<b>M</b>	192	2	2	0			<b>7</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>84</b>	<b>82</b>
<b>Serge-Junior Ngouali</b>	<b>M</b>	71	1	0	0				<b>71</b>		
<b>Jeff Biliougou</b>	<b>M</b>	14	0	2	0				<b>6</b>	<b>8</b>	
<b>Pierre-Emerick Aubameyang</b>	<b>A</b>	270	3	0	2	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>			<b>90</b>	
<b>David Sambissa</b>	<b>A</b>	169	2	3	0	<b>24</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>71</b>		<b>39</b>
<b>Denis Bouanga</b>	<b>A</b>	445	5	0	1	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>85</b>	
<b>Jim Allevinah</b>	<b>A</b>	235	3	1	0			<b>65</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>82</b>
<b>Shavy Babicka</b>	<b>A</b>	306	3	3	2	<b>65</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>51</b>
<b>Fabrice-Alan Do Marcolino</b>	<b>A</b>	25	0	1	0						<b>25</b>
<b>Rody Effaghe</b>	<b>A</b>	137	1	4	1	<b>25</b>		<b>7</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>65</b>
<b>Moussango Obouet</b>	<b>A</b>	41	0	3	0	<b>12</b>	<b>21</b>				<b>8</b>
<b>Orphe Mbina</b>	<b>A</b>	45	1	0	0				<b>45</b>		

## GROUP F FIXTURES

DATE	K/O	Fixture
24/12	21:00	<b>Cameroon vs Gabon</b>
28/12	13:30	<b>Gabon vs Mozambique</b>
31/12	20:00	<b>Gabon vs Côte d'Ivoire</b>

## VENUE

Grand Stade d'Agadir, Agadir  
 Grand Stade d'Agadir, Agadir  
 Grand Stade de Marrakech, Marrakech

# MOZAMBIQUE

**Nickname:** Os Mambas (The Mambas)  
**AFCON Appearances:** 6 (debut in 1986)  
**Best Performance:** Group Stages (1986, 1996, 1998, 2010, 2023)  
**FIFA Ranking (November 2025):** 102  
**CAF Ranking (November 2025):** 22

## COACH

### Chiquinho Conde

Nationality: Mozambican  
 Date of Birth:  
**22 November 1965**  
 Start of Tenure: **2021**

Chiquinho Conde is a celebrated figure in Mozambican football, first as a prolific striker in the 1980s and 90s, and now as head coach. Appointed in 2021, Conde has brought stability and ambition to the Mambas, overseeing back-to-back AFCON qualifications and renewing belief in Mozambique's ability to compete with Africa's best. His coaching philosophy reflects his playing career: attacking intent, resilience, and a commitment to hard work. Conde's teams are adaptable, able to stay compact against stronger opponents but quick to attack when opportunities arise.

This flexibility has allowed Mozambique to punch above expectations.

## PLAYER TO WATCH

### Geny Catamo

Date of Birth:  
**26 January 2001**  
 Position: Winger  
 Club: Sporting Lisbon (Portugal)

Catamo has become one of the leading stars of the Mozambique side with his energetic performances on the right side of midfield. The 24-year-old scored two goals in qualifying for the TotalEnergies CAF AFCON Morocco 2025, and another three in FIFA World Cup 2026 preliminaries to illustrate his potency in the opposition box.

He is a regular for Sporting Lisbon in Portugal, who he helped to the last two Primeira Liga titles.

He can be one of the star players at this year's finals in Morocco.



YEAR	FINISH	POS	P	W	D	L	GF	GA
<b>1986</b>	Group stage	8th	3	0	0	3	0	7
<b>1996</b>	Group stage	14th	3	0	1	2	1	4
<b>1998</b>	Group stage	16th	3	0	0	3	1	8
<b>2010</b>	Group stage	15th	3	0	1	2	2	7
<b>2023</b>	Group stage	21st	3	0	2	1	4	7
<b>TOTALS</b>			<b>15</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>33</b>



## HOW THEY QUALIFIED

PLAYER	POS	MIN	ST	SI	G	A 1-1 v Mali (06/09/2024)	H 2-1 v Guinea Bissau (10/09/2024)	H 1-1 v Eswatini (11/10/2024)	A 3-0 v Eswatini (14/10/2024)	H 0-1 v Mali (15/11/2024)	A 2-1 v Guinea Bissau (19/11/2024)
Francisco Urrubal	G	90	1	0	0			90			
Ernan Siluane	G	450	5	0	0	90	90		90	90	90
Edson Sítóe	D	360	4	0	0	90	90		90	90	90
Reinildo Mandava	D	540	6	0	0	90	90	90	90	90	90
David Malembana	D	17	0	2	0	12	5				
Feliciano Jone	D	475	5	1	0	90	90	90	90	70	45
David Matola	D	474	5	1	0	90	24	90	90	90	90
Bruno Langa	D	540	6	0	1	90	90	90	90	90	90
Fernando Chamboco	D	135	1	2	0				90	20	25
Domingos Macandza	D	92	1	1	0	26	66				
Clésio Baúque	M	167	2	2	0			29	67	55	16
Pedro Santos	M	228	3	2	0	78	35	46	23	46	
Ricardo Guimarães	M	332	4	0	1	78	85			90	79
Alfons Amade	M	197	2	1	0			28	79		90
Elias Macamo	M	93	0	5	1	13	35	9	15	21	
Amade Momade	M	140	1	3	0	12		72	11	45	
Geny Catamo	M	525	6	0	2	90	90	90	75	90	90
Shaquille Momad	M	18	0	1	0			18			
Aly Abudo Zacarias	M	1	0	1	0	1					
Stanley Ratifo	A	431	6	0	3	77	55	90	75	69	65
Witiness Quembo	A	71	1	1	0		55	16			
Gildo Vilanculos	A	312	3	3	0	64	35	81	23	35	74
Jonathan Muiomo	A	15	0	1	0				15		
Chamito Alfândega	A	1	0	1	0					1	
Domingues	A	240	4	1	1	55	62	67	45	11	

## GROUP F FIXTURES

DATE	K/O	Fixture
24/12	18:30	Côte d'Ivoire vs Mozambique
28/12	13:30	Gabon vs Mozambique
31/12	20:00	Mozambique vs Cameroon

## VENUE

Grand Stade de Marrakech, Marrakech  
 Grand Stade d'Agadir, Agadir  
 Grand Stade d'Agadir, Agadir

# STADIUMS



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Nigeria's Mudashiru Lawal turns away in celebration after scoring his side's third goal in the 1980 final against Algeria



# HISTORY OF THE TOTALENERGIES CAF AFRICA CUP OF NATIONS

The TotalEnergies CAF Africa Cup of Nations (AFCON) has an illustrious 68-year history that has shaped the story of African football and provided many moments that live long in the memory. Here is a brief look back at each finals with the hosts listed in bold.

**1957**

**SUDAN**

Sudan hosted the first AFCON finals but lost the opening game to Egypt in front of some 30,000 in Khartoum, while Ethiopia had a bye to the final. Five days later, Egypt thrashed Sudanese 2-1 in the final, with Mohamed Diba El Attar scoring all four goals to be the first continental champions crowned, the first of seven titles.

**1959**

**EGYPT**

Egypt retained the title of continental champions as they hosted another three-team tournament with Ethiopia and Sudan. This time, they beat the Sudanese 2-1 in the final in Cairo, with Esam Bahieg scoring twice, the winner coming in the last minute in what was a dramatic end to the competition, which would soon grow bigger.

**1962**

**ETHIOPIA**

Qualifying was introduced for the first time to decide the four teams for the finals, where hosts Ethiopia beat Tunisia 4-2 and holders Egypt edged Uganda 2-1 in the two semis. Ethiopia then triumphed in the decider, beating Egypt 4-2 after extra time, with Worku Mengistu netting two goals.

**1963**

**GHANA**

The tournament expanded to six teams, divided into two groups of three, with the winners contesting the final and the runners-up third and fourth place. Edward Aggrey-Fynn netted a penalty to hand the Black Stars the lead and a double from Wilberforce Mfum ensured Ghana beat Sudan 3-0 to win the title.



## 1965

### TUNISIA

There were again six teams competing in the finals, with hosts Tunisia and Ghana emerging as group winners and then going straight on to contest the final in Tunis. Ghana retained their title with an extra time goal from Kofi Pare as they won in North Africa.

## 1972

### CAMEROON

The Indomitable Lions had their hopes of a first continental title ended in the semi-final by Congo, who went on to claim a 3-2 victory over Mali in the final in Yaoundé. The goals came in a six-minute spell in the second half through Jean-Michel Mbongo (2) and François Mpele.

## 1978

### GHANA

Opoku Afriyie scored both goals for the Black Stars as they won the final in Accra 2-0 over Uganda. Ghana, with Fred Osam Duodu as their coach, became the first country to win the AFCON three times, and led the way in terms of trophy wins in the tournament.

## 1980

### NIGERIA

A comprehensive home victory for the Super Eagles, who won 3-0 in the final against Algeria with a double from Segun Odegbami and the third from defender Muda Lawal. Ibadan and Lagos were the two venues used for the eight-team tournament.

## 1968

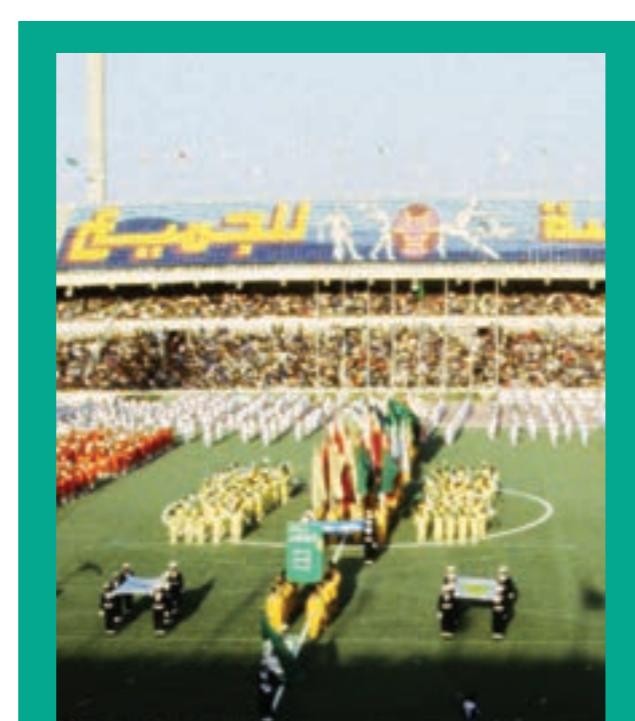
### ETHIOPIA

The size of the tournament was increased to eight teams, with the top two in the two groups advancing to the semi-finals, where hosts Ethiopia lost 3-2 after extra time to Congo Kinshasa and holders Ghana beat neighbours Côte d'Ivoire 4-3. Pierre Kalala's 66th-minute goal saw the Congolese triumph 1-0 in the final in Addis Ababa.

## 1974

### EGYPT

The only final to ever go to a replay as Zaire and Zambia drew 2-2 after extra time in a tense battle in Cairo, returning 48 hours later to do it all again. Mulambu Ndaye's double won the trophy for the Leopards and saw him finish the tournament with nine goals, a record that still stands today as the most prolific ascorer in a single edition.



## 1970

### SUDAN

There was home success for a second successive tournament as Sudan won the title by beating Ghana 1-0 in the final in Khartoum with an early goal from Osman Izzeldin. Sudan had finished behind Côte d'Ivoire in Group A and Ghana behind Egypt in Group B, but they emerged as the two sides who advanced through the semi-finals.

## 1976

### ETHIOPIA

A new format was introduced with a final round of matches with four teams in a league format. It meant there was no actual final, and Morocco won with five points, Guinea on four, Nigeria on three, and Egypt without any. It was a format that would not last though as the tournament returned to a knockout format from the 1978 edition onwards.

## 1982

### LIBYA

The first ever title decided on post-match penalties went against the hosts, who drew 1-1 in the final in Tripoli with Ghana. The Black Stars won the shootout 7-6 after having led in the match through George Alhassan before Ali Al-Beshari equalised for Libya and took the game into extra time.

## 1984

### CÔTE D'IVOIRE

Cameroon claimed their first trophy (above), coming from behind after Nigeria went ahead early in the final in Abidjan, with Rene Ndjeya equalising and then Theophile Abega and Ernest Ebongue with goals in the last 11 minutes for a 3-1 victory.

## 1986

### EGYPT

There were no goals in the final for the first time, and it was decided on penalties with Egypt edging holders Cameroon 5-4, with goalkeeper Thabet Al Batal saving from Andre Kana Biyik to hand the hosts the title and spark great scenes of celebration.

## 1988

### MOROCCO

A tournament that was extremely physical and fought fiercely and bravely by all the teams who took part. Emmanuel Kunde's second-half penalty saw Cameroon, with Claude LeRoy in charge, beat Nigeria 1-0 in the decider in Casablanca.



# 1990

## ALGERIA

The host nation was swept to success on a tide of passionate support and beat Nigeria 1-0 in the final, with the winner scored by Cherif Oudjani. It was Algeria's first success, but it would be another 29 years before they lifted the trophy again.

# 1992

## SENEGAL

The number of finalists was increased to 12, and quarter-finals were introduced for the first time. Côte d'Ivoire was also a first-time winner as they claimed a marathon penalty shootout over Ghana that ended 11-10 to the Ivoirians.

# 1994

## TUNISIA

The home team went out at the first hurdle, but Zambia reached the final one year after their team had been lost in a plane crash, but were defeated 2-1 by Nigeria in the final, with Emmanuel Amunike scoring both.

# 1996

## SOUTH AFRICA

The number of finalists was increased to 16, but holders Nigeria withdrew as debutant hosts South Africa won the tournament at first time of asking with Mark Williams' double in the final against Tunisia.

# 1998

## BURKINA FASO

The host nation was never among the favourites but did well to finish third, and it was Egypt who emerged victorious with two early goals from Ahmed Hassan and Tarek Mostafa in the final against holders South Africa, who had to settle for the silver medal.

# 2000

## GHANA & NIGERIA

The first co-hosting of a AFCON finals, which was an emergency measure after Zimbabwe had the tournament taken away, but neither Ghana nor Nigeria won. Instead, it was Cameroon, edging the Super Eagles in a penalty shootout again.

# 2002

## MALI

Cameroon retained their title but again needed post-match spot kicks to be crowned champions, this time edging Senegal, who were playing in their first ever final. The shootout ended 3-2 after a goalless draw.

# 2004

## TUNISIA

After twice ending runners-up, it was third time lucky for hosts Tunisia as they beat Morocco 2-1 in the final to win their first ever AFCON, setting off tumultuous celebrations at home.

# 2006

## EGYPT

A fifth AFCON success for Egypt and yet another final decided by a post-match shootout. Mohamed Aboutrika converted the winning penalty as Hassan Shehata's team beat Côte d'Ivoire 4-2 after a goalless draw in a tense final in Cairo.

# 2008

## GHANA

Egypt retained their crown as Aboutrika scored 13 minutes from the end of the game to win the final in Accra over Cameroon, who before that had ousted hosts Ghana in the semi-final to end home hopes of lifting the trophy again.



# 2010

## ANGOLA

A first ever hat-trick of titles as Egypt made it three in a row, beating Ghana 1-0. It was also a personal triumph for their coach Hassan Shehata who was in charge for all three of their wins.



# 2012

## EQUATORIAL GUINEA & GABON

Stoppila Sunzu converted the winning kick in the penalty shootout to hand Zambia their first African crown and a poignant triumph in Libreville not far from the site of the plane crash that saw their team perish in 1993.

# 2013

## SOUTH AFRICA

The timing of the tournament was switched to every odd year so as not to clash with the World Cup, and South Africa served as emergency hosts because of the civil strife in Libya. Nigeria won the final in Johannesburg as Sunday Mba scored the only goal of the game against Burkina Faso.

# 2015

## EQUATORIAL GUINEA

Morocco pulled out of hosting because of the Ebola crisis, but the finals went ahead as Equatorial Guinea did everything possible in a short period of time to make the tournament successful. Côte d'Ivoire won the final in a penalty shootout over neighbours Ghana.

# 2017

## GABON

Cameroon's Indomitable Lions won the continental title for the first time in 15 years as Vincent Aboubakar scored two minutes from time for a 2-1 triumph over Egypt in the final. They had a young squad at the tournament under coach Hugo Broos.

# 2019

## EGYPT

Home hopes of a record-extending seventh title were dashed in the Round of 16 in the first finals with 24 teams. Instead, Algeria won by beating Senegal 1-0 in the final in Cairo, with Egypt defeated in the last-16 by South Africa, who exited at the next stage against Nigeria.

# 2021

## CAMEROON

The tournament was put back 24 months and played under strict COVID protocols, with Senegal emerging to take their first title with Sadio Mane converting the decisive kick in the penalty shootout win over Egypt in the final.

# 2023

## CÔTE D'IVOIRE

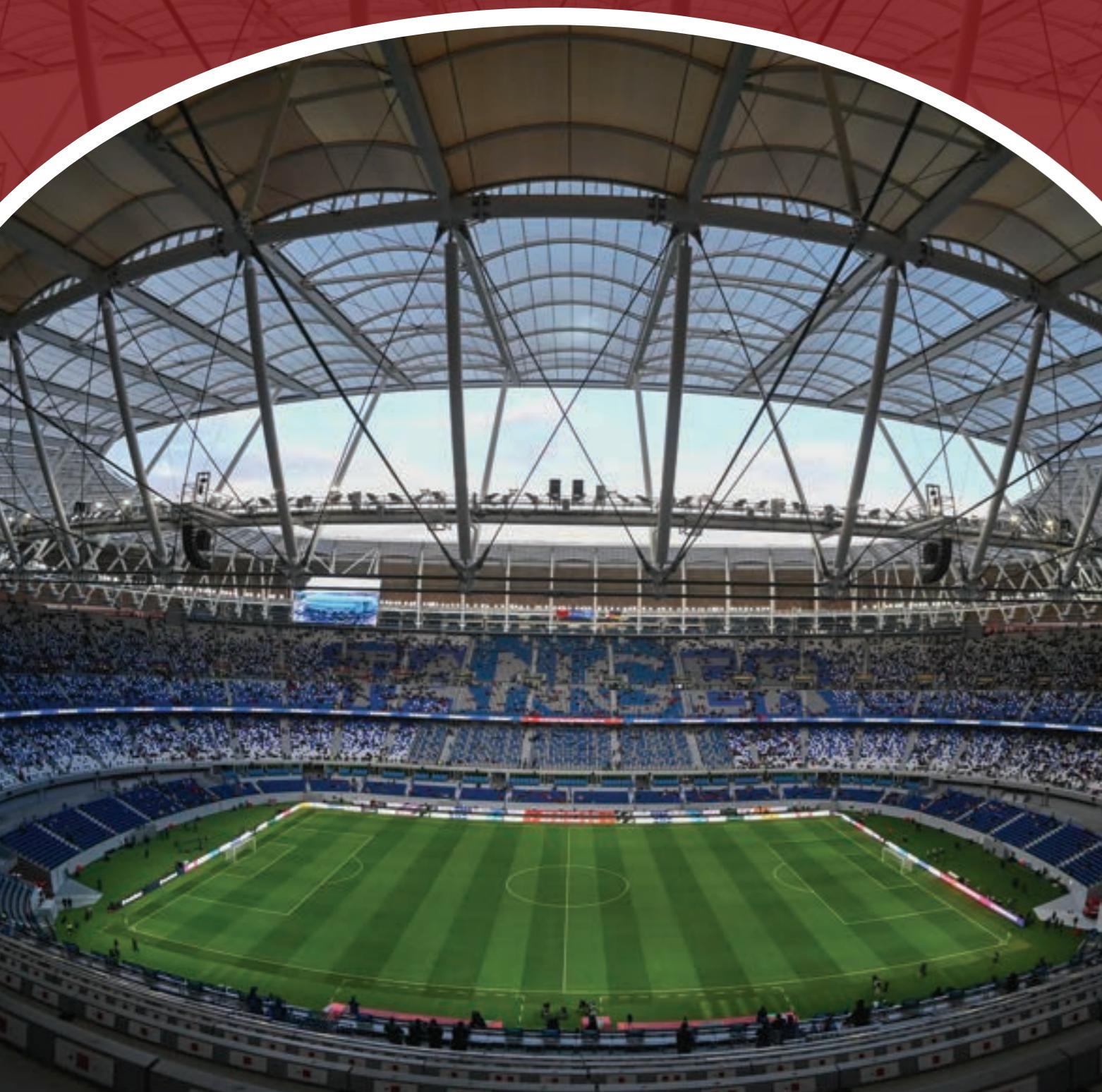
The Elephants of Côte d'Ivoire overcame a sensational defeat by Equatorial Guinea in the group stage to go on and take the title, coming from behind to beat Nigeria 2-1 in Abidjan's glittering new stadium.

# STADIUMS



## GRAND STADE DE TANGER

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# MEDIA SERVICES

## MEDIA TICKETING SERVICES

The media ticketing process for AFCON is designed to be transparent, predictable and fully aligned with accreditation and venue capacities.

Accredited media will be informed in advance of the procedure to request tickets or seat allocations for specific matches, including clear deadlines, match quotas and priority rules (for example, Host Broadcaster and CAF Media Partners, then other Non Rights Holders and written press).

Requests will be centralised via the CAF Media Channel, with confirmations sent by email in good time ahead of each match for the media's convenience.

At venue level, media ticket validation and seat allocation will be managed at the Stadium Media Centre at a dedicated Media Ticketing Desk and SASs Distribution, ensuring that each journalist or photographer is assigned a Press Conference Room and Mixed Zone) based on their role and technical needs.

The objective is to avoid last-minute congestion, guarantee fair access to high-demand matches and ensure that stadium operations, security and media workflows remain smooth and under control throughout the tournament.

## MEDIA CATERING / COMPLIMENTARY CATERING SERVICE

There are two types of media catering: The LOC offers limited Media catering a complimentary service.

The second option allows media an opportunity to purchase food and refreshments at preferential rates.

In the Main Media Centre and at stadium media areas, accredited media will have access to free hot and cold beverages (water, coffee, tea, soft drinks) and light snacks during core operating hours, especially around match days, press conferences and peak content-production periods.

To complement this, a selection of hot meals, sandwiches and snacks will be available to purchase at subsidized prices agreed with the LOC, ensuring that journalists and photographers can eat on-site without losing time in transit or facing prohibitive costs. Wherever possible, menus will reflect local flavours and include vegetarian and other dietary options, with clear information displayed at the Media Catering Points.

The overall objective is to create a practical, welcoming environment where media can refuel quickly and comfortably and remain fully focused on delivering coverage of the tournament.



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