

= Togo women 's national football team =

The Togo women 's national football team is a FIFA @-@ recognised team that represents Togo in international football competition . Togo have played five FIFA @-@ recognised matches , all in 2006 , and are currently unranked . They have not competed in major regional and international tournaments . While the country has under @-@ 17 and under @-@ 20 national sides , further development of the team and the sport in Togo faces challenges common to African countries , as well as country @-@ specific problems such as the sport 's lack of domestic popularity .

= = Team = =

In 1985 , few countries had women 's national football teams . While the sport 's popularity grew worldwide in the ensuing years , Togo did not compete in their first FIFA @-@ sanctioned match until 2006 , when they played five games . In their first game , on 19 February , Togo beat São Tomé and Príncipe 3 ? 0 . The team beat São Tomé and Príncipe again by a score of 6 ? 0 on 26 February 2006 in Togo . In its next three games , Togo lost 0 ? 9 to Congo , 1 ? 3 to Congo and 2 ? 5 to Mali . Togo tied the following game 3 ? 3 against Côte d 'Ivoire in Dakar . Togo then beat Guinea 4 ? 1 on 21 May 2006 . Togo has since played just one match . In 2007 , the team competed at the Tournoi de Cinq Nations held in Ouagadougou . There , Togo lost 0 ? 5 to Côte d 'Ivoire before being disqualified for bringing a club team , MBA Lomé , to the competition in violation of tournament rules .

Togo has not participated in most regional and international competitions , including the Women 's World Cup , the 2010 African Women 's Championship , and the 2011 All @-@ Africa Games . The team was expected to participate in the 2010 African Women 's Championships and were scheduled to play against Mali but withdrew before the competition started . As of March 2012 , the team was not ranked by FIFA .

The country has a national under @-@ 17 side and an under @-@ 20 side . The Togo women 's national under @-@ 17 football team was active by 2010 , when they competed in the African Women 's U @-@ 17 Qualifying Tournament . Togo moved past the preliminary round after their opponents , Sierra Leone , withdrew from the tournament . In the first round , Togo was set to play Nigeria but withdrew from the competition . The Togo women 's national under @-@ 20 football team was also active by 2010 , when they competed in the African Women 's U @-@ 20 World Cup qualifying . In the first round , they had a walkover win against the Sierra Leone , but did not participate in rounds two or three .

= = Background and development = =

The development of women 's football in Africa faces several challenges , including limited access to education , poverty amongst women , inequalities and human rights abuses targeting women . Funding also in an impediment . Most support for women 's football in Africa comes from FIFA rather than national football associations . Many quality female footballers leave the continent seeking greater opportunity in northern Europe or the United States .

The national football association , the Fédération Togolaise de Football , was founded in 1960 and became affiliated with FIFA in 1964 . The organisation has fifteen staff members focusing on women 's football . Football is the fourth @-@ most @-@ popular women 's sport in Togo , trailing basketball , handball and volleyball . Football 's popularity is growing , however . The country had 380 registered players in 2006 , up from 180 in 2000 . Women 's football was first organised in the country in 2000 . By 2006 , there were 105 football clubs in Togo , 11 of which were for women only . A national women 's competition was created by 2006 and was still operating in 2009 . While there are no school , university or regional competitions for women 's football , there was an active under @-@ 17 women 's league in 2009 . In 2010 , a women 's football competition involving 50 women 's teams was organised by the German embassy , which provided teams with football kits and footballs .

