

= Rwanda women 's national football team =

The Rwanda women 's national football team represents Rwanda in women 's association football and is controlled by the Fédération Rwandaise de Football Association . It had to date been scheduled to compete in one major tournament , the inaugural Women 's Challenge Cup held in Zanzibar in October 2007 , but the event was ultimately canceled . It has finally debuted in February 2014 against Kenya . Like their male counterpart , the team is nicknamed The She @-@ Amavubi (Kinyarwanda for The She @-@ Wasps) . It has never qualified for an African Championship finals or a World Cup .

= = Senior national team = =

Until 2012 , Rwanda had yet to play in a single FIFA recognised match . FIFA did not recognise a senior women 's national team in the period between 2002 and 2006 , with no team existing by 2008 . While Rwanda women 's national under @-@ 20 football team existed and played in matches by 2009 , the senior national team was not competing in matches in the period . There was no senior team competing in the 2010 African Women 's Championships during the preliminary rounds or the 2011 All Africa Games . In March 2012 , the team was not ranked in the world by FIFA and a senior national team still did not existed . However , a senior national team played its first official match on February 16 , 2014 .

The inaugural Council for East and Central Africa Football Associations (CECAFA) Women 's Challenge Cup was supposed to be held in Zanzibar October 2007 , an event Rwanda was planning to send a national team to compete in , but the competition was ultimately canceled . The competition was to be funded by Confederation of African Football . The Council of East and Central Africa Football Associations secretary , Nicholas Musonye said of the event , " CAF wants to develop women football in this region in recognition of the milestones CECAFA has achieved over the years . CAF appreciates what CECAFA has done despite the hardships the association has gone through , from financial problems to political instability in member states and poor management of associations . Member states in the CECAFA region have not taken women 's football seriously . CAF now wants to sponsor a long @-@ term campaign to attract women from this region into the game . "

= = History = =

She @-@ Amavubi debuted on 16 January 2014 , in the 2014 African Women 's Championship first qualification round , against Kenya in the Stade Régional Nyamirambo in Kigali . They won 1 ? 0 from a goal scored by Alice Niyoyita at the 29th minute in the first leg . In the second leg in Kenyatta Stadium , Machakos , Kenya they lost 2 ? 1 with the solitary goal scored by Jeanne Nyirahatashima . Rwanda qualified for the second round by the away goals rule after finishing 2 ? 2 on aggregate and played against Nigeria . Their third official match was disputed on 13 May 2014 against Zambia and ended in a 3 ? 0 loss , making it the third loss of their record . They disputed the 2014 African Women 's Championship second qualification round with Nigeria on 24 May 2014 , losing 4 ? 1 . The goal was scored by Clementine Mukamana at the 53rd minute . In the second leg , again competing against Nigeria on 7 June 2014 , the She @-@ Amavubi lost by a crushing 8 ? 0 defeat , leaving them out of the 2014 African Women 's Championship by a 12 ? 1 aggregate score .

= = Competition records = =

= = = World Cup record = = =

= = = Africa Women 's Championship record = = =

== Coaches ==

Grace Nyinawumuntu (2014 ?)

== Recent matches ==

== Current Squad ==

The following squad was selected for the 2014 African Women 's Championship qualification match against Nigeria on 8 June 2014 .

Caps and goals updated as of 16 November 2014 .

== Recent call @-@ ups ==

The following players have been called up for Rwanda squad within the past 12 months .

== Head @-@ to @-@ Head Record ==

As of 16 June 2014

== Junior national team ==

In 2006 , a Rwanda women 's national under @-@ 17 football team and Rwanda women 's national under @-@ 20 football team did not officially exist , but this changed by 2009 when an under @-@ 20 team and competed in the African Women U @-@ 20 World Cup 2010 Qualifying tournament . In the first leg on 24 October 2009 in Nakivubo , they lost to Uganda 1 ? 2 . In the second leg on 7 November 2009 in Kigali , they lost to Uganda 0 ? 1 . In Rwanda 's 1 ? 2 loss , Saida Ntagisarinana came on in the second half as a substitute for Rwanda and scored the team 's only goal . Rwanda 's play in the game was described by Ugandan newspaper New Vision as " far more organised [than Uganda] , structured and played as a team . "

== Background and history ==

The development of women 's football in Africa faces several challenges , including limited access to education , poverty amongst women in the wider society , and fundamental inequality present in that society that occasionally allows for female @-@ specific human rights abuses . At the same time , if talented women footballers do emerge , many choose to go abroad to maximize playing opportunities . A lack of funding impedes regional development of women 's football as most of the funding for the women 's national team comes from FIFA , not the national football association .

Inside Rwanda , the first women 's football programme was developed in 2000 . " Kicking for Reconciliation " was created during the late 2000s , and involved over 100 young players in an attempt at " bringing healing to a nation that saw the worst genocide since World War II " through sport . The programme was open to both Tutsis and Hutus . By 2008 , this included a schools and university competition . Women 's football was supported by a single dedicated national federation staffer by 2006 . Women 's sport , including football , received little press coverage in the Rwandan media . A women 's football league was founded in 2008 , and the country is the only one in the region with a viable league , but the it still faces challenges related to funding for teams , with most of its funding coming from FIFA . Grace Nyinawumuntu became the first female referee at the senior level in Rwanda in 2004 , and went on to become the first woman to coach a professional team in the country in 2009 . Her professional women 's side went on to win the league championship under

her leadership . The lack of high @-@ level football opportunities in Uganda led to some players going from there to Rwanda for opportunities to play in the country 's professional league .

International training related to women is limited in Rwanda . Between 1991 and 2010 , there was no FIFA FUTURO III regional course for women 's coaching , no women 's football seminar held in the country , and no FIFA MA course held for women and youth football . Internationally , in 2007 , a representative from the country attended a FIFA sponsored women 's football symposium in China . Felicite Rwemarika is the head of women 's football in the country . She is credited with developing the sport in the country by founding the Association of Kigali Women in Football amongst other things .