

= Seychelles women 's national football team =

The Seychelles women 's national football team is the national team of the Seychelles . It does not officially exist and has not played in a FIFA recognised match . The national team has played in two eighty @-@ minute long games in 2005 in a tournament hosted by Mauritius , with the Seychelles losing both matches . An official under @-@ 17 national team exists and had regular training sessions in 2006 . The sport faces several development problems inside the country including a lack of popularity for the sport , and few female players and teams . Women have gained football leadership positions in the country with one coaching a men 's team and another umpiring international matches . There are other development issues for the sport that are ones facing the whole of Africa .

= = Background and development = =

The Seychelles Football Federation was founded in 1979 , and became a FIFA affiliate in 1986 . Women 's football is represented in the federation by specific mandate and currently they employee one full @-@ time employee to look after the women 's game .

Football is the third most popular women 's sport in the country . In 2006 there were overall 185 registered female players (100 adult players and 85 youth players) . There are also a few women 's club , eight senior women 's club as of 2009 and a national competition takes place yearly . Girl 's football was not played in school based competitions in 2006 , but started in 2009 . The first woman 's football tournament occurred in the late 1990s , with the first tournaments being seven @-@ a @-@ side football before an eleven @-@ a @-@ side tournament started . The Patron 's Cup , the major women 's competition in the country that is the final for the national league , was won by Olympia Coast in 2001 , 2002 , 2003 and 2005 . The cup was won by Dolphins in 2004 . The competition and some of the teams underwent a name change with United Sisters becoming the Lioness and the Patron 's Cup becoming the Federation Cup . In 2007 , 2009 and 2011 , the Lioness won the Federation Cup . In 2002 , Cynthia Sanders became the first woman from the country to attain an assistant referee international license . Rights to broadcast the 2011 Women 's World Cup in the country were bought by the African Union of Broadcasting and Supersport International . In 2011 , Sanders became the first woman from the country to referee an international match when she officiated a match between Malawi and Zimbabwe in Harare , Zimbabwe . In 2012 , the country had their first woman sign a contract for and coach a men 's team .

Early development of the women 's game at the time colonial powers brought football to the African continent was limited , as colonial powers in the region tended to make concepts of patriarchy and women 's participation in sports was limited as a result . The lack of later development of the national teams on a wider international level is symptomatic of most of African teams and a result of several factors , including limited access to education , poverty amongst women in the wider society , and fundamental inequality present in the society that occasionally allows for female specific human rights abuses . When quality female football players are developed , they tend to leave for greater opportunities abroad . Continent wide , funding is also an issue , with most development money coming from FIFA , not the national football association . Future success for women 's football in Africa is dependent on improved facilities and access by women to these facilities . Attempting to commercialise the game and make it commercially viable is not the solution , as demonstrated by the current existence of many youth and women 's football camps held throughout the continent .

= = The team = =

In 1985 , almost no country in the world had a women 's national football team including the Seychelles who did play in a single FIFA sanctioned match between 1950 and June 2012 . In 2006 , the country did not have an official FIFA recognised senior a team , a situation unchanged by 2009 . In 2005 , they competed in a three nation tournament hosted by Mauritius , where all games were

80 minutes in length . They lost to Mauritius 1 ? 4 . They lost to Réunion 0 ? 9 . Overall , they finished last , scoring only one goal in the competition . In 2005 , Zambia was supposed to host a regional COSAFA women 's football tournament , with ten teams agreeing to send teams including South Africa , Zimbabwe , Mozambique , Malawi , Seychelles , Mauritius , Madagascar , Zambia , Botswana , Namibia , Lesotho and Swaziland . Seychelles did not record a match in the event . The country did not have a team competing in the 2010 African Women 's Championships. or at the 2011 All Africa Games . In March 2012 , the team was not ranked in the world by FIFA .

The country has an official under @-@ 17 team , the Seychelle women 's national under @-@ 17 football team . In 2006 , they had two training sessions a week but had yet to record an official FIFA recognised match .