

= Burundi women 's national football team =

The Burundi women 's national football team represents Burundi in women 's international football competitions . The team , however , has not competed in a match recognised by FIFA , the sport 's international governing body . A senior national team is inactive , but an under @-@ 20 team has played in numerous matches . Further development of football in the country faces challenges found across Africa , including inequality and limited access to education for women . A women 's football programme did not exist in Burundi until 2000 , and only 455 players had registered for participation on the national level by 2006 .

= = Team = =

In 1985 , few countries had women 's national football teams . While the sport grew in popularity worldwide in the ensuing years , Burundi did not have a team more than two decades later . By 2009 , however , Burundi had a FIFA @-@ recognised senior national team nicknamed the Swallows and a FIFA @-@ recognised Burundi women 's under @-@ 20 national team . The under @-@ 20 team played one international match in 2002 , one in 2004 and one in 2006 .

The senior national football team has never competed in a FIFA @-@ sanctioned fixture and has not competed at the Women 's World Cup . The team was one of 200 preparing for a qualification tournament for the cup in 2007 , but did not play in the competition . The team has withdrawn from numerous other events . Burundi was to play in the 2008 African Women 's Championship but withdrew from the tournament , giving the Democratic Republic of the Congo an automatic qualification . The team also withdrew from the 2010 CAF Women 's Championship and the 2012 CAF Women 's Championship before the first @-@ round qualifiers . Burundi has not participated in other major events on the continent , including the 2011 All @-@ Africa Games . As of March 2012 , the team was not ranked by FIFA .

Burundi was scheduled to participate in a competition in 2007 organised by the Confederation of African Football ( CAF ) in Zanzibar . Nicholas Musonye , the secretary of the Council for East and Central Africa Football Associations ( Cecafa ) , said of the event , " CAF wants to develop women 's 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 . " The competition was canceled due to lack of funds .

= = 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 . Many quality female footballers leave their home countries for better opportunities elsewhere . Another issue facing women 's football is institutional . Most of the funding for the sport in Africa comes from FIFA , not from national football federations .

The Fédération de Football du Burundi , the country 's national association , created a woman 's football programme in 2000 . By 2006 , there were just 455 registered women players , and the absence of a thriving women 's game has been an obstacle for the national team . Lydia Nsekera is the head of the national football association .

Outside the national federation , the Commission nationale du football féminin was established by the 1990s , and a league and women 's teams were organised in the same period in Bujumbura .