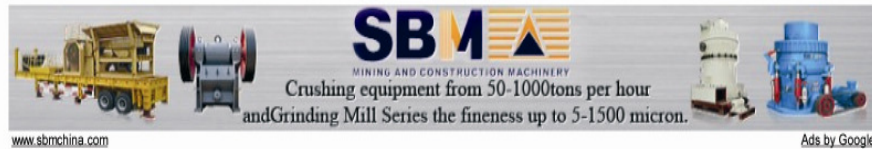


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Uganda: Fifa Invite Local Kids for 2010 World Cup

Ruth Desire

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Kampala — A group of eight young Uganda soccer players have been selected to fly to South Africa in June.

The four girls and four boys aged between 15 and 18 respectively have been selected to compete in the Football for Hope festival on the invitation of the world soccer governing body, Fifa.

The festival will be held alongside the 2010 World Cup. The players, selected from The Kids League (TKL), will be part of the 32 teams invited for the tournament. The football festival is aimed at causing social change through sports.

Teams have been drawn from Germany, Cameroon, Brazil, Argentina, Zimbabwe, Rwanda, India, Australia, and Lesotho among others.

The Ugandan team will travel courtesy of Stanbic Bank's sponsorship.

"We are pleased to inject Shs20m into the TKL South African tour," Stanbic Bank head of communications Daniel Nsibambi said during a media briefing on Friday.

"We are doing this in recognition of TKL's role in making a positive impact on kids from disadvantaged backgrounds through football."

Kids League country director Trevor Dudely said; "We are proud to be part of the Football for Hope Festival 2010."

The tournament kicks off on July 4 and ends six days later in Johannesburg.

Workshops, cultural celebrations and interactive activities will be held during the tournament.

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