

A women's world - Presskit



Summer is here and that can only mean one thing: women's football. But what role does football play in the lives of women around the world? A quick glance at the streetfootballworld network shows how different organisations are using football to support girls and women in their own unique way.

The wide range of activities offered by network members provides girls and women with an opportunity to gain an education and to take a more active role in their communities. Our members also emphasise the values of respect and equality, both on and off the pitch. Through their involvement in football, young women and girls are able to take on greater responsibility and become role models for others.

The following pages give just a few examples of how streetfootballworld network members are using football to give women a shot at an education, a chance to participate, and equal opportunities.

At the end of this pack, you'll find some important dates and events involving streetfootballworld network members that will take place over the course of the FIFA Women's World Cup 2011 in Germany.



For more information about the work of the streetfootballworld network with girls and women, contact us:

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Twinned Peace Soccer School for Girls



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“With financial assistance from the Canadian Government, the Twinned Peace Soccer Schools programme for girls benefits around 100 girls aged between nine and 13 from the Israeli and Palestinian communities. Our sports projects allow these girls to put their Israeli and Palestinian citizenship aside and build a new group identity based on equality and cooperation. Sport offers a great opportunity to bring people from both sides of the conflict together who would never normally be given the chance to meet and get to know one another.”

Tami Hay, Director Sport Development, The Peres Center for Peace

Rasheedeh Ahmad Barahmeh (18 years, from Jericho, Palestine)

“Not everything we see on television is right. I learned that quickly after I came to Israel for joint activities with Israeli children. The news in Palestine is very negative and shows the Israelis as being bad people who want to harm us. However, through this project I am able to play and communicate with Israeli kids – all of whom have now become my friends. We spend a lot of time together, we love each other, and we do not hold any anger towards each other.

I am always looking to learn more about Israelis, the conflict and how to make the situation better, which is why I decided to become an active member of the project. I think the programme is successful because it encourages ongoing communication between the future leaders of Israel and Palestine. We are tired of war and we must start taking action against war. The Israelis are good people, they love Palestinians, and they are normal people who want to have a regular life like everyone else.”

Yahav Zeguri (14 years, from Kiryat Gat, Israel)

“It was thanks to football and some friendly matches that I was first able to speak to Palestinian girls and better understand the conflict. I suddenly understood how important it was to not simply stand by and watch the political situation deteriorate. I’m now much more active in this respect. I love my Palestinian friends and have built really close relationships with them. They’re nice, happy girls who love life and value peace every bit as much as I do.”

Yahav will be playing in the PASCH tournament in Berlin, while Rasheedeh will participate in the KICKFAIR festival in Stuttgart.



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Through Life with a Ball



The media package 'Through Life with a Ball' uses a brochure and DVD to tell the gripping stories of 13 girls and young women. KICKFAIR and the Institute for Peace Education in Tübingen use personal stories to show how football can offer fresh insight and change lives. With contributions from India, Rwanda, Brazil, Israel/Palestine, Chile, Cambodia and Kenya, this multimedia teaching and learning pack offers case studies from very different social, political and cultural contexts, while considering the challenges and uncertainties of globalisation from a number of angles. It can be ordered direct from KICKFAIR for €20. It is currently only available in German but will be translated to English in the coming weeks.

Linda Chheun, Cambodia

"Football has changed my life: it's changed my whole outlook and approach. After returning home from the Football for Hope Festival in South Africa I became a young leader and trainer for the children in my province. Football helps us play together, experience new things and care for others."

Linda's home province of Pailin is littered with landmines. At the Football for Hope Festival 2010 – which took place alongside the World Cup in South Africa – Linda represented her organisation Spirit of Soccer. She is exceptionally proud that her team was awarded the Fair Play Cup. Spirit of Soccer uses football to educate young people about the deadly dangers posed by landmines.

Clarisse Uzamukunda, Rwanda

"For me, fair play is about asking for forgiveness and forgiving others."

Clarisse plays football with a group of boys and girls from Kimisagara, a district of the Rwandan capital, Kigali. But when Clarisse first wanted to join in five years ago, the boys wouldn't let her. A girl playing football? Local people had never seen such a thing. The organisation Espérance, however, has made the impossible possible. Today, girls and boys play happily side by side, with goals only counting when they are scored by girls.

Idea and co-ordination:

[KICKFAIR](#) in conjunction with the [Institute for Peace Education](#)

Project partners:

[Al Quds Association, Palestine](#)

[The Peres Center for Peace, Israel](#)

[Chigol, Chile](#)

[Formação, Brazil](#)

[Horn of Africa, Kenya](#)

[Espérance, Rwanda](#)

[Magic Bus, India](#)

[Spirit of Soccer, Cambodia](#)

[Salt Academy, Cambodia](#)

[Brot für die Welt/Fútbol por la Vida, Costa Rica](#)

For more information on the materials visit www.fussballverbundet-diewelt.org/mdb (German)

Slum Soccer - from India to Germany



Slum Soccer is one of five streetfootballworld network members that will be playing in this year's Discover Football tournament. At the last Homeless World Cup, the women's Slum Soccer team won the Fair Play prize. Now the team is in Berlin and waiting for kick-off. Slum Soccer campaigns for marginalised groups in India such as the homeless, drug and alcohol addicts, the children of prostitutes and slum dwellers. Football brings women from very different walks of life together, increases their self confidence and helps them take responsibility for their own lives.

Shahenaz Kureshi (18 years old, from Nagpur)

"I'm 18 years old and I live with my mother in the Mahadula slums of Nagpur. When I was born I was the first female child in the family. My father considered this a personal insult and tried to kill me. My mother decided to leave him to save my life.

My relatives never really supported us and my mother had to go through a lot to ensure I got an education. In year 11, I became very interested in sport, but my mother was against it and wanted me to get married. Instead, I started practising at a local sports ground. For the first time in my life I felt completely free. On the pitch I was just like any other child. Debts, worries about where my next meal was coming from or problems at home just faded away.

Although my mother and many of our neighbours didn't approve, I carried on playing anyway and was finally invited to join India's homeless women's team by our coach. Representing my slum and my home country was an enormous personal achievement for me. I was going to make my mother proud and prove a point to all those who said bad things about me."

Shahenaz and her team won the Fair Play award at the Homeless World Cup and are due to play in the Discover Football tournament in Berlin.



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Events - What's coming up?



streetfootballworld network members have been invited to numerous events that will run parallel to the Women's Football World Cup. Every event is an opportunity for them to demonstrate the success of their work and to show football's enormous potential for good.

Each team has its own unique team spirit, while every individual player has her own story to tell. We're delighted to welcome all the teams and wish them a wonderful time.

[PASCH Festival | 22 June to 30 June 2011 | Berlin](#)

With [Amandla EduFootball](#) (South Africa), [United Action for Children](#) (Cameroon), [Football Friends](#) (Bosnia and Herzegovina, Serbia and Montenegro), [The Peres Center for Peace](#) (Israel) and [Al Quds Association for Democracy and Dialogue](#) (Palestinian Territories), as well as schoolchildren from the 'Schools: Partners for the Future' network and Berlin schools.

[Peace Cup Augsburg | 24 June to 26 June 2011 | Augsburg](#)

With [The Peres Center for Peace](#) (Israel), [Al Quds Association for Democracy and Dialogue](#) (Palestinian Territories), [Espérance](#) (Rwanda), [Football Friends](#) (Bosnia and Herzegovina, Serbia and Montenegro) and [Spirit of Soccer](#) (Cambodia).

[Discover Football | 27 June to 3 July 2011 | Berlin](#)

With – among others – [Slum Soccer](#) (India), [Mifalot](#) (Israel), [Espérance](#) (Rwanda), [Elena NGO](#) (Cameroon) and [Sport dans la Ville](#) (France).

[KICKFAIR Festival | 29 June to 2 July 2011 | Stuttgart](#)

With [KICKFAIR](#) (Germany), [The Peres Center for Peace](#) (Israel), [Al Quds Association for Democracy and Dialogue](#) (Palestinian Territories), [Espérance](#) (Rwanda), [Chigol](#) (Chile) and [Spirit of Soccer](#) (Cambodia).