

AFRICA'S 10 NATIONS

FIFA Men's
World Cup
2026



The World Cup's expansion from 32 teams to 48 has seen a double from the 5 African nations that participated in the 2022 World Cup to 10, with a continent so diverse here are the nations representing Africa...



NORTH AFRICA

Morocco Les Lions de l'Atlas Ranked 8

Becoming the first African country to reach the semi-finals Morocco made history at the 2022 World Cup. Morocco has qualified for 3 back to back world cups and will look to improve their 2022 performance this year. Morocco made their first WC appearance in Mexico 1970 and have since had 7 appearances. They were the first African nation to qualify for the 2026 edition. They are set to host the 2030 World Cup.

FORM:

Morocco has been a top nation in the CAF Confederation and is currently ranked 8th in FIFA ranking going into the World Cup. Morocco made the final of the 2025 AFCON on home soil. **Youssef En-Nesyri** is the country's leading goal scorer at the World Cup with 3 goals. 2 in Qatar and 1 at the 2018 edition in Russia. Some players to look out for include: Brahim Diaz, Achraf Hakimi, and Noussair Mazraoui



'Les Lions de l'Atlas' have had some memorable WC moments such as their inclusion in Mexico 1970, becoming the first African Nation to make the knockout stage in Mexico 1986.

Their biggest WC win was in France 1998 beating Scotland 3-0



NORTH AFRICA

Algeria Les Fennecs Ranked 28

12 years in the making Algeria are back in the World Cup. Algeria debuted at the Spain 1982 WC and 2026 makes their 5th appearance. Algeria's most memorable moment was their round of 16 clash against Germany that went down to the wire providing one of their greatest WC matches. But this was not the only time Algeria has had a standout performance against Germany, Spain 1982 saw Alg defeat West Germany, the first African nation to win over a European team at the World Cup.

FORM:

'Les Fennecs' are ranked 28th in FIFA rankings and were formidable at the 2025 AFCON winning all 3 of their group stage matches a perfect group stage performance.



Rafik Halliche remains as Algeria's leading appearance maker with 7 matches between 2010 and 2014. Algerian players to watch this world cup include: Amine Gouiri, Rayan Ait-Nouri and Riyad Mahrez



NORTH AFRICA

Tunisia Les Aigles de Carthage Ranked 44

One of 3 countries not to concede during qualifiers, a record achieved for the first time Tunisia make their 7th appearance at the world cup. Tunisia is the first African country to win a WC match as they beat Mexico 3-1 in 1978 at their first World Cup appearance.

Tunisia look to carry their qualifier form of winning into this world cup and make it past the group stage.

FORM:

Tunisia are ranked 44th in FIFA rankings amongst the top 10 in Africa. They are the joint-second African side to appear at the world cup with 5 of their appearances all after 2000. Hannibal Mejbri, Ellyse Skhiri and Ali Abdi are some talent to watch at this world cup.



Les Aigles de Carthage top scorer at the world cup is Wahbi Khazri whose goal in the 2022 World Cup saw Tunisia beat reigning champions France



NORTH AFRICA

Egypt The Pharaohs Ranked 29

History makers Egypt is the first African country to compete at a World Cup with their appearance at Italy 1934. Their return this year marks their 4th appearance at the tournament and will look to make a mark. One of the best teams in the CAF Confederation, the Pharaohs are world class.

FORM:

Egypt are yet to win a World Cup match but with sensation Mohamed Salah in the mix and on top form, the team is looking to get their first win. Abdelrahman Fawzi and Mo Salah are Egypt's leading world cup goal scorers. Fawzi is penned as the first African goal scorer at a world cup with a brace in 1934.



Egypt are ranked 29th in the world and are the most decorated nation in Africa. Omar Marmoush, Mostafa Mohamed are two players to keep an eye on at this edition.



WEST AFRICA

Senegal Les Lions de la Teranga Ranked 14

3 successive world cup qualifications Senegal are going to North America. Senegal debuted at the world cup in Korea/Japan 2002 which led them to their best position of quarter finals. The Lions of Teranga won the 2022 AFCON and used that momentum going into Qatar 2022 where they went into the last 16. This marks Senegal's 4th appearance at the World Cup.

FORM:

Les Lions de la Teranga are ranked 14th in FIFA rankings and amongst the top 2 in the CAF Confederation. They made the finals of the 2025 AFCON marking a competition to remember for the side. Kalidou Koulibali, Youssouf Sabaly and Ismaila Sarr have appeared 7 times for Senegal at the world cup, the most in the team.



Going into the world cup young talent will propel Senegal with Mamadou Sarr, Ibrahim Mbaye and Pape Matar Sarr as players to watch.



WEST AFRICA

Cote d'Ivoire Les Éléphants Ranked 34

Already writing history Les Elephants qualified for the world cup without conceding a goal in qualifiers. Cote d'Ivoire make their fourth world cup appearance having last played in Brazil 2014. An African side who've had hard group stage exits in the past look to better their previous record at the world cup. They've won 3 of their 9 WC matches with a historic victory over Korea Republic in 2010

FORM:

2024 AFCON champions are ranked 34th in FIFA standings with notable player Ousmane Diao, Odilon Kossounou and Evans Ndicka in the mix.



The nation debuted at the world cup in 2006 and have had notable players such as Didier Drogba, Kolo and Yaya Toure wear the badge.



WEST AFRICA

Cape Verde Tubarões Azuis Ranked 69

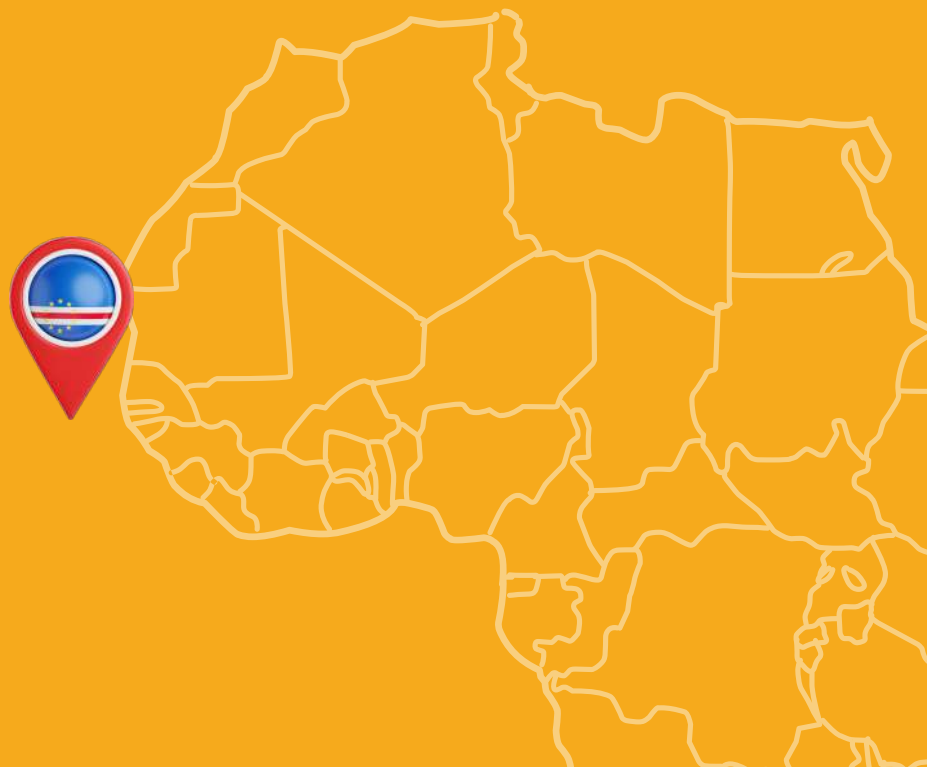
A nation of only 600K Cabo Verde have made history and qualified for their first ever world cup. The Blue Sharks had a dream home run in the qualifiers winning 5 out of 5 and eventually won their last qualifier match to seal the top of their group and gain that sport at this years tournament.

FORM:

Cabo Verde are ranked 69th in the world and have over the years seen their community feed into their soccer, allowing it to grow and become who they are today. This first appearance means new records will be made by the team.



Players to watch include captain Ryan Mendes, Roberto Lopes and young talent Sidny Lopes Cabral.



WEST AFRICA

Ghana Black Stars Ranked 74

Ghana last reached the knockout stage in South Africa 2010. This marks the Black Stars 5th world cup appearance. Ghana had a dominant qualifier winning 8 out of their 10 matches to gain direct qualification. They debuted at the world cup at Germany 2006 where they reached the last 16.

South Africa 2010 was where the Black Stars shone making it to the quarter finals where their most historic match was played. A controversial match v Uruguay saw the Black Stars campaign end.

FORM:

Ghana is ranked 74th in FIFA rankings. They go into the world cup lead by Jordan Ayew with strong players Mohammed Kudus, Inaki Williams and Antoine Semenyo looking to light up the global stage.



Asamoah Gyan is Ghana's top goal scorer and world cup goal scorer with 6 goals to his name. He netted the Black Stars first world cup goal.



CENTRAL AFRICA

DR Congo Les Léopards Ranked 46

With a very lengthy qualification with play-offs and inter confederation match Les Leopards are the last African team to qualify and return to the World Cup for the first time since 1974. Being the only African representative in West Germany 1974 DR Congo were the 3rd African country to play in the world cup.

FORM:

DR Congo are ranked 46th in FIFA rankings and amongst the top 10 in Africa. With a blank slate the current players have the opportunity to write history.



Notable players going into North America are Cedric Bakambu, captain Chancel Mbambu and Yoane Wissa



SOUTHERN AFRICA

South Africa Bafana Bafana Ranked 60

A first world cup appearance since they hosted the 2010 World Cup. South Africa are looking to move past the group stages. They debuted at the world cup in 1998 and this makes it their 4th WC appearance. After a turbulent qualification Bafana Bafana qualified as top of group C.

Having made history in 2010, South Africa still looks at their 2-1 win over France as their top moment and also their biggest win. Over the 4 tournaments many names shone for bafana Bafana: Simphiwe Tshabalala, Benny McCarthy and Lucas Radebe to name a few

FORM:

South Africa are ranked 60th in FIFA rankings and have been one of the nations to compete against in the CAF confederation. They will repeat the opening match of the 2010 world cup by playing Mexico on the 11th of June.



South Africa is taking a young but experienced squad with Relebohile Mofokeng, Lyle Foster, Ronwen Williams and Evidence Makgopa looking to lead the charge.



SUMMARISED

	TEAM	NICKNAME	RANKING	GROUP
NORTH AFRICA	MOROCCO	Les Lions de l'Atlas	8	C
	TUNISIA	Les Aigles de Carthage	44	F
	ALGERIA	Les Fenecs	28	J
	EGYPT	The Pharaohs	29	G
WEST AFRICA	GHANA	Black Stars	74	K
	SENEGAL	Lions of Teranga	14	I
	COTE D'IVOIRE	Les Éléphants	34	E
	CABO VERDE	Tubarões Azuis	69	H
CENTRAL AFRICA	DR CONGO	Les Léopards	46	K
SOUTHERN AFRICA	SOUTH AFRICA	Bafana Bafana	60	A

