



Football in Lebanon

Football has established itself as the most popular sport during the recent sporting revival in Lebanon. After enduring very hard times, with sports facilities unusable from the early 1970s until well into the 1980s, football has managed to survive in backyards and the nation is now celebrating its first successes on the international stage. Since suffering demoralising defeats in some of its first forays at international level, the national team, which is predominately made up of amateur players, has more recently raised its game to such an extent that Lebanon more than held their own during the qualifiers for the 2002 FIFA World Cup[™]. This was an impressive achievement, given that the team had been thoroughly outclassed when the nation hosted the Asian Cup in the year 2000. Having managed to secure contracts outside of their home nation, Lebanon's bestknown players are Roda Antar (playing in Germany), Bassam Bourjawi (in Sweden) and Mazen Labban (in Denmark).



The Goal Project

Due to delays that were outside of the Lebanese Football Association's control, its revised project proposal was approved by the Goal Bureau on 22 September 2004, rather than in March 2002 as originally anticipated. The project will involve the construction of a national technical centre in Alayeh, which it is hoped will lead to significant cost savings. At the moment, no facilities are available anywhere in the country to organise centralised football development projects.



Financing of Goal project

Project

Technical centre in Aleyeh

Project approved 22 September 2004

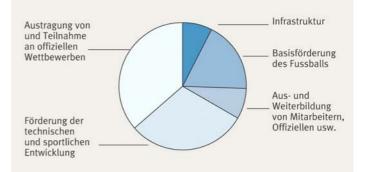
Status Implementation

Total cost USD 530,000

Financed by Goal USD 400,000 FAP USD 100,000 Confederation

USD 30,000

Use of FAP funds from 2001 to June 2003



Other FIFA development activities

bis 1990 1 course

1992 Futuro course

1993, 1994, 1996 5 Referees' courses