



# ANNUAL REPORT 2018 - 2019

AFRICA  
REGION

*Revealing the Champion in All of Us*

# Africa Region Programs



# Contents

Notes from an Athlete Leader

04

Chair of the Global Athlete Congress

06

Message from the President

08

Africa Region Reach Report

10

Youth Activation and Unified Schools

12

Regional Highlights

14

Programs in Africa Region

20

Our Partners

58

On the Cover:  
Henry Okenwa from Special Olympics Nigeria springs into defense at the the first ever Unified Cup, to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the first Special Olympics Games at Soldier Field in Chigao, Illinois.







# Notes from a Sargent Shriver International Global Messenger

“The Special Olympics movement welcomes athletes: most importantly inviting the athlete to lead and not to follow.”

My name is Brightfield Shadi. I am from Botswana.

I joined Special Olympics in 2008, and my life has since changed forever. Special Olympics gave me the tools to become the leader that I am today.

I was selected to train as an athlete leader, and became the **Sargent Shriver International Global Messenger** representing Africa Region from 2015 - 2019.

Athletes are trained to lead within the Special Olympics movement, so that nothing can be done for us without us. I was trained on leadership, and on how to train other athletes to become leaders.

During my tenure, I have enjoyed the honour of meeting and sharing the stage with prominent people such as the former First Lady of the United States Michelle Obama during the 2015 Special Olympics World Games in Los Angeles, USA.

I also had the opportunity to address the CEO's of global corporations such as **Coca-Cola**,

**Microsoft** and **Bank of America** during our fundraising drive.

Back home in Botswana, I have also shared the skills that I have learned, and trained other athlete leaders in my country.

Currently, I am working at Motetshwane Primary School in my country, where I train other athletes in sports and health issues.



The Special Olympics movement welcomes athletes: most importantly inviting the athlete to lead and not to follow.

I believe that we are making a difference, as we all have experiences of inclusion

and exclusion. Every day we learn about how to make an outstanding inclusive society based upon these experiences.

I am so delighted to be a part of the Special Olympics movement, because the movement shows the world that people with intellectual disabilities are capable of leading: it displays our possibilities not our limitations, and calls all of us to break the age-old stigma against difference.

To our coaches, donors, partners and companies: thank you for making the impossible possible, and please keep advancing our movement with your funds and support.

## Brightfield Shadi

*Special Olympics Botswana, Global Athlete Input Council representative, Sargent Shriver International Global Messenger 2015 - 2019*

I want to help others build up confidence and accept who they are - just like I did.

I was a zero, now I'm a hero!

## Brightfield Shadi

*Special Olympics Botswana athlete & Sargent Shriver International Global Messenger, 2014 - 2018*



Athlete Leadership

**Sargent Shriver International Global Messengers** are selected based on their presentation skills, interpersonal skills, and personal stories representing the movement. They go through a thorough training and have the support of individual mentors who work with them throughout their terms. They attend events in their Regions and throughout the world, give speeches, present awards, interact with potential donors and partners, and support the development of the athlete leadership strategy.



## My Vision - Chair of the Global Athlete Congress

"As a new Special Olympics Sargent Shriver International Global Messenger, I strive to become a voice for the voiceless."

In 2012, I joined Special Olympics when it was introduced at my school and have since become an accomplished athlete and leader within the movement.

At the 2018 Global Athlete Congress in the Dominican Republic, my fellow athletes elected me as Chairperson of the Congress. As part of this role, I serve on the Special Olympics International Board of Directors.

I am also a Global Health Messenger, advocating for health by teaching healthy habits and everyday fitness.

In these recent years, I have emerged as a sought after speaker, sharing inspirational messages around the world. In my first year as a **Sargent Shriver International Global Messenger**, I delivered speeches and presentations on four continents. My speaking engagements include:

- Sargent Shriver International Global Messenger Training - Washington, DC, USA, January 2019
- Special Olympics World Games – Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates, March 2019
- United Nations: 12th session of the Conference of States Parties to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities - New York, NY, USA, June 2019



- Special Olympics Africa Regional Marketing and Communications Conference - Johannesburg, South Africa, June 2019
- Special Olympics 50th Anniversary Celebration – Hyannisport, MA, USA, July 2019
- Special Olympics Africa Youth Summit – Nairobi, Kenya
- Special Olympics Unified Leadership Conference – Dublin, Ireland, October 2019
- Special Olympics Board of Directors Meeting – Washington, DC, USA, November 2019

Additionally, I also shared my expertise as a Global Health Messenger on the premiere episodes of the new Expert Tip video series presented by Special Olympics.

During my tenure as Sargent Shriver International Global Messenger, I hope to do the following:

- **Youth Activation in Schools and Universities** - by speaking at Lions and Leos club gatherings, and delivering school addresses during assembly hour, and by participating in Family Health Forums, engaging siblings, and visiting Unified Schools

- **Promoting Athlete Leadership** by engaging Athlete Leadership Programs (ALPS) in promoting unified communities through active engagement in community and regional programs. To have at least 3 athletes in attendance at Leo/Lions events, sharing their stories. Also help train and have athletes participate as assistant coaches during National Games.

- **Advocate for access to Health and Fitness facilities** through local media partnerships and speaking on radio and television, promoting inclusion and access to clinics, hospitals and gyms for people of determination.

### Nyasha Derera

*Special Olympics Zimbabwe, Global Athlete Input Council Chair and member of Board of Directors for Special Olympics, Inc., Sargent Shriver International Global Messenger 2011 - 2023*





# Message from the President & Managing Director

During the past two years, 2018 and 2019, the Africa Region recorded success in several areas of service.

Most significant of these was the expansion into new countries and areas that did not originally have Special Olympics presence. A total of 14 new countries established new Special Olympics programs. Thanks to the government of the United Arab Emirates (UAE), for their support in establishing these new Special Olympics programs.

The East Africa refugee program expanded beyond our pilot in Tanzania, to Uganda and Kenya. Thousands of refugees have been registered and are participating in Special Olympics activities in their camps, every day, and hundreds others trained as Special Olympics coaches. Thanks to Lions Club International, UNICEF, ESPN and Special Olympics Georgia for their support in the refugee program expansion.

As we conclude the current five-year strategic plan this year, we are looking forward to making a significant difference by meeting our intended targets, but most importantly, making measurable impact in our

service. We continue to exercise restless dissatisfaction to the status quo, considering that the population we serve, with intellectual disabilities, remain the most marginalized group in the world.

Most of Africa, especially in these trying times, is faced with crisis-affected communities, and persons with intellectual disabilities continue to be among the most marginalized, and they also face additional humanitarian crises. In many instances, individuals with intellectual disabilities experience high rates of physical, sexual and emotional abuse, which sadly often times go unreported. We will not rest until this comes to an end!

The COVID-19 pandemic has brought new challenges to this population, and our global Special Olympics team, in close collaboration with the Africa Region, has made significant modifications to programming, availing creative digital and other means of access to continued health and fitness activities of Special Olympics athletes, while

exercising safety measures by following some carefully designed protocols.

Special Olympics programming continues to empower this population, to be resilient and bold. It is encouraging and exciting to witness the record number of very strong leaders that have emerged among the athletes, and they are giving direction in the organization.

We sincerely thank and encourage our partners, individuals and organizations, including governments, for their continued investment in this worthwhile Movement. Thank you for being a part of this success!

**Charles Nyambe**  
Regional President and Managing Director, Africa Region



## PIONEER PARTNER

The 'A Very Special Christmas' albums, created by world renowned musical artists, producers and A&M Records, launched the first album launched in 1987. In 2017, over \$3 million was allocated by the Christmas Records Trust to support Program Development and fund Christmas Record Grants. These grants were used to recruit athletes, train coaches, host competitions, and expand athlete and partner participation in Unified Sports. Since 1998, over \$70 million has been given to Special Olympics Programs from the Christmas Records Trust.



## 14 NEW PROGRAMS IN AFRICA REGION

Special Olympics reached new frontiers in Africa Region, with the addition of sports and health programming in 14 additional territories. These new Programs were founded thanks to the support of the Special Olympics World Games 2019 in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates.

The 14 new Founding Committees in Africa Region were among the 7,000 athletes and 3,000 coaches participating.

These programs are:

- Special Olympics Burundi
- Special Olympics Cape Verde
- Special Olympics Chad
- Special Olympics Congo
- Special Olympics Ethiopia
- Special Olympics Equatorial Guinea
- Special Olympics Guinea
- Special Olympics Guinea Bissau
- Special Olympics Lesotho
- Special Olympics Liberia
- Special Olympics Madagascar
- Special Olympics Mozambique
- Special Olympics Niger
- Special Olympics South Sudan



## AFRICA REGION REACH IN 2019



**307,261**  
Number of Athletes



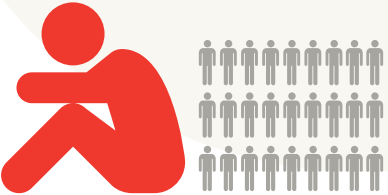
**32,906**  
Number of Coaches



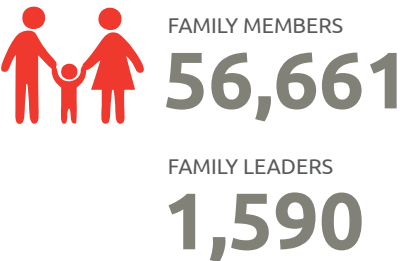
**19,913**  
Number of Competitions

# Africa Region

## OVERVIEW



The population of sub-Saharan Africa is almost 1 billion people. According to World Health Organization estimates, this means there could be as many as 30 million adults and children with intellectual disabilities that deserve equal opportunity to reach their potential on the playing field, and in life.



ATHLETE LEADERS  
**1,171**

## HEALTH PROGRAMS



# 2019 Reach Report

## ATHLETES

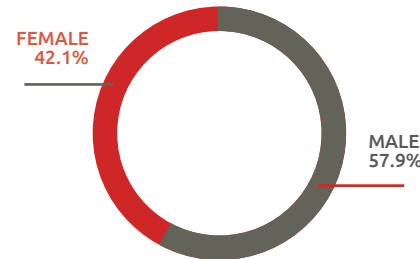
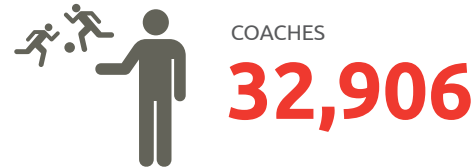
**307,261**  
UNIFIED PARTNERS  
**119,031**  
TOTAL  
**320,722**



## COMPETITIONS



**9,214** UNIFIED SPORTS COMPETITIONS



## SCHOOLS



## HEALTH PROGRAMS



RECOGNIZED PROGRAMS  
**6**



NUMBER OF CLINICAL AND STUDENT VOLUNTEERS TRAINED  
**1,238**



FAMILY HEALTH FORUMS  
**23**



# Youth Engagement Changes the Game

The impact of global youth work is playing an increasingly vital role in the work of Special Olympics, and Africa Region is leading the way.

Key achievements from Africa Region, as published in the Special Olympics Global Youth Engagement 2018 and 2019 Impact Report, have been across the several focus areas of Unified Schools, inclusive Youth Leadership development and Special Olympics Young Athletes.

All around Africa Region, Special Olympics work revolves around the cultivation of youth leadership, because each youth advocate and leader is a step towards the Inclusion Revolution!

Ongoing opportunities are available for youth to learn about leadership and how to engage with their peers, both with and without intellectual disabilities.

**Special Olympics Unified Schools** programming is changing attitudes towards people with intellectual disabilities, as well as preparing today's youth for a diverse and dynamic global landscape.

Through generous support from funding partners such as the Stavros Niarchos Foundation, Special Olympics is able to deliver Unified Sports and other inclusive leadership development opportunities to more youth worldwide. This programming continues to grow as the number of Unified Schools and Unified Champion Schools increases in every corner of the world.

## AFRICA REGIONAL YOUTH LEADERSHIP SUMMIT 2019

The first Special Olympics Regional Youth Summit took place in Nairobi, Kenya, at which 48 Youth Leaders - with and without intellectual disabilities - gathered from 12 countries.

Special Olympics and Lane Global Youth Leadership teamed up for a groundbreaking collaboration to empower Youth Leaders with and without intellectual disabilities through the Lead to



Include project, with added support by Kantar and Microsoft.

The Lead to Include project will bring forth a new opportunity for Youth Leaders from around the world to convene in their own countries and regions to learn and grow from each other. Youth Leaders will develop plans to implement an inclusive vision of Special Olympics in their home communities.

### TRANSFORMING EDUCATION SYSTEMS

As part of a three-year grant and landmark collaboration, the Stavros Niarchos Foundation and Special Olympics International have partnered to amplify the global impact of Special Olympics programmatic work in Unified Sports and Unified Schools. The 14 national Special Olympics program partners engaged in 2019 include Kenya and Tanzania. This project aims to support social inclusion around the world by forging stronger youth engagement worldwide and transforming educational systems through Unified Sports.





# Building Inclusive Leaders

Special Olympics Africa Region aims to provide our Programs with a comprehensive, well-organized system of support to ensure success.

One of the ways this is done is by providing Program leaders with training. In addition to promoting consistency in delivery that is in line with our mission and values, our training agenda also shares best practices on subjects like governance, marketing and fundraising.

## AFRICA LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

The largest and most extensive training held by the Africa Region in the course of each year, this is where Program leaders meet to advance their knowledge and action plans on the strategic direction and initiatives of the coming year.

Delegates also receive instruction and training from Special Olympics staff and guest experts on subjects designed to help them further the Special Olympics mission in their respective countries.

Themed "Building Inclusive Communities", the last conference saw over 90 delegates joining in

Johannesburg, South Africa on 29 - 31 January, 2019. This included 7 Athlete Leaders from the Africa Regional Athlete Input Council, and guest presenters such as:

- Gustavo Arellano, Head of Commercial Development, FIBA (International Basketball Federation)
- Shawn Ferguson, Vice-President, Government Relations, Special Olympics, Inc.
- Svetlana Fenichel, Manager, Organizational Excellence, Special Olympics, Inc.



## BOARD OF DIRECTOR TRAININGS

Designed to improve the impact and performance of leaders throughout the Region, these trainings took place in the following programs between April and October, 2019:

- Special Olympics Zambia
- Special Olympics South Sudan
- Special Olympics Rwanda
- Special Olympics Uganda
- Special Olympics Burundi
- Special Olympics Equatorial Guinea
- Special Olympics Niger
- Special Olympics Guinea
- Special Olympics Madagascar
- Special Olympics Ethiopia
- Special Olympics Guinea Bissau
- Special Olympics Congo
- Special Olympics Chad



## COACH TRAININGS

Special Olympics reached new frontiers in Africa Region, with the addition of sports and coach trainings in the following Programs between May and December 2019:

- Special Olympics Ghana
- Special Olympics South Sudan
- Special Olympics Burundi
- Special Olympics Equatorial Guinea
- Special Olympics Ethiopia
- Special Olympics Guinea
- Special Olympics Madagascar
- Special Olympics Guinea Bissau
- Special Olympics Cape Verde
- Special Olympics Congo
- Special Olympics Chad
- Special Olympics Kenya



## NEW NATIONAL DIRECTOR TRAINING

Regional training for 5 new National Directors took place in Johannesburg, South Africa on 25 - 28 June, 2019 for the following programs:

- Special Olympics Gambia
- Special Olympics Lesotho
- Special Olympics Namibia
- Special Olympics Swaziland (now Special Olympics Eswatini)
- Special Olympics South Sudan



## REGIONAL STAFF

**Charles Nyambe**  
President and Managing Director, Africa Region

**Jimmy Masina**  
Office Assistant / Athlete Leader

**Maria Muller**  
Director, Healthy Communities

**Desmond Sibiya**  
Director, Sports Programs & Organizational Development

**Romi Reinecke**  
Director, Communications

**Charles Takouet**  
Sr. Manager, Program Development

**Joe Mutua**  
Manager, Program Development

**Mashane Nthutang**  
Manager, Healthy Athletes

**Ngawa Mumba**  
Manager, Youth Activation & Initiatives

**Susan Masila**  
Manager, Global Development & Government Relations

**Tanyaradzwa Nzvengende**  
Coordinator, Youth Activation & Initiatives

**Crystal Tettey**  
Coordinator, Youth Leadership & Bilingual Support



### PIONEER PARTNER

The 'A Very Special Christmas' albums, created by world renowned musical artists, producers and A&M Records, launched the first album in 1987. In 2017, over \$3 million was allocated by the Christmas Records Trust to support Program Development and fund Christmas Record Grants. These grants were used to recruit athletes, train coaches, host competitions, and expand athlete and partner participation in Unified Sports. Since 1998, over \$70 million has been given to Special Olympics Programs from the Christmas Records Trust.





# Siblings as Connectors

The connectors between athletes, families and youth, siblings have been a force of innovation and activism in Special Olympics from its beginning.

Eunice Kennedy Shriver, the founder of Special Olympics, was inspired by her sister Rosemary to start a revolution of inclusion through sport.

Siblings are connectors of three groups central to Special Olympics: Special Olympics athletes, families, and youth. Siblings bring personal experience and lifetime relationships with their siblings with intellectual disabilities to the Special Olympics movement and their communities.

## FOSTERING GREATER ACCEPTANCE

Regional Sibling Workshops were held in Southern Africa in 2018 for English speaking programs, and in West Africa for French speaking programs in Dakar, Senegal from 2 - 4 September, 2019. Participating programs included:

- Special Olympics Benin
- Special Olympics Burkina Faso
- Special Olympics Cote d'Ivoire
- Special Olympics Senegal
- Special Olympics Togo

These workshops for sibling and family leaders are a forum to learn about sibling engagement, share ideas and network.



## FUNDRAISING EMPOWERMENT FOR AFRICA'S LEADERS

Throughout Africa Region, the awareness of Special Olympics and the needs of people with intellectual disabilities is pervasively low. Africa's Regional Athlete Input Council has aimed to increase athlete leadership in two key Program areas: marketing and fundraising. After years of planning, the Region held a focused Marketing and Communications Workshop to provide targeted strategies and facilitate action plans for Programs to raise awareness of their Program work, and improved Program capacity to raise awareness and conduct successful, country-specific marketing campaigns.

The training took place 25 - 28 June, 2019 in Johannesburg, South Africa, and included a photo shoot and video interviews with athlete leaders.



## STARKEY HEARING FOUNDATION IN ZAMBIA

A global partnership with Starkey Hearing Technologies and Starkey Hearing Foundation will make it possible for Special Olympics to train more hearing health providers and make healthy hearing more inclusive of people with intellectual disabilities, including a special gift to Special Olympics Zambia.

On 10 August 2019, Special Olympics Zambia held a Healthy Hearing audiology screening and Family Health Forum that provided health education to athletes, siblings and parents.





# Special Olympics Georgia Builds Hope

The impact of Special Olympics programming within the global refugee crisis is growing, thanks to enabling partners.

We believe people with intellectual disabilities must no longer be a hidden population. The Africa Region continues reaching out to places where athletes are most in need.

One of these success stories is Malachie, an athlete who was found chained by his ankle inside his dwelling hut. Civil war in Burundi had brought his family to Nyarugusu Camp in western Tanzania, where a lack of social support services and understanding left his family with no other way to integrate him into his community safely.



His story inspired the leadership of Special Olympics Georgia to reach more athletes like Malachie in other refugee camps in Africa. With a \$100,000 gift, this work could be replicated in the Dadaab and Kakuma refugee camps, sheltering families fleeing civil war and famine in southern Somalia.

The introduction of the **Special Olympics Unified Sports** model with its inclusive team sports and competition experiences, means athletes and partners develop a new understanding, also impacting their respective family members, friends, and the community at large to change their opinions of and behaviors towards people with intellectual disabilities.

This is done by recruiting and training volunteer coaches in the community, and providing sports equipment for football and athletics play grounds in the camp. The hosting of Family Health Forums improves understanding about intellectual disability and the power of sport within the community.

The following delegation from Special Olympics Georgia travelled to empower new coaches in the program to deliver quality sports training and competition in October 2019:

Christopher William Turner  
David Brandon Crawford  
Georgia Marie Milton-Sheats  
Elizabeth Ann Smith  
James Driscoll O'Donnell  
Charles Robert Yost  
Anthony Joseph Marzullo  
Thomas Greene Ritch IV



*Photos: Malachie first found in chains in June 2016.*

*Athletics competition in Kakuma Refugee Camp, Kenya in October, 2019.*

*Coach training in Special Olympics Unified Sports activities in action.*

*Athletics competition in Kakuma Refugee Camp, Kenya in October, 2019.*

*The delegation of coach trainers and program leaders from Special Olympics Georgia on the ground in Nairobi, Kenya.*





# Special Olympics

## Benin



Founded in 1992, Special Olympics Benin was officially registered in 1998.



**Languages:** French and Fon



**Unified Sports Teammates:** 244



**Coaches:** 548



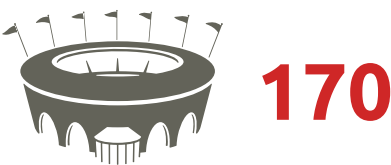
**Other Programs:** Family Health Forums, Healthy Athletes, Young Athletes



NUMBER OF ATHLETES



NUMBER OF COMPETITIONS



# Special Olympics

## Botswana



Founded in 1988, Special Olympics Botswana is the home of Sargent Shriver International Global Messenger Brightfield Shadi.



**Languages:** Setswana and English



**Unified Sports Teammates:** 644



**Coaches:** 853



**Healthy Athletes Screenings:** 84



**Other Programs:** Athlete Leadership, Family Health Forums, Healthy Athletes, Young Athletes



NUMBER OF ATHLETES



NUMBER OF COMPETITIONS





# Special Olympics

## Burkina Faso



Founded in 1991, Special Olympics Burkina Faso offers Athletics, Basketball, Bocce, Cycling, Floorball, Football, Judo, Swimming and Volleyball.



**Languages:** French and local languages (Mooré, Fulfuldé and Dioula)



**Unified Sports Teammates:** 1,473



**Coaches:** 568



**Healthy Athletes Screenings:** 163



**Other Programs:** Family Health Forums, Healthy Athletes, Young Athletes



NUMBER OF ATHLETES



3,126

NUMBER OF COMPETITIONS



37

# Special Olympics

## Burundi



Founded in 2018, Special Olympics Burundi was founded with the support of the government of the United Arab Emirates.



**Languages:** English, French and Kirundi



**Unified Sports Teammates:** 15



**Coaches:** 39



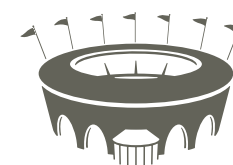
**Other Programs:** Healthy Athletes

NUMBER OF ATHLETES



110

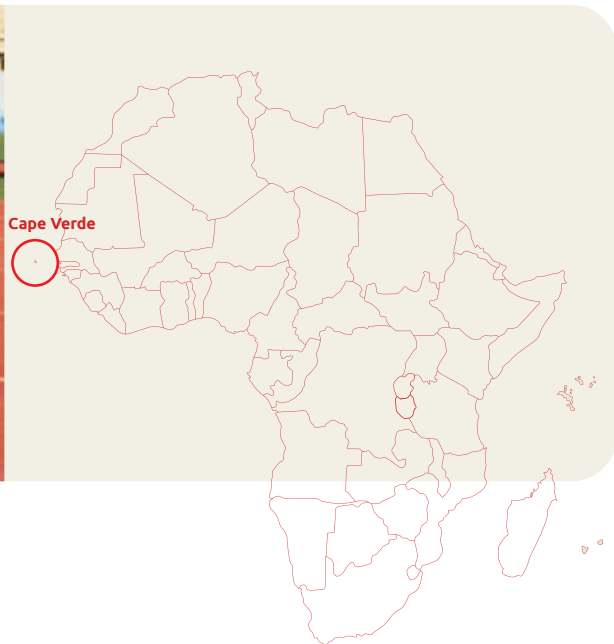
NUMBER OF COMPETITIONS



20



# Special Olympics Cape Verde



Founded in 2018, Special Olympics Cape Verde was founded with the support of the government of the United Arab Emirates.

 **Languages:** Portuguese

 **Coaches:** 36



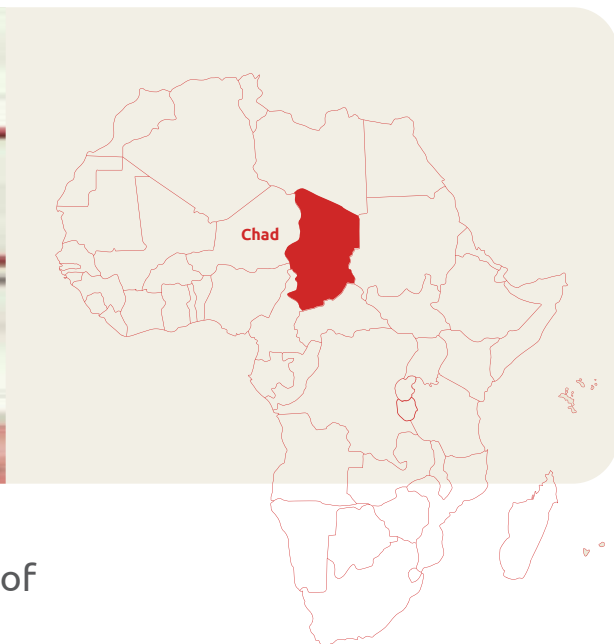
NUMBER OF ATHLETES



NUMBER OF COMPETITIONS



# Special Olympics Chad



Founded in 2018, Special Olympics Chad was founded with the support of the government of the United Arab Emirates

 **Languages:** French

 **Unified Sports Teammates:** 25

 **Coaches:** 55

NUMBER OF ATHLETES



NUMBER OF COMPETITIONS

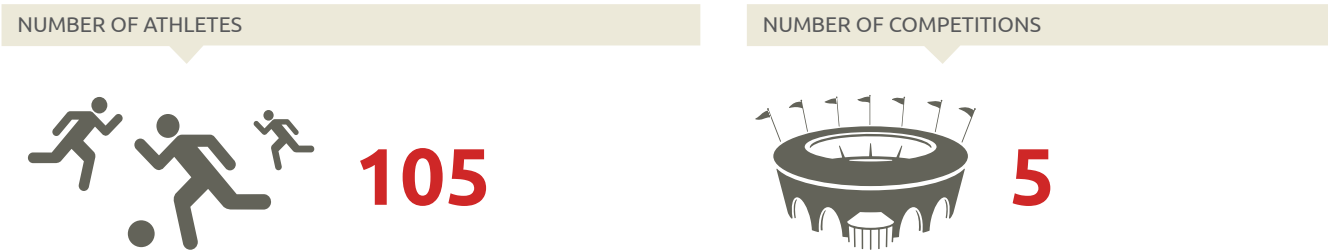


# Special Olympics Congo



Founded in 2018, Special Olympics Congo was founded with the support of the government of the United Arab Emirates

- Languages:** French, Kituba and Lingala
- Unified Sports Teammates:** 10
- Coaches:** 15
- Other Programs:** Healthy Athletes

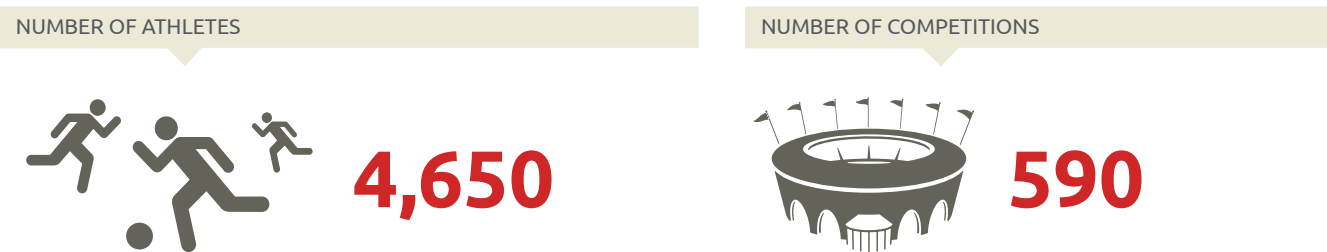


# Special Olympics Côte d'Ivoire



Founded in 1991, and accredited in 1992, Special Olympics Côte d'Ivoire has participated in many World Games

- Languages:** French
- Unified Sports Teammates:** 1,850
- Coaches:** 550
- Other Programs:** Athlete Leadership, Healthy Athletes, Family Health Forums, Healthy Communities, Youth Activation





# Special Olympics DR Congo



Special Olympics Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) was founded in 2017



**Languages:** French and Lingala



**Unified Sports Teammates:** 117



**Coaches:** 40



NUMBER OF ATHLETES



**598**

NUMBER OF COMPETITIONS



**23**

# Special Olympics Equatorial Guinea



Founded in 2018, Special Olympics Equatorial Guinea was founded with the support of the government of the United Arab Emirates



**Languages:** Spanish, English and French



**Coaches:** 56



**Healthy Athletes Screenings:** 10



NUMBER OF ATHLETES



**114**

NUMBER OF COMPETITIONS




**6**



# Special Olympics Eswatini



Founded in 1999, Special Olympics Eswatini, formerly called 'Special Olympics Swaziland', was accredited in 2001.

-  **Languages:** Siswati and English
-  **Unified Sports Teammates:** 1,362
-  **Coaches:** 171
-  **Other Programs:** Young Athletes, Family Health Forums, Fitness, Healthy Athletes



NUMBER OF ATHLETES





NUMBER OF COMPETITIONS



# Special Olympics Ethiopia



Founded in 2018, Special Olympics Ethiopia was founded with the support of the government of the United Arab Emirates

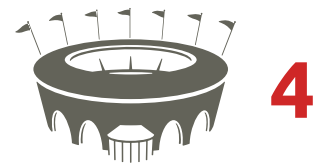
-  **Languages:** Amharic and English
-  **Coaches:** 40



NUMBER OF ATHLETES



NUMBER OF COMPETITIONS









# Special Olympics Gambia



Founded in the 1990's, Special Olympics Gambia was reaccredited in 2017

-  **Languages:** English
-  **Unified Sports Teammates:** 39
-  **Coaches:** 41
-  **Other Programs:** Family Health Forums, Young Athletes



NUMBER OF ATHLETES







NUMBER OF COMPETITIONS



# Special Olympics Ghana



Founded in 1978, Special Olympics Ghana was restructured in 2013

-  **Languages:** English and Twi (Akan), Ewe, Ga, Dagbani
-  **Unified Sports Teammates:** 3,796
-  **Coaches:** 872
-  **Other Programs:** Family Health Forums, Healthy Athletes, Young Athletes



NUMBER OF ATHLETES



NUMBER OF COMPETITIONS





# Special Olympics Guinea



Founded in 2018, Special Olympics Guinea was founded with the support of the government of the United Arab Emirates



**Languages:** French



**Coaches:** 35



NUMBER OF ATHLETES



NUMBER OF COMPETITIONS



# Special Olympics Guinea-Bissau



Founded in 2018, Special Olympics Guinea-Bissau was founded with the support of the government of the United Arab Emirates



**Languages:** Portuguese



**Unified Sports Teammates:** 45



**Coaches:** 50



NUMBER OF ATHLETES



NUMBER OF COMPETITIONS





# Special Olympics Kenya



Founded in 1978, Special Olympics Kenya was the very first program established in the Africa Region



**Languages:** English and Swahili



**Unified Sports Teammates:** 14,685



**Coaches:** 8,059



**Healthy Athletes Screenings:** 4,673



**Other Programs:** Athlete Leadership, Family Support Network, Fitness, Healthy Athletes, Healthy Communities, Young Athletes



NUMBER OF ATHLETES



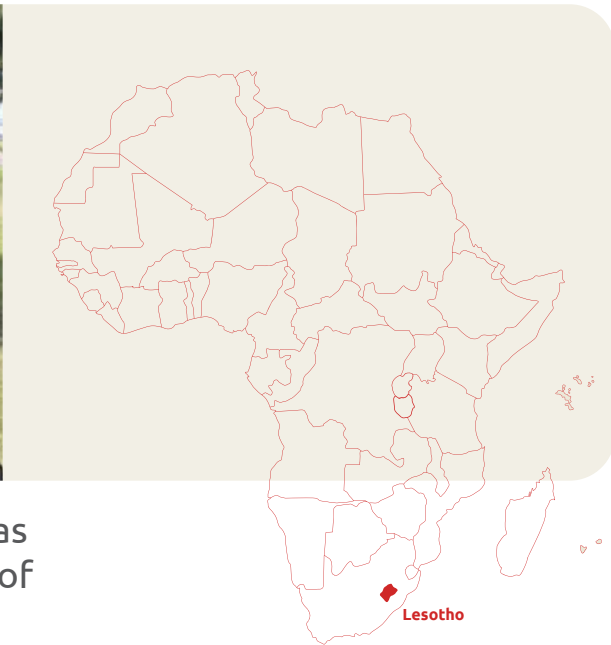
62,289

NUMBER OF COMPETITIONS



1,221

# Special Olympics Lesotho



Founded in 2018, Special Olympics Lesotho was founded with the support of the government of the United Arab Emirates



**Languages:** English and Sesotho



**Unified Sports Teammates:** 5



**Coaches:** 49



**Other Programs:** Healthy Athletes, Unified Youth



NUMBER OF ATHLETES



343

NUMBER OF COMPETITIONS



1



# Special Olympics Liberia



Founded in 2018, Special Olympics Liberia was founded with the support of the government of the United Arab Emirates and offers basketball



**Languages:** English



**Coaches:** 13



NUMBER OF ATHLETES



102

NUMBER OF COMPETITIONS



11

# Special Olympics Madagascar



Founded in 2018, Special Olympics Madagascar was founded with the support of the government of the United Arab Emirates



**Languages:** Malagasy and French



**Unified Sports Teammates:** 27



**Coaches:** 50



**Other Programs:** Healthy Athletes



NUMBER OF ATHLETES



5,225

NUMBER OF COMPETITIONS



13,009



# Special Olympics Malawi



Founded in 1998, Special Olympics Malawi has been growing in Health programming for people with intellectual disabilities

-  **Languages:** English and Chichewa
-  **Unified Sports Teammates:** 5,176
-  **Coaches:** 1,303
-  **Healthy Athletes Screenings:** 1,052
-  **Other Programs:** Family Health Forums, Fitness, Healthy Athletes, Young Athletes



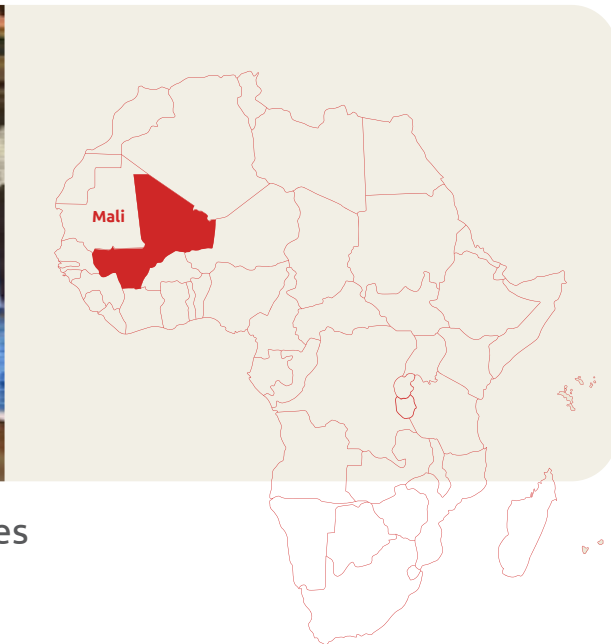
NUMBER OF ATHLETES







NUMBER OF COMPETITIONS



# Special Olympics Mali



Founded in 1993, Special Olympics Mali focuses on female basketball

-  **Languages:** French and Bambara
-  **Unified Sports Teammates:** 67
-  **Coaches:** 162
-  **Other Programs:** Young Athletes



NUMBER OF ATHLETES

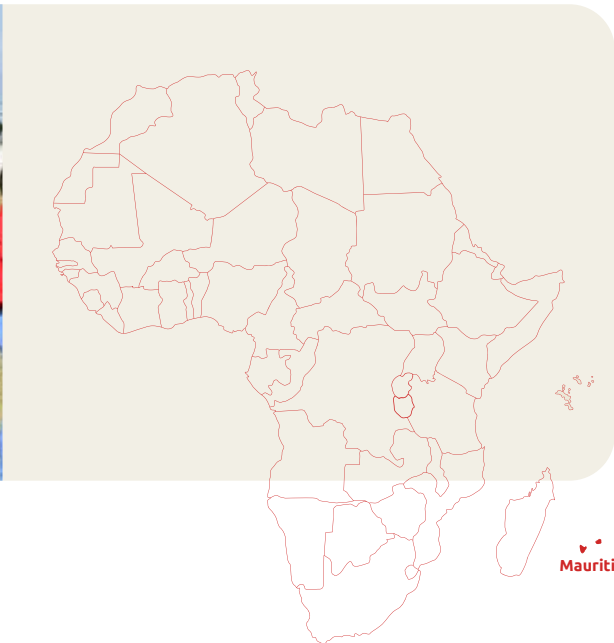


NUMBER OF COMPETITIONS





# Special Olympics Mauritius



Founded in 1997, Special Olympics Mauritius has many youth and athlete leadership initiatives

-  **Languages:** English, Creole and French
-  **Unified Sports Teammates:** 501
-  **Coaches:** 383
-  **Healthy Athletes Screenings:** 289
-  **Other Programs:** Healthy Communities, Family Health Forum, Young Athletes



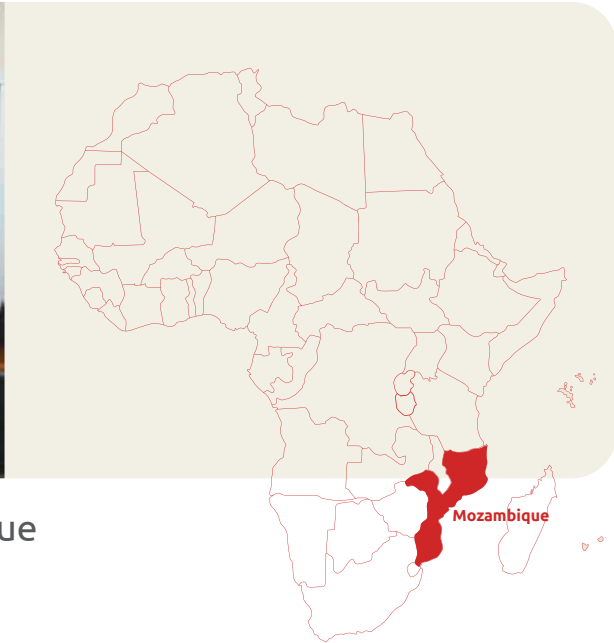
NUMBER OF ATHLETES







NUMBER OF COMPETITIONS



# Special Olympics Mozambique



Founded in 2018, Special Olympics Mozambique was founded with the support of the government of the United Arab Emirates

-  **Languages:** Portuguese
-  **Coaches:** 2
-  **Healthy Athletes Screenings:** 21
-  **Other Programs:** Healthy Athletes



NUMBER OF ATHLETES

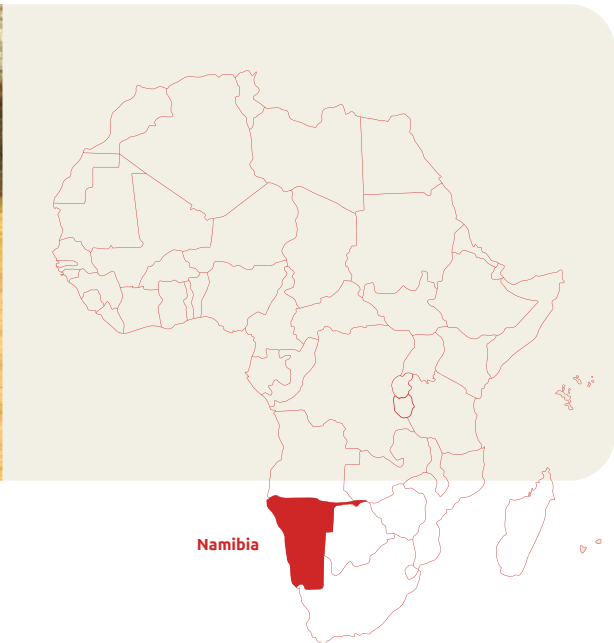


NUMBER OF COMPETITIONS



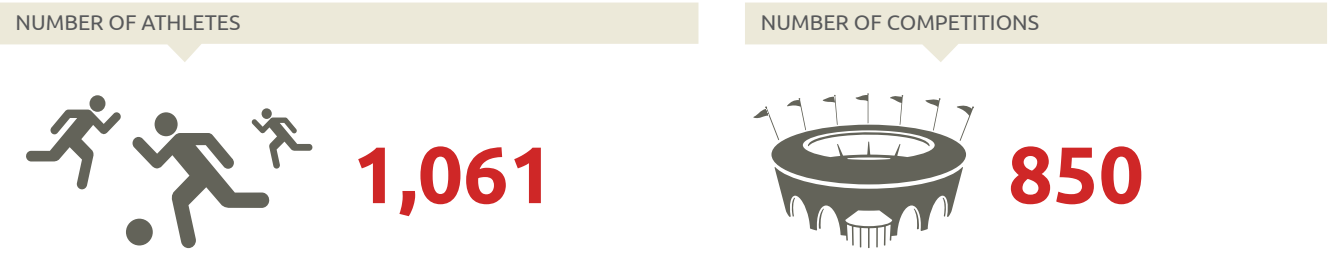


# Special Olympics Namibia

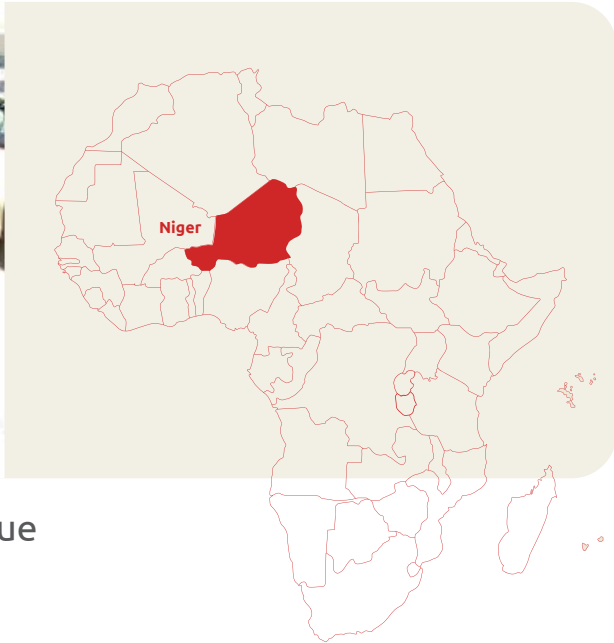


Founded in 1998, Special Olympics Namibia is based in the FIFA Football for Hope Centre in Katutura, Windhoek

- Languages:** English
- Unified Sports Teammates:** 967
- Coaches:** 70
- Other Programs:** Healthy Athletes, Young Athletes

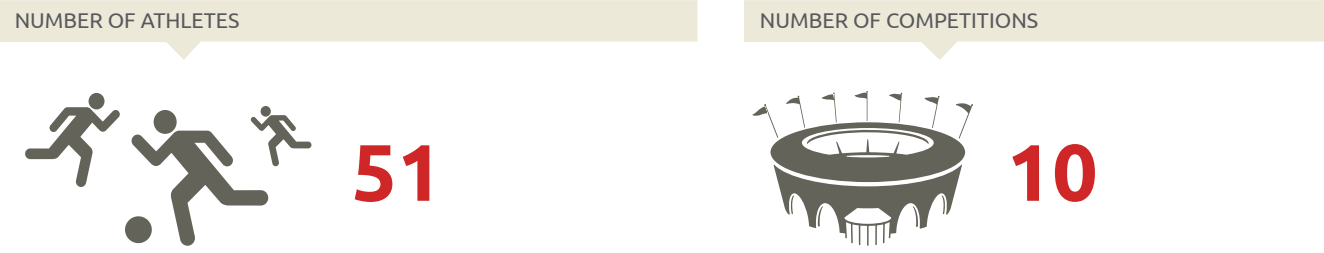


# Special Olympics Niger



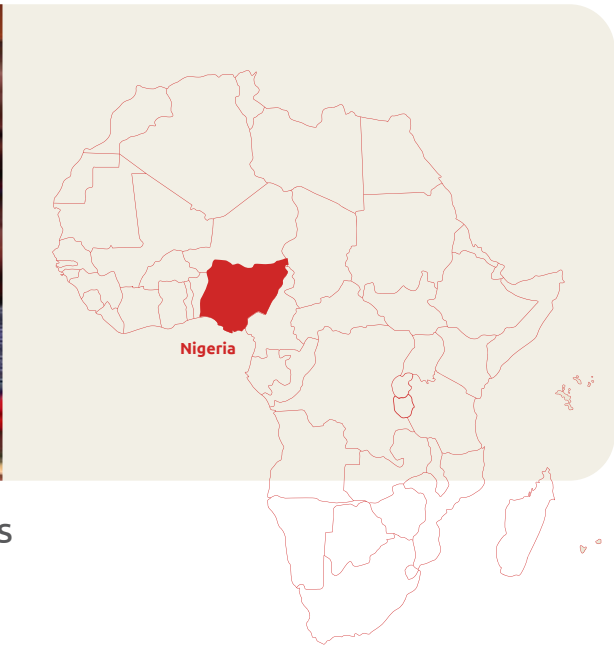
Founded in 2018, Special Olympics Mozambique was founded with the support of the government of the United Arab Emirates

- Languages:** French
- Unified Sports Teammates:** 6
- Coaches:** 25
- Healthy Athletes Screenings:** 13
- Other Programs:** Healthy Athletes










# Special Olympics Nigeria



Founded in 2001, Special Olympics Nigeria was fully operational from 2005 and is one of the largest Programs in Africa Region

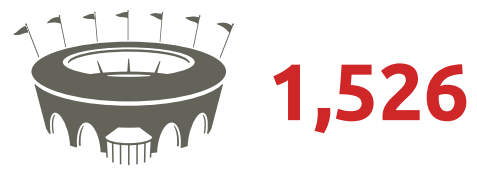
-  **Languages:** English, Ibo, Hausa, Yoruba and other local languages
-  **Unified Sports Teammates:** 1,187
-  **Coaches:** 1,436
-  **Healthy Athletes Screenings:** 661
-  **Other Programs:** Healthy Athletes, Healthy Communities, Family Health Forum, Fitness, Young Athletes



NUMBER OF ATHLETES








NUMBER OF COMPETITIONS



# Special Olympics Rwanda



Founded in 2002, Special Olympics Rwanda offers Sports, Health and Unified Schools programming

-  **Languages:** English, French and Kinyarwanda
-  **Unified Sports Teammates:** 1,995
-  **Coaches:** 1,823
-  **Healthy Athletes Screenings:** 1,750
-  **Other Programs:** Healthy Athletes, Healthy Communities, Family Health Forum, Fitness, Unified Schools, Young Athletes, Youth Activation



NUMBER OF ATHLETES



NUMBER OF COMPETITIONS





# Special Olympics Senegal



Founded in 1990's, Special Olympics Senegal was restructured in 2009 and has a wide variety of Health programming



**Languages:** French and Wolof



**Unified Sports Teammates:** 1,161



**Coaches:** 755



**Healthy Athletes Screenings:** 3,360



**Other Programs:** Healthy Athletes, Healthy Communities, Family Health Forum, Fitness, Young Athletes, Youth Activation



NUMBER OF ATHLETES



5,762

NUMBER OF COMPETITIONS



86

# Special Olympics Seychelles



Special Olympics Seychelles was first founded in 1986



**Languages:** Creole, French and English



**Unified Sports Teammates:** 25



**Coaches:** 25



**Other Programs:** Young Athletes



NUMBER OF ATHLETES



278

NUMBER OF COMPETITIONS



10



# Special Olympics Somalia



Founded in 2019, Special Olympics Somalia is the newest program in Africa Region



**Languages:** Somali and Arabic

# Special Olympics South Africa



Founded in 1991, Special Olympics South Africa was strongly endorsed by Nelson Mandela, the country’s first democratically elected President.



**Languages:** English, isiZulu, seSotho and Afrikaans



**Unified Sports Teammates:** 3,443



**Coaches:** 5,532



**Healthy Athletes Screenings:** 1,470



**Other Programs:** Healthy Athletes, Family Health Forum, Fitness, Young Athletes



NUMBER OF ATHLETES



55,136

NUMBER OF COMPETITIONS



2,103



# Special Olympics

## South Sudan



Founded in 2018, Special Olympics South Sudan was founded with the support of the government of the United Arab Emirates



**Languages:** English



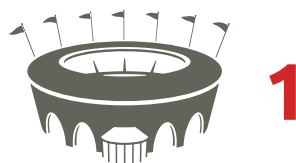
**Coaches:** 30



NUMBER OF ATHLETES



NUMBER OF COMPETITIONS



# Special Olympics

## Tanzania



Founded in 1987, Special Olympics Tanzania piloted the first refugee camp outreach in Africa region.



**Languages:** Swahili and English



**Unified Sports Teammates:** 231



**Coaches:** 4,300



**Healthy Athletes Screenings:** 283



**Other Programs:** Healthy Athletes, Healthy Communities, Family Health Forum, Young Athletes



NUMBER OF ATHLETES



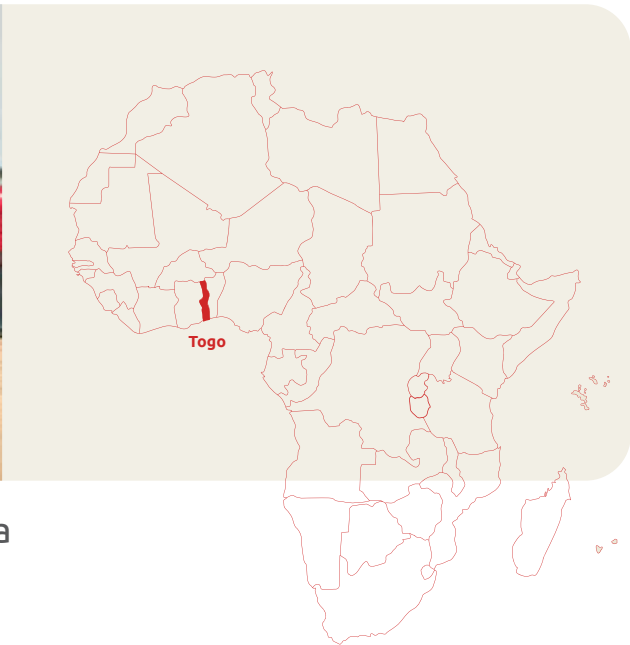
NUMBER OF COMPETITIONS









# Special Olympics

## Togo



Founded in 1991, Special Olympics Togo has a Young Athletes program

-  **Languages:** French, Ewe, Kabia and Mina
-  **Unified Sports Teammates:** 1,943
-  **Coaches:** 1,119
-  **Other Programs:** Healthy Athletes, Family Health Forum, Young Athletes



NUMBER OF ATHLETES



NUMBER OF COMPETITIONS



# Special Olympics

## Uganda



Founded in 1992, Special Olympics Uganda has Health and refugee camp programming in East Africa

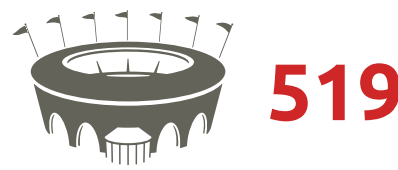
-  **Languages:** English, Luganda and Swahili
-  **Unified Sports Teammates:** 4,252
-  **Coaches:** 1,420
-  **Healthy Athletes Screenings:** 534
-  **Other Programs:** Athlete Leadership, Healthy Athletes, Healthy Communities, Family Health Forum, Fitness, Young Athletes



NUMBER OF ATHLETES



NUMBER OF COMPETITIONS










# Special Olympics Zambia



Founded in 1999, Special Olympics Zambia is situated in southern Africa

-  **Languages:** English
-  **Unified Sports Teammates:** 346
-  **Coaches:** 145
-  **Healthy Athletes Screenings:** 562
-  **Other Programs:** Athlete Leadership, Healthy Athletes, Family Health Forum, Young Athletes



NUMBER OF ATHLETES





NUMBER OF COMPETITIONS



# Special Olympics Zimbabwe



Founded in 1978, Special Olympics South Africa was the first program established in Africa

-  **Languages:** English, Shona and Ndebele
-  **Unified Sports Teammates:** 1,382
-  **Coaches:** 2,198
-  **Other Programs:** Athlete Leadership, Healthy Athletes, Family Health Forum, Young Athletes, Youth Activation



NUMBER OF ATHLETES

NUMBER OF COMPETITIONS





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