ANNUAL REPORT 2020/2021

Special Olympics

AFRICA REGION
On the cover: Special Olympics Rwanda female football team celebrates their goal at the 2020 Pan Africa Games.

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MISSION

To provide year-round sports training and athletic competition in a variety of Olympic-type sports for children and adults with intellectual disabilities, giving them continuing opportunities to develop physical fitness, demonstrate courage, experience joy and participate in a sharing of gifts, skills and friendship with their families, other Special Olympics athletes and the community.

Special Olympics is a global movement of people creating a new world of inclusion and community, where every single person is accepted and welcomed, regardless of ability or disability. We are helping to make the world a better, healthier and more joyful place -- one athlete, one volunteer, one family member at a time.
During the past two years, 2020 and 2021, the Africa Region has seen many “first evers” across our 37 Programs, and across the world.

In January 2020, the first ever Special Olympics Pan African Games were held successfully in Cairo, Egypt in collaboration with the Middle East North Africa (MENA) Region (see page 9). Our Africa Region leadership team was ready for an action-packed 2020, to be kicked off with a face-to-face Africa Leadership Conference in Johannesburg, South Africa. As we departed from a successful Pan African Games, news was slowly trickling in announcing a new coronavirus, spreading rapidly in China. As the virus spread further, the world started shutting down and cancelling activities. The Africa Region cancelled all face-to-face events and halted travel.

It is at this point we got very concerned with our Special Olympics athletes around the Africa Region. The only relevant means of contact, digital means, would not reach the majority of athletes.

A quick survey taken suggested that 10% of athletes in the Africa Region had access to reliable digital communication.

With this in mind, we had to find an alternative to keep our Region’s athletes active. The innovative FIT 5 card was introduced and customized to meet this need. These cards were widely welcomed and supported by our partners such as UNICEF in Kenya, and many others in several African countries. They were produced in masses and distributed to athletes.

Two years later today, with restrictions in most countries eased, the FIT 5 cards continue to be used by our athletes to hold activities at their various locations. Thanks to all our partners and Program Leaders that worked around the clock to ensure athletes continue receiving physical activities while in isolation.

Despite the difficulties faced resulting from the coronavirus pandemic, the Africa Region Program leadership displayed outstanding commitment to Special Olympics athletes with creative and innovative approaches.
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.

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.

This report provides a summary of activities held during the last two years under the coronavirus pandemic.

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
POWER TO TRANSFORM LIVES

ALL ABILITY SPORTS
Changing the typical reality of daily exclusion and humiliation, we enable Special Olympics athletes to experience a different reality through training and equal ability competition.

HEALTH
Special Olympics is the world’s largest public health organization for people with intellectual disabilities.

SOCIAL INCLUSION
Through unified activities that bring together people with and without intellectual disabilities, we foster mutual understanding and acceptance.

COMMUNITY BUILDING
We mobilize resources to unify the power of individuals and organizations to drive positive attitudes and behavior change.

The ultimate goal of all our work is to rid the world of discrimination against people with intellectual disabilities and by doing so, to open the hearts of every human being to the beauty and dignity of each of us.

Tim Shriver, PHD
Chair, Special Olympics
SPECIAL OLYMPICS AND THE UN SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

Achieving an inclusive world for all, driven by the power of sport, through which people with intellectual disabilities live an active, healthy and fulfilling life.

This will enable people with intellectual disabilities to achieve their full potential and enjoy the same rights as anyone else and respect by wider society.

Then we will create inclusive mindsets which in turn improve organizations, policies and social norms to create inclusive environments.

If we provide high quality sports opportunities, improve health, share the achievements, gifts and leadership skills of people with intellectual disabilities, and create opportunities for people with and without intellectual disabilities, and create opportunities to interact through and beyond sports.

OUTCOMES

People with intellectual disabilities improve physical well-being, skills, fitness and health.

People with intellectual disabilities, teammates, families, volunteers and others improve social and emotional well-being.

People without disabilities behave more inclusively.

Organizations are more inclusive through the work of Special Olympics and influence of athletes.
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.

### Africa Region

#### Overview

- **Volunteers**: 26,308
- **Family Members**: 43,128
- **Family Leaders**: 578
- **Young Athletes**: 9,601
- **Athlete Leaders**: 815
- **Healthy Athlete Screenings**: 6,126
- **Number of Health Professionals Trained**: 460
- **Number of Health Partnerships**: 45

### 2021 Reach Report

#### Athletes

- **Total Athletes**: 234,867
- **Units Partners**: 45,933
- **Total**: 280,800

#### Competitions

- **Unified Sports Competitions**: 13,009
- **Coaches**: 22,720
- **Female**: 42.6%
- **Male**: 57.4%

#### Schools

- **Number of Schools Engaged in Special Olympics**: 5,225
- **Number of Schools Engaged in Unified Sports**: 1,395

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BUILDING RESILIENT COMMUNITIES THROUGH INCLUSION / 08
History was made with the Special Olympics 1st Pan-African Games Egypt 2020!

The Games were held from 23 - 31 January 2020, under the Auspices of H.E. Abdel Fattah El Sisi, President of Egypt and Chairperson of the African Union, in cooperation with Ministry of Youth & Sports, and the Ministry of Social Solidarity.

For the very first time, two Special Olympics regions joined forces to create one unified Pan African Games. These Games invited 800 delegation participants from 42 countries to participate in a series of sports and non-sports events. The series of first evers does not end there; for the first time in the history of Special Olympics, the Games have boasted an unprecedented 50% female participation rate.

The Games' legacy will live on, not only in Egypt, but will also be extended with Rwanda's commitment to host the second African Games, in addition to serving as a best-practice of how two Special Olympics regions can join forces to deliver unique Games.
This is monumental: the Games represented the perfect opportunity for athletes in Africa to showcase their skills and personal best at a continental event. A once in a lifetime opportunity for some!

Charles Nyambe, President & Managing Director, Africa Region

We have re-written history with a series of firsts: the first-ever Pan African Games, the first Games with 50% female participation and the first ever unity of two regions.

Ayman Abdel Wahab
Chairman, Games Local Organizing Committee
Regional President, Special Olympics Middle East-North Africa Region
PAN AFRICAN GAMES

SPECIAL OLYMPICS
1st PAN AFRICAN GAMES
EGYPT 2020

Sports heats & matches: 124
Volunteers: 743
Digital Media Impressions: 57.4 M

BUILDING RESILIENT COMMUNITIES THROUGH INCLUSION /12
The first-ever Pan African Games provided a one of a kind experience, including Healthy Athletes, with 1845 screenings conducted in just 5 days across 6 disciplines. Screenings were open to Athletes, Young Athletes, Motor Activity Training Program (MATP) athletes, Unified Partners and local nonathletes. For the first time, Special Olympics Strong Minds was introduced to Young Athletes and MATP athletes.

- FUNFitness
- Health Promotion
- Healthy Hearing
- Special Olympics Lions Clubs International Opening Eyes
- Special Smiles
- Strong Minds

The screenings were led by 5 Regional Clinical Advisors and Clinical Directors from MENA and Africa Regions, in addition to 9 local clinical directors who helped with running the screenings on daily basis and training local volunteers.
Let me win, but if I cannot win, let me brave in the attempt.

Special Olympics Athlete Oath
INCLUSIVE HEALTH

Why Inclusive Health Matters
Now More Than Ever

The most important risk for people with ID is not their underlying health conditions, but their lack of access to healthcare. In addition, more than 80% of healthcare providers are not trained to treat people with intellectual disabilities. Despite severe need and higher health risks, people with intellectual disabilities lack equitable access to health services and die, on average, 16 years earlier than the general population.

TOM GOLISANO GIFTS $30 MILLION TO EXPAND CRITICAL HEALTH SERVICES FOR PEOPLE WITH ID WORLDWIDE

HEALTH PROGRAMS

- HEALTHY ATHLETE SCREENINGS: 6,126
- NUMBER OF HEALTH PROFESSIONALS TRAINED: 460
- NUMBER OF HEALTH PARTNERSHIPS: 45
- PROGRAMS IN PROGRESS: 7
- FAMILY HEALTH FORUMS: 15
Fit 5 Cards Promote Health for Athletes with Limited Access to Online Connectivity in the Africa Region

During a time social distancing due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Special Olympics has made a variety of online resources, such as virtual games, workouts and leadership opportunities, available to keep athletes healthy and engaged until in-person activities resume.

For those athletes in Africa who do not have access to online resources, Special Olympics Africa translated the Fit 5 program onto printed cards that can be used by athletes and coaches alike. The Fit 5 Cards can be utilized by anyone wishing to stay safe and protect their health while remaining at home and practising safe physical distancing.

A variety of partners have come on board to help distribute the printed cards including them in packages of food assistance, protective masks and sanitizers delivered to athletes in at-risk areas during national lockdowns. The fitness content has also been shared and broadcasted over radio and television. These include:

- UNICEF in Kenya
- UNFPA in Botswana
- UNHCR in Niger
- Speak Up Africa in Senegal

Health Messenger: Meet Herith

Herith Suleiman deeply understands the needs of people with intellectual disabilities. Why? Because Herith himself has intellectual disabilities. During COVID-19, Herith found ways to encourage his fellow Tanzania athletes to stay fit and healthy, along with coaches, family members, and volunteers. He took the time to visit schools and community centers to help with health education and lead fitness exercises. He also made sure to keep Special Olympics Fit 5 as the guide for everyone to achieve fitness and personal bests through physical activities, plus proper nutrition and hydration. As an athlete leader, Herith also does health work with coaches, families, Unified teammates, and volunteers at home, at school and community.
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 2020 and 2021 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.

AFRICA REGIONAL YOUTH LEADERSHIP SUMMITS AND SPECIAL OLYMPICS PROGRAM LOCAL YOUTH SUMMITS GO VIRTUAL

The Lead to Include project has been bringing 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 all over Africa Region develop plans to implement an inclusive vision of Special Olympics in their home communities.

Despite the pandemic, over 30 local and regional Youth Leadership summits took place on virtual platforms!
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. Starting with and landmark collaboration in 2018, we have partnered to amplify the global impact of Special Olympics programmatic work in Unified Sports and Unified Schools in Kenya, Senegal 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.

**NUMBER OF SCHOOLS ENGAGED IN Special Olympics**

2,311

Unified Schools in Africa Region in 2021

5,225

**NUMBER OF SCHOOLS ENGAGED IN Unified Sports**

1,395
Building from sport, Unified Leadership teaches leaders without disabilities to value and learn from people with intellectual disabilities to make changes and create environments where people with intellectual disabilities get opportunities to have meaningful jobs and roles.

Many Special Olympics athlete leaders are successful media influencers, teammates, coaches and community activists. This becomes possible when people around them welcome, value and support their determination, effort and skills. Unfortunately, many people with intellectual disabilities are unable to achieve their leadership potential because of the attitudes, behaviors and low expectations of people without disabilities.

The Unified Leadership approach helps people without disabilities to turn from unconscious bias to conscious inclusion, changing their attitudes and behaviors to create meaningful inclusion in their teams, organizations, families and communities.
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 inline with our mission and values, our training agenda also shares best practices on subjects like governance, marketing and fundraising.

EXTENSIVE DIGITAL ENGAGEMENT: AFRICA REGION TRAINING CURRICULUM GOES VIRTUAL
Some of the myriad other training provided throughout 2020 and 2021 included:

• BOARD OF DIRECTOR TRAININGS
• COACH TRAININGS
• UNIFIED LEADERSHIP
• MARKETING & COMMUNICATION WORKSHOPS

Pictured above: Charles Nyambe receiving the Lifetime Achievement Award at the ceremony of the 2021 Namibia Annual Sports Awards, the highest award of an individual for contributing to sport development in the country.
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.

BUILDING RESILIENT INCLUSIVE COMMUNITIES

Themed “Building Resilient Inclusive Communities”, the 2021 Africa Leadership Conference was the first Special Olympics regional leadership conference to be offered entirely online, in both English and French.

The conference saw 88 delegates joining from all over Africa for interactive sessions on 19 - 21 April, 2021. The virtual Opening Ceremony was written, directed and starred members of the Regional Athlete Input Council. They also led our breaks with fun and easy online polls, guided meditation and energizers. Session recordings in both languages were shared on Facebook and YouTube.
OUR PROGRAMS

SO Benin
SO Botswana
SO Burkina Faso
SO Burundi
SO Cameroon
SO Cape Verde
SO Congo
SO Côte d’Ivoire
SO Democratic Republic of the Congo
SO Equatorial Guinea
SO Eswatini
SO Ethiopia
SO Gambia
SO Ghana
SO Guinea
SO Guinea Bissau
SO Kenya
SO Lesotho
SO Liberia
SO Madagascar
SO Malawi
SO Mali
SO Mauritius
SO Mozambique
SO Namibia
SO Nigeria
SO Rwanda
SO Senegal
SO Seychelles
SO Somalia*
SO South Africa
SO South Sudan
SO Tanzania
SO Togo
SO Uganda
SO Zambia
SO Zimbabwe
SPECIAL OLYMPICS BENIN

Founded in 1992, officially registered in 1998

Languages: French and Fon

Unified Sports Partners: 245

Coaches: 579

NUMBER OF ATHLETES
3,022

NUMBER OF COMPETITIONS
183
SPECIAL OLYMPICS BOTSWANA

Founded in 1988

Languages: Setswana and English

Unified Sports Partners: 460

Coaches: 875

NUMBER OF ATHLETES 6,383
NUMBER OF COMPETITIONS 0
SPECIAL OLYMPICS BURKINA FASO

Founded in 1991

Languages: French and local languages such as Mooré, Fulfuldé and Dioula

Unified Sports Partners: 103

Coaches: 668

NUMBER OF ATHLETES

5,332

NUMBER OF COMPETITIONS

37
SPECIAL OLYMPICS BURUNDI

Founded in 2018 with the support of the government of the United Arab Emirates.

**Languages:** English, French and Kirundi

**Unified Sports Partners:** 10

**Coaches:** 54

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NUMBER OF ATHLETES</th>
<th>111</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NUMBER OF COMPETITIONS</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Welcome to Africa Region's newest Program!

Languages: French and English
SPECIAL OLYMPICS CAPE VERDE

Founded in 2018 with the support of the government of the United Arab Emirates.

Languages: Portuguese

Unified Sports Partners: 3

Coaches: 56

NUMBER OF ATHLETES 186

NUMBER OF COMPETITIONS 1
SPECIAL OLYMPICS CONGO

Founded in 2018 with the support of the government of the United Arab Emirates.

Languages: French, Kituba and Lingala

Unified Sports Partners: 30

Coaches: 16

NUMBER OF ATHLETES: 123

NUMBER OF COMPETITIONS: 1
SPECIAL OLYMPICS COTE D’IVOIRE

Founded in 1991, and accredited in 1992

Languages: French

Unified Sports Partners: 1,200

Coaches: 721

NUMBER OF ATHLETES

5,018

NUMBER OF COMPETITIONS

2
SPECIAL OLYMPICS
DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC
OF THE CONGO

Founded in 2017

Languages: French and Lingala

Unified Sports Partners: 145

Coaches: 130

NUMBER OF ATHLETES: 1,019

NUMBER OF COMPETITIONS: 23
SPECIAL OLYMPICS EQUATORIAL GUINEA

Founded in 2018 with the support of the government of the United Arab Emirates.

Languages: French, Kituba and Lingala

Unified Sports Partners: 0

Coaches: 59

NUMBER OF ATHLETES | NUMBER OF COMPETITIONS
---|---
48 | 0
Founded in 1999, accredited in 2001

Languages: Siswati and English

Unified Sports Partners: 1,640

Coaches: 227

NUMBER OF ATHLETES 11,822

NUMBER OF COMPETITIONS 234
Founded in 2018 with the support of the government of the United Arab Emirates.

Languages: Amharic and English

Unified Sports Partners: 0

Coaches: 70

NUMBER OF ATHLETES 360

NUMBER OF COMPETITIONS 10
Founded in 1990's, accredited in 2017

Languages: English

Unified Sports Partners: 0

Coaches: 103

NUMBER OF ATHLETES

317

NUMBER OF COMPETITIONS

3
SPECIAL OLYMPICS GHANA

Founded in 1978, restructured in 2017

Languages: English and Twi (Akan), Ewe, Ga and Dagbani

Unified Sports Partners: 3,796

Coaches: 942

NUMBER OF ATHLETES

13,242

NUMBER OF COMPETITIONS

20
SPECIAL OLYMPICS GUINEA

Founded in 2018 with the support of the government of the United Arab Emirates.

Languages: French

Unified Sports Partners: 94

Coaches: 24

NUMBER OF ATHLETES 250

NUMBER OF COMPETITIONS 2

Languages: French

Unified Sports Partners: 94

Coaches: 24

NUMBER OF ATHLETES 250

NUMBER OF COMPETITIONS 2
SPECIAL OLYMPICS GUINEA BISSAU

Founded in 2018 with the support of the government of the United Arab Emirates.

Languages: Portuguese

Unified Sports Partners: 167

Coaches: 50

NUMBER OF ATHLETES

343

NUMBER OF COMPETITIONS

0
Founded in 1978, the first Program in Africa Region

Languages: English and Swahili

Unified Sports Partners: 11,003

Coaches: 5,917

NUMBER OF ATHLETES 68,271

NUMBER OF COMPETITIONS 135
SPECIAL OLYMPICS LESOTHO

Founded in 2018 with the support of the government of the United Arab Emirates.

Languages: English and Sesotho

Unified Sports Partners: 0

Coaches: 36

NUMBER OF ATHLETES

264

NUMBER OF COMPETITIONS

0
SPECIAL OLYMPICS LIBERIA

Founded in 2018 with the support of the government of the United Arab Emirates.

Languages: English

Unified Sports Partners: 5

Coaches: 55

NUMBER OF ATHLETES

85

NUMBER OF COMPETITIONS

11
SPECIAL OLYMPICS MADAGASCAR

Founded in 2018 with the support of the government of the United Arab Emirates.

Languages: Malagasy and French

Unified Sports Partners: 0

Coaches: 18

NUMBER OF ATHLETES 258

NUMBER OF COMPETITIONS 1
SPECIAL OLYMPICS MALAWI

Founded in 1998

Languages: English and Chichewa

Unified Sports Partners: 1,126

Coaches: 1,210

NUMBER OF ATHLETES

3,629

NUMBER OF COMPETITIONS

1,912
Founded in 1993

Languages: French and Bambara

Unified Sports Partners: 117

Coaches: 195

NUMBER OF ATHLETES

3,469

NUMBER OF COMPETITIONS

5
SPECIAL OLYMPICS MAURITIUS

Founded in 1997

Languages: English, Creole and French

Unified Sports Partners: 662

Coaches: 606

NUMBER OF ATHLETES: 4,449

NUMBER OF COMPETITIONS: 17
SPECIAL OLYMPICS MOZAMBIQUE

Founded in 2018 with the support of the government of the United Arab Emirates.

Languages: Portuguese

Unified Sports Partners: 0

Coaches: 5

NUMBER OF ATHLETES 46

NUMBER OF COMPETITIONS 0
SPECIAL OLYMPICS NAMIBIA

Founded in 1998, at the FIFA Football for Hope Centre in Katutura, Windhoek

Languages: English, Creole and French

Unified Sports Partners: 1,066

Coaches: 212

NUMBER OF ATHLETES

1,407

NUMBER OF COMPETITIONS

856
SPECIAL OLYMPICS NIGERIA

Founded in 2001, fully operational from 2005

Languages: English, Ibo, Hausa, Yoruba and other local languages

Unified Sports Partners: 7,009

Coaches: 1,684

NUMBER OF ATHLETES

27,758

NUMBER OF COMPETITIONS

317
SPECIAL OLYMPICS RWANDA

Founded in 2002

Languages: English, French and Kinyarwanda

Unified Sports Partners: 1,082

Coaches: 1,867

NUMBER OF ATHLETES

19,090

NUMBER OF COMPETITIONS

1,126
SPECIAL OLYMPICS SENEGAL

Founded in 1990’s, restructured in 2009

Languages: French and Wolof

Unified Sports Partners: 442

Coaches: 718

NUMBER OF ATHLETES 2,049

NUMBER OF COMPETITIONS 0
SPECIAL OLYMPICS SEYCHELLES

Founded in 1986

Languages: Creole, French and English

Unified Sports Partners: 25

Coaches: 96

NUMBER OF ATHLETES

334

NUMBER OF COMPETITIONS

0
SPECIAL OLYMPICS SOMALIA

Founded in 2019

Languages: Somali and Arabic

Unified Sports Partners: 40

Coaches: 29

NUMBER OF ATHLETES
70

NUMBER OF COMPETITIONS
13
SPECIAL OLYMPICS SOUTH AFRICA

Founded in 1991

Languages: English, isiZulu, seSotho and Afrikaans

Unified Sports Partners: 3,450

Coaches: 5,593

NUMBER OF ATHLETES 53,626

NUMBER OF COMPETITIONS 27

SOUTH AFRICA
Special Olympics South Sudan

Founded in 2018 with the support of the government of the United Arab Emirates.

Languages: English

Unified Sports Partners: 0

Coaches: 6

Number of Athletes: 23

Number of Competitions: 2
SPECIAL OLYMPICS TANZANIA

Founded in 1987

Languages: English

Unified Sports Partners: 220

Coaches: 137

NUMBER OF ATHLETES

452

NUMBER OF COMPETITIONS

240
SPECIAL OLYMPICS TOGO

Founded in 1987

Languages: English

Unified Sports Partners: 1,500

Coaches: 1,118

NUMBER OF ATHLETES
6,289

NUMBER OF COMPETITIONS
10
SPECIAL OLYMPICS UGANDA

Founded in 1992

Languages: English

Unified Sports Partners: 4,601

Coaches: 1,568

NUMBER OF ATHLETES 14,187

NUMBER OF COMPETITIONS 138
SPECIAL OLYMPICS ZAMBIA

Founded in 1999

Languages: English

Unified Sports Partners: 96

Coaches: 163

NUMBER OF ATHLETES
728

NUMBER OF COMPETITIONS
15
SPECIAL OLYMPICS ZIMBABWE

Founded in 1978

Languages: English, Shona and Ndebele

Unified Sports Partners: 50

Coaches: 185

NUMBER OF ATHLETES 4,189

NUMBER OF COMPETITIONS 50
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>What's the difference?</th>
<th>SPECIAL OLYMPICS</th>
<th>OLYMPICS</th>
<th>PARALYMPICS</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Logo</td>
<td><img src="image" alt="Special Olympics Logo" /></td>
<td><img src="image" alt="Olympics Logo" /></td>
<td><img src="image" alt="Paralympics Logo" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year Founded</td>
<td><strong>1968</strong></td>
<td><strong>1894</strong></td>
<td><strong>1989</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Athletes Served</td>
<td>All athletes with Intellectual Disabilities</td>
<td>Elite athletes</td>
<td>Elite athletes in 10 categories of Disability</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Competition per year</td>
<td>108,000+ competitions/year; World Games every other year</td>
<td>Olympic Games every other year; Youth Olympics every other year</td>
<td>Year-round competitions; Paralympic Games every other year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sports offered</td>
<td><strong>32+</strong></td>
<td><strong>35+</strong></td>
<td><strong>29+</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Founder</td>
<td>Eunice Kennedy Shriver</td>
<td>Pierre de Coubertin</td>
<td>Dr Ludwig Guttmann</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Members</td>
<td>223 Special Olympics Programs in 172 countries</td>
<td>206 National Olympic Committees</td>
<td>176 National Paralympic Committees</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Headquarters</td>
<td>Washington, D.C, USA</td>
<td>Lausanne, Switzerland</td>
<td>Bonn, Germany</td>
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<tr>
<td>Next World Games</td>
<td>Special Olympics World Games Berlin 2023, 17 - 25 June</td>
<td>Olympic Summer Games Paris 2024, 26 July - 11 August</td>
<td>Paralympic Games Paris 2024, 28 August - 8 September</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
ATHLETE INPUT COUNCIL
AFRICA SUB-REGION REPRESENTATIVES FROM PROGRAM ATHLETE INPUT COUNCILS

Boniface Kimeu
Africa Region Representative, Global Athlete Input CouncilSpecial Olympics KenyaEast Africa sub-region

Brightfield Shadi
Special Olympics Botswana International Global Messenger 2015-2019

Yannick Tano
Special Olympics Côte d’IvoireWest Africa (French) sub-region

Al-Sayyed Curumthaullee
Special Olympics Mauritius Indian Ocean sub-region

Jimmy Masina
Special Olympics South Africa Office Assistant, Special Olympics Africa Region

Joyce Ramabusa
Special Olympics South AfricaSouthern Africa sub-region

Nyasha Derera
Special Olympics ZimbabweInternational Global Messenger 2019-2023 Chair, Global Athlete Congres

BUILDING RESILIENT COMMUNITIES THROUGH INCLUSION / 24
AFRICA REGION COUNCIL

AFRICA SUB-REGION REPRESENTATIVES FROM LOCAL PROGRAM LEADERSHIP

West Africa (English) sub-region
Dr Ebenezer Owusu
Board Member, Special Olympics Ghana

Indian Ocean sub-region
Andriambavimitasa Mohajy
Board Member, Special Olympics Madagascar

West Africa (French) sub-region
Annick Pikbougoum
Board Member, Special Olympics Burkina Faso

Southern Africa sub-region
Taimi Itembu
Board Member, Special Olympics Namibia

East Africa sub-region
Dennis M. Ndambo
Board Member, Special Olympics Kenya

Athlete Representative appointed by the AIC
Brightfield Shadi
Athlete Leader, Special Olympics Botswana

IAC representative to the SOI International Board of Directors
Clement Chileshe
Vice Chair, Special Olympics Zambia

Hamchetou Maiga-Ba
Chair, Special Olympics Mali
Special Olympics Africa Region is pleased to recognize our partners for their vital support.
Special Olympics Africa Region is pleased to recognize our partners for their vital support.

SPIRIT PARTNERS

TOYOTA

[Logos of various partners]
Special Olympics Africa Region is pleased to recognize our partners for their vital support.

GLOBAL YOUTH PARTNERS

GLOBAL HEALTH PARTNERS

with support of

HIS HIGNESS SHEIKH
MOHAMMED BIN ZAYED AL NAHYAN
CONTACT US

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