

Thinking back on the 2010 FIFA World Cup

A year ago yesterday, Monday, 11 July 2010, the 2010 [FIFA World Cup](#) tournament came to an end as Spain defeated The Netherlands in the final played at the FNB Stadium in Johannesburg. In celebration, the South African Football Association ([SAFA](#)) held a one-year anniversary event on Sunday 10 July at the Ekangala Stadium near Bronkhorstspuit.



The event was attended by most of the SAFA leadership, president [Kirsten Nematandani](#), vice presidents Dr [Danny Jordaan](#), Mandla Mazibuko and Chief Mweliso Nonkonyana, NEC members and Minister for Human Settlements, [Tokyo Sexwale](#), as board member of the 2010 LOC and current member of the FIFA Development Committee and the FIFA Fair Play Committee.

The day included a grassroots development programme, which introduced 300 children between the ages of six and twelve to the game. Thirty coaches took part in ensuring the children were guided through the process well.

Look back with pride

"Today is about saying tomorrow is a celebration. Before the World Cup we were doubted by everyone but we managed to pull off one of the most successful and talked about tournaments in FIFA's history.



We made a promise before the World Cup that we wanted the event to leave a legacy and the beautiful pitch you see today is a result of all that. We need to catch them young, hence the grassroots development programme is crucial, but the legacy does not end there, we also have good infrastructure, a healthy economy and excellent tourism into our country," said Sexwale.

The 2010 FIFA World Cup is a tournament that will forever be etched in the country's history, and everyone can look back with pride at the country's phenomenal achievement.

"The World Cup was an unqualified success and as a nation we need to be proud of that and remember the 30 days this time last year that changed our country for the better. We should not forget that period, but instead make it a permanent feature in our lives as a great achievement we had as a country, as a continent," said added Jordaan.

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