

TO THE MEMBER ASSOCIATIONS OF FIFA

Circular no. 1620

Zurich, 23 February 2018

SG/jna

Invitation to participate in the sixth edition of Gazprom's FOOTBALL FOR FRIENDSHIP programme at the 2018 FIFA World Cup Russia™

Dear General Secretary,

I am happy to announce the launch of the sixth edition of FOOTBALL FOR FRIENDSHIP (F4F), Gazprom's annual international children's social programme that has been organised since 2013. This year, the final events of the programme will take place in Moscow, Russia, for the first time from 8 to 15 June, right before the start of the 2018 FIFA World Cup™.

The aim of F4F is to develop youth football by championing youth sport and a healthy lifestyle as well as by promoting tolerance and friendship among children from different countries. Its key values are friendship, equality, fairness, health, peace, devotion, victory, tradition and honour.

The programme of F4F 2018 will unite young participants – 12-year-old football players – and journalists from 211 countries and regions. F4F is a unique place where young participants of different backgrounds, nationalities and physical capabilities not only meet and communicate with their peers from other countries, as well as with famous football players and public figures, but also become young ambassadors to promote universal values themselves among their peers.

The final events of F4F 2018 will be held in Moscow during the run-up to FIFA's flagship tournament. Children will be united in teams of friendship – regardless of gender, nationality and physical ability – and will take part in the first-ever FOOTBALL FOR FRIENDSHIP World Cup.

F4F is traditionally supported by FIFA and UEFA, as well as by a wide range of national football associations and regional youth sport clubs. The values declared by the programme participants and its aims fully correspond to FIFA's mission.

Having participated in the fifth FOOTBALL FOR FRIENDSHIP Forum in Saint Petersburg in 2017, I would like to say that we are delighted to support this unique initiative of Gazprom, one of our valued Official Partners. It is a perfect example of how football provides equal opportunities for girls and boys, and FIFA is always happy to support such initiatives.

All countries/regions interested in taking part in F4F 2018 will be directly involved in the process of selecting the most gifted young footballers who will become F4F ambassadors and represent their country/region at the final F4F events in Moscow, Russia, from 8 to 15 June 2018.

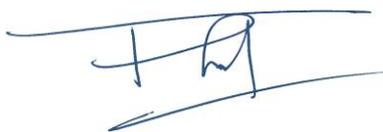
Registration for the programme will close **on 8 March 2018**. The registration form is available in **Annexe 1. Please note that** the F4F Organising Committee may not accept any forms received after this date. You will find **more details about the programme in Annexe 2**.

All of the details about participation in the event, the agenda of the programme and all necessary information on the process of selecting the children will be sent to all interested parties soon after registration.

Please note that all travel expenses and global travel arrangements will be fully paid for and organised by Gazprom. We thank you for your support for the F4F programme and look forward to welcoming the children representing the associations to Moscow in June.

Yours faithfully,

FÉDÉRATION INTERNATIONALE
DE FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'FS', is written over two horizontal lines.

Fatma Samoura
Secretary General

cc: - FIFA Council
- Confederations

F4F 2018 REGISTRATION FORM

Country/region	
City	
Name of football association	
Contact person (<i>please specify Mr/Mrs/Ms</i>)	
Mobile number of contact person	
Email address of contact person	

ABOUT FOOTBALL FOR FRIENDSHIP 2018

FOOTBALL FOR FRIENDSHIP (F4F) is an international children’s social programme that has been run by Gazprom since 2013. The programme’s key values are friendship, equality, fairness, health, peace, devotion, victory, tradition and honour. The F4F project aims not only at developing children’s football, but also at promoting a healthy lifestyle, open-mindedness and friendship among children from different countries.

For the F4F 2018 programme, young participants from 211 countries and regions from all over the world will be merged into 32 international mixed “teams of friendship”. Each team will gather children of different nationalities, with their own backgrounds and abilities, playing together side by side.

These 32 teams will compete at the **FOOTBALL FOR FRIENDSHIP World Cup** on 12 June 2018. On the day after the tournament, young ambassadors will meet at the most important event – the **FOOTBALL FOR FRIENDSHIP International Children’s Forum**, where they will discuss ways of promoting the programme’s key values across the globe.

The **F4F** project has a special prize: the **Nine Values Cup** is a unique trophy awarded annually to a professional football club for the implementation of social initiatives based on the project’s values. The winner is chosen by young F4F ambassadors through a vote held in all countries participating in the project.

Thousands of participants join **F4F** every year. Since its inception, the programme’s geographical scope has expanded considerably **from eight countries in 2013 to 211 in 2018**. Hundreds of young athletes have become ambassadors for the F4F movement and its values in their respective countries. **The Friendship Bracelet**, the official symbol of F4F, is worn by over **1.2 million people around the world**, including children, adults, well-known athletes and journalists, performers, political figures, and heads of state.

Additional links:

<http://www.fifa.com/confederationscup/news/y=2017/m=8/news=confed-cup-hosts-friendship-forum-2902692.html>

<http://www.euronews.com/2017/07/06/football-brings-kids-together>

<http://www.euronews.com/2017/07/02/children-dream-big-at-football-for-friendship-tournament>

Contact information:

Vladimir Serov

Global Director of the Gazprom Football for Friendship Social Programme

Email: F4F2018@FootballForFriendship.com

F4F official website: <https://www.gazprom-football.com/us/f4f/about.htm>