

## YouTube and FIFA to broadcast African World Cup qualifiers live

Lesser-known African's soccer teams will enjoy worldwide exposure after FIFA announced their opening World Cup qualifying matches would be live-streamed on its website and on YouTube. Investing in the production of the broadcasting feed for the games, this would give fans in Africa and around the world unprecedented access to the African qualifiers.



Image source: Gallo/Getty.

“Bringing this exciting action to a global audience for the first time underscores FIFA’s ongoing digital transformation and its ongoing efforts to support football development in Africa,” announced a representative of FIFA.

Twenty-eight teams will be involved in the first round, a knockout contest where ties are played over two legs on a home-and-away basis. The 14 winners go into the group stage to join the continent’s 26 ranked teams.

The first-round ties involve two sides, Angola and Togo, who qualified for the 2006 World Cup and have since fallen down the rankings. Angola face Gambia and Togo meet Comoros.

Other matches include Somalia v Zimbabwe – with Somalia’s home leg to be played in neighbouring Djibouti – Sao Tome v Guinea-Bissau and Chad against neighbours Sudan.