FOOTBALL IN THE ZAATARI CAMP IN JORDAN

UEFA and the AFDP started the football project in February 2013. The UEFA side was taken over by the UEFA Foundation for Children in April 2015.

OBJECTIVES

01 To train Syrian football coaches and referees
02 To engage children and young Syrians by organising football and other sports activities in an appropriate, safe and supervised environment with integration of specific life-skills curriculum.
03 To set up football clubs and a league in the camp
04 To provide equipment and infrastructure
05 To ensure the sustainability of the project by giving the lead to the refugees to run the onsite activities

RESULTS

Weekly participation in football activities: 4,480 children, 3,185 boys and 1,295 girls between the ages of 8 and 20.

Monthly football tournaments: 30 girls’ teams (U13, U15 and U20) and 60 boys’ teams (U13, U15 and U24).

250 coaches: 163 male and 87 female coaches benefit from the coach education offered by the UEFA Foundation for Children.

54 referees: 33 male and 21 female referees received special training.

Aside from football, the youngsters also take Zumba classes, do judo, beach volley, sports games as well as indoor games and reading. Today, violent behaviour and vandalism totally disappeared during sports sessions.

A sports house built inside the camp, inaugurated in October 2016, and the construction of a football pitch in artificial turf, funded by Lay’s, UEFA Champions League sponsor, and inaugurated in September 2017.

8 Syrian refugees have benefited from specific workshops on management, organisation, basics of finance, communication and photography.