

Like most African countries, soccer is the major sport in Ghana. Although played by mostly boys, women's soccer is growing fast in the African country because their national team placed third position in the 2012 U-2' Women's World Cup. The Men's National team qualified for the last two World Cups and advanced to the quarter finals in the last one in South Africa in 2010. A lot of Ghanaian players such as Sulley Muntari (AC Milan), or Kwadwo Asamoah (Juventus) are spread across Europe and they started their careers at different Ghanaian academies. This is exactly what Ghana Rush is intending to build: a full time Rush Africa Academy to develop players, providing dorms and education as well.



Ghana Rush's newest partner, Ernest Kufuor, who also serves as Vice Chairman on the Ghana Football Association's National Juvenile Committee, is leading the effort to design and build a Rush Africa facility in Mankoozde (Ghana). The facility will be home for all Rush visitors to Ghana and it will host all Rush tournaments and programs. The Rush Africa Academy will include trainings turfs, a main soccer field, changing rooms, dormitories, medical center, video and IT staff room, and dining hall for coaches and visitors.

The vision to develop a Rush Africa facility was brought to realization after the most recent partner of Ghana Rush, Ernest Kufuor, came on board. Kufuor has extensive knowledge and experience in soccer management since he is currently the CEO of Unistar Soccer Academy, a five acre facility in Ofaankor, Ghana. Ahmed Agyeman, Ghana Rush TD explains the main reason of the project: "the decision to develop this facility is a simple one, Ghana Rush's increasing and they need our own Rush Africa facility," says Agyeman.

The Africa Rush Project has been ready since the land was located. The initial plan was to break ground in November, 2012 when Rush USA coaches had planned to visit the African Country. At this point the ground breaking is on hold and waiting for that visit. Of course leading this kind of project isn't easy: "Our major issue at this point is working with partners to secure funding for the

project. We are going to work with local, international sponsors, and personal investment into this project as well," recognizes Agyeman. The equipment is another issue and an important need for players and technical team.

Ghana Rush wants to share their excitement for the project and their next objective is to host coaches from Rush USA in Ghana for a clinic. As part of the visit to the African country, Ghana Rush will invite the United States Embassy to join them in the breaking ground for the future Rush Africa Academy. This is not all, because at the end of the trip Ghana Rush have made plans to have their Rush team play a Ghanaian national youth side in a friendly which will be coached by our US coaches.

Any interested coaches should contact Ahmed Agyeman, Rush Ghana TD. Besides the flight ticket, all ground expenses will be covered by Ghana Rush.