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FIFA expands women's World Cup to 48 teams by 2031



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FIFA has announced a historic expansion of the Women's World Cup, increasing the number of participating teams from 32 to 48 starting in 2031. This significant decision aims to elevate global competition and provide more opportunities for women's football across diverse regions.

The United States is widely anticipated to host the first edition of the expanded tournament,

building on its strong legacy in women's football and world-class infrastructure. FIFA President emphasized that the expansion reflects the growing popularity and competitiveness of women's football worldwide, enabling more nations to participate on the sport's biggest stage. The decision follows the success of recent tournaments, where record-breaking viewership and heightened global interest underscored the sport's rapid growth. Expanding the field to 48 teams is expected to enhance the tournament's reach, inspire emerging talents, and strengthen football's grassroots development in underrepresented regions.

Global football federations have welcomed the move, with many expressing optimism that the broader platform will drive investment and development in women's leagues worldwide. FIFA is also committed to increasing support for training programs, infrastructure, and youth development to ensure competitive balance among new and existing participants. The expanded format will bring new challenges and opportunities, as FIFA collaborates with host nations to deliver a seamless tournament experience while ensuring the highest standards of competition and inclusivity.