

**DAKAR
2026**



**YOUTH
OLYMPIC
GAMES**

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PRESS KIT

DAKAR 2026 Youth Olympic Games

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The 4th Summer Youth Olympic Games (YOG) will take place in Senegal from 31 October to 13 November 2026. Bringing together the world's top young athletes, this edition will mark a historic milestone as the first Olympic event ever held on African soil. Dakar 2026 is driven by a clear ambition: to take the Youth Olympic Games to every corner of the world while positioning them as a catalyst for the transformation of the African continent. In this spirit, Senegal was officially selected as host of the 2026 Youth Olympic Games during the 133rd Session of the International Olympic Committee (IOC), held in Buenos Aires, Argentina, on 8 October 2018.

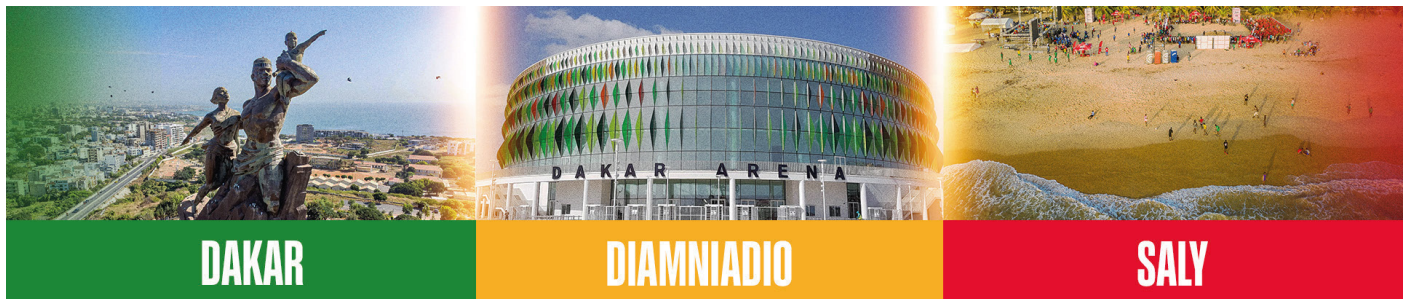
In Senegal, sport is deeply woven into both history and everyday life, especially among young people. Dakar 2026 aims to embody connection, exchange, joy, and pride, while fostering humility and mutual understanding among youth from Senegal, across Africa, and around the world. Here, sport is more than competition—it is a way of living together, a powerful driver of peace, dialogue, and social cohesion. Guided by the spirit of “Teranga,” a symbol of the hospitality and respect at the heart of Senegalese culture, the Dakar 2026 Youth Olympic Games come to life through their official slogan: “Africa welcomes, Dakar celebrates.”

The Youth Olympic Games Organising Committee (YOGOC), established as an association under Senegalese law, is jointly governed by the host country, the host city, and the Senegalese National Olympic and Sports Committee (CNOSS). The Executive Committee also includes a representative of the International Olympic Committee (IOC), as well as the President of the Dakar 2026 Organising Committee. This governance structure ensures an inclusive approach that meets international standards while fully integrating local realities.



HOST CITIES AND COMPETITION VENUES

The Dakar 2026 YOG will take place in three host cities: **Dakar, Diamniadio and Saly**. Each city was chosen for its dynamism, its infrastructure and its ability to host the different disciplines in a suitable and safe environment.



DAKAR – CAPITAL CITY OF SENEGAL

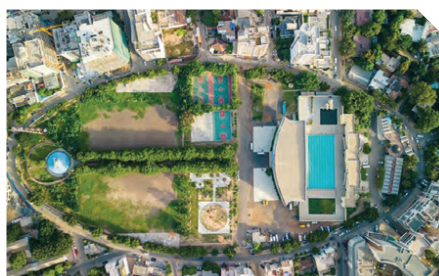
Dakar will host three main venues:

- **Complexe multisports Iba Mar Diop** : Located in the heart of the lively Medina neighbourhood, the complex includes an athletics track, a football field, a rugby field and a multi-sport arena. With a capacity of 8,000 seats, it will host athletics, taekwondo, futsal and rugby sevens.
- **Complexe de la Tour de l'Œuf** : This multi-purpose venue with an Olympic swimming pool will host several major disciplines, including 3x3 basketball, baseball, breaking, skateboarding and swimming.
- **Corniche Ouest** : This space, open to the Atlantic, will be the heart of festivities and youth mobilization activities. It will also host engagement sports as well as the start and finish of road cycling events.

DAKAR



Le complexe multisport Iba mar Diop



Le complexe Tour de l'Œuf avec la piscine olympique



La Corniche Ouest qui va accueillir le site de célébration et d'engagement

DIAMNIADIO – GROWING ECONOMIC HUB

Located around 30 km from Dakar, Diamniadio will host four competition venues:

- **Diamniadio Exhibition Center** : Inaugurated in 2018 and composed of six modular halls, it will host 532 athletes and more than 2,000 spectators around six disciplines: fencing, boxing, wushu, judo, table tennis and artistic gymnastics.
- **Me Abdoulaye Wade Stadium** : Also called Senegal Stadium, it has 50,000 seats and will host the opening ceremony as well as the archery events.
- **Diamniadio Equestrian Center** : Facilities to international standards on nearly 9,000 m² to host show jumping events.
- **Dakar Arena** : The Diamniadio Sports Palace, inaugurated in 2018, offers 15,000 seats for badminton spectators and the Futsal final.

A DIAMNIADIO : 4 sites will host the Youth Olympic Games competitions



Centre des Expositions de Diamniadio



Stade Me Abdoulaye Wade



Centre équestre de Diamniadio



Dakar Arena

SALY – SEASIDE RESORT

Located on the Petite Côte, 80 km from Dakar, Saly will host several temporary facilities for nautical and beach disciplines, such as coastal rowing, beach handball, beach wrestling, triathlon, sailing and beach volleyball.



SALY is the 3rd city selected for Dakar 2026:

Several temporary facilities will host the water and beach competitions planned on the small coast

More information on the sites:

<https://www.olympics.com/fr/dakar-2026/sites-et-infrastructures/>

«Africa welcomes, Dakar celebrates»

SPORTS PROGRAM – 35 DISCIPLINES

For Dakar 2026, 25 sports will feature in the official competition programme, while 10 additional disciplines will be part of a dedicated engagement programme designed to spark interest and promote sport among young people in the host country and across the region.

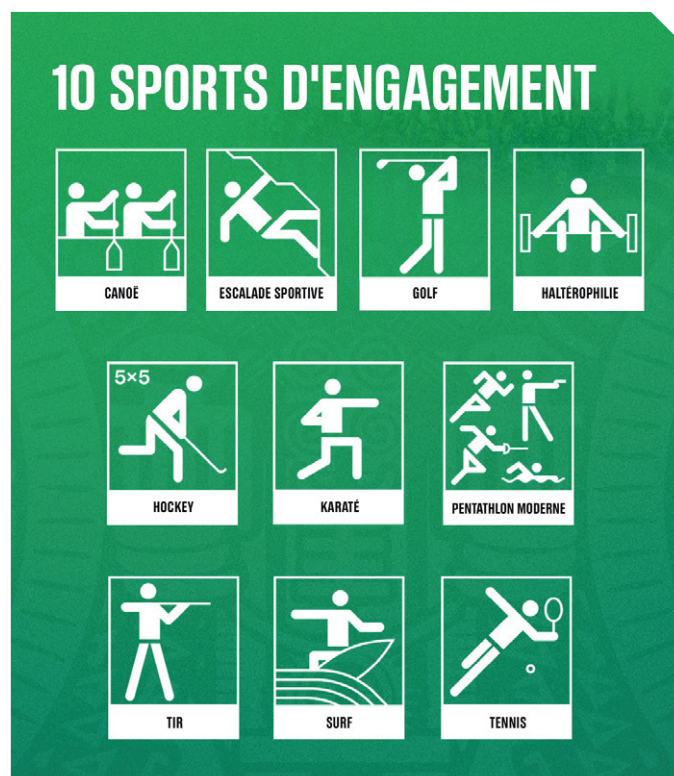
The competition program includes **athletics, swimming, archery, badminton, baseball5, 3x3 basketball, boxing, breaking, road cycling, equestrian sports (show jumping), fencing, futsal, artistic gymnastics, beach handball, judo, sea rowing, rugby sevens, sailing, skateboarding (street), table tennis, taekwondo, triathlon, beach volleyball, beach wrestling and wushu.**

A total of 151 events will be held, with full gender balance: 72 events for women, 72 for men, and 7 mixed events. For the first time in the history of the Summer Youth Olympic Games, complete gender equality will be achieved—not only in the overall athlete quota (2,700 athletes), but across all sports, disciplines, and events. Another historic milestone: the Games will welcome, for the first time, a refugee team composed of athletes selected from across the African continent.

The **Youth Olympic Village** will be located at the Amadou Makhtar MBOW University in Diamniadio, close to competition venues and directly connected to the TER station.

Calendar and disciplines:

<https://www.olympics.com/fr/dakar-2026/programme-sportif/>



ENGAGEMENT & CULTURE

Community involvement lies at the heart of the Youth Olympic Games and is key to bringing Olympic values to life. Dakar 2026 offers a unique experience where sport, education, and cultural expression converge to inspire young people, foster dialogue, and strengthen connections between communities and nations.

- **Festival Dakar En Jeux (DEJ)** : Four editions (2021-2025) providing an overview of the educational, cultural and civic activities that will punctuate the Games.
- **Olympic Civic and Sports Certificate (BOCS)**: Over 380,000 young people have been sensitized to Olympic values and trained in essential life skills.
- **Play Program** : Discovery of different disciplines and anti-doping awareness for children.
- **Music and Fashion** : Engagement through the AYO mascot, official music and YOG outfits.



TORCH TOUR – FLAME TOUR

A symbol of peace and unity, the torch will be lit in Athens before embarking on a journey across Senegal from 14 September to 16 October 2026. Under the theme “**From History to the Future**”, the tour will celebrate the country’s youth and cultural richness.



TOURNÉE DE
LA FLAMME

EDUCATION & LEGACY

The **Learning Academy** will train 400 talented young Africans (aged 21–35), divided into nine cohorts, to enhance their professional skills and actively involve them in the organisation of the Games.

The **Heritage and sustainability** strategy, developed with the IOC, focuses on sports infrastructure, youth training, social inclusion and environmental protection.

ACCREDITATIONS AND MEDIA

Welcoming media is a top priority to ensure the global reach of Dakar 2026. Accreditation is available through the **Official Media Portal** (13 April–12 June 2026) and is open to journalists, photographers, and host broadcast professionals.

Issued documents:

- Invitation letter (proof of attendance)
- Facilitation letter (visa)

Pickup Locations

- **Dakar** : Iba Mar Diop Complex (Oct 23 – Nov 13, 8am-6pm)
- **Diamniadio** : TER Station (31 August – 13 Nov, 8am- 20:00)
- **Saly** : Lamantin Beach Hotel (Oct 23 – Nov 14, 8am-6pm)

MEDIA TRANSPORT

Accreditation provides free access to TER train, BRT bus, licensed taxi or self-drive services through licensed providers.

- **TER** : 18 Oct – 18 Nov 2026
- **Other Transportation** : Oct 23 – Nov 15, 2026

Note: Access is granted upon presentation of a facilitation or invitation letter, pending the collection of official accreditations.