South Africa will kick off their TotalEnergies CAF African Nations Championship (CHAN) Pamoja 2024 campaign with a tough test against Algeria.

The two teams will meet in what promises to be an exciting opening match of the tournament, which will showcase Africa's top footballing talent.

Set to take place at \[Venue Name] on \[Date], the match marks the beginning of South Africa's journey in the prestigious continental competition. With both teams boasting a history of strong performances in international football, fans are eagerly anticipating a thrilling encounter.

South Africa, who have become a regular fixture in continental competitions, are entering the tournament with a clear goal of making a deep run in the CHAN. Head coach Broos will be relying on his squad's experience and cohesion, hoping to build on past performances to push South Africa into the later stages of the competition.

The team comes into the tournament with confidence, having fine-tuned their strategies in the lead-up to the event. South Africa will be looking to put on a dominant display from the outset, with the opening match against Algeria set to test their resolve and determination.



Tanzania moves closer to quarter finals

On the other hand, Algeria enters the competition as one of the favorites. Known for their solid defense and creative attacking play, the North African side will look to take advantage of their experience in international tournaments.

Algeria has a track record of performing well in the CHAN, and their squad is expected to provide a stern challenge to South Africa's hopes of a strong start.

Under the guidance of their coach Madjid Bougherra, Algeria will be looking to dominate the match from the first whistle and make a statement early in the competition. With several key players who have excelled in domestic leagues, Algeria will bring a wealth of talent and determination to the pitch.

Algeria's Meziane, Ayoub Ghezala –are known for his specific strength and skill, or Soufiane Beyazid will be key in orchestrating his team's offense and providing defensive stability.

Key players to watch out for in the South African side are Relebohile Mofokeng – A dynamic attacking midfielder/winger at Orlando Pirates. Very young—born in 2004—and already making waves both at club and on the international scene.

The other is Thalente Mbatha – A defensive midfielder also at Orlando Pirates, who made an immediate impact on his national debut by scoring in a 2025 AFCON qualifier against Uganda.

Selaelo Rasebotja – A technically gifted midfielder nicknamed “Iniesta,” currently with Orlando Pirates. Developed through SuperSport United’s youth system and increasingly earning national recognition and

Both South Africa and Algeria are set to face additional challenges as the tournament progresses, but the opening match will set the tone for their respective campaigns. A victory for either team would provide a significant boost as they move forward in the tournament, with qualification to the knockout stages on the line.

In the other matches, Guinea and Uganda will face off for the first time at the TotalEnergies CAF CHAN in this Group C encounter in Kampala on Friday. Uganda lost 3:0 to Algeria in the opener.

Central African Republic suffered 4-2 heavy defeat to Burkina Faso while host Tanzania are on course for a place in the quarter-finals of CHAN following a hard-fought 1-0 win over Mauritania, thanks to a late strike from veteran defender Shomari Kapombe and Kenya takes on Angola.