

Annual Report 2 0 1 9

# Empowering children through skateboarding and education.



Skateistan is an award-winning international non-profit organization empowering children through skateboarding and education in Afghanistan, Cambodia and South Africa. Through our innovative programs; Outreach, Skate and Create, Back-to-School, Dropping In and Youth Leadership, we give children the opportunity to become leaders for a better world.

# Message from our Executive Director

Oliver Percovich

The first time I visited Bamyan was in 2008, when I lived in Kabul, Afghanistan. I took my motorcycle and rode it up the Bamvan-Charikar highway, hoping not to be stopped at checkpoints along the way. It is an incredible place, full of beauty and a serenity that can be hard to find at times in Afghanistan. So it felt very special to return to Bamyan in May of 2019, not only to admire the view of the famous Buddha niches, but to sign an agreement with the Governor of Bamyan province which allows us to build our fifth Skate School there. I stood on the site where Skateistan Bamyan will be built and I felt that same sense of excitement that I did in Kabul back in 2009. Soon, on this ground, will be a safe space where children can play, learn and dream. In fact in the second half of 2019, we actually started running programs in Bamvan, to introduce skateboarding and to get insight from the children as to how they'd design their ideal Skate School. It's so important to put their needs at the heart of everything we do - who better to listen to when we consider the future?



It was this approach of listening to our students first that led us to launch the Dropping In program. Shaped in South Africa, Dropping In began because our students told us they wanted to spend more time at the Skate School and use it for more than just their regular classes. Educators began running homework help sessions for students, and this offer gradually expanded to cover extra skateboarding, library sessions, help with computers, singing and dancing. What's great about Dropping In is that it's entirely adaptable to the needs of our students and their communities. In South Africa, they might run a career planning workshop, while in Cambodia, children are practising the Khmer alphabet and in Afghanistan, girls are learning to ride bicycles for the very first time.

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A lot of 2019 was focused on the future. As well as the successful visit to Bamvan, we also furthered our plans for what will be our sixth Skate School in Jordan. The refugee crisis has changed the face of Jordanian society and we believe that Skateistan has a role in providing safe spaces for children, both refugees and Jordanian, and helping to create an environment in which children from all backgrounds can come together and learn from each other. Staff visited the country to make important links with our future stakeholders as well as to scope out a possible location for Skateistan Jordan. Towards the end of the year, we entered into an exciting new partnership with social skate project, 7Hills (Amman), with whom we'll work together to begin running programs for children, in advance of construction of the Skate School. 7Hills is a Goodpush partner and has been doing amazing things in Jordan since 2014 - we are truly stoked to be able to work together with them.

As you'll see from this report, we're able to create some really incredible impact for the 2,500 children who come to Skateistan every week. We're only able to do this because other people share our vision. I'd like to extend a huge thank you to everyone who has helped to keep Skateistan rolling over the past year.

Oliver Percovich Founder & Executive Director, Skateistan



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# Our year in numbers

regular 139 offered skateboarding and creative education programs to (3,466) children and young people in Afghanistan, Cambodia and South Africa, **41%** of whom were girls.

out-of-school children (including 56 girls) entered primary school in Afghanistan, after graduating from our Back-to-School program.



95%

of children who we supported to enter Afghan primary school in 2018 remained in school one year later. **782** 

children benefited from homework help and/or tutoring support across Afghanistan and South Africa.



Weekly student attendance averaged 2,056 throughout 2019, with girls' participation averaging 44% weekly. (85) high school students accessed career and education planning support in Johannesburg, South Africa.

# **125**

young people completed Youth Leadership training milestones in Safety (child protection, teaching, first aid), Media, Council, Student Career and Education Planning, and Mentoring.

We worked with 121 children living with disabilities through local partnerships.

While attending our Skate and Create program globally, a sample of **231** students reported the following:

95% feel safe at Skateistan

95% believe that Skateistan lessons have been useful in their lives





79%

feel confident in their skateboarding and academic abilities

81%

have a role model they can trust at Skateistan

94%

believe they can finish high school and/or go to university

•

# Global highlights

We updated our Child Protection Policy and trained all staff on how to implement it.

We filled community educator positions at all Skate Schools. These new staff members improved our communication with families, partners and other community stakeholders.

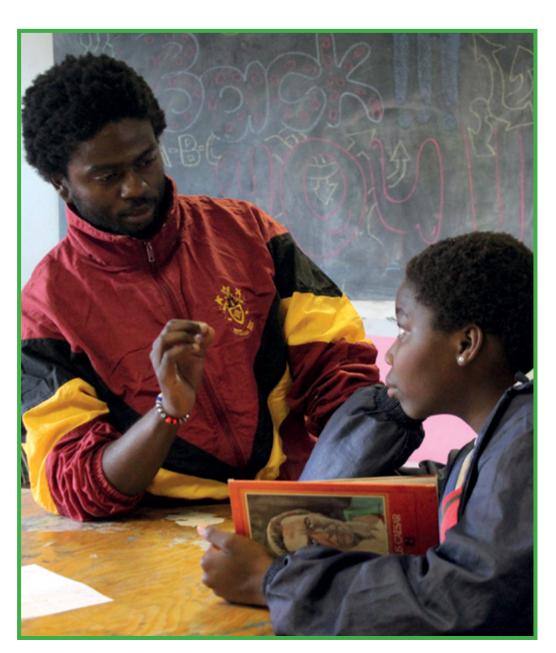
We developed a 10-year strategic plan, 'Changing the Story' with the input of all Skate Schools.

We introduced a new program called 'Dropping In', to provide learning spaces and resources where students can develop their aspirations and navigate their potential at their own pace.

Four girls from the Skateistan basketball and football teams in Mazar-e-Sharif were chosen to join provincial teams.

We built a library space at the Phnom Penh Skate School and fitted it out with books and computers for the Dropping In program.

Girls in the Dropping In program learned to ride bicycles inside the Skate School grounds in Afghanistan, as social norms prevent girls from cycling in the streets.



We introduced after-school tutoring sessions in math, science, English, Afrikaans and Zulu to Dropping In students in Johannesburg.

Two Youth Leadership students and Noorzai, our Programs Officer from Mazar-e-Sharif, traveled to China to participate in training for the Asian Games.

11 Youth Leadership students in Johannesburg graduated from the pilot peer-to-peer mentorship project called 'This Girl Can'.

We started to run Outreach and Skate Create programs in Bamyan, Afghanistan where we plan to build a Skate School in 2020.

Skateistan South Africa hosted the very first Goodpush Summit, bringing together around 35 people working in social skate projects worldwide. The Summit featured four days of workshops, presentations, discussion and skating, with visiting participants coming from Zimbabwe, Angola, Zambia, Mozambique, Bangladesh, USA, Greece, and all over South Africa.

A short documentary called Learning to Skateboard in a Warzone (if you're a girl) featuring Skateistan's Back-to-School program in Kabul won several film festival awards.

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## Spotlight on Back-to-School

To help out-of-school children enter the public education system, Skateistan partners with the Ministry of Education in Afghanistan to align our students with the national curriculum. Children who don't go to school join our Skate School five days a week to cover up to four years of public school education in 11 months. Upon completing our accelerated learning program, we enroll students into public schools, usually in the 3rd or 4th grade. Students also participate in skateboarding and other sports weekly, and enjoy a nutritious hot meal daily. Students also enjoy dried fruit packages which were provided through a partnership with Ziba Foods beginning in 2019.

In 2019, 45 students (24 girls, 21 boys) completed the Back-to-School

program at Skateistan Kabul and all were enrolled in Afghan primary school for the first time, which began in April. A new cohort of 52 students (28 girls, 24 boys) began the program in April 2019.

Our educators attended training in 2019 in how to develop more fun and engaging ways to support students who have difficulties understanding the lesson topics. Girls have many societal and domestic challenges in Afghanistan which can impact upon their learning. Because of this, we began extra sessions specifically for girls to provide support. We saw real improvement in many of the children who had learning challenges at the start of the year. They received stationery as prizes and an extra session in the skatepark to celebrate.

## Programs running in Kabul



Back-to-School



Dropping In



Skate and Create





Youth Leadership





477

students

38%

girls

89%

children from low-





# Hashmat's Story

Hashmat\* is 13 years old and lives in Kabul. He has been coming to Skateistan since 2017. First he participated in the Back-to-School program, an accelerated learning program for children who are out of school. Once he had graduated from Back-to-School, we helped him enroll in public school, but he kept coming to Skateistan and now attends the Skate and Create program. Hashmat lives with his five siblings and his parents. Neither of his parents has a steady job and money is always tight.

"Before I came to Skateistan, I was at home all day, literally doing nothing. I didn't go to school and I didn't have any idea about education and sports. I want to graduate from high school and besides this I want to become a famous football player. I know that education really matters and now I know what real sports look like."



When Hashmat came to Skateistan he was not confident. He didn't talk to his classmates and he was afraid to speak up in front of the class. His educators worked to build up his confidence. Romal, one of his educators, made sure to praise him when he got things right in class and helped him to speak more confidently. Romal suggested that Hashmat join the Student Council so he would get more used to speaking in front of others and sharing his ideas. Hashmat was nervous to do this at first, but Skateistan creates a safe environment where everyone is encouraged and the students support one another in their growth. Over time, Hashmat found the courage to stand in front of the class and speak. He even acted as MC at the Skate School's Peace Day event. His teachers and classmates celebrated his progress.

"Now we are seeing the real and best Hashmat. His personality and ability were there all along - we just helped him to recognize it."

- Romal, Educator

Mazar-e-

1,452

students

37%

girls

**78** 

children living with a disability

89

children living in internally displaced person's camps







## Spotlight on Youth Leadership

The Youth Leadership program helps students reach their potential to become positive role models. Students participate in the Student Council, take part in various sports, join virtual cultural exchanges, and attend life skills and safety skills training to assist educators in class. In Youth Leadership, students develop a sense of investment in the Skate Schools and become inspirational leaders for other students at Skateistan to look up to, as well as for the wider local community.

52 students earned training milestone certificates from our Youth Leadership program in Mazar-e-Sharif after gaining: six months' experience assisting educators in class and learning about first aid, skateboard maintenance, child protection; photography and filming skills; and important leadership, communication and problemsolving skills as members of the Student Council.

Two Youth Leadership students (one girl from Mazar-e-Sharif and one boy from Kabul) had an incredible opportunity to travel with Noorzai, our Programs Officer in Mazar-e-Sharif, to Nanjing, China, with the Afghan National Olympic Committee and represent Afghanistan in an international skateboarding training camp. It was the first time for both of them to travel outside Afghanistan and the first time that they had been on an airplane.

## Programs running in Mazar-e-Sharif





Back-to-School

Dropping In







Outreach

Youth Leadership

Skate and Create

## Atefa's Story

Atefa\* is from Mazare-Sharif and she is 16 years old. She has been coming to Skateistan for five years now, but when she first started coming, some members of her family were unhappy about it. They told her that skateboarding was just for boys and stopped her from attending.

"When they told me I was not allowed to come, I felt sad and confused. I knew I was able to skateboard and I couldn't see why they thought it was only for boys."



## "It makes me really happy that my family allowed me to come to Skateistan again!"

Skateistan's Community Educator invited Atefa's family to come and visit Skateistan so they could see what the students were doing. They saw other girls playing, skateboarding and learning new skills in the classroom. This reassured them that it would be a good thing for Atefa to take part in these programs, and they told her she was allowed to start coming to Skateistan again.

Atefa takes part in the Youth Leadership program, through which she helps younger students to skateboard. This has been one of her favourite activities at Skateistan.

Atefa is a really talented skateboarder—she was the first girl in Afghanistan to land a kickflip! Each year she looks forward to the competition held at the Skate School on Go Skateboarding Day. She has won it twice and that made her family proud of her. So proud, that they also encouraged her sister to come to Skateistan too. Recently, Atefa had the incredible opportunity to travel to an Olympic Skateboarding Training Camp in Nanjing, China with another student and a staff member from Skateistan.



"My family's mind has changed about girls' ability. Now I can do everything that my brothers are doing and I hope that all the parents around Afghanistan know that girls have power to do everything like boys."



368

81%

68

51%

students

from low-income family backgrounds

children living with a disability

airls

## Programs running in Phnom Penh

20



Outreach







Youth Leadership

Skate and Create

Dropping In

# Spotlight on Skate and Create

The Skate and Create program helps students build life skills through a balance of sports and structured learning. In the skatepark and in the classroom, Skateistan's educators guide activities to promote wellness, equality, creative expression, and knowledge of natural sciences. The program is accessible to all levels of literacy and ability, with purpose-built lessons for children with a wide range of abilities.

In 2019, Skate and Create students followed four annual curriculums:

## 'People of the World'

explores the stories of peoples and international cultures that make up the world.

## 'Creation and Innovation'

examines how people use tools and technology to create innovative solutions.

## 'Act Local'

looks at the resources and challenges in our local communities and how we can take action to change our world.

## 'Natural Balance'

helps students learn about the cycles of the natural world and how we can manage balance within it.

Within these curriculums, educators chose from 48 existing lessons plans developed in 2018, and used a template to create their own lesson.

Since hiring Heng Sokha, our new Community Educator in March, our Cambodia team has built strong links with the local community, visiting family homes and receiving feedback to make sure we can provide what our students need. Skate and Create students created picture frames and pencil cases, and held a recycling fashion show out of used materials to encourage awareness about environmental issues. Girls' attendance in the Skate and Create program averaged over 50% throughout 2019.

# Pisey's Story



Pisey\* is 11 years old and lives in Phnom Penh, Cambodia. She came to Skateistan through a partner organization and attends our Skate and Create program. Pisey\* has not had an easy life. When she was very young, there were problems in her family and she was exposed to violence in her community. She had no friends of her own age.

Through our partnership with a local children's shelter, Pisey registered to take part in the Skate and Create program. For children who have experienced trauma, the self-expression and sense of improvement that comes with skateboarding can be really powerful.

Initially, our team in Phnom Penh found it difficult to speak with her because she did not respond to educators. She would stay alone and did not get involved in any activities. But Skateistan's educators did not give up and worked with her slowly, always encouraging her to try new things. Gradually, she realized she was in a safe space. She started to take more interest in her creative lessons and even to try skateboarding.

Together with our partner organization, Skateistan staff also worked to engage her parents and to encourage them to learn new skills for a more peaceful home.

"I fell down many times from my skateboard, but I keep getting up and trying again. And now, I am not afraid anymore because my teacher motivated me. Skateboarding made me feel happy and forget my fear."

Tin, Skateistan's General Manager in Cambodia, has noticed significant changes during the last four years.

"She is very brave now, very confident in herself and I am so proud that she changed into a positive person."

- Tin

<sup>\*</sup>Name changed in accordance with our Child Protection Policy





The Dropping In program encourages students to focus on school work by providing learning spaces and resources, and creating more opportunities for students to work on life skills and academic areas that challenge them. The program has proven very popular with our students in Johannesburg. many of whom improved their school grades and were introduced to books and computers in our library, alongside joining fun skateboarding sessions after school. Through exploratory conversations with students and parents, we learned about a variety of needs facing students in Johannesburg. We introduced more focused homework help topics to tutor our students in math, science, English, Afrikaans and Zulu. Tutoring sessions were also supported by local volunteers through a partnership with the University of Johannesburg.

Our team in Johannesburg developed a schedule that worked to support the students with math and reading clubs during the week and additional science and math classes over the weekend. While the Skate School in Johannesburg primarily runs sessions after school, earlier study session times were scheduled in 2019 for students who were writing their exams. After their exams, students worked on art projects and hands-on science experiments.

Johannesburg

1,081 44% 49

students

children living with a disability 89%

from lowincome family backgrounds

# Programs running in Johannesburg







Youth Leadership



Skate and Create



Dropping In

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# Ethan's Story

They call me Slim Dynamite, but that is not my real name. It's because of my smooth transition while skating and my dance moves at the skatepark. I'm Ethan\* and I am 14 and in the ninth grade. I have not always been a good skater or a smooth dancer but I would like to share with you about where it all began.

I moved into this community a couple of years ago. My little sister told me about Skateistan. Out of curiosity, I went to check the space out. This was different, out of my comfort zone but it was a safe place for kids to be kids. The facility was just next door with a secure fence, guards, and educators who facilitated the programs. I decided to register.

I struggled making friends here in the beginning. Everyone here was nice to each other for no reason. All my life I had to toughen up to protect myself and keep myself and my little sister safe. I felt like I had to start my life all over again and my school grades were not great. I decided to join the science club at Skateistan to help me with my grades. Educators encouraged me to see that I had the potential to improve my skating and grades at the same time. I enjoyed participating in the science club and skate sessions because they are fun and provided me with academic support.

Kopano, who is an Educator at Skateistan, encouraged me to own up to my learning, that I should put in the work if I wanted to see results. He even has the "no class, no skate" rule. That really helped me to get back on track.

At Skateistan, I started attending career and education planning classes, where I learned computer skills and problemsolving skills. Around that time I also started helping younger children learn how to skate. I noticed that new students found it much easier when a friend coached them and it was an amazing experience for me to share what I had learned. My favourite part of the program has been career and education planning where I learned about making good career choices, where I also learned about life after school and the importance of preparing for it. This meant that I could do the things I am passionate about like becoming a vet and a professional skater.

"Now I can dream of the future, and I know the steps I need to take to get me there."

\*Name changed in accordance with our Child Protection Policy



Globally, there are now more than 150 skateboarding-for-youth-development projects working in 50+ countries. Since its launch in 2018, Skateistan's Goodpush Alliance aims to support and share knowledge among social skateboarding projects worldwide, so that we can make a bigger impact together.

The Goodpush Alliance focuses on four key areas:

- improving child protection and safety
- increasing inclusion of girls and children living with a disability
- integrating skateboarding with educational outcomes
- building a network of support among social skate projects.

In 2019, we scaled out the reach of Goodpush to provide direct support to 60 social skateboarding organizations worldwide. More than 100 staff from these organizations took part in Goodpush events (one in Copenhagen and one in Johannesburg) or attended Goodpush webinars on child protection. The first Goodpush Summit was hosted by Skateistan South Africa and had 35 participants from social skateboarding projects in Africa. Asia, Europe and North America.

In January 2019, we published the open-source Goodpush Toolkit online, featuring how-to guides, videos and resources, based on Skateistan's learnings over the past 10+ years. We also launched the Goodpush Members' Community. This gives social skate projects a more integrated way of communicating and networking with each other, as well as a forum and interactive map.

We also selected three 2019 Goodpush partner organizations to receive tailored support, a \$500 award, and funded participation in the Goodpush Summit: Free Movement Skateboarding (Greece), Bangladesh Street Kids Aid, and Association of Skateboarding Mozambique.

"Not only can we learn a lot from the information provided, but I'm really excited to see what we can contribute to your efforts. Going through the toolkit, I see how aligned we are with you all and the other awesome organizations using skateboarding as a vehicle for making the world a better place."

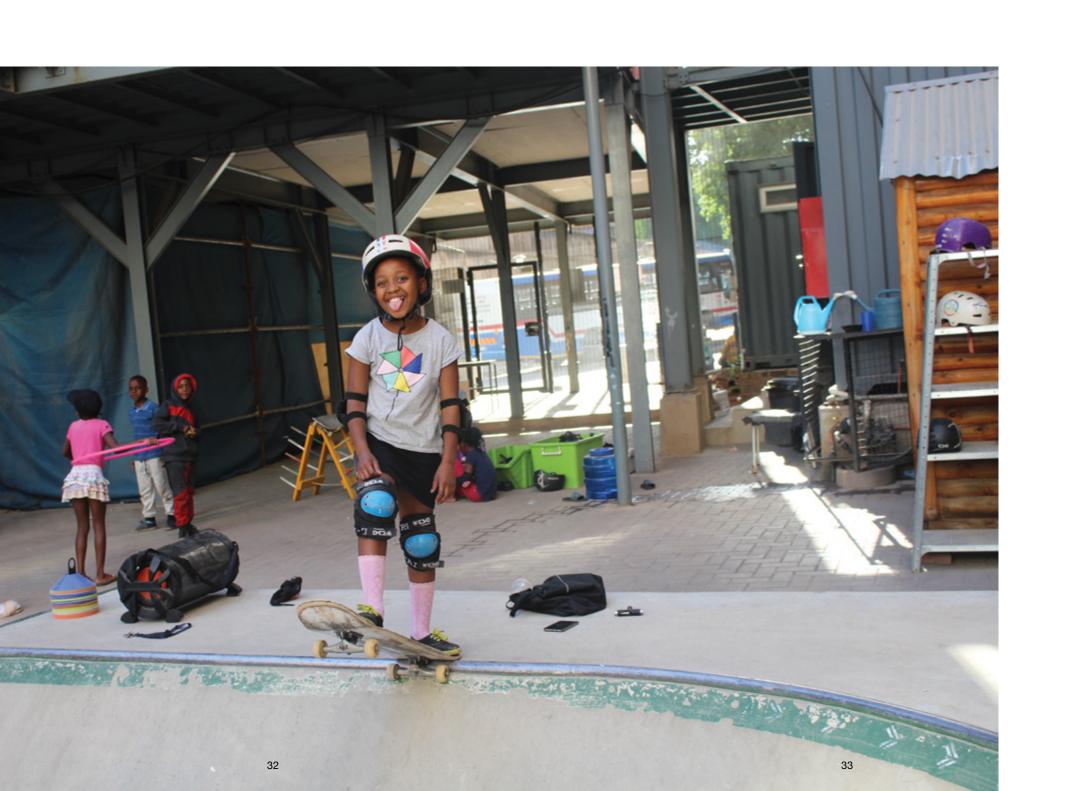
- Impact Skate Club, Toronto, Canada

# **GOODPUSH**

- We directly supported 60 organizations and 103 individuals through Goodpush.
- An estimated 4,140 children and youth indirectly benefited from Goodpush support.
- We reached 161 registered members on goodpush.org
- Goodpush Toolkit included open-source resources on nine topics related to programs, inclusion, child protection and organizational capacity.

- 90% of Goodpush members we surveyed made positive program changes using our resources.
- 124 projects responded to our second annual Survey of Social Skateboarding Projects Worldwide – providing valuable data on the activities, aims, and needs of projects using skateboarding for social change.
- New partnership with Women Win to run the ROLL Models project, supporting 75 womxn leaders in social skateboarding over 2020–2022.





# Fundraising and communications

In 2019, a diverse range of governments, foundations, institutions, individuals and companies supported us in empowering children through skateboarding and education. We maintained a balance across these funding streams to ensure sustainability and safety for our programs and the children around the world who benefit from them. We were especially pleased to secure renewed support from The Skateroom and Laureus Sport for Good Foundation and to establish new partnerships with The SOL Foundation, the German Federal Foreign Office and Fondation Chanel. Continued support from all of our incredible donors made our work in 2019 possible and enabled us to empower 3.466 students around the world. See all of our major donors on page 44.

Google.org

E SKATE OM SMATESTAN

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We ran two major fundraising campaigns in 2019, both of which beat their targets and were the most successful summer and winter fundraising campaigns that Skateistan has ever run. Our summer campaign was called Changing the Story and focused on the way that Skateistan's creative education can help children to shape their futures. This then became the theme for our first ever 10 year plan. In the winter we ran Safe to

Skate, which focused on the importance of safe spaces for children. We also ran a mini campaign for International Women's Day which saw us gain international press attention, and was shared by many influential female skaters from around the world. This campaign went on to win the .ORG Impact Award for Best Integrated Communications Campaign.



Learning to Skateboard in a Warzone (if you're a girl), a film about our Back-to-School program in Kabul was released by A&E Networks and won multiple awards at film festivals. By the end of 2019, the film had been awarded Best Documentary Short prize at Tribeca, Best Short Doc at the Flyway Film Festival in Wisconsin and the Social Justice Film Festival in Seattle. The documentary was also placed on the long list for the Academy Awards 2020, which it went on to win...but more about that in our 2020 Annual Report!



## Financial transparency

Skateistan ensures internal and external transparency through various levels of regular reporting and accountability, namely monthly management reports from all Skate Schools to headquarters, regular external reports to donors with financial and programs data, and annual financial audits at each Skate School and the headquarters certified by external auditors.

Skateistan's financial statements are prepared according to the accounting principles applicable in each operative country. The financial overview presented here is based on an internally conducted consolidation of the audited financial statements. The consolidated figures have not been audited.

The 2019 audit reports and financial statements are available at:

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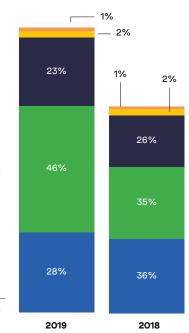
www.skateistan.org/financials/

## Funds raised

8%

The following graph shows the combined funds raised at our Skate Schools and headquarters:

| Figures in USD               | 2019      | 2018      |
|------------------------------|-----------|-----------|
| Merchandise and others       | 11,800    | 1,900     |
| Donations in kind            | 41,400    | 40,200    |
| Individuals and corporations | 546,200   | 443,300   |
| Foundations                  | 1,084,000 | 600,400   |
| Government                   | 656,600   | 606,600   |
| Total income                 | 2,340,000 | 1,695,400 |

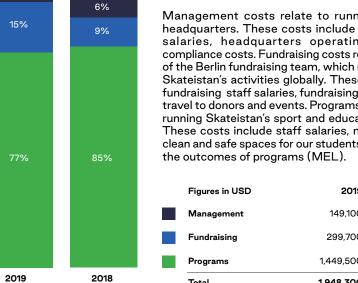


## Cost breakdown

For one dollar donated \$0.77 went directly into programs in 2019.

Management costs relate to running the Berlin headquarters. These costs include administrative salaries, headquarters operating costs and compliance costs. Fundraising costs reflect the effort of the Berlin fundraising team, which raises funds for Skateistan's activities globally. These costs include fundraising staff salaries, fundraising overheads and travel to donors and events. Programs costs relate to running Skateistan's sport and education programs. These costs include staff salaries, maintenance of clean and safe spaces for our students, and analyzing the outcomes of programs (MEL).

| Total          | 1,948,300 | 1,736,600 |
|----------------|-----------|-----------|
| Programs       | 1,449,500 | 1,483,800 |
| Fundraising    | 299,700   | 154,700   |
| Management     | 149,100   | 98,100    |
| Figures in USD | 2019      | 2018      |
|                |           |           |





# Skateistan programs costs



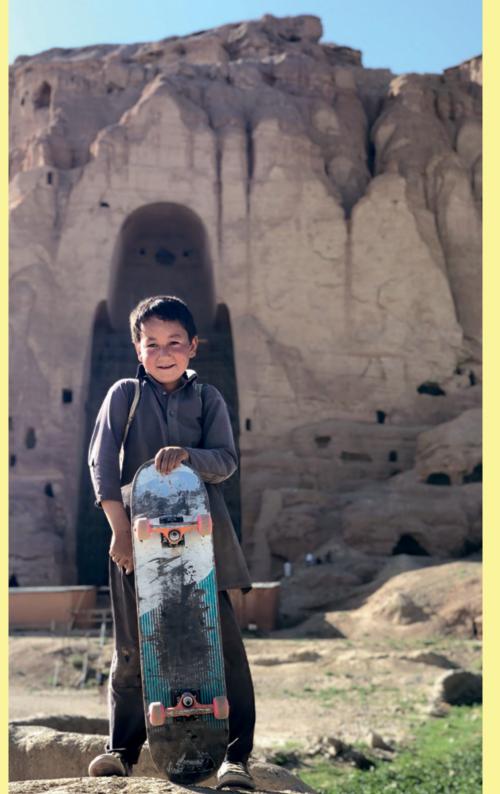
| Figures in USD | 2019      |
|----------------|-----------|
| Kabul          | 329,000   |
| Mazar-e-Sharif | 398,500   |
| Bamyan         | 21,500    |
| Phnom Penh     | 227,400   |
| Johannesburg   | 408,800   |
| Jordan         | 3,200     |
| Goodpush       | 111,000   |
| Total          | 1,449,400 |



# **Future plans**

In 2019 the Skateistan team created a 10 year strategic plan for the first time. The plan outlines ambitious goals across our four core strategies; Expansion and Scaling, High Quality Programs, Culture of Learning, and Fundraising Diversification. These strategies are underpinned by a larger theme: Changing the Story. This theme means we are making a long-term commitment towards outcomes for our students, to provide them with a space and opportunities to learn and grow, and ultimately to change their own stories for the better.

Over the next 10 years we want to continuously increase our impact. By building new Skate Schools in strategic locations. Skateistan can meet the needs of local, underserved children. Already in progress are new Skate Schools in Bamyan, Afghanistan, and in Jordan (exact location still to be determined). Beyond these, we plan to build another four Skate Schools around the world over the next 10 years. By carefully selecting locations, Skateistan can serve new communities while simultaneously gaining knowledge of new contexts that can be shared with other social skate projects through the Goodpush Alliance.



We will continue to focus on delivering the highest quality programs to our students. We have identified five focus areas: child-centered and inclusive programming, long-term educator training, a Skateistan Alumni Network, research and development for expanding our programs scope, and the Goodpush Alliance. These areas will guide us in working towards some ambitious programs goals including:

- a research project on trauma-informed sports programs
- increasing our disabled student participation to 20%
- engaging our alumni to give back to current students and to measure our long-term impact
- increasing the Goodpush community members to 500
- reaching 50% girls' participation.

Through our Culture of Learning core strategy, our staff can develop the skills needed to further design their own programs to meet community needs. To foster a culture of learning, Skateistan staff will benefit from workplace exchanges between Skate Schools and the Berlin head office, external training, conferences and public speaking opportunities.

Finally, through our fourth core strategy, Fundraising Diversification, we aim to build stability and security by increasing our unrestricted funding, through multi-year flexible grants and through individual donors. Within 10 years we aim to raise 50% from unrestricted sources.

# Major donors 2019

We would like to extend a special thank you to our major donors for supporting Skateistan in 2019.

Without you, our work could not continue.

#### 100,000 USD +

- af Jochnick Foundation
- Citizens of Skateistan
- The Embassy of the United States of America in Kabul
- F + B Mancia
- German Federal Foreign Office
- Google.org
- Laureus Sport For Good Foundation
- The Skateroom
- Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation
- WeWork

## 50,000-100,000 USD

- Laila and Adam Rossi
- The SOL Foundation

## 20,000-50,000 USD

- Almost Skateboards
- Google Giving Week

## 10,000-20,000 USD

- Convic Skateparks
- Inmaat Foundation
- Joe and Julia McMahon
- Newline Skateparks
- Shining Pictures
- Tony Hawk Foundation
- Wietlisbach Foundation

## 5.000-10.000 USD

- CHPO Brand
- Dennis Thorley
- Henry Oldfield Trust
- Michael Auerbach
- Patricia and Louis Todd Family Foundation
- Vego Good Food



## Major in-kind sponsors

- Amelie Exton
- Building Trust
- Deluxe Distribution
- Five Elephant Coffee Roastery
- Jangala
- Lenovo
- MOB Griptape
- Niels Rost
- Rumie
- Technical Safety Gear (TSG)

# **Program partners**

A special thank you also to program partners, comprising local and international NGOs which we work with to connect children to our programs.

## **Afghanistan**

- Afghan National Olympic Committee (ANOC)
- Ascend
- Balkh Provincial Orphanage
- Bamyan Cultural Centre
- Bamyan Ski Club
- Child Support Center
- Dasht-e-Essa Khan High school
- Free to Run
- IPSO
- Karte-e-Solh High School
- Khana e Noor School
- Literacy Department
- Ministry of Education
- Parsa
- Physical Education and Sports Directorate (climbing federation)
- Samar Orphanage
- Swedish Committee of Afghanistan
- Women for Afghan Women (WAW)
- Women's Garden
- Ziba Foods

## Cambodia

- Action Cambodge Handicap
- The Factory Phnom Penh
- Hope for Justice
- Krousar Thmey
- Le Restaurant des Enfants de la Rue
- M'lop Tapang
- Pour un Sourire d'Enfant (PSE)
- Soksabay
- Tiny Toones

#### Jordan

• 7Hills

#### South Africa

- City Kidz Primary School
- Egoli Squash
- Fight With Insight
- JHB City Parks
- Johannesburg Children's Home
- Malaika Orphanage Centre
- Miracle Eden Primary School
- · Oprah Winfrey School for Girls
- Phoenix College
- Special Olympics South Africa
- St Vincent School for the Deaf
- University of Johannesburg

## International

- Bangladesh Street Kids Aid
- Free Movement Skateboarding
- International Skateboard Certification Program
- Push to Heal
- Pushing Boarders
- Rumie

- Statistics Without Borders
- Women Win



## Nita Wink, Co-Chair Executive Coach and fresh thinker

Nita began her career at PwC in the Netherlands and specialized in International Development, working with International Financial Institutions and NGOs, including working in Afghanistan over ten years. After 24 years and nine years as partner at PwC, Nita started her own business, FNX Company, providing executive consulting in leadership development and team coaching. Nita has been an adviser to Skateistan since 2015 and is chair of our Netherlands fundraising entity.



Internationa

### Dr. Simon Adams, Co-Chair Executive Director of the Global Centre for Responsibility to Protect

Simon became Executive Director of the Global Centre for the Responsibility to Protect in 2011, the world's leading research and advocacy organization for advancing mass atrocity prevention and the international norm of the Responsibility to Protect at the UN and beyond. He is a former anti-apartheid activist and has authored four books and numerous articles on international conflict. Simon was instrumental in helping Skateistan establish the Skate School in Johannesburg.



## Tony Hawk Professional Skateboarder and Philanthropist

Tony is the most influential skateboarder of all time. During his extraordinary career he has won a multitude of skateboarding contests, made numerous film appearances, and launched his own video game series to huge success. In 2002 he established the Tony Hawk Foundation to help disadvantaged communities and children build quality skateparks. In early 2014 the Tony Hawk Foundation approved a multi-year grant to Skateistan, to support skateboarding outside of the US.



## Mimi Knoop

## Professional skateboarder and Co-founder of the Women's Skateboard Alliance

Mimi is one of the world's most respected skateboarders and has claimed five X Games medals in women's vert and titles at some of the world's most prestigious bowl contests. Mimi has been dedicated to growing skateboarding for girls and women by co-founding The Alliance, Hoopla Skateboards, and Women's Skateboard Alliance (WSA). In 2009, through The Alliance and ESPN, Mimi helped achieve prize purse parity for men and women at X Games. WSA co-produced the first ever Women's World Championship at Street League in 2015.



Boar

Advisory

## Cathy Obrecht Philanthropist

Originally from Detroit, Cathy moved to Tucson, Arizona in the mid-80s to find a larger skate scene. Cathy was in charge of content for Transworld Media, producing and directing the Snowboard Video Magazine from 1993-2001 and has also worked for Epitaph Records, Standard Films, Sessions and The Firm. Cathy has spent time in Zambia and established the Swaha Group to support projects run exclusively for girls, such as Waka Simba, Camfed, Chiawa Clinic, and the Chiawa Volunteer House. Cathy has visited Skateistan projects in South Africa and Cambodia.



### Benafsha Tasmim Strongheart Fellow and former Skateistan Education Coordinator

Benafsha was born in Kabul, Afghanistan, and graduated in Psychology and Educational Sciences at Kabul University in 2009. She joined Skateistan in 2010, serving for two years as the Education Coordinator in Kabul. In October 2012 Benafsha was awarded the Strongheart Fellowship, which sponsored her to complete her Masters degree in the United States. She is dedicated to using her knowledge and skills to enhance the educational experience for Afghan children and assist girls recovering from trauma.



## Jamie Thomas Professional Skateboarder and Owner of Zero Skateboards

Originally from Alabama, Jamie made his way to California in 1992 with the dream of becoming a professional skateboarder. In 1996 Jamie started Zero Skateboards. He was voted 'Skateboarder of the Year' in 2002 by the readers of Transworld Skateboarding Magazine. In 2006 was presented with the Southern California Regional award for 'Entrepreneur of the Year' from business leaders Ernst & Young. Zero Skateboards have provided Skateistan with sponsored equipment since 2008.



## Holly Thorpe Associate Professor, University of Waikato

Holly is Associate Professor at Te Huataki Waiora / Faculty of Health, Sport and Human Performance at the University of Waikato (New Zealand). She is a sociologist of sport and physical culture, with research interests including youth, gender, women's health, action sports, and sport for development. She has published six books and over 60 articles and chapters, and has been a recipient of Fulbright and Leverhulme Fellowships as well as a Royal Society grant. Holly has worked with Skateistan since 2012 on various research projects and in 2016, she established the Action Sports for Development and Peace website.





Join the Citizens of Skateistan and become part of our global community. The Citizens of Skateistan share a dream of empowering children through skateboarding and creative education.

## skateistan.org/citizens



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