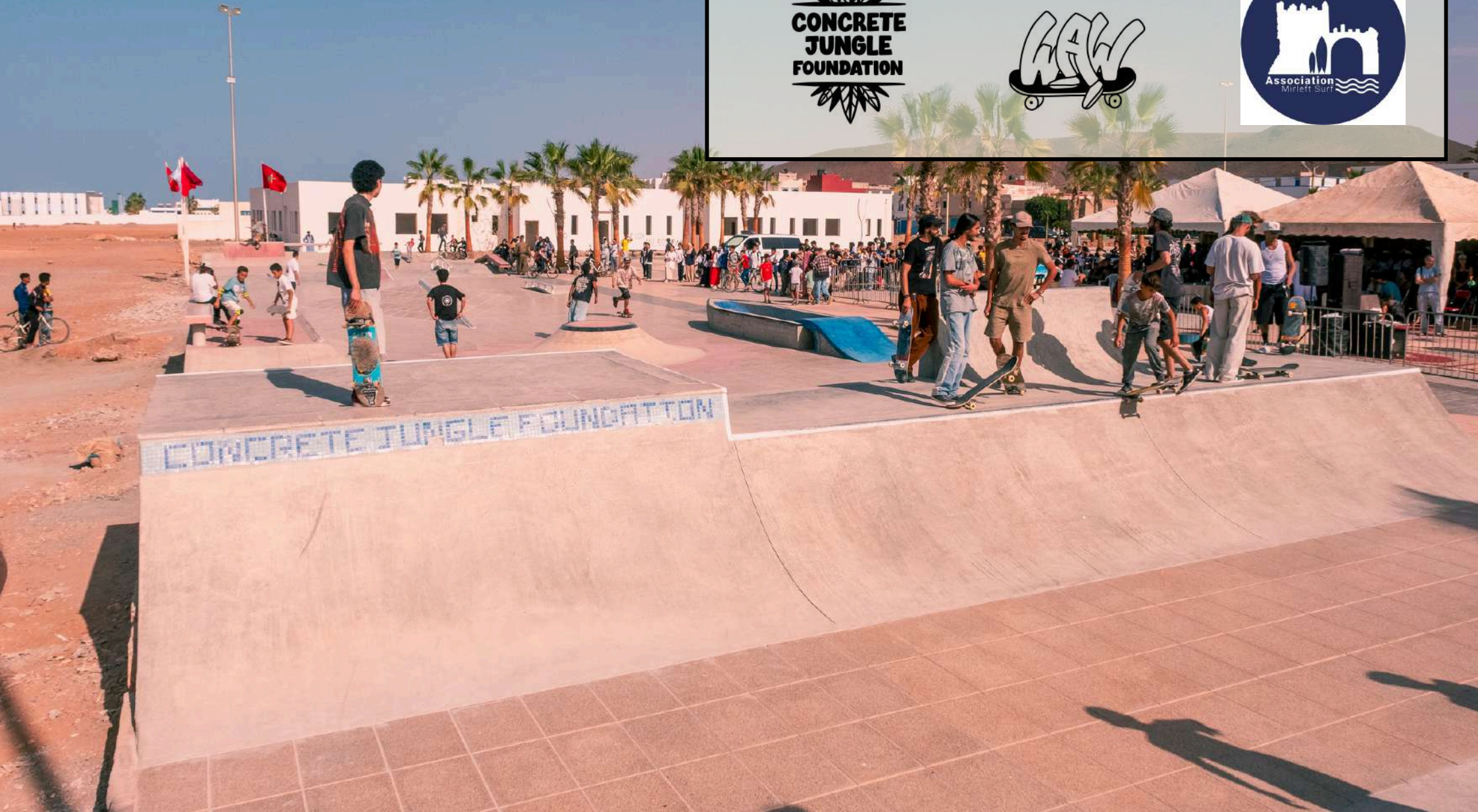


# Mirleft Skatepark

Location: Mirleft, Morocco  
Timeframe: November 2024  
Prepared by: Tim van Asdonck



Partners





# Introduction

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During the month of November 2024, Concrete Jungle Foundation realized its seventh international project in collaboration with Wonders Around The World and Association Mirleft Surf: the construction of the Mirleft Skatepark in Morocco.

Association Mirleft Surf (AMS) has been empowering Moroccan youth through surfing since 2002, enabling the youth of Mirleft and beyond access to surfing by providing materials, coached sessions and opportunities to travel and build communities across Morocco.

Wonders Around the World has been in touch with Mirleft local scene for years, aiming to build the village's first skatepark.

Concrete Jungle Foundation has been working in Morocco since 2022 for the construction of the Fiers et Forts Skatepark, providing their construction apprenticeship programme for Moroccan skaters to learn the craft of skatepark construction. Since then, CJF has focussed on building local organizational capacity, leaving the Fiers et Forts skatepark run by a fully Moroccan team.

This project marks the first partnership of its kind between two international skate NGO's for a charity skatepark build.



# The People

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## 22 international construction volunteers

- 8 nationalities represented
- 1 Planting Seeds Apprenticeship alumnus (Jhikson)

## 8 paid locals

- 1 photographer
- 2 coordinators (materials, accommodation & food)
- 3 cooks
- 1 night guard
- 1 concrete mixer

## 7 Planting Seeds Apprentices

- 6 Moroccans
- 1 Palestinian





# Location

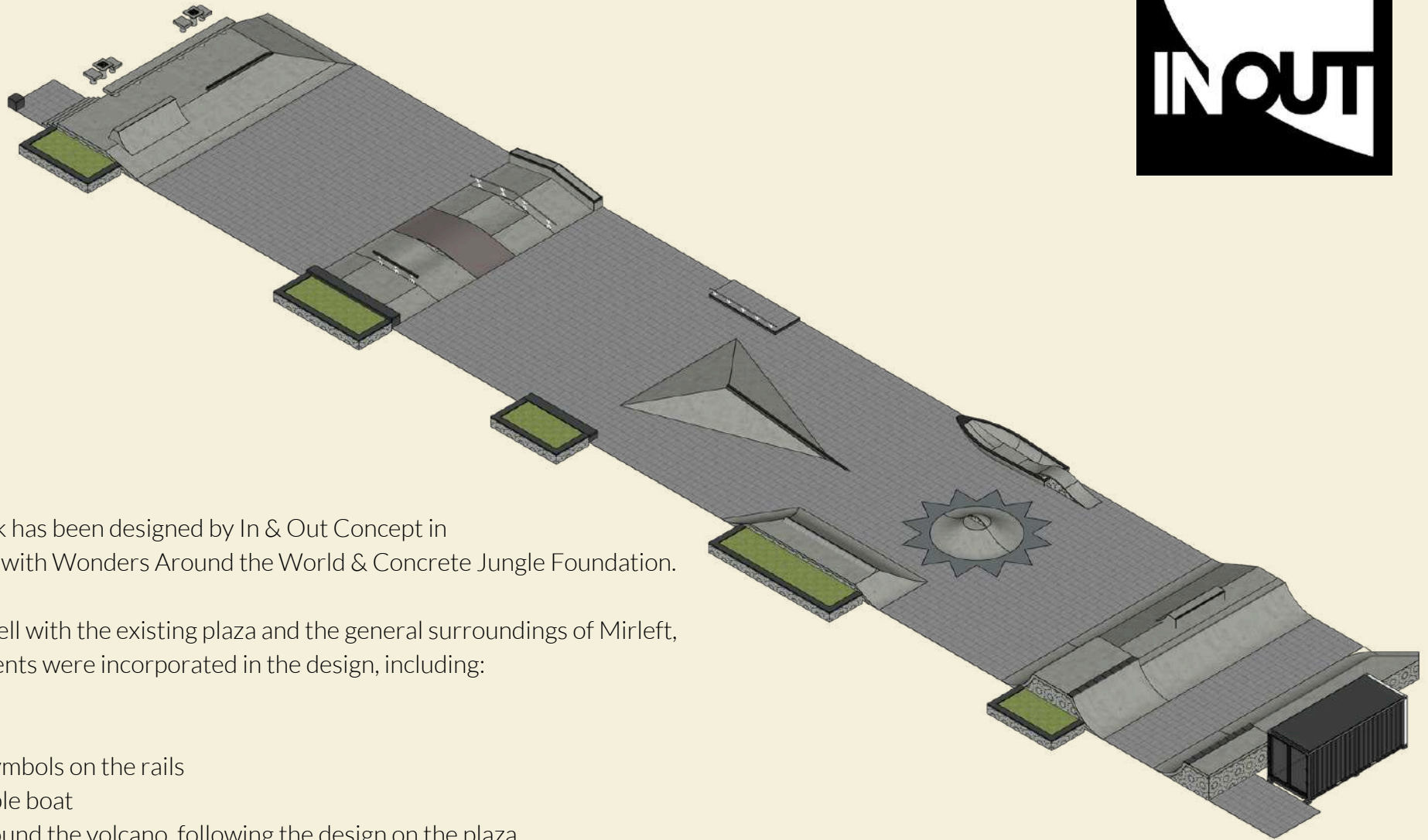
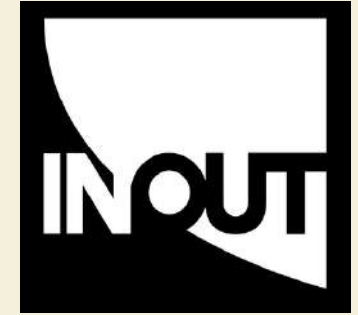


The location for the Mirleft Skatepark is unique! Thanks to the mayor of Mirleft and the governor of the Sidi Ifni province, permission was granted to build the Mirleft Skatepark on the most prominent public square of Mirleft.

The skatepark blends in with the existing public plaza, giving it a plaza-like feeling, while hosting a number of high-quality skateable obstacles.



# Design



The skatepark has been designed by In & Out Concept in collaboration with Wonders Around the World & Concrete Jungle Foundation.

To blend in well with the existing plaza and the general surroundings of Mirleft, specific elements were incorporated in the design, including:

- Mosaic
- Berber symbols on the rails
- A skateable boat
- A star around the volcano, following the design on the plaza,

The total size of the skatepark is **985 m2**





# Planting Seeds Apprenticeship (PSA) Programme

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The PSA programme is a professional development programme that provides paid apprenticeships in skatepark construction for local young adults aged 16 and above. The programme covers the complete process of building skatepark obstacles: apprentices are provided guidance and support in a hands-on approach to completing all aspects to different types of obstacles, thus covering the full range of skills required in skatepark construction.

The local apprentices work and live full-time with CJF's professional builders and develop skills in areas such as woodwork, steel and concrete shaping, as well as planning, budgeting and design.



The PSA programme aims to provide hard, employable skills that are relevant in any construction-related field, and so offer economic opportunities to its beneficiaries. But perhaps more importantly, it exists to transfer the skills necessary for the local skate scene to take skatepark construction into their own hands, and to do so through a unique experience, good times, and new friends for life.



In total, 7 apprentices took part in the PSA programme during this construction.

All 3 apprentices that took part in the first PSA edition in Morocco, signed up again:

- **Mohamed Essafiry**

Metal work focussed

- **Aya Asaqas**

Metal work focussed

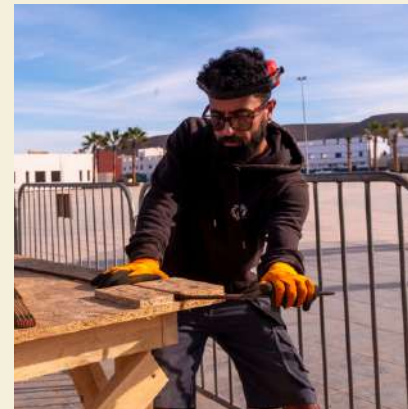
- **Mohamed “Hanota” El Mahour**

Concrete work focussed



4 new apprentices joined the programme:

• <u>Aram Sabah (representing SkatePal)</u>	General introduction to all aspects
• <u>Houda Ait Lahcen (representing CJF Morocco)</u>	Masonry & concrete work
• <u>Anas Sabraoui (representing CJF Morocco)</u>	Construction preparation & general introduction
• <u>Kamal Chakour (representing CJF Morocco)</u>	Concrete work





# Opening day



The 30<sup>th</sup> of November, after 1 month of construction, the opening day took place. Hanna Franz, one of the volunteers, had been preparing an impressive programme for the special day, with support from Association Mirleft Surf.

During the morning, there were speeches from the president of Association Mirleft Surf, the Mayor of Mirleft and acknowledgements of all the volunteers and people that made the skatepark a reality.

Big tents were set up, where people could sit, enjoy refreshments and a performance of traditional dance and music.

After the official ribbon cutting ceremony, the skatepark was open to skate!



To start off the afternoon, 9 of the construction volunteers lead 2 introduction skateboard classes.



60 children were introduced to the basics of skateboarding on their brand new skatepark.





After the skate classes, there was a cash-for-tricks event! Skaters from all over Morocco travelled to Mirleft to participate!



The day finished with live music and dozens of people dancing: it was truly a magical day!



# The future

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Association Mirleft Surf has a wealth of experience in organizing youth activities in Mirleft through surfing.

The organization will look to activate the skatepark in a similar fashion:

- They will put a skatepark manager in place to supervise the skatepark and hand out materials daily
- They will invite skaters from the region on a regular basis to organize classes, events etc.

Association Mirleft Surf has been left with a healthy stock of skate and protection materials thanks to NHS Skate Direct, Element Skateboards and other generous individual donors.

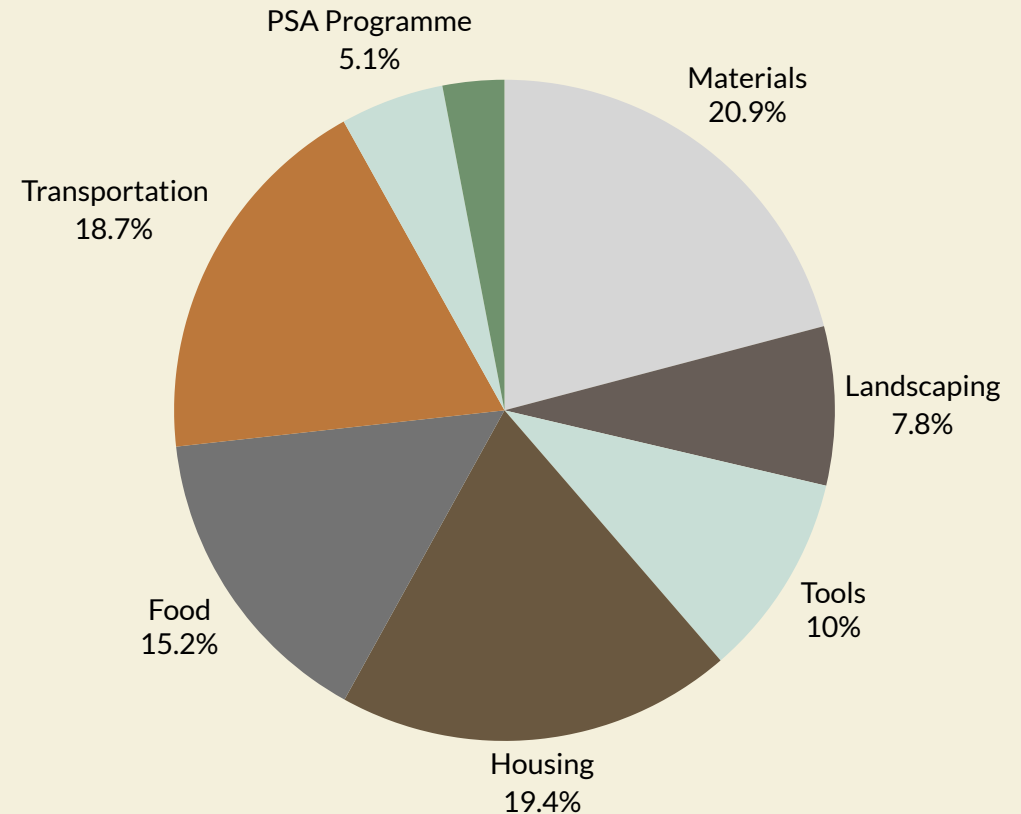
Concrete Jungle Foundation has made a CJF Impact Grant available for Association Mirleft Surf to support them through their first year of organizing skatepark programming.





# Finance

<b>Materials</b>	<b>€11,495.32</b>
• Cement	€3,222.65
• Gravel + Sand	€1,555.74
• Steel	€2,745.16
• Wood	€3,026.27
• Raw materials (dirt)	€945.50
<b>Landscaping</b>	<b>€4,268.53</b>
• Container (storage / youth space)	€3,205.55
• Mosaic	€1,062.98
<b>Tools</b>	<b>€5,495.66</b>
• Small items	€4,416.59
• Rentals	€1,079.07
<b>Housing</b>	<b>€10,663.92</b>
<b>Food</b>	<b>€8,361.74</b>
<b>Transportation</b>	<b>€10,264.01</b>
<b>PSA Programme</b>	<b>€5,791.35</b>
<b>Other expenses</b>	<b>€1,657.58</b>
• Medical expenses	€82.96
• Luggage costs skate materials	€179.60
• Welcome gift volunteers	€617.88
• Transfer fees	€257.14
• Opening day	€520



**Total: €57,998.11**

# Donor Wall

This project has been made possible by the following generous donors:



**THE SKATEROOM**  
Art for Social Impact



Vincent  
Milou

Michael  
Echkmann

THANK YOU!