



Impact Report

Period: September 11th 2023 - December 31st 2023

Subject: Programming

Location: Tamesloht, Morocco

Date Prepared: 15th of January 2024

By: Tim van Asdonck & Kamal Chakour

⚡ Introduction

This report summarizes the 4th season of programming that took place at the Fiers et Forts Skatepark in Tamesloht Morocco, from September 11th 2023 - December 31st 2023. The Fiers et Forts Skatepark is a project in partnership with the children's home Centre Fiers et Forts.

This season was marked by the magnitude 6.8 earthquake that struck Morocco on September the 8th. In the direct environment around the skatepark the earthquake didn't claim any lives, but many people had damaged homes and were forced to sleep outside. Between 100-200 people settled with tents made of blankets in the area around the skatepark.

Programming this season was geared towards the children of the children's home, the youth from the surrounding community and the children of the families that settled around the skatepark.

Concrete Jungle Foundation Morocco organized and executed the programmes with 2 local staff members under the guidance of CJF's Programmes Manager (Cath Shanks) and with support of the Programmes Director (Tim van Asdonck). Data was collected on all programmes and will be presented in the following report, concluded with recommendations for the next seasons of programming. All student names in this report have been changed to protect service users.



175 sessions were executed this season, reaching a total of 166 children, of whom 42.8% were girls.

This season consisted of 5 programmes:

- 1/ Earthquake response.**
The Fiers et Forts Skatepark supported the people affected by the earthquake with the means it had: besides offering water and food, it opened its doors to the children of the families settled around the skatepark to offer a safe space, activities and relieve of the stress experienced by many of them.
- 2/ Edu-Skate Sessions.**
Edu-Skate classes. This is Concrete Jungle Foundation's core youth programme: skateboarding classes with a focus on life skills important in both skateboarding and in life in general. The programme is free of charge with open participation for anyone between 6-16 years old that is registered for the programme.
- 3/ Open Skate Sessions.**
During certain time slots in the week, children could come to skate at supervised skate sessions. Children could skate and challenge themselves at their own pace, whilst being encouraged and supported by the skatepark staff.
- 4/ Enrichment Activities.**
The CJF Morocco team organized a variety of educational activities & workshops to expose the participants to different learning opportunities and bonding experiences.
- 5/ Events & Excursions.**
CJF Morocco organized various events for its participants to stimulate and celebrate the progress the youth have made in their skateboarding journey. Excursions were organised to take participants outside their known habitat of the skatepark to explore new environments together.

1/ Earthquake response

This season was marked by the magnitude 6.8 earthquake that struck Morocco on September the 8th. In the direct environment around the skatepark the earthquake didn't claim any lives, but many people had damaged homes and were forced to sleep outside. Between 100-200 people settled with tents made of blankets in the area around the skatepark.

What was CJF Morocco's response?

The first days after the earthquake, CJF Morocco worked together with Centre Fiers et Forts to provide a first response to support the people that started to settle in the fields around the center and skatepark:

- Providing water containers and drinking water
- Cooking and handing out meals with the oldest children from the center
- Buying and handing out supplies like medication, daipers etc.



● A safe space for children

After the first few days, it became clear the earthquake had a significant impact on life in Tamesloht: more people came to set up their tents to now live outside, and schools were closed. This resulted in dozens of children wandering around the fields with nothing to do, trying to process the events and stress they experienced.

The CJF Morocco staff decided to communicate with the parents in the fields if it was oke if the children spent their afternoons at the skatepark: all the parents were positive.

That following week, the Fiers et Forts Skatepark opened its doors every afternoon to the children settled around the skatepark and organized activities, clothing and food to offer a safe space and relieve of the stress experienced by many of them.

63 children engaged over 5 afternoons,
with an average attendance of 27 children per afternoon.
49% of participants were girls, while 51% were boys.



After this first week, these children were integrated in the weekly schedule of the Fiers et Forts skatepark, participating in all programmes for the rest of the season. By the end of the season, all families that were camped around the skatepark were able to move back into their homes or new living arrangements. The children keep visiting the skatepark with a strong attachment to the place.

2/ Edu-Skate Classes

The Edu-Skate Programme offers free skateboarding classes with a focus on life skills for children aged 6 - 16 years old. In total, 68 Edu-Skate classes were executed this season, at the Fiers et Forts Skatepark.

Participation this Season: **134 students**

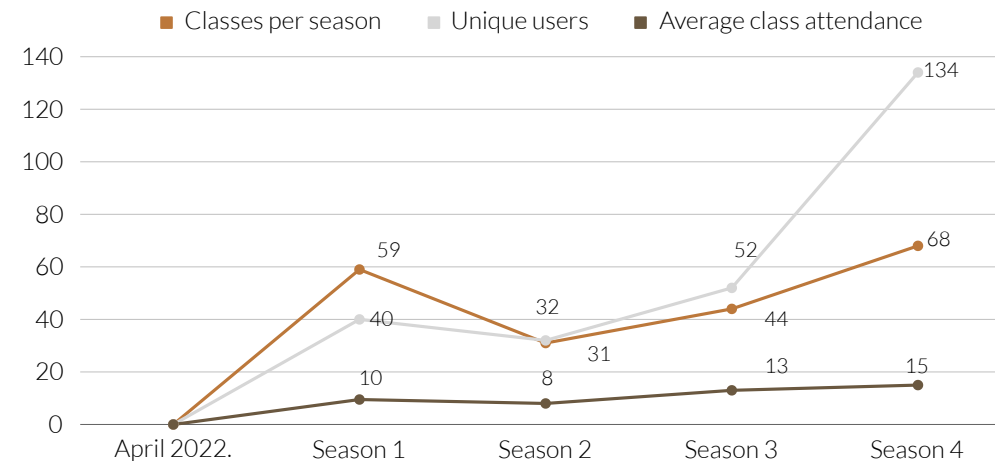
— 57% of participants were male, 43% female

— Total attendance this season: 1,004

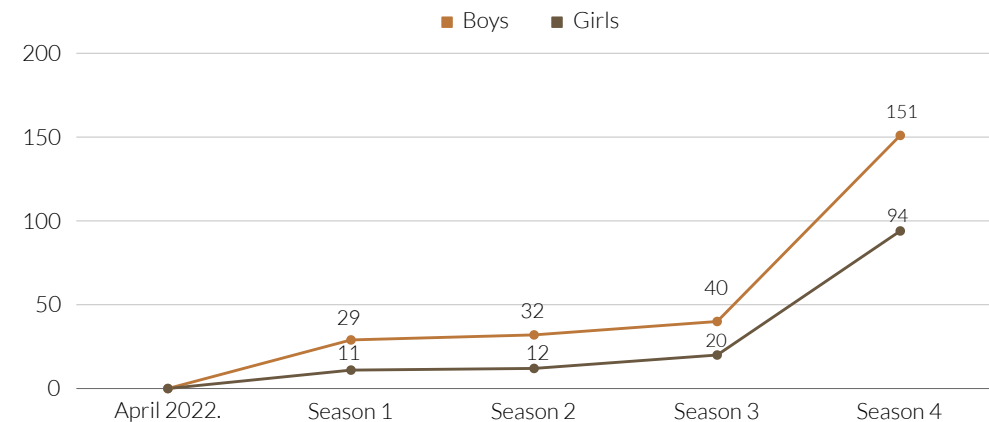


"I really enjoyed the motivation I got from everyone today, it made me feel like I can do anything I want to with this motivation" - Mahmoud

Edu-Skate Classes



Edu-Skate Registrations



Total Amount of Registrations: **245**

Every Lesson at least 2 teachers were present to run the class. Classes were organised as follows:

Intro:	The classes started with everyone sitting in a circle to introduce the life skill of the week.
Warm-up and trick/activity:	The teachers would proceed with a warm-up exercise for the students before getting into the trick/activity of the lesson through which they would work on the life skill. Students were divided into smaller groups per teacher, so each student got sufficient attention and support from their teacher.
Break:	After around 45 minutes into the class, it was break time: the students got some water and fruits and a moment in the shade.
Free skate:	After the break, it is free skate time. The students can skate for themselves, but the teachers are still present to supervise and help students out in case they need help or want to learn something new.
Reflection:	The sessions ended with all the students in a circle. The students have a moment here to share their experience of the class, of the life-skill and their accomplishments.



"This was a good experience for me, I always thought skateboarding is hard, but today I tried and I liked it" - Abdu

What went down in the Edu-Skate youth programme?

In the following you find a summary of the Edu-Skate classes this season. Each week either a social skill or a competence-building skill is introduced that contributes to positive personal development. The students are then presented with a suitable skateboarding activity/challenge for an immediate practical application of this skill.

Lesson 1. A Positive Mentality

- Activity: Introducing skateboarding to a new participant group.
"I'm happy to skate, it feels good! Thank you for what you're doing for us!" - Hassan.
-

Lesson 2. Awareness

- Activity: We did trick in groups on banks: they had to pay attention to people coming back down before taking their turn.
"Look in front of you!" - Salima.
-

Lesson 3. Self-Confidence

- Activity: Step-by-step approach to gain confidence, building up the difficulty in obstacle for the same trick (e.g. kickturn, rock to fakie, ollie etc.)
"Before the session I was scared, but now I'm not anymore" - Amin.
-

Lesson 4. Respect

- Activity: Creating handshakes and using them to celebrate each other's wins.
"It was really nice to all be happy for each other, lots of fist bumps and I learned something new" - Yassin
-

Lesson 5. Cooperative Learning

- Activity: Split in groups, kids learned a trick to teach to the other group.
"I am so happy to teach other kids. I hope to be a good teacher, inshallah." - Kawther

Lesson 6. Resilience

- Activity: Learning to fall well, trying harder tricks and try 1 more time after falling.
"I am so proud of myself, I learned the new trick, a difficult one, and I just want to do it all the time now" - Yasmine
-

Lesson 7. Perseverance

- Activity: Trying a difficult trick that requires repetitive attempts to get better.
"I've never practiced ollies much and because I try so many times this week, I am getting a lot better." - Hammid
-

Lesson 8. Encouragement

- Activity: Split in groups and doing the same trick back to back with everyone.
"It was really nice to have people giving me motivation, it made me feel like I wanted to try to land it more because of the support they gave me." - Selma
-

Lesson 9. Courage

- Activity: Identify what is a scary trick to the kids and build up to doing it.
"I really didn't want to do it as I was super scared, but I tried and I did it! I'm so happy!" - Ahmed
-

Lesson 10. Creativity

- Activity: create a new trick.
"This session I also had to think a lot, my mind was working a lot." - Ritej.
-

Lesson 11. Teamwork

- Activity: Think of your dreamtrick, execute it with help of your team.
"I felt like the king with my team holding me up in the air and helping me do a big trick" - Mohammed.

"Before everybody would go at the same time and bash into each other, now we all take turns and cheer for each other, it is very nice." - Iman



"Last night I went home and thought about doing a turn on the skateboard, today I came to the session, worked step by steps and you give me the tips I need, and I land the turn! Thank you very much." - Marwa

"I am really happy because even though I didn't land it, I managed to try it on my own without help. Before I was too scared to try even with help." - Khadija



"I keep falling over and over again but I still kept trying" - Brahim

Challenges and improvements

Participation

This season there was a big increase in participation: it was really great to provide a relieve after the events of the earthquake to the new children. They really found belonging at the skatepark. The increase of participants also came with challenges: there was a lot more work for the skatepark staff to manage, and especially with some turn-over in the staff, class sizes were sometimes too big.

Scheduling

It took a long time to put a consistent weekly schedule together, due to the uncertainty of the school schedule of children (due to the earthquake and teacher strikes). A consistent weekly schedule is vital in running the programmes at the skatepark well, have time to prepare, execute and evaluate the activities.



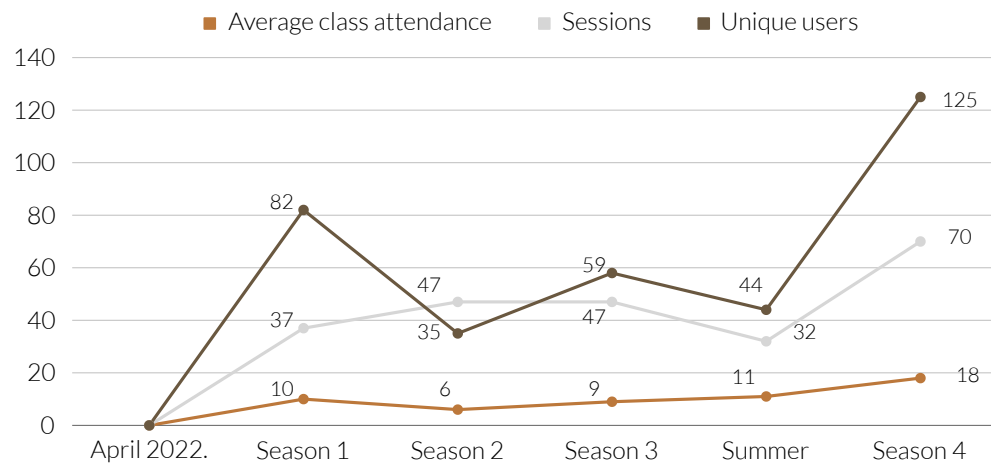
Recommendation: with the increase of activities and work, it is recommended to add 1 more employee to the skatepark team.

"I think it's really nice when you help somebody who has fallen, so I want to do it more now" - Suheyla

3/ Open Skate Sessions

The Fiers et Forts Skatepark hosted open skate sessions: supervisors from CJF are present during these sessions to ensure a safe and positive environment for all. The supervisors offer help and guidance to students whenever needed. These sessions are mixed session between children from the centre and the surrounding community.

Open Skate Sessions



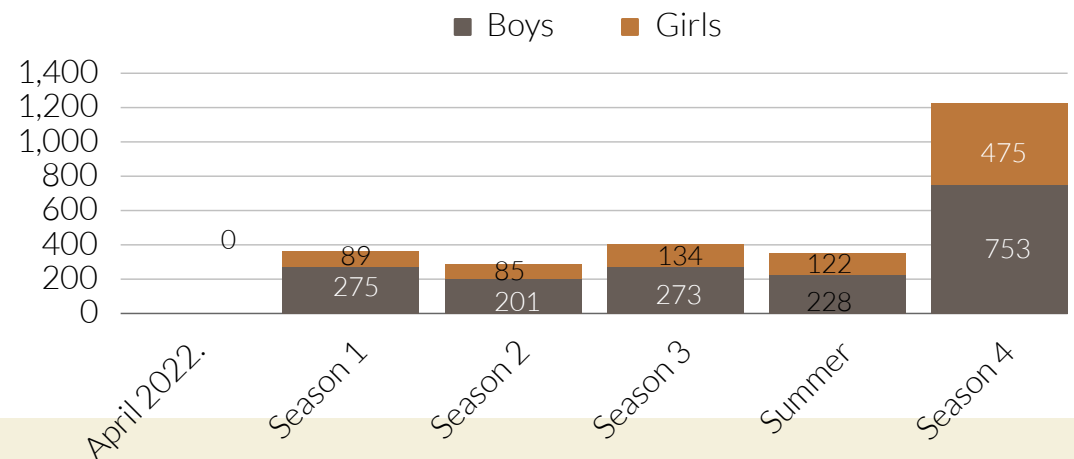
What went down in the Open Skate Sessions?

70 Open Skate Sessions were organised this season with an average attendance of 18 people per session. The total attendance in Open Skate Sessions added up to 1,228 this season. 60% of the participants were boys and 40% were girls.

This season, no injuries were recorded during Open Skate Sessions.



Open Skate Session Attendance

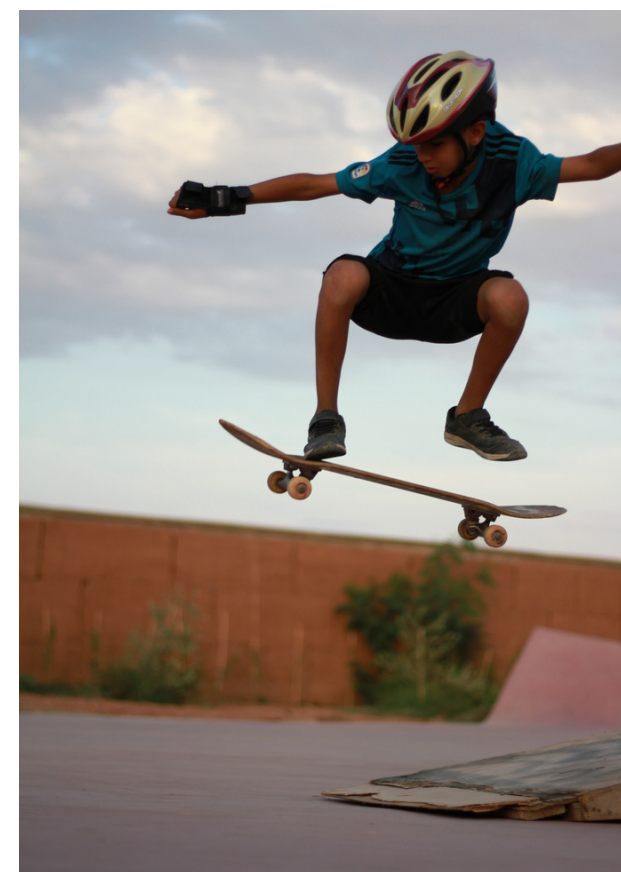


Open Skate Sessions

The open skate sessions typically start with a game or a lap of the skatepark to warm up. Afterwards, everybody plays freely in the skatepark.

These sessions tend to generate a lot of motivation from the kids to push themselves and each other, or to simply enjoy the skatepark with friends.

"I have been trying to do this all week, trying and trying and today I finally got it, thank you" - Salahdin, student



Challenges and Improvements

As with the Edu-Skate sessions, these sessions were sometimes overwhelming for the skatepark staff: a limit of 30 participants per session was set to not overcrowd the skatepark. The staff also found it difficult to not be able to serve everyone well during these sessions, as with the high attendance of these sessions, there were not always enough helping hands.

An additional skatepark staff member is also the recommendation here, to be able to host more sessions, better manage these sessions and better serve the participants that join them.

"If there is less people, we can have a good session and learn new things!" - Anas, student

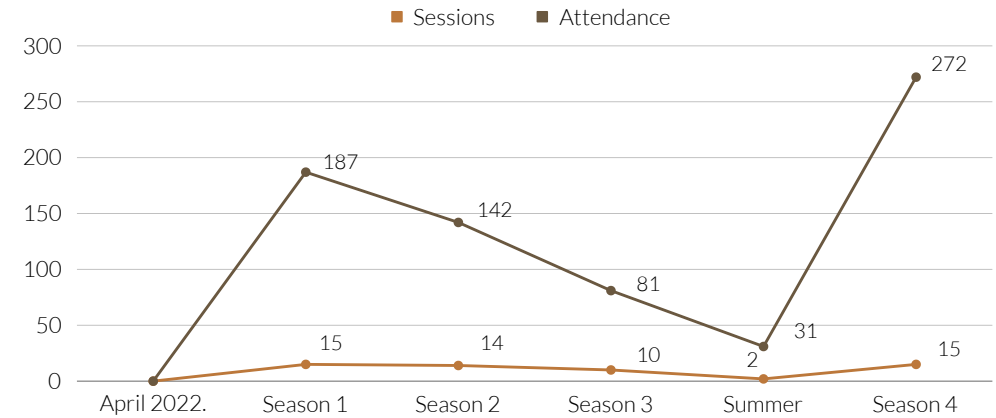
4/ Enrichment Activities

The CJF Morocco team utilised the Fiers et Forts skatepark to run Enrichment Activities. In these sessions, activities outside of skateboarding were offered to expose participants to different learning opportunities and create bonding experiences for the community.

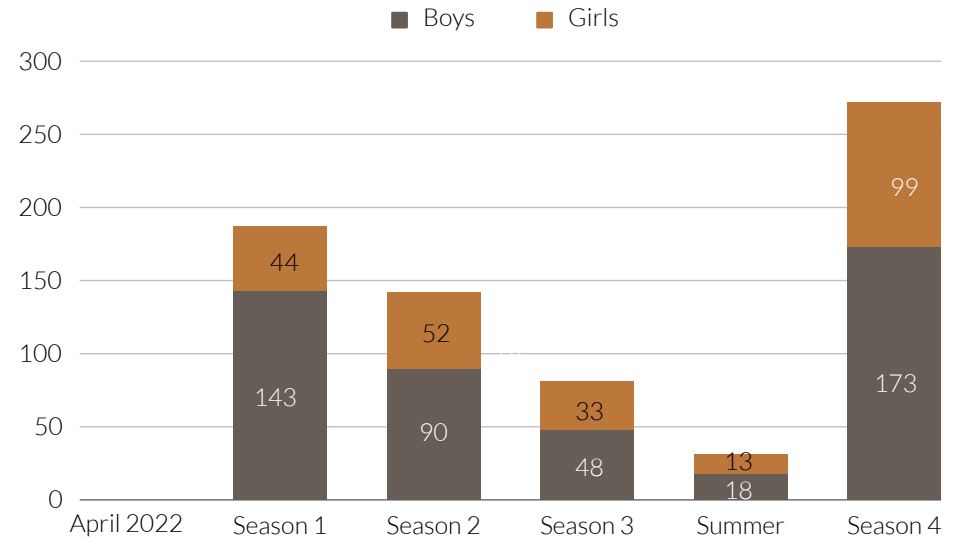
These sessions sometimes included an external workshop teacher with different fields of expertise, to engage the participants in exploring their interests, potential and learning new skills.



Enrichment Activities



Enrichment Attendance



What went down in the Enrichment Activities?

15 Enrichment Activities were organized this season with an average attendance of 18 people per session. The sessions saw participants from both the Centre and the surrounding community. The total attendance in for these sessions added up to 272. The programme reached a total of 105 unique users, 61% (64) of the participants were boys and 39% (41) were girls.

The following subjects were covered in the sessions:

- Bench maintenance: the benches made in the previous season got a varnish treatment from the children to protect the wood and prolong their lifespan. (2x)
- Clean up: the skatepark community got together to clean up the garbage in the area around the skatepark. (3x)
- Skateboard maintenance: the children learned how to put together a skateboard, and fixed up all the skateboards for the start of the new season. (3x)
- Slack line workshop: Cath gave a slack line workshop.
- Woodwork: Rachid came to teach the children how to make their own fingerboards! (2x)
- Woodwork: we recycled old wood to create a step-up ramp for the park. (2x)
- Concrete: a wooden mold was built to create a slappy curb for the park. (2x)



5/ Events & Excursions

King of the Park competitions

A staple at the Fiers et Forts skatepark by now, this contest where participants are divided in teams and get a challenge book to win the most points, was executed both in the middle and at the end of the season. A great occasion to for the kids to work together, appreciate each other and push themselves.

Game of Skate competition

A new addition to the arsenal of activities at the Fiers et Forts skatepark: a competition was introduced, where 16 participants played games of skate in tournament style, until the 2 finalist battled it out to be crowned game of skate champion.

Street skating sessions

Children were taken outside the skatepark to explore the urban environment with their skateboards.



6 events executed

- Total attendance:124
 - 48 girls attendances (39%)
 - 76 boys attendances (61%)
- Average session attendance: 21
- Unique participants:72

2 street sessions executed

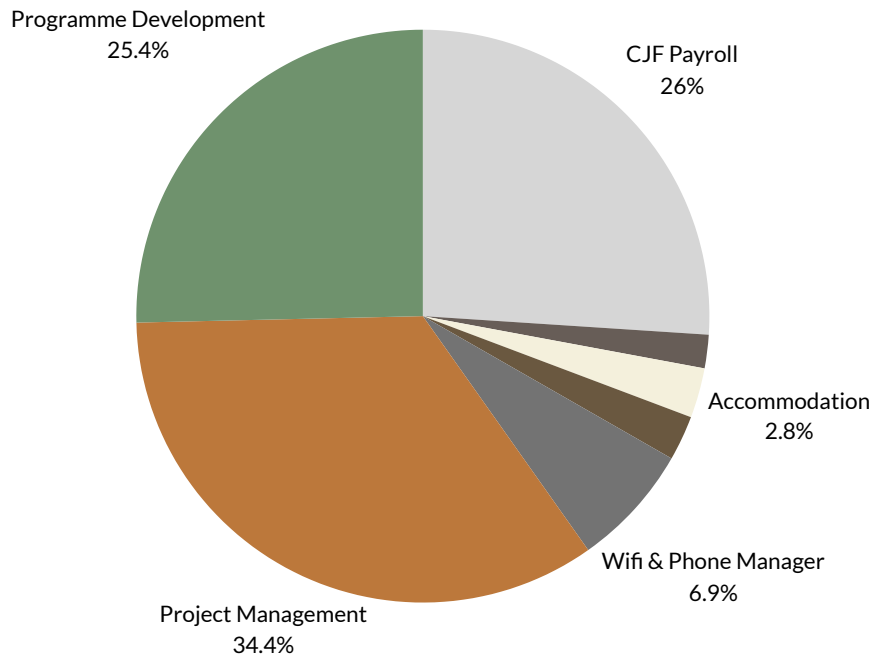
- Total attendance: 31
 - 12 girls attendances (39%)
 - 19 boys attendances (61%)
- Average session attendance: 15.5
- Unique participants: 31



4/ Finances

Expenses

In the following, you find a breakdown of the costs of CJF Morocco to run this season of programming. The total cost of this season was **\$3,549 USD**.



Items	Cost (USD)
CJF Payroll	\$924
Food & Water	\$67
Accommodation	\$100
Workshops	\$90
Wifi & Phone Skatepark Manager	\$246
Project Management	\$1,222
Programme Development	\$900
TOTAL	\$3,549

Breakdown of finances Season 4

CJF Payroll (\$924 USD)

This season, 2 local staff members were employed to execute the programming activities. Staff were paid on a monthly basis.

Food & Water (\$67 USD)

Water was provided every session, snacks and fruits were provided during events. The earthquake food expenses are not included as they were paid through an external source.

Accommodation (\$100 USD)

These costs consist of the last month of rent for the staff member house.

Workshops (\$90 USD)

These costs include workshop teachers and workshop materials. 1 external workshop teacher was compensated and materials included varnish, paint, metal sheets and cement.

WiFi & phone Skatepark Manager (\$246 USD)

These costs included payments for wifi at the skatepark, to allow staff to complete and file session reports online and delivering content on social media. A phone was purchased for the skatepark manager to be able to communicate with parents of service users.

Project Management (\$1,222 USD)

This includes the salary of the Programmes Manager to coordinate and execute all programming activities this season.

- Coordinating and supporting staff members in their respective positions
- Coordination and evaluation of activities
- Administration of finances

Programme Development (\$900 USD)

These include the costs of monitoring, evaluating and learning (MEL) and reporting on the programmes implemented at the Fiers et Forts Skatepark. More specifically:

- Designing and developing the programmes that run at the Fiers et Forts Skatepark
- Supporting the implementation of the programmes at the Fiers et Forts Skatepark
- Managing data system and feedback on the collected data through reports



Funding

This season was funded by CJFamily, New Line Skateparks, and The Skateroom.

THE SKATEROOM
Art for Social Impact



5/ Recommendations

This season has been the most challenging and busy season at the Fiers et Forts skatepark so far. It tested the limits of the skatepark staff, but in turn, also resulted in the biggest impact in a season.

In the following, you'll find a summary of the recommendations that came forward from this season to improve the working structure for the next seasons, and consolidate the impact of CJF Morocco further.

Managing increased number of participants

- The participants of the skatepark programming more than doubled the past season. This revealed where the limits of the skatepark staff lies. In order to keep engaging and serving the current group of participants, it is recommended to hire an additional staff member at the skatepark.

Scheduling

- Being faced with a number of factors like the earthquake teacher strikes, and a bigger group of participants to serve, scheduling proved to be a real challenge this season. It is recommended to set a fixed schedule as soon as possible with coming seasons, to limit the chaos that comes with continuously adapting the schedule.

