



Empowering children through skateboarding and education

Creating leaders that make a better world

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, Dropping In, Skate and Create, Back-to-School and Youth Leadership, our aim is to give children the opportunity to become future leaders for a better world.



What Skateistan does



Outreach

Outside of our Skate Schools, Outreach brings Skateistan Educators to children with limited resources. We introduce new communities to skateboarding through creative activities and develop partnerships to connect young people and their families with important social services. Children are invited to register and join other weekly programs.



Back-to-School

To support children through public education, Skateistan's Back-to-School program partners with schools and services to align our students with their national curriculums. In Afghanistan, children who are out of school join our Skate School five days a week to cover three grades of public education in 11 months. Upon completing our accelerated learning program, we enroll students into public schools, usually in the 3rd or 4th grade.



Skate and Create

The Skate and Create program helps students build life skills through a balance of social 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. Four annual curriculums develop a global perspective through local actions. The program is accessible to all levels of literacy and ability. It aims to provide a regulated safe space for young people to develop relationships and skills that overcome deep social barriers.



Dropping In

The Dropping In program provides learning spaces and resources where students can develop their aspirations and explore their potential. Children 'drop in' for organized skateboarding and sports sessions, read in our Skate School libraries, join weekly book clubs and study groups, or use computers and quiet spaces to study. Even when public school is not in session, holiday programs, field trips, and events keep students learning and moving ahead.



Youth Leadership

Dedicated students who have shown talent, initiative and hard work can join our Youth Leadership program which helps to prepare them for adult life. Students work together on building up skills such as understanding the media, event planning and health and safety. They have the opportunity to take part in international cultural exchanges, student councils and debating teams. Students learn from the skill sets of their Educators and complete foundational safety training so they can support younger students in the skatepark and in the classroom. The Youth Leadership program creates role models for the other students and a wider community.

Who Skateistan reaches

Our programs are for all children aged between 5 and 17 but we have particular focus on reaching children who are often excluded from sporting and educational opportunities.

Girls

Gender based inequality is an important social issue that we aim to address by including as many girls as possible in our programs. Across our programs, we aim for 50% girls' participation, and Afghanistan has the highest percentage of female skateboarders in the world. We offer girls-only sessions and employ female educators as role models at all of our Skate Schools worldwide. 53% of Skateistan staff are female.

Children from low-income backgrounds

Educational and recreational services for children are often compromised in places of long-term conflict and concentrated poverty. Yet, when millions of children miss out on experiences of playing and learning, they lose opportunities to develop essential life skills, to imagine a new world for themselves, to evolve into leaders, and to develop effective solutions for their communities. All our programs are free of charge and our Community Educators specifically work in areas that have high poverty rates.

Children living with disabilities

Skateboarding is accessible to children with physical and cognitive disabilities as it can be practiced in some form by virtually anyone. The ability to take part in sport and creative activities builds students' confidence, self-esteem, and provides a valuable platform for self-expression. We partner with other organizations who are working with children living with disabilities so we can help them to enjoy the fun and freedom that comes with skateboarding. Our Educators undertake special training, such as sign language classes, to help them work more effectively with children with disabilities.



Where Skateistan works Kabul, Afghanistan



398

active students

41%

girls

538

weekly attendances

87%

children from low
income backgrounds

11

children living with
disabilities



Where Skateistan works Mazar-e-Sharif, Afghanistan



- 902**
active students
- 41%**
girls
- 1037**
weekly attendances
- 95%**
children from low
income backgrounds
- 28**
children living with
disabilities



Where Skateistan works *Phnom Penh, Cambodia*



258

active students

53%

girls

375

weekly attendances

81%

children from low
income backgrounds

66

children living with
disabilities



Where Skateistan works

Johannesburg, South Africa



838

active students

45%

girls

401

weekly attendances

86%

children from low
income backgrounds

49

children living with
disabilities

*Statistics taken from Q4, 2019



skateistan.org

Awards

