



sk8+U



Straddle3 saw their request as an opportunity to carry out a social integration process with these young people, through the creation and promotion of new urban spaces. And also as a potential case study of emergent urbanism that would be able to demonstrate a new, closer dynamic between citizens and urban planning processes, based on a broad, inclusive vision of public space that is particularly significant in times of crisis and uncertainty.

After a series of meetings – between the young promoters of the project, local politicians, and experts – one of the sites proposed by the kids turned out to match the Town Council's ideas. The chosen site was the entrance to a new sports area on the edge of the town. It was also decided that the project would be produced through the active participation of the kids in a process based on recycling, collaborative design, shared management, self-building, and the maintenance of communal spaces. A € 7.500 prize from the ID Sport programme organised by Idensitat and the Spanish Sports Council gave the project a decisive boost. The final budget was around € 40.000.

The final design was developed by adapting the plan proposed by the skaters to the specific conditions of the site, the recycled materials that the group was able to collect, the available budget, and a construction approach based on a mix of self-building workshops involving participants with different levels of experience and minimum interventions by professionals.

One of the key decisions made at the outset was to use concrete for the skatepark, given that it was clearly the preferred material of the young skaters. Another key decision was the use of a container which had been bought for scrap price.