



**Financial Statements  
for the year ended 31 December 2016  
for  
Stichting FERN**

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## **Stichting FERN**

### **General Information for the year ended 31 December 2016**

**REGISTERED OFFICE:**

Groenesteeg 65  
2312 SP Leiden  
Netherlands  
Registration : 41169658

**BRUSSELS OFFICE:**

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Rue d'Edimbourg, 26  
1050 Brussels,  
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Stratford Road  
Moreton-in-Marsh, GL56 9NQ  
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☎ +44 1608 652 895

**WEBSITE :**

[www.fern.org](http://www.fern.org)

**AUDITOR:**

DGST & PARTNERS , RÉVISEURS S. CIV.P.R.L  
BE 0458.736.952  
Represented by Mr Pierre SOHET  
Avenue Van Becelaere, 28/A  
1170 Watermael-Boitsfort  
Brussels, Belgium

### **RAPPORT DE REVISEUR D'ENTREPRISES SUR LES COMPTES ANNUELS DE LA FONDATION PRIVEE DE DROIT HOLLANDAIS STICHTING FERN POUR L'EXERCICE CLOS LE 31 DECEMBRE 2016**

Nieuwelaan, 9 à 2611RR Delft Pays-Bas

N° d'entreprise : 0851.515.983

Conformément aux termes de la mission qui nous a été confiée par votre conseil d'administration, nous vous faisons rapport. Ce rapport inclut notre opinion sur le bilan au 31 décembre 2016, le compte de résultats de l'exercice clos le 31 décembre 2016 et l'annexe. Comme nous n'avons pas été nommés commissaire, notre rapport n'est destiné qu'à l'usage interne de l'ASBL et ne peut pas être publié.

#### **Rapport sur les comptes annuels – opinion sans réserve**

Nous avons procédé au contrôle des comptes annuels de la Fondation privée de droit hollandais Stichting FERN pour l'exercice clos le 31 décembre 2016, dont le total du bilan s'élève à € 6.130.934,53 et dont le compte de résultats se solde par un bénéfice de l'exercice de € 18.047,11.

#### *Responsabilité de l'organe de gestion relative à l'établissement des comptes annuels*

L'organe de gestion est responsable de l'établissement de comptes annuels donnant une image fidèle conformément au référentiel comptable applicable en Belgique, ainsi que de la mise en place du contrôle interne qu'il estime nécessaire à l'établissement de comptes annuels ne comportant pas d'anomalies significatives, que celles-ci proviennent de fraudes ou résultent d'erreurs.

#### *Responsabilité du réviseur d'entreprises*

Notre responsabilité est d'exprimer une opinion sur ces comptes annuels sur la base de notre audit. Nous avons effectué notre audit selon les normes internationales d'audit (ISA) telles qu'adoptées en Belgique. Ces normes requièrent de notre part de nous conformer aux exigences déontologiques, ainsi que de planifier et de réaliser le contrôle en vue d'obtenir une assurance raisonnable que les comptes annuels ne comportent pas d'anomalies significatives.

Un audit implique la mise en œuvre de procédures en vue de recueillir des éléments probants concernant les montants et les informations fournies dans les comptes annuels. Le choix des procédures mises en œuvre, y compris l'évaluation des risques que les comptes annuels comportent des anomalies significatives, que celles-ci proviennent de fraudes ou résultent d'erreurs, relève du jugement du réviseur.



En procédant à cette évaluation des risques, le réviseur prend en compte le contrôle interne de l'entité relatif à l'établissement de comptes annuels donnant une image fidèle, cela afin de définir des procédures de contrôle appropriées dans les circonstances, et non dans le but d'exprimer une opinion sur l'efficacité du contrôle interne de l'entité. Un audit consiste également à apprécier le caractère approprié des règles d'évaluation retenues, le caractère raisonnable des estimations comptables faites par l'organe de gestion, et la présentation d'ensemble des comptes annuels.

Nous avons obtenu de l'organe de gestion et des préposés de l'entité, les explications et informations requises pour notre contrôle.

Nous estimons que les éléments probants recueillis sont suffisants et appropriés pour fonder notre opinion.

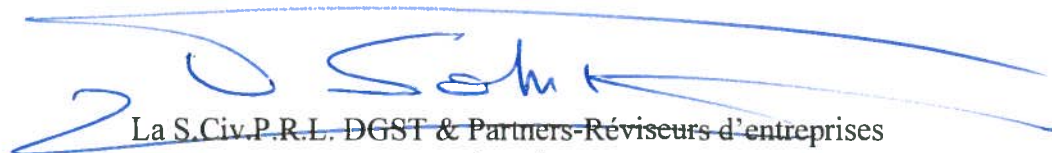
*Opinion sans réserve*

A notre avis, les comptes annuels donnent une image fidèle du patrimoine et de la situation financière de la Fondation privée de droit hollandais Stichting FERN au 31 décembre 2016, ainsi que de ses résultats pour l'exercice clos à cette date, conformément au référentiel comptable applicable en Belgique.

Paragraphe d'observation

Sans remettre en cause l'opinion exprimée ci-dessus, nous attirons l'attention sur le compte de résultats et les règles d'évaluation des comptes annuels qui incluent les subsides déterminés au départ des règles définies par les pouvoirs subsidants concernés. Néanmoins, l'éligibilité des dépenses subsidiées doit à ce jour toujours faire l'objet d'une confirmation sur la base du contrôle de ces mêmes pouvoirs subsidants.

Fait à Bruxelles, le 14 juin 2017



La S.Civ.P.R.L. DGST & Partners-Réviseurs d'entreprises

Représentée par  
Pierre SOHET  
Réviseur d'entreprises.

# Stichting FERN

## Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2016 (Euros)

Balance Sheet		
Assets	2016	2015
<b>1. Subscribed capital unpaid</b>		
<b>2. Fixed assets (2.1+2.2+2.3)</b>	<b>56,215</b>	<b>77,369</b>
2.1 Intangible fixed assets	37,502	50,224
2.2 Tangible fixed assets	18,712	23,922
2.3 Financial assets	-	3,223
<b>3. Current assets (3.1+3.2.1+3.2.2+3.3+3.4+3.5)</b>	<b>6,074,720</b>	<b>6,641,610</b>
3.1 Stocks		
3.2.1 Debtors due after one year	2,136,946	1,990,840
3.2.2 Debtors due within one year	2,497,690	2,496,964
3.3 Cash at bank and in hand	1,429,142	2,142,768
3.4 Other current assets	-	-
3.5 Accrued income / Deferred expenses	10,942	11,038
<b>Total assets (1+2+3)</b>	<b>6,130,935</b>	<b>6,718,980</b>
Liabilities	2016	2015
<b>4. Capital and reserves (4.1+4.2+4.3+4.4)</b>	<b>315,109</b>	<b>309,120</b>
4.1 Reserves (restricted)	230,000	230,000
Subtotal restricted reserves	<b>230,000</b>	<b>230,000</b>
4.2 Reserves (non-restricted) inc Surplus / (loss) brought forward	30,886	2,661
4.3 Surplus / (loss) for current year	18,047	28,224
4.4 Capital grant reserve	36,176	48,235
Subtotal non-restricted reserves	<b>85,109</b>	<b>79,120</b>
<b>5. Creditors (5.1.1+5.1.2+5.2.1+5.3.1+5.4)</b>	<b>5,815,827</b>	<b>6,409,860</b>
5.1.1 Long term non-bank debt	-	-
5.1.2 Long term bank debt	-	-
5.2.1 Short term non-bank debt	<b>396,882</b>	<b>971,810</b>
Payables within one year	366,103	962,632
Social security and salary	30,779	9,178
5.3.1 Provisions	25,000	-
5.4 Accrued expenses / Deferred income	5,393,945	5,438,050
<b>Total liabilities (4+5)</b>	<b>6,130,935</b>	<b>6,718,980</b>
Statement of Financial Activities		
	2016	2015
<b>6. Operating Income</b>	<b>3,187,236</b>	<b>2,786,517</b>
Specific campaign funding	3,170,464	2,769,472
Core funding & donations	-	-
Reimbursements	16,772	17,045
<b>7. Costs of material and consumables</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>8. Other operating charges</b>	<b>2,084,432</b>	<b>1,851,831</b>
Partner subcontracts	1,303,866	1,045,921
Audit, consultants, subcontract	317,011	349,938
Travel, meetings, training	289,214	226,346
Printing, editing, translation	35,128	136,183
Office costs	88,507	33,494
Rent & Utilities	40,965	40,978
Office insurance, recruitment & training	9,741	18,972
Taxes	-	-
<b>9. Staff and HR costs</b>	<b>983,056</b>	<b>883,683</b>
<b>10. Gross operating surplus (loss) (6-8-9)</b>	<b>119,748</b>	<b>51,003</b>
<b>11. Depreciation and amortisation of fixed assets</b>	<b>15,257</b>	<b>11,224</b>
<b>12. Net operating surplus / (loss) (10-11)</b>	<b>104,492</b>	<b>39,779</b>
<b>13. Financial income and value adjustments on financial assets</b>	<b>110,458</b>	<b>40,841</b>
<b>14. Interest paid, bank charges, exchange rate losses and bad debts</b>	<b>196,903</b>	<b>52,396</b>
<b>15. Gains on realisation of debtors</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>16. Surplus / (loss) on ordinary activities (12+13-14+15)</b>	<b>18,047</b>	<b>28,224</b>
<b>17. Extraordinary income and charges</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>18. Taxes on surplus</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>19. Surplus / (loss) for the financial year (16-17-18)</b>	<b>18,047</b>	<b>28,224</b>

Stichting FERN  
Notes to the Financial Statements  
for the year ended 31 December 2016

## 1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

### Basis of accounting

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles in Belgium.

### Grants and Donations

Income from donations and grants is included in incoming resources when these are receivable. There are accounted on an accruals basis.

### Interest Receivable

Interest is included when receivable by the organisation.

### Expenditure

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and is inclusive of VAT which cannot be recovered.

### Depreciation

Fixed Assets are written off over three years straight line for computers having a purchase value of at least €1,000 (excl VAT), and over five years for office furniture having a purchase value of more than €1,000 (excl VAT).

## 2. TAXATION

The organisation is non-profit making and registered in the Netherlands as a Stichting. It therefore only pays Corporation Tax on investment income and capital gains.

## 3. CURRENT ASSETS

	<u>2016(€)</u>	<u>2015(€)</u>
Trade debtors	128,616	159,463
Amounts receivable within one year (note 5)	2,369,074	2,337,501
Cash at bank and in hand	1,429,142	2,142,768
Accrued income	472	1,196
Deferred expenses	10,470	9,842
	<u>3,937,773</u>	<u>4,650,770</u>

## 4. CREDITORS

	<u>2016(€)</u>	<u>2015(€)</u>
Deferred income (note 6)	5,393,944	5,438,050
Trade creditors and balances due to partners	40,936	92,609
Accrued expenses	92,656	141,911
Social security and salary debts	30,779	9,178
Amounts owed to donors	232,510	728,112
	<u>5,790,826</u>	<u>6,409,860</u>

Stichting FERN  
Notes to the Financial Statements (cont..)  
for the year ended 31 December 2016

<b>5. AMOUNTS RECEIVABLE WITHIN ONE YEAR</b>	<b><u>2016(€)</u></b>	<b><u>2015(€)</u></b>
<b>FROM DONORS</b>		
Delegation of the European Commission in Ivory Coast	51,882	21,189
Delegation of the European Commission in Liberia	-	269,899
Delegation of the European Commission in Vietnam	-	518,290
Department for International Development, United Kingdom	1,595,856	1,390,226
Ford Foundation, United States of America	380,390	-
CIDT, University of Wolverhampton, United Kingdom	67,418	110,403
Heinrich Boell Stiftung, Germany	-	2,986
INTEGRAL, European Commission	-	24,508
David & Lucille Packard Foundation, United States of America	218,724	-
European Climate Foundation, Belgium	4,805	-
LIFE+, European Commission	50,000	-
	<b><u>2,369,074</u></b>	<b><u>2,337,501</u></b>

<b>6. DEFERRED INCOME</b>	<b><u>2016(€)</u></b>	<b><u>2015(€)</u></b>
Delegation of the European Commission in Ivory Coast	8,728	127,735
Delegation of the European Commission in Liberia	438,116	1,080,694
Delegation of the European Commission in Vietnam	407,606	1,008,920
Department for International Development, United Kingdom	2,176,651	2,761,773
Ford Foundation, United States of America	1,841,691	289,725
INTEGRAL, European Commission	-	1,000
LIFE+, European Commission	124,999	-
David & Lucille Packard Foundation, United States of America	300,003	35,980
The Sigrid Rausing Trust, United Kingdom	-	21,050
Climate & Land Use Alliance	62,570	-
CIDT, University of Wolverhampton, United Kingdom	-	63,397
James Goldsmith Foundation, United Kingdom	33,581	42,796
Environmental Investigation Agency, United Kingdom	-	4,980
	<b><u>5,393,945</u></b>	<b><u>5,438,050</u></b>

<b>7. RESERVES</b>	<b><u>2016(€)</u></b>	<b><u>2015(€)</u></b>
Reserves (restricted) at 1 January	230,000	230,000
Reserves (non-restricted) at 1 January	30,886	2,661
Surplus for the financial year	18,047	28,224
Capital grant reserve	36,176	48,235
<b>Total reserves at 31 December</b>	<b><u>315,109</u></b>	<b><u>309,120</u></b>

**APPROVED BY THE BOARD**

DATE:

Elisa Peter, Chair

Jacques Laurol, Treasurer

## 8. INCOME AND EXPENDITURE

STICHTING FERN INCOME AND EXPENDITURE, BY CAMPAIGN - FOR THE YEAR TO 31 DECEMBER 2016																		
All figures in euros	Whole of Fern				<----- Analysis by Campaign ----->													
	Actual as % if Budget=100	Actual 2016	Approved budget 2016	Actual 2015	Core costs		Bio-Energy		Land Use, Forests & Climate		EU Drivers of Deforestation		Illegal Logging		Finance & Trade		Export Credit Agencies	
					Actual	budget	Actual	budget	Actual	budget	Actual	budget	Actual	budget	Actual	budget	Actual	budget
Income																		
Ford Foundation	104	352,263	338,721	282,476	43,928	21,999	6,698	7,760	-	2,857	243,545	288,381	39,694	1,143	18,397	16,581	-	-
Department for International Development, UK Government	101	963,585	949,829	852,009	89,063	77,880	-	-	-	-	66,875	32,945	771,229	769,262	36,417	69,743	-	-
European Commission - Development Cooperation	89	1,429,884	1,614,869	1,129,848	(4,241)	116,142	-	-	-	-	3,645	-	1,430,480	1,498,727	-	-	-	-
European Commission - Operating Grant	-	124,999	-	-	124,999	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
David & Lucille Packard Foundation	83	160,013	193,544	138,883	13,587	1,558	84,021	108,972	61,622	83,013	-	-	783	-	-	-	-	-
Sigrid Rausing Trust	360	21,050	5,852	166,132	589	272	6,054	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	14,407	5,580
JMG Foundation	133	42,584	32,000	-	-	5,000	7,338	8,778	-	-	35,246	13,222	-	5,000	-	-	-	-
Climate & Land Use Alliance	-	26,864	-	-	2,457	-	-	-	-	-	24,408	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
European Climate Foundation	-	48,222	-	-	4,250	-	7	-	43,965	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Both Ends	-	-	-	39,344	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Esmee Fairbairn Foundation	-	-	15,600	8,244	-	-	-	15,600	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
European Commission - Integral Project	-	-	-	34,786	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
European Forest Institute	-	-	-	21,158	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
European Environmental Paper Network	-	-	2,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2,000	-	-	-	-	-	-
Partner contributions	-	-	-	86,366	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other	33	5,219	16,000	14,081	5,219	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	16,000	-	-	-	-
Reimbursements	552	16,772	3,040	17,045	172	-	94	40	2,545	-	1,635	3,000	12,327	-	-	-	-	-
Bank Interest	-	2,419	-	5,161	2,419	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Exchange gains	-	103,820	-	31,824	103,820	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Creditors written back	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Subtotal - Income		3,297,694	3,171,455	2,827,357	386,261	222,851	104,213	141,150	108,131	85,870	375,354	339,548	2,254,514	2,290,132	54,815	86,324	14,407	5,580
Expenditure																		
Staff and HR costs	95	983,056	1,033,969	883,683	28,789	35,392	79,655	89,510	63,588	58,870	223,512	208,548	537,247	569,744	48,092	66,323	2,172	5,580
Partner subcontracts	119	1,303,866	1,094,537	1,045,921	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,303,866	1,094,537	-	-	-	-
Audit, consultants, subcontract	93	317,011	339,650	349,938	20,665	17,500	9,659	30,000	23,062	20,000	89,490	54,000	162,096	198,150	-	20,000	12,040	-
Travel, meetings, training	85	289,214	339,240	226,346	27,505	22,500	8,643	15,640	8,556	5,000	27,988	23,000	209,072	273,100	6,723	-	727	-
Office costs	64	35,128	54,900	136,183	32,707	54,900	-	-	-	-	2,222	-	198	-	-	-	-	-
Printing, editing, translation	40	88,507	219,830	33,494	9,070	21,880	6,256	6,000	12,937	2,000	33,491	54,000	26,753	135,950	-	-	-	-
Rent & utilities	102	40,965	40,000	40,978	40,965	40,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Insurance & HR costs	46	9,741	21,000	18,972	9,741	21,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Debts written off	-	25,461	-	18,950	25,461	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Depn, Interest, finance charges	103	33,205	32,150	18,724	17,878	13,500	-	-	-	-	-	-	15,327	18,650	-	-	-	-
Foreign exchange losses	-	153,494	-	25,946	153,494	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Subtotal - Costs	103	3,279,647	3,175,276	2,799,134	366,276	226,672	104,213	141,150	108,143	85,870	376,704	339,548	2,254,558	2,290,132	54,815	86,324	14,939	5,580
Surplus / (Deficit)		18,047	(3,821)	28,224	19,985	(3,821)	-	-	(12)	-	(1,350)	-	(45)	-	-	-	(532)	-



Stichting FERN  
Notes to the Financial Statements  
for the year ended 31 December 2016

<b>9. INCOME</b>	<b><u>2016(€)</u></b>	<b><u>2015(€)</u></b>
Delegation of the European Commission in Ivory Coast	119,007	153,103
Delegation of the European Commission in Liberia	644,205	460,520
Delegation of the European Commission in Vietnam	603,275	428,165
Department for International Development, United Kingdom	963,585	852,009
European Commission (via Centre For International Development & Training, University of Wolverhampton) United Kingdom	63,397	88,061
European Forest Institute, Finland	-	21,158
Directorate General of the Environment, European Commission	124,999	-
Ford Foundation, United States of America	352,263	282,476
INTEGRAL, European Commission	1,000	34,786
The Sigrid Rausing Trust, United Kingdom	21,050	166,132
Esmée Fairbairn Foundation, United Kingdom	-	8,244
Forest Peoples Programme, United Kingdom	-	5,240
Both ends, Netherlands	-	39,344
David & Lucille Packard Foundation, United States of America	160,013	138,883
Partner contributions	-	86,366
Heinrich Boell stiftung, Germany	-	4,986
European Climate Foundation, Belgium	48,222	-
Climate & Land Use Alliance, United States of America	26,864	-
JMG Foundation, United Kingdom	42,584	-
<b>Subtotal - Specific Campaign funding</b>	<b><u>3,170,464</u></b>	<b><u>2,769,473</u></b>
Reimbursements	16,772	41,540
Donations and core income	-	4,335
<b>Subtotal - Operating income</b>	<b><u>3,187,236</u></b>	<b><u>2,815,348</u></b>
Credit interest	2,419	1,334
Gain on exchange rate	103,820	15,029
Creditors written back	-	31,296
Other income	4,219	1,293
<b>Other income</b>	<b><u>110,458</u></b>	<b><u>48,953</u></b>
<b>TOTAL OPERATING INCOME</b>	<b><u>3,297,694</u></b>	<b><u>2,864,301</u></b>

**Additional information re: funding received from DFID, UK**

In line with the audit requirements of the donor, the following information is included with respect to Fern's Forest Governance, Markets & Climate (FGMC) contract with the Department for International Development, UK. This relates to the contract which took effect from 1 October 2015. Project charges include a contribution to Fern's audit costs.

	<b><u>2016(€)</u></b>	<b><u>2015(€)</u></b>
Total project income	839,187	229,281
Total project charges	844,720	229,303
DFID cash carried forward at 31 December	144,911	217,464