

Activity Report 2013

Norwegian Institute for Cultural Heritage Research (NIKU) is an independent non-profit institution dedicated to preservation and sustainable management of cultural heritage.

NIKU conducts research and provides professional services for cultural heritage authorities, public administration agencies, churches, museums, and property developers, owners of art and historic buildings, and international clients. The institute's main areas of expertise are conservation of art and buildings, archaeology, cultural heritage in the High North, and spatial planning for embracing cultural heritage in public and commercial development.

NIKU's professional staff consists of conservators, archaeologists, architects, engineers, geographers, ethnologists, social scientists, art historians, researchers and advisors with special competencies in cultural heritage management and preservation.

NIKU is based in Oslo and have regional offices in Bergen, Trondheim, Tønsberg and Tromsø. In 2013 NIKU's staff was 64 full-time employees and they there organized in the following five departments:

Archaeology department

The main task of Archaeology department is to undertake archaeological excavations, investigations and registrations in the medieval towns of Norway. Our archaeologists are also responsible for investigation of medieval churches, cemeteries, monasteries and fortified sites. The department's research mainly revolves around archaeology from the late Viking Age until today. NIKU is a leading institution in the use of new technology in conjunction with archaeological recording, mapping, documentation and preservation. Key areas for developing new methodologies include the use of satellite imagery, aerial and terrestrial laser scanning as well as geophysical surveys. At the end of the year there were 15 employees in this department.

Buildings department

The main tasks of Buildings department are to maintain and acquire knowledge about historic buildings and facilities, assess their technical condition, conduct vulnerability analyses, determine potential for usage, and develop knowledge about the significance of cultural sites and how cultural heritage is used and managed. At the end of the year there were 16 employees in this department.

Conservation department

The main tasks of Conservation department are to examine, restore, conduct research and provide professional advice on conservation of art and historic buildings. In addition to examining and recommending specific measures aimed at preservation, Conservation department documents craft and painting techniques that have been used, assesses damages, and recommends measures to prevent damage or disintegration of historical objects. At the end of the year there were 15 employees in this department.

Urban Planning & Landscape department

The main tasks of Urban Planning & Landscape Department are to provide expertise on cultural heritage in spatial planning, management and community development, deliver environmental impact assessments, cultural and historical site analysis (DIVE), consulting in planning processes, climate and landscape transformation, conversion of urban and industrial areas, mapping and assessment of landscape and heritage sites. At the end of the year there were 11 employees in this department.

High North department

The main tasks of High North department are to conduct research and deliver impact assessments on cultural heritage sites and landscapes, communities and indigenous populations in the High North; develop GIS-based methods for documentation and presentation of indigenous traditional knowledge and landscape usage. At the end of the year there were 7 employees in this department.

Financial presentation

In 2013, as in 2012, NIKU had an operating loss. Operating income was increasing mainly because of large excavation projects where we have used hired labor force. In addition to this, we have received 2 million as contributions from the Ministry of the Environment for reorganization of NIKU. Investment income is on the same level as in 2012. Approximately 21% of NIKU's income in 2013 comes from the basic allocation, compared with 25% in 2012.

The Foundation had a moderate wages settlement in 2013, and pension costs were lower than in 2012. These factors contributed to the small increasement of labor costs by only 1.4 %. Other operating expenses are approximately on the same level as in 2012.

Overall, this has resulted in an ordinary profit after taxes for 2013 showing a loss of 421,258 NOK.

The Foundation's equity has been reduced as a result of the negative net profit. Total equity at 31.12.13 was NOK 16 825 637.

Financial summary – Result

Numbers in 1000s NOK

	2013	2012
Sales revenues	81 059 682	73 360 622
Total operating revenues	81 059 682	73 360 622
Cost of sales	8 034 366	7 803 678
Payroll costs	59 471 997	58 639 564
Depreciation	799 650	1 270 754
Other operating expenses	13 727 976	13 215 474
Total operating expenses	82 033 989	80 929 470
Operating profit	-974 307	-7 568 848
Financial income and financial expences		
Interest income	833 252	806 787
Interest expenses	83 640	35 925
Net financial items	749 612	770 862
Ordinary profit before tax	-224 696	-6 797 985
Tax expense for the year	196 562	-1 874 747
Ordinary profit	-421 258	-4 923 238
Allocations		
Other equity	421 258	4 923 238
Total allocations	-421 258	-4 923 238

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