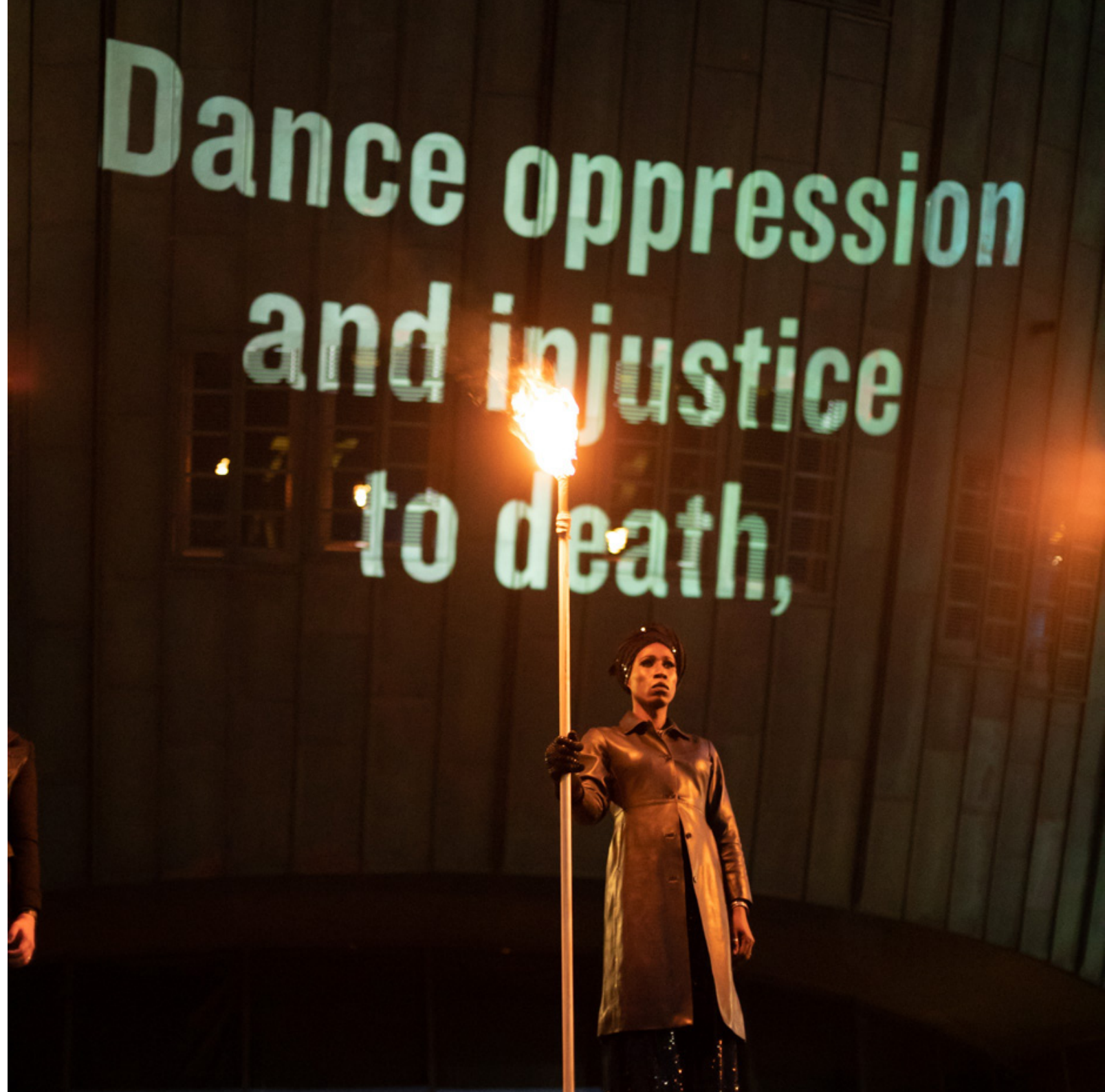


FOSSIL FREE CULTURE NL

ANNUAL REPORT
2020



FOREWORD

2020 has been a year defined by online vs. offline, open vs. closed, together vs. apart. At Fossil Free Culture NL, we carry with us the adaptive resilience of activism and the creative capacity of art. And we did not shy away from leaning into these dual qualities.

The first two months of the year were dedicated to workshops and talks to many audiences, from university students, to cultural workers and activists. In March, we received news that our 2019 target, Het Concertgebouw, had (finally) ended its relationship with Shell. This was an impactful and historic moment for Amsterdam, as it became home to the world's first 'Fossil Free Museumplein'. A moment for our community to celebrate.

Plans to celebrate were being drawn up, when the Coronavirus crisis shut down public and communal activities in the Netherlands. Because our key audience of the Museumplein public was absent, we postponed the celebration until the cultural sector was reopened, in September.

During the months in which cultural institutions were closed, we focused on organisational structure and new ways to connect through art. First,

as Merel Willemsen stepped down from the board, we welcomed a new board member, Ama Koranteng-Kumi, who brings with her many years of experience in cultural work as well as expertise in activist practices. We were also strengthened by hiring a new project manager, whose role is dedicated to empowering the team and increasing organisational strategy.

In addition, during the 'lockdown' period, we produced an original art book publication based on the artistic intervention in December 2019 titled *Waiting for Simon*, featuring new texts and materializing the online artistic intervention. By September, the book was ready to launch at our Fossil Free Museumplein celebration.

The celebration of Fossil Free Museumplein was in part performance, and in part public event where individuals could demonstrate their shared vision of Amsterdam's anticipated 'circular economy': one where fossil fuel companies have no place.

With a new team structure and over 100 active participants for the celebration, we wasted no time. Immediately following the celebration, we moved directly to our new

target, the final public institution in Amsterdam that still accepts fossil fuel funding: NEMO Science Museum.

The message was shared online through a video campaign declaring NEMO as our new target, focusing on the outrageous involvement of Shell in their science education curriculum Makkunde. And we stayed true to the promises made in that video declaration. Within two months, we returned to NEMO's waterfront grounds with a performance of disobedient art, titled *Keep Dancing*.

In the background of these early stages of our campaign against NEMO and Shell's partnership, our collective arrived at an improved way of working. We are now equipped with a designated fundraiser, newly launched donations webpage, and a structured system for managing the ever-growing list of volunteers (currently at approx. 150 members).

We are entering into 2021 with new ideas and open hearts... and of course plenty of well-deserved rage. But first, we hope you enjoy looking at our annual report covering the core activities of Fossil Free Culture NL in 2020.

FOSSIL FREE CULTURE NL

We are Fossil Free Culture NL, a grassroots collective of artists, designers, activists and scholars. We identify as feminist, immigrant women of colour.

We blend art, design and activism into 'disobedient art' to stop artwashing: the association of fossil fuel corporations with cultural institutions to clean their image and maintain their social licence to operate.

We are in the midst of a climate catastrophe. We see it as our responsibility to be part of a strategy against the crisis and to be co-designing the transition to a different society.

We know that the same fossil-fueled power structures that are causing the climate crisis are also responsible for colonialism, systemic racism, heteropatriarchy, and other forms of oppression. Our long-term goal is to transform the cultural sector so that it plays its proper part in dismantling those structures and creating new societies based on plenitude, reciprocity and resilience.

Vision

We envision a fossil free future based on the equality of all species and beings. We believe art has an essential role to play in realising this future, by sculpting its image into people's minds.

Mission

Our mission is to terminally erode the fossil fuel industry's social licence to operate. We believe that eradicating fossil fuel sponsorship from the cultural sector is a necessary step towards making space for, and concretely starting to build, a fossil free future.

We, as artists and activists, believe we have a core role to play in exposing the catastrophic social and ecological impacts of fossil fuel corporations' operations and their culpability for the global climate crisis, and therefore consider it our duty to liberate the arts from the influence of profoundly unethical corporations. We are committed to use our skills as artists and our determination as activists to create persistent and audacious artistic performances challenging these toxic relationships at the very heart of the cultural sector inside the prestigious institutions that still accept fossil fuel sponsorship.

Background

Fossil Free Culture NL was founded in 2016 by a group of artists, activists, researchers and cultural workers committed to cutting the ties between fossil fuel companies and public cultural institutions.

Since 2016, we have practiced art in order to eradicate fossil fuel sponsorship from the cultural sector in the Netherlands. Following our artistic performances, the Van Gogh Museum ended its sponsorship agreement with Shell in 2018, the Concertgebouw did the same in 2020, marking a landmark moment for Amsterdam: the city became host to the world's first Fossil Free Museumplein.

RESULTS 2020

In 2020, FFC-NL celebrated a landmark moment for Amsterdam, and used this momentum to move quickly and with determination onto next steps ridding the cultural sector of the fossil fuel industry. Yet at the same time, 2020 served as a year of reflection and rebuilding for the organisation, empowering itself and its communities with a new fundraising structure and organisational approach. Our most impactful results in 2020 were:

1 - Celebrating the end of Shell's partnership with the Concertgebouw with over 100 artists, activists and cultural workers. This event in Museumplein was powerful, energising and historic, declaring the square the world's first 'Fossil Free Museumplein'. Through this campaign, we were able to demonstrate to Amsterdam what its ambition of a 'circular economy' could really look like: a fossil-free future. And at the same time, invigorate our artistic and activist communities with new energy during a year they needed it most.

2 - Disrupting our new target, NEMO Science Museum. 30 FFC-NL members stood together in front of NEMO to announce this new target to the world, a message that was spread online with a video statement. Only two

months later, NEMO heard from us again at a performance honouring the Ogoni 9.

3 - Starting new dialogues around the ethical funding in the cultural sector through a new art book publication. This book publication carries forward the artistic intervention in 2019 Waiting for Simon through new texts, email exchanges, and design elements. It demands from the reader: what do you expect from your public institutions?

4 - Sharing knowledge and building community through workshops and talks. We have reached more people than ever before through our workshops, talks, and podcast contributions, reaching audiences at diverse levels of engagement with cultural work and activism. FFC-NL has functioned not only as a keeper of knowledges and strategies, but also as a source of learning and new ideas.

5 - Empowering our activist and artistic communities through new knowledge flows. We have held two public brainstorming sessions in advance of each performance, opening up a dialogue with a wider and more open community. Each session consists of activities and break-out groups that resulted in new ideas, fresh visions, and

practical strategies to achieve them. This is a new form of group-led artistic visioning that is rooted in our collective aspirations.

6 - Launching a new donations platform now live on the FFC-NL website. In order to prepare for a more robust individual donations fundraising campaign, artists at FFC-NL have created artistic objects to give as 'goodies' following donations. Donations are more accessible than ever in an online space designed to engage donors and collaborators alike.



FOSSIL FREE MUSEUMPLEIN

September 16th, 2020
Museumplein
Performance celebration

Over 100 people joined Fossil Free Culture in Amsterdam's Museumplein to celebrate that the Concertgebouw dropped Shell. But that wasn't the only thing to celebrate: all cultural institutions located at the city's iconic Museumplein have now cut their ties with fossil fuel companies.

The opening ceremony of this new "Fossil Free Museumplein" included two impactful speakers. Marene Elgershuizen, Dutch dramatic-coloratura soprano and performer of the Grote Zaal in the Concertgebouw, spoke about the value of cultural institutions removing themselves from the fossil fuel industry. Ama van Dantzing, co-founder of Dr. Monk, articulated why art is key in countering climate collapse.

The focal celebratory moment was the reveal of FFC-NL's new intervention: a street sign officially declaring the square "Fossil Free Museumplein".



FOSSIL FREE
MUSEUMPLEIN
OUD-ZUID

FOSSIL FREE
MUSEUMPLEIN
2020



TARGETING NEMO

September 16th, 2020
NEMO Science Museum
Performance declaration

Fossil Free Culture NL delivered an act of intention. NEMO Science Museum is the last remaining cultural institution in Amsterdam to accept fossil fuel funding, and FFC-NL performers declared in plain sight: we declare NEMO our new target.

The performative declaration left a physical message of the artists' commitment: a banner in their mailbox. The statement was spread online through a video message to NEMO, to let it be known that the fossil fuel industry has no place in science education and programming.





~
NEMO



WAITING FOR SIMON

Art book publication
Limited edition
100 copies

An art book based around the artistic performance of waiting to have a coffee.

Following the Fossil Free Culture NL Art Storm Dissonance, the director of the Concertgebouw Simon Reinink initiated an email exchange, inviting the Fossil Free Culture NL board member Merel Willemsen for a coffee. This inspired a month-long artistic intervention in December 2019 in the café of the Concertgebouw in combination with a daily Facebook post creating a potential for a dialogue.

Playing on the concept of a typical “coffee table book”, Waiting for Simon features the online residue of that intervention, extended with a reflection in the form of a creative narrative by Stefan Plug, with an introduction by Chihiro Geuzebroek, and design by Jessica Kuhn.

as the centuries roll on
these things
will become fossils

these things

the things

the things

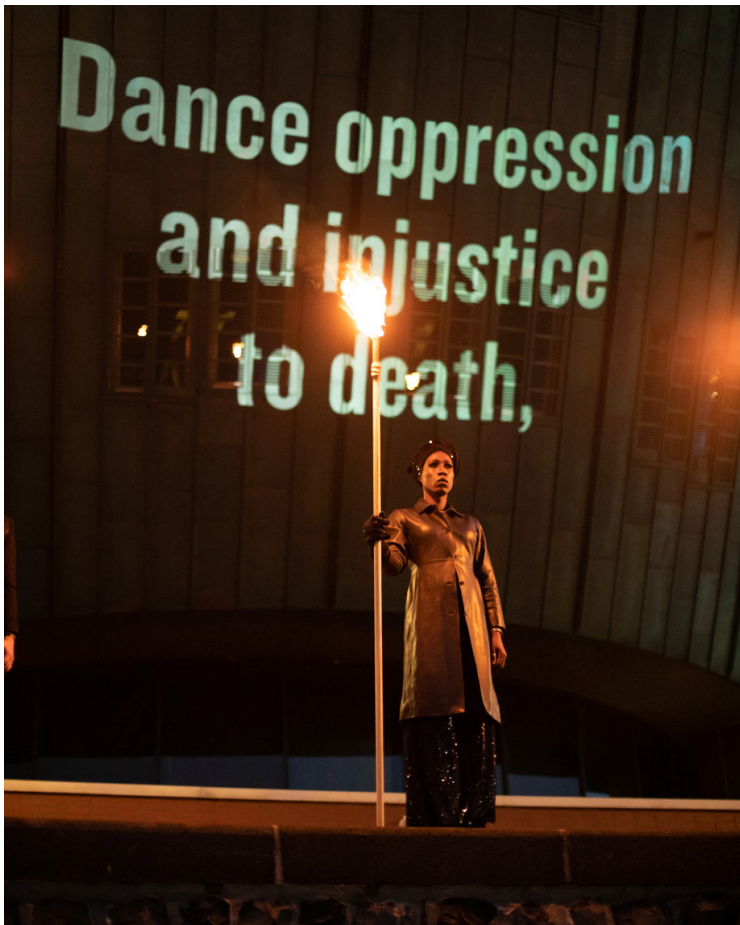
man takes over

shell reaches wider

The oilman

The Wagner plan

may they too one day become fossils



KEEP DANCING

November 10th, 2020
NEMO Science Museum
Performance Memorial

Nine performers from Fossil Free Culture NL memorialized each of the Nigerian activists – the Ogoni Nine – who were hanged on this day 25 years ago, for their leadership in the resistance movement against Shell on Ogoni land in Nigeria.

The performers stand as guardians, holding flames reflected against the darkening water. On the back of NEMO a poem by Saro-Wiwa, 'Dance', is projected: "Dance your anger and your joys / Dance the military guns to silence / Dance oppression and injustice to death / Dance my people / For we have seen tomorrow / And there is an Ogoni star in the sky".

Like Ken Saro-Wiwa, FFC-NL fights non-violently but passionately. We will take upon every cultural institution that affiliates with the fossil fuel industry. They killed strong voices, but the struggle is not silenced.



Dance the military
guns to silence,

OTHER ACTIVITIES

Public talks

Defeating Dystopia? 2.Dh5 Festival
- Panel on Art, Joy and Utopian
Imagination, BAK, Utrecht
Kunst en Activism, Amsterdamse
Hogeschool voor de Kunsten,
Amsterdam
Tools Towards Utopia Lecture, ArtEZ
University of Arts, Arnhem
Futures of Education in the Arts -
Panel on Cooperation in the Arts,
Activism and Education, Gerrit
Rietveld Academie, Amsterdam
People Powered Movement vs. Shell
talk series, BAK, Utrecht
Beyond Social - Panel on Provoking
Change, Willem de Kooning Academie,
Rotterdam
Presentation at International
Divestment Day, Princeton University,
Online
'Magnitude of all things' film screening
& talk, IDFA, Online
AKSIE film screening & Interview, Lab
111 with Het Actiefonds, Online
Future Beyond Crises webinar,
TransNational Institute and Shell Must
Fall, Online
FORUM: The Vantage Body, Willem
Kooning Academy's Social Practices
department, Rotterdam & Online

Workshops

Disobedient Art - How To, BAK,
Utrecht

Tools Towards Utopia Workshop, ArtEZ
University of Arts, Arnhem
2 days Masterclass on Art and
Activism, Fontys Hogeschool, Tilburg
Playful Disobedient Lab, IMPAKT
Festival, Online
XR Rebel Festival, OT301, Amsterdam
Long Now Lab #3: Art and Activism,
Veem House for Performance,
Amsterdam

Exhibitions

Defeating Dystopia? 2.Dh5 Festival,
BAK, Utrecht
Climate Visual Cultures Library,
MAMA, Rotterdam
People Powered Movement vs. Shell
exhibition, NDSM Fuse, Amsterdam

Podcasts

Portobello Radio, London, UK
Radio Futura, Frascati Theatre,
Amsterdam
Wat hebben klimaat en racisme met
elkaar te maken?, Kluwen x KfA,
Antwerpen
Klimaatfestival - Het ongemak van
klimaatverandering, Kluwen x KfA,
Antwerpen
CAAT invites Fossil Free Culture,
OTRadio, Amsterdam

Collaborations

Brainstorm for IMPAKT Festival,
Utrecht

Brainstorm for 2DH5 Festival,
Amsterdam
Brainstorm for Climate Justice Code
with Casco, Utrecht
Interviews and conversations with
students from ARTEZ, KABK,
UAntwerpen, and Universiteit Leuven
and the University of Amsterdam in
preparation for their final projects or
master theses

Articles & Publications

In de kunst is Shell niet welkom, zegt
Fossil Free Culture NL, Hard/Hoofd
Wij ontmaskerden Het
Concertgebouw, omdat zijn dreven op
steun van criminelen, Mister Motley
Kunst & klimaat: De lange arm – wat
zoekt de fossiele industrie in de kunst?,
Metropolis M
The People Trying to End Fossil Fuel
Cultural Sponsorship, Vice World News
Thesis Fossil Free Culture NL, a
Case Study, Master of Arts, Utrecht
University

ORGANISATION

Fossil Free Culture NL, as a collective, realises its vision through the labor, expertise and experience of dozens of individuals. Over the course of 2020, the organisational structure evolved. After three members (previously in a 'core team') decided to lessen their relationship with the collective at the beginning of the year, FFC-NL has set up a flatter structure for work that thrives with more, diverse perspectives. For this reason, FFC-NL hired a project manager in the summer whose role includes maintaining an overview of the organisation's workflows.

There are currently five people involved on a weekly basis: two artistic directors (1 FTE and ,2 FTE), one project manager (,4 FTE), one administration manager (,2 FTE), and one social media manager (,1 FTE). A group of approx. 10 people contribute their time and skills to lead specific projects, such as actions, publications, strategy, fundraising, and communications campaigns. A group of over 150 people supports these projects as artists, photographers, videographers, designers, performers, philosophers, writers, and activists.

When possible and according to health recommendations, teams use a studio in Amsterdam as a meeting and working

space. One artistic director and the project manager receive compensation of €25/hr for 16 hrs/week. Other time contributed is carried out as a personal donation.

Board

We established the Fossil Free Culture NL Foundation in December 2017 to support the activities of the collective. The board is composed of:

Ama Koranteng-Kumi
Founder and Director Bloei en Groei

Liset Meddens
Director Fossielvrij NL

Lianne Hooijmans
Humans Rights Lawyer at the Dutch
Council for Refugees

CONTACT

For more information send us an email to:
contact@fossilfreeculture.nl

Visit:
www.fossilfreeculture.nl

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<https://twitter.com/FFcultureNL>
Instagram
www.instagram.com/fossilfreeculturenl/
Flickr
www.flickr.com/photos/147373518@N08/
YouTube
https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCUWKm2sBz0lp_K

FINANCIAL STATEMENT 2020

Compilation statement

Dear members of the board,

In accordance with your assignment, I have compiled the annual accounts of your foundation. The first part is the balance sheet, which holds assets, debts and equity. The second part is the profit and loss account, where you can find incoming funds, costs, and net result.

The financial statements have been prepared to the best of my knowledge and ability. However, the final result also depends on the accuracy of the documents supplied. In addition, the nature, size and precision of these financial statements are not comparable to an accountants- or assessment statement (accountants- resp. beoordelingsverklaring). The financial statements have been compiled in accordance with current laws and regulations.

Regards,
on behalf of Hermes Boekhouding,
Maarten Blaauboer

Balance sheet

31-12-20

Assets

Inventory	€ 347,-
BTW debit	€ 3.826,-
Bank account	€ 26.338,-
Cash	€ 0,-
Total assets	€ 30.511,-

Debts & equity

Creditors	€ 0,-
BTW credit	€ 0,-
Equity	€ 30.511,-
Total debt & equity	€ 30.511,-

Income sheet

31-12-20

Income

Donations	€ 27.279,-
Subsidies	€ 30.044,-
Lecture & Workshops	€ 2.473,-
Revenue	€ 59.796,-

Expenses

Materials	€ 447,-
Outsourced work	€ 24.232,-
Write-off inventory	€ 148,-
Transport costs	€ 232,-
Office rent	€ 3.648,-
Promotion	€ 548,-
Food & drinks	€ 636,-
Various small expenses	€ 167,-
Bookkeeper	€ 302,-
Bank- and transaction costs	€ 200,-
Communication costs	€ 244,-
General office costs	€ 549,-
Shipping costs	€ 58,-
Small inventory	€ 1.698,-
Inspiration	€ 37,-
Insurance board	€ 350,-
Total expenses	€ 33.162,-

Net result

Revenue	€ 59.796,-
Expenses	€ 33.162,-
	€ 26.634,-