

VISION

The Finnish Institute in London is acknowledged as a strong international networker and an influencer, whose work combining social studies and the arts has had a great social impact and raised the profile of Finnish expertise in the UK and wider abroad.

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THE FINNISH INSTITUTE IN LONDON

The Finnish Institute in London is a private, non-profit trust founded in 1991. It is part of a network of 16 Finnish cultural and academic institutes located outside of Finland, plus the Hanasaari Swedish-Finnish Cultural Centre in Espoo, Finland. The Institute is part of Team Finland and a member of the EUNIC London network of cultural institutes from the member states of the European Union in London. The Institute also actively collaborates with Finnish Cultural Information Centres.

The mission of the Finnish Institute in London Trust is to promote relations between the Republic of Finland, the United Kingdom and the Republic of Ireland, with a particular focus on education, science, art and general cultural activities. The Trust runs the Finnish Institute in London in order to achieve this mission.

OVERVIEW OF 2013

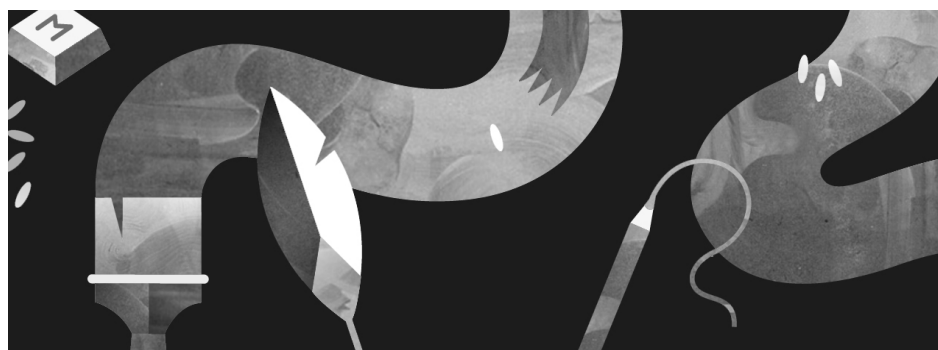
The Finnish Institute in London's biggest individual project during the year was the commissioning of Viewpoint, designed by AOR architects in the heart of London's King's Cross. This taught us that doing things together can achieve results that are bigger than their own physical size. Our partners were the Architecture Foundation and the London Wildlife Trust, along with a large number of funders, and the various people and organisations who contributed expertise and professional skills.

At the other extreme we explored issues of importance for the society of the future, such as participatory budgeting and the widening of the Knowledge Gap. We also contributed to the discussion of open knowledge by publishing Open Book to coincide with the Open Knowledge Festival.

Events staged with local partners during the year addressed a number of issues, including the heritage of modern architecture, artist residencies, sustainable construction, and the relationship between the built and natural environment. The Institute also assisted numerous professionals with travel, networking and publicising upcoming events.

The enthusiastic feedback the Finnish Institute in London has received from its partners will spur us to act bravely and boldly in the future, too!

Susanna Pettersson
Director
The Finnish Institute in London
[@SusannaPetterss](#)



Janine Rewell's work commissioned for the Institute's visual identity 2013



BUILDING AND NETWORKING

THE ARTS AND CULTURE

Viewpoint!

The year's biggest effort was commissioning the permanent urban nature-observation platform, *Viewpoint*, at the Camley Street Natural Park in London's Kings Cross. It was designed by AOR architects (Erkko Aarti, Arto Ollila and Mikki Ristola). The project was carried out in collaboration with the Architecture Foundation and London Wildlife Trust. The structure was installed on site at the beginning of 2014.

Viewpoint was very prominent in the London Design Festival. The Victoria & Albert Museum hosted discussions about the relationship between nature and the built environment, with Professor Panu Lehtovuori, architect Helena Sandman and curator Jane Withers talking with AOR architects. Discussions about *Viewpoint* were also held at the 100% Design trade fair and in The Architecture Foundation's Floating Cinema.

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We hope that Viewpoint will have resonance beyond its modest footprint and allow the many visitors to Camley Street Natural Park to discover this natural environment – a rarity in a metropolitan city such as London. We hope that visitors to Camley Street Natural Park will enjoy Viewpoint for years to come.

**Aarti, Ollila and Ristola,
Architects**

“

The Architecture Foundation is proud to have initiated and delivered Viewpoint, a project that is a tribute to the many hands that have made it possible. We hope that Viewpoint will provide Camley Street with a permanent asset that will inspire visitors and allow the Park to expand upon their existing educational programme for young people. This project results from our long-standing and valued partnership with the Finnish Institute in London and London Wildlife Trust.

**Sarah Ichioka, Director at the
Architecture Foundation**



Viewpoint from
outside, 2013 AOR

Viewpoint from
inside, 2013 AOR

BUILDING AND NETWORKING

THE ARTS AND CULTURE

Iconic Houses Europe Symposium

In November, the Finnish Institute in London and the Iconic Houses Network staged Europe's first Iconic Houses Symposium. The venue was the Victoria & Albert Museum in London. The discussion considered the future of architecturally important house museums built in the 20th century and their role in the modern architectural heritage. The examples used were the Melnikov House, Villa Tugendhat, Schindler House and Fallingwater. The day culminated in a panel discussion chaired by Kieran Long, Senior Curator of Contemporary Architecture, Design and Digital at the V&A Museum, and participants including Tommi Lindh, Director of the Alvar Aalto Museum. There was also a one-day seminar for directors of modern house museums to share their own experience and examples of good practice.

We also contributed to:

- Claire Aho, The Photographers' Gallery, London, 19.4-21.7.2013
- Aho & Soldan film season, ICA, London, May 2013
- Antti Laitinen, Nettie Horn Gallery, London, 21.6-27.7.2013
- Tero Saarinen Company, Stravinsky Evening, 14-15.5.2013 Dublin Dance Festival
- Anu Pennanen, ECONOMY, group show at The Centre for Contemporary Arts (CCA), Glasgow 26.1-23.3.2013
- Jan Ijäs, The World is Almost Six Thousand Years Old, group show in Lincoln, 2.2-8.5.2013
- Design Migration, National Craft Gallery, Kilkenny, 27.3-15.5.2013

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The Iconic Houses Symposium is an opportunity for a high level debate to take place about the cultural, technical and bureaucratic requirements of maintaining modernist heritage in the 21st century. It has never been more important, to me, to recover and understand the optimism and emancipatory aspirations of modernist architecture, even at a historical moment where those motivations can seem remote and irrelevant. These houses are a global patrimony that tells that story very well.

Kieran Long, Senior Curator at the V&A Museum chairing the symposium's panel discussion



Iconic Houses Symposium, V&A 2013, Kate Elliott

The Open Book

The third book in the Institute's Reaktio series appeared at the start of the year. In *The Open Book* more than 20 experts working on open knowledge address the problems of openness. It also includes a crowdsourced open-knowledge timeline. The book was edited by Jussi Nissilä and Timo Vuorikivi from the Institute and Kat Braybrooke from the Open Knowledge Foundation, and published in conjunction with *FutureEverything*, the annual festival of ideas in Manchester.

Participatory budgeting and the knowledge gap

The Institute explored initiatives to improve local democracy carried out in Britain and Ireland, and assessed to what extent these initiatives could and should be applied to Finland. To produce new information on practical experience and on the scope for implementing these initiatives the Institute published a report on participatory budgeting by Laura Sillanpää. This used interviews to investigate a number of budgeting trials in different parts of Britain.

A background study of the knowledge gap was also begun. Kristofer Jäntti's report examined the extent to which increased amounts of information and greater freedom of choice of channels of information acquisition have led to greater inequality in citizen's possibilities for accessing important information about society.

Citizen Finland

At the start of 2013, the right of citizens to propose initiatives to Parliament was incorporated into the Constitution of Finland. The Finnish Act on Citizens' Initiative has attracted interest in Britain, so the Institute, together with Avoin Ministeriö ry (NGO of supporting citizens' initiatives), The Democratic Society and Open Data Institute, arranged an event about the Act on Citizens' Initiative and the online Avoin Ministeriö service. There was a talk by Alekski Rossi (Avoin Ministeriö), followed by a roundtable discussion. The occasion formed part of the Open Data Institute's Friday Lunch Hour Lectures series. One outcome was that our British partners carried on modifying the act on citizens' initiatives for the British context.

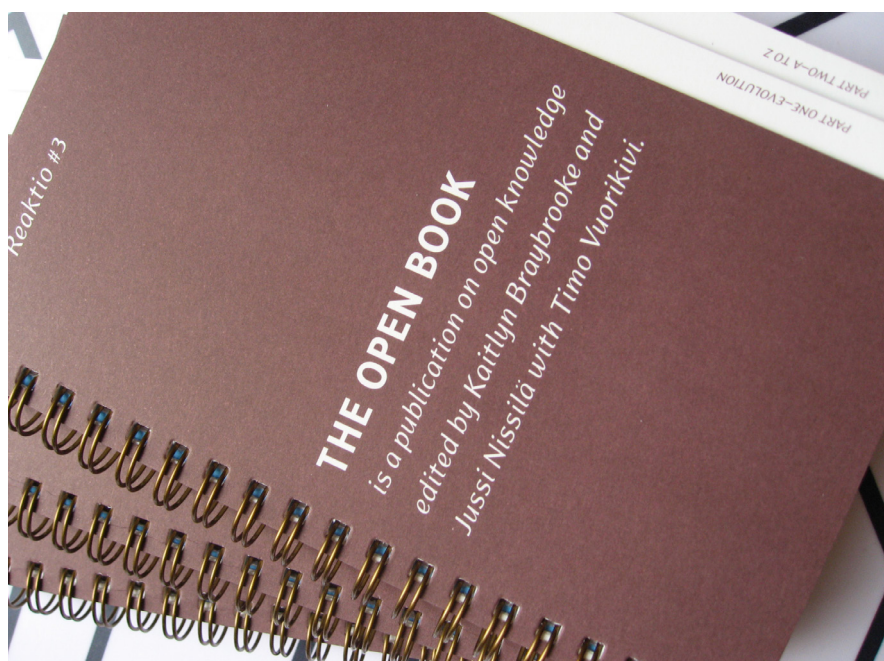
The Future of Freedom of Information

The Institute has identified a need to provide support for academic research on freedom of information and to create a network of researchers in the field. A discussion arranged

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The Open Book is a prime example of the unique creativity and vision that the global open knowledge movement has. The book has its roots in Helsinki's Open Knowledge Festival last year and it provides a fitting legacy to this extraordinary event. Editors and authors have done fantastic job in initiating vibrant discussion about openness.

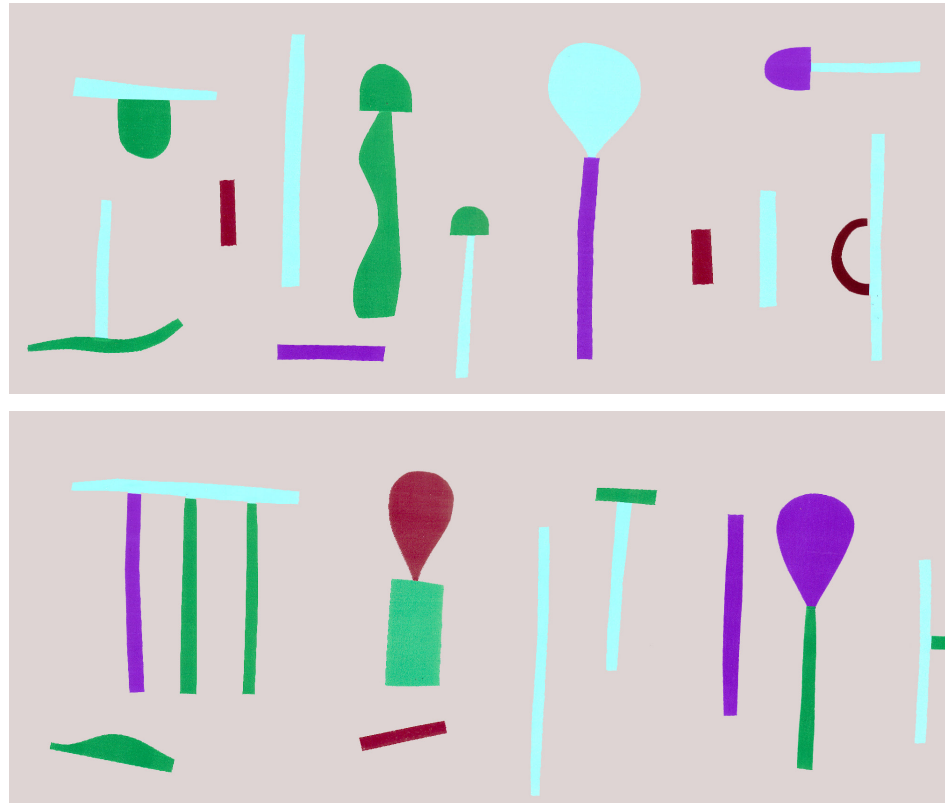
Antti Halonen, Head of Society Programme at the Finnish Institute in London



jointly with the Embassy of Finland in London covered the Finnish Act on the Openness of Government Activities and the histories of freedom of information in Finland and Britain. There was a lecture by University of Helsinki researcher Tero Erkkilä, a commentary by researcher at Birkbeck University Ben Worthy, and a panel discussion by Gesche Schmidt (Local Government Association), Christopher Cook (Financial Times) and Paul Gibbons (SOAS). One outcome of this event was a new collaboration with the International Records Management Trust, and agreement on an expert visit to Finland.

Other projects:

- The Institute began cooperation with the English PROGRESS@HSE and Whole Education Network organisations, with a view to trying out the PROGRESS diagnostic tool in Finland. This is a new way of assessing schools' performance using methods based on qualitative measures of the happiness and well-being of members of a school community.
- The Institute's education programme culminated in an education and learning festival in Helsinki in spring 2014. The Institute began planning and arranging the festival in 2013, together with the British-Finnish creative education consultancy Suklaa.



Jenni Rope's work commissioned for the Institute's visual identity 2014

NETWORKING AND EXPERT VISITS

The Institute arranged numerous meetings of professionals and roundtable discussions, giving Finnish and British participants a chance to think and act together.

The Institute assisted artists' participation in events in Great Britain and Ireland, and collaborated with Frame by continuing to arrange curator visits to Finland.

OUR PARTNERS

The work of the Finnish Institute in London is founded on wide-ranging collaboration with Finnish, British and Irish partners. All the Institute own projects are produced in cooperation with Finnish and local partners and partner organizations.

Our partners in 2013

100% Design	Local Government Association
20th Century Society	London Design Festival
59 Productions	London Film Festival
Architecture Foundation	London Wildlife Trust
Archives and Records Management Association	Microsoft
AV-arkki	MozBug Adventures
Avoin Ministeriö (open ministry)	Mozilla Foundation
Birkbeck University	Museums Association UK
Blueprint Magazine	Music Finland
British Council	Mustarinda
Canal Museum	National Archives Service of Finland
Central Archives for Finnish Business Records (Elka)	Nettie Horn gallery
CIRCA Projects	Newcastle University, Newcastle upon Tyne
CircusInfo Finland	North Highland Connections Sutherland
Clore Leadership Programme	OBE
Dance Info Finland	Open Data Institute
Democratic Society	Open Knowledge Finland ry
Designersblock	Open Knowledge Foundation
Digital Mikkeli	Otavan Opisto
DOCOMOMO UK	Photographers Gallery, London
Dublin Dance Festival	PM Gallery & House, London
Education World Forum	Popathon
Financial Times	Purple PR
Finlandia Hall	Reinwardt Academy, Amsterdam
Finnish Museums Association	Rovio
Frame Finland	Royal British Society of Sculptors
Frieze Art Fair	Sanoma Learning
Full Moon Dance Festival	Save Britain's Heritage
FutureEverything	Sibelius Society
Grand Tour magazine	SOAS
Graphic Concrete	Studio EMMI
Helsinki Design Week	Suklaa.org
HSE@PROGRESS	Svenska kulturfonden
ICA, London	The National Trust
Icon Magazine	Tyne & Wear Archives & Museums
Iconic Houses Network	UCL
International Records Management Trust	UK Health Forum
Involve UK	Union of Academic Museum Employees in Finland
Jyväskylän University	University of Helsinki
King's Cross Limited	University of Liverpool
	University of Maribor
	Victoria & Albert Museum, London
	Wikimaps

MEDIA COVERAGE

The Institute's biggest project, *Viewpoint*, attracted a lot of media attention in both Finland and Britain. *Helsingin Sanomat* newspaper and the British design magazines *Blueprint* and *Icon* wrote about the project even before it was officially unveiled in 2014. Europe's first Iconic Houses Symposium at the Victoria & Albert Museum also attracted extensive media interest internationally, with reports, for instance, in *The Telegraph* and *TL mag*.

The Institute contributed to general discussion by highlighting open government, participatory budgeting, the economic feasibility of cultural services, and issues related to the social responsibilities of museums.

- HS Vieraskynä: *Hallinnon avoimuudessa on vielä parantamisen varaa* (op-ed column: open government, still room for improvement), Antti Halonen & Pilvi Kalliomaa, *Helsingin Sanomat* 18.3.2013
- *Museolipun hinta* (the price of museum tickets), Museo-lehti (museum magazine) 2/2013, Susanna Pettersson
- HS Vieraskynä: *Asukkaat kannattaa ottaa mukaan budjetointiin* (op-ed column: local residents should be involved in budgeting), Antti Halonen & Laura Sillanpää, *Helsingin Sanomat* 31.8.2013
- HS Sunnuntaidebatti: *Guggenheim museosta pitää olla hyötyä koko yhteiskunnalle* (Sunday debate: The Guggenheim museum must benefit the society as a whole), Susanna Pettersson, *Helsingin Sanomat* 1.9.2013

BLOGS AND THE MOVING IMAGE

Five new videos were published in the Institute's series on Vimeo, giving a multifaceted view of Finnish culture. Topics included: Antti Laitinen, a visual artist who was a success at the Venice Biennale and had an exhibition in London; Heidi Kilpeläinen, a multi-talented, London-based musician; and the planning and construction of AOR architects' *Viewpoint*.

- Five Questions with Antti Laitinen
- Five Questions with Lena Serafin
- Five Questions with Elina Brotherus
- Five Questions with Jessica Oreck
- Five Questions with Petri Luukkainen
- Five Questions with HC Berg
- Coming soon: StudioVisit with Heidi Kilpeläinen (trailer)
- StudioVisit: Heidi Kilpeläinen
- Viewpoint: Ideas Behind the Platform
- Viewpoint: An Urban Island Hideaway
- Viewpoint: The Architects at LDF 2013
- Viewpoint: Regent's Canal and King's Cross
- Viewpoint: The Build and Launch of the Floating Platform



Five Questions with Antti Laitinen, video interview 2013

Total blogs published: 16

DEVELOPING AND EVALUATING THE INSTITUTE'S WORK

A report on fashion exports, *Kolmas aalto, suomalaista designia kansainvälistämässä* (*The Third Wave, Internationalising Finnish Design, 2013) by Katja Lindroos and Sari Laine, the Idealist Group, was published at the autumn meeting of the institutes' network at Hanasaari 8.9.2013. This was accompanied by a panel discussion between: Katja Lindroos; Director of Frame Visual Art Finland, Raija Koli; Head of Programme, Arts & Culture at the Finnish Institute in Germany, Emma Aulanko; and designer Ilkka Suppanen.

The Finnish Institute in London also contributed to a report by the Finnish Cultural Institute in New York on the visual arts work done by the Finnish Institutes in different countries: *Taidetta yli rajojen. Suomen kulttuuri- ja tiedeinstituuttien kuvataidetyö ja sen vaikuttavuus 2000-luvulla* (Art Across Borders, the Finnish cultural and academic institutes' visual arts work and its effectiveness in 2000-2012, 2013).

THE BOARD

The Chairperson of the board is Tapio Markkanen, the Vice Chairperson Marianna Kajantie, and the members are Juhana Aunesluoma, Anna Bajjars, Robin Baker, Timo Hämäläinen (until 04/2013) and Johanna Kantola (starting 04/2013). The board held five meetings and a strategy day during the year.

STAFF

The Institute's staff: the Director, two Heads of Programme, a Head of Communications & Events, and an Administrator. It also offers a prime vantage point for social science, art and culture, administration and communications trainees.

FINANCIAL SUMMARY

The Trust's investment assets are its fixed/original capital of 38,360 euros. The market value of the investment capital at the end of 2013 was 44,497 euros. Interest income was 5325 euros.

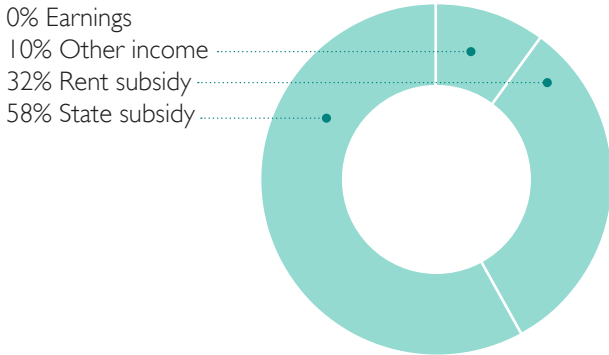
Out of the total income, 600,000 euros, or 58%, came from state subsidy (2012: 48%), 326,000 euros, or 32%, from rent subsidy (2012: 24%), and other income amounted to 101,368 euros, or 10% (2012: 28%). Compared with the previous year state subsidy fell, while rent subsidy increased. The share of other sources of income was less than in the previous year. Other sources of income consisted of project grants and targeted funding for events. Grants and funding were allocated by the Finnish Ministry of Education and Culture, Finnish Cultural Foundation, Alfred Kordelin Foundation, Kone Foundation, Skandium and the National Trust.

The total value of in-kind support received by the Institute was 72,130 euros. It consisted of use of venues free of charge, accommodation, hospitality and expert services. Most of the in-kind support was for the Viewpoint project.

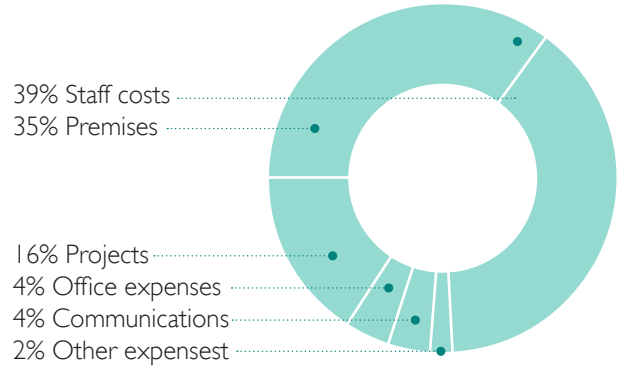
Of total expenses, 399,648 euros, or 39%, were for staff costs (2012: 30%), 367,641 euros, or 35%, for premises (2012: 26%), 160,644 euros, or 16%, for projects (2012: 34%), 45,644 euros, or 4%, for communications (2012: 3%), and the share of office and other expenses totalled 65,550 euros, or 6% (2012: 7%). Staff turnover and the increased cost of premises also meant that work had to be arranged so as to safeguard the production of the main project, i.e. *Viewpoint*.

The result for the accounting period was a deficit of 6434 euros

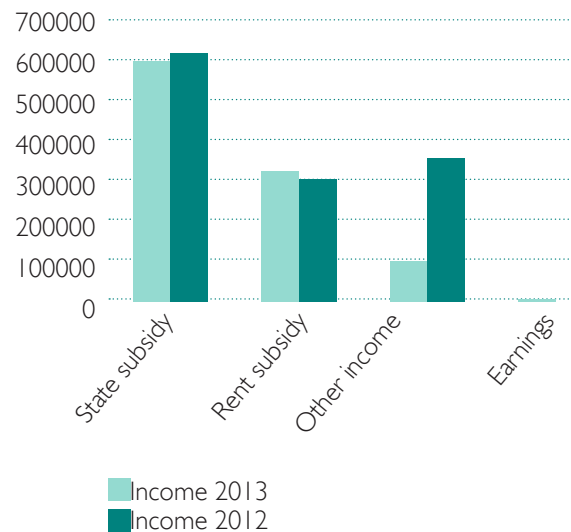
INCOME



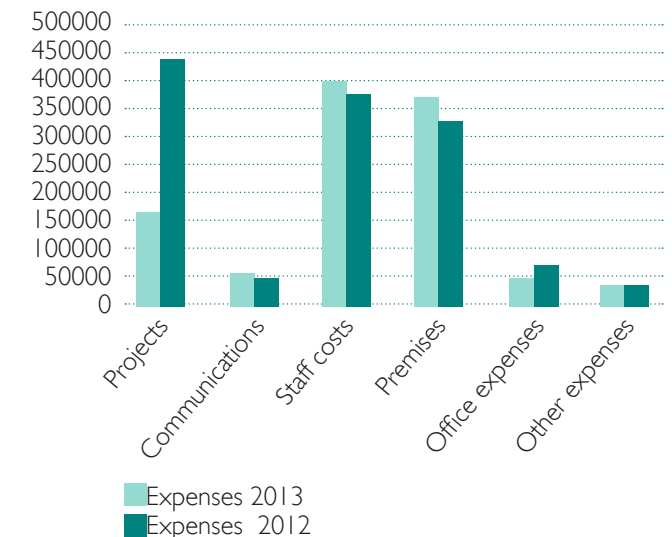
EXPENSES



COMPARING INCOME (€)



COMPARING EXPENSES (€)



ORGANISATION 1. JANUARY 2014

Director Susanna Pettersson

Administrator Anita Rockman

Head of Programme, Arts & Culture Johanna Vakkari

Head of Programme, Society Antti Halonen

Head of Communications & Events Animaya Grant

plus an irreplaceable band of university-student trainees

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