

Company number: 4271537

Charity number: 1144010

**Rift Valley Research Limited**  
**Report and Financial Statements**  
**31 December 2014**

**sayer vincent**

auditors and advisors

## Rift Valley Research Limited

### Reference and administrative details

For the year ended 31 December 2014

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**Company number** 4271537

**Charity number** 1144010

**Operating as** Rift Valley Institute

**Registered office and operational address** 1 St Luke's Mews  
LONDON  
W11 1DF

**Trustees** Trustees (who are also directors of Rift Valley Research Limited for the purposes of company law) who served during the year and up to the date of this report were as follows:

John Ryle  
Ann Grant  
Justin Willis  
Lindsey Hilsum  
Mohamed Osman

**Principal staff** John Ryle Executive Director

**Bankers** HSBC

**Auditors** Sayer Vincent LLP  
Chartered accountants and registered auditors  
Invicta House  
108-114 Golden Lane  
London  
EC1Y 0TL

**Summary**

The Rift Valley Institute (RVI) is an independent, non-profit organisation working in Eastern and Central Africa. The aims of the Institute are to advance understanding of the region and its diverse communities, to connect local knowledge to social and political action, to defend freedom of information and to promote social justice. RVI programmes include action-oriented research, field-based training, digital archives, distance learning and open-access publishing.

In 2014 the Institute expanded its operations in five countries in Eastern and Central Africa: South Sudan, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Somalia, Somaliland and Kenya. Across the region it pursued four goals. First, a diversification of activities within defined thematic areas of concern. Second, the identification of key issues cutting across the region and the development of programming related to these issues. Third, the deepening of existing relationships with local partners and the search for new kinds of local cooperation. Fourth, a long-term strategic planning process to guide the Institute's work in the region.

The RVI office in Juba, South Sudan, established at the end of 2012, was expanded in 2014, and a full-time programme coordinator appointed. Work continued on the conservation of the national archive in collaboration with the South Sudan Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sports, despite the outbreak of civil war in late 2013.

The first phase of the RVI Usalama Project in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) concluded in 2013 with the publication of an extensive series of reports in French and English on armed groups in the eastern DRC. Under a DFID-funded consortium on political settlements in fragile and conflict-affected states, that will get underway in 2015, RVI will continue its research on conflict in the eastern DRC, looking at the constitution of public authority in the Kivus and northern Katanga. Other projects in the DRC and Rwanda are currently under discussion with funders and local partners.

In Kenya, an ongoing series of events was organised under the aegis of the RVI Nairobi Forum. The Forum is a platform for discussion between policy-makers, researchers, activists and community leaders in the region which has been running continuously since 2012. In 2014 the Forum generated a number of audio, video, print and digital publications. The Institute also undertook projects in the north of Kenya: a study for the World Bank on the impact of LAPSSSET, the proposed Lamu Port-South Sudan Ethiopia-Transport corridor, and an online resource providing access to information on LAPSSSET for Kenyan community groups.

In the Somali territories several research projects were undertaken: on the lessons of the 2011 famine, on land disputes in Mogadishu, on the economics of elections in Somaliland, and on mobile money systems in Somaliland. Somali researchers on the studies underwent a training course in research methods. In Somaliland, the RVI supported events and discussions at the 2014 Hargeysa International Book Fair and commenced a joint project with the organisers of the Book Fair that will establish a permanent cultural centre in Hargeysa, funded by the European Union.

The Institute's first research project in Ethiopia examined the history of conflict in the Ogaden and the prospects for peace between the Ethiopian Government and the insurgent Ogaden National Liberation Front. A report on this was published in 2014.

RVI's annual field courses on the Horn of Africa and the Sudans were held in Lamu, Kenya, in June. The Great Lakes course was held in Burundi. A bespoke course on Somalia for the UN country team was also organized.

## **Rift Valley Research Limited**

### **Report of the trustees**

#### **For the year ended 31 December 2014**

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##### **General**

The trustees of Rift Valley Research Ltd, operating as the Rift Valley Institute (RVI), who are also directors of the company for the purpose of company law, present their statutory report and audited accounts for the year ended 31 December 2014.

Reference and administrative information set out on page one forms part of this report. The financial statements comply with current statutory requirements, with the Articles of Association and with the 'Statement of Recommended Practice - Accounting and Reporting by Charities' in the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) of 2005.

##### **Governance**

Rift Valley Research Limited (hereafter 'the Rift Valley Institute', 'the RVI' or 'the Charity') is a company limited by guarantee and not having a share capital. The company was incorporated on 16 August 2001 (company number 4271537) and registered as a charity (charity number 1144010) on 27 September 2011.

The objects, powers and governance structure of the charitable company are set out in its Memorandum and Articles of Association (last updated 30 August 2011). The RVI is governed by a Board of Trustees which meets twice annually. The trustees delegate the day-to-day operation of the Charity and management of its staff to the Executive Director who seeks guidance from trustees when important strategic, financial or governance issues arise.

##### **The recruitment, appointment and induction of new trustees**

Trustees are appointed in accordance with the Articles of Association. The trustees are subject to retirement by rotation and may be re-appointed if re-elected. The Board of Trustees has the power to appoint new trustees by ordinary resolution. Trustees are generally drawn from the body of Fellows of the Institute, which is composed of regional specialists and others. (Fellows of the Institute are elected by existing Fellows.) The appointment of trustees is by recommendation from Fellows and the wider community of those sharing the goals of the Institute. Trustees are recruited with the aim of providing the diversity and skills needed to ensure the good governance of the Charity. These skills may include strategic planning, fund-raising, financial management, administration, law, media management, and specialist knowledge of Eastern and Central Africa. The trustees are not remunerated for their work as trustees.

The procedure for inducting and training a new trustee entails a visit to the RVI UK office in order to familiarize the new trustee with the Charity—with its aims, standard procedures and policies—and a meeting between the new trustee and management staff of the Institute. On appointment, trustees receive a package of documents that includes the Articles of Association, minutes, documents and board books from the previous three trustee meetings, copies of the Charity's most recent publications and written policies relevant to the governance and risk management of RVI.

##### **Offices and related parties**

The Charity has four offices: its headquarters in London, in the United Kingdom; a regional office for Eastern Africa in Nairobi, Kenya; an office in Juba, South Sudan; and an office in Annandale-on-Hudson, in the state of New York, in the United States of America. The Charity is registered as a company in Kenya and as an NGO in South Sudan and Somaliland.

RVI has a sister organisation, Rift Valley Institute Inc., in the United States, which has an office in the state of New York. Rift Valley Institute Inc. was incorporated under Section 402 of the Not-for-Profit Corporation Law in New York State on 30 August 2006. Rift Valley Institute Inc., is registered as a charity with the Charities Bureau, New York State. Rift Valley Institute Inc. was created to raise and distribute funds and to provide support and coordination to the UK entity, Rift Valley Research Ltd. Rift Valley Institute Inc. has three Board Members: John Ryle, Kenneth Anderson and Kwame Anthony Appiah. The Board Members are not remunerated for their work for Rift Valley Institute Inc. John Ryle is also

## **Rift Valley Research Limited**

### **Report of the trustees**

#### **For the year ended 31 December 2014**

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a trustee of the Rift Valley Institute (i.e. the UK entity). For accounting purposes, all overseas offices are treated as branches of the UK entity.

#### **Risk management**

The Board of Trustees has given consideration to the major risks to which the Charity is exposed. These include operational, financial, and legal risks, risks in matters of governance and risks from external factors. The Charity faces special risks associated with conflict, insecurity and failures of governance in a number of the countries where it operates. In 2014 RVI put in place enhanced procedures and protocols for managing staff security. The Board is satisfied that systems or procedures have been established to manage those risks. A detailed Register of Risks, and the policies in place to manage these risks, is reviewed and approved by the Board of Trustees twice a year.

#### **Public benefit**

The trustees are satisfied that they have complied with the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit. The description of the Charity's objectives and activities below demonstrates the public benefit arising from the work of the Charity.

### **OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES**

#### **Background**

The Rift Valley Institute was founded in 2001 as a non-profit organisation operating in Eastern and Central Africa. It works with communities, institutions and individuals to bring local knowledge to bear on political, economic and social development in crisis-affected countries in the region. The Institute operates in Sudan, South Sudan, the Somali regions (including Somaliland and Puntland), Ethiopia, Djibouti, Kenya, Uganda, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Rwanda and Burundi.

The Institute develops and implements programmes that combine action-oriented research with education and public information. The first RVI project was a field investigation of war-related abduction and enslavement in the north-south borderlands during the 1983-2005 civil war in Sudan. In subsequent years, the RVI, working in collaboration with international and local partner organisations, has pursued research into peace processes, judicial systems, electoral processes and contested borders in the two Sudans and other countries in Eastern and Central Africa. It has developed training courses across the region and pioneered field-based digitisation and preservation of endangered archives, and the creation of open-access digital libraries.

RVI programmes are designed for long-term impact. They aim to shape aid interventions, expand space for public participation in policy, support local research capacity, preserve communal histories, and promote social justice. Current programmes include the documentation of conflict in the DRC with a specific focus on armed groups, and the Nairobi Forum, which provides a platform for a continuing series of seminars and public meetings designed to facilitate discussion between policy-makers, researchers, activists and community leaders in the wider region. The Institute is also implementing a security and justice programme in Somalia and Somaliland, and a long-term project of conservation and digitisation of the National Archive of South Sudan.

#### **Charitable objectives**

The Charity was established, in the words of the Memorandum and Articles of Association, 'to advance the education of the general public, particularly but not exclusively in Eastern and Central Africa', 'to promote research into Eastern and Central Africa and related subjects', 'to disseminate the useful results of such research throughout the world', and 'to promote human rights'.

## Rift Valley Research Limited

### Report of the trustees

#### For the year ended 31 December 2014

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The objectives are for the public benefit as set out in the Charities Act of 2006. In furtherance of these objectives, the Charity undertakes three core activities as detailed above: research and publication; education and training; and conservation and digitization of archives. These three areas of enterprise are currently identified as the most effective means available to implement the Institute's broad aim of bringing local realities to bear on social, economic and political development in Eastern and Central Africa.

The RVI is a signatory and adheres to the principles of the Budapest Open Access Initiative of 2002, seeking to promote free public access to knowledge. RVI books, reports, maps and newsletters and the contents of its websites are published, wherever possible, under a Creative Commons open-access license. Digital versions of RVI publications are available for free download from the Institute website. Digital archives created and run by the RVI use UNESCO-endorsed open-source software (Greenstone) and are freely accessible.

#### Partners

In fulfilment of its aims of supporting and disseminating research, and bringing local knowledge to bear on development in Eastern and Central Africa, the RVI undertakes its activities in partnership with indigenous bodies and regional organisations. Collaboration takes the form of mutual assistance and the exchange of skills and knowledge, involving joint projects, technical training, material support, shared resources, research assistance and co-hosting of events. Recently, for instance, the RVI organized a five-day training course at the University of Hargeysa for young Somali researchers on social science research methodologies. The Institute also organises an annual series of lectures at the University in collaboration with the University.

RVI's local partners in Eastern and Central Africa in 2014 include the following: in South Sudan, the Sudd Institute, the South Sudan Law Society, the Gurtong Trust and the Centre for Peace and Development Studies at the University of Juba; in Sudan, the Institute of African and Asian Studies at the University of Khartoum; in Kenya, the Kwani Trust and the National Museums of Kenya; in the DRC, the Catholic University of Bukavu; in Somalia, the Heritage Institute for Policy Studies; and in Somaliland, Redsea Online Cultural Foundation, the University of Hargeysa and the Academy for Peace and Development.

#### Strategic objectives and activities in 2014

In 2012, the charity identified four key aims. These aims form the foundation for the Strategic Objective and Activities for 2014.

**Aim:** Diversification of the RVI's range of activities: extending research programmes to new countries in the region, broadening the range of research and educational work, and developing competence in new areas including economics, culture and the environment.

**Progress in 2014:** RVI successfully expanded the number of research projects undertaken, particularly in the Horn of Africa. The new EU funded project with the Red Sea Online Cultural Foundation is a significant expansion into the area of cultural development. Further work on LAPSSSET involved expanding RVI work on the environment impact of development. RVI institutional expertise in Somalia, particularly on land issues, is expanding with a number of projects undertaken in this area.

**Aim:** Development of cross-cutting regional programmes that build on RVI's experience working in the countries of Eastern and Central Africa, RVI's regional focus giving the Institute a unique vantage point from which to design and implement designing and implementing cross-regional and translocal research and education programmes and events.

## Rift Valley Research Limited

### Report of the trustees

#### For the year ended 31 December 2014

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**Progress in 2014:** Extending its existing programme of annual field courses, RVI undertook a number of multi-region training courses in 2014. The growth of work on LAPSSET expanded RVI projects both across countries and regions (Kenya, Ethiopia, Uganda and South Sudan).

**Aim :** Deepening ties with local partner organisations through partnership agreements and collaborative projects, with a view to strengthening local research capacity and developing the RVI's work in countries where it does not yet maintain offices.

**Progress in 2014:** RVI continues to maintain relationships with local academic institutions, particularly in Hargeysa and South Sudan. The new partnership with local organisation Red Sea Online Cultural Foundation is the first time that RVI has embarked on a multi-year, donor funded partnership project.

**Aim:** Development of a long-term strategy for the development of the Institute through consultation with staff, trustees, RVI Fellows, funders and local partners.

**Progress in 2014:** The development of a long-term strategy for RVI is a long-term process. A 2020 strategy will be developed during the course of 2015.

#### Overview of achievements and performance in 2014

In 2014, in pursuit of the objectives above the Institute embarked on a number of new projects and appointed several new staff members.

**Diversification.** The Institute's first research project in Ethiopia examined the history of conflict in the Ogaden and the prospects for peace between the Ethiopian Government and the insurgent Ogaden National Liberation Front; in Somaliland the RVI supported events and discussions at the Hargeysa International Book Fair and developed a project for a permanent cultural centre in Hargeysa.

**Cross-cutting programmes.** The Institute continued to work on a multi-disciplinary research and public information programme focused on the proposed Lamu Port-South Sudan Ethiopia-Transport corridor (LAPSSET). LAPSSET is a large-scale infrastructural project consisting of highway, railway and pipeline connections, airports, an oil refinery and a port. The project, supported in Kenya by the Heinrich Boll Foundation, entails research in several countries in Eastern Africa. The RVI Nairobi organized a number of thematic regional meetings. (See 'Training and Education' below.).

**Local partners.** RVI continued to work on collaborative research projects, including land disputes in Mogadishu, the impact of war on Somali men, and the economics of elections in Somaliland. These projects include a substantial training component, which is designed to enhance the research and dissemination capacity of local research organizations and institutions of higher education. Many of the meetings of the RVI Nairobi Forum have involved collaboration with regionally-based organisations.

**Long-term strategy.** As the first stage of an Institute-wide strategic planning process there were consultations in the UK and Eastern and Central Africa with staff, trustees, RVI Fellows, funders and local partners. Staffing levels there and in the RVI's office in Juba, South Sudan, remained the same with a number of personnel changes.

### **Social Research and Public Information**

In 2014, several research projects were undertaken in Somalia and Somali-inhabited regions of the Horn and East Africa. These tackled the following themes: political processes in the region, emerging economies, democratisation, the social impact of war, and resource-based conflict. Research was conducted in numerous locations and involved more than 25 Somali researchers. In the course of the research over 700 informants and discussants were engaged through interviews, focus group discussions and critical thinking forums.

#### ***Talking Peace in the Ogaden***

A study on the history of the conflict in the Ogaden and the prospects for peace talks, was published in May 2014.

#### ***Addressing Land Disputes in Mogadishu***

Undertaken in collaboration with the Mogadishu-based Heritage Institute for Policy Studies, and funded by the United States Institute of Peace, this research project aims to reduce the threat of conflict in Mogadishu associated with the return of internally displaced persons (IDPs), refugees, and the Somali diaspora. The study investigated the different types and causes of land disputes and the impact of these disputes on different groups in Somalia's capital and documented how land disputes are currently handled.

#### ***Lessons learned from the 2011 Somali Famine***

In collaboration with the Feinstein International Centre at Tufts University, RVI undertook a study on the response of Somalis and non-traditional actors to the 2011 famine. Research findings were published in a briefing paper and discussed in Kenya, Somalia, the US and the UK.

#### ***The Economics of Elections in Somaliland***

Working with Somali researchers and the Academy for Peace and Development in Hargeysa, RVI completed a study on the economic dimensions of elections in Somaliland.

#### ***The Impact of war on Somali men***

In this pilot research project, funded by the World Bank, the methods were developed for a multi-year study of the impact of more than two decades of war on Somali men. The study used research in three Somali regions, among refugees in Northern Kenya and in the diaspora in Nairobi to develop a preliminary analysis.

#### ***Mobile Money in Somaliland***

RVI commissioned a study on the emergence of a mobile telephone money transfer system in Somaliland and its social and political implications for a country lacking financial infrastructure.

#### ***The War in the North***

In 2014 RVI commissioned a study on the history of the Somali National Movement and its demobilisation and transformation from an insurgency into a national security force.

#### ***Somaliland-Puntland borderlands***

A study of the contested borderland between Somaliland and Puntland was completed and the manuscript prepared for publication.

### Training and education

#### ***RVI Field Courses***

RVI held its three annual field courses in May and July of 2014. The Sudans and Horn Courses were held in Lamu, Kenya and the Great Lakes Course was held in Bujumbura, Burundi. Taught by teams of leading regional and international specialists, the courses provide the basis for an understanding of current political and developmental challenges in three sub-regions: Sudan and South Sudan; the Horn of Africa; and the Great Lakes. In 2014 the courses were attended by over 130 participants from NGOs, donor organisations, regional bodies, embassies, media organisations, civil society organisations, universities and the private sector. A scholarship programme funded by RVI, the Danish Institute of International Studies, the Eastern Congo Initiative and the J. M. Kaplan Fund enabled seven promising young professionals and civil society activists from the region to attend the courses.

The Institute organized two customised training courses: a two-day seminar on Somalia, held in Nairobi, for staff of the United Nations Country Team in Somalia and a week-long course for Somali researchers in social research methods at the University of Hargeysa in Somaliland. In addition, a training course was arranged for UNICEF in Addis Ababa with a broader educational mandate.

#### ***The Nairobi Forum for Research, Policy and Local Knowledge***

The Nairobi Forum for Research, Policy and Local Knowledge—the Institute’s flagship project in Kenya—is a space for critical discussion of political, economic and social issues in Eastern and Central Africa. Established in October 2012, this programme of research and public information is designed to bring together three constituencies: policy-makers in government and international organizations, intellectuals and civil society activists from the countries of Eastern and Central Africa, and researchers with a long-term commitment to the region. The Forum programme covers the Horn of Africa, East and Central Africa and the Sudans.

Meetings in 2014 included:

- A conference *South Sudan: Is Peace Possible*, held three weeks after the current South Sudan crisis began. Representatives of South Sudanese civil society met in Nairobi to discuss the crisis, its historical roots, and the possibility of peace. The event was held in collaboration with the Sudd Institute, the South Sudan Law Society, the Gurtong Trust, the Open Society Initiative for Eastern Africa, and attracted over 300 audience members. A video record of the event was distributed in South Sudan and broadcast on South Sudan Television.
- A meeting *Somalia's Puntland State: What next?* on the new political dispensation in the Puntland State of Somalia, following elections in January 2014.
- A regional conference *Stabilization in Eastern and Central Africa: History, theory, policy and practice under scrutiny* in cooperation with the University of Gothenburg. Participants reviewed the impact of stabilization policies and practices in Somalia, South Sudan, and the Democratic Republic of the Congo.
- A panel *Our Collective Security* in partnership with Kwani Trust in which a panel of Kenyan journalists and writers examined identity, youth unemployment, marginalization, political intrigue, corruption in light of recent violent events in Kenya.
- A two-day conference *Eastleigh and Beyond: The Somali factor in urban Kenya* in which discussants examined the growth in Kenya of a Somali diaspora community, most prominently represented in the Nairobi neighbourhood of Eastleigh. The conference was organized in collaboration with the Max Plank Institute and Oxford University.
- A conference on *Learning from the 2011 Famine* presenting key research findings and policy implications of twelve-months research on Somali responses to the 2011 famine in Somalia.
- A seminar titled *Tangled Ties: Al-Shabaab and the changing politics of violence in Kenya*. This discussed the findings of research by three organisations of the influence of al-Shabaab on security in Kenya - the Institute for Development Studies, Sussex; the Centre for Human Rights and Policy Studies, and the International Crisis Group.

## Report of the trustees

### For the year ended 31 December 2014

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- A public discussion *Insurgency and Counter Insurgency in Kenya*. Hannah Whittaker of Brunel University, author of *Insurgency & Counter-Insurgency in Kenya: A Social History of the Shifita Conflict* was joined by Ambassador Ali Korane, Kenya's special envoy to the Horn of Africa to discuss the 1963-68 Somali secessionist war in northern Kenya.

Reports of these meetings and others are available on RVI's website, along with podcasts and videos.

#### ***Hargeysa Cultural Center***

In 2014 the Institute secured a three-year grant to support the Redsea Cultural Foundation to establish a permanent cultural centre in Hargeysa, Somaliland. The Hargeysa Cultural Center organises the annual Hargeysa International Book Fair and extends it throughout the year. It runs a library, organizes a calendar of cultural activities and public events, provides training opportunities for young artists, holds exhibitions and performances, document endangered cultural heritage, and publishes works of Somali literature. Through these diverse activities, the Center aims to stimulate a revival of culture in Somaliland.

#### ***LAPSSET research and public information programme***

In October 2013 the Nairobi Forum organised a public meeting to discuss the LAPSSET project. The meeting was attended by civil society activists, local political representatives and Kenyan government officials. Civil society groups in the area explained that they had limited access to knowledge about LAPSSET, official or otherwise. This meeting shaped RVI's planning for a long-term study on LAPSSET which was initiated in 2014, exploiting the Institute's unique position as a research and training organisation engaged in all the countries in the Horn and East Africa region affected by the project.

In 2014, RVI undertook research on LAPSSET in Lodwar, Isiolo and Lamu. The forthcoming report on this project includes a history of LAPSSET and actor-mapping of regional and international institutions, civil society organisations and affected communities. During the research, civil society groups again voiced a need for a public information-sharing platform. RVI has also conducted an analysis of the effect of LAPSSET on the political economy of oil exports of South Sudan for the World Bank. RVI's engagement with LAPSSET has enabled the Institute to build up a network of civil society organisations, activists, specialists and government officials with a special interest in the project.

In October 2014, with support from the Heinrich Böll Foundation, the Institute commenced the pilot phase of the Mipakani project, an open-access monitoring website focusing on LAPSSET.

#### ***Juba Lecture Series 2014***

In October 2014, RVI organised a public lecture series at the University of Juba in South Sudan, in collaboration with the University's Department of External Affairs. The fourth annual Juba Lecture Series examined historic peace agreements and their implications for the current peace negotiations in South Sudan. On each of the three evenings, discussants were invited to comment on a different agreement: the 1972 Addis Ababa Agreement, which brought the first civil war in the South to an end; the Wunlit Peace and Reconciliation Conference of 1999, which opened the way for reconciliation of the two wings of the SPLA; and the 2005 Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA), which ushered in the process leading to independence for South Sudan in 2011. The lectures and the discussions that followed brought together academics, political figures, church people and representatives of civil society—from South Sudan and elsewhere, including Emeritus Bishop Paride Taban and the Chair of the opposition party SPLM-DC, Dr Lam Akol. They attracted an audience of several hundred students and members of the public. A record of the event is due to be published in 2015.

***South Sudan National Archives Project***

The South Sudan National Archive Project is a multiphase programme for the conservation, reordering, cataloguing and digitisation of the historical government records of South Sudan. The documents in the archive number around ten thousand—over two million pages. They provide a unique record of the political, social and administrative history of South Sudan over a period of eighty years. A significant proportion of the documents disappeared from the Archive or were destroyed during Sudan's second civil war (1983-2005). Others have been damaged by harsh climatic conditions or by termites.

Conservation and ordering of the documents continued in 2014. The digitisation programme, which aims to preserve a significant proportion of the archive material in digital form, was expanded, with new equipment provided and further staff trained. This digitisation work and training is undertaken at the RVI was provided by the Government of Norway, through UNESCO. The Digitisation Programme was funded in 2014 from RVI unrestricted funds.

**The RVI Scholarship Fund**

The Scholarship Fund is a voluntary donation fund which has the aim of promoting individual educational development of young researchers and activists from countries in Eastern and Central Africa. This may include funding their attendance on courses provided by the Charity. Income from the sale of RVI publications is also allocated to this fund.

**FUTURE PLANS**

In 2015 the charity will continue to develop and promote its work under the four rubrics defined in the 2012 annual report: diversification, cross-cutting programmes, local partners and long-term strategic development.

In terms of institutional development, the RVI plans to continue its ongoing review process, assessing the record of completed projects, consulting staff, Fellows and others, and to formulate a series of strategy documents. Various possibilities for expansion and consolidation of RVI presence in the region are under consideration.

In terms of programming, the Institute's projects will continue to be organised under the existing categories: Social Research and Public Information; Training and Education, and Archives and Digital Libraries.

**Social Research and Public Information**

Over the past decade the Rift Valley Institute has established a reputation for field-based research and public information programmes that challenge existing practice in social and political development. The Institute has also led the way in local dissemination and discussion of its research, in returning knowledge to the host communities that provided it. These programmes have frequently been conducted in difficult circumstances. The Institute's first project, a field investigation of war-related abduction and enslavement during the 1983-2005 north-south civil war in Sudan, was undertaken while the war was at its height, with forty-five locally-recruited Sudanese researchers, trained and supervised in the field by two of the RVI's founders. Since then the Institute has conducted further front-line research in South Sudan and in other conflict-affected areas, including Somalia and the eastern DRC.

Today the security situation in many parts of the region is deteriorating further and in a number of countries the curtailment of political freedom and space for public discussion adds another layer of difficulty for field-based researchers. In these countries it is increasingly difficult to conduct social research or public information programmes that could be informed by this research. By the same token, with space for public discussion shrinking and civil society on the defensive, such programmes are needed more than ever.

The following social research and public information projects are currently either at the planning stage or underway, as indicated.

*Research papers on the Somali regions*

The findings of several research projects were due to be published in 2015:

- Land Disputes in Mogadishu
- The struggle over land in Somalia
- The Economics of Elections in Somaliland
- Mobile Money in Somaliland
- The War in the North: a history of the Somali National Movement
- Somaliland-Puntland in the RVI's Contested Borderlands series
- An analysis of LAPSET

These reports will be disseminated in Somalia and Somaliland, in physical and digital form, with launch events there and in Nairobi, Kenya.

*The Impact of War on Somali Men*

The inception phase of this project was completed in 2014. Funding is currently being sought for a longer-term study of the impact of protracted conflict on Somali men. This project has three aims: first, to promote public discussion among Somalis on the impact of the war; second, to generate information that Somali and non-Somali policy makers can use to address the practical needs of men and youths affected by war; third, to strengthen the capacity of Somali academic institutions to undertake research. The study will be undertaken in south central Somalia, Puntland and Somaliland and among refugees and diaspora communities in Kenya and elsewhere.

*Scoping Study on Land Policy in Somaliland*

The RVI, with funding from the Somaliland Development Fund, will undertake a scoping study on land issues in Somaliland, with the purpose of developing a road map for the government to develop a land policy in Somaliland.

***'In Our Own Words'***

RVI is developing a new strand of social research projects in selected countries of the region, with proposals initially focused on South Sudan and the DRC. 'In Our Own Words' will involve training young researchers—drawn from universities, civil society and government—in techniques of field-based oral history and multimedia dissemination of its results. The programme will support selected researchers to undertake research in their own communities, enabling them to bring to a wider audience local understandings of events and communal priorities for development. 'In Our Own Words' offers a new way of making the experience of marginalized communities accessible both to other communities and to policy-makers and donors. It offers the prospect of better informed dialogue between communities that are in conflict.

***Political Settlements Research***

In 2015 the RVI will embark on a four-year DFID-funded research project on Political Settlements as part of a consortium led by the University of Edinburgh, which aims to examine how different types of political settlements emerge, how they can be improved through internal initiatives and how external actors may change them. Under this consortium, RVI will analyse the influence of armed groups on public authority in the eastern DRC, and will continue its research on internal and external stabilization programmes in conflict-affected countries in the DRC as well as in the Somali regions.

Report of the trustees

For the year ended 31 December 2014

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***Nairobi Forum for Research, Policy and Local Knowledge***

In March the Nairobi Forum will reach the end of its third year. Established in September 2012 as a space for critical discussion of political, economic and social issues affecting Eastern and Central Africa, the core activities of the Forum are research and discussion of local forms of understanding and their application to policy and practice. An independent review of the programme was commissioned with a view to informing its long-term development, including extending its scope beyond its current primary focus on Somalia to other countries in Eastern Africa and holding Forum meetings outside Nairobi in collaboration with local partners.

In December 2014, the Swiss Development Cooperation (SDC) signed an agreement to provide core funding for the Forum from January 2015 through June 2016. The funding from the SDC covers 24% of the Forum budget for the period. RVI is planning to fundraise for additional funding, with a special fundraising drive during the first and second quarters of 2015.

Over the next year, the Forum will expand its coverage in Tanzania, Uganda, and the Great Lakes (Rwanda, Burundi and the DRC), while deepening programming on Kenya, and continuing its work in the Sudans and the Horn. In this new phase, the Forum will undertake research and convene a regular programme of public policy dialogues examining issues and seeking solutions for peace and development in the areas of social and political inclusion, contests over land and territory, armed conflicts and cross-border crime, and politics and state building. The Forum will continue to collaborate with other organizations to ensure broad reach and value for money through co-hosting and co-funding of events.

***Hargeysa Cultural Center***

The Institute will continue to support the development of the Hargeysa Cultural Center, the Hargeysa International Book Fair and a programme of the cultural activities throughout the year, in Year 2 of the 3 year European Union funded grant.

***Mipakani Project***

Phase 2 of the Mipakani Project is currently under discussion. In this phase the RVI will expand the content of the online project library and pursue new means of dissemination with feedback from communities in northern Kenya.

***South Sudan Customary Authorities Project***

In January, the RVI will launch its 6-month South Sudan Customary Authorities Project, designed to clarify the role presently played by customary authorities in South Sudan, their understanding of their current role and the role they would elect to play in the emergent social order. The project will be implemented by field research and consultation with—and among—chiefs, elders and other indigenous community leaders. This project will address the question of the current and future role of CAs through field interviews and conversations and consultations with government officials and specialists. Finally it will involve meetings and discussions between the CAs themselves. Records of the consultations will be used to provide a report on the prospects for the CAs in the evolving political environment of South Sudan.

***Training and Education***

The Institute will continue to run the three established, intensive annual graduate-level field courses: on the Sudans, the Horn of Africa, and the Great Lakes and expand its existing scholarship programme to enable more graduate students and young professionals from Sudan, Ethiopia, Somalia, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Rwanda and other countries in Eastern Africa and the Great Lakes to attend the courses. The education programme will be expanded in 2015.

## Rift Valley Research Limited

### Report of the trustees

#### For the year ended 31 December 2014

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##### ***Juba Lecture Series***

RVI will hold the Fifth annual Juba lecture series in South Sudan in 2015. The 2015 lecture series will be held at the University of Juba.

##### ***South Sudan National Archives Project***

Despite the insecurity created by the ongoing conflict in South Sudan, which has threatened development projects in the country, the Institute has maintained an uninterrupted working relationship with the Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sports of the Government of South Sudan. In 2015, the Digitisation Programme will be further intensified, with support from a grant from the USAID VISTAS programme

#### **FINANCIAL REVIEW**

##### **General**

At £1,257,292, the Charity's total income in 2014 was eight per cent higher than its total income in 2013. Net income from fees charged on the three RVI Training Courses was equal to the previous year and income was generated for a number of bespoke training courses. One large general institutional support grant provided substantial unrestricted funds for the charity.

In 2015 it is anticipated that Charity's total income will continue to increase.

In 2014 the Institute's overall expenditure rose by 15 per cent, from £1,151,685 in 2013 to £1,321,989 and reflected general growth of the Institute.

At the end of 2014 the Charities overall reserves on hand were lower, at £535,194 compared with £599,891 in 2013. However, the total component of unrestricted reserves increased by 20 per cent from £404,475 in 2013 to £483,786 in 2014.

How costs were allocated was adjusted this year to reflect allocation of staff costs to fundraising efforts. The figures contained in this report reflect this revision as described in the accounting policies.

##### **Reserves Policy**

Rift Valley Research Limited's main source of income is project funding. This is supplemented by fees charged for RVI Field Courses and other training provided and by donor funding for institutional development. The project funding is for both short and long-term projects, with the latter requiring significant ongoing financial commitment and investment. The Trustees have examined the need for free reserves—i.e. those unrestricted funds not invested in tangible fixed assets, or designated for specific purposes, or otherwise committed—and judge it prudent to keep the equivalent of six months of estimated staff and support costs in reserves. (These costs principally comprise employee salaries and office expenses.) This policy has been in place since 2012.

Keeping six months of estimated staff and support costs in reserves protects the Charity against temporary shortfalls. The Board of Trustees reviews the reserves policy annually.

The estimate for staff and support costs in 2014 is £676,000, compared to £546,000 in 2013. The desired reserve as at 31 December 2014 is therefore £338,000. The unrestricted reserves on hand at £475,481 more than adequately cover this.

## Rift Valley Research Limited

### Report of the trustees

#### For the year ended 31 December 2014

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#### Statement of responsibilities of the trustees

The trustees (who are also directors of Rift Valley Research Limited for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the report of the trustees and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the net income or expenditure, of the charitable company for that period. In preparing these financial statements the trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- Observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- State whether applicable UK accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

In so far as the trustees are aware:

There is no relevant audit information of which the charitable company's auditors are unaware; and

The trustees have taken all steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the auditors are aware of that information.

The trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the charity's website. Legislation in the UK governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

Members of the charity guarantee to contribute an amount not exceeding £10 to the assets of the charity in the event of winding up. The total number of such guarantees at 31 December 2014 was 5 (2013 - 5). The trustees are members of the charity but this entitles them only to voting rights. The trustees have no beneficial interest in the charity.

#### Auditors

Sayer Vincent LLP were re-appointed as the charitable company's auditors during the year and have expressed their willingness to continue in that capacity.

The report of the trustees has been prepared in accordance with the special provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime.

Approved by the trustees on 21 May 2015 and signed on their behalf by

John Ryle - Trustee

## **Independent auditor's report**

### **To the members of**

#### **Rift Valley Research Limited**

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We have audited the financial statements of Rift Valley Research Limited for the year ended 31 December 2014 which comprise the statement of financial activities, balance sheet and related notes. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

This report is made solely to the charitable company's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charitable company's members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditors' report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charitable company and the charitable company's members, as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

#### **Respective responsibilities of the trustees and auditors**

As explained more fully in the statement of responsibilities of the trustees set out in the report of the trustees, the trustees (who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view.

Our responsibility is to audit and express an opinion on the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and International Standards on Auditing (UK and Ireland). Those standards require us to comply with the Auditing Practices Board's Ethical Standards for Auditors.

#### **Scope of the audit of the financial statements**

An audit involves obtaining evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements sufficient to give reasonable assurance that the financial statements are free from material misstatement, whether caused by fraud or error. This includes an assessment of: whether the accounting policies are appropriate to the charitable company's circumstances and have been consistently applied and adequately disclosed; the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by the trustees; and the overall presentation of the financial statements. In addition, we read all the financial and non-financial information in the report of the trustees to identify material inconsistencies with the audited financial statements and to identify any information that is apparently materially incorrect based on, or materially inconsistent with, the knowledge acquired by us in the course of performing the audit. If we become aware of any apparent material misstatements or inconsistencies we consider the implications for our report.

#### **Opinion on financial statements**

In our opinion the financial statements:

- Give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31 December 2014 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- Have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- Have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

#### **Opinion on other matter prescribed by the Companies Act 2006**

In our opinion the information given in the report of the trustees for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements.

## **Independent auditor's report**

**To the members of**

**Rift Valley Research Limited**

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### **Matters on which we are required to report by exception**

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters where the Companies Act 2006 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- Adequate accounting records have not been kept or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- The financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- Certain disclosures of trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- We have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit; or
- The trustees were not entitled to prepare the financial statements in accordance with the small companies' regime and take advantage of the small companies' exemption in preparing the report of the trustees and take advantage of the small companies' exemption from the requirement to prepare a strategic report.

Jonathan Orchard (Senior statutory auditor)

27 May 2015

for and on behalf of Sayer Vincent LLP, Statutory Auditors

Sayer Vincent, Invicta House, 108-114 Golden Lane, LONDON EC1Y 0TL

**Rift Valley Research Limited**

**Statement of Financial Activities (incorporating an Income and Expenditure Account)**

**For the year ended 31 December 2014**

	Note	Restricted £	Unrestricted £	2014 Total £	2013 Total £
<b>Incoming resources</b>					
<i>Incoming resources from generated funds</i>					
Voluntary income	2	122,433	131,389	<b>253,822</b>	99,550
Investment income		-	70	<b>70</b>	49
		<u>122,433</u>	<u>131,459</u>	<u><b>253,892</b></u>	<u>99,599</u>
<i>Incoming resources from charitable activities</i>					
Education and training	3	5,481	340,830	<b>346,311</b>	513,510
Scholarship fund		9,144	-	<b>9,144</b>	-
Research, programmes and publications		443,778	204,167	<b>647,945</b>	550,028
		<u>458,403</u>	<u>544,997</u>	<u><b>1,003,400</b></u>	<u>1,063,538</u>
<b>Total incoming resources</b>		<u>580,836</u>	<u>676,456</u>	<u><b>1,257,292</b></u>	<u>1,163,137</u>
<b>Resources expended</b>					
<i>Costs of generating funds:</i>					
Costs of generating voluntary income		-	140,996	<b>140,996</b>	173,672
<i>Charitable activities</i>					
Education and training		80,017	230,467	<b>310,484</b>	287,403
Scholarship fund		8,887	-	<b>8,887</b>	-
Research and programmes		529,966	204,167	<b>734,133</b>	467,835
Publications		69,400	4,160	<b>73,560</b>	134,167
<i>Governance costs</i>		36,575	17,354	<b>53,929</b>	88,608
		<u>724,845</u>	<u>597,144</u>	<u><b>1,321,989</b></u>	<u>1,151,685</u>
<b>Total resources expended</b>		<u>724,845</u>	<u>597,144</u>	<u><b>1,321,989</b></u>	<u>1,151,685</u>
<b>Net incoming resources and movement in funds</b>	5	(144,009)	79,312	(64,697)	11,452
<b>Reconciliation of funds</b>					
Total funds brought forward		<u>195,416</u>	<u>404,475</u>	<u><b>599,891</b></u>	<u>588,439</u>
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>		<u><u>51,407</u></u>	<u><u>483,787</u></u>	<u><u><b>535,194</b></u></u>	<u><u>599,891</u></u>

All of the above results are derived from continuing activities. There were no other recognised gains or losses other than those stated above. Movements in funds are disclosed in Note 13 to the financial statements.

Rift Valley Research Limited

Balance sheet

Company no: 4271537

31 December 2014

	Note	£	2014 £	2013 £
<b>Fixed assets</b>				
Tangible fixed assets	9		<u>8,306</u>	<u>7,596</u>
			<b>8,306</b>	7,596
<b>Current assets</b>				
Debtors	10	91,129		145,899
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>542,649</u>		<u>502,682</u>
		<b>633,778</b>		648,581
<b>Liabilities</b>				
Creditors: amounts due within one year	11	<u>106,890</u>		<u>56,286</u>
<b>Net current assets</b>			<u>526,888</u>	<u>592,295</u>
<b>Net assets</b>	12		<u><u>535,194</u></u>	<u><u>599,891</u></u>
<b>The funds of the charity</b>				
Restricted funds	13			
In surplus			51,407	195,416
In deficit				-
Unrestricted funds				
General funds			<u>483,787</u>	<u>404,475</u>
<b>Total charity funds</b>			<u><u>535,194</u></u>	<u><u>599,891</u></u>

Approved by the trustees on 21 May 2015 and signed on their behalf by

John Ryle - Trustee

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 December 2014

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1. Accounting policies

- a) The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with applicable accounting standards and the Companies Act 2006. They follow the recommendations in the Statement of Recommended Practice, Accounting and Reporting by Charities (SORP 2005).
- b) Voluntary income is received by way of grants, donations and gifts and is included in full in the statement of financial activities when receivable.
- c) Incoming resources include revenue grants credited to the SOFA when received or receivable whichever is earlier. However grants received in an accounting period in respect of future accounting periods are deferred until those periods.  
Where entitlement to grants receivable is dependent upon fulfilment of conditions within the charity's control, the incoming resources are recognised when there is sufficient certainty that conditions will be met. Where there is uncertainty as to whether the charity can meet such conditions the incoming resource is deferred.  
Course fees and other income is recognised when receivable.
- d) Restricted funds are to be used for specific purposes as stipulated by the donor. Expenditure which meets these criteria is charged to the relevant fund.
- e) Unrestricted funds are grants, donations and other incoming resources received or generated for the charitable purposes.
- f) Designated funds are unrestricted funds earmarked by the trustees for particular purposes.
- g) Costs of generating funds relate to the costs incurred by the charitable company in inducing third parties to make voluntary contributions to it, as well as the cost of any activities with a income generating purpose.
- h) Resources expended are recognised in the period in which they are incurred. Resources expended include attributable VAT which cannot be recovered.

Resources expended are allocated to the particular activity where the cost relates directly to that activity. The cost of the overall direction and administration of each activity, comprising staff salaries and office costs, is apportioned to activities based on a calculation of staff time dedicated to each activity.

In 2014 the way costs were allocated was revised, and included a shift in focus to the publications output of RVI. This is because this part of the work that RVI undertakes is a main charitable output. In addition to this, the way in which the charity calculates the costs of generating funds was revisited and resulted in the figures for 2013 being recast as presented in these accounts.

Charitable activity costs are costs incurred on activities aimed at meeting the charity's objectives.

Governance costs are costs associated with constitutional and statutory requirements and include any costs associated with the strategic management of the charity's activities.

Support costs, which include the general operating costs of the charity i.e. those costs that do not relate directly to a specific activity, are re-allocated to each of the activities on the following basis which is an estimate, based on staff and consultant time, of the amount attributable to each activity:

	<b>2014</b>
Cost of generating funds	<b>15%</b>
Education and training	<b>25%</b>
Research and programmes	<b>41%</b>
Publications	<b>12%</b>
Governance	<b>7%</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>100%</b>

## Rift Valley Research Limited

### Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 December 2014

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#### 1. Accounting policies (continued)

- i) Unrestricted reserves are transferred to restricted funds in projects where restricted funds are insufficient to cover committed activity costs.
- j) Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write down the cost of each asset to its estimated residual value over its expected useful life. The depreciation rates in use are as follows:

Office equipment	2, 3 or 4 years
Prior to 2011 equipment was written off in the year of acquisition	

Items of equipment are capitalised where the purchase price exceeds £500. Depreciation costs are allocated to activities on the basis of the use of the related assets in those activities. Assets are reviewed for impairment if circumstances indicate their carrying value may exceed their net realisable value and value in use.

- k) Foreign currency assets and liabilities are translated into sterling at the rate ruling at the balance sheet date. Income and expenditure incurred in foreign currencies is translated at the rate at the time of the transaction. Any gain or loss on currency translation is dealt with in the SOFA as part of Resources Expended.
- l) Donated services and facilities are included as incoming resources (with an equivalent amount in resources expended) only where the benefit to the charity is reasonably quantifiable, measurable and material. The value placed on these resources is the estimated value to the charity of the service or facility provided.
- m) Rentals payable under operating leases, where substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership remain with the lessor, are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities on a straight line basis over the minimum lease term.
- n) The charitable company operates a defined contribution pension scheme. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the charitable company in an independently administered fund. The pension cost charge represents contributions payable under the scheme by the charitable company to the fund. The charitable company has no liability under the scheme other than for the payment of those contributions.

#### 2. Voluntary income

	Restricted	Unrestricted	2014 Total	2013 Total
	£	£	£	£
Revenue grants (see also note 13)				
Open Society Institute	122,433	-	<b>122,433</b>	-
Anonymous support grant	-	131,389	<b>131,389</b>	98,550
	<u>122,433</u>	<u>131,389</u>	<b><u>253,822</u></b>	<u>98,550</u>
Donations in cash	-	-	-	1,000
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,000</u>
Total	<u>122,433</u>	<u>131,389</u>	<b><u>253,822</u></b>	<u>99,550</u>

Rift Valley Research Limited

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 December 2014

3. Incoming resources from charitable activities

	Restricted £	Unrestricted £	2014 Total £	2013 Total £
Revenue grants (see also note 13)				
<i>Training and education</i>				
Annual Field Courses	-	314,226	<b>314,226</b>	358,431
Short training courses	-	26,604	<b>26,604</b>	15,023
<i>Archives and digital libraries</i>				
UNESCO/ Norwegian Government	53,730	-	<b>53,730</b>	63,998
<i>Research and publication</i>				
Tufts University	34,791	-	<b>34,791</b>	2,590
UN FAO (Livestock study)	-	-	-	7,575
UN FAO (Community Risk Reduction study)	-	-	-	31,932
United States Institute of Peace	22,848	-	<b>22,848</b>	36,228
World Bank	-	204,167	<b>204,167</b>	21,413
European Union	176,031	-	<b>176,031</b>	-
Danish Institute of International Studies	11,777	-	<b>11,777</b>	-
Heinrich Boll Foundation	14,866	-	<b>14,866</b>	-
<i>Multi-activity</i>				
UK Government (Africa Conflict Prevention Pool and DFID)	129,735	-	<b>129,735</b>	511,738
	<u>443,778</u>	<u>544,997</u>	<b><u>988,775</u></b>	<u>1,048,928</u>
Fees for knowledge services and other income	5,481	-	<b>5,481</b>	14,610
Scholarship fund	9,144	-	<b>9,144</b>	-
Total	<u>458,403</u>	<u>544,997</u>	<b><u>1,003,400</u></b>	<u>1,063,538</u>

Rift Valley Research Limited

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 December 2014

4. Total resources expended

	Costs of generating voluntary income	Education and training (inc. sponsorship fund)	Field Research and Programmes	Publications	Governance Costs	General Support Costs	2014 Total	2013	Total
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£		£
Staff costs (Note 6)	61,959	66,477	109,215	42,171	29,185	53,768	<b>362,775</b>		293,332
Fees for researchers and regional specialists	-	41,918	251,408	-	-	-	<b>293,326</b>		339,361
Direct costs	55,982	163,936	311,404	13,578	12,981	9,534	<b>567,415</b>		423,098
Scholarships	-	8,887	-	-	-	-	<b>8,887</b>		
Office and administration costs	-	-	-	-	-	114,975	<b>114,975</b>		66,608
Exchange differences	-	-	-	-	-	(29,895)	<b>(29,895)</b>		21,376
Overseas taxation (Note 7)	-	-	-	-	-	4,506	<b>4,506</b>		7,910
	<u>117,941</u>	<u>281,218</u>	<u>672,027</u>	<u>55,749</u>	<u>42,166</u>	<u>152,888</u>	<b><u>1,321,989</u></b>		<u>1,151,685</u>
Support Costs	23,055	38,153	62,106	17,811	11,763	(152,888)	-		-
<b>Total resources expended</b>	<b><u>140,996</u></b>	<b><u>319,371</u></b>	<b><u>734,133</u></b>	<b><u>73,560</u></b>	<b><u>53,929</u></b>	<b><u>-</u></b>	<b><u>1,321,989</u></b>		<b><u>1,151,685</u></b>

## Rift Valley Research Limited

### Notes to the financial statements

#### For the year ended 31 December 2014

##### 5. Net incoming resources for the year

This is stated after charging:	2014	2013
	£	£
Depreciation	8,648	8,954
Auditors' remuneration, excluding VAT:		
UK audit	5,900	5,750
Kenyan audit	625	1,178
	-	-
Trustees' remuneration	51,691	35,900
Trustees' expenses	<u>6,355</u>	<u>12,992</u>

Trustees' remuneration comprises a salary, pension contribution of £600 and associated costs paid to John Ryle (£45,892.35 in 2014, £32,000 in 2013) and fees paid to Justin Willis (£5,798.76 in 2014, £3,900 in 2013).

Trustees' expenses comprise reimbursed costs of travel, accommodation, subsistence and telephone expenses incurred by John Ryle and Justin Willis. No other Trustee claimed reimbursement of expenses.

John Ryle was remunerated and reimbursed expenses for the provision of strategic, fundraising and management services provided in his capacity as Executive Director of the charity. Justin Willis is a regional specialist and was remunerated and reimbursed expenses for the provision of training and education services on behalf of the charity, as well as being reimbursed travel expenses for attending trustees' meetings.

##### 6. Staff costs and numbers

Staff costs were as follows:	2014	2013
	£	£
Salaries and fees	324,254	248,436
Overseas allowances and Medical Insurance	20,351	22,778
Social security costs	20,309	21,168
Pension contributions	3,577	-
Other costs	-	950
	<u>368,491</u>	<u>293,332</u>
Total emoluments paid to staff were:	<u>348,182</u>	<u>271,214</u>

One employee received emoluments of between £70,000 and £80,000 during the year of which £855.00 were pension contributions (2013: one between £60,000 and £70,000, none between £70,000 and £80,000)

The average monthly number of employees (full-time equivalent and including those Trustees who received remuneration - as specified in note 5 above) during the year was as follows:

	2014	2013
	No.	No.
Charitable activity: Education and training	2.1	1.9
Charitable activity: Field research and programmes	3.5	3.2
Charitable activity: Publications	1.0	0.9
Generating funds	1.3	1.2
Governance	0.7	0.6
General support	1.7	1.6
	<u>10.3</u>	<u>9.4</u>

## Rift Valley Research Limited

### Notes to the financial statements

#### For the year ended 31 December 2014

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#### 7. Taxation

The company is exempt from UK corporation tax as all its income is charitable and is applied for charitable purposes. RVI is registered as a company in Kenya and therefore is subject to Kenyan corporate tax on the deemed surplus arising on activities in that country. In these financial statements 2014 resources expended include £4,506 paid to Kenyan Revenue Authority as Company Tax (2013: £4,074 in respect of 2012 and £3,836 in respect of 2013 Kenyan tax).

#### 8. Related party transactions

John Ryle, a Trustee, has received advances from the charity to meet out of pocket expenses incurred by him on behalf of the charity. No advance remained outstanding at 31 December 2014 (2013: Nil).

As explained in note 5, two trustees were remunerated for services provided to the charity.

#### 9. Tangible fixed assets

	Office equipment £	Total £
<b>Cost</b>		
At the start of the year	33,599	<b>33,599</b>
Additions in year	9,358	<b>9,358</b>
At the end of the year	<u>42,957</u>	<u><b>42,957</b></u>
<b>Depreciation</b>		
At the start of the year	26,003	<b>26,003</b>
Charge for the year	8,648	<b>8,648</b>
At the end of the year	<u>34,651</u>	<u><b>34,651</b></u>
<b>Net book value</b>		
<b>At the end of the year</b>	<u><b>8,306</b></u>	<u><b>8,306</b></u>
At the start of the year	<u>7,596</u>	<u>7,596</u>

#### 10. Debtors

	2014 £	2013 £
Grant income	<b>59,079</b>	96,359
Other debtors	<b>26,175</b>	44,885
Prepayments	<b>5,875</b>	4,655
	<u><b>91,129</b></u>	<u>145,899</u>

Rift Valley Research Limited

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 December 2014

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11. Creditors: amounts due within one year

	2014	2013
	£	£
Other creditors	-	4,925
Accruals	<b>26,580</b>	48,729
Deferred incoming resources	<b>80,310</b>	2,632
	<b><u>106,890</u></b>	<b><u>56,286</u></b>

12. Analysis of net assets between funds

	Restricted funds £	General funds £	Total funds £
Tangible fixed assets	-	8,306	<b>8,306</b>
Net current assets	51,407	475,481	<b>526,888</b>
<b>Net assets at the end of the year</b>	<b><u>51,407</u></b>	<b><u>483,787</u></b>	<b><u>535,194</u></b>

**13. Movements in funds**

	At the start of the year £	Incoming resources £	Outgoing resources £	Transfers £	At the end of the year £
<b>Restricted funds:</b>					
Scholarship Fund	1,875	9,144	(8,887)	-	<b>2,132</b>
Hargeysa Cultural Center	-	176,031	(130,615)	-	<b>45,416</b>
Juba Lecture Series 2014	-	11,777	(11,777)	-	-
LAPPSET Projects	-	14,865	(14,865)	-	-
Addressing land disputes in Mogadishu, South Sudan and East Africa Institutional Development Grant	36,084	22,848	(54,637)	-	<b>4,295</b>
The Nairobi Forum for Research, Policy and Local Knowledge	31,523	122,433	(153,956)	-	-
The Somalia Famine	114,059	135,217	(249,276)	-	-
The South Sudan National Archive Project	-	34,791	(34,791)	-	-
Usalama Project	-	53,730	(53,730)	-	-
Somaliland Land Study	11,875	-	(11,875)	-	-
	-	-	(436)	-	<b>(436)</b>
<b>Total restricted funds</b>	<b>195,416</b>	<b>580,836</b>	<b>(724,845)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>51,407</b>
<b>Unrestricted funds:</b>					
General funds	404,475	676,456	(597,144)	-	<b>483,787</b>
<b>Total unrestricted funds</b>	<b>404,475</b>	<b>676,456</b>	<b>(597,144)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>483,787</b>
<b>Total funds</b>	<b>599,891</b>	<b>1,257,292</b>	<b>(1,321,989)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>535,194</b>

**Purposes of restricted funds**

Restricted funds comprise grants and donations received for specific purposes as follows:

**The RVI Scholarship Fund**

The Scholarship Fund is a voluntary donation fund which has the aim of promoting individual educational development of young researchers and activists from countries in Eastern and Central Africa. This may include funding their attendance on courses provided by the Charity. Income from the sale of RVI publications is also allocated to this fund.

**Hargeysa Cultural Center**

This is a three-year project in partnership Red Sea Online Cultural Foundation, funded by the European Union, and involving the creation and development of a cultural centre in Hargeysa.

**The Impact of War on Somali Men**

Funded by the World Bank, this is the inception phase of a research project on the effect of war on men in the Somali territories and among the Somali diaspora in Kenya.

**National Archive of South Sudan**

This project is dedicated to the conservation and digitisation of the National Archive of South Sudan. The conservation component is funded by the Norwegian Government through the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)

**For the year ended 31 December 2014**

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**Juba Lecture Series 2014**

This was the fourth year of the annual Juba lecture series, funded by the Danish Institute of International Studies.

**South Sudan and East Africa Institutional Development Grant**

This grant from the Open Society Institute (OSI), now the Open Society Foundations (OSF), was allocated to support the development of RVI activities in South Sudan and East Africa.

**Usalama Project**

The aim of this research project, co-funded by Humanity United and Open Square, is to document armed groups in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) with a view to deepening understanding of violence in eastern DRC and promoting a practical programme for demobilization and security sector reform.

**The Nairobi Forum for Research, Policy and Local Knowledge**

The Nairobi Forum, funded by the UK Government's Africa Conflict Prevention Pool until July 2014 and then using RVI unrestricted funds, is a continuing programme of research, seminars and public lectures designed to bring together researchers, policy-makers, government officials, and activists concerned with issues in Eastern and Central Africa. An additional component of the Nairobi Forum is a Security and Justice Research programme which aims to improve understanding of security and justice systems in the Somali region (south central Somalia, Puntland and Somaliland).

**Lessons Learned from the 2011 Somali Famine**

A research project, undertaken in collaboration with Tufts University and funded by the U.S. Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance (OFDA), that examines how communities and humanitarian actors in Somalia responded to the 2011-2012 famine. The project seeks to establish lessons learned and improve responses to future famines.

**The Mipakani project**

The preliminary phase of a project developed for and funded by Heinrich Boll Foundation. The project has established a public website that consolidates—and makes more readily accessible—information on the LAPPSET project and other development initiatives in northern Kenya and bordering countries.

**Addressing Land Disputes in Mogadishu**

This study, carried out in collaboration with the Mogadishu-based Heritage Institute for Policy Studies, with funding from the United States Institute of Peace (USIP), analyses the different types and causes of land disputes in Mogadishu. It examines the impact of land disputes on different groups and documents how such disputes are currently handled.

**Scoping Study on Land Policy in Somaliland**

This is a new project set to begin fully in 2015 and explores land issues in Somaliland. The study will be funded by the Somali Development Fund.

Restricted fund balances may be negative when expenditure is made on a project that is expected to be reimbursed by a funder, but where, at the end of the financial period, not all the conditions have been met that would justify this income being recognised within the accounts. This results in an excess of expenditure over income on some project funds. The total deficit fund balances amounted to Nil (2013: Nil).

## Rift Valley Research Limited

### Notes to the financial statements

#### For the year ended 31 December 2014

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#### 14. Operating lease commitments

The charity had annual commitments at the year end under operating leases expiring as follows:

	UK £	Overseas £	2014 £	2013 £
<b>Premises</b>				
Less than 1 year	-	-	<b>16,873</b>	17,600
1 - 2 Years	-	-	-	2,583
	-	-	<b>16,873</b>	20,183