

# Annual Report



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## Annual Report



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## DIRECTOR'S INTRO

The CMI mission is to address global challenges by providing research-based knowledge that inspires and shapes policy and practice. We generate knowledge that can be used to fight poverty, advance human rights, and promote sustainable social development.

CMI embarked on a new strategy in 2023. In our new strategy we highlight our plan to expand our engagement with the serious challenges humanity faces related to climate change and the increasing number of conflicts around the world.

After a period of considerable growth, we have entered a period of consolidation. We have worked hard both to strengthen the thematic focus of our research and expanding our engagement to meet the demands of a changing world. Our strategic investments have already shown promising results and added strength to our common dedication to deliver high-quality and policy-relevant research.

This year we secured a large project of NOK 230 million from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Norad on Climate Resilience and Adaptation in Malawi and Ethiopia, together with NORCE and other partners. We were awarded our first EU Horizon Europe project as coordinator and won a prestigious ERC Consolidator grant due to start in 2025.

CMI's research is mainly focused on challenges facing poor and vulnerable groups in the global South, and our most important audience are national and international actors working on global development challenges. Our long-term partnerships in the countries where we work are essential for fulfilling our mission and we strive to be a role model in equal and inclusive partnerships.

One of the most prominent examples of such a long-term partnership is the academic collaboration between Bergen and Sudan. 2023 marked the 60th anniversary of this fruitful collaboration with several events focusing on the outcomes of the



long-standing academic collaboration that has defied borders, and at times upheaval in Sudan – like the devastating war that is currently raging the country.

For more than 90 years CMI has promoted tolerance and mutual understanding between nations and peoples, as was the original purpose created by our founder Christian Michelsen – one of the great Norwegians of the 20th century. This purpose is no less important today, as we leave behind another year marked by war, conflicts, and severe global consequences of climate change.

These challenges make us even more committed to delivering impactful research, to work hard every day to strengthen our ability to influence positive social change and to enhance our engagement with decision makers, activists, and local communities. A good example being the open seminar we hosted this year to discuss Norway's future approach to an engagement with Africa, as the Norwegian Government is preparing a new Africa-strategy. It was a great pleasure for us to host an event that fits so perfectly with our mission. The Minister of International Development, Anne Beathe Tvinnereim, attended the seminar and underlined her appreciation of the insightful discussions and knowledge shared by the researchers. In the meeting she highlighted the importance of input from research as crucial to understanding a changing world and designing good policies. I could not agree more!

> Espen Villanger DIRECTOR

# Highlights 2023



Research Professor Lovise Aalen from CMI moderated a panel on Humanitarian aid in Sudan with Susanne Jaspers, SOAS Food Studies Centre, Ahmed Abbas Abusham, Ahfad University, Trygve Augestad, Norwegian People's Aid, Sara Abdelgalil, Shabaka, Sudan Crisis Coordination Unit, Will Carter, Norwegian Refugee Council, Edle Hamre, The Royal Norwegian Embassy in Sudan during a symposium to mark the 60 year anniversary for academic collaboration between Bergen and Sudan 18 – 20 October 2023. Photo: Åse Roti Dahl.

#### 60 years of collaboration with Sudan

2023 marked the 60th anniversary of academic collaboration between Bergen and Sudan. The anniversary was acknowledged with several events, including a three-day symposium from 18-20 October hosted by the SNAC (Sudan-Norway Academic Cooperation) project in cooperation with CMI and the University of Bergen. The symposium was packed with multidisciplinary events, focusing on the outcomes of the long-standing collaboration that has continued to defy numerous challenges, not least the devastating war that continues to ravage the country. www.cmi.no/events/3182-60-years-of-bonds-and-beyond-academic-collaboration-between-bergen-and-khartoum

#### Annual Lecture 2023:

#### Paying the Climate Bill: The Future of Norwegian Development Policy

The Director General of NORAD, Bård Vegar Solhjell, was this year's keynote speaker. He shared his reflections on what obligations wealthy countries have towards poor countries when it comes to combatting the negative effects of climate change, and what implications this will have for Norwegian development policy.

The keynote was followed by a panel conversation with researchers providing responses from specific countries about climate-development efforts in the Global South. Read more – Paying the Climate Bill: The Future of Norwegian Development Policy (cmi.no)

Every year on March 15, Christian Michelsen's birthday, we host the Chr. Michelsen Annual Lecture, where we invite a distinguished scholar or practitioner to come to challenge and inspire us.



Bård Vegar Solhjell, Director General at Norad, gave a keynote on CMI's Annual Lecture and also participated in a conversation moderated by Research Professor Edyta Roszko, with Rondrotiana Barimalala, Senior Researcher at NORCE, Paul Hofman, Postdoctoral Researcher at CMI and Aled Williams Principal Adviser at U4 and Senior Researcher at CMI. Photo: <u>Cecilie Bannow</u>.



**UN in Vienna:** Celebrating members of the Norwegian delegation, Monica Kirya -U4 Deputy Director (the author) and Audun Skei Fostvedt-Mills, First Secretary of the Norwegian Mission to the UN in Vienna – at the moment the resolution 'Addressing the societal impacts of corruption' was passed in December 2023. Photo: © Mats Benestad COPYRIGHTED

## Impacting the gender dimensions of corruption

The U4 Anti-Corruption Resource Centre at CMI played a central role in a working group on gender and corruption together with the UNCAC Coalition – a global civil society network that promotes ratification, implementation and monitoring of the UN Convention against Corruption (UNCAC). Chaired by U4 Principal Adviser Monica Kirya, the working group helped shape the first-ever UNCAC resolution dedicated to the gender dimensions of corruption. The resolution – titled 'Addressing the societal impacts of corruption' – was adopted at the December 2023 Conference of States Parties to UNCAC in Atlanta, USA.

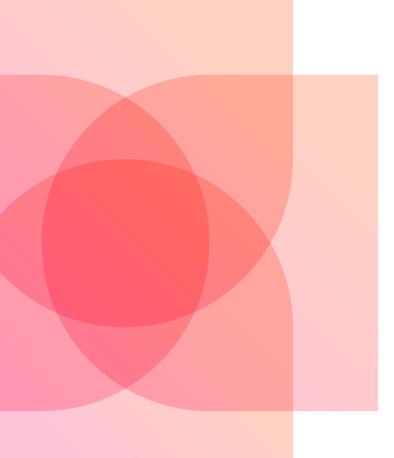
The U4 Anti-Corruption Resource Centre at CMI works to reduce the harmful impact of corruption on society. The centre covers a wide range of anticorruption themes, including health and education, the justice sector, climate and natural reso urces, money politics, Ukraine reconstruction, and more. The team of 15 delivers research, courses, advice, workshops and events. **Read more at www.u4.no** 

#### The new Norwegian Strategy for Africa

The Minister of International Development, Anne Beathe Tvinnereim, attended an open seminar hosted by CMI with researchers and experts providing input to the new Norwegian Strategy for Africa. The discussions covered a broad range of issues that are of special relevance in the years to come, like climate change, job creation, and questions connected to gender and democracy. The new strategy will be launched in 2024, mapping out the overall, long-term direction for Norway's Africa policy moving forward. www.cmi.no/news/3176discussing-norways-future-engagement-with-africa



The Minister of International Development, Anne Beathe Tvinnereim and CMI Director Espen Villanger.



#### New helpdesk for more effective aid

The Development Learning Lab (DLL) launched a new helpdesk which offers tailor-made knowledge services to aid organisations. The helpdesk assists in assessing existing knowledge and identifying knowledge gaps of relevance to the organisations' theories of change. Knowledge reviews may also be conducted as part of this work.

Develoment Learning Lab (DLL) is a research and learning centre working with development practitioners to enhance learning and improve outcomes of development programs. DLL is a collaboration between Chr. Michelsen Institute (CMI), the University oaf Bergen (UiB), the Norwegian School of Economics (NHH) and Centre for Applied Research (SNF). Read more about DLL at **www.devlearnlab.no** 

#### **New Research Funding**

We continued to increase and expand our funding base:



We were awarded our first EU Horizon project this year. The project is entitled ARM: The long arms of authoritarian states. It includes 11 partners from across Europe and is led by Research Professor Lovise Aalen. The project explores how authoritarian states control information beyond their borders, focusing on China, Russia, Ethiopia, and Rwanda. www.cmi. no/news/3208-cmi-gets-eu-horizon-project-onauthoritarian-states-control-of-information



Research Professor Edyta Roszko was granted her second prestigious ERC Grant for 'Global Hydroconnectivities beyond Oceans, Seas, and Rivers', a project that breaks down the walls between the humanities, social sciences, and natural sciences. www.cmi.no/news/3213-new-erc-consolidatorgrant-to-cmi

We secured a large five-year project from Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Norad to assess the impact of climate information services in partnership with NORCE, the Development Fund, NMBU and NORCAP. The project is worth a total amount of 230 million NOK and is an effort to help smallholder farmers adjust their agricultural decisions in the face of climate change. www.cmi.no/news/3224improving-food-security-and-resilience-forsmallholder-farmers

### Appointed members of influential expert groups

Senior Researcher Hilde Selbervik was appointed as a member of an external expert group commissioned by the Norwegian government to provide advice on effective financing to achieve the UN's Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs): Ekspertgruppe skal gi råd om finansiering for å nå bærekraftsmålene regjeringen.no

Ottar Mæstad, Research Professor and Director of the Development Learning Lab (DLL) was appointed as a member of a Norwegian expert committee on climate financing, which are to expand the horizon on innovative and new sources for climate financing.

The committee was initiated by the biggest NGOs in Norway; the Norwegian Church Aid, the Norwegian People's Aid, the Norwegian Refugee Council, Save the Children, Caritas Norway, and the Norwegian Red Cross: www.kirkensnodhjelp.no/ nyheter/aktuelt/ny-rapport-hvis-ikke-norge-hvem

#### Events to help make sense of global challenges

#### **Bergen Global**

Academics and civil society actors from all over the world come to Bergen Global to share their knowledge and analysis on global development challenges. The events range from breakfast seminars on current affairs, to research presentations. The events all fall under the umbrella of "making sense of global challenges", with a focus on cross-disciplinary discussions.

Bergen Global is a multidisciplinary UiB-CMI collaboration. The editorial team at Bergen Global organise breakfast meetings, open lectures, literary salons, and other events. The Bergen Global library houses a large specialised collection of literature with a thematic focus on Africa, Asia, the Middle East and Latin America.

#### **Bergen Exchanges**

The 2023 Bergen Exchanges on Law & Social Transformation took place from 14 -18 August 2023. Brilliant scholars from across the globe came together in Bergen to discuss a range of topics like democracy, academic freedom, decolonisation, child rights, indigenous rights, reproductive justice, and migration.

Bergen Exchanges is organised by the Centre on Law and Social Transformation (LawTransform), a collaboration between the Chr. Michelsen Institute (CMI) and the University of Bergen (UiB).

#### Arendalsuka

CMI participated at Arendalsuka this year with two events shedding light on two countries that are at the core of our research: Sudan and Afghanistan.

Arendalsuka is the largest political gathering in Norway held annually since 2012. Here researchand educational institutions, the business sector, politicians, journalists, and civil society organisations come together to discuss national and international challenges. The event's mission is to strengthen the belief in political empowerment and democracy through open debate and involvement. www.cmi.no/news/3158-cmi-at-arendalsuka

#### The Tax Group

The Tax Group, lead by Research Professor Odd-Helge Fjeldstad and Senior Researcher Ingrid Hoem Sjursen, organised two international conferences in Africa (Dakar and Zanzibar) in collaboration with the TaxCapDev-network. Five in-person seminars took place at CMI as part of the Tax for Development Seminar Series. Fjeldstad and Sjursen also contributed to the Human Development Report 2023/24 with a chapter on "The role of trust and norms in tax compliance in Africa".

The TaxCapDev network is a partnership between CMI, the Norwegian Institute of International Affairs, Tax Justice Network – Norway, African Tax Institute (ATI), The Alliance for Rebuilding Governance in Africa (ARGA), and Mzumbe University Dar es Salaam Campus College. The network is funded by the Research Council of Norway. Read more about tax research at CMI: www.cmi.no/topics/ public-finance-management

#### The Norwegian Centre for humanitarian studies

The Norwegian Centre for humanitarian studies (NCHS) hosted the 'Humanitarian Futures' conference, which explored the developments, risks, ideals, and policies characterising the transformation of humanitarian assistance. The conference was organised around the central themes of the future of humanitarian governance, the future delivery of humanitarian assistance, and the future for displaced people.

NCHS was operational from 2012-2023. Research Professor Antiono de Lauri was director of the centre, which promoted humanitarian research and facilitated analysis and discussion on humanitarianism. The NCHS was a joint initiative between CMI, the Norwegian Institute of International Affairs (NUPI) and the Peace Research Institute Oslo (PRIO) www.humanitarianstudies.no

In 2023 Antonio De Lauri was elected as the new President of The International Humanitarian Studies Association (IHSA) and will lead the Association until 2027: www.cmi.no/news/3209-electednew-president-of-the-international-humanitarianstudies-association

#### Honouring Emerita Research Professor Astri Suhrke

CMI hosted a symposium to honour Emerita Research Professor Astri Suhrke. She is internationally renowned for her research on Afghanistan, and her contributions to the field of refugee studies, conflict and statebuilding. She started working at CMI in the early 1990s and has had a long and productive career that has contributed significantly to our international standing. The symposium brought together many of Suhrke's close collaborators over the decades and was co-organised by Mats Berdal from Kings College, London, and Research Director Torunn Wimpelmann at CMI. www.cmi.no/events/3152symposium-in-honour-of-astri-suhrke





We welcomed fourteen new colleagues from all over the world to join our international work environment:



Simen Hagen Ekeberg Graduate Project Controller



**Giedre Seduikiene** Project Controller



Lars Erik Knardahl Administration and Finance Officer (50%)



Maren Søreide HR Officer (30%)



**Munzoul Abdalla** Munzoul Assal Senior Researcher (80%) /Scholar at Risk



**Anne Kathrine Bang** Associated Research Professor



Marianne Tøraasen PostDoctoral Researcher



Viola Asri Senior Researcher



**Kjetil Bjorvatn** Associated Research Professor Research Project Assistant



**Christina Beier** (50%)



Svitlana Pushkash Research Assistant (10%)



Samwel Jonathan Nassary Research Assistant



**Rosa Esther Loureiro Revilla** Senior Programme Adviser



**Janne Sperrevik** Online Course and Digital Officer (50%)

## **2023** *in numbers*



mill. NOK total revenue







publications by CMI staff



43

U4 webinars, workshops and courses



52

events hosted by Bergen Global





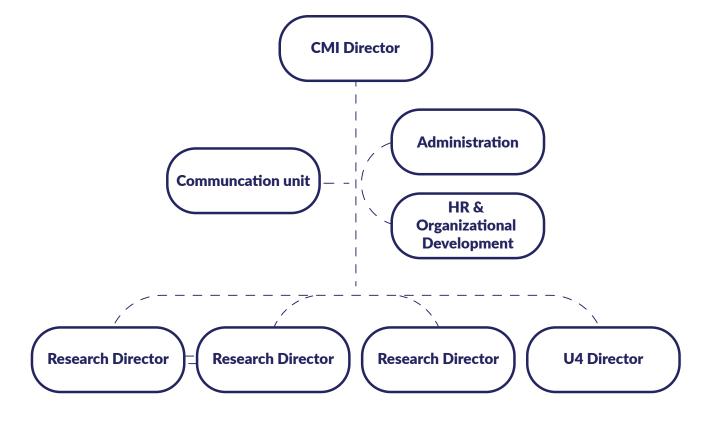
externally funded projects



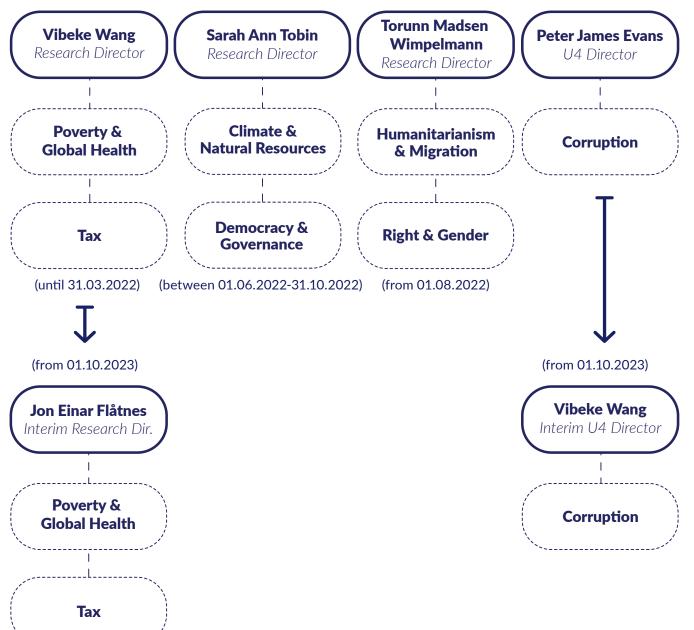
new employees







### **Research groups and the U4 Centre**



## The Board of CMI and CMF



Professor **Guri Rørtveit** UiB



Professor Alexander W. Cappelen NHH



Secretary-General Catharina Bu United Nations Association of Norway (UNA Norway)



Andrew Norton Senior Adviser to the Executive Director, Green Climate Fund; Professor of Practice, School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London



Post Doctoral Researcher **Matthew Gichohi** CMI



Head of IT Aksel Mjeldheim (deputy) CMI



Senior Programme Adviser Sofie Arjon Schütte CMI/U4

## Management CMI



Director **Espen Villanger** 



Administration & Finance Director Lars Petter Sjøberg



Director (until 30.09.2023) **Peter James Evans** U4 Anti-Corruption Resource Centre



Communications Director Mia Kolbjørnsen



Research Director (until 01.10.2023) Interim U4 Director (from 01.10.2023) **Vibeke Wang** 



Director of HR & Organizational Development (from 01.06.23) Hanna Fløysvik



Interim Research Director (from 01.10.23 -31.12.2023) Jon Einar Flåtnes



Research Director Torunn Madsen Wimpelmann



Research Director Sarah Ann Tobin

# Staff list

#### Director

Espen Villanger

#### Management

Peter James Evans *U4 Director* (Until 30.09.2023)

Hanna Fløysvik Director of HR & Organizational Development (New leadership position from 01.06.2023)

Jon Einar Flåtnes Interim Research Director for Poverty & Global Health and Tax 01.10.2023-31.12.2023

Monica Kirya Interim U4 Deputy Director 01.10.2023-31.12.2023

Mia Kolbjørnsen Communications Director

Lars Petter Sjøberg Administration & Finance Director

Sarah Ann Tobin Research Director for Climate & Natural Resources and Democracy & Governance

Vibeke Wang Research Director for Poverty & Global Health and Tax (until 30.09.2023) Interim U4 Director 01.10.2023-31.12.2023

Torunn Madsen Wimpelmann Research Director for Humanitarianism & Migration and Rights & Gender

#### Administration

Trine Berntsen Facilities & Operations Officer (until 30.06.2023) Senior Facilities & Operation Officer (from 01.07.2023) Simen Hagen Ekeberg Graduate Project Controller (From 01.06.2023)

Steinar Hegre Project Director

Reginald Chistopher Jacob Office Support Coordinator (60%)

Tineke Lohne Senior Project Controller (50%) and Quality & Finance Adviser (50%)

Olga Radionenko Senior Project Controller

Giedre Seduikiene Project Controller (From 01.02.2023)

Katharina Maria Sewening Senior Project Controller

#### IT

Aksel Mjeldheim *Head of IT* 

Nour Alhuda Almin Alhomsi Higher executive IT officer (10%) (Until 31.08.2023)

Rudi René Rødland Hansen IT Apprentice (Until 31.10.2023)

Lars Ivar Høberg Higher executive IT officer (60%)

Bjørn-Ivar Krüger Nilsen IT officer (40%)

Robert Sjursen Senior IT Adviser

#### **Accounting & Payroll**

Petter Lohne Head of Accounting & Payroll

Kari Helvik Aarlie Payroll & Accounting Adviser

Paola Andrea Berge Travel & Payroll Adviser Lars Erik Knardahl Administration & Finance Officer (50%) (From 04.09.2023)

Elisabeth Sivertsen Administration & Finance Officer (50%) (Until 31.08.2023)

#### HR & Organizational Development

Hanna Fløysvik Director of HR & Organizational Development (From 01.06.2023)

Maren Søreide HR Officer (30%) (From 01.12.2023)

#### Communication

Mia Kolbjørnsen Communication Director

Lisa Maree Arnestad Digital Communications Adviser, U4

Kirsty A. Cunningham Senior Communication Adviser, U4

Åse Johanne Roti Dahl Senior Communication Adviser

Pernille Jørgensen Graphic Designer & Branding Adviser

Stephen Eugene Mathis Senior Communication Adviser (20%)

#### **Bergen Global**

Mia Kolbjørnsen Operations Manager and Communication Director

Susanne Hoggen Kippersund Communication Adviser, University of Bergen (UiB)

Reidunn Ljones Principal Librarian Tord Rø Communication Adviser, University of Bergen (UiB)

#### **Climate & Natural Resources**

Anwesha Dutta Senior Researcher

Jon Einar Flåtnes Senior Researcher

Yograj Gautam Post Doc. Researcher

Hanna Geschewski Doctoral Researcher

Ivar Kolstad Associated Research Professor

Erik W. Kolstad Associated Research Professor

Saumya Pandey Doctoral Researcher (Until 31.10.2023)

Edyta Roszko Research Professor

Xuefei Shi Post Doc. Researcher

Lucas Watt Post Doc. Researcher (Until 31.07.2023)

Hang Zhou Post Doc. Researcher

#### Corruption

Daniela Cepeda Cuadrado Programme Adviser (until 30.09.2023) Senior Programme Adviser (from 01.10.2023)

Achiba Andrew Gargule Senior Programme Adviser (Until 28.02.2023)

Daniel Sejerøe Hausenkamph Programme Adviser

David Alexander Jackson Senior Programme Adviser

Monica Twesiime Kirya Principal Programme Adviser

Sophie Lemaitre Senior Programme Adviser (Until 12.05.2023)

Rosa Esther Loureiro Revilla Senior Programme Adviser (From 01.07.2023) Saul C. B. Mullard Senior Programme Adviser

Guillaume Nicaise Senior Programme Adviser

Sofie Arjon Schütte Senior Programme Adviser

David Aled Williams Principal Programme Adviser

#### **Democracy & Governance**

Lovise Aalen Research Professor

Inge Amundsen Senior Researcher

Kjersti Gravelseter Berg Associated Senior Researcher (01.02.2023-30.06.2023)

Bjørn Enge Bertelsen Associated Research Professor

Matthew Gichohi Post Doc. Researcher

Siril Kobbeltvedt Herseth Doctoral Researcher

Liazzat Jenisovna Kashknova Bonate Associated Research Professor

Pauline Marguerite Lemaire Doctoral Researcher (until 20.07.2023) Researcher (from 21.08.2023)

Audun Gabriel Løvlie *Research Assistant* (From 01.02.2023-03.03.2023)

Aslak Jangård Orre Senior Researcher

Lise Rakner Associated Research Professor

Egna Rachel Isaias Sidumo Doctoral Researcher

Elling N. Tjønneland Senior Researcher

Sarah Ann Tobin Research Director

#### **Rights & Gender**

Leonardo Rafael Arriola Associated Research Professor

Munzoul Abdalla Munzoul Assal Senior Researcher (80%)/ Scholar at Risk (From 01.08.2023) Anne Kathrine Bang Associated Research Professor (From 01.05.2023)

Jana Birke Belschner Post Doc. Researcher (Until 14.08.2023)

Lara Barbosa Quadros Cortes Associated Researcher

Ana de Mello Côrtes *Researcher* (15%) (From 15.03.2023)

Maria Kleivan McIntyre *Research Assistant* (09.08.2023-18.08.2023)

Davi Mendes Málaga Research Assistant (09.08.2023-18.08.2023)

Mari Norbakk Post Doc. Researcher

Carmeliza Soares da Costa Rosário Post Doc. Researcher

Lutforahman Saeed Associated Post Doc. Researcher (Until 01.04.2023)

Rachel Henriette Sieder Associated Senior Researcher

Elin Skaar Research Professor

Liv Tønnessen Senior Researcher

Marianne Tøraasen Doctoral Researcher (until 01.03.2023) Researcher (02.03.2023-10.11.2023) Post Doc. Researcher (from 11.11.2023)

Torunn Madsen Wimpelmann Research Director

#### **Poverty & Global Health**

Viola Asri Senior Researcher (From 01.03.2023)

Kjetil Bjorvatn Associated Research Professor (From 01.03.2023-31.12.2023)

Bet Helena Caeyers Senior Researcher

Sara Helene Dybesland Research Assistant (12.06.2023-26.06.2023) Peter Hangoma Senior Researcher

Magnus Hatlebakk Senior Researcher

Paul Hofman Post Doc. Researcher (Until 30.06.2023)

Karine Aasgaard Jansen Senior Researcher

Ottar Mæstad Research Professor (50%) and Special Adviser (50%)

Charlotte Ringdal Senior Researcher

Hilde Beate Selbervik Associated Senior Researcher

Eskindir Loha Shumbullo Post Doc. Researcher

Måns Søderbom Associated Research Professor

Sigrid Rusten Torsvik *Research Assistant* (From 05.09.2023)

Vibeke Wang Research Director (until 30.09.2023) Interim U4 Director (from 01.10.2023)

Arne Wiig Research Professor

James Wintrup Senior Researcher

#### **Humanitarianism & Migration**

Donata Balzarotti Research Assistant (20%)

Christina Beier Research Project Assistant (From 01.12.2023)

Aron John Corbett *Research Assistant* (From 01.06.2023-31.08.2023)

Antonio De Lauri *Research Professor* 

Robert Aleksander Forster Doctoral Researcher

Emily Hume Adviser Iva Jelusic Post Doc. Researcher

Eva Diana Chantal Johais Post Doc. Researcher

Are John Knudsen Research Professor

Heidi Mogstad Post Doc. Researcher

Svetlana Pushkash *Research Assistant* (From 01.12.2023-31.12.2023)

Jessica Leigh Schultz Senior Researcher

Arne Strand Senior Researcher

Cathrine Talleraas Post Doc. Researcher

Kari Grøtterud Telle Senior Researcher

#### Tax

Merima Ali Senior Researcher (40%) (Until 31.12.2023)

Nadja Dwenger Associated Research Professor

Odd-Helge Fjeldstad Research Professor

Johanne Thoen Hansen *Research Assistant* (From 14.08.2023-31.12.2023)

Sunniva Nygård Ingholm *Research Assistant* (From 01.01.2023-30.06.2023)

Samwel Jonathan Nassary Research Assistant (From 01.09.2023)

Ingrid Hoem Sjursen Senior Researcher

Vincent Somville Associated Senior Researcher

#### U4 Anti-Corruption Resource Centre

Lisa Maree Arnestad Digital Communications Adviser

Kirsty A. Cunningham Senior Communication Adviser Daniela Cepeda Cuadrado Programme Adviser (until 30.09.2023) Senior Programme Adviser (from 01.10.2023)

Peter James Evans U4 Director (Until 30.09.2023)

Achiba Andrew Gargule Senior Programme Adviser (Until 28.02.2023)

Martha Pricilla González Venegas U4 Programme Coordinator (until 30.04.2023) U4 Senior Programme Coordinator (from 01.05.2023)

Daniel Sejerøe Hausenkamph Programme Adviser

David Alexander Jackson Senior Programme Adviser

Monica Twesiime Kirya Principal Programme Adviser

Sophie Lemaitre Senior Programme Adviser (Until 12.05.2023)

Rosa Esther Loureiro Revilla Senior Programme Adviser (From 01.07.2023)

Saul C. B. Mullard Senior Programme Adviser

Guillaume Nicaise Senior Programme Adviser

Sofie Arjon Schütte Senior Programme Adviser

Janne Sperrevik Online Course and Digital Officer (50%) (From 01.09.2023)

Rachael Lorna Tufft Senior Learning Technology Adviser

Vibeke Wang Interim U4 Director (from 01.10.2023)

David Aled Williams Principal Programme Adviser

#### **Emeritus/Emerita**

Jan Isaksen Gunnar M Sørbø Arne Tostensen

## Publications 2023

#### **Books and Anthologies**

Berg, Kjersti G. (2023) *Palestina. Fakta på bakken.* Oslo: Universitetsforlaget 176 p.

Knudsen, Are John& Kjersti G. Berg (Eds.) (2023) CONTINENTAL ENCAMPMENT: Genealogies of Humanitarian Containment in the Middle East and Europe. Berghahn (Humanitarianism and Security no. vol 2) 296 p.

Pairault, Thierry, Soulé, Folashadé, Zhou, Hang (2023) *Relations afro-chinoises : décentrer l'analyse*. Paris: Éditions de la Sorbonne (Revue internationale des études du développement)

Williams, David Aled (2023) The Politics of Deforestation and REDD+ in Indonesia: Global Climate Change Mitigation. Abingdon and New York: Routledge (Routledge Studies in Political Ecology) 168 p.

#### **Peer Reviewed Journal Articles**

Alcidi, Maria, Alessandra Gribaldo, Elisabetta Grande, Carmeliza Rosario (2023) "Forum: Religion, Security, and Gender: An Unholy Trinity" in *Public Anthropologist* vol. 5 no. 1 53-115 p.

Ali, Merima and Odd-Helge Fjeldstad (2023) "Pre-colonial centralization and tax compliance norms in contemporary Uganda" in *Journal of Institutional Economics* vol. 19 no. 3 379-400 p.

Augsburg, Britta, Bet Caeyers, Sara Giunti, Bansi Malde, Susanna Smets (2023) "Labeled loans and human capital investments" in *Journal of Development Economics* vol. 162 no. 103053

Bendixsen, Synnøve KN, and Lena Näre (2023) "The migration-kinship nexus: Mobilising kinship during fragmented Afghan and Iraqi journeys to European Union countries" in *Handbook of transnational families around the world*, pp. 221-235. Cham: Springer International Publishing.

Benstead, Lindsay J., Ragnhild Muriaas, and Vibeke Wang (2023) "Explaining Backlash: social hierarchy and men's rejection of women's rights reforms" in *Social Politics: International Studies in Gender,* State & Society 30, no. 2: 496-524.

Chiziba, Chilochibi, Mwimba Chewe, and Peter Hangoma (2023) "Factors that influence married/partnered women's decisions to use contraception in Zambia" in *Frontiers in Global Women's Health* 4: 1157097.

Czaika, Mathias and Erdal, Marta Bivand and Talleraas, Cathrine (2023) "Exploring Europe's external migration policy mix: on the interactions of visa, readmission, and resettlement policies" in *Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies* 1-22 p.

De Lauri, Antonio and Brkovic, Carna (2023) "The Humanitarian Theater in the Mediterranean and the Threat of Violence in the Balkans" in *Journal of Borderlands Studies* pp. 1-20

Dugard, Jackie (2023) "Water rights struggles in Johannesburg and Detroit revisited - Looking beyond courts at the politics and power of rights-based legal mobilisation in a neoliberal global order: A 'powerpack' analysis'" in *Journal of Human Rights Practice* Vol 15, Issue 1 46–65p.

Hakimi, Aziz A. (2023) "'Good men don't elope': Afghan migrant men's discourses on labour migration, marriage and masculinity" in *History and Anthropology* 34, no. 2: 260-283.

Hangoma, Peter, Chewe, Mwimba (2023) "Should We Worry About Spillover Effects of Sugar Sweetened Beverage Taxation Policies?; Comment on "Understanding Marketing Responses to a Tax on Sugary Drinks: A Qualitative Interview Study in the United Kingdom, 2019" in International Journal of Health Policy and Management

Hatlebakk, Magnus (2023) "River sand mining as a livelihood activity: The case of Nepal" in *The Extractive Industries and Society* vol. 14 no. June 101266.

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## Report from the Board

#### Vision and mission

Founded in 1930, Chr. Michelsen Institute (CMI) is an independent, multi-disciplinary research institute, located in Bergen, Norway.

CMI's vision is *Research for a just and equal world.* The institute addresses global development challenges by providing research-based knowledge that inspires and shapes policy and practice. CMI has a particular focus on challenges facing poor and vulnerable groups in the global South, and the primary audience are national and international actors who influence international development.

The Institute carries forward the legacy of its founder, the late Christian Michelsen, to promote respect, understanding and amicable relations between nations and peoples. The work is carried out in close collaboration with partners from all over the world, including the people to whom the research is most important.

#### **Strategic and Structural priorities**

In March 2023 the new strategy for the period 2023-2028 was approved by the CMI Board.

CMIs mission is to: Address global challenges by providing research-based knowledge that inspires and shapes policy and practice.

CMI strives to be increasingly recognised internationally for cutting-edge, interdisciplinary academic and policy-relevant research. The priorities of the 2023-2028 strategy are:

#### • Strategic Priorities

- High Quality Research
- Impact for Societal Change
- Equal Knowledge Production

#### • Structural Priorities

- An inclusive Workplace
- A Developing and Sustainable Organisation
- Social Responsibility

#### Organisation

CMI had a total of 111 employees as of 31.12.2023 and conducted 82,6 person-years (full time equivalents) during the year.

The research is organized in seven multidisciplinary research groups:

- Tax
- Rights & Gender
- Democracy & Governance
- Poverty & Global Health
- Climate & Natural Resources
- Corruption
- Humanitarianism & Migration

CMI runs the U4 Anti-Corruption Resource Centre. The centre provides knowledge that can reduce the harmful effects of corruption on development. The Centre is funded by Canada, Denmark, Finland, Germany, Norway, Sweden, Switzerland, and the UK.

## CMI is a partner in five cross-institutional centres:

- Centre on Law & Social Transformation (LawTransform) - LawTransform brings together scholars, students and practitioners who share an interest in how law shapes societies, and in the use of rights and courts as tools for social change. The annual Bergen Exchanges on Law and Social Transformation is a flagship event. The centre is a cooperation with the Department of Comparative Politics at the University of Bergen.
- Bergen Global is a hub for research communication on global challenges and hosts a comprehensive library. The centre hosted 45 events in 2022. This was fewer than the year before, due to the refurbishing of Jekteviksbakken 31, which left the arena for the events closed for the public the spring semester. Most of the events were hybrid events with possibilities for digital participation The centre is a cooperation with the University of Bergen.

#### Norwegian Centre for Humanitarian Studies

The centre is a hub for research and policy discussions on humanitarian issues and brings together scholars, policymakers and practitioners both in Norway and internationally. The centre is a cooperation with NUPI and PRIO. The secretariat of the centre was relocated from PRIO to CMI from 1.1.2021.

- Centre for Intervention Science in Maternal and Child Health (CISMAC) This is as a Centre of Excellence, assigned by the Research Council of Norway. The centre is a cooperation with Centre for International Health at the University of Bergen as well as other national and international partners.
- **Development Learning Lab (DLL)** is a research and learning centre aiming to enhance learning and improve the results of development cooperation. DLL partners with development organisations and governments to provide evidence and do research along with the implementation of development programmes. The center is a collaboration with UiB and NHH/SNF.

The members of the Board per 31.12.2023 were Guri Rørtveit (chair), Catharina Bu, Andrew Norton, Alexander Cappelen, Matthew Gichohi, Sofie Schütte, and Aksel Mjeldheim (substitute).

#### **Developments, activities, and outputs**

The Institute has been through an extensive period of considerable growth (2018-2022), and have now entered a period of consolidation. From 2022 to 2023, the number of person-years (full-timeequivalents) decreased by 3.6% from 86.4 to 83.4. The decline in staff in 2023 has been mainly in the number of researchers as some temporary projectfunded positions have ended.

The growth in the period 2018-2022 is related to unprecedented success in attracting research funding, particularly in the Norwegian Research Council and the European Research Council. In 2023 we secured our first Horizon Europe project as a coordinator. We also won an ERC Consolidator grant due to start in 2025. In addition, we secured a large project for the Norad on Climate Resilience and Adaptation, together with NORCE and other partners.

The U4 Anti-Corruption Resource Centre (U4) continued to provide research, training, dialogues and commentary, and a helpdesk service, which all address the political and technical challenges that hinder positive development outcomes. Highlights from the year include the following activities:

• Global leadership on addressing the gender dimensions of corruption. U4 played a central role in setting up a new working group on gender and corruption in the UNCAC Coalition – a global network with over 350 civil society organisations that promotes ratification and implementation of the UN Convention against Corruption (UNCAC). At the Conference of States Parties to UNCAC in December 2023, Ghana tabled a new resolution drafted by the working group, which became the first ever UN resolution to place a gender lens on anti-corruption efforts.

Growing interest in U4 online courses

 bridging knowledge gaps. U4 has over 20 years' experience in making accessible and impactful anti-corruption courses. The portfolio of topics expanded in 2023 to include corruption in health emergencies and fragile and conflict-affected states. U4's online courses are flexible and accessible – with many available in multiple languages
 allowing participants to learn at their own pace and from anywhere in the world. In 2023, over 2,300 people participated in U4's courses.

DLL has continued to engage with aid organisations to explore opportunities for increased generation and use of research-based knowledge, and for creating venues for enhanced learning. An important milestone in 2023 was the new long-term collaboration with NorCap and the Development Fund to evaluate the impact of interventions to improve climate adaptation in smallholder agriculture in Ethiopia and Malawi. In addition, a thorough mapping was carried out among staff in civil society organisations of their interest in participating in thematic learning networks. The response was overwhelmingly positive, and DLL plan to follow up by initiating several new learning networks in 2024.

Towards the end of the year, the new DLL Helpdesk was launched, which will provide knowledge services to organisations that are in the process of developing new aid projects and programmes. Much of the work on new knowledge reviews will concentrate around the demand from organisations using the helpdesk service. Another important achievement was the success in making an agreement with Open Philanthropy of economic support. This has been crucial for DLL's ability to continue working on knowledge brokering and plan for a scale up from 2024.

#### **Publications and media**

In 2023 (2022 numbers in brackets), the institute published 6 (6) books and anthologies, 45 (36) peer-reviewed articles, and 25 (14) book chapters.

We also published 24 (42) reports and issue papers, 34 (29) briefs, working papers, insights and project disseminations, 16 (26) op-eds/newspaper articles, and 53 (57) blog posts. Our researchers contributed 66 (55) conference papers/presentations, and 57 (73) popular dissemination/presentations.

CMI researchers are popular sources for journalists, both nationally and internationally. In 2023 they appeared in 406 (685) news articles. 75 percent of CMI's news coverage was online. We continued our active presence in social media in 2023.

#### FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE

#### Revenue

The Institute's total revenue decreased slightly from NOK 119.0 mill. in 2022 to NOK 118.0 mill. in 2023. CMI carried out externally funded projects of a total value of NOK 95.3 mill., compared to NOK 97.9 mill. in 2022. Fee revenues decreased from NOK 74.9 mill. to NOK 71.0 mill., while the number of researcher / project staff decreased from 65.4 to 62.5 person-years..

Core funding from the Norwegian Research Council increased by 6% to NOK 20.2 mill., while NOK 2.3 mill. was contributed from the Chr. Michelsen Fund (CMF).

Projects with funding from the Research Council of Norway constitute 38,8 % of external revenue, compared to 48,4 % in 2022 (core funding not included).

Revenue from international sources continues to grow and accounted for NOK 33.8 mill. in 2023, driven by EU-funded projects and the U4 partners. Revenue from Norwegian sources declined slightly, so the share of national versus international income went from 69/31 in 2022 to 65/35 in 2023.

The Norwegian government administration (Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Norad) represents important clients for the Institute, accounting for 18.5 % of project revenues. As a share of project revenue this is an increase of 4.5 percentage points from last year.

CMI aims to develop an even broader funding base. The Institute has succeeded in widening the

international funding base and works systematically to increase income from commissioned research in Norway.

#### **Result and continued operation**

In 2023, CMI had a negative operating result of NOK -3.67 mill., compared to NOK 0.5 mill. in 2022. The lower operating result can be explained by a decline in operating income and is mainly driven by lower activity than planned for in some of our research projects.

The annual result of 2023 is negative by NOK 3.06 mill. The financial result is shaped by higher interest cost on our mortgage loan. The payable tax on commissioned research this year amounts to NOK 0.0 mill.

Current liabilities have decreased by 8 % mainly due to lower prepayments on projects, causing a flat development in the equity ratio from 25.4% to 25.3%, even though total equity has decreased by NOK 3.06 mill. To NOK 33.5 mill.

In accordance with the Accounting Act, section 3-3a, the Board confirms that the requirements for continued operations are fulfilled.

#### Cash flow, investments, finances and liquidity

The Institute's liquidity reserves decreased from NOK 77.8 mill. to NOK 73.3 mill. during 2023. In 2023 we had a negative cash flow of NOK -4.5 mill. stemming mostly from the annual result and from finalizing the refurbishment of our offices.

As of 31.12.2023, the Institute's liquid reserves cover 92 % of short-term debts. In 2023, the working capital decreased from NOK 10.8 mill. to NOK 6.2 mill.

The risk of loss, except from exchange rate fluctuations, is minimal as revenue comes mainly from Norwegian and international development aid agencies.

The decrease in total capital from NOK 143.9 mill. to NOK 132.6 mill. is mainly attributed to a reduction in pre-invoiced/pre-paid projects by NOK 7.4 mill. In the view of the Board, the annual accounts of 2023 provide an accurate picture of the Institute's assets and liabilities, financial position, and result.

#### Market and financial risks

There are no signals of major long-term changes in the market opportunities for CMI. The overall opportunities for future development of the Institute are considered to be satisfactory. CMI is exposed to fluctuations in exchange rates. The exposure is increasing due to an increasing share of revenue in foreign currency, and a high share of international costs for some research projects. 34.7 % of the Institute's external project revenue is financed by international funding sources. In recent years the Institute has seen a net exchange gain on our currency reserves. In 2023 the effect was quite substantial, and we realized a currency gain of NOK +0.86 mill.

The Institute has implemented routines for risk assessment and mitigation, and access to highly qualified and motivated staff that attract funding is considered one of the most important factor to sustain revenue. After years of high growth, the institute expects a period of consolidation both in terms of revenue and number of staff.

Working e	environment and	personnel
-----------	-----------------	-----------

2023 employment statistics	Men	Women	Total
Number of employees	47	64	111
Temporary employees	10	18	28
Associated employees	7	7	14
Part-time employees	10	15	22
Management	3	5	8
Sick-leave	3,6%	6,8%	5,5%

Please note that Post Doc. researchers and Doctoral Researchers (PhD) fall into the category 'temporary employees" .

#### **Gender equality**

Among the Institute's 111 employees as of 31.12.2023, 64 are women and 47 are men. 50% of the members of the Board are women, as are 62,5% of the management team (5 of 8 leaders are women). Of the new employees CMI hired in 2023, 50% were women and 50% were men. In the recruitment processes in 2023, the applicants were 57,7% men and 40,8% female. CMI received applications from candidates of all ages: 20,6% were aged between 20-29 years of age, 47,9% of all candidates were between the ages of 30-39 years of age and 19,9% of the candidates were between the ages of 40-49. Of the applicants in 2023, only 10,8% were over the age of 50. The average age of the hired candidates in 2023 was 32,33 years of age, but the age span of the hired candidates was from 23 to 46 years of age.

In 2023 women took our a totalt of 158 weeks

of parental leave, while men tok out a total of 57 weeks of parental leave.

CMI conducts a wage analysis on the basis of gender every other year, please refer to the 2022 Annual report for the latest wage analysis.

#### **Diversity and inclusion**

Through its recruitment policies, CMI seeks to ensure equal opportunities for all, and to prevent discrimination based on a person's country of origin, ethnicity, religion, or beliefs. We see that we have a broad reach through our recruitment system and have many candidates from different nationalities.

In 2023, 59.77% of applicants were from countries outside of the EU/EEA and the U.K, 18.79% of the applicants were from the U.K, or an EU/EEA country and 21.42% of applicants were from Norway. In 2023 CMI hired 6 new employees, of these 3 were from Norway, 2 were from the UK/EU/EEA, and 1 was from a country outside of the EU/EEA/UK. Three additional recruitments that were started in 2023 were finalized in 2024, in these recruitment CMI hired 2 candidates from outside the EU/EEA/ UK and 1 candidate from Norway.

CMI has given staff access to recruitment support in the form of interview guide-templates, information regarding a professional recruitment process, information regarding what topics one legally cannot address in an interview etc. In addition, CMI has conducts elaborate job analysis to support the recruitments, and recruitment committees are required to use the job analysis to define the selection criteria for the position. Finally, the committees are required to prepare interview guides for the interview and to ensure that all candidates are treated in the same manner and assessed according to the established selection criteria. These resource materials and the routine contribute to eliminating unconscious bias and allow the recruitment processes to treat each candidate with the same, professional, systematic approach.

CMI seeks to ensure that working conditions allow all individuals to enjoy equal work opportunities regardless of disability and age. CMI has an active working environment committee (Arbeidsmiljøutvalg) where any working environment issues or concerns may be addressed. CMI conducted a working environment survey (AMIS) in November 2022, and the results from this survey were used in 2023 to establish action plan to promote a good working environment. In addition, CMI has worked actively with the strategic priority identified in the new CMI Strategy (2023-2028) "Inclusive Workplace". A working group was established to develop an action plan to implement this strategic priority, and this will continue to be a priority going forward. In addition, CMI is committed to completing the Activity and Reporting obligation each year, which includes establishing an annual action plan to work to promote equality and prevent discrimination. Finally, CMI has a Gender, Equality, and Inclusion plan that we adhere to. CMI offers inclusion training to CMI staff twice a year. Finally, CMI has updated its Code of Conduct, Integrity and Ethics and CMI's Whistleblowing policy in 2023.

#### **Accidents and injuries**

None of the Institute's employees or associates were involved in any serious accident and / or injury in 2023.

## Directors & Officers insurance (styreansvarsforsikring)

The Chr. Michelsen Institute has Directors & Officers insurance for the members of the board and the management.

### Statement of compliance with the Norwegian Transparency act (Åpenhetsloven)

This statement is made pursuant to §5, of the Norwegian Act relating to enterprises' transparency

and work on fundamental human rights and decent working conditions (Transparency Act) and sets out the steps CMI has taken to identify, mitigate and prevent adverse impacts on fundamental human rights and decent working conditions in our supply chains or in any part of CMI's operations. CMI will publish our account of due diligence on our website at cmi.no/about/transparency-act by 30 of June each year.

#### **Environmental report**

The Institute's activities are not regulated by licenses or directives, and do not have a direct impact on the external environment. However, extensive travels contribute to greenhouse gas emissions. The Institute has started processes to reduce its environmental footprint.

#### Annual profit/loss and allocations

The annual result of NOK -3.06 mill. is deducted from the existing equity. The Institute had NOK 18.2 mill. in unrestricted equity as of 31.12.2023, in addition to paid in and restricted equity of NOK 15.3 mill.

29 • REPORT FROM THE BOARD

Bergen, 13 March 2024

Alexander Cappelen

Alexander Cappelen

Andrew Norton

Synnere Bendizsen

Synnøve Bendixen, Chair

Matthew Gicholii

Matthew Gichohi

Espen Villanger

Espen Villanger, Director

Catharina Bu

Catharina Bu

Sofie Schütte

Sofie Arjon Schütte

## **Income statement 2023**

Amounts in 1000 NOK

	Note	2023	2022
Operating revenues			
Project revenues	1	117 864	118 875
Other revenues	2	152	99
Total operating revenues		118 016	118 974
Operating expenses			
Project expenses		24 391	23 008
Payroll expenses	3,4	82 116	80 632
Depreciation	5	2 050	1 583
Other operating expenses	2,3	13 128	13 246
Total operating expenses		121 685	118 469
Operating result		-3 669	505
Financial income/expenses			
Interest income		803	233
Other financial income		1 876	1 013
Interest cost mortgage loan		-1 155	-619
Other financial costs		-915	-906
Total financial income/expenses		609	-279
Ordenary result before tax		-3 060	226
Тах	11	0	0
NET RESULT		-3 060	226

## **Cash flow statement 2023**

Amounts in 1000 NOK

	2023	2022
Cash flow from operating acitivities		
Annual result	-3 060	226
Depreciations	2 050	1 583
Changes in pension scheme assets/liabilities	0	0
Changes in long term receivables	-1 069	-614
Changes in trade receivables	1 089	-690
Changes in other short term receivables	6 239	-6 564
Changes in trade payable and other short term liabilities	-7 244	12 769
Net cash flow from operating acitivities	-1 995	6 709
Cash flow from investments		
Purchase of tangible fixed assets	-1 551	-5 733
Net cash flow from investments	-1 551	-5 733
Cash flow from financing activities		
Repayment of long term loans	-1 000	-1 000
Changes of shares	0	0
Changes in value, shares and bonds	0	0
Net cash flow from financing activties	-1 000	-1 000
NET CHANGE IN CASH FLOW TOTAL	-4 546	-24
Cash and cash equivalents at 1 January	77 842	77 866
Cash and cash ecuivalents at 31 December	73 296	77 842
Change in cash and cash equivalents	-4546	-24

## **Balance sheet as of 31 Dec 2023**

Amounts in 1000 NOK

	Note	2023	2022
ASSETS			
FIXED ASSETS			
Tangible fixed assets			
Building at Jekteviksbakken	5	41 645	42 134
Equipment, inventory etc.	5	2 075	2 085
Total tangible fixed assets		43 720	44 219
Financial fixed assets			
Long term receivables	6	2 844	1 775
Total fixed assets		46 563	45 994
CURRENT ASSETS			
Debtors			
Accounts receivable	7	11 302	12 390
Others debtors		1 428	7 667
Total debtors		12 729	20 057
Investments			
Shares in other companies		0	0
Cash and bank deposits	8	73 296	77 842
Total current assets		86 026	97 899
TOTAL ASSETS		132 589	143 893

	Note	2023	2022
EQUITY AND LIABILITIES			
EQUITY			
Paid-in capital			
Original fund	9	15 300	15 300
Retained earnings			
Other equity	9	18 185	21 245
Total equity		33 485	36 545
LIABILITIES			
Pension funds	4	0	0
Long term liabilities			
Long-term loans	10	19 250	20 250
Current liabilities			
Accounts payable		5 773	5 916
Public duties payable		6 298	5 961
Other short term liabilities		67 783	75 221
Tax payable	11	0	0
Total current liabilities		79 854	87 098
Total liabilities		99 104	107 348
TOTAL EQUITY AND LIABILITIES		132 589	143 893

Bergen, 13 March 2024

Alexander Cappelen

Alexander Cappelen

Andrew Norton

Synnære Bendissen

Synnøve Bendixen, Chair

Matthew Gicholii

Matthew Gichohi

Espen Villanger

Espen Villanger, Director

Catharina Bu

Catharina Bu

Sofie Schütte

Sofie Arjon Schütte

### **Accounting principles**

The annual report is prepared according to the Norwegian Accounting Act 1998 and generally accepted accounting principles.

#### **Project Revenues**

Grants and other contributions are recognized at the time of remittance. Revenues from external commissioned research are recognized by the level of project completion. The level of completion is an estimate based on accrued hours and other costs held against estimated total hours and other costs.

## Classification and valuation of assets and liabilities

Net current assets comprise creditors due within one year, and entries related to goods circulation.

Other entries are classified as fixed assets and/ or long-term creditors. Current assets are valued at the lower of acquisition cost and fair value. Short term creditors are recognized at nominal value.

Fixed assets are valued by the cost of acquisition, in the case of non-incidental reduction in value the asset will be written down to the fair value amount. Long term creditors are recognized at nominal value.

#### Receivables

Accounts receivable and other receivables are listed in the balance sheet at nominal value.

#### Currency

Closed projects/accounts receivable/accounts payable held in foreign currency are valued by the exchange rate on 31 Dec.

#### **Short-term investments**

Short term investments (stocks and shares are valued as current assets) are valued at the lower of acquisition cost and fair value at the balance sheet date. Dividends and other distributions are recognized as other financial income.

#### **Fixed assets**

Property and equipment are capitalized and depreciated over the estimated useful economic life. Direct maintenance costs are expensed as incurred, whereas improvements and upgrading are assigned to the acquisition cost and depreciated along with the asset. If carrying value of a noncurrent asset exceeds the estimated recoverable amount, the asset is written down to the recoverable amount. The recoverable amount is the greater of the net selling price and value in use. In assessing value in use, the estimated future cash flows are discounted to their present value.

#### **Cash flow**

The cash flow statement is presented using the indirect method. Cash and cash equivalents include cash, bank deposits and other short term highly liquid placement with original maturities of three months or less.

#### Pensions

The premium cost is regarded as the pension cost for the period and classified as wage cost in the profit and loss statement.

#### Tax

Tax expenses in the profit and loss account comprise of tax payable for the accounting period. Deferred tax is not recognized in the profit and loss account or in the balance sheet as future taxable income is not made probable.

#### **NOTE 1** PROJECT REVENUES

	2023	2022
Project revenues exclusive of cooperating partners*	95 373 098	97 896 700
Grants	20 190 841	19 048 000
Chr. Michelsen Fund	2 300 000	1 930 000
TOTAL PROJECT REVENUES	117 863 939	118 874 700

\* External project revenues are stated without contributions to cooperating partners, NOK 19 561 554 in 2023

Geographic distribution	2023	2022
Norway	84 018 984	88 430 947
Abroad	33 844 955	30 443 753

#### **NOTE 2** JOINT PROPERTY

CMI and Nygårdshøyden Eiendom (a real-estate company under the University of Bergen) own the building in Jekteviksbakken 31. They have established a joint housing ownership, Sameiet Jekteviksbakken 31, to manage the property. The joint ownership's income is first and foremost contributions to a maintenance fund for future upgrading and maintenance of the building, and the owners' parts of the costs related to insurance premium and accounting. CMI owns 44.41% of the joint property. Income and costs from the joint property are included in the CMI accounts according to the owner's share. This is included in the income statement under respectively Other revenue and Other operating expenses.

CMI'S SHARE	2023	2022
Income	99 503	98 375
Cost	19 667	23 529

#### **NOTE 3** SALARIES AND SOCIAL COSTS

	2023	2022
Salaries	64 749 342	63 124 739
Social security taxes	9 815 805	9 243 935
Pension costs	3 956 821	4 875 901
Other benefits	1 796 901	1 517 147
Other social costs	1 797 461	1 869 904
TOTAL	82 116 329	80 631 625
Employees full-time equivalent	83.4	86.4
Leadership remuneration	2023	2022
Director's salary	1 280 398	1 205 311
Other benefits	25 746	15 299
Pension costs paid by CMI	137 230	130 459
	1 443 374	1 351 069

Board remuneration was 364 981 in 2023

CMI and CMF share the same Board. Board members' fees are paid 2/3 by CMI, NOK 243 281,- and 1/3 by CMF, NOK 121 700, in 2023.

There are no contractual obligations (bonuses or shares) in the event of termination of employment.

Long-term loans to employees amount to NOK 896 387. The interest rate equals the standard rate offered in employment relationships.

Auditor's fees (excluding VAT)	2023	2022
Audit for accounts	257 650	233 000
Consultant fees regarding pension and tax	15 600	16 300
Other services	61 074	70 220
TOTAL	334 324	319 520

#### **NOTE 4** PROVISION FOR PENSION LIABILITITES, PENSION COSTS

CMI has a pension scheme in place satisfying the Act of Obligatory Pension Scheme. In relation to the transition as of 01.01.2017 from defined benefit plan to defined contribution scheme, an agreement was entered between CMI and the employees to compensate their future loss. The compensation consists of a yearly payment, which is dependent of the member still being employed by CMI. Compensation for loss of pension was recorded as salary with NOK 270 621 in 2023.

#### **Defined-contribution pension scheme**

The defined-contribution pension scheme concerns all staff in 20 % position or more. Premiums are paid with 7 % of salaries up to 7.1 G, and 25.1 % for salaries between 7.1 G and 12 G.

102 persons at CMI are enrolled in this scheme by 31 Dec 2023.

	2023	2022
Deposits	3 208 904	3 494 773
Administrative costs	217 621	171 885
Net costs before SST	3 426 525	3 666 658
SST	483 140	516 999
RESULT	3 909 665	4 183 657

Defined-contribution pension scheme - employees' share is 2 % of pension base, NOK 1 226 197 in 2023.

#### **AFP - Early Retirement Scheme**

CMI participates in the LO/NHO-agreements, which enables all employees to choose to retire and receive AFP (Early retirement agreement) from the age of 62. This arrangement gives a life-lasting addition to the ordinary public pension, and is financed by payment of a premium, which in 2023 is 2.6 % of all salary between 1 G and 7.1 G for employees under the age of 62. This is a defined contribution pension scheme and the premiums are charged as expenses continuously.

#### **NOTE 5** TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Property Jekteviken	Installations building	Office furniture, inventory	Office machinery	Sum
Acquisition cost 01.01	56 016 911	798 364	4 812 449	5 166 853	66 794 577
Acquisition this year	789 414		294 762	466 723	1 550 899
Decline/sales this year	-	-	-	-	-
Acquisition cost 31.12	56 806 325	798 364	5 107 211	5 633 576	68 345 476
Accumulated depreciation 01.01	13 882 875	130 857	4 269 164	4 292 570	22 575 466
Depreciation this year	1 278 648	79 836	170 029	521 831	2 050 344
Balance value 31.12	41 644 802	587 671	668 018	819 175	43 719 666
Expected life (year)	50	10	5 and 10	3	
Depreciation per year	2%	10%	10% & 20%	33 %	

Depreciation of property is related to the new building in Jekteviken as from 1 Aug 2009.

#### **NOTE 6** FINANCIAL FIXED ASSETS

	2023	2022
Running account Sameiet Jekteviksbakken 31	778 102	951 736
Deposit fund - pension*	736 947	0
Loans to employees **	1 328 601	823 069
TOTAL	2 843 651	1 774 805

\* In 2023, NOK 345 188 wad deducted from the deposit fund to cover pension premium

\*\* Loans to employees includes both long-term and short-term loans

CMI issued a subordinated loan of NOK 17.4 mill to Chr. Michelsen Research (CMR) in connection with the split in 1992. The loan agreement was reconfirmed in a new agreement dated 5 May 2004. There is no repayment and no interest payments from the loan, but CMI has the right to convert the loan to shares in case the share capital is expanded. CMR has merged with several other research institutes to become NORCE AS. Due to the precautionary principle/uncertainty on when this conversion might happen, the claim is not in CMI's balance, but CMI upholds these rights towards NORCE.

#### **NOTE 7** RECEIVABLES

	2023	2022
Accounts receivable	4 803 786	379 184
Earned, non-invoiced revenues	6 498 063	12 011 255
TOTAL	11 301 849	12 390 438
Pre-invoiced/Advances from customers	-52 077 786	-57 661 637

#### NOTE 8 DEDUCTED INCOME TAX

By 31 Dec NOK 3 703 457 is deposited on a separate bank account. The corresponding figure at 31 December 2022 was NOK 3 389 009.

Unpaid deducted Employee tax as of 31 December 2023 is NOK 3 439 817.

#### **NOTE 9** EQUITY

	<b>Retained earnings</b>	Paid-in capital	Total
Equity as of 01.01	21 245 256	15 300 000	36 545 256
Net result of the year	-3 060 276	-	-3 060 276
Equity as of 31.12	18 184 980	15 300 000	33 484 980

#### NOTE 10 DEBT DUE LATER THAN 5 YEARS

	2023	2022
Chr. Michelsens Fund (CMF)	_	-
Mortgage Ioan DNB	19 250 000	20 250 000
Total	19 250 000	20 250 000

CMF provided a long-term loan to CMI with a balance of NOK 30 mill. per 01.01.2018, for the building in Jekteviksbakken 31. The loan was repaid and replaced by a mortgage loan in DNB ASA. According to the property deed, CMI owns a part of the building and the building site in accordance with CMI's fraction of the joint property. An underlying ground lease is securing UiB/Magør the right to receive payment for the value of the building site at a potential resale.

The property in Jektevikbakken 31, g.nr. 164 bnr. 1436 snr. 2 in Bergen kommune, is pledged as security for DNB mortage Ioan NOK 25.000.000

#### NOTE 11 TAX

CMI is taxable for the part of the institute's operations which concerns commissioned research. In 2023 this was 29,32% of the total results.

	2023	2022
Tax this year		
Tax payable	-	4 961
Change in deferred tax	-50 041	232 310
This years tax effect of change in tax rate	-	-
Sum tax	-50 041	237 271
Calculation tax base		
Ordinary result before tax	-897 384	55 932
Permanent differences	-149 419	1 022 571
Change in temporary differences	227 460	-1 055 954
Tax base before tax loss carried forward	-819 343	22 549
Use of tax loss carried forward	-	-
Sum tax base	-819 343	22 549
Temporary differences outlined		
Receivables	-	-
Goods	-	-
Fixed assets	-1 406 889	-1 179 429
Provisions	-	-
Pensions	-	-
Profit and loss acount	-	-
Loss carry forward	-	-
Sum	-1 406 889	-1 179 429
Deferred income tax liability/-asset (22% this year, 22 % last year)	-309 516	-259 474

Deferred tax assets are not recognized in the balance sheet as future taxable income is not made probable.

## **Auditor's report**



Statsautoriserte revisorer Ernst & Young AS

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www.ey.no Medlemmer av Den norske Revisorforening

#### INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Board of Directors of Stiftelsen Chr Michelsens Institutt for Videnskap og Åndsfrihet

#### Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Chr Michelsens Institutt For Videnskap og Åndsfrihet, which comprise the balance sheet as at 31 December 2023, the income statement and statement of cash flows for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies.

In our opinion the financial statements comply with applicable legal requirements and give a true and fair view of the financial position of the Company as at 31 December 2023 and its financial performance and cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with the Norwegian Accounting Act and accounting standards and practices generally accepted in Norway.

#### **Basis for opinion**

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (ISAs). Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements* section of our report. We are independent of the Company in accordance with the requirements of the relevant laws and regulations in Norway and the International Ethics Standards Board for Accountants' *International Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (including International Independence Standards)* (IESBA Code), and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

#### Other information

Other information consists of the information included in the annual report other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. Management (the board of directors and General Manager) are responsible for the other information. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information, and we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information, and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard, and in our opinion, the board of directors' report is consistent with the financial statements and contains the information required by applicable legal requirements.

#### Responsibilities of management for the financial statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with the Norwegian Accounting Act and accounting standards and practices generally accepted in Norway, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is responsible for assessing the Company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the



going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate the Company or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

#### Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs will always detect a material misstatement when it exists.

Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

As part of an audit in accordance with ISAs, we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to
  fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit
  evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not
  detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error,
  as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override
  of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Company's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by management.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of management's use of the going concern basis of accounting
  and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to
  events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Company's ability to continue as a
  going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention
  in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures
  are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained
  up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the
  Company to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with the board of directors regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.



#### Opinion on other legal and regulatory requirements

Based on our audit of the financial statements as described above, and control procedures we have considered necessary in accordance with the International Standard on Assurance Engagements (ISAE) 3000, *Assurance Engagements Other than Audits or Reviews of Historical Financial Information*, we believe the foundation is managed in accordance with law, the foundation's purpose and the articles of association in general.

Bergen, 27.05.2024 ERNST & YOUNG AS

The auditor's report is signed electronically

Eirik Moe State Authorised Public Accountant (Norway) **Chr. Michelsen Institute (CMI)** is an independent development research institute based in Bergen, Norway. In cooperation with partners from all over the world, we address key development and scientific challenges that generate knowledge to promote justice and equality.

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