

SOUTH SINAI FOUNDATION

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR

31st March 2020

Charity Registration Number 1128955

SOUTH SINAI FOUNDATION

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2020

Contents	Page
Legal and Administrative Information	1
Trustees Report	2-5
Independent Examiner's Report	6
Receipts and Payments Account	7
Statement of Assets and Liabilities	8
Notes to the financial statements	9

SOUTH SINAI FOUNDATION

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD AND PROFESSIONAL ADVISERS

Trustees as at 31st March 2020

Mrs Nicola Dalby
Prof Francis Gilbert
Dr Hilary Gilbert
Ms Lucy Gilbert
Rev Prof Michael Reiss
Ms. Hannah Harrington (Appointed 16th November 2019)
Ms. Cinzia Porcedda (Appointed 16th November 2019)

Principal Address

St Katherine's Cottage
Back Lane
Ingoldsby
Grantham
NG33 4EW

Independent Examiner

Mark Newey, ACMA
Community Accountant
Derby Community Accountancy Service
Babington Lodge
128 Green Lane
Derby
DE1 1RY

SOUTH SINAI FOUNDATION

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2020

The trustees have pleasure in presenting their report and the unaudited financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31st March 2020.

South Sinai Foundation is a registered charity, whose date of registration was 1st April 2009.

Objects of the Charity

For the benefit of the public in particular but not exclusively the local Bedouin communities in South Sinai and the surrounding area by:

1. Relief of Poverty
2. The advancement of education.
3. The promotion and protection of good health.
4. Supporting the Charitable work of the Community Foundation for South Sinai.

Annual Activity Report 2019-20

This was a busy and demanding year, which saw us divide our efforts between internal reorganization and the continuing work of supporting Bedouin development in South Sinai. In both tasks we were substantially helped by grants from the Global Fund for Community Foundations, and I would like to start this report by recording our continuing gratitude for their support and understanding. Many individual and trust donors also made our work possible this year, both from within and outside Egypt, and to them to we are deeply grateful. Notably, a grant from the Evan Cornish Foundation helped keep our management costs covered - an incredibly valuable element of support, as without our great team on the ground we could accomplish nothing. Our gratitude and admiration for the tireless efforts of our Women's Outreach team, trustee Faraj, community volunteers and supporters and especially our Manager, Mohammed Khedr, are unlimited.

Organisational review

After ten years of operation, and with my energies compromised by ill-health, an organizational review made it clear that we needed to revamp our organization. We realized we needed to extend our UK skills and knowledge base, as well as shifting the age-profile of our board to give better scope for using new communications and fund development technologies.

In January 2019 Lucy ran a recruitment exercise to identify new trustees, interviewing five respondents over the next two months. We eventually invited two able and experienced young women to join us. With Lucy they have adopted a pattern of regular Foundation work-days in Bristol between meetings, which keeps agreed activity on track. Collectively they have experience of social enterprise and agriculture, communications in development contexts, donor relations and policy analysis, giving us the wider range of skills and energy we had hoped for. Lucy has also identified an advisor who has run a business in Sinai, and we thus have a new flow of ideas and a sounding board for potential developments.

We are confident that our organization is now substantially more robust than it was. We are delighted with our new recruits and the contribution they have already made to our work (for example, building a revamped and extended social enterprise into our planning for sustainability in Sinai). We are now meeting successfully using Zoom, which introduced itself at the very end of the financial year and has become an indispensable tool.

SOUTH SINAI FOUNDATION

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2020

Financial fragility remains our greatest risk, and we are turning all our attention to becoming less precarious. However, the Global Fund's generous support enabled us to weather the worst of my ill-health, emerging not only stronger, but with our core work in Sinai intact and thriving.

Mohammed has now been cited on an official list as the go-to charitable aid contact in South Sinai; giving him, and us, a recognition we would not have dared expect. With a welcome grant from the Evan Cornish Foundation we kept Mohammed's post funded from February 2020, and we have now embarked on a new project to improve our sustainability (which I'll report on next year).

Community support

In Sinai itself most of our self-sustaining long-term projects continued, such as the livestock bank, women's chicken co-op, community drill and olive press, deaf-managed herd and olive oil social enterprise. For most of the year however we had fewer funds than usual to disburse; much to our distress we had to discontinue our regular support for widows and orphans, and our emergency medical fund. Out of that, however, came renewed efforts by our team to identify donors in Egypt, and numerous kindly individuals and organizations have helped support people and communities in need as a result. We continued to provide school fees, fund the Haddana (our informal play and learning centre for deaf children and their hearing siblings which now supports 27 children), and supported our network of forty community volunteers, especially around the two 'Eid festivals. We continued to provide help to people in hardship (eg purchasing a simple cooker for a blind woman, providing help with medical costs and buying clothes for orphans); and we helped repair numerous homes damaged by flooding in Spring 2020. We helped people find or create jobs and contributed to the establishment of a hostel for patients' relatives in el Tur hospital (who formerly slept on the street). We continued to run our popular Women's Outreach service, which proved its worth when a woman in Wadi Feiran asked for help to treat her sick goats. Halima arranged veterinary care for them; they turned out to have a contagious disease, and through a programme of treatment involving the herds of 22 local families the spread of the disease was prevented, safeguarding their livelihoods.

Altogether our direct charitable support to Sinai this year was almost £25,000 (not counting funds raised locally). Although much of this work would be categorized as welfare or hardship support our primary focus is to support Bedouin development; and with a project funded by Facebook and awarded by the Global Fund we were able to secure a range of remarkable developmental outcomes. They are worth setting out in detail.

2019-20 Facebook project

Between October 2019 and February 2020 roughly 300 women attended meetings (a substantial number, bearing in mind Sinai's sparse, dispersed population and transport difficulties). They were 'happy and proud' to have a project just for women, and inspired by our team to feel that they could achieve more in their lives. Initially most women thought smartphones were for playing games and taking selfies; but they learned they could be a tool for change. They discussed issues where they want to see change, and our team (law graduate Halima, qualified nurse Jemi'a, qualified teacher 'Amal and diploma student Hoda) researched appropriate organizations and links for them to contact. Information was shared via their FaceBook page, and women's use of the internet took off from there. The range of outcomes and social impacts took us completely by surprise.

SOUTH SINAI FOUNDATION

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2020

Headline outcomes

i) Girls who had always been told that 'work is not for you' accessed up-to-date information about jobs, not only for themselves but for their brothers. Thirty people got jobs, of whom nine or ten were women.

ii) A group of women learned online how to make a water filter for recycling household water (water is currently incredibly scarce). Mohammed had the quality tested to ensure its safety before they shared the information with others.

iii) Several women accessed dress and embroidery patterns online and are now able to work from home.

iv) Several women took photos of their living conditions and sent them to relevant NGOs and donors in Cairo, resulting in some EGP350K (approximately £18K) of goods (blankets, clothes etc) and materials (to repair houses, etc) being donated. (As often happens, SSF paid the considerable transport costs.)

v) Another group lobbied the hospital manager in St Katherine to provide women doctors, an age-old demand that has never been met systematically. This time it not only appointed women doctors but built accommodation for them so they could stay permanently.

vi) St Katherine had a major problem with its electricity supply since the local generator was closed and the supply brought in from Cairo. It was often available only at night, or with constant power cuts. As a result, people were freezing – it was a bitterly cold winter. A group of women took photos of their shivering children and bombarded the electricity company with them. On investigation it was found that the shortages were due to malfeasance, and emergency generators were set up to provide a proper service while the faults were corrected and justice pursued.

vii) In Sinai exams have to be taken in specified centres, which may be in towns miles away across the desert. This entails great expense, as families have to pay not only fees but transport, subsistence and accommodation costs for the students and accompanying family members. The Covid-19 lockdown meant dozens of young people risked missing their exams and (discouragingly and expensively) having to repeat a year. But through the Facebook project, people learned that students could now sit their exams online. Some 150 did so, catapulting them at a stroke over one of the biggest obstacles to Bedouin secondary education. Mohammed and key volunteers elicited donations to support the costs of data and phone credit. The Facebook project could not have come at a better time, not just for these students but for everyone in future – it is a real game-changer in improving access to secondary education opportunities for young Bedouin.

These outcomes were not simply piecemeal effects; they show a real step-change for Bedouin. It is little short of revolutionary for women to have accomplished such things, often after a lifetime being told they could do nothing but accept their situation, thank God and be grateful. Bedouin agency, especially that of women, was exercised and validated. Halima and her team are changing the picture of life for Bedouin women: as Mohammed says: 'Like a sand-martin building her nest one stone at a time, till in the end she has made a palace.'

SOUTH SINAI FOUNDATION

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2020

We had hopes for this project, but they were limited by what we thought was possible. In the event the results astonished us. The introduction of a new technology *with culturally appropriate support* fast-tracked participating women (and those they communicated with) from powerlessness in traditionally patriarchal homes to exercising agency in the outside world.

It was a powerful validation of the principle on which all our work is based: namely, that the Bedouin are held back from full participation as Egyptian citizens not by intrinsic incapacity (the commonly-accepted stereotype) or even unwillingness, but by their profound social exclusion. This project helped Bedouin women - the most excluded group of all – to stand up and take part.

We look forward to continuing our work from a stronger, more sustainable base in future.

Dr Hilary Gilbert
Chair
04/12/20

SOUTH SINAI FOUNDATION

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2020

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the South Sinai Foundation

I report on the accounts for the year ended 31st March 2020 which are set out on pages 7 to 9.

Respective responsibilities of the trustees and examiner

The trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act). It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act;
- follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act) and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's statement

My examination was carried out in accordance with general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the organisation and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a "true and fair view" and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

- 1 Which gives me reasonable cause to believe that, in any material respect, the requirements
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act;
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act have not been met, or
- 2 to which, in my opinion attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Mark Newey ACMA *M. Newey*
Derby Community Accountancy Service
Babington Lodge
128 Green Lane
Derby
DE1 1RY

Date 11/1/2021

SOUTH SINAI FOUNDATION

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT

YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2020

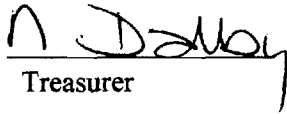
2019			Unrestricted Fund	Restricted Fund	2020
Total £			£	£	Total £
1433	Opening Balances		6331	0	6331
	Receipts				
14990	Grants	note 1	3185	12489	15674
5213	Donations and Fundraising		10483	0	10483
0	Sundry		0	0	0
1	Interest		3	0	3
<u>20204</u>			<u>13671</u>	<u>12489</u>	<u>26160</u>
	Payments				
14410	Direct Charitable costs		16527	8309	24836
896	Costs of managing the Charity	note 2	519	0	519
<u>15306</u>			<u>17046</u>	<u>8309</u>	<u>25355</u>
4898	Surplus/(Deficit) for year		<u>-3375</u>	<u>4180</u>	<u>805</u>
<u>6331</u>	Closing Balances		<u>2956</u>	<u>4180</u>	<u>7136</u>

SOUTH SINAI FOUNDATION

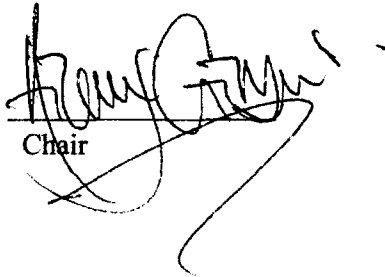
STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

AS AT 31st MARCH 2020

2019		2020
£		£
6331	Balance at Bank	7136
	Less Creditors	
0	Grants received in advance	0
<u>6331</u>	Net Assets	<u>7136</u>


Treasurer

9/9/2021
Date


Chair

15.01.2021
Date

SOUTH SINAI FOUNDATION

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2020

Note 1

Grants	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total 2020 £	Total 2019 £
Evan Cornish Foundation	0	5000	5000	0
Open Gate Trust	0	0	0	1200
Global Fund for Community Foundations	0	7489	7489	7990
Seeds of Justice	456	0	456	0
University of Nottingham	2729	0	2729	2000
Wellcome Trust	0	0	0	3800
	3185	12489	15674	14990

Note 2

Costs of managing the Charity in the UK	2020 £	2019 £
Bank charges	519	546
Accountancy charges	0	350
	519	896

Note 3

Restricted Funds

	Opening Balance £	Income £	Expenditure £	Closing Balance £
Evan Cornish Foundation	0	5000	820	4180
Global Fund for Community Foundations	0	7489	7489	0
	0	12489	8309	4180