

L I F E = H₂O - #lifeisH2o



L I F E = H₂O a Project on Art & Climate Change

Introduction:

We aspire to increase the level of collective awareness of climate change, one person at a time. Within the massive series of events that we now refer to as climate change, we will focus on the role of water. Water gives, and water takes.

The Aim

The project is designed to support students to create a “Life” experience in a Video Shoot.

Nurturing the art of change - focus on participatory art as a vehicle for social change to increase the level of collective awareness of climate change <https://lifeish2o.com/>

[Intro Video](https://youtu.be/FDMsUfUuJac) – or copy this link to your browser <https://youtu.be/FDMsUfUuJac>

Benefits for students

This project has multiple learning objectives for the students:

- The students learn to see water as essential to life on earth for humans, animals and plants and that this has implications for his thought and action.
- In addition, the student appreciates:
 - a. life in, on and near the water;
 - b. water ecosystems;
 - c. the health of oneself and others.
- The student realize that choices and behaviour of people here, elsewhere, earlier, now and later can have positive and negative consequences for aquatic organisms and reflects on his own behaviour in this regard.

Follow us on Instagram [life.is.h2o](https://www.instagram.com/life.is.h2o)

See some shoots on Youtube <https://www.youtube.com/@lifeish2o>

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The principle:

Co Creation of a global art project that has three levels and two “products”:
an experience and an artifact.

Level	Activity	Type of Artistic Activity	Emotional Experience (“Internal Movement”)	Artifact (“External Movement”)
1	Local (Original) Wave: local process and ritual	Participatory Ritual	On the <i>participating players</i>	Local video
2	Remote Wave: remote process and ritual	Participatory Ritual and Collaborative Partnership	On the <i>participating players</i>	Remote video
3	Global Wave: a composite video of all videos	Collaborative Partnership (Platform-driven)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> On any <i>player</i> viewing the video(s) and reliving the experience On <i>anyone (non-participant)</i> viewing the video(s) 	Global video on the platform

In the project the students work on a number of skills:

- In order to understand the importance of water for life on earth, to experience and internalize that understanding requires the students to develop a questioning and inquiring attitude.
- While preparing and executing the project, students work on their organisational skills, planning skills, working in teams and some of them on their creative skills by taping and editing the video of the art project.
- Reflective skills, by reflecting on the execution of the project and by reflecting on their own use of water.

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Background to the Project Team

We are members of “the Change Leaders” – a community of change practitioners, created by the alumni of HEC Paris / University of Oxford Saïd Business School’s executive Master’s Degree in ‘Consulting and Coaching for Change’.

Our goal is to continue our learning journey by leveraging experts in the field, sharing our knowledge and experience, and creating visibility of our individual and collective research.

We believe art has the potential to create a new perception about things that matter, and hence foster social change. We believe art reveals the *uncanny*, the weird juxtaposition that compels us to see things in a new way. *Art brings wonder back* into the world. We believe a *collective change of heart* is possible through arresting imagery, the active engagement of the senses, and the application of moral and aesthetic imagination.

Via this project we want to raise awareness for the equation **L I F E = H₂O**

Only when we see the connections and understand where our water comes from we will appreciate it for what it is.

The fuel of life, the molecule from which we originate.

Next Steps

Let’s Co Create and bring the “School” Project to your School / Hometown / Country
<https://lifeish2o.com/schools/>

We would be delighted to collaborate with your art & environment clubs at school to take this forward. Write to us at info@lifeish2o.com to arrange a conversation if you are interested to in this art & social change project.

Art Work Commentary:

The notion of a fractal and scaling are key elements of the art work. The basic elements of the Human Wave are simple hand and full body micromotions: using the vessel to scoop up the sea water, and then emptying the vessel of water. These micro motions create a macro motion (the wave). The fact that the micromotions are created by the players themselves implies human agency, i.e. humans are not innocent bystanders in climate change. The unique vessels symbolize human diversity, but also *complicity in the diversity*. There’s only one world, we are all connected, and there’s no Plan B.

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