

Define your own glossary

For this project we researched the material salt. As an illustrator I chose this ingredient since I liked the way it looked and how you could make objects out of it, for example lights. Having this in mind we developed our project and focused on generating light by using salty water.

Profit Salinization

The water in fresh lakes and rivers are becoming more and more salty. Humans cause a big part of this. Road de-icing and industrial activities are pushing salt levels in rivers and streams to alarming levels, which are threatening wildlife as well as the drinking water. Climate change also plays a major role in increasing salinization. Winters are getting wetter and milder and summers warmer and drier. In addition, the sea level is rising, which increases the amount of seawater entering.

Instead of looking for solutions to solve this problem it's interesting to think about this issue as a tool for something else: use the salty water for our benefit and make eventually profit. For example, we could do that by trying to generate energy using salty water. But how could we use this in the future? We are already starting to incorporate water more and more in our lives, and it will become an important energy source as well as a living area. Thinking more speculative, we could create floating houses where 80% of the energy (for cooking, lighting, heating ect.) will be generated by salt water. The remaining will be generated with solar panels.

Water Urbanisation

Urbanisation is an increase in the number of people living in towns and cities. The new term "Water Urbanisation" is the increase of living areas in the cities created on water. A good example of this is the "Floating Office" that is currently being built in the Rotterdam Rijnhaven. It is designed by the architect Nanne de Ru. This iconic wooden building will be sustainable, circular and energy neutral as a floating island. The roof is covered with solar panels and there is a herb garden that attracts all kinds of animals. With the climate change and a rising sea level in mind, this is the building of the future.

Mem Power / Memstill technique

The Netherlands is dealing with salinization caused by the increasing periods of drought. The waters are becoming saltier, therefore the University of Wageningen and TNO are looking for new possibilities and techniques to make salty water into drink water, and also create electricity.

Desalination happens already in many countries, yet they work there on fossil energy what is less efficient. Mem Power works with membrane distillation based on solar heat or residual heat, creating fresh water. They generate electricity in a sustainable way.

SALt (Sustainable Alternative Lighting)

The Philippines are dealing with a lack of a sustainable and inexpensive lighting system for the local population. Two designers called Raphael and Aisa Mijeno were triggered by this issue and developed a metal-air based energy source that uses salt water as the medium to generate electricity. It is a unique system; it's a long-term and sustainable solution. The lifespan of these lights are in comparison to others ten times longer and since they are cheaper it's more accessible to a broader audience. Their mission is to address the light inequality gap between people who have electricity and people who have not.

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