Working in partnership towards a better water future
IHE Delft Institute for Water Education is the largest international graduate water education institute in the world. Since 1957, at our location in Delft, the Netherlands, we have provided multidisciplinary education and training to more than 23,000 water professionals from 190 countries.

Around the world, social welfare and economic development are heavily dependent on water. But burgeoning populations, rapid economic growth, conflicts and climate change are raising new challenges to sustainable water services and water security. At IHE Delft, we are committed to finding solutions that have a lasting impact. We do that by focusing on regional challenges, such as droughts, floods and deteriorating water quality, and global challenges, such as climate change, ecosystem degradation, land loss, urbanisation, sanitation, poverty, hunger, and migration.

With water at our core, IHE Delft offers education and research activities that can be applied in real-world situations. Through our diverse programme of problem-focused research, we have the necessary knowledge, networks and on-the-ground experience to equip graduate students and working professionals with the skills and competencies they need to address current and future challenges in sustainable water management. Whenever possible, we use an interdisciplinary approach to address the increasing scale and complexity of water challenges.

Who we are
Focusing on the global water crisis

Working towards solutions

What we do
Everything we do at IHE Delft relates to improving the global water situation, particularly in the Global South. Working closely with Dutch and international partners, we provide tailored, high-quality education to practising water professionals. Our programme offers accredited Masters and Doctorate degrees, as well as customised training programmes and online courses, within a uniquely international and interdisciplinary educational environment. The beneficiaries of our activities include engineers, scientists, practitioners, consultants and decision-makers working in water and the environment.

Our partnerships
The Institute works with many partners throughout the world, including operational project partners, joint education providers, strategic partners as well as donors and alumni. We work together with water professionals across the spectrum - from government bodies at all levels to NGOs and private sector organisations. Our commitment to partnerships provides mutual learning and strengthened capacity development wherever needed for the water sector.

Alumni
IHE Delft recognises alumni as our greatest ambassadors. We take special pride in the vital role they play in implementing and spreading the knowledge acquired during their studies. They support the implementation of the global water agenda, take up key positions, often in their home regions, and improve the quality of life of their communities.

Across the globe, our alumni include representatives working in ministries, government departments, municipalities, water boards and water utilities; activists and innovators working in NGOs and business; and researchers and educators developing new knowledge and future talent at universities, training and research institutes.

Capacity development
We strongly believe that capacity development, in partnership, is key to addressing today’s water challenges. Through education, research and innovation, and institutional strengthening, IHE Delft aims to make a tangible contribution to achieving all Sustainable Development Goals in which water is key.
IHE Delft’s unique position

IHE Delft works under the auspices of UNESCO and is a member of UN Water and the UNESCO Water Family. We have a recognised impartial status in the water and development sector. We play a dynamic role in the international water community, both in an advisory capacity, and during stakeholder-driven or policy-related research. We also play an active role in standard setting for education and training for water-related institutions, universities and other education and training agencies in the water sector. These factors make us a respected participant in networking and partnership building among knowledge centres, public and private sector organisations.

We enjoy more than 60 years of experience in developing capacities in the water sector. And many of the Institute’s staff members are world renowned experts in their field. IHE Delft truly is an international and vibrant hub – a place where the water world meets.

“Our IHE Delft has world-renowned water professors, international PhD researchers and MSc students. Learning goes beyond the four walls of the classroom.”
Maria Luisa Salingay, PhD research fellow from The Philippines

“When you study at IHE Delft, brace yourself for a life changing experience with challenges and excitement. It will be the beginning of a process of lifelong learning and partnership.”
Isaac S-Lase Kuwornu, MSc alumnus from Ghana