

# Programme

# The Future of Money

## Plan & progress

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# Motivation

The digitization of our economy and the rise of new forms of money has sparked a battle about the (digital) future of our money.

According to several scholars, the current structure of the money system contributes to social problems such as growing inequality, unaffordable housing, high debts, instability and ecological disaster. This project explores options to redesign the money system of the future in a way that will make it subservient to society.

However, today, the inaccessible, technocratic language of economists and bankers is a barrier for many people to participate in the political-societal conversation about the (re)design of the money system. Therefore, this project aims to lower this barrier by developing three products (cartographies, a book, educational material) and organizing events (exhibitions, conferences, lectures).

# Structure of the programme

I. Cartographies	II. Book	III. Open-source educational material	IV. Events & community building
V. Research			
VI. Program management			

# Programme team

Carlijn Kingma (cartographer)

Thomas Bollen (research journalist at Follow the Money)

Jeroen Haans (researcher and lecturer at The Hague University of Applied Sciences)

Cristiano Giordano (researcher and lecturer at The Hague University of Applied Sciences)

Martijn van der Linden (professor New Finance at The Hague University of Applied Sciences)

Partners (confirmed): Rijksmuseum Twenthe, Atelier van Lieshout, Lowlands, Follow The Money, The Hague University of Applied Sciences, De Nieuwe Wereld and Rabobank, Stimuleringsfond Creatieve Industrie,

# I. Cartographies

Three cartographies:

- a) Mission map to explain personal motivation to explore this topic
- b) Main map to visualize the whole monetary and financial system
- c) Smaller maps (vignettes) to explain important parts of the main map in more detail



Sketch of the main map, January 2022

# I. Cartographies

Four guided audio tours through the main map:

- I. Explanation of the metaphor of ‘money as water’ and an exploration of how our financial system should support the economy and society
- II. Explanation of the role of our current monetary-financial institutions (commercial banks, central banks, governments & non-bank financial institutions) and the (theoretical) functioning of those institutions in the irrigation system.
- III. Behind the facade: the actual functioning of our current monetary and financial system. What problems do we encounter?
- IV. Future scenarios & alternative designs

# I. Cartographies

Smaller maps (vignettes):

- I. Quantities
- II. Definitions of money
- III. Definitions of other monetary and financial terms
- IV. Functioning of central, commercial and shadow banks, and non-bank financial institutions
- V. Historical development of money
- VI. Systemic financial crises versus non-systemic financial crises
- VII. Money and moral values (economics versus chrematistics)
- VIII. Different ideologies (libertarian, liberals, neoliberals, socialists, commoners)
- IX. The global battle over the reserve currency
- X. Economics education



# II. Book

Draft chapters (January 2022):

- I. Dreaming about wealth (draft written)
- II. Pyramids to the sky (draft written)
- III. Bailing out the economy
- IV. No reform after crisis of 2007-9
- V. The problem of unproductive loans
- VI. The magic money tree exists
- VII. The hierarchy of different currencies
- VIII. Inflation and the need for a monetary anchor
- IX. Fragile bank money
- X. Solving financial instability
- XI. The development of private moneys
- XII. The public role of money
- XIII. Money is a democratic issue

# III. Educational material

Maps will be digitalized, and educational material will be added in different layers. This will at least consist of:

- Selection of literature (books, articles)
- Selection of digital material (documentaries, podcasts)
- Lecture slides
- Recorded lectures and (part of) interviews
- Quizzes and polls

In addition, the following material for lecturers will be developed:

- Instructions manuals for interactive workshops, classroom debates, panel discussions and co-creation sessions
- Course manuals, learning goal (per level) and competencies (per level)
- Exams and assignments
- A course at the Hague University of Applied Sciences.

# IV. Events & community building

- Exhibitions
- Summer and winter schools
- Lectures
- Book club
- Conferences (meetings between artists, economists and spiritual leaders)
- Building a world on the open learning community of the digital platform [koios](#)

# IV. Events & community building

Confirmed events:

- Summer school at THUAS, NL (4-15 July 2022)
- Exhibition at Rijksmuseum Twenthe, NL (16 October 2022 – 29 January 2023)
- Summer/Winter school at ULACIT, Costa Rica (January 2023)
- Exhibition at Atelier van Lieshout, NL (Spring 2023)
- Summer school at THUAS, NL (July 2023)

# V. Research

Research questions:

- What is the future of the money system?
- What criteria are pivotal for a future-proof money system?
- How can we overcome the language barrier to talk about money in the public sphere, using a non-technical vocabular? How can we describe financial phenomena through ‘the metaphor of water’? How can art contribute to making the money system more accessible?
- How do different (theoretical) economic schools view the money system, its main functions, its main problems and its future? What is the role of digital technologies in those futures?
- What are the best educational materials about the different topics (main map and vignettes) for different levels? And if there is nothing of sufficient quality, what should we develop? Which educational forms make the content accessible for a broad group of students (at different levels)?

# Planning

## **Phase 1: Formalize program (June 2021- April 2022)**

- Finalize program plan (including budget)
- Formalize partnerships
- Draft maps & structure of book
- Plan events
- Research

## **Phase 2: Development (January 2022 – February 2023)**

- Draw maps
- Write book
- Develop educational material
- Research

## **Phase 3: Presentation (July 2023 – August 2023)**

- Events