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In 2019, Ervis Foundation set out on a long voyage with a goal – to clean our oceans and save our marine life. It took a few years of ideation, brainstorming, dedication and passion to initiate this journey of a lifetime.

It all started in 2016, when Haaziq Kazi, young inventor and co-founder of Ervis Foundation was asked by his school to prepare a Ted Talk on any topic that was close to his heart. Having watched countless documentaries about the adverse effect of Plastic Pollution on marine life, he was certain that there was no bigger problem that he would want to address and drive awareness about. There was no looking back from there. This inspired him to build a ship which can help reverse the damage done to the oceans by us humans.

With this the idea of ERVIS was born. With the creation of the ERVIS Ship, Haaziq’s dedication and efforts were being recognized. More importantly people began acknowledging that plastic pollution was a problem that needed urgent response. This gave Haaziq the opportunity to interact with many youth and adults across the globe. He especially came across motivated youngsters who shared a similar passion to bring a positive change. This sparked an idea. Haaziq decided to establish a foundation that would be dedicated to bringing a generational change in the way the youth today interacts with plastic, ensuring it to be in a more responsible and sustainable manner.

With a year into its voyage, Ervis Foundation is a social enterprise that is dedicated to working against the adversities of plastic pollution. We engage with the youth to bring a generational change in the way we consume and dispose of plastic. From our Zero Waste Marketplace to our RoaRRR App and our Blue Initiatives, we aim to make responsible plastic consumption and disposal a daily habit. Our goal is to not just educate but also to inspire a positive behavioral change in the young generation.
We set sail with the goal to resolve the issue of plastic debt and spread awareness about plastic pollution. We chose students from primary classes to intermediate level to form our crew and so far have reached out to over 1600 students in schools across UAE and India. Our strategy is to educate today’s youth and the future of tomorrow about the gravity of the plastic debt along with useful techniques to address the same. We aim to develop plastic-free communities using biodegradable alternatives in order to reduce plastic waste generation (reduce the plastic footprint).

To be at the forefront of the movement of bringing awareness and inciting change in responsible plastic consumption and disposal by engaging in educational initiatives with the youth.

Our vision is to engage with the youth globally, to bring a generational change in the way we consume and dispose of plastic, by being more responsible and sustainable.
Any goal becomes easier to accomplish and any task is implemented better when one can comprehend its value and necessity.

We provide not just any other platform; at Ervis our agenda of creating awareness is not limited to how plastic pollution is detrimental to the environment but extends to educating the youth about its effects on their present living standards and the life of the future generations. We toil to encourage ideas at individual level to mitigate the repercussions of this havoc that could befall if the issue of wasteful use of plastic is not dealt with. Undoubtedly, the pros and cons are the major ingredients of our initiative but what fuels the methods and techniques employed by us is dealing with the skewed ways of using plastic at its grass root level.

What we are doing here is centered around the fact that the poorly monitored use of plastic and dumping them in the water bodies is damaging the marine life by biologically impacting the marine creatures, impairing the quality of soil and hence the flora and fauna. A small step of making a conscious choice of choosing non-toxic biodegradable products over plastics can improve and save the environment in remarkable ways. We have taken measures to ensure all thoughts and plans, no matter how small or big, are brought into action as we strongly believe one small step at a time has proven to be the key to bringing about the biggest changes!

"I am on a journey to solve a 5 trillion pieces problem, the problem of what we throw in our oceans."
- Haaziq Kazi
We are proud to have come a long way in a very short span of time. The venture is focused to safeguard the marine life by reducing marine pollution of all kinds, in particular from land-based activities, including marine debris and nutrient pollution. Ervis is the brainchild of 13-year-old Haaziq Kazi. Taking his vision forward, we are focusing on educating the youth through simple learning tools, in turn inspiring them to make a huge impact.

Since April 2019, we have successfully conducted numerous workshops and student awareness sessions. We also took the digital channels through our mobile application RoaRRR to be actively involved with the students at the individual level. Moreover, we have placed our foot in distributing and selling plastic alternate resources via the Zero Waste Marketplace.

Plastic has been an essential element of all our lives. While its the earlier generations that have casually interacted with plastic, its the next generation that is directly facing the repercussions. Hence, it becomes necessary to educate the youth about the harmful effects of plastic and encourage them to become more sustainable, so that they can safeguard their future. The idea behind engaging with the younger generation is that we want to hit the problem right at its root level.

At Ervis, we aim to encapsulate the theme and draw parallels not from the skewed past but towards a brighter future, not from the nation branding campaigns built on colorful logos or fancy slogans but discussing and implementing solutions to the emergent reality and imminent future. We as an organization are on a journey towards a better and plastic-free future and the driving factor of this journey is the youth of today.

"Plastic pollution-free world is not a choice but a commitment to life - a commitment to the next generation."
- Priyanka Prakash
The Plastic Problem

Plastic is a universal and omnipresent material impacting our daily lives. Its specialities have addressed some of the crucial challenges for mankind. Light weight automobile parts save fuel, improve efficiency and reduce pollutant emission. Innovative insulation material helps us save energy bills. Packaging is cost effective and ensure food safety and reduction in food waste. In combination with bioengineering and medical-innovation, plastic implants save human life.

Due to its endless use cases, there has been a twenty-fold increase in production of plastic between 1964 and 2019, with an annual output of 322 million metric tonnes (Mt) which is expected to double by 2035 and quadruple by 2050. The current usage of plastic is based on a liner model of “take, make, use and dispose” which is the primary reason for depletion of natural resources, waste and environment degradation and has adverse effects on human health.

With only 14 per cent of the plastic packaging collected for recycling, a major portion of this plastic waste is either dumped into landfills, oceans or elsewhere in the environment. Each year at least 8 million tonnes of plastic leaks into our oceans. It is expected that 12000+ Mt of plastic waste shall be generated and dumped by 2050 unless action is taken. If the current linear model continues, the ocean is expected to contain 1 tonne of plastic for every 3 tonnes of fish by 2025, and by 2050, more plastic than fish (by weight).

As an alternative to the current linear model, the circular economy aims towards sustainable utilization of resources for as long as possible and maximize the value while in use and to recover, recycle and regenerate the products and materials at the end of their service life. The goal of a circular economic model is to implement a sustainable approach to plastic while increasing its benefits and minimising its adverse effects to provide an environmental, economic and societal benefit. The circular economic solution propose will help in “closing the material loop” i.e. to minimize the waste and keep it out of landfills, incinerators and oceans.
Year at a Glance...

- Launched the RoaRRR App to create awareness about the 4 R's
- Engaged with over 1,650 students from 7 schools across India and UAE
- Selected as Regional Focal Point for UNMGCY SDG 14/ Youth Constituency
- Registered and aligned with UNSDG Goal 12 and 14
- Collaborated with the Municipal Corporation of Panchkula under the Swachh Bharat Mission
- Launched our e-store Zero Waste Marketplace. Launched on Amazon and Flipkart, India
The Sustainable Development Goals are the blueprint to achieve a better and more sustainable future for all. Ervis foundation is registered and aligned with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goal-12, which states - to ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns and help governments and stakeholder make the Sustainable Development Goals a reality.

It is believed that if the global population reaches 9.6 billion by 2050, the equivalent of almost three planets will be required to sustain current lifestyles. This calls for sustainable consumption and production. Over 3 billion people depend on marine and coastal biodiversity for their livelihood. Increasing levels of debris in the world’s oceans are having a major environmental and economic impact. Goal 14 of the Sustainable Development Goals aims to conserve and sustainably use the world’s oceans, seas and marine resources.

In sync with the UNSDGs goals, we have taken measures to promote sustainable consumption of plastic and put a check on the production patterns. Through the initiative of Zero Waste Marketplace, we have ensured that the plastic-free daily-use products are easily available in order to boost people to choose those products over plastic-made goods. This step will make a huge impact in attenuating plastic debt in the long run. As a part of the sustainable consumption initiative, we engage with students through our Blue initiatives which include our workshops, ambassador programs, and boot camps that aims to educate them about the plastic crisis. Moreover, with the launch of the RoaRRR application, we are working towards building a platform where people can gauge their participation and contribution in addressing the issue of plastic pollution at an individual level. This application records the actions of the users and highlights if they are meeting the objectives and abiding by the four-Rs of the blue pledge. Furthermore, we are in the process of creating an incubation lab for innovation to fight plastic waste and building a ship to clean the ocean surface.

By 2030, substantially reduce waste generation through prevention, reduction, recycling and reusing.

By 2030, ensure that people everywhere have the relevant information and awareness for sustainable development and lifestyles in harmony with nature.

By 2025, prevent and significantly reduce marine pollution of all kinds, in particular from land based activities, including marine debris and nutrient pollution.

By 2020, sustainably manage and protect marine and coastal ecosystems to avoid significant adverse impacts, and take action for their restoration in order to achieve healthy and productive oceans.
Our Initiatives

HERO INITIATIVE
- BLUE WORKSHOPS
- YOUNG CHAMPION PROGRAM

HYGIENE INITIATIVE
- ERVIS SHIP
- ZERO WASTE MARKET
- ROARRR APP

HUB INITIATIVE
The Hero initiative focuses on the idea of learning and teaching. The initiative coordinates and drives awareness and communication among the youth of today so that they grow up to be more responsible towards plastic usage in tomorrow’s world. We work with multiple entities, local and global to develop insights and build economic and scientific base which can be referred and measured for research and education.

Further, we also work internally with partners and crowd to mobilize ‘moon-shot’ innovations alongside the more ‘doable’ ones. The key objective is to engage with policymakers at the local and global level to help establish global plastic protocols which are more adaptable to the current needs.

The Blue Workshop and the Young Champion initiative are the two key programs under the Hero initiative. Blue Workshop focuses on inculcating awareness and engaging with the youth through activities and discussions that encourage a sustainable and plastic-free approach to life. The Young Champion Program has been designed to create young resilient ambassadors who can be the torchbearers of the plastic-free movement in their communities, making our vision to build a plastic-free future for the Earth a reality.
The Blue Workshops are designed to educate the present generation about the hazards of plastic waste and methods to mitigate the issue of plastic pollution. The workshop aims to instil behavioural changes in the way children, between 6 to 18 years of age, interact with plastic in terms of its consumption and disposal. The sessions focus on spreading awareness and engaging students with activities and discussions that encourage a sustainable and plastic-free approach to life.

A fivefold scheme forms the basis of our primary objectives which involves launching a platform where the youth can devise ideas, strategies, and solutions that can contribute to reducing the plastic debt and pollution. We provide educational hands-on activities that help children to develop an all-round awareness and understanding of the existing problems associated with plastic. They gain comprehensive exposure to the adverse impacts that plastic waste has on marine life.

The students engage in a range of activities. Some of the key activities include:

- Conducting plastic audits in their community
- Creating guidebooks to educate about plastic-free lifestyle
- Designing awareness campaigns such as skits, movies, posters etc.
- Creating social media awareness campaigns
- Making best out of waste plastic
- Innovating long-term solutions for the plastic-problem

Collaborations:

- We collaborated with the Municipal Corporation of Panchkula, Haryana under the Swachh Bharat Mission.
- We are in collaboration with Plastic Oceans, and regularly feature the acclaimed documentary ‘A Plastic Ocean’ at our workshops as a part of learning material.

Engaged with over 1600 students from 7 schools across India and UAE.
Schools Collaborated With...

Dixit BMC School, Mumbai, India

Springdales School, Dubai UAE

Oysters International School, Pune, India

Govt. Model Sanskriti School, Panchkula, India

St. Vivekanand Millennium School, Panchkula, India

Fountainhead School, Surat, India

Tapti Valley Intl. School, Surat, India
With the introduction of the Ervis Young Champion Program, we took our sail towards nominating ambassadors to serve as responsible leaders of the plastic-free movement. The program aims to transform the youth into leaders and changemakers. It has been designed to create young, resilient ambassadors who can be torchbearers of the plastic-free movement in their communities, making our vision of building a plastic-free future for our Earth a reality.

The selected champions are made in charge of leading and conducting follow-up programs and activities to ensure the spreading of awareness and fostering of change in mindsets and habits when interacting with plastic, in their communities.

**HIGHLIGHTS**

We launched the Ervis Blue Club at Indus International School, Pune, India.

Students of Fountainhead School organized a clean-up drive in Surat.

**OUR AMBASSADORS**

Ami Choudha, Grade 12, UAE

Neal Rodrigues, Grade 12, UAE

Dhruv Arun, Grade 12, UAE

Neel Khare, Grade 12, India

Preyasi Desai, Grade 6, India
Through the Hub initiative we aim to bring about a lifestyle change by dealing with problem at the elementary level. The material furnished on the hub extends from providing information of methods to deal with the issue of plastic pollution to ways of mitigating the plastic debt. The idea is to use digital platforms as a catalyst to motivate people to shift towards a plastic-free lifestyle.

This is encouraged through our e-store, Zero Waste Marketplace, which offers plastic-free substitutes for the basic daily use items. Additionally, the RoaRRR app aims to serve as a personal guide for people by encouraging them to keep a tab on their activities and gauging the contribution they make towards the fight for a plastic-free environment.
Zero Waste Market

The Zero Waste Market Place has been set up to offer a range of basic products that will encourage people to shift towards living a zero waste and a plastic-free lifestyle. The primary objectives of establishing the Zero Waste Market include:

- To offer alternatives to day-to-day products that are plastic-free in nature.
- To spread awareness about the adverse impact of plastic pollution on our environment and showcasing the products as basic and easy solutions / alternatives.
- To ensure that more and more people consume products that are eco-friendly and bio-degradable in nature.
- To encourage the society to gradually shift towards living a zero waste and plastic-free life.

Currently, we are present on Amazon India, Flipkart and on our website.

RoaRRR App

The RoaRRR App was launched with a goal to create awareness about the 4 R’s – Reduce, Reuse, Refuse and Recycle. It enables the users to take the Ervis Blue Pledge and provides a platform for them to record their activities related to responsible plastic consumption and disposal.

The app gives the user an opportunity to record what they do with their plastic waste each day. It further helps the user to record the activities they take up to ensure sustainable consumption and disposal of plastic, through images, videos and text, which can then be shared on their social media platforms. Currently, the app is still under development and testing phase. We believe this app is a crucial stepping stone in our initiative to enable comfortable access to the users to participate and help serve our objective of making a plastic-free tomorrow.

**HIGHLIGHTS**

- The App was launched on August 2019
- Currently available on PlayStore
- Within 90 days of launching the application had 14 installations
Hygiene Initiative

Our long-term vision is to bring life to ideas that can truly make a difference in our battle against the plastic waste crisis. Our third initiative, Hygiene, targets to educate people from diverse domains about the hazards of plastic debt and provide a platform to them where they can fill their ideas with life. We have taken measures to ensure that proper guidance and infrastructure is endowed to those willing to serve our cause and help in adding value to our objective of taking the edge off plastic pollution.

The focus here is to reach as many people as possible and engage them to comprehend the need of the hour and perform activities that can expedite alleviating the damages caused due to plastic pollution. Our key action includes the development of the Ervis Ship, which has been invented and designed by Haaziq Kazi to clean plastic off the oceans’ surface. We are also working towards building an incubation lab, where the youth can try and test their inventions and solutions, giving us an opportunity to explore more effective solutions that can tackle this problem from its root.
First, we take a sample of the waste and analyse it. Then we then send it to a segregator to separate plastic from non-plastic items. The plastic is compacted and stored in cubes. The other waste is taken and degraded with bacteria or stored for separate disposal.

The water which comes back finally will be cleaner and will be pumped back into the ocean.

The saucers, float on the surface moving circularly to pull the waste towards its center. These saucers will have a central outlet which will swallow the waste and is connected via a tube to various chambers in the ship. To help visualize this, imagine a gigantic vacuum cleaner with many cleaning tubes attached to many dust bags.

Once the waste enters the tube, we have various stages which will then segregate it. The first sensor will be an infrared sensor which alerts ERVIS for marine life. We could use thermal activity to detect presence of life and put it back in the ocean.

The waste then goes to the first level – an oil filter, which collects waste oil and sends it to the oil chamber. We would like to treat this waste oil, either decompose it or store it for safe disposal. The second, third, fourth & fifth chambers are for large, medium, small & micro waste respectively.

Once the waste enters these chambers, we follow these steps:
- First, we take a sample of the waste and analyse it.
- Then we then send it to a segregator to separate plastic from non-plastic items. The plastic is compacted and stored in cubes.
- The other waste is taken and degraded with bacteria or stored for separate disposal.
- The water which comes back finally will be cleaner and will be pumped back into the ocean.

Currently, we have built a model, and are now working towards developing a working model for the same.
Talks and Conferences

TED Ed Speaker at TED Headquarters in New York, USA.

Speaker at TEDxGateway Mumbai, India.

Speaker at Global Business Summit by Economic Times in New Delhi, India.

Speaker at TEDxYouthAUS at Ashoka Group of Schools Nashik, India.

Speaker at SAP ACE Awards, 2019, in Mumbai, India.

Speaker at Seeds&Chips – The Global Food Innovation Summit 2019 in Milano, Italy.

Keynote Speaker at Economic Justice Conclave focusing on Climate Change and Injustice Against Women at Sarla Anil Modi School of Economics, Mumbai India

Attended the Rajeev Circle Fellowship Program 2019, Palo Alto USA.
ICHCHHA FOUNDATION

Ichchha is a community filled with change-makers. This community consists of the youth force that wants to execute their dream and the families that support their dreams. Together, we conducted our very first Blue Workshop at Dixit BMC School, Mumbai.

Municipal Corporation of Panchkula, under the Swachh Bharat Mission.

In line with the Government of India's 'Swachh Bharat Abhiyan', the corporation has come up with 'Waste Exchange Programme' to make Panchkula plastic-free. We got the opportunity to engage with the students of two schools and help them in taking this mission forward.

WHY WASTE

This organization works towards the effective conservation of water. The startup works with restaurants by helping them to prevent wastage of water that is left behind in glasses. We are currently in collaboration with them to reach out to more youth across India through education initiatives.

LONELY WHALE

Lonely Whale not only created the local Strawless in Seattle campaign but has also created and continues to create change on a national and global scale. We are supporting them in taking their Strawless campaign forward and in making our ambassadors a part of their OceansHero Bootcamps.

YUVAM

This is a fund for teenage entrepreneurs, started by a Chennai student in 2018. Through this collaboration we aim to build our network and strengthen our Hero and Hygiene Initiative.

ICHCHHA FOUNDATION

Ichchha is a community filled with change-makers. This community consists of the youth force that wants to execute their dream and the families that support their dreams. Together, we conducted our very first Blue Workshop at Dixit BMC School, Mumbai.

PLASTIC OCEANS

Plastic Oceans International is a nonprofit organization raising awareness about plastic pollution to inspire behavioral change. Their origins date back several years, as part of the team that helped distribute the award-winning film 'A Plastic Ocean.' We have collaborated with them to screen their documentary for the students at our Blue Workshops.

Collaborations and Partnerships
This 12-year-old's school project could end up cleaning our oceans

By Think Change India

NDTV

Detal Dawega Swachh India - Improve Sanitation

Accord Projects Earmarks Thai Kingdom Projects From USD 150 Million Grant

BloombergQuint

12-year-old Haadik Kazi and 13-year-old Gitangali Rao have developed innovative ideas and products to solve water pollution problems.

Puny Boy, 12, Designs Ship To Remove Plastic From Ocean, Save Marine Life

The mechanical designer, designed a boiler from the oceans, which is then argon welded between marine life and waste. Haadik Kazi

SocialStory

Media Coverage

This 12-year-old's school project could end up cleaning our oceans

SocialStory

This 12-year-old's school project could end up cleaning our oceans

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This 12-year-old's school project could end up cleaning our oceans

Media Coverage
While we sail towards the shore of a plastic-free Earth, we look forward to creating guidebooks on adopting a plastic-free and zero-waste style of living. This will be followed by working towards developing research journals and papers that share data on plastic pollution especially in India. We aim to begin an Ervis Academy which can be an online platform where people can take up courses regarding environment and sustainability.

We plan to extend our tie-ups with the experts and professionals for building a strong foundation for our workshop curriculum. Moreover, building a curriculum that can be made as a part of every school syllabus is something we are excited about. We also aim to design and implement the workshops at corporate offices and universities. We will continue to participate in more summits and events across the globe and gain a platform to spread awareness about our cause and the foundation.

The promise of conducting clean-up drives that ensure ground-level change and impact holds. We will navigate our sail towards collaborating and tying-up with similar NGOs to have a greater reach. This shall be followed by building a training camp/boot camp where ambassadors can gather annually to be trained with the skill of leadership, sustainability and how to effectively run programs that aim to reduce plastic pollution. Establishing a functioning incubation lab, where children similar to Haaziq, can have a space to nurture and develop their innovative ideas is on the list. Most importantly, we will continue to work hard in contributing to the targets of the Sustainable Development Goals. We are proud of the benchmarks that we have made so far! We will continue burning the midnight oil and work for the greater good, to serve our Mother Earth with all the that she deserves, starting with a plastic-free environment.

“Changing calendars does not change the vision. The idea is still the same and so are the goals. A cleaner home for marine animals.”
- Haaziq Kazi
Our Team

**HAAZIQ KAZI**  
*Inventor and Co-founder*

Haaziq Kazi is a 13-year-old Indian student in Grade VIII from Indus International School Pune. Haaziq is a TED ED and Tedx speaker and inventor of ERVIS Ship. He is super passionate about ocean and the plastic pollution problem.

**PRIYANKA PRAKASH**  
*Program Director*

Priyanka is currently in charge of education initiative of Ervis foundation. Priyanka is a 23-year-old graduate from Symbiosis Center for Media and Communications, Pune. She in the past has experience working in News Media organizations in India and also has extensive experience in the social sector. She has a strong interest in social activities and her interests include traveling, filmmaking and writing.

**AMIT MISHRA**  
*Advisor - SDG*

Amit is 26-years-old and currently a consultant for Content and Research Department in ERVIS Foundation. Amit comes from cyber security background working with PwC in the past and feels strongly about our responsibility towards environment. Amit is a voracious reader and an author with a book to his credit.