



Abdul Latif Jameel Water and Food Systems Lab
VIDEO COMPETITION: MIT Research for a Water Secure Future
2021 Call for Submissions

Background

March 22nd, 2021 is [World Water Day](#), an international day launched by United Nations aimed at advocating for the sustainable management of freshwater resources and inspiring people around the world to take action for clean water. Over 100 countries observe World Water Day, with ministries, universities, research agencies, and organizations launching awareness-raising initiatives to grow the international conversation around clean water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH). This year, the Abdul Latif Jameel Water and Food Systems Lab (J-WAFS) at MIT is joining this effort with a video competition and online festival to showcase the many exciting ways MIT students and post-docs are applying the Institute's expertise and research capabilities to the challenges that face the world's water resources.

As a coordinator of water and food systems research across MIT, J-WAFS has witnessed the numerous innovative ways that the MIT research community spanning very diverse DLCs are developing water sector solutions. J-WAFS is issuing this call for video submissions following the theme *MIT Research for a Water Secure Future*. We invite MIT students (undergraduates, graduates, and recent alumni) and current postdocs to submit short video portraits of their water sector research projects and the challenges they are seeking to address. By launching this video competition and festival in the lead up to World Water Day, we aim to collect and showcase portraits of MIT research and innovation to build awareness about both the challenges facing the world's water systems and how MIT's community of young researchers is driving us toward solutions.

Water Sector Research Video Competition

We invite all current MIT students, post-docs, and recent alumni to submit a 2 to 2.5-minute video describing their water sector research, to compete for up to \$3000 in prize money and the opportunity to be featured in J-WAFS' social media and other outreach throughout the year. J-WAFS will also feature up to ten top videos at a virtual film screening held on zoom on World Water Day. The grand prize winner will also receive \$1500, with \$1000 awarded to second place. Additional \$200 awards will be made for specific "Judges' Favorite" categories such as research originality, creative



communication of research, and potential for impact. Any video submissions meeting the competition standards may be made available on the J-WAFS website.

Eligibility and Requirements

Entrants to the video contest must observe the following requirements:

Entrant Eligibility:

- All MIT students currently enrolled in degree-granting programs are eligible. (This does not include certificate-only programs.)
- All current MIT postdoctoral associates and postdoctoral fellows are eligible.
- Recent MIT alumni with degrees dated 2020 are eligible.
- Research teams may submit a video entry when 50% or more of the team is eligible and 50% or more of the research is being conducted at MIT. (See further requirements information below.)

Video Requirements

- **TOPIC:**
 - Videos submitted must describe a water sector research project that the applicant is pursuing at MIT. Broad research summaries as well as illustrations of a single concept or finding from your research are acceptable. Videos must also include information about the water sector challenge being addressed and may present the applicant's passion or motivation for pursuing water sector research.
 - The video must feature the submitter's own research. Research that you are supporting but is largely led by and/or conducted by others is not appropriate.
 - Videos may feature concluded research or research in progress, however early-stage research should be sufficiently advanced beyond the proposal stage at the time the video is produced.
- **CONTENT:**
 - We want our audience to learn about some significant water sector challenges and how MIT is addressing them. The content should be understandable by a general audience and conveyed in a manner that is engaging and compelling.
 - The video should focus on research rather than related advocacy efforts, volunteer projects, entrepreneurial efforts or start up ideas, etc. Any activities such as these that are directly related to your research may be referred to but should not be the main focus of the video.



- Videos should generally present the problem or challenge your research addresses, what the research approach is, and progress, results, or outcomes to date, and the potential for impact. As appropriate, videos may also present how the research project came about, your personal motivation, interaction with people or communities affected by the problem, or other content relevant to the research.
- **VIDEO PRODUCTION:**
 - Videos can consist of any combination of the student talking, images and graphics, animations, interviews, or any other techniques that are appropriate to convey the story of your research project. Note that we are more interested in accessible content and compelling storytelling than highly produced videos.
 - There are various ways to produce your video that are low-tech and easy to implement. We welcome videos using production techniques that are anywhere from advanced to basic—e.g. accomplished using the record function on Zoom in combination with a PowerPoint, or made with your mobile phone. While creative storytelling is among the judging criteria, entries will not be judged specifically on video production capability or technique.
 - You can find basic video production instructional resources at <https://jwafs.mit.edu/node/589>
 - While applicants can bring in others to assist with filming and other tasks, we do expect that the eligible submitters are the primary authors of the videos and that applicants do not use professionals for video production.
- **LENGTH:** Only videos that are less than 2 minutes and 30 seconds in length will be considered. Videos should be at least 1 minute and 45 seconds to allow for adequate content.
- **ACCESSIBILITY:** Videos must include English subtitles for closed captioning per MIT's accessibility requirements. You can find the requirements and links for easy do-it-yourself captioning tools at <https://accessibility.mit.edu/>. *Note that YouTube's auto-captioning system does not meet MIT's accessibility guidelines and therefore is not sufficient.*
- **SIZE/FORMAT:** We recommend that videos use a 16x9 widescreen aspect ratio and be at least 1280x720 at 720p or higher resolution.
- **OTHER REQUIREMENTS:**
 - Add the following text as a closing caption that is clearly visible and fills the screen for 5 seconds. *Please note: This does not count against the maximum 2.5 minutes allotted for your video.*



Abdul Latif Jameel Water and Food Systems Lab (J-WAFS)
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Cambridge, Massachusetts, USA

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- Ensure no copyrighted content is used without a license.
- Any background music or stock images/videos must be royalty free so we can reproduce the videos on social media.
- One video per individual or team may be submitted.
- Make sure that the researcher and/or research team are introduced in the video, and include related departments and degree programs.
- **VIDEO PERMISSIONS AND CONSENT:** Anyone that submits or appears on video needs to submit a Video Participant Consent Form
<https://jwafs.mit.edu/sites/default/files/imce/events/2020/Video%20Competition/I-WAFS%20Video%20Participant%20Consent%20Form.pdf> Anyone that is under the age of 18 who appears on video must obtain parental consent on the Video Participant Consent Form.

See [<https://jwafs.mit.edu/node/590>] for full terms and conditions for the video festival and competition.

Deadline: **Wednesday, March 10th, 2021, at 12:00 PM EST**

Submission Process

To submit your entry:

- All video submission must meet the requirements listed above.
- Submission steps:
 1. Upload your video to YouTube.
 2. Make privacy settings “public” or “unlisted” (not “private”). *Make sure that you are wholly compliant and consistent with the YouTube Terms of Service (<https://www.youtube.com/static?template=terms>). Any entries that don’t comply will be disqualified. Please note: YouTube is NOT a sponsor of this contest.*
 3. Copy your video URL
 4. Prepare your Participant Permission Form (if you have multiple forms, combine into a single PDF for uploading)
 5. Go to https://webportalapp.com/webform/jwafs_video_submission to access the Video Submission Form
 6. Complete all required fields including the YouTube URL and upload your Video Submission Form in order to submit your entry.

Dates and Deadlines



- Request for Submissions issued: **Tuesday, January 19th, 2021**
- Submissions are due by **Wednesday, March 10th, 2021, at noon EST**
- Winners are informed on **Friday, March 19th, 2021**
- Winning videos are announced via an online video screening event and via the J-WAFS website and social media accounts on Monday, March 22nd (**World Water Day**)

Judging and Selection

The videos submitted to this contest will be reviewed by a panel of judges both internal and external to MIT. The judging panel, to be announced in early February, will include water sector researchers, water industry representatives, journalists and/or other members of communications fields that focus on water sector topics.

Entries will be judged on the following general criteria:

Importance & potential for impact:

Video clearly articulates a significant problem or challenge related to the water sector; Video clearly explains motivation and how the research addresses the problem or challenge; research outcomes would help advance relevant knowledge or a solution.

Creative and effective communication:

Overall presentation is interesting and engaging; problem, solution, and research approach are clearly and compellingly conveyed; level of detail and background are appropriate for a general audience; explanations are clear and understandable; visuals are relevant and helpful to understand the research.

For more information contact Susanna Maize, communications and project assistant, at smaize@mit.edu.



Abdul Latif Jameel Water and Food Systems Lab
VIDEO COMPETITION: MIT Research for a Water Secure Future

Submission information

The following information is required for submission. Entries must be submitted at https://webportalapp.com/webform/jwafs_video_submission

Applicant information:

- First
- Last
- Preferred first name
- Preferred pronouns
- Gender
- MIT affiliation
- MIT department/lab/center
- Position title (if applicable)
- Degree and anticipated date of graduation:
- Email address
- Cell phone number
- Mailing address
- Submitting as a team? (Yes/No)
 - All of the above information must be included for all team members

Video information:

- Video title
- Summary of research & video content that is 350 characters or fewer and is written for a public audience.
- YouTube Link
 - Does your video comply with YouTube's [terms of service](#)? (Yes/no)
- Accessibility
 - Have you created English subtitles for your video per MIT's Accessibility Guideline (<https://accessibility.mit.edu/>)?
- J-WAFS credit
 - Have you included a closing frame at the end of the video with the following information as 5 seconds of legible text? (yes/no)

MIT Research for a Water Secure Future
Video Competition

Abdul Latif Jameel Water and Food Systems Lab (J-WAFS)
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Cambridge, Massachusetts, USA



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2020

Permissions and Release Forms:

- Upload one release form, as a PDF, for every individual pictured in the video

Questions? Contact Susanna Maize at smaize@mit.edu



Video Participant Consent form

Without expectation of compensation or other remuneration, now or in the future, I hereby give my consent to [legal entity/organization], its affiliates and agents, to use my image and likeness and/or any interview statements from me in its publications, advertising or other media activities (including the Internet). This consent includes, but is not limited to:

(a) Permission to interview, film, photograph, tape, or otherwise make a video reproduction of me and/or record my voice;

(b) Permission to use my name; and

(c) Permission to use quotes from the interview(s) (or excerpts of such quotes), the film, photograph(s), tape(s) or reproduction(s) of me, and/or recording of my voice, in part or in whole, in its publications, in newspapers, magazines and other print media, on television, radio and electronic media (including the Internet), in theatrical media and/or in mailings for educational and awareness.

This consent is given in perpetuity, and does not require prior approval by me.

Name: _____

Signature: _____

Address: _____

Date: _____

The below signed parent or legal guardian of the above-named minor child (under 18) hereby consents to and gives permission to the above on behalf of such minor child.

Signature of Parent
or Legal Guardian: _____ Print Name: _____

The following is required if the consent form has to be read to the parent/legal guardian:

I certify that I have read this consent form in full to the parent/legal guardian whose signature appears above.



Terms and Conditions

J-WAFS 2021 Video Contest: MIT Research for a Water Secure Future

Complete Rules

All entrants agree to comply unconditionally with all the provisions set out in these rules. Any entrant who does not comply will be considered ineligible for participation.

J-WAFS shall have the right, but not the obligation, to monitor the contest and determine compliance with these rules, and the right at its sole discretion to refuse, reject, and/or remove any video, in whole or in part, that does not abide by these rules and those laid out in the video call for submissions or for any other reason.

1. SPONSOR. The Sponsor is the Abdul Latif Jameel Water and Food Systems Lab at MIT (J-WAFS), E70, 12th floor, MIT, 77 Massachusetts Avenue, Cambridge, MA. 02139; (hereinafter “Sponsor”).

2. TERM. The 2021 video contest: MIT Research for a Water Secure Future (hereafter “Contest”) begins on January 19th, 2021, at 12:01 a.m. U.S. Eastern Standard Time (EST) and ends March 22nd, 2021, at 11:59 p.m. ET. All entries must be received by March 10th, at noon EST. Information on how to enter and the prizes available is part of the video Call for Submissions. By submitting an entry, each entrant agrees to the Official Rules and warrants that his or her entry complies with all requirements set out in the Official Rules. This is a judged contest based on evaluation criteria and chance plays no part in the determination of winners.

3. WHO MAY ENTER. See the video Call for Submissions. If an individual has not reached 18, they must obtain and provide written consent and permission (<https://jwafs.mit.edu/sites/default/files/imce/events/2020/Video%20Competition/J-WAFS%20Video%20Participant%20Consent%20Form.pdf>) from their parent or legal guardian prior to entering the contest.

4. HOW TO ENTER. There is no entry fee. One entry is allowed per person or team. All submitted videos must be uploaded to YouTube and all entries must be submitted using the competition Video Submission Webform (https://webportalapp.com/webform/jwafs_video_submission). Submissions must comply with the eligibility criteria and requirements in the video Call for Submissions. Submissions that do not meet the requirements will not be judged or made accessible on the J-WAFS website.

Videos posted on YouTube are subject to the terms set by that platform. Please refer to the YouTube Terms of Service and Community Guidelines for details. This Contest is in no way sponsored, endorsed or administered by YouTube.

5. NO THIRD PARTY LOGOS/INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY/TRADEMARKS. Any entrant who incorporates any logos, intellectual property, trademarks or material owned by a third party into their video does so at their own risk. If J-WAFS, as the sponsor, is notified that any element of an entrant’s video infringes upon the rights of another person and/or receives a legally valid request to remove the video from this contest because of such infringement, such video may be removed from and/or disqualified from the contest, as J-WAFS determines in its sole discretion. Further, no entrant will be eligible to receive the prize unless J-WAFS determines, in its sole and absolute discretion, that such entrant’s video has been or can be sufficiently cleared for legal purposes. J-WAFS may elect to blur incidental third party trademarks or logos in any entered video at its sole discretion.



6. MUSIC. Any music included in a video must be original and all music and/or lyrics must be written and performed solely by you or obtained legally as royalty-free or purchased from a third-party vendor. For any third-party-created music, J-WAFS is expressly granted the royalty-free, perpetual, irrevocable, non-exclusive right and license to use, reproduce, edit, publish, translate, and distribute that music (in whole or in part) worldwide and/or to incorporate it in other works in any form, media, or technology now known or hereafter developed for the full term of any copyright that may exist in such material, with the objective to promote the goals of the contest and mission of J-WAFS. If J-WAFS determines in its sole discretion that the music you have included in your video is not original, or infringes on any third-party rights, the J-WAFS may either disqualify your entry or may dub over the music with music selected by J-WAFS in its sole discretion.

7. CONTEST ENTRANTS CONDUCT. All entrants of the contest shall not submit any video(s) that in whole or in part violates or infringes in any way upon the rights of others; that is unlawful, threatening, abusive, defamatory, invasive of privacy or publicity rights; vulgar, obscene, profane, contains morbid images, or otherwise objectionable material; that encourages conduct that would constitute a criminal offense; that gives rise to civil liability or otherwise violate any law, including, but not limited to, HIPAA; or that contains any advertising or any solicitation with respect to products or services.

All entrants shall not modify, exploit, create derivative works, or otherwise interfere with the material submitted by other entrants. In the event of permitted copying, distribution, or publication of such material, no changes in or deletion of author attribution, trademark legend, or copyright notice shall be made.

8. THIRD PARTY RIGHTS AND CLEARANCES.

Proprietary Rights

Submitted videos must be the original work of the entrant and must not infringe upon the copyrights, trademarks, and rights of privacy, publicity, or any other proprietary rights of a person or entity, and may require: location releases for footage shot at any location; name, voice, and likeness releases for any person whose name, voice, likeness, and/or feature appears; releases for the use of any props, set dressings, and other materials used; releases from any individuals participating in the production of the video and releases for any other audio and/or audio-visual materials not wholly owned by the participant(s) that are used.

Permissions

If the video contains any material or elements not owned by the entrant(s) and/or are subject to proprietary rights of third parties, the entrant(s) hereby automatically grant(s) or warrant(s) that any third parties owning material included in the submitted video, has(ve) expressly granted to Sponsor the royalty-free, perpetual, irrevocable, non-exclusive right and license to use, reproduce, edit, publish, translate, and distribute such material (in whole or in part) worldwide and/or to incorporate it in other works in any form, media, or technology now known or hereafter developed for the full term of any copyright that may exist in such material, with the objective to promote the goals of the Contest and the mission of Sponsor.

Burden of Determination

The burden of determining that any material is not protected by copyright, trademark, rights of privacy, publicity, or any other proprietary rights rests with the entrant. The entrant shall bear the sole liability for any damage resulting from any infringement of copyrights, proprietary rights, or any other harm resulting from such a submission.

Minors

For any person(s) under the age of 18 appearing in any video, entrant must obtain parental consent (<https://jwafs.mit.edu/sites/default/files/imce/events/2020/Video%20Competition/J-WAFS%20Video%20Participant%20Consent%20Form.pdf>) prior to video submission.

9. USER RIGHTS. Entrant grants to J-WAFS at MIT a royalty-free, perpetual, irrevocable, non-exclusive right and license to use, display, reproduce, edit, publish, translate, and distribute the submitted video (in whole or in part)



worldwide and/or to incorporate it in other works in any form, media, or technology now known or hereafter developed for the full term of any copyright and renewal that may exist in such material, with the objective to promote the goals of the contest or the mission of J-WAFS.

Entrant grants to J-WAFS the right to use submitted video to create a trailer or to splice together with other submitted videos for the objective of promoting the goals of the contest or the mission of J-WAFS. Entrant agrees J-WAFS is not required to place acknowledgement (as stated below) on a trailer or spliced work as described in this paragraph.

Entrant grants to J-WAFS the right to use the entrants' names, likenesses, photographs, voices, sounds and/or biographical information and videos in connection with the contest and for any and all advertising, publicity, and promotional purposes relating to the contest or promoting the mission of J-WAFS. The entrant will be clearly acknowledged for any use of his/her material and his/her name will accompany any dissemination of the material he/she owns by J-WAFS. Beyond permission granted herein and acknowledgment, J-WAFS shall not be obliged to compensate the entrant for use of the submitted material, unless prohibited by law.

10. DATA PRIVACY. Entrants agree that personal data, especially name and address, may be processed, shared and otherwise used for the purposes and within the context of the contest and any other purposes outlined in these rules. The data may also be used by the J-WAFS in order to verify the participant's identity, postal address and telephone number or to otherwise verify the participant's eligibility to participate in the contest. Participants have the right to access, review, rectify or cancel any personal data held by Sponsor by writing to J-WAFS at MIT at jwafs@mit.edu. Personal data will be used by J-WAFS and its affiliates exclusively for the purposes stated herein.