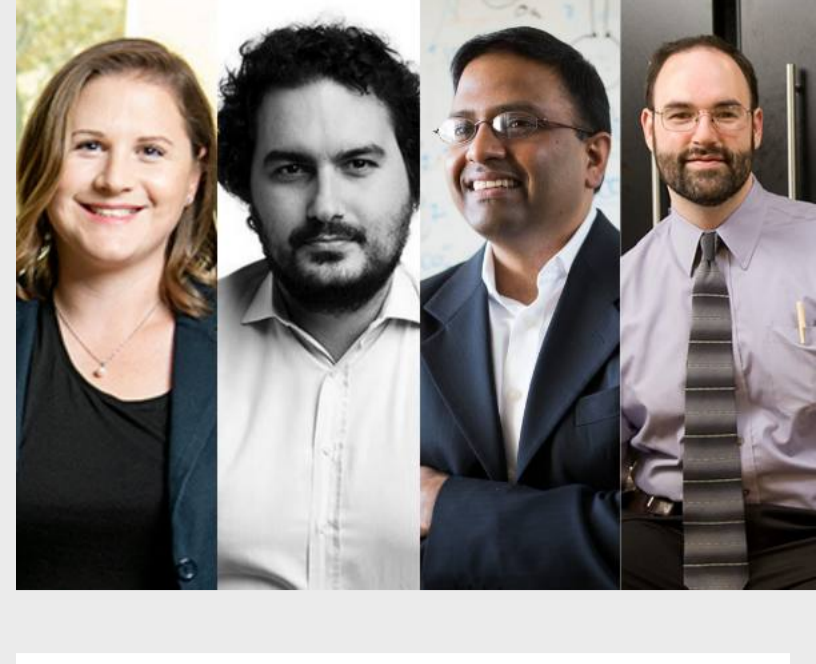


NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS



J-WAFS PIs work to boost crop resilience

Ariel Furst, Benedetto Marelli, Kripa Varanasi, and Michael Sirano are developing technologies to fortify agriculture against climate change.

[READ MORE](#)

J-WAFS researcher speaks on mining and water use panel

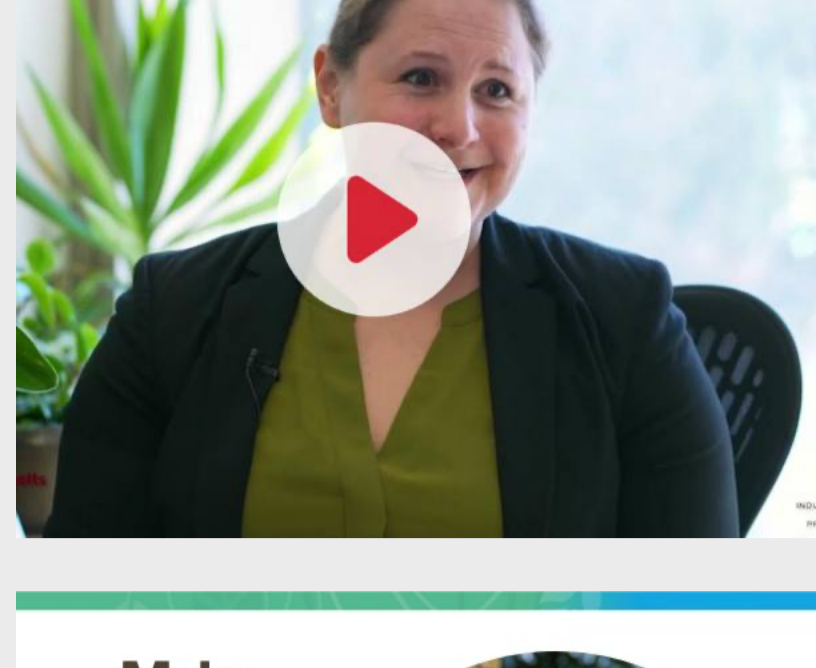
Scott Odell spoke at Stockholm University about increased mining activity in Chile leading to conflicts over already scarce water resources.

[READ MORE](#)

Which crops are most vulnerable to climate change?

In an MIT Climate Portal interview, J-WAFS PI Dave Des Marais discusses the impact of climate change on staple crop yields and farmers' need to adapt.

[READ MORE](#)



J-WAFS PI Ariel Furst featured in ILP interview

The MIT Industrial Liaison Program spoke to Furst about her work to utilize microbes for regenerative agriculture.

[WATCH NOW](#)

Mrin Penumaka 2024 J-WAFS Travel Grantee



J-WAFS student attends water conference

PhD student Mrin Penumaka gained valuable insights at the UNC Water and Health Conference last month.

[READ MORE](#)

MIT researchers discuss water challenges in nickel extraction

As nickel demand rises, Elsa Olivetti and others highlight the need to address the mining industry's effect on water rights and contamination.

[READ MORE](#)

Past J-WAFS PI assesses the impact of climate change on daily life

Elfath Eltahir and his team use the concept of "outdoor days" to refer to the number of comfortable days for outdoor activities.

[READ MORE](#)



MIT spinout featured in The New York Times

Pivot Bio, cofounded by J-WAFS PI Chris Voigt, has developed genetically modified bacteria as an alternative to chemical fertilizers.

[READ MORE](#)

FUNDING

AND OTHER OPPORTUNITIES

Call for J-WAFS Seed Grant Letters of Interest

Open to: MIT PIs
Deadline: December 9, 2024

Grants for early-stage MIT research in areas related to water and food security, safety, and sustainability for human need. Must submit a letter of interest, after which full proposals will be welcome by invitation.

[MORE INFO](#)

MIT Water, Food, and Agriculture Prize

Open to: University students
Deadline: December 15, 2024

This competition, co-sponsored by J-WAFS, is for student startups in water, food, and/or agriculture. Compete for a pool of \$50K, mentorship from industry professionals, and networking with entrepreneurs.

[MORE INFO](#)

MIT Climate and Energy Prize

Open to: University students
Deadline: December 2, 2024 (early-bird)

This startup competition, organized by MIT students, is for student teams from around the world who have climate-tech and energy startup ideas.

[MORE INFO](#)

Martin Family Society of Fellows for Sustainability

Open to: MIT PhD students
Deadline: February 5, 2025

MIT faculty are invited to nominate an outstanding student who is working in an area of environment and sustainability, including water or food.

[MORE INFO](#)

Interns for MIT desalination spinout

Open to: All familiar w/ desalination
Deadline: December 18, 2024

Two interns will assist with pilot systems in seawater desalination, groundwater desalination for agriculture, and produced water disposal for Harmony Desalting, cofounded by former student of J-WAFS director John Liendard, Quantum Wei.

[MORE INFO](#)

MIT \$100K Competition kick-off

Open to: Local students/researchers
Deadline: December 3, 2024

This competition brings together students and researchers from across MIT and greater Boston to launch their talent, ideas, and technology into leading companies. Join this first round of pitches to compete for non-dilutive funding.

[MORE INFO](#)

NEWEA 2025 Conference & Exhibit

Open to: All
Deadline: January 26-29, 2025

Connect with water and wastewater industry colleagues and buyers at the New England Water Environment Association's Annual Conference & Exhibit in Boston this January.

[MORE INFO](#)

2025 Switzer Fellowship

Open to: Graduate students in New England and California who focus on environmental improvement
Deadline: January 6, 2025

The fellowship includes a \$17,000 cash award, leadership training, and opportunities for professional development and grants.

[MORE INFO](#)

IN-DEPTH LOOK

JAMEEL INDEX DEBUTS AT WORLD FOOD PRIZE EVENT

J-WAFS researchers present a new framework to assess countries' risks to food trade shocks

The J-WAFS-led Food and Climate Systems Transformation (FACT) Alliance launched the Jameel Index for Food Trade and Vulnerability at the Norman E. Borlaug International Dialogue, a prestigious conference hosted by the World Food Prize Foundation.



Supported by Community Jameel, the Jameel Index is a new framework designed to assess countries' risk to food trade shocks, including conflict and climate change. Greg Sixt, director of the FACT Alliance, and J-WAFS researcher Professor Kenneth Strzepek presented the framework along with a preliminary version of the index during a breakout session panel at the conference. The current version of the Jameel Index draws on current and historical data, but the team will incorporate global change scenarios to assess future vulnerabilities in the coming year.

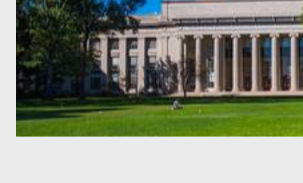
[READ MORE](#)

EVENTS



2024 MIT Research and Development Conference

Tuesday-Wednesday, November 19-20, 2024, All day, In-person
 J-WAFS executive director Renee Robins will speak at this MIT Industrial Liaison Program event. Plus presentations from Olivier de Weck & Jongyoon Han, and tours of Pat Doyle and Cem Tasan's labs, all J-WAFS PIs. [MORE INFO](#)



MCSC Annual Symposium (MIT ONLY)

Wednesday-Thursday, November 20-21, 2024, All day, In-person
 Join the MIT Climate & Sustainability Consortium for conversation, collaboration, and strategic planning, including a welcome session with Dean Anantha Chandrakasan, as well as a poster session with the MIT community. [MORE INFO](#)



Webinars on climate change impacts to land, water, & food

November 21 and December 13, 9:00 - 10:00 a.m. ET, Online
 Learn how the effects of climate change are impacting water and food security. Co-hosted by the J-WAFS-led FACT Alliance and the University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences, Vienna (BOKU). [MORE INFO](#)

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J-WAFS is an Institute-wide effort that brings MIT's unique strengths to bear on the many challenges our food and water systems face.

Our program catalyzes MIT research, innovation, and technology for ensuring safe and resilient supplies of water and food while reducing environmental impacts, to meet the local and global needs of a rapidly expanding and evolving population on a changing planet.



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