



## Register Now -- Two weeks to go!

The MIT Abdul Latif Jameel World Water and Food Security Lab, in conjunction with the MIT Industrial Liaison Program, is hosting its first conference addressing the global food and water challenge. The conference will feature new technologies being developed at MIT as well as sessions on risk management, collaboration, and more. Please join us on April 27-28!

[Register Now](#)



## J-WAFS/ILP Food & Water Conference

**When:** April 27th & 28th, 2016

**Where:** Tang Center, Building E51, MIT

Cosponsored by [MIT's Industry Liaison Program](#), this conference will highlight advances in technologies at the nexus of food, water, energy, and the environment, including sensor technologies for water and food safety, innovative water treatment and purification technologies, and bioengineering and other advanced technologies for agriculture and food processing.

Panelists and keynote speakers will address the impacts of climate change and globalization on water and food systems, the role of collaboration and innovation in addressing risk and resilience issues for companies affected by food and water issues, and the role of multi-sector partnerships in providing opportunities for the development of new technologies and markets. The conference will also feature local and MIT-connected startups in the water and food sectors, along with research currently funded by J-WAFS, including J-WAFS Solutions projects.

For more information on the conference, including the speakers and agenda, [click here](#).

### Keynote Speakers

**Ralph Jerome**, the Vice President of Corporate Innovation at Mars, Incorporated, has worked in an executive function for the company for over a decade. A specialist in driving corporate innovation, Mr. Jerome has consistently advocated the need for agility in process and product innovation in order to respond to the increasing demands of our changing climate. Mars is committed to driving transformational innovation that helps solve long-term challenges—from securing a safe and sustainable supply of raw materials to boosting agricultural productivity. Jerome will deliver a keynote on "Global Water/Food Connection in a World Pushing its Limits: Grand Challenges for Industry and the Role of Innovation."



**Kavita Prakash-Mani** is on secondment from Syngenta to the World Economic Forum to help design and deliver Grow Asia, a new public-private partnership in South-East Asia focused on sustainable agriculture development. As executive director of Grow Asia, she works with governments, companies, farmers, NGOs and other stakeholders to co-create initiatives on the ground focused on smallholder farmers and environmental sustainability. While at Syngenta, she was the head of food security agenda, primarily responsible for developing the company's food security agenda and new innovative business models focused on smallholder farmers and environmental sustainability. Prakash-Mani's keynote address will be on "The Role of Multisector Partnerships in Providing Opportunities for the Development of New Technologies and Markets."



**Tim Prewitt** is the CEO of International Development Enterprises (IDE), a nonprofit organization selling affordable, technically relevant products and services to the very poor since 1983. Most recently, Mr. Prewitt acted as managing director for Chemonics International in Nigeria. Prior to that he was Chemonics' director for Asia and Europe/Eurasia Divisions and head of the Private Sector Practice stationed in Washington, D.C. Mr. Prewitt has worked in more than 15 countries in Asia, Africa, and the Middle East, for the Soros Foundation, UNESCO European Center for Higher Education, the New American School Development Corporation, as well as for private equity investors in China. Prewitt will deliver a keynote on "Closing the Yield Gap: Technology Adoption Where There Is No Home Depot."



To see the full list of speakers for the conference, [click here](#).

### The Conference Sponsors



J-WAFS works towards innovative, environmentally benign, and scalable solutions for water and food systems across a range of global and business contexts by incubating technologies and fostering regional collaborations.



ILP conferences are designed to keep companies in touch with research developments and issues affecting their industries. They provide research findings and presentations by leading experts, as well as choice opportunities to connect with MIT faculty, students and industry executives.



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