Collaboration Runs Through J-WAFS-Funded Research Projects

Across a two-day workshop this September, 31 researchers representing all five schools at MIT presented the latest results of J-WAFS-funded research projects tackling critical water and food systems challenges. J-WAFS is particularly welcoming of cross-disciplinary project proposals, and collaboration—also a hallmark of MIT’s research culture—was a theme across many of the presentations.

This article highlights specific instances where collaboration is resulting in exciting research successes. Read on to learn more about how an international collaboration between MIT and institutions in Germany and Spain is engineering cereal grains to self-produce fertilizer. And, find out how an alliance between chemists and materials scientists has been key to the commercialization of a new handheld food safety sensor and the recent launch of a new spinout company devoted to manufacturing and distributing this technology.
The Water-Energy-Food Nexus in India (J-WAFS co-sponsorship)
Oct. 22, 2:30 PM / Nye Conference Center, Harvard Kennedy School
Dr. Aditi Mukerji will discuss the unsustainable relationship between agriculture, groundwater, and electricity in India, including intervention strategies. MORE INFO

Toward Sustainable Seafood (J-WAFS seminar)
Oct. 31, 2:30 - 3:30 PM / 66-360, MIT
Join J-WAFS visiting scholar Md. Saidul Islam to explore the limits and possibilities of aquaculture as a sustainable strategy for seafood production. MORE INFO

Extracting Energy from Water (MIT Dept. of Chemical Engineering)
Nov. 9, 3 PM / E66-110, MIT
Prof. Bruce Logan of Penn State University will discuss possibilities for energy generation from wastewater using microbial fuel cells. MORE INFO

Urban Food Securities and Vulnerabilities (J-WAFS seminar)
Nov. 14, 2:30 - 3:30 PM / 66-360, MIT
Using Singapore as a case study, MIT visiting scholar Md. Saidul Islam will discuss how urbanization affects food security, as well as emergent solutions. MORE INFO

MIT Water Summit: Thirsty Cities (J-WAFS co-sponsorship)
Nov. 15-16 (See program for schedule) / Wong Auditorium, MIT
Explore challenges of and solutions that could ensure sufficient water supplies for the world’s growing cities at the MIT Water Club's annual summit. MORE INFO

MIT Water Innovation Prize Kick-off (J-WAFS co-sponsorship)
Nov. 15, 6 PM / MIT Media Lab, 6th Floor
At the MIT Water Club’s Water Innovation Prize launch dinner, hear student pitches on cross-sector solutions to global water challenges. MORE INFO

Food & Ag Innovation Prize Kick-off (J-WAFS co-sponsorship)
Nov. 15, 6 PM / E62-233, MIT
Join the MIT Food and Agriculture Club for the Rabobank-MIT Food and Agribusiness Innovation Prize launch dinner. MORE INFO

The Asia Pacific, Climate, & Food Security (J-WAFS seminar)
Dec. 4, 2:30 - 3:30 PM / 66-360, MIT
J-WAFS’ Md. Saidul Islam explores impacts of climate change on food supply in the Asia Pacific and regional initiatives to ensure resilience. MORE INFO

Other Water and Food Events...
Eager for more opportunities to explore water and food research? Attend these events hosted by other institutions in academia and industry.
Submit Innovations to IDEAS Global Challenge

**Deadline: Oct. 25**
Submit your ideas to this national student innovation competition supporting initiatives in the food and water sectors, among others.

Funded Summer Water Internships in Israel

**Deadline: Nov. 30**
MIT grad and undergrads: Apply for an internship in the water sector in Israel, including at Mekorot, Israel's national water company, through MISTI MIT-Israel.

When you make a gift, you are making an investment in both the future of J-WAFS and our institute-wide work to improve the productivity, accessibility, and sustainability of the world’s water and food systems.

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RENEE J. ROBINS
Executive Director, J-WAFS
rrobins@mit.edu or (617) 324-6726

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 impact, to meet the local and global needs of a rapidly expanding and evolving population on a changing planet.