
Abdul Latif Jameel Water and Food Systems Lab 2020 Call for Proposals: Water and Food Projects in India

J-WAFS is offering a total of \$30,000 in grants to current members of the MIT community interested in addressing a water or food challenge in India. The grants are intended to further work being pursued by individuals as part of their MIT research, innovation & entrepreneurship, coursework, or related activities. Support for teams will also be considered, though at least 50% of the team must be from MIT. Applicants may request up to \$15,000 in funding. J-WAFS will award one to three grants based on the winning proposal(s).

Proposals should be for development projects or projects benefiting low-income populations. Examples of relevant challenges could include but are not limited to the following:

- Economically appropriate water purification technologies, esp. for rural areas
- Water distribution and management strategies, esp. for rural areas
- Other water quality issues, e.g. sanitation, monitoring, etc.
- Food safety issues
- Food preservation and waste reduction
- Water for agriculture, especially smallholder farms
- Agricultural innovations and improvements

Eligibility

Faculty members, full-time research staff, currently matriculated MIT graduate and undergraduate students, or small teams with at least 50% MIT participation and an eligible individual in the leadership role will be considered for funding. Grants can be used over the course of one year to support travel, technology pilots, scale-up studies, community outreach and education, etc. Funds may not be used for MIT equipment purchases. Awards will be announced in the spring of 2020, and the work supported by the grant should commence during the summer of 2020 or the 2020-2021 academic year.

Application Process

Eligible applicants should submit a proposal, following the attached guidelines, by email to jwafsapply@mit.edu.

Deadline

Proposals and any accompanying materials are due by 5 pm on **Monday, March 30th, 2020**.

Selection Criteria

Grants will be awarded based on: (1) importance of problem and appropriateness of proposed activity to address problem; (2) evidence of the applicants' commitment to the chosen problem/activity; (3) likelihood of successful outcomes; and (4) necessity of receiving this funding in order to achieve these outcomes.

Additional related resources

While this grant will only fund MIT personnel and their related travel and activities, proposers are encouraged to include local collaborators in their proposals. Proposers for this funding for Water and Food Projects in India can build on local connections, resources for fieldwork, etc. J-WAFS has various colleagues and contacts in India, including a partnership with the [Indian Institute for Technology Ropar \(IIT-Ropar\)](#) that separately provides grants through the MISTI Global Seed Funds program. (The next funding round will be announced in 2021). If you would like to learn more about resources that may be available through IIT-Ropar or other J-WAFS contacts in India, please contact J-WAFS executive director Renee Robins (rrobins@mit.edu) early in your proposal development process.

For more information contact Andi Sutton, communications and program manager, at arsutton@mit.edu and (617) 715-4222.

Abdul Latif Jameel Water and Food Systems Lab

Water Sector Projects in India: Proposal Guidelines

Complete grant application packets should be submitted as a single attachment following the guidelines below, via email by no later than **5:00 pm EST on Monday, March 30th, 2020**, to jwafsapply@mit.edu.

Part 1: Grant proposal cover page

Use form on next page

Part 2: Proposal

Section 1: Description of problem being addressed (*1/2 page*)

Section 2: Proposed solution (*max 1 page*)

Describe what is being done to address the problem and how the solution is expected to work, anticipated outcomes, prior research or evidence that it will work, etc.

Section 3: Outline of work plan and timeline (*max 2 pages*)

Describe the proposed activities to be funded by this grant and how they relate to the problem being addressed as well as the solution.

Include a detailed description, the timeline for these activities, any relationship to other ongoing efforts, and the role of any local partners, including IIT-Ropar.

If the proposal is being submitted by a team, include a description of individual team member's roles/responsibilities.

Section 4: Funding (*max 1 page*)

a. Requested funding, budget, and justification. Include a breakdown of specific costs and sufficient detail to explain what the funding will cover and why it is needed. The budget should include overhead based on [MIT fund account overhead rates](#).

b. Other resources. Describe other financial or in-kind resources that have been secured or are being applied for to support this activity. If applicable, include a column in your budget showing line items covered by other funding sources.

Section 5: About the applicant(s)

a. Resume(s) or CV(s) of each participant (*two pages maximum per person*)

b. Brief (*1-2 paragraph*) personal statement describing the history of your commitment to the problem/activity and any plans for future work in this area beyond the requested funding.

Section 6: Additional information

Use this section to provide any additional relevant information for the review committee.



Water Sector Projects in India: Proposal Cover Page

APPLICANT INFORMATION			
Project Title:			
First name:		Last name:	
Preferred first name:			
Preferred salutation/pronoun:	[Ms.], [Mr.], [she], [he], [they], etc.		
MIT Affiliation	<input type="checkbox"/> Faculty <input type="checkbox"/> Staff <input type="checkbox"/> Graduate student <input type="checkbox"/> Undergraduate student		
MIT Department/Program:			
Position Title <i>(if applicable)</i> :			
Degree and anticipated date of graduation <i>(if applicable)</i> :			
Email address:			
Cell phone number:			
Campus office address:			
Postal mailing address:			
Submitting as a team?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		
Role on team <i>(if applicable)</i> :			
Attach additional form for each additional team member <i>(if applicable)</i> .			

Questions? Contact Andi Sutton at arsutton@mit.edu or 617- 716-4222.

Please include this completed cover sheet as the first page of your grant application. Thank you!