

The Role of Water

in Transforming our Agrifood Systems Prize

(co-hosted with EIT Food)

Being evolved in every aspect of agriculture, water plays a critical role in reshaping our agrifood systems toward a better future. To ensure the resilience and sustainability of our agrifood system, we need innovative solutions to tackle today's immense water challenges.

This prize, co-hosted by **EIT Food**, aims to address water scarcity, enhance water safety, and develop innovative water-efficient irrigation technologies focusing on the water-food nexus. Winners will gain financial support, visibility at the global WFF flagship event in October 2024, access to extensive networks within EIT Food, WFF and FAO, and the opportunity to disseminate their research through FAO channels.

Topics of interest for this year's prize are:

- Innovative water-efficient irrigation technologies for reducing water consumption while maintaining and increasing crop yields.
- Interconnections and trade-offs within the water-food nexus
- Policy mechanisms to optimize resource use, enhance resilience, and address sustainability challenges across the water-food nexus.
- Research on innovation, water management strategies, and policy interventions for sustainable and resilient agricultural water systems to mitigate the impacts of climate change on agricultural productivity and food security.
- Integrating traditional knowledge and indigenous practices into climate change adaptation planning for water resources management.
- Rapid and cost-effective methods for monitoring water quality in agricultural settings.
- Integrating local knowledge and community-based approaches into water policy development and implementation.
- Implications of water policy decisions for marginalized and vulnerable communities, and how can policy interventions promote more equitable access to water for agricultural livelihoods?
- Integrated water management strategies for urban food production systems, including rainwater harvesting, greywater reuse, and aquaponics.
- Research suggesting solutions for integrating water-efficient food processing practices into existing food supply chains and manufacturing systems.

The researchers may send their applications until the **30th of April** to be eligible for this prize.

Finalists and winners can receive:

- \$10,000 research grant for 3 teams to move from idea to action
- Travel and accommodation to attend the World Food Forum in Rome from 14 – 18 October 2023
- Publication of your research findings through the WFF webpage.
- Personalized mentorship from globally recognized experts in their field to move from concept notes to concrete research output
- Each team will be coached in pitch preparation for the final presentations at the WFF
- Access to a global audience of young leaders and organizations from the public and private sectors, including the United Nations
- Entry to a platform for global youth to showcase their innovative research ideas and the chance to pitch their research project to a global audience and an international expert panel at the WFF
- Ongoing promotion through the WFF platforms