Dalal Najib, Ph.D.

Senior Director, Capacity Development, International Networks, Cooperation, and Security
The National Academies of Sciences, Engineering and Medicine (NASEM)

(a) PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

International science leader with over 15 years of experience advancing scientific collaboration, research capacity, and science diplomacy across Africa, the Arab world, Latin America, and the United States. Combining a foundation in Earth and space sciences with expertise in public policy and international development, I have secured and managed multimillion-dollar research initiatives, built global scientific networks, and created programs that empower emerging scientific leaders. My work focuses on translating scientific excellence into international partnerships, evidence-informed policy, and sustainable societal impact.

(b) EDUCATION

Institution	Major	Degree	Year
University of Michigan, Ann Arbor	*Climate and Space Sciences and Engineering*	Postdoctoral Associate	2011
University of Michigan, Ann Arbor	*Climate and Space Sciences and Engineering*	PhD	2011
University of Michigan, Ann Arbor	*Climate and Space Sciences and Engineering*	M.P.P.	2011
University of Michigan, Ann Arbor	*Climate and Space Sciences and Engineering*	M.S.	2006
ISAE-Supaero (Toulouse, France)	*Aeronautics and Space Engineering*	B.S.	2005

(c) PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

2025 - Present	**Senior Director,** Capacity Development, International Networks, Cooperation, and Security (INCS), National Academies of Sciences, Engineering and Medicine (NASEM)
2022 - 2025	**Senior Director**, Science and Engineering Capacity Development, NASEM
2019 - 2022	**Director**, Science and Engineering Capacity Development, NASEM
2014 - 2018	**Senior Program Officer**, Development, Security and Cooperation Unit, NASEM
2011 - 2014	**Program Officer**, Development, Security and Cooperation Unit, NASEM
2011 - 2012	**Visiting Scholar**, Climate and Space Sciences and Engineering Department, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor (Part-Time)
Jan - Apr 2011	**Christine Mirzayan Science & Technology Policy Graduate Fellow**, Aeronautics and Space Engineering Board, NASEM

(d) SELECTED RESEARCH AWARDS

- Gates Foundation (2026), *US-Africa Frontiers of Science, Engineering, and Medicine Program***, $1,200,000.**
- Kuwait Foundation for the Advancement of Sciences (2026), US-Arab Frontiers Program, **$418,716.**
- Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation (2025): *New Voices in Science, Engineering, and Medicine,* **$983,000.**
- The Rutter Foundation (2024- 2025), *US-Africa Frontiers Program,* **$1,000,000.**
- Chan Zuckerberg Initiative (2024), *Connections to Sustain Science in Latin America,* **$600,000.**
- Air Force Office of Scientific Research (2024), US-Africa Frontiers Program, **$100,000.**
- Kuwait Foundation for the Advancement of Sciences (2024): *Precision Medicine: Promoting Knowledge Exchange and Collaboration between Kuwait and the United States - Workshop Series,* **$446,863.**
- Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation (2023): *New Voices in Science, Engineering, and Medicine,* **$1,200,000.**
- USAID (2023), *Partnerships for Enhanced Engagement in Research (PEER)- Morocco Climate Action Consultative Workshop*, Bureau for the Middle-East, **$500,000.**
- NSF (2022): Award # 2221890- Workshop: A Transformational Africa-US STEM University Partnership: A Workshop**, $49,977.**

- NSF (2021): Award # 2114701- *AccelNet-Implementation: PEER2PEER International Convergence Research Networks in Transboundary Water Security*, Principal Investigator, **$2,000,000.**
- Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation (2020): *New Voices in Science, Engineering, and Medicine,* **$850,000.**
- The Richard Lounsbery Foundation (2020), *Connections to Sustain Science in Latin America*, **$940,000.**
- USAID (2015), *Partnerships for Enhanced Engagement in Research (PEER)- Water resources management in Central Asia*, Kabul Mission, Afghanistan, **$5,000,000.**

(e) AWARDS & HONORS

- Ambassador Award, American Geophysical Union (2025)
- Fellow of the American Geophysical Union (2025)
- American Geophysical Union Outstanding Student Paper Award (2009)
- NASA Earth and Space Science Fellowship (NESSF), Award # NNX07AT34H (2007 – 2009) The Interaction of Fast Flowing Plasmas with Non-Magnetic Solar System Bodies

(f) PROFESSIONAL SOCIETY MEMBERSHIPS

- Member (lifetime), American Geophysical Union
- Member, American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS)
- Elected Member of the Global Young Academy (2018 - 2022)

(g) SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

- AghaKouchak, A., Hjelmstad, A., Khodkar, K., de Oliveira, D., Aleisa, E., Alexander, A. C., Feldman, D. L., Khujanazarov, T., Madani, K., Mirchi, A., Placht, D., **Najib, D**. (2026) Transboundary water conflicts, cooperation, and pathways forward. ***Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences***. doi: 10.1073/pnas.2537439123.
- **Najib, D.,** Mahmoud, H., & Placht, D. (2024). A new Frontier for US-Africa partnerships*.* ***Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences,*** *121(41), e2415154121.* https://www.pnas.org/doi/10.1073/pnas.2415154121
- De Oliveira, D., Love, C., Hjelmstad, A., **Najib, D**., Feldman, D., Mirchi, A., Sobhani, N., & AghaKouchak, A. (2024). A Framework for Water Resource Vulnerability and Coping Capacity Assessment. In ***AGU Fall Meeting Abstracts*** (pp. H33O-1138).
- Diem, S., Bayon, B., Mahmoud, H.,[…], **Najib, D.,** & Wasson, F. (2024). New Voices for a Better Society*.* ***Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences****, 121(18), e2404579121.*
- Mirchi, A., Mansaray, A., **Najib, D.**, AghaKouchak, A., Feldman, D., Love, C., Sobhani, N., & Placht, D. (2023). PEER2PEER: Developing a global network to advance transboundary water management research. In ***AGU Fall Meeting Abstracts*** (pp. SY11A-03).
- **Najib, D.,** 2021, COVID-19 and the Arab World – Between a Rock and Hard Place , *AAAS* ***Science & Diplomacy Magazine*****,** Special Issue: https://www.sciencediplomacy.org/article/2021/covid-19-and-arab-world-between-rock-and-hard-place
- **Najib, D.,** Boright, J., & Hildebrand, J. (2021). United States has several programmes for early-career leaders*.* ***Nature****, 598(7881), 415-415.* https://www.nature.com/articles/d41586-021-02830-x
- Dong, C., Bougher, S., Ma, Y., Toth, G., Nagy, A., & **Najib, D.** (2014). Solar wind interaction with Mars upper atmosphere: Results from the one-way coupling between the multifluid MHD model and the MTGCM model*.* ***Geophysical Research Letters****, 41(8), 2708-2715.*
- **Najib, D.,** Nagy, A., Toth, G., & Ma, Y. (2011). Three-dimensional, multifluid, high spatial resolution MHD model studies of the solar wind interaction with Mars*.* ***Journal of Geophysical Research*** *(Space Physics), 116(A5), A05204. https://agupubs.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/full/10.1029/2010JA016272*