First Joint Implementation Photo Contest is now accepting entries

The UN Climate Change secretariat is pleased to announce the launch of the UNFCCC Joint Implementation Photo Contest. The competition is intended to help raise awareness of the benefits brought by the Kyoto Protocol's Joint Implementation (JI) mechanism.

Photographers are asked to send their best shots of a JI project on the theme “JI Spurring Investment Against Climate Change,” and help to spread the word about the value of JI.

We are looking for striking images that will tell the story of how JI projects are incentivizing investment in projects that reduce greenhouse gas emissions. Whether it is a photo highlighting the climate-friendly benefits of wind power, hydro power, biodiesel or any other project types eligible under JI, we want to see your vision of how this mechanism is combating climate change.

Photos will be judged on originality and creativity; composition (technical excellence and quality); artistic merit (“wow” factor); and content (illustrating action against climate change). The “wow” factor is very important. Judges will be looking for photos that grab their attention and hold it.

This is a great opportunity for photographers to gain global exposure and recognition. The winning works will be displayed at the UNFCCC Climate Change Conference in Qatar in December 2012. Plus, submitted works could feature prominently in important display, print and promotional materials and on the UNFCCC JI website.

So, if you think you have a winning photo, then send it in. Show off your work and help show off the benefits of JI.
Entry Criteria

- The contest is open to any photographer, professional or amateur.
- All entries must be original photographs.
- Each photographer may submit up to three photos.
- All submissions must be associated with a JI Project (either JI Track 1 or Track 2). To find a project near you, check the JI Projects List [http://ji.unfccc.int/JI_Projects/ProjectInfo.html].
- Each project can be the subject of photographs by up to five photographers (for a total maximum of 15 images).
- JI project participants will be notified when a photo of their project has been submitted, so photographers are advised to obtain permission from the project, to avoid disappointment. Contact details are contained in the project design document, accessed through the JI website’s project search facility [http://ji.unfccc.int/JI_Projects/ProjectInfo.html].
- By submitting the photograph for consideration, the photographer attests that he/she created the image and that the submitted image has not been previously published.
- Photographers must have obtained any necessary third-party releases.
- Photographers are responsible for ensuring that their submissions are in compliance with the copyright laws of their country.
- The UNFCCC/JI “Joint Implementation = Joint Impact” Photo Contest will close at 24:00 hr CST, 7 September 2012.

Judging Criteria
Selection and final judging will be based on the following criteria:

- Creativity and originality
- Composition (technical excellence and quality)
- Artistic merit (including the wow factor)
- Content and persuasiveness (illustrating action against climate change)

Submitted images will undergo an initial selection by the contest organizers. The top 20 images will be assessed by a panel of judges, and the judges’ scores will be averaged to produce a final score. In the event of a tie for highest score, the entry with the higher artistic merit (and wow factor) score will be deemed the winner. The judges will be drawn from the fields of industry, civil society and the arts. The names of the judges will be posted after the contest is closed. The panel's decisions will be final.

Winning photographers will be notified by email before 12 October 2012.

Technical Specifications
Submissions must be:

- In JPEG (.jpg or .jpeg) digital format
- At least 2,500 pixels wide (horizontal image) or at least 2,500 pixels high (vertical image)
- Saved at 300 pixels/inch resolution
- High-quality scans of non-digital photographs are acceptable
- Digital files can be saved as 8 bit RGB with the JPEG image compression option set at quality level 8 (80%) or higher
- Digital photographs should be shot at the highest resolution possible
- Each submitted image should not be more than 10 MBs in size

Note that the top 50 finalists may be asked to re-submit a higher resolution file or an 8x10 professional photographic print for further promotional purposes (the latter would be at the expense of the UNFCCC/JI).
Conditions and Rules of Contest
By submitting your photo(s) you assure UNFCCC/JI that you shot the photo, that you are the rightful owner of the photo, and that you have obtained any necessary third-party releases. The contest organizers reserve the right to request your copy of any personal release, location release or artist release.

By submitting your photo(s) you indicate that they have read the rules and conditions of the contest and accept the terms listed below:

- Photographers retain the rights to their images, but grant to the UNFCCC the right to use the submitted images.
- Photographers grant UNFCCC/JI a royalty-free, world-wide, perpetual, non-exclusive licence to display, distribute, reproduce, and create derivative works from their submitted images, in whole or in part, in any media now existing or subsequently developed, for UNFCCC/JI non-profit public information purposes. UNFCCC/JI will not be required to pay any additional consideration or seek any additional approval in connection with such use.
- UNFCCC/JI reserves the right to contact photographers to confirm information in the submission form or for any other purpose considered necessary.
- UNFCCC/JI reserves the right to disqualify photographers who are unable to validate the information submitted on the submission form.
- Winners are responsible for paying any applicable taxes on a prize.
- UNFCCC/JI reserves the right to cancel or modify the rules of the competition at its discretion. Decisions of UNFCCC/JI will be final.
- Winners are responsible for paying any applicable taxes on a prize.

Photographers whose contact information has changed during the course of the contest should notify the Contest Focal Point.

How to submit your photo
The secretariat will not accept photographs submitted through the postal service.

- Please send your photos to: \textit{JI.Multimediacontest@googlemail.com}
- Each photographer may submit up to three photos.
- Each project can be the subject of photographs by up to three (3) photographers (for a total maximum of nine (9) images).
- Photographers will be notified by e-mail that their submission has been received.
- Please note that the JI project participants will be notified when a picture of their project is submitted; participants in the competition are therefore advised to obtain permission from the subject project, to avoid disappointment.
- Winning photographers will be notified by e-mail before 12 October 2012. A list of winners will be published on the UNFCCC/JI Photo Contest web page.

Good luck and have fun!

Please address any queries to:
Ms. Kaylois Henry
Photo Contest Focal Point
Joint Implementation Mechanism
\textit{JI-multimedia@unfccc.int}