

# Consent Form for Participation in Research

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**Study Title:** TAIGA Usability Testing

**Contact Information:** [NASA GENAI VANGUARD GROUP, UCRE Team D1](#)

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## Purpose of this Study

This study aims to evaluate the usability and user experience of the TAIGA web platform, specifically focusing on how users interact with and perceive AI-generated images. This research seeks to gather insights to improve AI-generated content presentation and the overall user interface.

## Summary

Participants will be asked to navigate the TAIGA platform, engage with AI-generated images using the Think-Aloud technique, and provide feedback on their observations. This process will involve verbalizing thoughts, feelings, and actions while interacting with the platform.

## Procedures

- Orientation and Briefing:** Participants will receive an initial in-person briefing at the study's beginning. This briefing will cover the study's objectives, the Think-Aloud technique, and how to navigate the TAIGA platform.
- Interaction with the TAIGA Platform:** Participants will be asked to
  - Navigate to the TAIGA platform.
  - Use Think-Aloud to verbalize their thoughts as they interact with the platform, focusing on their perceptions of AI-generated images.
  - Identify and report any observed patterns or biases in the images.
  - Provide feedback on their user experience, including any difficulties encountered and suggestions for improvement.

3. **Feedback and Debriefing:** Participants will complete an optional survey form about their demographics and personal experiences after interacting with the platform.
4. **Video and/or Audio Recording:**
  - **Use of Recordings:** To capture participants' interactions and verbal feedback accurately, sessions may be audio and/or video recorded. These recordings will be used solely for research analysis, such as transcribing participants' comments and understanding their interaction patterns with the platform.
  - **Access to Recordings:** These recordings will be restricted to the research team involved in the study. All recordings will be stored securely, and personal identifiers will be removed to maintain participant confidentiality.
5. **Expected Duration of Participation:** The entire participation, including the briefing, interaction with the TAIGA platform, and debriefing session, is expected to last approximately 15 to 30 minutes.
6. **Location:** The study will be conducted remotely via a secure online platform or in person, according to the participants' preference.
  - **Remotely:** Via a secure online platform. Participants choosing this option will receive detailed instructions on accessing the study platform and any necessary login credentials.
  - **In-Person:** In-person sessions are available for those who prefer or are around campus.

## **Participant Requirements**

1. **Age Requirement:** Participants of all ages are welcome to participate in the study. However, participants under 18 must obtain consent from a parent or guardian to participate. A consent form will be provided for this purpose, which must be signed and returned before participation in the study can commence.
2. **Technology Proficiency:** Basic proficiency with web platforms and online navigation is required to ensure meaningful interaction with the TAIGA platform during the study.
3. **Internet Access:** Reliable internet access is necessary for participants who engage in the study remotely, enabling access to the secure online platform without interruption.
4. **No Prior Required Knowledge:** There is no requirement for prior experience with the TAIGA platform or familiarity with AI-generated content. Insights from a broad spectrum of users, from novices to those with more experience, are valued.

## **Risks**

There are minimal risks involved in participating in this study. Participants might experience discomfort or fatigue from discussing their thoughts aloud or interacting with digital content for a prolonged period. Participants can take breaks or withdraw from the study at any point.

## **Compensation & Costs**

**Compensations:** Participation in this study is voluntary, and there is no financial compensation for participating.

**Costs:** There are no costs associated with participating in this study. The research team will provide any required software or access to the online platform.

## **Future Use of Information**

Once we have removed all identifiable information from your data (information or bio-specimens), we may use it for future research studies or distribute it to other investigators for their research studies. We would do this without getting additional informed consent from you (or your legally authorized representative). Data sharing with other researchers will only be done in such a manner that you will not be identified.

## **Confidentiality**

By participating in the study, you understand and agree that [NASA GENAI VANGUARD GROUP, UCRE Team D1](#) may be required to disclose your consent form, data, and other personally identifiable information as required by law, regulation, subpoena, or court order. Otherwise, your confidentiality will be maintained in the following manner:

Your data and consent form will be kept separate. Your research data will be stored securely on [NASA GENAI VANGUARD GROUP, UCRE Team D1](#) property. By participating, you understand and agree that the data and information gathered during this study may be used by [NASA GENAI VANGUARD GROUP, UCRE Team D1](#), and published and/or disclosed by [NASA GENAI VANGUARD GROUP, UCRE Team D1](#) to others outside of [NASA GENAI VANGUARD GROUP, UCRE Team D1](#). However, your name, address, contact information, and other direct personal identifiers will not be mentioned in any such publication or dissemination of the research data and/or results by [NASA GENAI VANGUARD GROUP, UCRE Team D1](#).

All feedback and interaction data collected during the study will be analyzed internally by our dedicated research team. Our research team is committed to upholding the highest standards of data privacy. All participant information will be de-identified and stored securely, accessible only to authorized team members involved in the study. Personal identifiers will be removed from the dataset to prevent any possibility of participant identification from the data we collect and analyze.

The primary use of video and audio recordings will be for data analysis and interpretation related to the study objectives. Recordings will not be used outside this study's scope without the participants' explicit consent.

### **Optional Permission**

The researchers may want to use a short portion of any video or audio recording for illustrative reasons in presentations of this work for scientific or educational purposes. I permit to do so, provided my name will not appear.

Please initial here: AMV YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO

### **Rights**

Your participation is voluntary. You are free to stop your participation at any point. Refusal to participate or withdraw your consent or discontinued participation in the study will not result in any penalty or loss of benefits or rights to which you might otherwise be entitled. At his/her discretion, the researcher may remove you from the study for several reasons. In such an event, you will not suffer any penalty or loss of benefits or rights to which you might otherwise be entitled.

### **Right to Ask Questions & Contact Information**

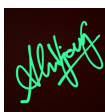
If you have any questions about this study, please ask them now. If you have questions later, desire additional information, or wish to withdraw your participation, please contact the researcher by mail, phone, or e-mail using the contact information listed on the first page of this consent.

**Voluntary Consent**

By signing below, you agree that the above information has been explained to you and all your current questions have been answered. You are encouraged to ask questions about any aspect of this research study during the study and in the future. By signing this form, you agree to participate in this research study. A copy of the consent form will be given to you.

PRINT PARTICIPANT'S NAME    **ABIRAMI MAHESH VIJAY**

PARTICIPANT SIGNATURE



DATE    **02/25/2024**

I certify that I have explained the nature and purpose of this research study to the above individual and discussed the potential benefits and possible risks of participation in the study. Any questions the individual has about this study have been answered, and any future questions will be answered as they arise.

SIGNATURE OF PERSON OBTAINING CONSENT



DATE    **02/25/2024**

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