



Highlights of Pacific Institute Work in 2009

- The United Nations has called on the Pacific Institute to be its partner in planning [World Water Day 2010](#), to research, raise awareness, and promote action on the world's urgent water-quality issues.
- Our work with the U.N.'s [CEO Water Mandate](#) led to agreements on transparency and public policy engagement in corporate water use and disclosure and finding ways to address the human right to water in practical terms.
- Governor Schwarzenegger called us to his office for a private meeting that led to a dramatic change in his position on key water issues, especially on groundwater monitoring and management.
- More than 1000 copies of our [Measuring What Matters](#) bilingual indicators report for West Contra Costa County, Calif., have been distributed and used to facilitate community actions, including campaigns to increase funding of city parks and to pass local policy to increase Chevron's contributions to Richmond's public revenue.
- The new California Water Bill, weak as it is, includes the [first real targets](#) for improving urban water use and the first real effort to monitor groundwater – both recommendations taken from Pacific Institute work.
- Within weeks of the release of the Institute's report [Impacts of Sea-level Rise on the California Coast](#), a series of cities announced intentions to consider our findings and recommendations for adapting to climate change in their General Plan revisions. The report has already been downloaded nearly 200,000 times.
- Our much anticipated sixth volume of [The World's Water](#) was published, with chapters and information that ramped up the conversation on "peak water," China's water crisis, our own water footprint, and more.
- The international [Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene community](#) is buzzing with our new online tool prototype to help individual communities with limited resources save lives by assessing the ways to provide clean water.
- This year we [testified](#) several times before the U.S. Congress and state legislatures, and met with 11 governors.
- We presented and collaborated at water meetings from Turkey to India to Stockton to Washington to Hong Kong, including extensive outreach on water conservation and efficiency, climate change, and energy.
- Our [analysis of new U.S. water-use figures](#) shows that despite continuing population and economic growth, total water use in the United States is lower than it was 30 years ago, and per-capita water use is a dramatic 30 percent lower than in 1975. The new numbers are the latest evidence for a remarkable change toward more efficient water use – a change the Pacific Institute has been calling for and working for since our founding 22 years ago.
- We released nine [new publications](#) on topics of [sea-level rise](#), [agricultural water conservation and efficiency](#), [water risks for businesses](#), [corporate water disclosure](#), [community indicators of environmental and economic health and equity](#), [climate change](#), and more.
- In 2009, the Pacific Institute websites received 15 million hits, with our reports downloaded close to a million times. This is research that is in use in the world! Diverse news media cited the Institute more than 900 times.