

Highlights of Pacific Institute Work in 2011

- The Pacific Institute **received the inaugural U.S. Water Prize** from the Clean Water America Alliance for our effectiveness in reforming local and national water policy.
- President Peter Gleick received the 2011 **Ven Te Chow Award**, the most prestigious award of the International Water Resources Association, at the XIVth World Water Congress in Brazil.
- *The New York Times* chose **“peak water”** as one of the 33 words to enter mainstream lexicon and linked to the Pacific Institute’s chapter “Peak Water” in *The World’s Water 2008-2009*.
- *The World’s Water, Vol. 7* was released, the much anticipated new edition of the highly regarded series, addressing issues from water and fossil fuels to water quality, water policy, and more – called “indispensable” by the *Financial Times Global Water Report*.
- We released **ten new publications**, on agricultural water efficiency, water for energy, drought impacts, urbanization and water, community sustainability, the human costs of nitrate-contaminated water, re-entry strategies for formerly incarcerated, Colorado River withdrawals, and more.
- In 2011, the Pacific Institute **websites received more than 15 million hits, with our reports downloaded more than 800,000 times** – an astounding measure of the importance of our work.
- **Media covered the Institute and cited our work more than 1400 times**, from *Forbes*, *The Wall Street Journal*, and *The New York Times* to *Mother Jones*, *NPR’s Science Friday*, *Fox Business News*, *Associated Press*, *Christian Science Monitor*, the *Sacramento Bee*, and the *UK Guardian*.
- Our **Community Strategies for Sustainability and Justice Program partnered in the Safe Return Project**, using participatory research to improve community reintegration after incarceration, and Safe Return community researchers participated in a national grassroots gathering to discuss and ratify a National Agenda to restore civil and human rights to formerly incarcerated people.
- Our **Community Mapping Initiative**, which uses mapping technologies to build community voice and power to create positive change in local environmental and health conditions, brought workshops to California’s Winnemem Wintu Tribe to protect sacred sites and trails, to Gulf Coast communities, to the Oakland Climate Action Coalition, and more.
- Pacific Institute researchers are working closely with community-based organizations and the City of Oakland to identify growing climate risks and to help develop the city’s **Energy and Climate Action Plan** so that it protects vulnerable communities.
- Our **International Water and Communities Initiative** and partners kicked off a three-year project to improve water services for the urban poor in Indonesia, and signed memoranda of understanding with water utility leaders in Makassar in Eastern Indonesia and Malang, on the island of Java, in ceremonies that were covered extensively by Indonesian media.
- We initiated a project to evaluate the potential of **Multiple Use Water Services (MUS)** to improve economic and health conditions among the poor and hosted a conference in Oakland, California with participants from 11 countries to identify sustainable MUS approaches.
- With the UN Environment Programme, the Pacific Institute Globalization Program organized **technical trainings in Vietnam and Cambodia** on sharing best water management practices among suppliers of UN CEO Water Mandate apparel companies.
- As the “operational arm” of the **U.N. Global Compact’s CEO Water Mandate**, our Globalization Program hosted the Mandate’s seventh and eighth multi-stakeholder working conferences in Copenhagen and Stockholm.

- The CEO Water Mandate launched a website to raise awareness and build capacity among companies on water issues, and also began work with Deloitte, the International Business Leaders Forum, and the German development agency GIZ on the [online Water Action Hub](#), which will help companies to engage with other business and stakeholders on water issues on a location-specific basis.
- We continue to have direct influence with policy makers. Peter Gleick [briefed congressional and government agency staff](#) on the vulnerability of U.S. water resources to climate change. Matthew Heberger [testified on climate change and sea-level rise](#) at a hearing of the California Senate Committee on Natural Resources and Water. Eli Moore briefed the National Drinking Water Council at the Environmental Protection Agency [on nitrate contamination of drinking water](#).
- Anne Castle, Assistant Secretary for Water and Science of the Department of the Interior, [brought up the findings of the Pacific Institute report *Municipal Deliveries of Colorado River Basin Water*](#) at the Department of the Interior Roundtable in Denver. Camille Calimlim Touton, staff of the U.S. House Subcommittee on Water and Power, wrote that our [research on the California drought impacts](#) “is very thorough and very helpful.”
- The [Alliance for Water Stewardship](#), of which the Pacific Institute is a founding member, formed the International Standard Development Committee, working with stakeholders from around the world to provide a platform for the development of a global water stewardship certification program.
- The Pacific Institute collaborated with Google to release the beta version of [WeTap, the free smartphone app](#) that uses “crowd-sourced” mapping to locate drinking water fountains and improve public drinking fountain infrastructure and use.
- Our [Globalization Program](#) held a three-day retreat in London, England, bringing together 25 leading thinkers, including standard setters and NGOs, to discuss issues facing standards systems today, the vision for standard systems in the future, and strategies and actions to meet that vision.
- Water Program Co-Director Heather Cooley joined the statewide [Task Force on Commercial, Industrial, and Institutional Water Use](#). The Pacific Institute is helping to determine how the Water Conservation Act of 2009 will be implemented and participates on both Agricultural and Urban Stakeholder Committees.
- The Pacific Institute launched our [Diversity for Sustainability Internship Program](#) and welcomed three interns as part of our commitment to further diverse perspectives both in our own work and in the critical fields of environmental sustainability and social justice.
- Both the Korean version and the paperback edition of Peter Gleick’s book, [Bottled and Sold: The Story Behind Our Obsession with Bottled Water](#), were released this year. Dr. Gleick also appeared on the syndicated show *The Doctors* to discuss how water went from being a free natural resource to one of the most successful commercial products of the last 100 years – and why we are poorer for it.
- [Peter Gleick’s blogs](#) at *Forbes*, *SF Gate*, and the *Huffington Post* (37 of them this year) engendered widespread pick-ups and conversation on topics from climate change and water policy to jobs and water and the integrity of science. Dr. Gleick’s blog on *SF Gate* was named one of the [“Top 25 Water Conservation Blogs”](#) by Seametrics.
- More than 2,000 people have liked and are following the Pacific Institute on [Facebook and Twitter](#), joining in on the conversation about our research and work around environmental sustainability and justice. Check us out at www.facebook.com/pacificinstitute and www.twitter.com/pacificinstitut. Follow Peter Gleick on Twitter (@petergleick).
- Peter Gleick is featured in the soon-to-be-released [documentary on the global water crisis *Last Call at the Oasis*](#) from Participant Media, producers of *An Inconvenient Truth* and *Food, Inc.*, and Academy Award-winning director Jessica Yu. The film recently premiered – with Oscar buzz! – at the Toronto Film Festival.