

The Pacific Institute is celebrating 25 years! A quarter century ago we released our first publication, “Climate Change and International Politics,” and since then we have helped change the national debate over issues as diverse as how to understand and respond to the threats from climate change, a new vision for 21st century water policy, and environmental justice. Today the Institute has more than 150 reports, books, and articles available for download free on our website, a dozen technical tools and resources, and 25 testimonies before state and national bodies. The challenges continue, and so does our work!

Here are some measures – truly, just the highlights! – of our successes in 2012:

- Our new book *A Twenty-First Century U.S. Water Policy* was released – called “a blueprint for reform” by William K. Reilly, former Administrator of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.
- We celebrated **an historic agreement to begin restoring water flows in the lower Colorado River** – a critical issue we have been working on since 1996, with major research reports, outreach, and action.
- The Institute’s Michael Cohen won a prestigious “**Partners in Conservation Award**” for his work on managing Colorado River supply and demand.
- The **California Water Commission approved new regulation** to improve agricultural water measurement and pricing – a regulation worked on by the Institute’s Dr. Juliet Christian-Smith.
- The Pacific Institute **brought together leading practitioners** from organizations across the nation to further connect disadvantaged communities with green jobs in the water sector.
- We released **16 new publications, four new online tools, and four websites** – on desalination, fracking, the human right to water, water-related collective action, social vulnerability to climate change, multiple use water services, sustainability standards, and more.
- This year our **websites received more than 18 million hits**, with our research downloaded more than 1.6 million times. Our work on desalination and sea-level rise have each been **downloaded more than 600,000 times** over recent years, followed closely by research on water risks for businesses and on water conservation and efficiency – *an astounding measure of the importance of our work!*
- Media from major newspapers, radio, television, and online covered the Institute and cited our work nearly 700 times, including *The New York Times*, *Wall Street Journal*, *NPR*, *Washington Post*, and more.
- The **UN CEO Water Mandate**, for which the Pacific Institute serves as Secretariat, moved responsible corporate water stewardship into the 21st century at the World Water Forum in Marseille, France; Rio+20 UN Summit in Brazil; and World Water Week in Stockholm.
- CEO Water Mandate endorsers rocked the **Rio+20 Corporate Sustainability Forum** – and the largest business delegation to ever attend a UN Summit – committing to advance corporate water management practices and calling on governments to make global water security a priority.
- The Pacific Institute **won best “Cities of the Future” presentation** at Singapore International Water Week for participatory development of the WASH SMS system – using mobile phone applications to improve water service for the poor.

- We successfully field-tested our **Community Choices for Water tool** with communities in Ghana and Burkina Faso, empowering households with knowledge of water treatment technologies to solve their acute water challenges.
- Contra Costa became **one of the first counties in California to say no to jail expansion** and put resources toward evidence-based strategies for reducing recidivism – following the groundbreaking participatory research of the Safe Return Project, supported by the Pacific Institute.
- With work led by the Pacific Institute, the UN CEO Water Mandate **launched the Water Action Hub** – the world’s first online platform to unite companies, governments, NGOs, and other stakeholders facing critical water challenges in specific river basins around the planet: www.wateractionhub.org.
- Dr. Peter Gleick presented on the panel at the United Nations Water and Security Meetings where the U.S. Secretary of State called for water to be **“a priority for this nation’s foreign policy and domestic agenda.”**
- We presented the **Inaugural Farm Water Steward Award** to California farmer John Stephens, promoting leaders and innovators in the agricultural community who do more, and better, with less water.
- The Institute debuted **our new interactive game of *Climate Change Survivor*** – about building resilience to climate change impacts – at WillowFest, a West Oakland neighborhood festival to raise awareness about preparing and protecting families and the community from local climate change impacts.
- Our report *Social Vulnerability to Climate Change in California* and case study of Oakland **set the pace for climate adaptation planning efforts around the country** – and demonstrates the importance of involving community voices.
- The Institute and our partners successfully field-tested the **Indonesia WATER SMS System**, using mobile-to-web-technology to improve water service to the poor.
- We mapped the **17 seawater desalination plants currently proposed** for development along the California coast and reported on the costs and financing, the first two in a series of research reports identifying key outstanding issues for crucial decisions on desalination.
- Our report on **the water risks of fracking** brought information from our interviews with state and federal agencies, industry, academia, and environmental and community-based organizations to the forefront of social, economic, and environmental concerns in California.
- We released **new online tools for 21st century water managers**: *The Urban Water Demand to 2100 Model*, analyzing effects of climate, prices, populations, and technology on urban water demand; *WeSim, the Water-Energy Simulator*, evaluating the energy and greenhouse gas implications of water management decisions; *WeTap*, the Android smartphone application for mapping public drinking water fountains; and the *Cost Effectiveness of Water Conservation and Efficiency (CE2) Model*, analyzing costs of water conservation programs and associated water, energy, and financial savings.
- Our **Community Mapping Initiative**, which uses mapping technologies to build community voice and power to create positive change in local environmental and health conditions, delivered workshops to members of the Winnemem Wintu tribe and communities from the Texas Gulf Coast to California.
- The Pacific Institute and partners launched two websites, ***Framing Sustainability Standards and Sustainability Standards 101***, providing a much needed narrative for sustainability standards and giving standards practitioners “framing tools” to communicate the value of standards for advancing sustainable development to policy makers, businesses, and communities.