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## World Water Day

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**MARCH 22, 2012**



International World Water Day is held annually on March 22 to recognize the importance of freshwater and advocating for the sustainable management of freshwater resources. An international day to celebrate freshwater was recommended at the 1992 United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED). The United Nations General Assembly responded by designating 22 March 1993 as the first World Water Day. The theme of World Water Day 2012 is "Water and Food

Security."

### **STATEMENTS FROM U.S. GOVERNMENT**

[Remarks by U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton in Honor of World Water Day](#) (March 22, 2012) - "Something as simple as better access to water and sanitation can improve the quality of life and reduce the disease burden for billions of people."

[Testimony by Dr. Aaron Salzberg, Special Coordinator for Water Resources, on "Water and Power Hearing on Domestic and Global Water Supply Issues"](#) (December 8, 2011) - "In addition to the health impacts, water will affect our ability to protect the environment, achieve food and energy security, and respond to climate change."

[Under Secretary for Democracy and Global Affairs Maria Otero on "Women in Water: Stewards & Agents of Change"](#) (June 13, 2011) - "Of course, one cannot address the many water challenges we face throughout the world without first understanding the impact of those challenges on women—and subsequently their role in solving them. This is why we have made women's issues a crucial part of every major initiative set forth in the Obama Administration, and it is particularly central to the big three: climate change, global health and food security."

## FACT SHEET



[U.S. Water Partnership](#) (March 21, 2012) - The US Water Partnership (USWP) is a U.S.-based public-private partnership (PPP) established to unite American expertise, knowledge, and resources, and mobilize those assets to address water challenges around the globe, especially in the developing world.

[U.S. Engagement on Water Issues](#) (March 18, 2011) - The U.S. Department of State, in coordination with partnering U.S. governmental agencies, is actively engaged and has made water a foreign policy priority. Our strategy is founded in the belief that U.S. investments in water and sanitation translate into investments in people, economic sustainability, as well as productive, safe living environments for everyone on the planet.

[U.S. Government Water Policy Brief](#) (March 4, 2011) - The U.S. government is working with donor countries and international organizations to raise international awareness to address critical needs, to encourage developing countries to prioritize water and sanitation in national plans and budgets, and to integrate water into global food security, health, and climate change initiatives.

[U.S. Government and World Bank Memorandum of Understanding on Water Cooperation](#) (March 22, 2011) - This agreement leverages the considerable expertise and assets of the two partners to help developing countries achieve water security and improve water quality. The partners will convene an annual high-level review of programs under the MOU to monitor and advance progress.



## REPORT

[Global Water Security](#) (February 2012; 30 pages) - This report is designed to answer the question: How will water problems (shortages, poor water quality, or floods) impact U.S. national security interests over the next 30 years?

## WEB RESOURCES

[U.S. Department of State: Water Issues](#)

[U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention: Global Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene](#)

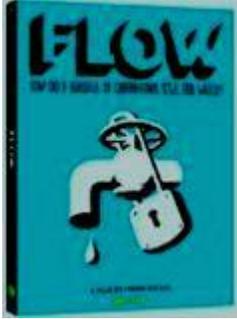
[United Nations: World Water Day](#)

[International Water Association](#)

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**Flow (DVD)**

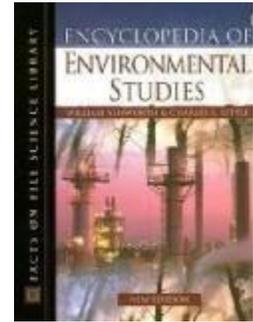
Features interviews with scientists and activists, who discuss the water crisis at both the global and human scale.

**Earth Rising: American Environmentalism in the 21st Century**

Shabecoff, Philip

**Encyclopedia of Environmental Studies**

Ashworth, William//Little, Charles E



**The Environment A to Z**

Hosansky, David

**Environmental Choices: Policy Responses to Green Demands**

Rothenberg, Lawrence S

**Environmental Policy: New Directions for the Twenty-First Century**

Vig, Norman J/Kraft, Michael E

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