



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – MARCH 19, 2018

**WORLD WATER DAY 2018 FORUM, WASHINGTON, D.C.
RAINWATER HARVESTING IS A SOLUTION**

The U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Oceans, International Environmental and Scientific Affairs in cooperation with the U.S. Water Partnership is holding this Forum on Increasing U.S. Private Sector Participation to achieve Global Water Security. The scale, urgency and complexity of global water challenges call for the better deployment of U.S. science and technology solutions.

By 2025, nearly two-thirds of the world's population will be living under water stressed conditions, including roughly a billion people who will face absolute water scarcity – meaning they will not have enough water to meet human, industrial, and ecosystem needs. Water scarcity and poor water quality are increasing disease, undermining economic growth, limiting food production, and could increase the threat to peace and security in many regions of the world where the United States has strong strategic interests.

In November 2017, the U.S. government released the first Global Water Strategy, a comprehensive roadmap involving 17 U.S. government agencies, and a result of a process led by the Secretary of State and the Administrator of USAID, on behalf of the President. The goal of the Strategy is to create a more water-secure world by mobilizing resources from all sectors – governments, finance partners, NGOs, consumers, research institutions, and especially U.S. private sector technology and service firms. The Global Water Strategy identifies target countries for U.S. government development assistance and also aims to promote increased U.S. private sector engagement in key markets as part of a broader effort to build global water security. Top market countries include Brazil, Chile, China, Ghana, India, Indonesia, Morocco Peru, Poland, Singapore, South Africa, and Vietnam.

The global water/waste water market stands at \$700 billion dollars a year and is growing. The U.S. private sector share of this market is less than it could be despite offering some of the best technologies in the world. What are the factors that have limited the overseas engagement of the U.S. private sector in providing more sustainable solutions to the world's most pressing problem?

This discussion forum will explore how the U.S. government can support increased participation of the American private sector in deploying solutions abroad. Co-hosted by the [U.S. Water Partnership](#), the forum will feature speakers from many of the federal agencies that contributed to the President's [2017 Global Water Strategy](#) and will include participants from water-related businesses interested in exploring the challenges and opportunities in building a water-secure world.

ARCSEA is the premier national educational and technical rainwater harvesting organization and information-warehouse ready to assist the Federal government in this global water initiative. And ready to participate in this global economic engine to bring more and higher quality water to people world-wide.

ARCSEA (c6) and its Foundation (c3) were founded to promote rainwater catchment systems throughout the world. Its membership, found throughout the world, is a diverse group of water enthusiasts including city, state, federal and international government officials, academics, homeowners, gardeners, manufacturers, suppliers, architects, landscape architects and consultants. ARCSEA's **mission is** to provide resources and information on rainwater and stormwater collection, to promote the advancement of rainwater conservation and to work with government at all levels in promoting rainwater and stormwater management. **The Foundation's mission is to** serve as the global resource for rainwater and stormwater harvesting by promoting research, education and thought leadership.

Consult ARCSEA's website for rainwater harvesting systems, suppliers, trainings, and research information. For more information, contact Heather Kinkade, Executive Director, at 512-617-6528 or info@arcsea.org.

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