

JOINT RAINWATER STATEMENT

World Water Day
March 22, 2011

The UN Human Rights Council affirms the human right to safe drinking water.¹ Now is the time for the world's governments to contribute to the provision of a regular supply of safe, accessible and affordable drinking water in sufficient quantity for 884 million more people.

On World Water Day 2011, the undersigned organizations wish to strongly advocate for the use of rainwater: it must be considered as an important tool in efforts to minimize the water related problems that already exist.

- Rainwater is a valuable resource that is underutilized. Its capture and use can alleviate challenges related to potable, non-potable, storm water and energy.
- Local rainwater harvesting solutions enhance water security and provide important relief to households and communities. All around the world, rainwater infiltration, collection and storage offers benefits for the environment, wildlife and humans, and improves water availability for industry and agriculture.
- It is time for rainwater catchment to be included in the development plans of all governmental agencies as part of their integrated water resource management strategies.
- Introduction of the concept of rainwater management – maximizing rain's benefits as a vital resource while minimizing potential rain hazards – to curricula of technical schools and universities will bring future benefits to urban planning, architectural and agricultural projects.

1 UNHRC Resolution A/HRC/15/L.14, September 30, 2010

Signatories:

American Rainwater Catchment Systems Association (ARCSA) - www.arcса.org

International Rainwater Harvesting Alliance (IRHA) - www.irha-h2o.org

International Rainwater Catchment Systems Association (IRCSA) - www.ircsa.org

Association pour un environnement CONstruit VIVant et VERt - www.convive.org

Brazilian Rainwater Catchment and Management Association - www.abcmac.org.br

Cabell Brand Center - www.cabellbrandcenter.org

Combined Harvesters Ltd. - www.combinedharvesters.co.uk

Conseil de gouvernance de l'eau des bassins versants de la rivière Saint-François - www.cogesaf.qc.ca

Consortium Across the Community to Harvest Water

Demon of Ecology-AVGI - www.avgi.gr

Dundee UNESCO Centre, University of Dundee - www.dundee.ac.uk/water

European Rainwater Catchment Association - www.rainwaterconference.org

FAKT GmbH - www.fakt-consult.de

Green Cross International - www.gci.ch/

Groupements pour la Promotion et l'Exploitation des Ressources de l'Environnement (GROPERE)

iMAP Africa - <http://www.imapafrika.com>

Ingénieurs du Monde - www.ingenieursdumonde.org

Integrated Rainwater Management Systems Project for the Ethiopian Highlands

INTEWA GmbH: Regenwassernutzung, -versickerung und -rückhaltung - www.intewa.de

IWA Rainwater Harvesting and Management Specialist Group - www.iwahq.org

Kenya Rainwater Association - www.gharainwater.org/kra_about.html

Labarrone-CITAF - www.labaronne-citaf.fr
Landscape Ontario Horticultural Trades Association - <http://landscapeontario.com/Labarrone-CITAF>
LivingEducation - www.livingeducation.org
Minnesota Nursery & Landscape Association - www.GardenMinnesota.com; www.MNLA.biz
Network of Rural Women Producers Trinidad and Tobago - <http://ttnrwp.net/>
NGO Forum for Urban Water and Sanitation - www.ngoforum.net
Oasis Aquatic Gardens - www.oasisaquaticgardens-ky.net
Ontario Parks Association - www.ontarioparksassociation.memberlodge.com/
Rain for All - www.rainforall.org
Rain Harvesting Pty Ltd - www.rainharvesting.com
RainWater Cambodia
Rainwater Collection Solutions, Inc. - www.rainwaterpillow.com
Rainwater Club - www.rainwaterclub.org
RainWater Harvesting - www.rainwaterharvesting.co.uk
Rainwater Harvesting Implementation Network - www.rainfoundation.org
Rainwater Services - <http://rainwaterservices.com>
Safe Water International - www.safewaterintl.org
Save Our Life-Ghana Foundation
Southern and Eastern Africa Rainwater Network - <http://worldagroforestry.org/projects/searnet>
University of Arizona - www.arizona.edu
Watershed Management Group - www.watershedmg.org
Watershed Organization Trust - www.wotr.org

This Joint Statement was originally conceived by ARCSA and developed to its final wording through a collaboration with the International Rainwater Harvesting Alliance (IRHA) and the International Rainwater Catchment Systems Association (IRCSA). The IRHA was instrumental in this effort in helping craft the wording, gathering organizations and translating the World Water Day press release into many languages. Many thanks to IRHA, IRCSA and ARCSA and all of the subsequent signatories. At press time, 45 organizations from 19 nations endorsed this position in support of rainwater harvesting. We encourage more organizations, including businesses, to join the permanent list of supporters, and you may do so by [clicking here to send an email with your organization's name, website \(if available\) and name of authorizing individual](#).