



The Business Case for Water Innovation

Economic Development * Collaborative Research * Sound Public Policy * Education

- 36% of global population (2.5 billion people) already live in water-scarce regions
- Risks: 22% of worlds GDP (\$9.4 trillion at 2000 prices) is produced in waterscarce areas
- 39% of current global grain production is not sustainable in terms of water use
- By 2050 GDP impact moves from 22% to 45% unless more unless more sustainable water practices are adopted
- More than half of world's population will be exposed to severe water scarcity by 2050 (4.8 billion people)
- 49% of the world's grain production as at risk by 2050 unless more sustainable water practices are implemented
- If water innovation, sustainability and water efficiency is adopted \$17 trillion of GDP is de-risked and 1 billion people de-risked from water scarcity
- World economic forum, in 2013, lists water scarcity as the 2nd greatest risk to the world market,



Source: LA Times

CALIFORNIA





Source: Toledo Blade

LAKE ERIE

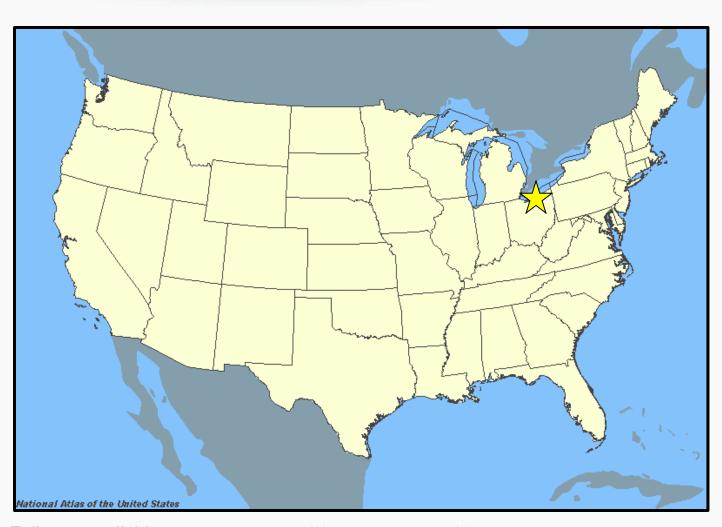


Defining a Water Cluster

- What is the cluster solving for
- Metrics and goals: Is success measurable/definable
 - Are the innovating
- Systems approach given uniqueness of water
 - Innovation around: Quality, quantity, transportation, public infrastructure, policy, industry engagement, watershed, history
- Organized vs. built
- Do they feed into regional economic competiveness
 - Job creation outside of their own organization, per capita income, gross regional product, labor force participation

Locations of U.S. Water Clusters and Technology Initiatives





Full map available at www2.epa.gov/clusters-program/clusters-map.

This map is not intended to be comprehensive, and may not include some emerging water clusters.

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- 1. Clean Urban Water Technology Zone (Tacoma, WA)
- 2. Oregon Water Cluster
- 3. The BlueTechValley (Central and San Joaquin Valleys, CA)
- 4. Nevada Center of Excellence
- 5. **H2OStream** (Tucson, Arizona)
- 6. Colorado Water Innovation Cluster (Fort Collins, CO)
- **7.** Surge Accelerator (Houston, TX)
- **8.** The Water Council (Milwaukee, MI)
- 9. Michigan Water Technology Initiative
- Confluence WTIC (SW Ohio/N Kentucky/SE Indiana)
 - 1. Cleveland Water Cluster (NE Ohio)
- 12. Akron Global Water Alliance (Akron, OH)
- **13.** Water Economy Network (Pittsburgh, PA)
 - 14. New England Water Innovation Network (Massachusetts)

Cleveland Water Alliance







Source: Plain Dealer Archives

CLEVELAND





Source: Plain Dealer Archives







The Making of a Water Cluster - Partners



































George Gund Foundation



































Northeast Ohio





GE Water & Process Technologies



Innovation in Action



Kurtz & Port: Bed load interceptors in Cuyahoga
 At the forefront of Stormwater BMP supply and implementation, Kurtz Bros.,
 Inc. provides Hydro Clear Bioretention Soil, rooftop growing media,
 permeable paving supplies and design guidance



ABS: Sorbent for Nutrient Loading

Ag/Stormwater: Organic Compounds, pesticides, herbicides, oils, greases, alcohols, and other organic contaminants.



MAR Systems: Sorbent for Industry

Media that is used to remove contaminants in wastewater from a wide variety of applications including temporary remediation and long-term treatment solutions including selenium



GLBio: Biomimicry water ph.d program with Avon Lake Regional Water, U. Akron, Lorain County Community College, NASA, and CWA



• Splashlink: Technology Solutions - Web based marketplace for water industry









Thank you!

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