



## Forum 2018: “Investing in Resiliency”

### *Recovery, Rebuild, Redesign for Communities, Industries and Families* **Background on Agenda and Sponsorship Opportunities**

#### **When & Where:**

New Date: September 26-27, 2018 | Houston Texas

#### **What & Why:**

*An invitation-only forum of global, national, and regional investment expertise to explore immediate and near-term opportunities in the \$9+ billion Texas and Southwest US water technology marketplace.*

InvestH2O 2018's topic was chosen in response to the ongoing threat of storms and floods in one part of the State, drought and depleting sources of water in other parts of Texas. Too much water one day, not enough the next. The challenges and pressures on communities, citizens, ratepayers, industries and facilities are persistent. Yet resilience has shown time and time again that - through an innovation perspective on best practices, tools, equipment, expertise, and investment - Texas, the Southwest US and our peer Gulf States can thrive. From Cape Town to Hurricane Harvey, resiliency investment is a critical component of being a competitive economy, innovative organization, and growing enterprise.

#### **Objectives**

To listen, learn, and exchange previous and current experiences, successes and failures, and next steps for investing in Texas' desalination, reuse, conservation, and 'smart water' technology opportunities, across several critical industries and sectors. To match vetted products and services with investor priorities, resources, and partnerships based on known market-drivers, public and private sector procurement, and response to regulatory so as to spark new technologies to solve old problems AND new opportunities.

Annual gathering of market intelligence, analysts, series investors, and market-makers with Texas representatives from among family offices, private equity, corporate venturing, venture capital, wealth management, public funds, and individual investment capacity.

To go beyond the issues of water ownership, rights, and traditional policy-debates by identifying and leveraging investment interests, criteria, and frankly successes as well as failures from a lessons-learned perspective – and therefore more proactively and professionally organize resources for “accelerated” impact and returns from a broad portfolio of opportunities.

#### **Whom:**

*InvestH2O has increased its participation among the level of speakers, panelists, attendees, investors, and tech firms – 125 (2015) and 250 (2016 and 2017). We have opened our invitation to over 350 state, regional, national, and global attendees. Interested sponsors may review prior year registrants.*

For more information on the agenda, speakers, panelists, and content for the Forum, please contact Richard Seline at 703-608-3000 or [rseline@accelerateH2O.org](mailto:rseline@accelerateH2O.org)

# Draft Agenda

## Pre-Workshop One: Branding, Marketing, Communications

*Resiliency Engagement Strategies with Public and Private Sector Interests - September 26<sup>th</sup> noon-3pm*

## Pre-Workshop Two: Houston Water Innovation Hub Tour and Resiliency Presentation

*On-site Tour by City of Houston Water Innovation Hub Leadership – September 26<sup>th</sup> noon-3pm*

## Presentation of Innovators of the Year Award (Resiliency Focus)

*Announcement of InvestH2O, AccelerateH2O Annual Recipients and Reception September 26<sup>th</sup> 6-8pm*

## Keynote Speakers:

*Forum Program September 26<sup>th</sup> (4-6pm) and September 27 (7:30am-5:30pm)*

- *Cape Town: Can It Happen Here?*
- *CyberH2O: Protecting Digital Platforms and the Internet of Things*
- *Texas Foundations: Driving Triple Bottom-line Investments in Resiliency*

## Keynote Panels:

*Interactive Panels of Global, National, and Regional Experts*

- *Where We've Been – Year in Review/ Where We're Headed – Projected 2018-2020*
- *Global Collaboratory: Texas and the World's Water Resiliency Leaders*
- *Resiliency Unplugged: Off the Grid, Out of the Box Innovations and Engagement*
- *Infrastructure, P3s and the Future of Alternative Financing*
- *Federal Investment in Water Innovation & Resiliency*
- *Reality Check: Reverse Pitch from Public and Private Sector Decision-Makers*
- *Resiliency: A Call to Action Prize Competition*

## Quick Pitch Sessions:

*Three-minute pitch introductions by breakthrough, growth, mature stage companies seeking investment, procurement, licensing, and/or strategic partnerships. Investor-Company one-on-one conversation areas will be available throughout the Forum venue*

- *Themed Quick- Pitch Sessions – Resiliency Focused*
  - *Data & Instrument Integration*
  - *Food-Beverage-Consumer Goods Advanced Manufacturing*
  - *Energy (Oil and Gas, Industrial Process) including Facilities, Operations*
  - *Residential-Commercial Real Estate, Building and Facilities Management*
  - *Agriculture, Food-Water Nexus*
  - *Utilities, Authorities, and Public Systems*



## Sponsor and Underwriter Opportunities:

- September 26<sup>th</sup> Pre-Workshop on Branding, Marketing, Communications: [\\$3,500](#)
- September 26<sup>th</sup> Innovator of the Year Awards and Reception: [\\$5,000](#)
- September 27<sup>th</sup> Breakfast Keynote and Kickoff Panel: [\\$3,500](#)
- September 27<sup>th</sup> Keynote Lunch: [\\$5,000](#)
- September 27<sup>th</sup> Coffee Break and Technology Pitch Meetups: [two \(2\) @ \\$1,750](#)
- Forum Materials and Overall Program Support: [customized](#)

Benefits to sponsors and underwriters, based on level of commitment, include:

- Reserved seating at Forum
- Introduction, Remarks and/or Keynote Panel during Forum Sessions
- One-on-One Meeting with Special Guests, Speakers, Panelists, and Tech Pitch Leads
- Logo on All Signage, Materials, Forum Website
- Annual Membership (balance of 2018 through 2019) in AccelerateH2O
- Complete List of Registrants
- Other customization per request of sponsor, underwriter interests

For more information on sponsors and underwriting options, please contact either Richard Seline or Russ Keene 512-694-2222 and [russ@russkeene.com](mailto:russ@russkeene.com)

Our 2017 InvestH2O Forum sponsors and media partners:



## **About AccelerateH2O:**

We are singularly focused on overcoming barriers and limitations to innovating water and the deployment of technology to address critical challenges for citizens, consumers, businesses, and communities.

AccelerateH2O was established as a 501c3 statewide initiative to organize the innovation capacity of academic, industry, entrepreneurial, public sector, and investment expertise to spark immediate solutions to the ongoing drought and growth prospects demanding additional sources of water, and to generate efficient and economic solutions in the \$9+ billion Texas and the Southwest US unique marketplace. More about AccelerateH2O can be found at [www.accelerateH2O.org](http://www.accelerateH2O.org) including additional information on our Roundtables, Demonstration Hubs and Technology Showcases, Reports, and Partnerships.

## **About InvestH2O:**

InvestH2O is our ongoing forum of connecting the best technologies, products, services, and integrated solutions with investors, procurement decision-makers, water managers, and collaborative partners in the private and public sectors. In 2015, 2016 and 2017, InvestH2O convened 125 and 250+ water and water technology attendees respectively, and attracted 20 and 45 emerging, growth technology firms to pitch their capabilities, applications, and investment needs. Through our ongoing platform, AccelerateH2O and InvestH2O connect interested parties, incubators/accelerators, and end-users with a broad spectrum of investment scenarios including pre-commercialization, equity, project, and infrastructure opportunities in Texas and increasingly the Southwest U.S. More information on InvestH2O can be found at [www.investH2O.com](http://www.investH2O.com)