



UNITED NATIONS  
UNIVERSITY

UNU-INWEH



# UNU-INWEH WATER HEALTH SEMINAR



AND

## SEMINAR SERIES OF THE SCHOOL OF GEOGRAPHY & EARTH SCIENCE

Present

**Dr. Isaac Luginaah**

**Date:** March 4, 2009 @ 3:30 P.M.

**Location:** MUMC 1A1; McMaster University  
Hamilton, ON

**Free and Open to Public**

### **“The Abandoning of the Farms in Search of Food: Environmental Distress Migration from the Northern Ghana”**

#### **Abstract:**

Ghana has achieved dramatic improvements in national food security in recent years, but concealed in this overall progress is a considerable measure of regional unevenness, with the population living in the dry savannah regions in the north faring the worst. The Upper West Region (UWR) located in the southern fringe of the Sahel in Northern Ghana, is the poorest region of Ghana and has long served as a reservoir of migratory labour for the southern parts of the country, but in recent years migration patterns have been both escalating and changing in response to changing climate variability. This talk will present linkages between environmental degradation which culminates in food and water shortages and distress migration in the UWR of Ghana and the findings from interviews that were conducted with families in both the UWR and Brong-Ahafo Region (BAR). The talk will also points towards both future research objectives in the UWR and the BAR, as well as to the implications such research could have for policy interventions as well as regional initiatives that may be used to address the emerging trends.

#### **About the Speaker:**

Dr. Isaac Luginaah, is an Associate Professor and Canada Research Chair at University of Western Ontario. His broad area of research interest includes environment and health, population health and GIS applications in health.

#### **Find out more at**

Website: [www.inweh.unu.edu](http://www.inweh.unu.edu) OR <http://www.science.mcmaster.ca/geo/seminars/index.html>

Email: [grovervi@inweh.unu.edu](mailto:grovervi@inweh.unu.edu) OR [awill@univmail.cis.mcmaster.ca](mailto:awill@univmail.cis.mcmaster.ca)