



Dofasco Center for Engineering and Public Policy

and

Engineers Without Borders

Present

World Water Day Seminar

Featuring



Providing Water to Fight Global Poverty
Potential roles for engineers in developing countries

Date: March 22, 2007

Time: 7:00 pm

Where: JHE 342

Dr. Zafar Adeel

Director, United Nations University,

International Network on Water, Environment and Health, Hamilton, ON

Abstract

The scope of the global water crisis is immense. Nearly 1.2 billion people in the world do not have access to safe drinking water and about 2.6 billion people are without access to adequate sanitation. Lack of these very basic human necessities directly impedes eradication of poverty. Creation of new water-related livelihood opportunities can, and in a few cases already have, lift a community out of poverty and afford them a better quality of life.

Engineers have a very important role to play in the provision of clean water and proper sanitation to the developing world, which in turn will aid in the process of poverty eradication.

Engineers have the necessary skills to:

- **Design and deploy sustainable water infrastructure**
- **Train communities to tackle their own water related problems**
- **Help to develop operation and maintenance regimes for water supply and sewerage systems**

Background and Expertise

Dr. Adeel is an expert on water quality and resource management, with a focus on pollution control and monitoring and water supply issues in arid climates. As the director of the UNU-INWEH in Hamilton he oversees and directs the organization, administration and programmes of the institute. Dr. Adeel has extensive experience in developing regional and international environmental policies and in advising on related governance issues. Dr. Adeel received his Ph.D in Civil and Environmental Engineering from Carnegie Mellon University in Pittsburgh.