

Ontario Premier Dalton McGuinty Visits UNU-INWEH



From L to R: Ms. Clarissa Brocklehurst (UNICEF), Mr. Zafar Adeel (UNU-INWEH), Premier Dalton McGuinty, Mr. Pasquale Steduto (FAO), Mr. Andrew Hudson (UNDP)

On occasion of UNU-INWEH hosting the UN-Water meeting at the McMaster Innovation Park in Hamilton, Premier McGuinty visited the UNU-INWEH offices and met with key UN officials. This meeting provided an opportunity to discuss matters of mutual interest. The role Ontario can play in addressing the linked issues of global climate change and water crisis was particularly highlighted.

The United Nations officials present highlighted the roles their respective organizations play in addressing the global water crisis. Dr. Adeel, Director of UNU-INWEH, pointed to the role UNU-INWEH was playing in addressing the policies related water and human health and wellbeing. Mr. Hudson highlighted the UNDP initiative 'Territorial Approach' which supports sub-national entities in developing countries in climate change mitigation and adaptation planning, and water governance reform. Ms. Brocklehurst presented the Sanitation and Water for All (SWA) framework that is being led by UNICEF; it will provide a global platform to bring political focus and accountability to the sanitation and water supply issues. Dr. Steduto spoke about the work of FAO in integrated management of land and water resources worldwide.

The Premier expressed his interest in the topics and invited the meeting participants to continue a dialogue with the provincial government of Ontario.

About UN-INWEH: It is the UN think-tank on water, and a part of the United Nations University family of centres of excellence. It has been hosted by the Government of Canada since 1996. www.inweh.unu.edu

About UN-Water: UN-Water is the inter-agency mechanism that promotes coherence in, and coordination of UN system actions on water. It has 27 United Nations organizations as its members. www.unwater.org