

GEM 'Critical Issues'

International Seminar Series

2007-08 Theme:

United Nations Millennium Development Goals: Update on Building a Sustainable Future

The Millennium Development Goals

Eradicate extreme poverty
and hunger

Achieve universal primary
education

Promote gender equality
and empower women

Reduce child mortality

Improve maternal health

Combat HIV/AIDS,
malaria and other diseases

Ensure environmental
sustainability

Develop a global
partnership for
development

Dr. Gonzalo Pizarro

United Nations Development Programme

The Millennium Development Goals at Halftime: Challenges and Opportunities

Nearly all of the world's nations committed to the Millennium Development Goals at the UN-sponsored Millennium Summit in 2000. They set priorities that would improve the lives of millions of people, such as reducing by half the proportion of people who suffer from hunger, reducing by half the proportion of people without sustainable access to safe drinking water, and eliminating gender disparity in primary and secondary education, all to be achieved by 2015.

We're now at the halfway point. How have countries and institutions fared in meeting Millennium Development Goals? What work remains if the Millennium Development Goals are to be reached? Pizarro will provide an overview of the project and the work being done to secure success.

Pizarro joined the UN in October 2005 as Policy Advisor for Water Resources of the UN Millennium Project. The Millennium Project was commissioned by the United Nations Secretary-General in 2002 to recommend a concrete action plan for the world to reverse the grinding poverty, hunger and disease affecting billions of people. As of Jan. 1, 2007, the advisory work formerly carried out by the Millennium Project secretariat team is being continued by an MDG support team integrated under the United Nations Development Programme.

Since joining the project, Pizarro has led the work in infrastructure, including water, energy, and transportation. He has also worked on issues of disaster mitigation and environmental sustainability. He has also been the focal person for several countries across continents, such as Malawi, Ghana, Tajikistan, Kyrgyzstan, Ecuador, El Salvador and Dominican Republic, helping the MDG-based National Development Strategy processes in them.

Before joining the UN Millennium Project team Gonzalo worked as an independent consultant on water resource management and environmental sustainability issues. He has worked in countries such as the Kyrgyz Republic, Chile, Argentina, Colombia and Uruguay.

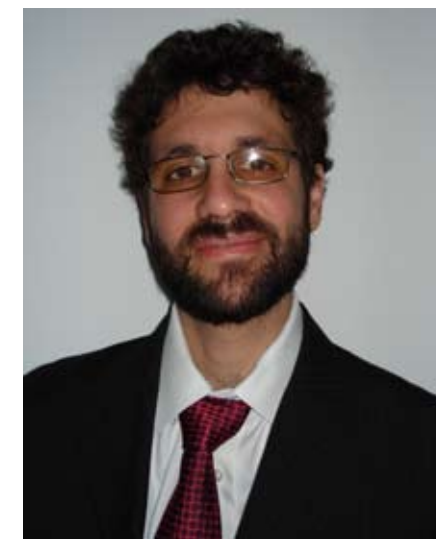
Tuesday, Oct. 9, 7 p.m.
Collins Classroom Center Room 101

Free & Open to the Public

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Sponsored by GEM through grants from:
USDA Cooperative State Research, Education and Extension Service
USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service



Gonzalo Pizarro



Gonzalo Pizarro, center, meets with the water and sanitation council of Sauri, Kenya.