
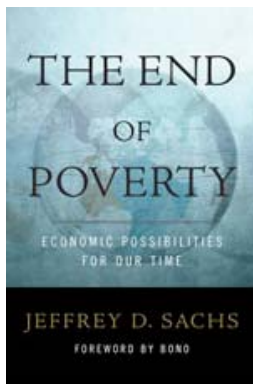


**Message from Jeff Sachs**

Real Video (10:09) 

Quicktime Video (10:09) 

2005 is a crucial year for implementing the U.N. Millennium Project recommendations, and in this video Jeffrey D. Sachs, who directed the project, outlines important goals: global consensus-building for action; implementing "quick wins," where targeted investment can improve poverty dramatically; and working with governments at the national level to put in place strategies based on the Millennium Development Goals. These implementation strategies use expertise from scientists at The Earth Institute to diagnose problems, prescribe possible solutions, and determine costs.



### **The End of Poverty: Economic Possibilities for Our Time**

*Jeffrey D. Sachs writes a realistic blueprint for worldwide economic success*

"Extreme poverty can be ended, not in the time of our grandchildren, but our time." Thus forecasts Jeffrey D.

**In the News**

#### **The New York Times -- February 25, 2005**

"Steel dust exposure in the New York City subway system has been of concern to subway workers and transit police for decades," said Steve Chillrud, a geochemist at the Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory, part of The Earth Institute at Columbia University.

#### **Time Magazine -- February 23, 2005**

Jeffrey D. Sachs, director of the Earth Institute, contributes to a panel discussion on the U.S. economy.

#### **The Week (India) -- February 25, 2005**

Nirupam Bajpai, director of South Asian Program at The Earth Institute, and Jeffrey D. Sachs, director of the Earth Institute, write that India can achieve the Millennium Development Goals by 2015 with planning.

#### **The San Francisco Chronicle -- February 17, 2005**

"If California succeeds in flattening its greenhouse gas emissions, then it is certainly possible for the United States as a whole," said James Hansen, director of NASA's Goddard Institute for Space Studies at Columbia University.

#### **The New York Times -- February 15, 2005**

A team led by Vijay Modi, the chairman of Columbia's mechanical engineering department and a scientist with The Earth Institute, has built a lunchbox-size battery pack and plug-in fluorescent fixture that serves as a practical alternative to billions of people in poor countries who live off the grid.

#### **The New York Times -- February 11, 2005**

#### **Reuters -- February 10, 2005**

2004 was the fourth warmest year ever recorded, and the global average continued a 30-year rise that is "due primarily to increasing greenhouse gases in the atmosphere," said James E. Hansen, director of NASA's Goddard Institute for Space Studies, part of The Earth Institute.

#### **NPR -- February 1, 2005**

Robin Bell, director of the ADVANCE Program at The Earth Institute, and Leonard Sax, author of *Why Gender Matters*, discuss real and perceived differences between the sexes.

[more recently in the media](#)



### **Researching Airborne Metals in Transit Workers' Bodies**

*A pilot study from Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory gathers baseline information on subway workers' exposure*

Working in the subway several hours each day, subway workers and transit police breathe more subway air than the typical commuter. Subway air has been shown to contain more steel dust than outdoor or other indoor air in New York City. But do transit workers' bodies harbor elevated levels of these metals? And does this translate into a health concern for the workers? [more](#)



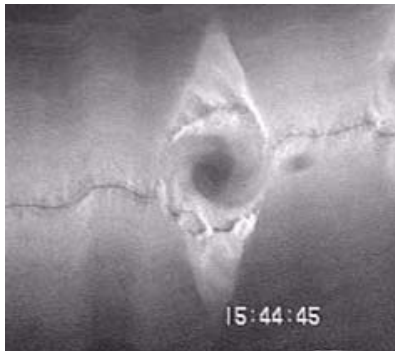
### **Drought to Persist in North America Due to La Niña**

*Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory experts form climate modeling group to track data*

Through observations and models, Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory scientists found that all the major dry and wet events in the American West in the last 150 years were a result of varying tropical Pacific sea surface temperatures. The change in these temperatures is now causing drought conditions. [more](#)

### **U.N. Millennium Project Task Force**

Sachs, director of The Earth Institute, whose twenty-five years of experience observing the world from many vantage points has helped him shed light on the most vital issues facing our planet: the causes of poverty, the role of rich-country policies, and the very real possibilities for a poverty-free future — a goal, he argues, we can reach in a mere 20 years. [more](#)



Researchers videotaped wax mimicking the formation of "tectonic microplates" — dynamic whirlpools of ocean floor found at mid-ocean ridges.

### Wax Works

*Wax proves an excellent model of the Earth's crust*

Using a tub of wax, physicists from Cornell and Columbia University have made a predictive model for one of the most important and poorly understood features of plate tectonics. This research links wax models with genuine patterns in the Earth's crust for the first time. [more](#)

### New Technology Serves Up New Web Content Even Faster

A new web technology saves web visitors from having to search websites repeatedly for new content. RSS, which is now offered on The Earth Institute website, allows visitors to find most recent news stories and events quickly, and is being employed on most large news websites like The New York Times, Yahoo! and Google. This technology will soon be integrated more seamlessly on mobile devices and in e-mail applications. [more](#)

### Collaborative Efforts: Promoting Interdisciplinary Scholars

by *Stephanie L. Pfirman, James P. Collins, Susan Lowes, and Anthony F. Michaels*

Creative research and teaching increasingly occur at the junction between traditional disciplines. As a result, many colleges and universities have committed themselves to fostering interdisciplinary scholarship. But the scholars who work at that junction are confronted with conventional departmental hiring, review and tenure procedures that are not suited to interdisciplinary work and that can slow or block the progress of their careers. [read Chronicle of Higher Education article](#)



### Researcher Wades In

*Collecting growth rate data can be damp business in the Amazon flood plain*

Most people hike through forests, but CERC post-doc Robin Sears likes to canoe through them. In South America, parts of the Amazon rainforest can be flooded seasonally with up to 40 feet of water. In her research, Sears stands waist-deep in flooded farm fields studying growth and survival rates of *Calycophyllum spruceanum*, a fast-growing tree used locally as fuel and building material. Her research on tree and seedling growth rates and survival helps farmers plan for future yields and contributes to the understanding of its natural history. [more](#)

### Special Events at the Earth Institute

Wednesday, March 2, 6-8pm, Faculty House, President's Room, 2nd Floor

[By the Rivers of Babylon — America, Israel, and the Occupation of Iraq](#)

Thursday, March 3, 4-6pm, Satow Room, Lerner Hall

[CCI Seminar: The Sahelian Drought: If We Knew Then What We Know Now, What Would We Have Done Differently?](#)

Thursday, March 10, 4-6pm, Satow Room, Lerner Hall

[CCI Seminar: Decade-to-Century Climate Change](#)

Thursday, March 24, 4-6pm, Casa Italiana, Teatro

["Changing the Demographics: Recruiting, Retaining and Advancing Women Scientists in Academia,"](#) hosted by CU President Lee Bollinger, and launching The Earth Institute's ADVANCE Program, with Shirley Tilghman, President of Princeton University and Robin Bell, director of ADVANCE and researcher at the Earth Institute.

Thursday, March 31, 5-7pm, Low Library Rotunda

[The End of Poverty: A Lecture and Book Signing with Jeffrey D. Sachs](#)

[more events](#)

### Co-Chairs Publish Articles on Recommendations in The Lancet

In January 2005, The Lancet, a noted medical journal, began to publish a 10-article series on the health aspects of the recommendations that came out of the U.N. Millennium Project. The authors, co-chairs and members of the U.N. Millennium Project's ten task forces, provide insightful views on recommendations from their respective task forces. In upcoming weeks, the Lancet will continue the series with articles on child and maternal health, water and sanitation, improving the lives of slum dwellers, open rule-based trading systems, and science and technology innovation. [more](#)



### The All-Ivy Environmental Career Fair

Due to the success of last year's Environmental Career Fair, eight Ivy League institutions have teamed up this year to provide representatives from public agencies, consulting firms, nonprofit organizations, and business and industry an opportunity to connect with top undergraduate and graduate students. This event, to be held in Low Library on April 8, 2005, will provide a forum for employers and students to discuss careers, internships, graduate and full-time opportunities in environmental sciences, policy and management. [more](#)

### Ethnobotanist Who Helped Define Field Receives International Award

Michael J. Balick, whose research helped to transform the field of ethnobotany into an internationally recognized academic discipline, has received the 2004 AAAS International Scientific Cooperation Award for his efforts to promote scientific collaboration within the field of ethnobotany. Balick is adjunct professor at Columbia's Department of Ecology, Evolution and Environmental Biology and Director and Philecology Curator of the Institute of Economic Botany at The New York Botanical Garden. [more](#)

### Comments and Suggestions

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