

Message from Jeff Sachs



Real Video (9:01)

Quicktime (9:01)

In this special video address, Jeffrey D. Sachs, director of The Earth Institute, delivers an update on The Millennium Villages Project, a research project involving Earth Institute experts who, in concert with local communities and governments, are applying a set of proven interventions to help villages get out of extreme poverty and on the path of self-sustaining economic growth.

"The results have been astounding," reports Sachs, who in January visited many of the Millennium Village communities in Africa along with other experts from the Earth Institute.

Sachs also invites colleagues and friends of the Earth Institute to attend The State of the Planet Conference, which takes place March 28 and 29 in Lerner Hall and is open to the public.



Save the Date: State of the Planet, March 28-29

The world's top scholars and opinion leaders gather to analyze global trends, assess risks, and identify new opportunities across the diverse fields of sustainable development during the Earth Institute's flagship

Earth Institute In the News

Health

Heavyweights Act to Tackle the 'Big Three' Diseases

Nature (subscription), January 31, 2005

Poverty

Promises Aplenty, World's Poor Need Action, Sachs Says

Reuters, January 24, 2006

Africa Needs Bed Nets, Not Advisers

Reuters, January 24, 2006

The Mire of Graft and Poverty

by Jeffrey D. Sachs

Taipei Times, December 28, 2005

Climate Change

No Gags on Science

The Boston Globe, January 31, 2006

Climate Expert Says NASA Tried to Silence Him

The New York Times, January 29, 2006

National Public Radio, January 29, 2006

2005 Temperatures High Even Without El Niño

MSNBC, January 24, 2006

Lake May Be Key to Climate Mysteries

Edmonton Journal, January 11, 2006 and New Scientist, January 10, 2006

Research

Report Presented at Davos Ranks US 28th in Environmental Performance

Seed Magazine, January 26, 2006

*Related EI event

Lenders Seek Ways to Save Southeast Asian Forests

International Herald Tribune, December 16, 2005

Countries Dependent on Natural-resource Exports Experience Lower Growth Rates

The New York Times, December 18, 2005

River Divides Two Species of Elephant

The Telegraph (Calcutta), January 16, 2006

Scientists in the News

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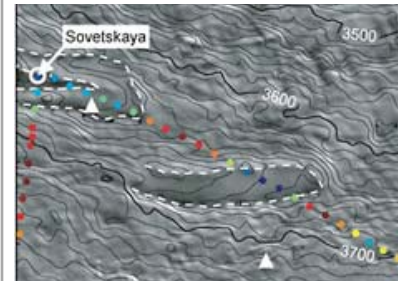
Earth Institute Events RSS

What is RSS?



Climate Forecasting Systems Help Predict Malaria Risk in Africa

A recent study published in Nature shows that climate forecasts can provide warnings of malaria epidemics many months in advance. Malaria is one of the world's biggest killers, taking the lives of more than one million people every year and infecting an estimated 500 million. [more](#)



Two New Lakes Found Beneath Antarctic Ice Sheet

Lying beneath more than two miles of Antarctic ice, Lake Vostok may be the best-known and largest subglacial lake in the world, but it is not alone down there.

conference. Open to the public. [more details](#)

February Special Events

EVENT Thursday, February 2, 4-6pm

[Experiments in Measuring Sustainability — The Environmental Sustainability Index and its Critics](#)

EVENT Friday, February 17, 10-3pm

[All Ivy Environmental Career Fair](#)

EVENT Thursday, February 23, 3-4:30pm

[The Future of Energy in America](#)

EVENT Thursday, February 23, 5-6:30pm

[The Natural History of the Bible — An Environmental Exploration of the Hebrew Scriptures](#)

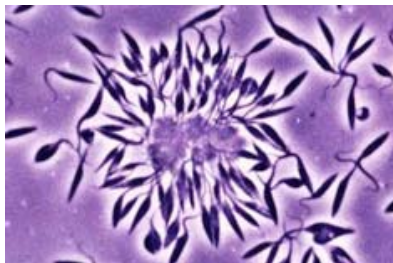
March 28-29, 2006, 9am-5pm, Lerner Hall

[State of the Planet 2006: Is Sustainable Development Feasible?](#)



Scaling Up Services in Rural India

Nirupam Bajpai, director of The Earth Institute's South Asia program, presented four reports to the Prime Minister of India, following a year of intensive assessment by Earth Institute experts on drinking water, electricity, primary health, and primary education. [more](#)



Infectious Diseases Thriving as Human Population Grows

"All of our infectious diseases are other species making a living off of us," says Joel Cohen, a populations expert at both Columbia and Rockefeller Universities. "Think of the thousands of bacteria in our gut, the fungi on our skin, the insects that suck our blood, and the diseases those insects inject." [more](#)

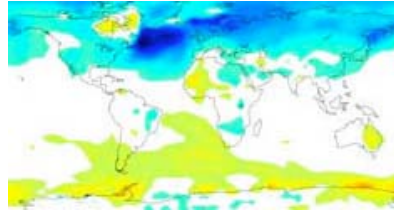
Squeezing the Last Drop of Oil

BusinessWeek, January 30, 2006

Reaching for a Legacy Seen as Aim Of Mayor's State of the City Speech

The New York Sun, January 26, 2006

[more recently in the media](#)



Researchers Confirm Role of Massive Flood in Climate Change

At the end of the last Ice Age and the beginning of the current warming period, two ancient lakes catastrophically emptied into the North Atlantic, causing parts of the world to cool. Now climate modelers have reproduced the climate changes caused by this massive freshwater pulse that happened 8,000 years ago. [more](#)



Renowned Hudson River Center Launches New Website

The Center for Rivers and Estuaries new website features a brand new look, better functionality, and up-to-minute research and programs information related to the Hudson River and other rivers and estuaries world wide. [visit website](#)



SIPA Students Take Trip to Bolivia to Study Coca Eradication Efforts

Four students from Columbia University's Master of International Affairs Program who traveled to Bolivia last summer found through their research that efforts to cut coca crop production in the Tropics of Cochabamba were not working for a variety of reasons. [more](#)

Comments and Suggestions

Contact our editor at ieditor@ldeo.columbia.edu

Past issues

Scientists have identified more than 145 other lakes trapped under the ice. Until now, however, none have approached Vostok's size or depth. [more](#)



[Arnold L. Gordon](#) (above, center) was awarded a Doctor of Science, honoris causa, by the University of Cape Town, Cape Town, South Africa.

Awards and New Books

[Jeffrey D. Sachs](#) Honored by the Shriver National Center on Poverty Law

[Paul Richards](#) Awarded the 2006 Leo Szilard Lectureship Award

[Earth Institute Researcher Glenn-Marie Lange](#) Wins Prestigious Pew Fellowship

[Strategic Planning in Environmental Regulation](#)

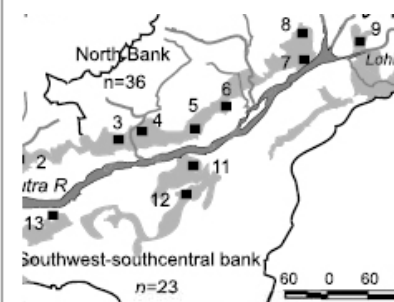
A new book from Steven Cohen, Director of the Masters in Public Administration program in Environmental Science and Policy

[Global Environmental Politics](#)

A new book from David Downie, Associate Director of the Program in Climate and Society and Director of the Global Roundtable on Climate Change at Columbia University

[William F. Haxby, World-renowned Geophysicist and Long-time Member of the Lamont Community, Passes Away at 56](#)

William F. Haxby, who died on January 4, 2006, was the first to produce detailed images of the world's seafloor. [more](#)



Genetic Analysis of Asian Elephants in India Reveals Some Surprises

Researchers have discovered that one of the few remaining populations of Asian elephants in India is actually two genetically distinct groups. This could have far-reaching implications in conservation plans for the endangered elephants as well as other species on the Subcontinent. [more](#)

