

Message from Jeff Sachs

Real Video (7:30)

Quicktime (7:30)

Though malaria has been controlled and eliminated in many parts of the world, including the United States, millions of Africans die from this treatable and preventable disease every year, most of whom are children.

Malaria is also one of the powerful forces that contributes to the poverty trap in Africa.

The Earth Institute is committed to fighting this disease, and in this video address, Jeffrey D. Sachs, director of the Earth Institute, discusses "Breaking the Bottlenecks," an initiative led by the Earth Institute to fight malaria.



Photo credit: UNICEF/HQ00-0181/Giacomo Pirozzi, Mozambique

Earth Institute and UN Millennium Project Join to Fight Malaria and Neglected Tropical Diseases

Malaria and neglected tropical diseases (NTDs), such as hookworm and schistosomiasis, are major public health problems that exert a massive burden on society. Each

In the News

Financial Institutions, MTOs and Remittances in Latin America

Latin Finance, April 25, 2006

Climate Change Will Be Significant But Not Extreme, Study Predicts

The Washington Post, April 20, 2006

Dimming the Sun

Nova (PBS), April 18, 2006

The Big Burp Theory of the Apocalypse

The New York Times (subscription required), April 18, 2006

Biofuel As an Oil Alternative

The NewsHour With Jim Lehrer (PBS), April 13, 2006

Iceland Set to Capture Carbon in its Rocks

MSNBC (AP), April 12, 2006

World's Problems Linked, Economist Says

The Seattle Post-Intelligencer, April 4, 2006

Is Sustainable Development Feasible?

Scientific American, April 4, 2006

[more recently in the media](#)



Could Reducing Global Dimming Mean a Hotter, Drier World?

Despite concerns over global warming, scientists have discovered something that may have actually limited the impact of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere in recent years by reducing the amount of sunlight reaching the surface of the Earth. [more](#)

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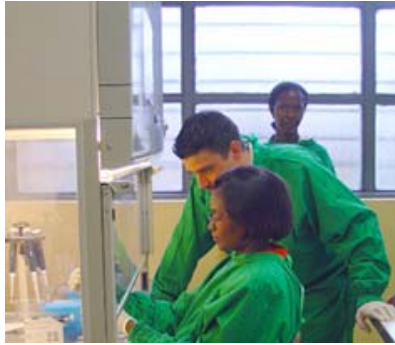
What does The Earth Institute Web site have in common with National Public Radio, the Library of Congress and the Book of Cool? Other than being fantastic locations for breaking news, unique and useful information and just-plain-cool ideas, they have all been nominated for prestigious Webby Awards, an honor that The New York Times has called "the Oscars of the Internet." [more](#)



Movement to End Poverty Goes Urban in Africa

The Earth Institute, in partnership with the Columbia University Program on International Investment, and with support from the UN Millennium Project, is launching the Millennium Cities Initiative, which aims to fast-track the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals in some of the poorest cities in the world. [more](#)

year, about 3 million people die of malaria worldwide, and over 500 million people in Africa are afflicted with neglected tropical diseases. [more](#)




Despite Complexities, Test for TB Could Increase Rapid Diagnoses in Sub-Saharan Africa

Sub-Saharan Africa shoulders 27 percent of the 8 million new annual tuberculosis cases. The current diagnostic for TB used in much of Africa only works in half of all cases, leaving millions of people without treatment and many more susceptible to infection. Yanis Ben Amor, an Earth Institute Fellow, is hoping to reverse the situation by bringing a rapid and more sensitive diagnostic to the hardest hit areas of Africa. [more](#)



Barnard and Columbia Seniors Present Environmental Thesis Posters

On Thursday, April 20, 2006, 32 seniors majoring in environmental sciences at Columbia and Barnard presented findings from their thesis research projects to over 100 audience members. [more](#)

 Video of senior thesis poster session:
[[Real](#)] [[Quicktime](#)] (31:41)

Special Events at the Earth Institute

Sunday, May 21, 3-4pm, LDEO, \$5

[The Katrina Disaster — A Poor World Tragedy in a Rich Country](#)

Recent Awards: Earth Institute Fellow Wins 2005 Shah Family Innovation Prize

Rebekah Green, an [Earth Institute Fellow](#) in civil engineering, has won the [2005 Shah Family Innovation Prize](#) in recognition of her outstanding leadership, entrepreneurship, and personal commitment in advancing earthquake mitigation and preparedness efforts in Central Asia.

"I think this highlights the contributions the EI Fellows are making, and the importance of the type of hazards mitigation work Rebekah does more generally," said Art Lerner-Lam, director of the Center for Hazards and Risk Research.

The Shah Family Innovation Prize, which includes \$10,000, is given to young researchers in earthquake risk mitigation and management.



Tough Environmental Policy Question? Bring in the MPAs

One hundred million personal computers were disposed of in 2004, and they are not benign — computers contain hazardous materials harmful to human health and the environment, and no policy exists to manage this e-waste. Is anyone working on this problem? The MPA's are. [more](#)

Comments and Suggestions

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Earth: Utilities Included by *Shahid Naeem, Professor of Ecology, Columbia University*

Earth's been a terrific home thanks to all those plants, animals, and microorganisms, conveniently referred to as biodiversity. But what if they stopped working? Or maybe worse — what if they sent us a bill? [more](#)



Earth Institute Announces 2006-2007 Marie Tharp Fellows

The Earth Institute is pleased to announce the 2006-2007 Marie Tharp Fellows — three women who are making noteworthy contributions to the advancement of science. [more](#)



On the Web: State of the Planet Video

Some 1,300 people attended the Earth Institute's biennial State of the Planet Conference in March. If you missed it, the presentations are now on video. [more](#)