

Message from Jeff Sachs

Real Video (11:13) 

Quicktime (11:13) 

In this September newsletter address, Jeffrey D. Sachs, director of the Earth Institute, talks about his recent trip through Africa, China and India: the hope brewing in Millennium Villages across Africa, the economic boom happening in Asia, and the impact of record temperatures around the world. Jeff also emphasizes the importance of private support for Earth Institute education programs.

GE Expands Healthcare Initiative to 10 African Countries to Benefit Millennium Villages Project

GE announced this month it has expanded its philanthropic initiative to improve primary healthcare facilities in Africa through a new cooperative effort with the Earth Institute at Columbia University. GE in-kind donations from healthcare, water, energy and electrical system products will benefit more than a dozen hospitals near Millennium Village Project sites where The Earth Institute is working with communities and governments in 10 African nations. [more](#)

**In the News**

Text Messages Dig Up Pure Water for Bangladesh's Poor

Nature, August 31, 2006

Sachs Sees China as Role Model in Fight Against Global Poverty

The Guardian (U.K.), August 26, 2006

Field Studies: Up and Away

The New Yorker, August 21, 2006

Mapping Future Population Growth

The San Diego Union-Tribune, August 17, 2006

Hurricanes Heating Up

Science Now, August 17, 2006

Greenland Ice Cap May Be Melting at Triple Speed

New Scientist, August 10, 2006

Nuclear Power and Climate Change

Grist Magazine, August 8, 2006

Madonna Finds a Cause

Time Magazine, August 6, 2006

Clinton Leads Plan to Cut Greenhouse Emissions

The Tacoma News-Tribune (WA), August 2, 2006

[more recently in the media](#)



The Source of Future Energy Technologies

The Earth Institute's Vijay Modi recently helped spearhead the formation of the Masdar Research Network to develop alternative technologies for advanced

Subscribe to this monthly e-newsletter:

e-mail address

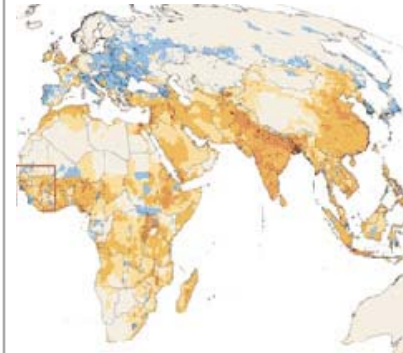
Submit

[See other Earth Institute subscriptions](#)

Earth Institute News RSS 

Earth Institute Events RSS 

[What is RSS?](#)



It's 2025. Where Do Most People Live?

Over the next 19 years, the Earth's population of 6.5 billion is projected to increase by 1-2 billion. An innovative new map shows where they might live. [more](#)

Hurricane Katrina: Don't Blame Nature

by **John Mutter, Deputy Director, The Earth Institute**

It has been one year since hurricane Katrina laid waste to New Orleans and a sizeable stretch of the Gulf Coast. What made that event a disaster, however, happened well before the storm actually came ashore. [more](#)

Sachs Meets with China's Minister of Science and Technology

Addressing Jeffrey D. Sachs's concerns, Minister XU briefed guests of this August 17, 2006 meeting on China's medium- and long-term S&T Development Plan and China's policies of granting energy, water resources and environment protections with national priorities. [more](#)



Learning How the 'Unnatural' Becomes Natural Through Restoration Ecology

Many of New York City's natural respites are not natural at all, making this an ideal place to study restoration ecology. [more](#)

Study Shows Lack of Consensus on Teaching Students about Human-Environmental Impacts

More states mandate that science educators teach students about society's impacts on the environment than ways the environment impacts society. [more](#)



Cosmic Dust in Ice Cores Sheds Light on Earth's Past Climate

Each year nearly 40,000 tons of cosmic dust fall to Earth from outer space. Now, the first successful chronological study of extraterrestrial dust in Antarctic ice has shown that this amount has remained largely constant over the past 30,000 years, a finding that could help efforts to understand the Earth's past climate. [more](#)

Not Your Mother's Summer Internship

Through the generous support of the Pulitzer family, three Columbia University graduate students and one doctoral candidate were able to have the summer of a lifetime, working alongside scientists as public health and energy interns in Sauri, Kenya, the site of a Millennium Village Project. [more](#)

energy and environmental solutions. [more](#)

Special Events at the Earth Institute

EVENT Monday, September 18, 4-6pm

Focus the Nation — Stabilizing the Climate in the 21st Century

With Eban Goodstein, Professor of Economics, Lewis & Clark College. Open to the public.

EVENT Saturday, October 7, 10am-4pm

LDEO Open House: Oceans of Discovery

Join scientists at the Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory for their annual Open House, where visitors can learn about current developments in the Earth Sciences, and about how our increasing understanding of the Earth helps preserve its future. Open to the public.



Notable Past Events

Cafe Science: How Much is Nature Worth? by Shahid Naëem

What if biodiversity were to disappear and we counted on the conventional utilities and services providers to take over? [watch video](#)



NYAS eBriefing: State of the Planet 2006

The New York Academy of Sciences has created an eBriefing of the two-day, international, marathon event in March 2006 that featured twenty-four speakers and five panel discussions.

International Stakeholders Address Climate Risks at Espoo, Finland Conference

More than 250 stakeholders for the Living with Climate Variability and Change conference gathered to discuss practical ways of achieving better management of climate risks in their short- and long-term operations. [more](#)

New Report Assesses Foreign Direct Investment in 82 Countries to 2010

On September 5, the [Columbia Program on International Investment \(CPII\)](#) and the [Economist Intelligence Unit](#), a member of The Economist Group, released the *World Investment Prospects to 2010: Boom or Backlash?* The volume (304 pages) is dedicated to the assessment of foreign direct investment (FDI) flows during 2005-2010. [more](#)



Columbia Student Advises Community on How to Cut Greenhouse Gases

Eun Soo Lim, a graduate student in the Climate and



Awards and Announcements

Remembered: Marie Tharp, 1920-2006

Marie Tharp, a pathbreaking oceanographic cartographer at the Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory, co-creator of the first global map of the ocean floor and co-discoverer of the central rift valley that runs through the Mid-Atlantic Ridge, died August 23, 2006 in Nyack Hospital. [more](#)

Honda Prize Awarded to Innovation Research Pioneer Richard R. Nelson

Nelson will be the 27th laureate of the prize, honoring his pioneering research in the field of economics of innovation. [more](#)

Jacoby, Cook Awarded at Tree-Ring Conference

At the 7th International Tree-Ring Conference held in Beijing on June 11-17, Gordon Jacoby received a Life Achievement Award, and Ed Cook an Outstanding Service Award. The awards were made from cross sections of bristlecone pine.



After 13 Years, Roberta Balstad Steps Down as Head of CIESIN

If you ask Roberta Balstad how a doctorate in history led her to a distinguished career as head of the [Center for International Earth Science Information Network \(CIESIN\)](#), the answer she gives is easier to understand than one might first imagine. [more](#)

Robert S. Chen Appointed CIESIN Interim Director

A geographer by training, Chen has conducted research on a range of topics including natural hazards, climate impacts, food security, sustainable development, and geospatial data management. [read Chen's biography](#)

Society program, will present an action plan to a Washington city council with practical ways the government and the community at large can cut fuel and electricity consumption. [more](#)



Columbia University Receives \$16.9 Million from NIEHS for Arsenic Study

The grant will fund ongoing investigations into the health effects and geochemistry of arsenic and manganese exposure, particularly in groundwater of New England and South Asia. [more](#)

Comments and Suggestions

Contact our [editor](#)

[Past issues](#)