

Short Bio

Jeffrey D. Sachs is University Professor and Director of the Center for Sustainable Development at Columbia University, where he directed the Earth Institute from 2002 until 2016. He is President of the UN Sustainable Development Solutions Network, Co-Chair of the Council of Engineers for the Energy Transition, Commissioner of the UN Broadband Commission for Development, academician of the Pontifical Academy of Social Sciences at the Vatican, and Tan Sri Jeffrey Cheah Honorary Distinguished Professor at Sunway University. He has been Special Advisor to three United Nations Secretaries-General, and currently serves as an SDG Advocate under Secretary General António Guterres. He spent over twenty years as a professor at Harvard University, where he received his B.A., M.A., and Ph.D. degrees. Sachs has received 42 honorary doctorates, and his recent awards include the 2022 Tang Prize in Sustainable Development, the Legion of Honor by decree of the President of the Republic of France, and the Order of the Cross from the President of Estonia. His most recent books are *The Ages of Globalization: Geography, Technology, and Institutions* (2020) and *Ethics in Action for Sustainable Development* (2022).

(184 words)

Medium Bio

Jeffrey D. Sachs is a world-renowned economist, bestselling author, innovative educator, and global leader in sustainable development. He is widely recognized for bold and effective strategies to address complex challenges including the escape from extreme poverty, the global battle against human-induced climate change, international debt and financial crises, national economic reforms, and the control of pandemic and epidemic diseases.

Sachs serves as the Director of the Center for Sustainable Development at Columbia University, where he holds the rank of University Professor, the university's highest academic rank. Sachs was Director of the Earth Institute at Columbia University from 2002 to 2016. He is President of the UN Sustainable Development Solutions Network, Co-Chair of the Council of Engineers for the Energy Transition, academician of the Pontifical Academy of Social Sciences at the Vatican, Commissioner of the UN Broadband Commission for Development, Tan Sri Jeffrey Cheah Honorary Distinguished Professor at Sunway University, and SDG Advocate for UN Secretary General António Guterres. From 2001-18, Sachs served as Special Advisor to UN Secretaries-General Kofi Annan (2001-7), Ban Ki-moon (2008-16), and António Guterres (2017-18).

Sachs has authored and edited numerous books, including three *New York Times* bestsellers: *The End of Poverty* (2005), *Common Wealth: Economics for a Crowded Planet* (2008), and *The Price of Civilization* (2011). Other books include *To Move the World: JFK's Quest for Peace* (2013), *The Age of Sustainable Development* (2015), *Building the New American Economy: Smart, Fair & Sustainable* (2017), *A New Foreign Policy: Beyond American Exceptionalism* (2018), *The Ages of Globalization: Geography, Technology, and Institutions* (2020), and most recently, *Ethics in Action for Sustainable Development* (2022).

Sachs is the 2022 recipient of the Tang Prize in Sustainable Development and was the co-recipient of the 2015 Blue Planet Prize, the leading global prize for environmental leadership. He was twice named among *Time* magazine's 100 most influential world leaders. Sachs has received 42 honorary doctorates, and his recent awards include the 2022 Tang Prize in Sustainable Development, the Legion of Honor by decree of the President of the Republic of France, and the Order of the Cross from the President of Estonia.

Prior to joining Columbia, Sachs spent over twenty years as a professor at Harvard University, most recently as the Galen L. Stone Professor of International Trade. A native of Detroit, Michigan, Sachs received his B.A., M.A., and Ph.D. degrees at Harvard.

(390 words)

Full Bio

Jeffrey D. Sachs is a world-renowned economics professor, bestselling author, innovative educator, and global leader in sustainable development. He is widely recognized for bold and effective strategies to address complex challenges including debt crises, hyperinflation, the transition from central planning to market economies, the control of AIDS, malaria, and other diseases, the escape from extreme poverty, and the battle against human-induced climate change.

Sachs holds the title of University Professor at Columbia University, the university's highest academic rank, and serves as Director of the Center for Sustainable Development at Columbia University. Sachs is President of the UN Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN) under the auspices of UN Secretary-General António Guterres and serves as an SDG Advocate of Secretary-General Guterres to promote and advance the SDGs globally. From 2001-18, Sachs served as Special Advisor to UN Secretaries-General Kofi Annan (2001-2007), Ban Ki-moon (2008-2016), and Antonio Guterres (2017-2018).

As an academician of the Pontifical Academy of Social Sciences (PASS) at the Vatican, Sachs works on issues of sustainable development in the context of Pope Francis' encyclical *Laudato si'*. In 2015, along with PASS Chancellor Monsignor Marcelo Sánchez Sorondo, Sachs founded the Ethics in Action Initiative to identify an overlapping ethical consensus among the world's leading religious and secular traditions on the moral issues represented in the SDGs. He continues to advance academic discussion on well-being, religion, and ethics in partnership with PASS via the Science and Ethics for Happiness and Well-being project.

Sachs' work in climate, energy, and biodiversity includes projects such as the Deep Decarbonization Pathways Project at SDSN, and related country-specific projects like America's Zero-Carbon Action Plan. Sachs is the convener of the Science Panel for the Amazon, and co-Chair of the UN Council of Engineers for the Energy Transition.

Sachs is CEO of Millennium Promise Alliance and Tan Sri Jeffrey Cheah Honorary Distinguished Professor at Sunway University. He serves on numerous advisory boards and as an advisor to governments and agencies worldwide, including as Special Advisor to the High Representative/Vice-President Josep Borell Fonteles of the European Commission. Sachs is a Member of the High-Level Advisory Council of the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations (2020-2022) and serves as a Commissioner of the ITU/UNESCO Broadband Commission for Development.

Sachs has long championed the role of universities in achieving sustainable development, including through his pioneering leadership in establishing interdisciplinary programs in sustainable development, such as the Earth Institute at Columbia University, which he directed until 2016. He established the Master of Development Practice (MDP) as a new master's program in sustainable development that is now taught in more than 30 universities globally. Together with Joseph Stiglitz, Sachs established the PhD in Sustainable Development at Columbia University. Sachs' degree programs are widely emulated by universities across the world.

In August 2012, Sachs established the SDSN under the auspices of the Secretary-General. The SDSN mobilizes scientific and technical expertise from academia, civil society, and the private sector in support of problem-solving at local, national, and global scales. The SDSN now has more than 1,500 member institutions around the world that work to accelerate global learning and overcome the compartmentalization of technical and policy work by promoting integrated approaches to interconnected economic, social, and environmental challenges.

Sachs has launched and sits on the board of several regional centers for the SDGs, including the Jeffrey D. Sachs Center of Sustainable Development at Sunway University in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia for the ASEAN countries, and SDG Centers of Excellence for Africa (Kigali, Rwanda), Latin America (Bogota, Colombia), and the Arab Region (Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates).

As one of the world's leading experts on economic development, global macroeconomics, and the fight against poverty, Sachs' work has taken him to more than 140 countries. He has advised dozens of world leaders in the Americas, Europe, Asia, Africa, and the Middle East on economic strategy. Sachs' academic and policy work spans the challenges of globalization and sustainable development and includes the relationship of international trade and economic growth; the resource curse and extractive industries; global public health; the history and practice of economic development; economic geography; strategies of economic reform; international financial markets; macroeconomic policy; global competitiveness; climate change; the role of universities in sustainable development; and the end of poverty

Sachs' research has had great global influence, including the UN Millennium Project (2002-2006) to help set the global strategies to achieve the UN Millennium Development Goals; the WHO Commission on Macroeconomics and Health (2000-2001), which led to a major scaling up of development financing for health; and intensive advising on the design of the 17 UN SDGs during 2012-2015, and on the strategies to achieve the SDGs (2015-present). He has pioneered new economic metrics to measure sustainability and wellbeing. The annual *World Happiness Report*, co-founded with Lord Richard Layard and Prof. John Helliwell, measures wellbeing and the factors that influence it, and the SDSN's annual *Sustainable Development Report* and SDG Index measure national progress towards the SDGs in more than 150 countries.

Sachs works closely with many international organizations, including the African Union, the Asian Development Bank, the Inter-American Development Bank, the African Development Bank, the Islamic Development Bank, the World Health Organization, the United Nations Development Programme, the Food and Agriculture Organization, the UN Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization, the World Food Programme, UNAIDS, UNCTAD, and the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, TB, and Malaria, among others.

Sachs' work has been pivotal in many of the key junctures of globalization during the past thirty years. In the 1980s he helped several Latin American countries including Bolivia, Brazil, and Peru to end hyperinflations and reduce their external debts. He was the leading academic advocate in the United States for reducing the debt overhang of the developing countries, and his ideas were incorporated into the global debt-reduction plans undertaken from the mid-1980s onward, including the Brady Plan and the HIPC Program.

In 1989, Sachs advised Poland's anti-communist Solidarity movement and the first post-communist Government of Prime Minister Tadeusz Mazowiecki. He wrote the first-ever comprehensive plan for the transition from central planning to a market democracy, which became incorporated into Poland's highly successful reform program led by Finance Minister Leszek Balcerowicz. Sachs was the main architect of Poland's successful debt reduction operation. The Government of Poland awarded Sachs with one of its highest honors in 1999, the Commanders Cross of the Order of Merit. He also received an honorary doctorate from the Cracow University of Economics.

Sachs' ideas and methods of transition from central planning were successfully adopted throughout the transition economies. He helped Slovenia (1991) and Estonia (1992) to introduce new, stable and convertible currencies. Based on Poland's success, he was invited first by Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev and then by Russian President Boris Yeltsin to advise on the transition to a market economy. He also served as advisor to Prime Minister Yegor Gaidar and Finance Minister Boris Federov during 1991-93 on macroeconomic policies. Further, he received the Leontief Medal of the Leontief Centre, St. Petersburg, for his contributions to Russia's economic reforms.

From the mid-1990s until today, Sachs has been involved with economic reforms in India and China. He has been a senior advisor to the Indian Government, including on the scaling up of primary health care in rural areas (the National Rural Health Mission), a policy that he recommended and helped to promote through the Indian Commission on Macroeconomics and Health. For his broad-based support of India's economic reforms, Sachs was awarded the Padma Bhushan, one of India's highest honors.

Sachs has similarly engaged with the Chinese government on many issues of sustainable development, and from 2001-2003 worked with senior government officials on China's Western Development Strategy. Sachs has also worked in other parts of Asia on a number of development and research projects, including in Malaysia, Indonesia, Timor-Leste, Bangladesh, Bhutan, and other countries. He actively supports Bhutan's innovative strategy of Gross National Happiness. He worked with the Government of Jordan on a national program of poverty reduction and with the Government of Qatar on education and ICT initiatives throughout the Arab region.

Since 1995, Sachs has been deeply engaged in Africa's escape from poverty. He has worked in more than two-dozen African countries, and has advised the African leadership at several African Union summits. In the mid-1990s he worked with senior officials of the Clinton Administration to develop the concept of the African Growth and Opportunity Act (AGOA). He has engaged with dozens of African leaders to promote smallholder agriculture and to fight high disease burdens through strengthened primary health systems. His pioneering ideas on investing in health to break the poverty trap have been widely applied throughout the continent. He currently serves as an advisor to several African governments, including the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Malawi, Mali, Nigeria, Rwanda, Senegal, Tanzania, and Uganda, among others.

The Millennium Villages Project, which he directed, operated in ten African countries, covering more than 500,000 people. The MVP achieved notable successes in raising agricultural

production, reducing children's stunting, and cutting child mortality rates, with the results described in several peer-reviewed publications. Its key concepts of integrated rural development to achieve the MDGs are now being used by many other countries to help support national anti-poverty programs. He works closely with the Islamic Development Bank to scale up programs of integrated rural development and sustainable agriculture among the Bank's member countries.

During the period of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) during 2000-2015, Sachs was widely regarded as the world's leading academic scholar promoting the MDGs. He chaired the WHO Commission on Macroeconomics and Health (2000-2001), which played a pivotal role in scaling up the financing of health care and disease control in the low-income countries to support MDGs 4, 5, and 6. He worked with UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan in 2000-2001 to design and launch the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, TB, and Malaria. He worked closely with senior officials of the administration of George W. Bush to develop the PEPFAR program to fight HIV/AIDS, and the PMI to fight malaria. On behalf of Secretary-General Kofi Annan, from 2002-2006 he chaired the UN Millennium Project, which was tasked with developing a concrete action plan to achieve the MDGs. The UN General Assembly adopted the key recommendations of the UN Millennium Project at a special session in September 2005. The recommendations for rural Africa were implemented in the Millennium Villages during 2006-2015, and in several national scale-up efforts.

Sachs is the recipient of many awards and honors. Sachs is the 2022 recipient of the Tang Prize in Sustainable Development and has recently received the Legion of Honor by decree of the President of the Republic of France and the Order of the Cross from the President of Estonia. Sachs was the co-recipient of the 2015 Blue Planet Prize, the leading global prize for environmental leadership, and was twice named among *Time* magazine's 100 most influential world leaders. Sachs has received 42 honorary doctorates.

Sachs has authored hundreds of scholarly articles and many books, including three *New York Times* bestsellers: *The End of Poverty* (2005), *Common Wealth: Economics for a Crowded Planet* (2008), and *The Price of Civilization* (2011). His recent books include: *To Move the World: JFK's Quest for Peace* (2013), *The Age of Sustainable Development* (2015), *Building the New American Economy: Smart, Fair & Sustainable* (2017), *A New Foreign Policy: Beyond American Exceptionalism* (2018), *The Ages of Globalization: Geography, Technology, and Institutions* (2020), and most recently, *Ethics in Action for Sustainable Development* (2022). Sachs regularly publishes opinion pieces with various media outlets.

Prior to his arrival at Columbia University in July 2002, Sachs spent over twenty years as a professor at Harvard University, most recently as Director of the Center for International Development and the Galen L. Stone Professor of International Trade. He received his B.A., summa cum laude, from Harvard College in 1976, and his M.A. and Ph.D. from Harvard University in 1978 and 1980, respectively. He joined the Harvard faculty as an Assistant Professor in 1980 and was promoted to Associate Professor in 1982 and Full Professor in the fall of 1983, at the age of 28.

A native of Detroit, Michigan, Sachs currently resides in New York City with his wife, Dr. Sonia Ehrlich Sachs.