



BIOGRAPHY

Professor Jeffrey Sachs

Professor Jeffrey D. Sachs is the Director of The Earth Institute, Quetelet Professor of Sustainable Development, and Professor of Health Policy and Management at Columbia University. He is also Special Advisor to United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon. From 2002 to 2006, he was Director of the UN Millennium Project and Special Advisor to United Nations Secretary-General Kofi Annan on the Millennium Development Goals. He is also President and Co-Founder of Millennium Promise Alliance, a nonprofit organization aimed at ending extreme global poverty.

He is widely considered to be the leading international economic advisor of his generation. For more than 20 years Professor Sachs has been in the forefront of the challenges of economic development, poverty alleviation, and enlightened globalization, promoting policies to help all parts of the world to benefit from expanding economic opportunities and wellbeing. He is also one of the leading voices for combining economic development with environmental sustainability, and as Director of the Earth Institute leads large-scale efforts to promote the mitigation of human-induced climate change.

In 2004 and 2005 he was named among the 100 most influential leaders in the world by Time Magazine. He was awarded the Padma Bhushan, a high civilian honor bestowed by the Indian Government, in 2007. He is author of hundreds of scholarly articles and many books, including the New York Times bestsellers Common Wealth (2008) and The End of Poverty (2005).

Professor Esther Duflo

Esther Duflo is the Abdul Latif Jameel Professor of Poverty Alleviation and Development Economics in the Department of Economics at MIT and a founder and director of the Jameel Poverty Action Lab (J-PAL), a research network specializing in randomized evaluations of social programs, which won the BBVA Foundation "Frontier of Knowledge" award in the development cooperation category. Professor Duflo is an

Professor Duflo has received numerous academic honors and prizes including a MacArthur Fellowship (2009), the American Economic Association's Elaine Bennett Prize for Research (2003), the "Best French Young Economist Prize" (Le Monde/Cercle des économistes, 2005), the Médaille de Bronze (Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique, 2005), and the Prix Luc Durand-Reville (Académie des Sciences Morales et Politiques, 2008). In 2008-2009 she was the inaugural holder of the international chair "Knowledge Against Poverty" at the College de France.

Mr. Olav Kjørven

Mr. Olav Kjørven is the Assistant Secretary-General and Director of Bureau for Development Policy at the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).

From 2005-2007, Mr. Kjørven led UNDP's Environment and Energy Group, promoting sound environmental management & access to energy for poverty reduction and tapping into new financial mechanisms for development such as carbon finance.

Prior to joining UNDP, from 2001 to 2005, Mr. Kjørven served the Government of Norway as State Secretary for International Development. Together with the Minister of International Development, he was responsible for policy making and the overall management of Norwegian international development efforts. He also held the post of Political Adviser to the Minister of International Development and Human Rights (1997-2000).

Mr. Kjørven has also worked as Director of International Development at ECON--Centre for Economic Analysis in Oslo (2000-2001) and an Environmental Specialist at the World Bank (1992-1997). He holds a Master of Arts in International Affairs from George Washington University.