



## UN Tips On Development

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Kampala

Uganda is off-track when it comes to achieving Millennium Development Goals (MDG), a special adviser to the UN Secretary General Kofi Annan, Prof. Jeffrey Sachs, said on Friday.

"The idea of MDG is not to stay on constant levels as it is in Uganda. There are serious un-met challenges," Sachs, who is also the director of the UN Millennium Project, said.

Sachs told journalists at the UN Development Programme (UNDP) head office in Kampala that maternal mortality was not reducing adequately.

He named Uganda's unmet challenges under MDG as child survival, malaria control, poverty caused by conflict, AIDS control, small-hold farmers and infrastructure.

The UN adviser called for 100% debt cancellation in Africa and for more aid. He, however, added that aid must be channelled into real investment.

"Aid should be given according to specific understanding so as to achieve investment projects like increase in bed net distribution, seed supply and ARVs provision. There should be some conditions. If aid is given without restrictions, it won't do the work," he said.

Sachs called for the improvement of the Kampala-Mombasa road and railway line, saying they were vital in improving business in Kampala.

"The Kampala-Mombasa road is in bad shape. It is full of potholes. It needs to be widened and improved to reduce transport costs," he said.

He also noted that there was serious depletion of fertility in Africa's soil.

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