

Bio - Jay Naidoo

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Jay Naidoo is Chairman of the Global Alliance for Improved Nutrition (GAIN) an international foundation headquartered in Geneva, Switzerland, committed to addressing malnutrition facing two billion people in the world. GAIN is a public-private partnership that brings together UN Agencies, private businesses, philanthropic organizations, Governments and civil society around practical programmes in around 25 countries in the world. He is also Chairman of the Development Bank of Southern Africa (DBSA) a leading development finance institution in the SADC Region financing economic and social infrastructure.

A leading anti-apartheid activist, Jay was also the founding General Secretary of the Congress of South African Trade Unions (Cosatu), the country's largest federation of unions, which played a leading role in the struggle for freedom in South Africa. From 1994 to 1999, he was Minister in the President's Office responsible for the Reconstruction and Development Programme and later Minister of Communications in President Nelson Mandela's cabinet.

He is married to Lucie Pagé, an international journalist and writer and regards his three beautiful children as his biggest achievement.