

BRAHMA KUMARIS – THE PACHAMAMA ALLIANCE PARTNERSHIP

Awakening Together Update

(August – October 2012)

Welcome to the second edition of the Brahma Kumaris-Pachamama Alliance Partnership Update! Please allow yourself a few minutes to appreciate all that is happening in our collaboration with the Awakening the Dreamer Workshop.

METRICS:

We continue to see high levels of interest in the Awakening the Dreamer Workshop. Since our last report, we have heard about events in 2 new countries, Australia and Japan, bringing the total number of countries reached to 14. There has also been repeat activity in several of these countries as centers present the workshop or take it to new venues.

INSPIRING STORIES:

The Pachamama Alliance in India

During October, Jon Symes of the Pachamama Alliance travelled in India in support of this partnership. To start with, he and his wife attended the Peace of Mind retreat at Mount Abu, sharing that "*we got such a deep experience of the teachings and hospitality of the Brahma Kumaris. It's been rich for me and invaluable for our partnership*".



Subsequently Jon visited the Om Shanti Retreat Centre in Delhi and then, with Sister Elizabeth Padilla, presented the Workshop at Shanti Sarovar in Hyderabad. The feedback there was hugely positive and is sure to hasten the uptake of the Workshop at centers throughout India. The staff at the center have made a wonderful video of the event that you can find on [YouTube](#).

Also in Mount Abu in October Sister Elizabeth, along with Sisters Pratibha and Connie, presented the Workshop to National and Center Coordinators from around the world, again to great acclaim with numerous declarations that this will be shared widely.



Changing the dream in Freiburg

On October 20th, fifteen people with backgrounds in Psychology, Medicine, Engineering, Art and Ecology took part in this 6-hour-long event. Despite the initial tendency of these academics to favor opinions before feelings, the participants soon discovered the importance of expanding their focus from merely their own point of view to a bigger vision, that of spiritual fulfillment and social justice in our daily interactions with other humans and the earth.

"All became aware that it is a matter of changing consciousness and every little action in everyday life counts -coming from that new way of seeing the world as interconnected. They went away with new inspiration and ideas about what to change. Some want to have the Workshop in other places and also in 2 schools", reported Patrizia Heise from Germany.

ATD Workshop in Japan:

Held in Tokyo, this ATD Workshop was made possible thanks to the collaboration between Seven Generations, a Pachamama-inspired group in Japan, and the BK Center in Tokyo. In spite of a typhoon warning, attendees travelled from varying distances and started this event by holding a 2-minute meditation in the name of nature. The typhoon was delayed by 3 hours and allowed everyone to get back home safely, reported Mizue Honda. Well done Japan!

"I love the last session [. . .] slowly stop our action, meet (see) each other and feel our importance. I need this practice again and again in my daily life more!" - Sister Chiharu.

WHAT'S HAPPENING TODAY:

Translations: we know that some translations are in progress (Japanese, Spanish, Dutch, German, Hungarian, Polish and Chinese). If you are interested in translating, please contact Maisa Arias at maisa@pachamama.org

Downloading the materials: we heard some feedback about difficulties downloading the Workshop materials. To address that, we created a CD containing the workshop materials, please contact Maisa if you want a copy. Please also make sure to share any feedback about downloading or using the materials with us, this will help us eliminate any problems.

INTO THE FUTURE:

When our partnership was launched almost 12 months ago we envisaged the Workshop being launched worldwide on 12-12-12, World Interconnectedness Day. This plan underestimated the enthusiasm and speed of the BK network; all of the above stories show that lots of activity has already happened. And, should you choose to use this auspicious date, December 12, to hold a Workshop, do please let us know and log your event at this website, celebrate121212.org.

More generally, we intend to support the use of the Workshop throughout the Brahma Kumaris and to promote collaboration between the BK and the Pachamama communities wherever possible. We will also be aiming to provide tools and activities for people to engage in after the Workshop..

We would also love to hear your ideas and feedback! Please email your comments to Maisa Arias, maisa@pachamama.org.