



# Green Newsletter

**Dear Spiritual Eco Servers**



Lovely and green greetings. Here comes another newsletter with green updates and inspirations.

*Arnold writes:* It was in January 2009 that we started the BK Environment Initiative. In those ten years a lot has changed with respect to the climate, both inside and outside the BK. The most obvious change is the rise in awareness. Nowadays, people are talking about climate crisis and emergency instead of climate change. When people personally experience heatwaves, droughts, floods or storms, they truly start

caring. The lives of youth and future generations are especially impacted. That is why students have started climate strikes all over the world, please check <https://globalclimatestrike.net>. The next ten years will be crucial for the future of the planet. Will you actively contribute as well?

Adaptation is not an alternative to a redoubled effort to stop climate change, but an essential complement to it. The good news is that adaptation, done right, will lead to better growth and development. It will also protect nature, reduce inequalities and create opportunities. [Here is the link to the full report from Global Center on Adaptation.](#)

**NEW - [Video Green Angel Commentaries](#).** BK Nico from Switzerland has made a beautiful green angel meditation video

We now have a new green website in **Spanish** - congratulations to the team:  
<https://medioambiente.brahmakumaris.org>

### **Looking ahead:**

#### **Green Day in Madhuban in 12 October**

You are welcome to finetune your relationship with Mother Earth. With presentations about Planetary Consciousness we will go deep into the connection between mind and matter. We will arrange a variety



of green conversations, art workshops, silent morning walks and an evening peace concert. You are most welcome to join – Golo, David, Sonja



The [living the change network](#) is calling for programs, conferences and workshops around

behaviour for sustainability. Food, lifestyle change, are favourite topics of theirs. If you have organised anything or plan to please kindly fill [this online table](#), where information is collected for the [world map](#), as soon as possible.



### **Climate change for youth all over the world**

The Conference of Youth (COY) is the official climate change event, an annual gathering of young people from all over the world, who are passionate about climate change and environmental topics. Local COY (LCOY) are organised in different parts of the world. Our BK Environment Initiative, which has been taking part in the COY since 2011, provides youth with workshops on the connection between consciousness and climate change and self-empowerment through meditation. This year, Local COY will take place in the following countries: **Austria, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Egypt, Fiji, Germany, Haiti, India, Italy, Ivory Coast, Kenya, Mauritius, Mexico, the Netherlands, Nicaragua, Pakistan, Poland and UK.** There might be more countries participating. [Kindly check here](#) for the latest information and contact brother Niranjana if you like to participate at [environment@brahmakumaris.org](mailto:environment@brahmakumaris.org)

## Reports:



### UN Conference on Combating Desertification in New Delhi

The UNCCD COP14 was organized from 2nd to 13th September 2019 at the India Expo Mart in Greater Noida in which delegates from 196 countries participated. The Brahma Kumaris Eco Initiative participated with an international delegation. You can read [5 reports here](#), with pictures also from our Happy Farm.

[Visit Happy Farm](#) Noida, New Delhi

**NGO Conference** in UTAH in August 2019 – Building Inclusive and Sustainable Cities and Communities, you can read about BK participation [here](#)

### Salvador, Brazil

This is a [photo report](#) of the participation of Brahma Kumaris in the Climate Week for Latin America & Caribbean



### Laudato Si Conference

Celebration of the 4th anniversary of Laudato Si and the 5th anniversary of the Catholic environment group CYNESA, Kenya July 2019. Nairobi green team participated. [See the report](#)

### Green Retreat in Malaysia

The Brahma Kumaris family in Malaysia held a green retreat to look at aspects of agriculture with experts giving advice on such matters as Fertigation and Hydroponic Farming Systems. This was combined with reflections on the power of meditation to positively affect agriculture yields (yogic farming) [See report](#).

### World Environment Day

We got acknowledgment from UNEP for our World Environment Day programs: *"We're doing a compilation from all the faith-based activities done in World Environmental Day and Brahma Kumaris was one of the most active organizations, and we want to thank you for all your effort and implication during that day."* See this [report from Brazil](#) with beautiful photos from many places including a Flash Mob.

### Ban on single-use plastics in Abu

Good news from Madhuban about plastic. Read more about [plastic free yagya](#) here.

"Many cities in India are working towards a ban on single-use plastics. Since 15 August 2019, Mount Abu/Abu Road Municipality and local government officials have declared a complete ban on single-use plastics or disposable plastics, which are commonly used for packaging, and include items intended to be used only once. These include in particular: **Grocery/carry bags, food packaging, water bottles, straws, containers, cups and cutlery.** Very strict action will be taken against those using the above items in any of the Brahma Kumaris' campuses. There will be fines for the first two times one is caught, and then a larger fine plus a First Information Report lodged in the fourth instance.

Pandav Bhawan, Gyan Sarovar and Shantivan have started to use biodegradable plastic in its departments, and we strongly urge all BKs and visitors to refrain from carrying/using/giving any form of single-use plastic during their stay in Abu. One litre Mineral Water bottles will still be available for double foreigners as every year. However, we request that these be kept in your rooms, and you can fill your

personal double-walled/insulated water bottles to carry around the campuses. Once used, the single-use Mineral Water bottles can be deposited in a place on campus assigned for this purpose, and not discarded anywhere else."

**Recommended links:**

From Sister Maureen, London: 30 minute summary from WWF: [Our Planet Our Business](#)



**Peaceful Greetings**  
**Brahma Kumaris Environment Initiative**

Eco  
Webpage