



Report on the SCAC (Civil Society for Climate Action) and side events in the centre of Santiago December 2019 Santiago, Chile

After the energetic visit of Sonja and Golo in late November and early December, various activities continued both in the Brahma Kumaris centre in Santiago and in the Civil Society for Climate Action with a green and spiritual focus.

Special people from different parts of the world accompanied these events with their expertise and experience:



Golo
Germany



Sonja
Sweden



Moira
Argentina



Maria Faundez
London



Vikram Doona
Mauritius



Maria Paula
Colombia

A summary of the different events that took place in Santiago is given here.

AT SHANTILAR

1. Talk: Detoxifying the heart and soul (Vikram) 2.12 *"By creating the right atmosphere for the mind and body, you will improve your life quality."*
2. Talk: Cultivating abundance (Maria Faundez) 5.12 *"Abundance is to make everyone feel they belong. We all belong in our planet and its resources are to be shared with love and respect."*
3. Talk / workshop: A life full of purpose (Maria Paula) 12.12.
4. Talk: Rebuilding trust (Maria Faundez) 13.12 *"With Climate Change, I need to change my awareness to rebuild trust in what we can achieve."*
5. Talk: Healing the heart (Moirá) 6.12 "
6. Workshop: Discovering the colours of the soul (Maria Paula) 30.11 *"Each person has their own personality, which are like colours, different qualities and skills: accepting and recognizing them can improve communication in our relationships."*



Interreligious Meeting

In Shantilar, this group of religious and spiritual organizations was born with a common purpose of strengthening and empowering a spiritual and ecological focus and perspective. On Saturday 14th, the closing of the year ceremonies included a sharing of experiences and a beautiful dance offered to Mother Earth. Also, a plant was delivered by each organization. It was a symbol of the continuation of their spiritual work, united with all the organizations.



AT SCAC (CIVIL SOCIETY FOR CLIMATE CHANGE)

PANEL

Building a Spirit of Solidarity and Community to face the Climate Emergency:

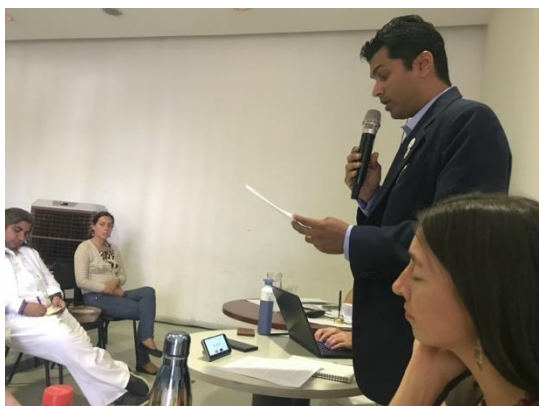
Ideas were shared on how to build solidarity and community, to overcome fears, to make decisions and to carry out responsible actions in the face of the climate emergency. The isolated actions of individuals, nations or communities are not enough to mitigate carbon emissions. Each person was called upon to respond creatively, with solidarity and commitment. A profound and transformative adaptation is required to build internal resilience and to cultivate compassionate community relationships. The panellists explored how civil society and communities can support humanity in any future climate-related disturbances.

The Role of Faith and Spirituality in Climate Action:

Question: How to respond with solidarity and compassion to the climate crisis and guarantee the protection and respect for human rights? The panel explored the transformation of lives, policies and economic systems to urgently mitigate climate distress. They discussed how to adapt and to foster resilience from indigenous and religious perspectives.

The Power of People:

The effective response to climate change depends on overcoming internal and external barriers. Our panellists examined how to initiate the necessary behaviour change, how to increase the use of clean technologies and to strengthen internal resilience. They pointed out that hope and a change in consciousness will help to generate the momentum needed to fulfil the Paris Agreement. The event included practical examples of the power of civil society; the power of collective intention; and the power of sacred activism.



EXHIBITION ROOM

For two days we used an exhibition hall where various activities were carried out including:

- Ecological Virtue Scope
- A Talk about Yogic Agriculture
- Exhibition of a solar cooker and its mechanism
- And a short participation in a *Music Festival for the Future*. Moira gave a meditation experience and Maria Paula shared her experience as 22-year-old about the relationship between Brahma Kumaris, climate change and meditation.



Upper left: Vikram giving the talk about solar cooking. Upper right: part of the eco team displaying the solar cooker. Bottom left: Vikram talking about yogic agriculture. Bottom right: Moira and Maria Paula at the Festival for the Future.

We met two interesting characters that contribute their ecological footprint in a unique and meaningful way.



Left: Chilean Goku (described below). *Center:* camera man. *Right:* James Lavelle, adventurer and filmmaker. He is known as the Greta of Latin America. He travelled from London to Chile without creating CO2 gases; traveling by bicycle and electric cars. We had the opportunity to do an interview with him. He is filming a documentary where he records the opinions of children and young people about the future of the world.



Left: Moira. *Right:* Chilean Goku, nicknamed after the famous anime character who is a type of hero. Goku is famous in Chile for his actions: protecting the environment by creating organic and eco products. He is an example for young people about the care of natural resources. He is a friend of Brahma Kumaris in the city of Quillota, Chile. His particular dress and disheveled hair, similar to the animated character, caught much attention.

The ECO events programme continued in Chile, although there was no COP. There was the undiluted determination and strength of the Chilean community to overcome the social situations and to increase awareness of climate change. Thanks to the Eco Brahma Kumaris team and the Brahma Kumaris centre in Santiago for remaining stable and spiritually active on this important issue that now needs urgent attention.



Thank you

www.brahmakumaris.org

www.eco.brahmakumaris.org

www.india-one.net



Bk Environment Initiative



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