Brahma Kumaris Environment Initiative

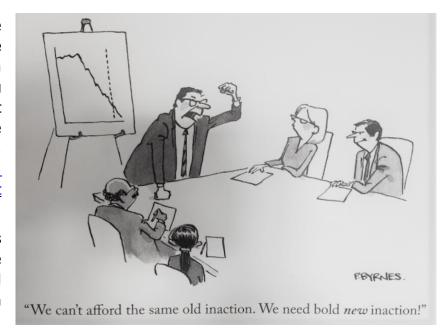


Report on the UN Climate Change Conference COP26

5th-6th Nov. 2021Glasgow, Scotland

The first week of the climate conference is coming to an end. The outcome so far is a bit mixed. On one side there are lots of promising announcements and statements but often it seems they lack clear time lines and targets. For more details, read the article: COP26 week one: the impression of progress but not nearly enough

From Sunday onwards the Peoples Summit will open its gates. The summit is organized by the civil society and BK will participate with five programs.



Friday 5th Nov.

COP26 Side event: Raise your voice, join the conversation! 'Open Dialogues on Climate Change' is a space for youth from all over the world to share their ideas and vision. Shantanu shared 3 keys:

- awareness is necessary for climate dialogue and it is the key to action
- contentmentovercomes competition
- communities come together and sustain their biodiversity

He offered a visualisation as to how the future can look and the participants then shared three concepts with others, see image.



Watch program



Shantanu Mandal at Open Dialogue Space

Exhibition Green Zone

Faith and Biodiversity Exhibition in the Green Zone invited faith-based organizations to share their ideas. Brahma Kumaris could display Sustainable Yogic Agriculture, the Flourishing Futures Youth program and our engagement at the Biodiversity Conferences.

Friends of the Earth Protest

Around 30 young people from Friends of the Earth protested in the Blue Zone highlighting the need to address the impacts of climate change in a just and transparent way. Remembering those unable to attend this COP, they questioned the governments, banks and global polluters about their continued funding of fossil fuel projects, and not nations in need of financial support.





Saturday 6th Nov.

Global Day of Action

Saturday, a demonstration with around 100.000 participants took place. Although the weather was cold and rainy the mood was great. The demonstration was about real system change, climate justice and action now. The march went on for several hours and ended in Glasgow Central Park. From our side, Valeriane, Ruth and Carolin participated.





BBC interview

The Bishop of Panama, Reverend Julio Murray Thompson and Sister Jayanti were interviewed on the BBC Sunday Worship program. The interview was about the relevance and impact faith can have in the current negotiations and whether governments are ready to listen to faith communities. The interview has already been broadcasted on BBC Sunday. Listen here

Sister Jayanti at WWF

Saturday 6th Nov. was World Nature Day and Sister Jayanti, Reverend Henrik Grape from World Council of Churches and Gopal Patel, director of Bhumi Global, were interviewed about the progress of the negotiations and the perspective of faith leaders at Nature Zone.



Golo at Inner Space

On Saturday, Golo gave a talk at Inner Space Center, Glasgow, "Stability in the times of climate change and uncertainty". Golo gave a comprehensive overview on climate change and informed about the Environment initiative and renewable energy projects of the Brahma Kumaris. He then made the connection to values and ethics and how meditation helps to bring back resilience, inner strength and hope. He concluded the program with a powerful guided meditation.





Impression from the Action Zone

<u>www.brahmakumaris.org</u> <u>www.eco.brahmakumaris.org</u> <u>www.india-one.net</u>

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