



Brahma Kumaris
Environment Initiative

**Creating
a Climate for Change**



Consciousness and Climate Change

At the core of Brahma Kumaris' work is the understanding of the connection between our consciousness, thoughts and actions, and their impact on the world. It has been seen that long-lasting change in any social or environmental system starts with a profound shift in the minds and hearts of people. The current environmental crisis is therefore a clear call to transform our awareness and lifestyle.

Any shift in individual awareness is reflected in society as a whole. To bring stability, resilience and compassionate action on a global scale, we believe a widespread capacity for silent reflection and meditation is essential. Such an 'inside-out' approach, applied by large communities, can be the key to the paradigm shift that allows all stakeholders to make choices benefiting the planet and its future.





The Brahma Kumaris Environment Initiative

This initiative encourages greater understanding of the role of consciousness and lifestyle in environmental issues, through dialogues, partnerships, participation in UN conferences and local initiatives. In particular we highlight the importance of:

Sustainable Lifestyle: Adopting a less materialistic lifestyle and increasing the use of clean energy saves the planet's resources and brings greater well-being.

Diet: Vegetarian/Vegan food, cooked with love, nourishes our whole being and brings inner clarity. It contributes to the health and future of the planet by reducing our carbon footprint.

Meditation: Spending time in silent reflection or meditation helps us to connect with our deeper values and find the strength to live by them, enabling us to be more mindful of the impact of our choices.

Peaceful Living: Promoting and living by the principles of universal peace can lead to less violent conflicts and wars, thus enabling vast resources to be redirected to creating a healthy and sustainable society.

“When I change, the World changes”

- Brahma Kumaris



Renewable Energy for the Future



Solar Energy



For almost 25 years, Brahma Kumaris and its sister organization, the World Renewal Spiritual Trust (WRST), a recognized scientific and industrial research organization in India, have been conducting training, research and development in renewable energy technologies.



'India One', a 1 MW solar thermal power plant situated near the Brahma Kumaris Shantivan Campus in Abu Road, Rajasthan, India, is due to be completed in 2017. This innovative project uses 770 newly developed 60m² parabolic dishes and features thermal storage for continuous operation. The plant will generate enough heat and power for a campus of 25,000 people and is a milestone for decentralized and clean power generation in India.



'India One' is implemented by WRST with partial funding from the Indian Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE) and the German Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Building and Nuclear Safety (BMUB) through the German Federal Enterprise for International Cooperation (GIZ).



A training centre sponsored by UN Development Programme (UNDP), Global Environment Facility (GEF) and MNRE for the promotion of solar concentrating technologies has been set up at 'India One'.





Aligning Awareness with Action

Sustainable Yogic Agriculture

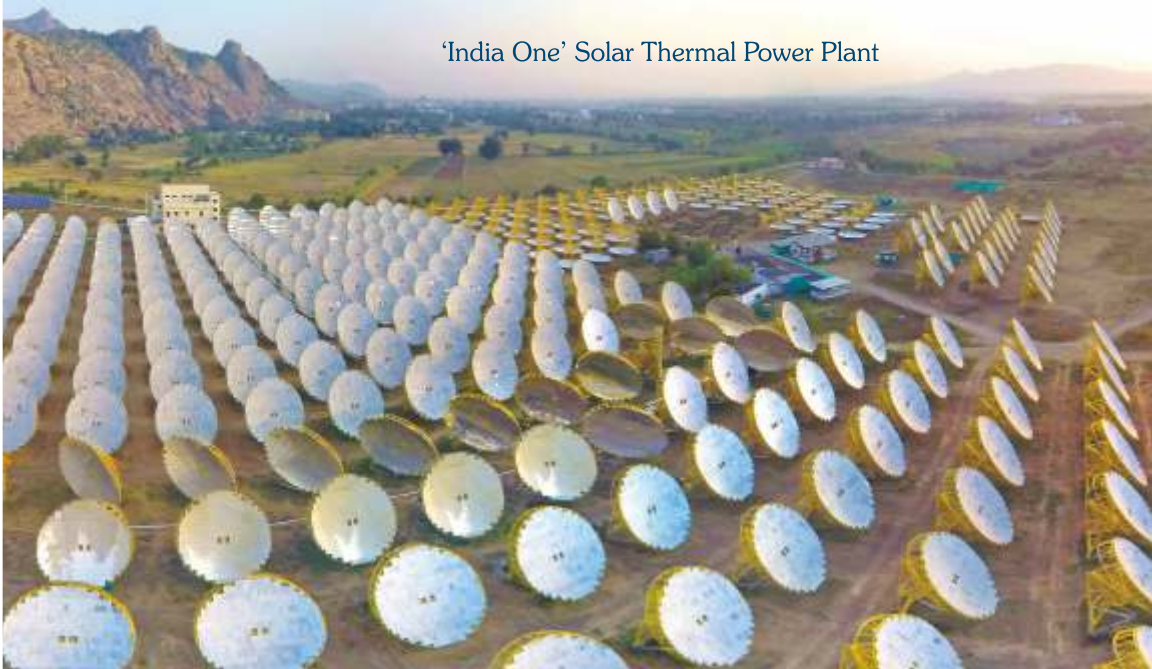
Can the power of thought be a new fertilizer that leads to better food security? Sustainable Yogic Agriculture is a research project carried out by the Rural Development Wing of the Brahma Kumaris.



One thousand farmers throughout India are combining organic farming with meditation, which is showing remarkable results. Early data collected through a field study in Gujarat suggest an improved seed quality and increase in crop yield.

Sustainable Yogic Agriculture has resulted in lower costs to farmers and reduced the pressure on the environment. Other benefits have been improvements in farmers' emotional well-being and enhanced community resilience.

‘India One’ Solar Thermal Power Plant





Capacity Building

Brahma Kumaris offers workshops that focus on empowering individuals and communities.



Earth Care and Respect - engaging people in a creative process that re-establishes a harmonious relationship with the self, others, communities and the environment.



Empowerment and Resilience - highlighting the deep connection between physical and non-physical energy, mind and matter, providing new opportunities for individuals and communities to work together to bring about change.



Individual Responsibility - exploring the role of personal responsibility in the context of our relationship with the environment. What stops us from taking personal responsibility?



Brahma Kumaris' workshop resources are open source materials that can be used freely for non-commercial purposes. We invite your feedback so we can incorporate your experiences into our material. More workshops are available at www.eco.brahmakumaris.org.





Brahma Kumaris World Spiritual University

Brahma Kumaris practises and teaches Raja Yoga meditation which relaxes the mind and nurtures a healthy balance between our inner and outer worlds. Through a variety of activities and partnerships, the organization promotes spiritual understanding, universal values and leadership with integrity towards a better world. Dedicated volunteers deliver free courses and events in over 100 countries in both urban and rural communities.

Brahma Kumaris at the United Nations

Brahma Kumaris is an international non-governmental organization (NGO) of the United Nations, in general consultative status with the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC). It is also affiliated to the UN Department of Public Information (DPI) and is an accredited observer organization to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and the United Nations Environment Program (UNEP). The organization's work in human and social values allows the Brahma Kumaris to contribute an ethical and spiritual approach to global concerns.

Brahma Kumaris Shantivan Campus





Brahma Kumaris **Environment Initiative**

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Other links:

Brahma Kumaris World Spiritual University: www.brahmakumaris.org

Brahma Kumaris Renewable Energy: www.solar.brahmakumaris.com

"India One" Solar Thermal Power Plant: www.india-one.net

