



Brahma Kumaris World Spiritual University (BKWSU) to the
United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)
Conference of Parties (COP16)
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The Role of Brahma Kumaris in Biodiversity Conservation: Integrating Consciousness, Peace, and Indigenous Wisdom at COP16

As we approach the United Nations COP16 conference on biodiversity, it is imperative to recognize the multifaceted approaches necessary for the successful implementation of the Global Biodiversity Framework. This includes integrating the principles of consciousness, peace, and the profound wisdom of indigenous traditions. The Brahma Kumaris, an international spiritual organization, plays a pivotal role in this endeavour, promoting inner peace and sustainable living, which are essential for biodiversity conservation.

Brahma Kumaris and Consciousness for Conservation

The Brahma Kumaris advocate for a values-based consciousness that underpins sustainable choices and collective decision-making. This 'inside-out' approach emphasizes personal transformation as the foundation for an ecological civilization. By fostering inner peace and spiritual regeneration, individuals become more attuned to the interconnectedness of all life forms, leading to more mindful and sustainable practices.

EcoShanti: Spirituality and Ecology

EcoShanti is a concept of ecological harmony and based on peaceful interaction with all living beings. It underscores the necessity of living in balance with nature, promoting tranquillity through sustainable practices. The Brahma Kumaris' initiatives, such as Sustainable Yogic Agriculture, Kalp Taruh, and Peace Drops for the Great Green Wall in Africa, exemplify EcoShanti in action, demonstrating how spiritual practices can lead to tangible environmental benefits.

The Great Law of Peace and Indigenous Wisdom

Indigenous peoples have been stewards of the planet's biodiversity for generations. The Great Law of Peace, established by the Iroquois nations, offers timeless insights into governance, community living, and environmental stewardship. It emphasizes consensus, respect for nature, and the well-being of future generations - principles that are crucial for

contemporary conservation efforts. The Brahma Kumaris recognize the importance of indigenous wisdom and advocate for its inclusion in the Global Biodiversity Framework and global biodiversity strategies. Listening to and respecting the voices and rights of indigenous communities is vital for effective conservation and peace-building.

Rights of Mother Earth

The recognition of the Rights of Mother Earth aligns with the Brahma Kumaris' vision of a world where all forms of life are respected and protected. This legal and ethical framework acknowledges the intrinsic value of nature and its right to exist and flourish. By supporting these rights, we pave the way for more holistic and inclusive biodiversity conservation policies.

Conclusion

At COP16, the Brahma Kumaris will highlight the importance of integrating consciousness, spirituality, and indigenous wisdom into biodiversity conservation. This approach underscores that true sustainability requires a shift in attitudes and values based on a spiritual regeneration that catalyzes a deeper connection with nature. By embracing EcoShanti and advocating for the Rights of Mother Earth and indigenous rights, the Brahma Kumaris contribute to a holistic and inclusive framework for biodiversity conservation.

As we gather at COP16, let us embrace this Holistic framework and work together to create a sustainable and peaceful world for all living beings.



The Brahma Kumaris World Spiritual University (BKWSU)

The Brahma Kumaris World Spiritual University (BKWSU), with its spiritual headquarters in Mt. Abu, India, comprises a worldwide network of centers in 120 countries and is an international non-governmental organization of the United Nations accredited with General Consultative Status with the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC); Associate Status with the Department of Global Communications; Observer Status to the United Nations Environment Assembly of UNEP; Observer Organization to UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC); the United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD); and the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD).

Office for the United Nations
Suite 436
866, UN Plaza
New York, NY 10017
USA
Tel.: +1-212-688 1335
bk@un.brahmakumaris.org

Local Brahma Kumaris Center
7501 Saint Denis St,
Montreal,
Quebec H2R 2E7
CANADA
Tel.: +1 514 271-7717 Tel.:
montreal@ca.brahmakumaris.org

International Coordinating Office
Global Cooperation House
65, Pound Lane
London NW10 2HH
UNITED KINGDOM
44-20-8727 3350
London@uk.brahmakumaris.org

REFERENCES

Peace Drops

<https://eco.brahmakumaris.org/peace-drops/>

Kalp Taruh

<https://www.brahmakumaris.com/kalp-taruh/about-kalptaruh/>

Sustainable yogic Agriculture

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Great Law of Peace

HAUDENOSAUNEE GUIDE FOR EDUCATORS

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Mother Nature Rights

<https://www.garn.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/02/ENG-Universal-Declaration-of-the-Rights-of-Mother-Earth.pdf>

<https://sdgs.un.org/partnerships/rights-nature-catalyst-implementation-sustainable-development-agenda-water>

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