



Zone 2b

Rainbow Mountains, Peru

ZONE 2B HIGHLIGHTS

COUNTRIES	CENTRES/ GROUPS	SSIO MEMBERS	SSE STUDENTS	ISSE	SATHYA SAI SCHOOLS
Argentina	27	670	100	1	1
Bolivia	4	33		1	
Brazil	51	678	127	1	3
Chile	3	40	5		
Colombia	11	141	41	1	1
Ecuador	4	82	5	1	2
Paraguay	1	42	15		1
Peru	5	131	33	1	
Uruguay	1	38	6		
Venezuela	17	234	9	1	1
TOTAL	124	2,089	341	7	9



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Argentina

Young adults in Argentina, joined by children in Merendero Belén, organised an array of devotional and service activities throughout the year. These included devotional singing, regular meetings and trips to feed the hungry and the homeless. In Buenos Aires, similar service was rendered weekly in December 2017, serving more than 120 persons in need.



Brazil

SSIO volunteers inaugurated a “Love in Action” project in the rural community of Queimadas, in north-eastern Brazil on 10th June 2017. Proving no one is beyond the reach of love, more than 60 medical professionals and general volunteers provided healthcare services and consultations. They further distributed free medicines, oral hygiene products and food packets to the needy. Likewise, Sathya Sai volunteers organised a free health clinic for under-served residents in Palmeiras in Bahia on 22nd June 2017. The villagers received not only general medical care but specialist consultations in otorhinolaryngology, neurology, paediatrics, orthopaedics, dentistry, radiology, gynaecology, psychology and physiotherapy.



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In June 2017, the Sathya Sai School of Ribeirão Preto, in the state of São Paulo, celebrated its 15th anniversary. The school has established itself as a pillar of values-based education and was recognised by the president of the local government, who specifically cited the human values in the school's syllabus as a tool to build the character of students.



Chile

Young adults in Santiago added to the growing repertoire of service conducted by youth across the zone through hosting a SSEHV workshop. Another workshop held later in the year, emphasised the importance of nutrition and ways to acquire healthy eating habits.



Colombia

Nearly 100 children, parents, teachers, volunteers and guests took to the streets of Funza for an enthusiastic Walk for Human Values on 30th April 2017. The children made an exceptional effort, leading the walk with singing, dancing and other performances. Their presentations underscored the need to protect the environment in keeping with the eternal message of practising human values.

Colombia



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The students put their message into practise on 3rd March 2018 when they, along with their teachers and parents, organised a beach cleaning drive along the Tunjuelo River in the rural community of Usme. Inspired by the students' example, a total of more than 200 participants across Colombia attended several interactive and informative conferences focused on protecting the planet. The conferences promoted the practice of human values as a tool to protect the environment and the importance of placing a ceiling on desires to benefit oneself, the environment and society.



Ecuador

Hundreds have fled violence in Venezuela and sought refuge in Ecuador since the beginning of 2018. Appreciating the suffering of their neighbours, SSIO volunteers have served meals and beverages to more than 300 migrants in the Carcelen Terminal in Quito every Sunday since February 2018. Volunteers also distributed clothes, medicine and hygiene kits to destitute families.

A powerful earthquake had damaged the Sathya Sai School of Bahía de Caráquez in April 2016. Since then, SSIO volunteers have helped rebuild the school along with the homes of teachers, parents and students. Despite the hardship, the school has continued to thrive, winning accolades from the local government for its positive impact on students and the community.

El Salvador



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Human values were again emphasised in a public conference on 8th May 2017, attended by more than 300 people. The Human Values Institute of Ecuador also organised a 12-week SSEHV programme in Guayaquil. Inspired by this work, a private school in the Los Ríos province formally adopted the SSEHV curriculum, offering a new crop of students the chance to learn, develop character and benefit from the quintessential SSEHV programme.



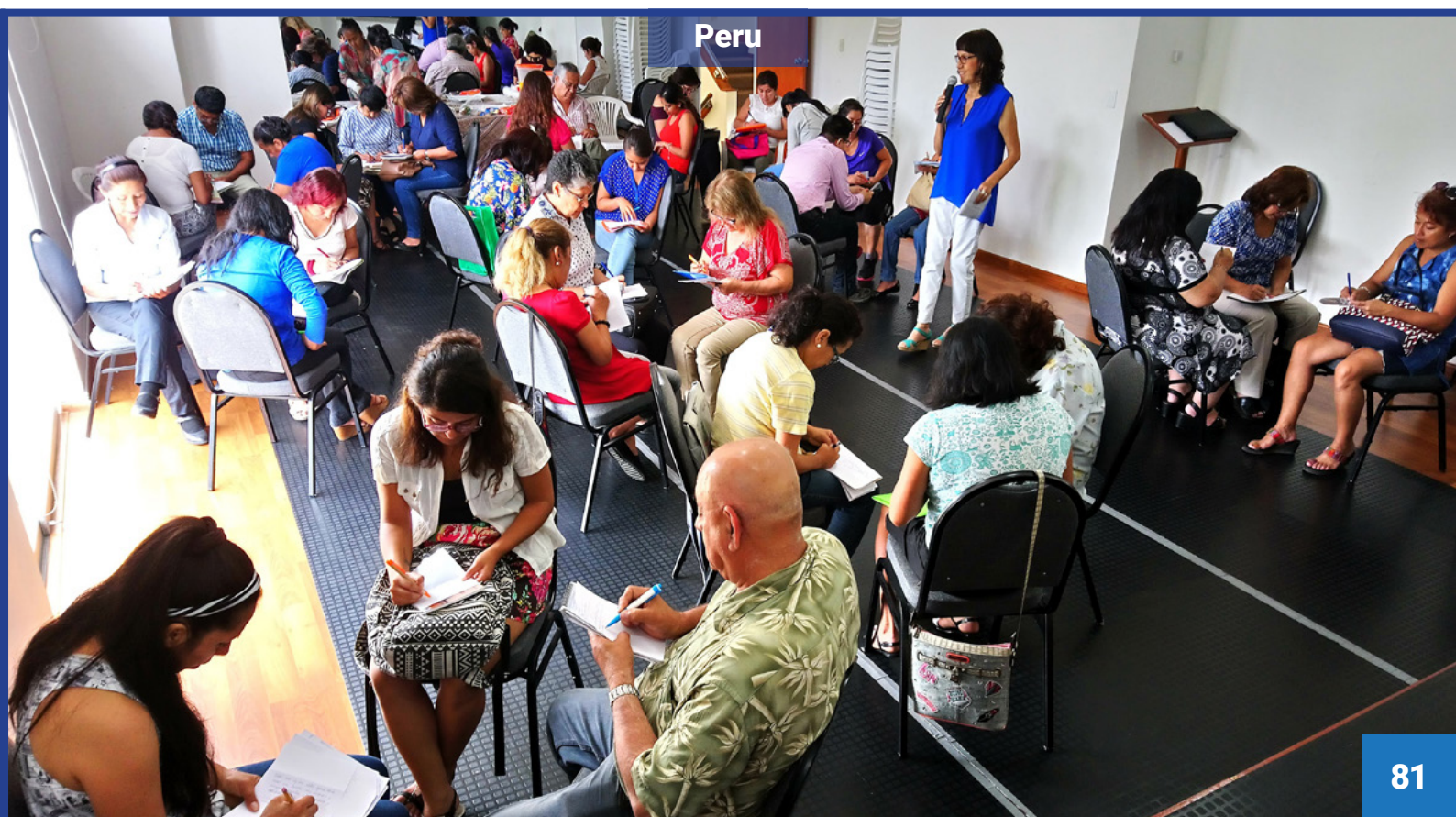
Paraguay

After flooding of the Tebicuary River left many in dire need of assistance, SSIO volunteers delivered warm clothing such as coats, trousers, socks, blankets and footwear to more than 500 families, including 200 children, in Villa Florida, on 11th June 2017.



Peru

Hundreds of needy and isolated families across Peru received assistance ranging from warm clothes, shoes and groceries to packages of school supplies to health-care and medicines, from SSIO volunteers in 2017. Travelling far into remote communities such as Cullcuy, Pango and Cerro San Francisco, the volunteers offered villagers vital supplies to help face Peru's challenging climate.



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In the city of Cajamarca, SSIO Young Adults took this work a step further, conceiving a project called “The Values Box.” They provide ongoing support to 25 kindergarten students by providing supplies and their expertise, taking a hands-on approach to human values-based learning. Young adults in San José de Cotto-lengo made a similarly distinct outreach effort, distributing supplies and playing games with 30 children and youth with disabilities. Their effort was received with great joy by the children.

The Institute of Sathya Sai Education of Peru also conducted trainings with an emphasis on providing guidance to educators. Their work included a two-day workshop on Sathya Sai Education, starting 1st December 2017, for 18 teachers and administrators from the national school at the town of Tantamayo. Educators from the Institute also participated in the 2nd International Forum for Teachers held in the capital, Lima, from 26th–27th April 2017. The forum brought together educators from around the world for conferences and workshops on a range of relevant topics.



Venezuela

In yet another novel human values education programme, the SSIO working with the María Pereira Initial Education Center in Daza Barquisimeto, initiated a project titled “Hands-to-Sow,” for the 2017–2018 school year. As part of the programme, 25 preschool children stepped out of the classroom to sow seeds and cultivate plants including scallions, cilantro and paprika. The produce was eventually harvested and served in the school canteen, but more important, the act of sowing and nurturing the plants strengthened lessons in human values and respect for the environment.

In September 2017, 6th grade children from the Dr. Raúl Leoni School in Mariara, Carabobo, also applied their lessons in values outside the classroom by participating in a Walk for Values dedicated specifically to peaceful coexistence.

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Colombia



Venezuela