



Zone 2a

Keel Billed Toucan



Costa Rica



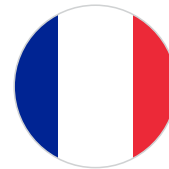
Cuba



Dominican Republic



El Salvador



Guadeloupe



Guatemala



Haiti



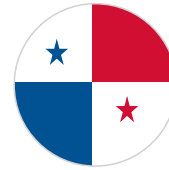
Honduras



Mexico



Nicaragua



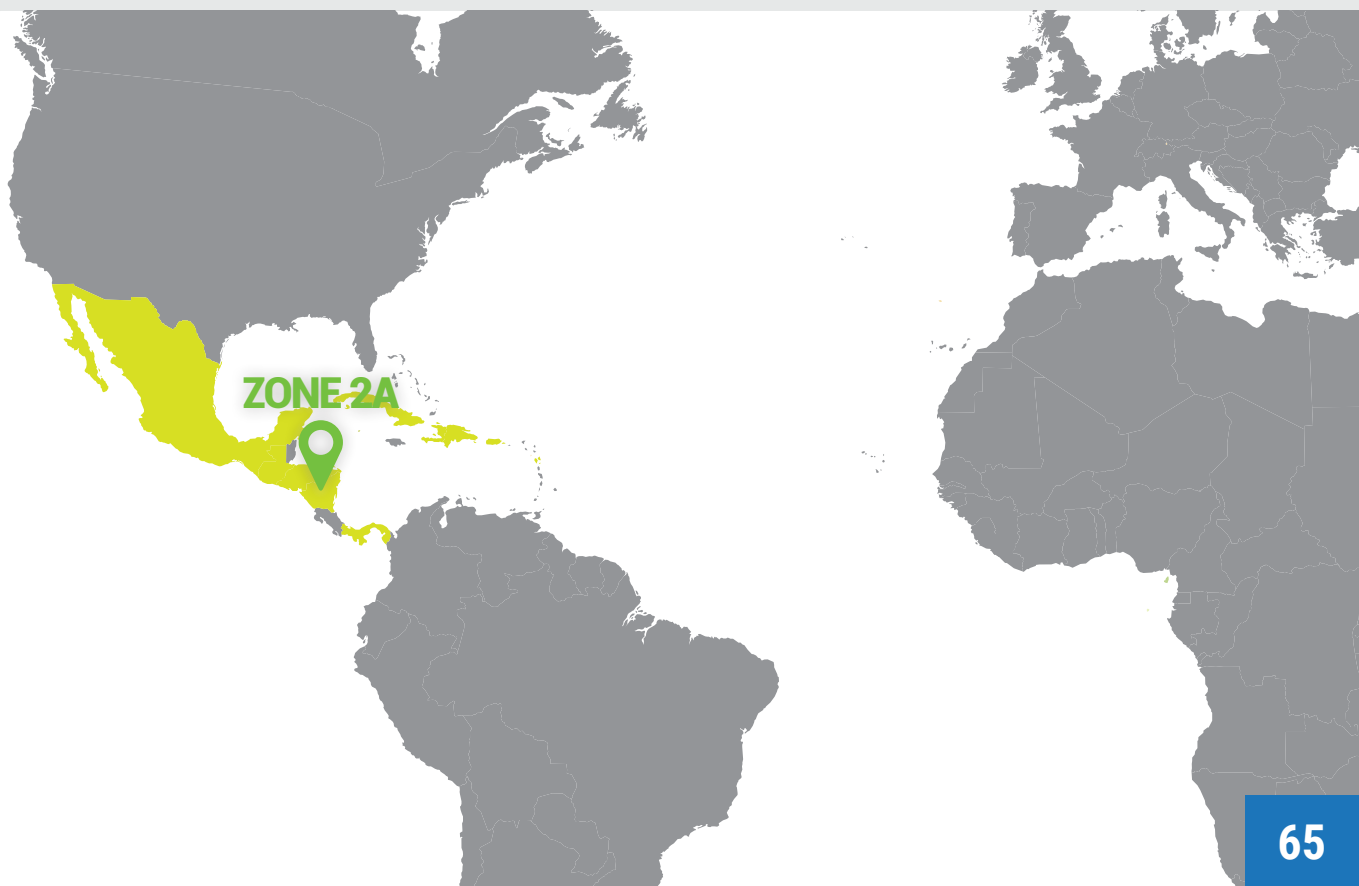
Panama



Puerto Rico

ZONE 2A HIGHLIGHTS

COUNTRIES	CENTRES/ GROUPS	SSIO MEMBERS	SSE STUDENTS	ISSE	SATHYA SAI SCHOOLS
Costa Rica	1	19			
Cuba	8	132			
Dominican Republic	7	206	95	1	
El Salvador	12	119	8	1	
Guadeloupe	2	23		1	
Guatemala	5	139	9		1
Haiti	1	5			
Honduras	1	10			
Mexico	40	638	293	1	2
Nicaragua	1	4			
Panama	3	80	65		
Puerto Rico	3	43		1	
Total	84	1,418	470	5	3



COUNTRY HIGHLIGHTS



In Costa Rica, Sathya Sai volunteers served breakfast monthly to 15 patients at the Nuestra Señora del Carmen shelter, an AIDS clinic. Volunteers also offer breakfast to more than 100 homeless people every Friday morning. This activity has inspired people of different faiths to join in serving the homeless and taking part in activities of the Sathya Sai Centre.

The Sathya Sai Centre of Costa Rica participated in the India Festival in San Jose, Costa Rica, on 15th November 2015. Volunteers showed videos about Sathya Sai Baba, set up a bookstand, and provided information about Baba and the SSIO to the public.

In the Dominican Republic, a sixth Latin American Diploma Course on Sathya Sai Educare was organised from 5th July to 3rd August 2015. The course took place in San Francisco de Marcois at a Catholic retreat house. This 28-day course included eight hours of training daily for 23 participants from Brazil, Mexico, Bolivia, Peru, Uruguay, Venezuela, Cuba, Nicaragua, and the Dominican Republic. During the third week, trainees practised their newly-acquired teaching skills at a local school.





COUNTRY HIGHLIGHTS

In El Salvador, SSIO members organised various SSEHV projects under the Serve the Planet initiative. To connect children with nature, the group sponsored outdoor activities four times between June and November 2015. On 1st November 2015, 12 Sathya Sai volunteers, including six young adults from the Gerardo Barrios Sathya Sai Centre, escorted 24 children from the community to a park, to enjoy the natural surroundings. Each child planted a bean seed, gave the seedling a name, and promised to take loving care of the plant as it grew.

On 21st June 2015, Sathya Sai youth from El Salvador organised a retreat for 16 children at a farmhouse in San Salvador. The children received human values education and played values-based games amidst trees and natural surroundings. The event was so successful that SSIO members decided to organise a monthly retreat on the last Sunday of every month.

National events of the SSIO of El Salvador are now transmitted live on the internet, including audio and video, by Sai TV del Salvador, which can be received in other countries.



El Salvador

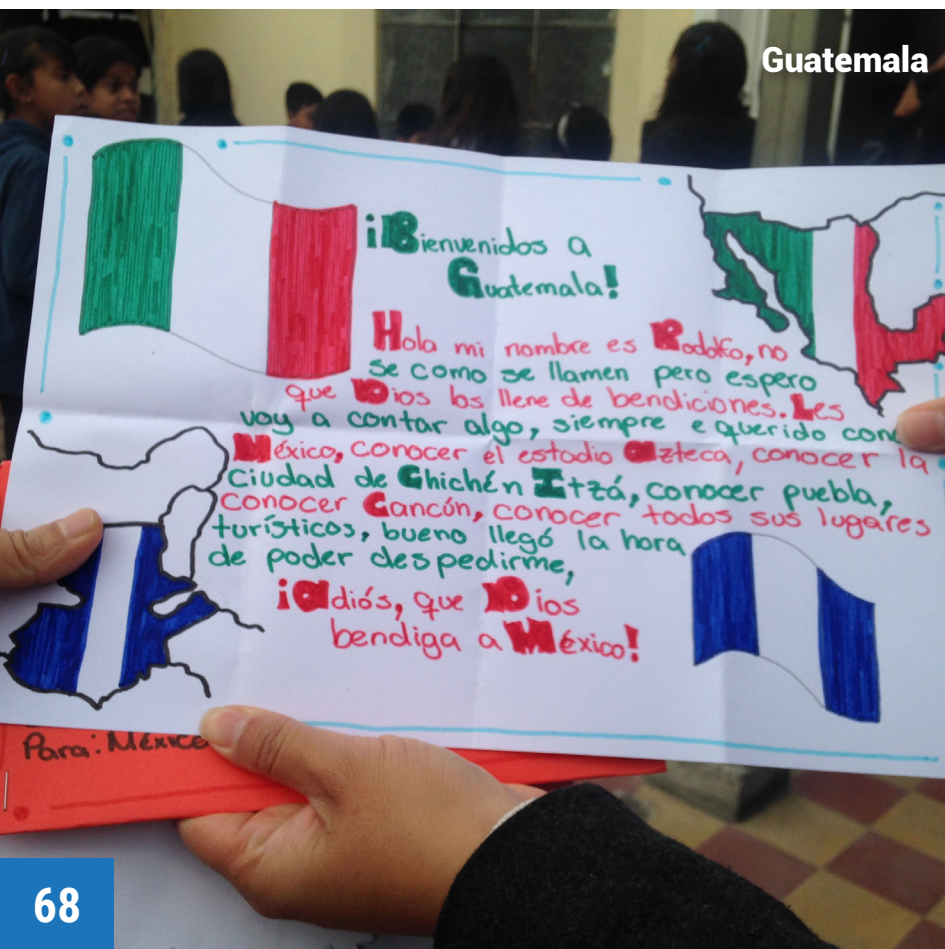


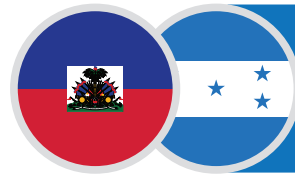
El Salvador

COUNTRY HIGHLIGHTS



In Guatemala, during early 2015, members of the ISSE of Mexico visited the Sathya Sai School of Guatemala located in El Limonero, a crime-ridden neighbourhood. The Mexican visitors were presented with letters and drawings of the Mexican flag, specially prepared by the Sathya Sai children of Guatemala. Upon returning to Mexico, the ISSE members shared their experiences with the students of the Sathya Sai School of Chihuahua, Mexico, who created beautiful watercolour paintings. The children of Guatemala also wrote 30 letters of gratitude to their Mexican friends. Juan Enrique, a 3rd grade student, wrote, "Thank you for considering me as your friend. I'm very happy because even though we don't know each other, you have opened your heart to me. ... When I read your letter stating that we are brothers and we love and respect each other, I really wanted to know you."





COUNTRY HIGHLIGHTS

In Haiti, the SSIO started supporting a human values programme called ABC for Life, which had been initiated by a volunteer in 2011. One of the primary schools in Port-au-Prince offered its premises and playground for 80 children to attend human values classes and receive help with homework. All the children attended the classes with great enthusiasm and regularity.

In Honduras, Sathya Sai members in the city of Tegucigalpa made an effort to start a new group to disseminate the message of Sathya Sai and establish the Organisation on a stronger footing. Senior SSIO officers met with the local residents on 13th June 2015 to support this effort.



Haiti

COUNTRY HIGHLIGHTS



In Mexico, the Sathya Sai Centre of Cuauhtémoc in Coatzacoalos, Veracruz, supports an active SSEHV programme for children, and twice a year, the enrolled children serve the needy members of the community with love. On 21st November 2015, the children prepared pambazos, a sandwich delicacy of Veracruz, made with bread, beans, cheese, and a flavourful sauce. The group then visited a local hospital to distribute the pambazos along with blankets. In a touching incident, a needy person, upon receiving food from one of the children, presented her in return with a beautiful handmade artificial flower. Later, the student remarked joyfully, “This was a happy day for me since I received a flower, with a smile.” Blankets were also distributed for warmth and comfort during cold weather. A young student, upon observing a person in need, requested her teacher to hand over a blanket. Upon receiving the blanket, the grateful recipient told the student, “You know, my baby was just born, and you gave him his first blanket. What you have done is very noble, and you are a good person.”

The Ranchito is a community of people living in extreme poverty in Monterrey, Mexico. In desperation, homeless people had built makeshift homes of card-





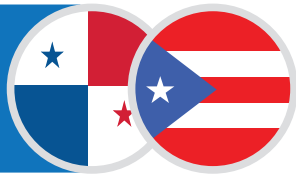
COUNTRY HIGHLIGHTS

board and wood, or cement. The settlement was subsequently destroyed by a fire in 2014, rendering 23 families homeless and destitute once again. Sathya Sai volunteers and community members joined hands to rebuild the homes destroyed in the fire. The Sathya Sai Centre of Monterrey hosted a medical camp on 21st November 2015, distributed medicines and food items, provided haircuts, and held SSEHV classes for children. The volunteers also fed the neglected local dogs.

In Nicaragua, on 4th July 2015, 13 SSIO members participated in a workshop at the Las Mercedes Hotel in Managua. The gathering focused on the purpose of the SSIO and the guidelines that Bhagawan had approved at the 9th World Conference in 2010. The group formulated a plan to advance the divine mission and the goals of the SSIO.



COUNTRY HIGHLIGHTS



In Panamá, Sathya Sai devotees organised a sports day for SSE children, called “World Cup.” On the afternoon of Sunday, 10th May 2015, approximately 80 parents and community members attended the event at a gymnasium and sports field at the University of Panamá. The programme began with a song from the Soccer World Cup of 2014, followed by a talk explaining the unity of nations, which come together to participate in sports, putting aside their differences. The children were then divided into five teams, representing the five different countries that played in the original World Cup and played three games in honour of their mothers, fathers, and SSE teachers.

In Puerto Rico, from February–April 2015, the ISSE organised its fifth contest of human values stories written by school students. In response, 72 stories were submitted by students from 55 schools, representing 25 towns. These submittals were further grouped into three categories. On 5th May 2015, the three winning authors received prizes at a closing ceremony in Caguas, attended by 68 people, including the winning authors, ISSE members, parents, teachers, contest judges, and principals of schools. One of the invited guests was particularly impressed by the fact that the work was done without solicitation of funds and without publicity.



