

Sense of Shambhala – Results of Process Team Survey of the Shambhala Community

Part 3 – How do we relate to the global Shambhala community and the Shambhala organization? -- Profile of experiences with and views of the larger Shambhala Mandala.

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Overview

The 2020 Sense of Shambhala Survey was organized by an independent working group of the Shambhala Process Team. The goal of the survey was to describe where we are right now as a Shambhala community. The survey was not intended as an opinion poll or as an exercise in identifying the consensus way forward for Shambhala. Instead our intention was to listen deeply to all segments of Shambhala, to map the ground and understand how experiences and issues in Shambhala are understood by those who took the time and had the interest to respond.

In this sense, the Sense of Shambhala survey reflects the four cornerstones of the 2020 draft Shambhala Code of Care and Conduct: **Inclusivity, Transparency, Accountability and Care**. We expressed **inclusivity** by inviting responses from everyone we could identify who cares about Shambhala and has been touched by the teachings, whether or not they are current members of our Shambhala organization. In addition, we included questions on the survey that addressed the broad set of experiences relevant to being part of Shambhala. In our reporting we are expressing **transparency** by including all of the responses we received, providing the data from all questions, keeping interpretations of the findings to a minimum, and making the reports of findings readily available. We express **accountability** by taking responsibility for any omissions, flaws or failures of our survey instrument to fully reflect all of the experiences and opinions that our respondents would have liked to offer, and for any failures of our analytic team to fully comprehend and report the responses in the way they were intended. We express **care** by investing extensive resources in deeply listening to and reporting the many responses we received to the open-ended questions included in the survey, and by offering opportunities for all components of the community to engage interactively with the survey reports.

Invitations to respond to the Sense of Shambhala survey were sent to all individuals whose contact information was listed in the Shambhala Database who (1) had ever been a member of Shambhala or Vajradhatu, or, for non-members, those who (2) had completed Shambhala Training Level III, or (3) had attended advanced programs such as seminary or any of the various Assemblies (Warrior, Kalapa, Enlightened Society, Sacred World). Email invitations were sent to these 11,666 individuals and opportunities were offered to request a link to the survey to anyone else who met these criteria but did not receive a survey link automatically.

Contact information was automatically removed from the survey links that were sent out, so all responses were anonymous. The survey opened for responses on January 13, 2020 and closed on February 13, 2020. A total of 3541 respondents opened the survey, and 3093 answered the initial question. This is a 27% response rate, which is relatively high for surveys of this type. The survey was extensive, and included both close-ended (checkbox and multiple choice) questions and over 100 open-ended questions. In order to estimate the distribution of reported age and membership status of the survey sample, the same search, using the same criteria, was repeated from the Shambhala Database. Comparisons between the characteristics of the survey respondents and the characteristics of the sample population are included in Part 1 of this report.

Data from the close-ended questions are reported in three parts. Each of these parts includes tables that show the percent of respondents reporting each response, along with the total number responding.

- Part 1 presents quantitative results from the questions describing individual respondents, their characteristics, practices, challenges, feelings of marginalization and responses to the current Shambhala crisis.
- Part 2 presents quantitative results from the questions describing respondent's experience with local Centres and Groups in Shambhala
- Part 3 presents quantitative results from the questions describing respondent's experience with the larger Shambhala Mandala.

Part 4 of this report presents a detailed qualitative analysis of the many open ended questions included in the Sense of Shambhala Survey. These are being analyzed by a separate volunteer group of Shambhala community members with expertise in this methodology. Some of these responses are short, and some are quite long. All were submitted from the heart, and all are deemed equally valid in understanding the current situation in Shambhala.

Part 3: Summary of Findings

As in Parts 1 and 2 of the Sense of Shambhala Survey reports, responses here are shown separately for respondents who responded differently to the initial question on the Sense of Shambhala survey. That question asked respondents to describe their relationship to Shambhala in the last 12 months. The choices offered to respondents were: (1) newly involved, exploring what Shambhala has to offer, (2) minimally involved, connect occasionally, (3) somewhat involved, participate in a few activities that I am interested in, (4) actively involved, a fair amount of practice, study, volunteering, (5) extensively involved, a considerable amount of practice, study, volunteering, (6) not currently involved, and (7) I have left Shambhala. In this report, these different descriptions of relationship are termed "activity levels" in Shambhala.

In several of the tables included here, we also show responses separately for those respondents who indicated that they are current dues paying members of Shambhala. As noted in previous reports, an error in survey presentation in the first weeks that the survey was open caused some respondents to skip the demographic questions included in the survey. This means that we do not have a full count of all of the respondents who are current dues-paying members, but we feel that we have a large enough number to be representative of current members.

A third group shown separately here are respondents who indicated in the survey that they are currently local leaders in their Centres or Groups, and those who indicated that they are not current leaders. These data are available for all respondents who relate to a local Centre or Group. Full results on participation in centres and groups are presented in Part 2 of the survey results.

Priority Issues for Shambhala

The second question on the Sense of Shambhala Survey presented a list of 12 possible priority issues, and asked respondents to indicate whether they thought addressing each issue was (1) essential, (2) very important, (3) somewhat important, (4) not important, or (5) they had no opinion or preferred not to answer. Space was left for respondents to add issues they felt were important but were not listed in the multiple choice question. The responses given in this open-ended question will be presented in Part 4 of the survey reports.

Reform Leadership Behavior

Overall, respondents felt strongly that we need to reform a culture that tolerated inappropriate and unacceptable behavior by leadership. Eighty-four percent of respondents and 86% of current members considered this either very important or essential. Responses were consistent across all groups of respondents, regardless of their level of involvement or leadership status.

Across all levels of activity, a large proportion stated that this was essential, and among most groups, outnumbering at least threefold the number who selected the 'very important' option. The highest proportion (83%) of respondents seeing this as essential was among those who had left Shambhala.

Only a small proportion — between 4% and 7% across all levels of activity — had no opinion or did not choose to answer this question. Only 1% or 2% across nearly all groups saw this as not important, whether they were newly or actively engaged, current members, local leaders or non-leaders, or had left. (See Table 3.1a.)

Recognize and Address Past Harms

The great majority of respondents also agreed strongly that we need to overtly recognize and address past harms that occurred in the community. Among all respondents, 54% saw this as essential and an additional 25% saw this as very important. Among current members, 54% saw this as essential and an additional 26% saw this as very important. Addressing past harms that occurred was considered essential by 70% of those respondents who were inactive or who had left Shambhala.

Responses were very similar between leaders and non-leaders.

Only a very small proportion, between 0% and 3% across different activity levels, said that this was not important. Only 5% of all respondents (4% of current members) had no opinion or chose not to answer. (See Table 3.1b.)

Reputation Repair

Most respondents also agreed that we need to repair the reputation of Shambhala at a deep level. Overall, 46% of respondents felt this was essential, and an additional 23% felt this was very important. These proportions were nearly identical for current members: 46% considered this essential and 25% considered this very important. Leaders and more active respondents were slightly more likely to consider this very important rather than essential, while 54% of respondents who were inactive or who had left Shambhala considered repair of Shambhala's reputation to be essential. Overall, 6% of respondents, including 10% of those who were inactive or who had left, had no opinion or chose not to answer this question. (See Table 3.1c.)

Increased Energy and Engagement

Most respondents felt that we need to increase the levels of energy and engagement (lungta) within the community. The proportion who indicated that they strongly agree with this increased according to level of engagement, with the highest proportion among the more actively involved. Among that group, and among current members, almost three quarters saw this as very important or essential. A larger portion of leaders (42%) than non-leaders (32%) viewed increasing lungta in the community to be essential, rather than simply very important.

Overall, very few – only 4% of all respondents and 2% of current members – did not see this as important. On the other hand, among those who were not involved or had left Shambhala, 21% of respondents said they had no opinion, or chose not to answer, compared to 5 - 10% of the other groups, and only 4% of current members. (See Table 3.1d.)

Culture of Kindness and Welcoming Inclusivity

The majority of respondents also agreed that we need to prioritize kindness and the experience of welcoming inclusiveness in Shambhala culture. The proportion seeing this as very important or essential was highest among local leaders (85%), those who are more actively involved (83%), and current members (82%). Only 1% of current members felt that this was not important. Most of those who agreed with this statement felt that it was essential.

Among respondents who were not involved or who have left Shambhala, 69% felt this was very important or essential. More respondents in this group had no opinion, or chose not to answer (10% of those who were inactive or who have left), whereas the proportion of total respondents and current members choosing this option was only 2%. (See Table 3.1e.)

International Decision-Making

Over 70% of respondents, regardless of their level of activity in Shambhala, felt that international decision makers need to listen more to the Shambhala membership. The proportion was marginally higher among local leaders and current members.

Among all respondents, 10% had no opinion or chose not to answer this question. This proportion was larger among those newly or minimally involved (12%) and among those who have left or are not involved (15%). Local leaders were the least likely to have no opinion on this issue (5%). Very few respondents, across all categories, felt that listening more to the Shambhala membership was not important. (See Table 3.1f.)

Revenue Loss

Overall, around 70% of respondents agreed strongly that we need to address causes of revenue loss, and ensure sustainable financial practices at local and international levels. This proportion was slightly higher among those who are more actively involved, local leaders, and current members. Numbers were fairly equally divided between those who felt this is very important, and those who saw it as essential.

Only 2% of current members (and 4% of all respondents) saw this as not important. Those who have left or are not involved were more likely to have no opinion, or to choose not to answer this question (18%).

(See Table 3.1g.)

Curricula and Teaching

Among all respondents, and among current members, 59% saw creating a culture of feedback among teachers, and aligning the shared curricula more closely with the needs of groups and centres as either very important or essential. Overall, more respondents considered this issue to be very important rather than essential. Compared to other respondents, slightly more actively involved respondents and local leaders considered this very important or essential. Only 4% saw the issue as not important, but 20% of those who were not involved or who have left Shambhala expressed no opinion or chose not to answer this question. (See Table 3.1h.)

Including Students of Chogyam Trungpa Rinpoche

Because these next set of questions are important issues in Shambhala, but may not be equally relevant to all respondents, we have added an analysis in the next set of tables that show the responses by decade begun in Shambhala, combined with current membership status. Decade started in Shambhala was one of the demographic questions on the survey, as shown in Part 1 of this report.

Respondents were asked whether creating a structure and culture that includes students of Chogyam Trungpa Rinpoche who are not currently students of Sakyong Mipham Rinpoche is an important issue facing Shambhala now. Overall, 59% of all respondents, 61% of current members and 64% of local leaders rated this as very important or essential. Among all respondents, 9% had no opinion or declined to answer the question. Responses to this question varied markedly by time period started in Shambhala. Among those who entered Shambhala in the time period that Chogyam Trungpa Rinpoche was teaching, 76% of current members and 77% of those who are not current members saw this as a very important or essential issue. Fewer of those who entered Shambhala more recently saw this as a very important or essential issue, while more expressed no opinion or chose not to answer the question. (See Table 3.1i.)

Offering Vajrayana Teachings

Respondents were asked whether we need to continue making the **Shambhala Vajrayana** teachings available. Examples included Primordial Rigden Ngondro, Rigden Abhisheka and Scorpion Seal. Overall, 69% of total respondents regarded continued availability of the Shambhala Vajrayana teachings as either somewhat important, very important or essential, whereas 13% said this as not important. Eighteen percent had no opinion. Among more involved respondents, 76% said this has some level of importance.

A somewhat smaller portion of respondents (47%), current members (52%) and local leaders (62%) felt that continuing to offer the Shambhala Vajrayana teachings was very important or essential. Among respondents who started in Shambhala when Chogyam Trungpa Rinpoche was teaching, and who are current members of Shambhala, 69% felt this issue was very important or essential. Among those who started in that time period but who are not current members, 36% felt this issue was very important or essential. Among respondents who started in Shambhala between 1987 and 1999, 58% of current members and 34% of those who are not current members felt that continuing to make the Shambhala Vajrayana teachings available was very important or essential. For those who started in Shambhala more recently, fewer felt this issue was very important or essential, and more expressed no opinion or chose not to answer. (See Table 3.1j.)

Respondents were also asked whether we need to continue making the **Kagyü-Nyingma Vajrayana teachings** available. Examples included Kagyü Ngondro and Vajrayogini practice. Overall, 74% of total respondents regarded continued availability of the Kagyü-Nyingma Vajrayana teachings as either somewhat important, very important or essential, whereas 9% said this is not important. Eighteen percent had no opinion on this question. Among more involved respondents, 77% said this has some level of importance. A smaller portion of respondents (51%), current members (51%) and local leaders (51%) felt this issue was very important or essential. Among respondents who started in Shambhala when Chogyam Trungpa Rinpoche was teaching, 68% of current members and 68% of those who are not current members felt this issue was very important or essential. Among respondents who started in Shambhala between 1987 and 1999, 51% of current members and 59% of those who are not current members felt that continuing to make the Kagyü-Nyingma Vajrayana teachings available was very important or essential. For those who started in Shambhala more recently, fewer felt this issue was very important or essential, and more expressed no opinion or chose not to answer. (See Table 3.1k.)

Inviting Buddhist Teachers

Finally, respondents were asked whether changing policies that discouraged centres and groups from inviting Buddhist teachers outside of Shambhala to teach was an important issue facing the community. Overall, 71% of respondents and 70% of members felt this was a very important or essential issue. The portion of local leaders who thought this was very important or essential was lower (65%), but 71% of respondents who are not leaders thought this was very important or essential. Only 6% of respondents had no opinion or chose not to answer.

Across time periods of start in Shambhala, among those who started when Chogyam Trungpa Rinpoche was teaching, 67% of current members and 78% of those who are not current members thought this was very important or essential. Among those who started between 1987 and 1999, 72% of current members and 78% of those who are not current members thought this was very important or essential. This was the case for 72% of members and 79% of those who are not current members and who started between 2000 and 2009, and 75% of members and 77% of those who are not current members and who started between 2009 and 2017. (See Table 3.1l.)

Summary of Priority Issues

While respondents considered many of the issues listed in the survey to be important, three issues stood out as very important or essential to address across all subgroups of respondents examined (see Table 3.2):

- Reforming a culture that tolerated inappropriate behavior by leaders (84% respondents, 86% current members)
- Prioritizing kindness and welcoming inclusiveness in Shambhala culture (79% respondents, 82% current members)
- Addressing past harm (79% respondents, 80% current members)

Four additional issues were included in the top priority issues to be addressed, with slight variations in the ones selected by each subgroup as essential.

- Having international decision makers listen to the membership of Shambhala (71% respondents, 73% current members)
- Repairing the reputation of Shambhala (69% respondents, 71% current members)

- Addressing causes of revenue loss, and ensuring sustainable financial practices at local and international levels (67% of respondents, 72% of current members)
- Changing policies that discouraged centres and groups from inviting Buddhist teachers from outside of Shambhala to teach (71% of respondents, 70% of current members)

The other issues showed greater variability between sub-groups, with high endorsement in certain subgroups but overall endorsement between 50-67%.

Input into Decision Making for Entities in the International Shambhala Mandala

Shambhala includes several entities that span multiple centres and groups or that serve the entire international Shambhala community. The Sense of Shambhala survey asked respondents whether they were satisfied with their level of input into programs and services, organizational structure and decision making, and financial management of these entities.

Shambhala Land Centres

The largest proportion of respondents overall said that the topic of input into decision making at Shambhala Land Centres either did not concern them (34%-47%, depending on the type of decision making), or that they were satisfied with their current level of input (as additional 30%-38%, depending on the type of decision making).

However, across the three areas (programming and services, organizational structure and decisions, and financial management), local leaders and people who are more actively involved in Shambhala were more likely to feel that these questions applied to them. Programming and services were the areas most likely to be relevant to the respondents. Between 25% and 30% said they would either like somewhat more input or much more input, with most saying they would like somewhat more input.

The response patterns were similar on the topics of organizational structure and financial management, although here, those who were most involved in Shambhala were more likely to say that these matters did not concern them, or said that they were satisfied with their current level of input. However, 20% - 25% said they would like more input, and again, most of these said that they would like somewhat more rather than much more input. (See Tables 3.3a-3.3c.)

Shambhala Retreat Centres

The general response patterns to the questions about Shambhala Retreat Centres were similar to those for the Land Centres. However, more respondents across the board felt that input into decision-making for Retreat Centres did not apply to them than was the case for Land Centres (49% -51%, depending on the type of decision-making). Local leaders and those who are extensively involved were more likely to view the input into the management of Retreat Centres as applying to them.

Most of those who did feel the matter concerned them felt satisfied with their current level of input. Generally, few respondents (9% to 14%, depending on the type of decision) said that they wanted more input to Retreat Centres. A slightly larger proportion of local leaders and people who were more actively involved said that they would like more input in the area of programming and services. (See Tables 3.4a-3.4c.)

Shambhala Regional Organizations

Between 47% and 51% of all respondents felt that the matter of input to how Regional Organisations were run did not apply to them. However, as was the case with the questions of input to Shambhala Land Centres and Retreat Centres, local leaders and those more extensively involved were more likely to feel that this did apply to them.

Among those who did feel that this topic was their concern, most local leaders and those who are extensively involved were satisfied with their current level of input.

A fairly small proportion of those who are more actively involved did feel that they would like more input (13%-23% depending on the type of decision), with most saying that they would like somewhat more input, rather than much more. More input was sought by the more involved respondents, across programming and services, organization and structure and financial management, with a slightly larger number saying they would like input around programming and services. Again, most of these would only like somewhat more input, not much more input. (See Table 3.5a-3.5c.)

The Shambhala Board

In contrast to the questions about land centres, retreat centres and regional organizations, only 33% of respondents and 25% of current members felt that questions about providing input on decisions made by the Shambhala Board did not apply to them. Thirty-two percent of respondents and 36% of current members wanted more input on the programs and services of the Board. Thirty-two percent of respondents and 38% of members wanted more input into organizational and structural decisions of the Board, and 28% of respondents and 33% of current members wanted more input into Board financial decisions. Local leaders were more likely to feel the issue of input into Board decision making applied to them. Among leaders, 36% wanted more input into programming and services, 42% wanted more input into organizational and structural decisions, and 36% wanted more input into financial decisions. This is considerably larger than the portion who wanted more input into decision making for the other entities. Also, a larger portion (12%-16%) wanted much more input than was the case for the other entities.

To summarize all three Board-related questions, the results of which were quite consistent, on average, 36% of respondents did not think these applied to them, 34% were satisfied with the current level of input, and 31% wanted more input. (See Table 3.6a-3.6c.)

Shambhala Global Services

Similar to responses to the questions about input to the Shambhala Board, and in contrast to the questions about input on decision making at land centres and retreat centres, only 35% - 39% of all respondents and 26% - 30% of current members felt that questions about input into decision making about Shambhala Global Services did not apply to them.

Generally, respondents gave similar answers in regard to each of the three topic areas, with 29% wanting more input. Among current members, 33% wanted more input into decision-making for Shambhala Global Services across the three areas. Between 37% and 40% of local leaders and those extensively involved in Shambhala wanted more input on decisions made by Shambhala Global Services. Largely their preference was to have somewhat more input, rather than much more input. (See Tables 3.7a-3.7c.)

Awareness of Issues and Events

International Leadership

The majority of respondents (62%) and current members (68%) wanted to know more about what is happening at the level of international leadership in Shambhala. Almost half of these wanted to know a lot more, as the question was phrased in the survey. Even among respondents who were inactive or who have left Shambhala, 42% wanted to know more about international leadership issues. (See Table 3.8.)

Emails from international leaders are a primary source of information on international leadership issues for 91% of local leaders, and 83% of all current members and also of those who are extensively involved. Friends or word of mouth was the sources of information for 60% of local leaders, 57% of current members, and 57% of those who are extensively involved, though it is slightly less common (45%) for respondents as a whole.

Emails from local leaders also comprise a primary source for around half of the respondents, followed by the Shambhala Times as a primary source for around one-quarter of those who are more actively involved, and for over one-third both of local leaders and those who are extensively involved.

Social media — including Facebook, Reddit, and Sangha Talk — are primary sources of information about international leadership for 19% of respondents, 22% current members and those extensively involved, but 26% of those who have left Shambhala. Also, around 20% to 25% of current members, local leaders, and those who are extensively involved listed newsletters and the forums on the Shambhala Network as information sources, and around the same proportion of these also gave the Process Team and Board websites as primary sources. Other primary sources were also cited by smaller numbers of respondents. (See Table 3.9.)

Financial Issues

Most respondents (56%) want to know more about financial issues in Shambhala. Again, more of those who are actively involved wanted to know more about financial issues, including 62% of current members, local leaders, and those who are more actively involved. Among respondents who were inactive or have left Shambhala, 40% wanted to know more about financial issues.

Among all respondents, a slight majority said that they would like to know a little more, though 30% of all current members, and 28% both of local leaders and those who are extensively involved said they would like to know a lot more about financial issues. None of the small group of newly involved people felt that they knew enough about financial issues. (See Table 3.10.)

By far the most common primary source of information about financial issues in Shambhala is provided by emails from international leaders. Here, 85% of local leaders, and 80% both of current members and those who are extensively involved, gave this as a primary source, and this was a primary source for two-thirds of all respondents. A further significant source of information is emails from local leadership. Here, 40% of those who are actively involved gave this as a primary source.

The next most common source of information about financial issues was friends, or word of mouth; over one-third of those who are more actively involved, and 45% of current members said that friends or word-of-mouth was a source of financial information, and this was the case for over half of local leaders.

Far smaller numbers of respondents cited other sources of information on financial issues. Eleven percent of all respondents, 11% of current members, but 19% of those who have left Shambhala listed social media (Facebook, Reddit, etc) as a primary source of Shambhala financial information. Among local leaders, 18% cited the Board website as a primary source of financial information, as did 15% of those who are extensively involved and 12% of current members. Seventeen percent of local leaders also gave leadership Zoom calls as a primary source, as did 15% of those who are extensively involved. (See Table 3.11.)

Other Shambhala Centres and Groups

The Sense of Shambhala Survey asked whether respondents knew enough or would like to know more about what is happening in Centres and Groups besides their own. Overall, 53% of respondents, 48% of newly or minimally involved respondents, and 30% of inactive respondents and those who have left Shambhala wanted to know more about what is happening at Centres or Groups other than their own. Among current members, 59% wanted to know more, and among local leaders 60% wanted to know more about what was happening in other Centres and Groups. Most responded that they would like to know a little more rather than a lot more in this area. (See Table 3.12.)

For those who are most actively involved in Shambhala, the most common single primary source of information for learning about other Centres and Groups in Shambhala was friends or word of mouth. This was the most commonly cited single source for over half of local leaders, and 45% of current members.

This is slightly different for those who are newly or minimally involved, or who have left, for whom emails from leaders tend to be the most common source. Also, emails from both international and local leaders are primary sources for all respondents, and particularly those from international leaders.

Local websites were also fairly common sources of information about other centres and groups for those who are currently more engaged in Shambhala. One-third of local leaders and one-quarter of those more actively involved saw these websites as a primary source, and newsletters were mentioned to a similar extent. (See Table 3.13.)

Geographic spread in Shambhala

One of the unique features of our international Shambhala community is the range and variety of geographic locations that are included. This also raises challenges for assuring accessibility to programs and services, and for respecting cultural diversity. A set of questions in the Sense of Shambhala survey addressed these issues.

On the question of whether a given range of issues create difficulties or limited accessibility for people in different locations to various aspects of Shambhala, those in the U.S. and Canada were the least affected. Among residents of the U.S., 67% experienced no barriers. Among residents of Canada 51% experienced no geographic related barriers to access in Shambhala. Just over one-third of respondents residing in Eastern Europe, slightly more than one-third of those residing Central America and Mexico, 46% of respondents in Western Europe, and less than one-third of those residing in South America said that they experienced no barriers in access to aspects of Shambhala due to their region of residence. (See Table 3.14.)

By and large, barriers of various kinds were most prevalent for those at a greater physical distance from North America, and some barriers tended to be greatest for those furthest away. The most prevalent barrier, travel distance, was an issue for around two-thirds or more of those in Africa, Asia, and Oceania, and around half of those in the Middle East and South America. It was also a barrier for around 40% of those in Eastern Europe, Central America, and Mexico. Similarly, the difficulty of attending events due to location was a barrier for around 60% of those in Asia and Oceania, and for half or more of those in the Middle East and South America, also affecting over 40% of Eastern Europe and nearly one-third in Central America and Mexico. Note that, in some cases, the actual number of responses from a region is quite small.

Another prevalent issue was high program costs due to currency issues. This affected 75% of those in the Middle East (that is, 3 out of 4 responses). Over half of those in Eastern Europe were affected, as were nearly half of those in Africa, Asia and Oceania. One third of those in South America cited this as an issue, and slightly more in Central America and Mexico. Also just over one-third of those in Canada also said that currency issues created high costs for them. High shipping costs for texts and materials were also an issue for up to one-third in Asia and Oceania, Africa, and Eastern Europe, and for one-quarter or more of those in the Middle East and South America.

The factor of limited contact with senior teachers was an issue for half or more of those in the Middle East, one-third of those in Africa and 43% in Asia and Oceania.

Time zone differences from North America also constrained engagement for those most affected, particularly Africa and Asia/Oceania. This factor affected over 40% of respondents in Asia and Oceania.

Regarding difficulties due to cultural assumptions or misunderstandings, this was reported much less commonly, though 16% of those in Eastern Europe, Central America and Mexico reported this.

Further questions brought out more broadly and in greater detail the factor of cultural differences, or misunderstandings based on centre or group size, experiences, priorities and other circumstances. (See Table 3.15.)

While the great majority in the United States and Canada felt that their differences were recognised and respected, with around one-third saying they were very well respected, people in other regions had a different experience. Half of those in the Middle East and 30% of those in Asia and Oceania said that their culture or other factors were hardly recognised and respected at all, though in the latter group, 41% said that these factors were respected moderately well. However, in the Middle East, none of the four respondents felt that their differences were recognised and respected very well. Also in Central America and Mexico, 58% said that these factors were hardly recognised or respected at all, or that this was only occasionally so. (See Table 3.16.)

Shambhala Vision Statement

A working group of the Shambhala Process Team proposed the following as a vision statement for Shambhala:

Vision: Where we hope to see the community several years in the future:

Shambhala is a thriving community, abiding in accord with the wisdom of all humanity and the Shambhala teachings and practices, which continually evolve through gentleness, kindness, fearlessness and wisdom.

Regarding how similar this statement was to their personal vision for the Shambhala community, 60% of respondents and 65% of current members said that it was somewhat or very similar. Among those actively or extensively involved, this rose to 67% and 68%, respectively. Additionally, 67% of local leaders felt this vision was somewhat or very similar to their own. However, this dropped to 28% among those who have left Shambhala. (See Table 3.17.)

More extensive comments on the vision statement of Shambhala is included in Part 4 of this report, along with a discussion of the many other open ended questions included on the Sense of Shambhala Survey.

Part 3: Detailed Findings

Priority Issues for Shambhala

Table 3.1a. We need to reform a culture that tolerated inappropriate and unacceptable behavior by leadership

	Total respondents answering this series of questions	No opinion/ prefer not to answer	Not important	Somewhat important	Very important	Essential
Total respondents answering this series of questions N = 3093						
		% Each response by Activity Level				
Newly involved	14	14%	0%	7%	14%	64%
Minimally involved	491	5%	2%	8%	17%	68%
Subtotal	505	5%	2%	8%	17%	68%
Somewhat involved	575	4%	2%	9%	22%	62%
Actively involved	708	3%	3%	9%	23%	62%
Extensively involved	747	7%	1%	13%	24%	55%
Subtotal	2030	5%	2%	10%	23%	60%
Not involved	319	4%	1%	6%	16%	73%
I have left Shambhala	239	4%	1%	0%	12%	83%
Subtotal	558	4%	1%	4%	14%	77%
Total respondents	3093	5%	2%	9%	20%	64%
Total Current Members answering this series of questions N = 1299						
		% Each response				
Total current members	1299	3%	2%	9%	21%	65%
Total respondents relating to a local group or centre answering this series of questions N = 2162						
		% Each response				
Local leader	681	4%	2%	10%	22%	62%
Not a local leader	1481	5%	2%	10%	21%	62%

Table 3.1b. We need to overtly recognize and address past harms that occurred in the community

	Total respondents answering this series of questions	No opinion or prefer not to answer	Not important	Somewhat important	Very important	Essential
Total respondents answering this series of questions N = 3093						
		% Each response by Activity Level				
Newly involved	14	21%	0%	0%	36%	43%
Minimally involved	491	6%	3%	12%	24%	55%
Subtotal	505	6%	3%	12%	25%	55%
Somewhat involved	575	6%	1%	14%	25%	53%
Actively involved	708	4%	3%	13%	31%	50%
Extensively involved	747	4%	3%	21%	27%	46%
Subtotal	2030	4%	3%	16%	28%	49%
Not involved	319	4%	2%	8%	21%	65%
I have left Shambhala	239	5%	0%	5%	12%	78%
Subtotal	558	4%	1%	7%	17%	70%
Total respondents	3093	5%	2%	14%	25%	54%
Total Current Members answering this series of questions N = 1299						
		% Each response				
Total current members	1299	4%	2%	14%	26%	54%
Total respondents relating to a local group or centre and answering this series of questions N = 2162						
		% Each response				
Local leader	681	3%	2%	16%	28%	50%
Not a local leader	1481	5%	3%	14%	26%	52%

Table 3.1c. We need to repair the reputation of Shambhala at a deep level

	Total respondents answering this series of questions	No opinion or prefer not to answer	Not important	Somewhat important	Very important	Essential
Total respondents answering this series of questions N = 3093						
		% Each response by Activity Level				
Newly involved	14	21%	0%	14%	14%	50%
Minimally involved	491	8%	7%	15%	21%	49%
Subtotal	505	8%	7%	15%	21%	49%
Somewhat involved	575	3%	11%	19%	24%	43%
Actively involved	708	6%	5%	15%	29%	46%
Extensively involved	747	6%	5%	23%	25%	41%
Subtotal	2030	5%	7%	19%	26%	43%
Not involved	319	9%	5%	16%	16%	54%
I have left Shambhala	239	10%	10%	10%	14%	56%
Subtotal	558	10%	7%	14%	15%	54%
Total respondents	3093	7%	7%	17%	23%	46%
Total Current Members answering this series of questions N = 1299						
			% Each response			
Total current members	1299	6%	4%	18%	25%	46%
Total respondents relating to a local group or centre and answering this series of questions N = 2162						
			% Each response			
Local leader	681	5%	4%	21%	26%	43%
Not a local leader	1481	8%	6%	17%	24%	45%

Table 3.1d. We need to increase energy and engagement (lungta) within the community

	Total respondents answering this series of questions	No opinion or prefer not to answer	Not important	Somewhat important	Very important	Essential
Total respondents answering this series of questions N = 3093						
			% Each response by Activity Level			
Newly involved	14	14%	0%	21%	57%	7%
Minimally involved	491	10%	6%	23%	31%	29%
Subtotal	505	10%	6%	23%	32%	28%
Somewhat involved	575	7%	2%	27%	30%	33%
Actively involved	708	4%	2%	18%	40%	36%
Extensively involved	747	3%	2%	16%	35%	44%
Subtotal	2030	5%	2%	20%	35%	38%
Not involved	319	17%	8%	23%	28%	24%
I have left Shambhala	239	27%	12%	21%	18%	22%
Subtotal	558	21%	9%	22%	24%	23%
Total respondents	3093	9%	4%	21%	33%	34%
Total Current Members answering this series of questions N = 1299						
			% Each response			
Total current members	1299	4%	2%	21%	36%	36%
Total respondents relating to a local group or centre and answering this series of questions N = 2162						
			% Each response			
Local leader	681	3%	1%	17%	36%	42%
Not a local leader	1481	7%	4%	23%	35%	32%

Table 3.1e. We need to prioritize kindness and the experience of welcoming inclusiveness in Shambhala culture

	Total respondents answering this series of questions	No opinion or prefer not to answer	Not important	Somewhat important	Very important	Essential
Total respondents answering this series of questions N = 3093						
		% Each response by Activity Level				
Newly involved	14	14%	0%	0%	29%	57%
Minimally involved	491	6%	4%	17%	29%	44%
Subtotal	505	6%	4%	16%	29%	44%
Somewhat involved	575	3%	1%	17%	32%	47%
Actively involved	708	2%	1%	11%	35%	51%
Extensively involved	747	2%	1%	13%	30%	53%
Subtotal	2030	2%	1%	13%	32%	51%
Not involved	319	7%	3%	17%	30%	42%
I have left Shambhala	239	15%	6%	17%	21%	41%
Subtotal	558	10%	4%	17%	27%	42%
Total respondents	3093	2%	4%	14%	31%	48%
Total Current Members answering this series of questions N = 1299						
			% Each response			
Total current members	1299	2%	1%	15%	32%	50%
Total respondents relating to a local group or centre and answering this series of questions N = 2162						
			% Each response			
Local leader	681	2%	1%	13%	33%	52%
Not a local leader	1481	3%	2%	16%	31%	48%

Table 3.1f. International decision makers need to listen more to the Shambhala membership

	Total respondents answering this series of questions	No opinion or prefer not to answer	Not important	Somewhat important	Very important	Essential
Total respondents answering this series of questions N = 3093						
		% Each response by Activity Level				
Newly involved	14	21%	0%	7%	43%	29%
Minimally involved	491	12%	2%	14%	29%	43%
Subtotal	505	12%	2%	14%	29%	43%
Somewhat involved	575	10%	1%	17%	33%	39%
Actively involved	708	8%	2%	18%	31%	40%
Extensively involved	747	8%	3%	20%	29%	39%
Subtotal	2030	9%	2%	18%	31%	40%
Not involved	319	13%	2%	13%	27%	45%
I have left Shambhala	239	17%	2%	10%	18%	53%
Subtotal	558	15%	2%	12%	23%	49%
Total respondents	3093	10%	2%	16%	29%	42%
Total Current Members answering this series of questions N = 1299						
		% Each response				
Total current members	1299	8%	2%	17%	30%	43%
Total respondents relating to a local group or centre and answering this series of questions N = 2162						
		% Each response				
Local leader	681	5%	3%	18%	31%	43%

Not a local leader	1481	11%	2%	18%	29%	40%
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Table 3.1g. We need to address causes of revenue loss, and ensure sustainable financial practices at local and international levels

	Total respondents answering this series of questions	No opinion or prefer not to answer	Not important	Somewhat important	Very important	Essential
Total respondents answering this series of questions N = 3093						
% Each response by Activity Level						
Newly involved	14	29%	0%	7%	50%	14%
Minimally involved	491	8%	3%	20%	33%	36%
Subtotal	505	9%	3%	19%	33%	35%
Somewhat involved	575	7%	3%	24%	36%	30%
Actively involved	708	3%	2%	22%	41%	31%
Extensively involved	747	4%	2%	20%	39%	35%
Subtotal	2030	5%	2%	22%	38%	32%
Not involved	319	14%	8%	22%	29%	27%
I have left Shambhala	239	23%	13%	17%	21%	27%
Subtotal	558	18%	10%	20%	26%	27%
Total respondents	3093	8%	4%	21%	35%	32%
Total Current Members answering this series of questions N = 1299						
% Each response						
Total current members	1299	4%	2%	23%	38%	34%
Total respondents relating to a local group or centre and answering this series of questions N = 2162						
% Each response						
Local leader	681	3%	2%	22%	40%	33%
Not a local leader	1481	7%	3%	22%	37%	32%

Table 3.1h. We need to create a culture of feedback among teachers within Shambhala, so that shared curricula and teacher training more closely reflect the needs of local Centres and Groups

	Total respondents answering this series of questions	No opinion or prefer not to answer	Not important	Somewhat important	Very important	Essential
Total respondents answering this series of questions N = 3093						
		% Each response by Activity Level				
Newly involved	14	21%	7%	0%	43%	29%
Minimally involved	491	13%	3%	26%	35%	23%
Subtotal	505	13%	4%	26%	35%	23%
Somewhat involved	575	10%	5%	27%	36%	23%
Actively involved	708	8%	2%	28%	37%	25%
Extensively involved	747	5%	6%	26%	40%	23%
Subtotal	2030	7%	4%	27%	38%	24%
Not involved	319	18%	6%	26%	27%	24%
I have left Shambhala	239	24%	7%	16%	29%	24%
Subtotal	558	20%	6%	22%	28%	24%
Total respondents	3093	11%	4%	26%	35%	24%
Total Current Members answering this series of questions N = 1299						
		% Each response				
Total current members	1299	8%	4%	29%	36%	23%
Total respondents relating to a local group or centre and answering this series of questions N = 2162						
		% Each response				
Local leader	681	5%	3%	25%	43%	25%
Not a local leader	1481	9%	5%	29%	34%	23%

Table 3.1i. We need to create a structure and culture that includes students of Chogyam Trungpa Rinpoche who are not students of Sakyong Mipham Rinpoche

	Total respondents answering this series of questions	No opinion or prefer not to answer	Not important	Somewhat important	Very important	Essential
Total respondents answering this series of questions N = 3093						
		% Each response by Activity Level				
Newly involved	14	21%	29%	14%	14%	21%
Minimally involved	491	12%	6%	18%	27%	37%
Subtotal	505	13%	7%	18%	27%	36%
Somewhat involved	575	13%	8%	18%	29%	32%
Actively involved	708	12%	6%	22%	30%	29%
Extensively involved	747	6%	7%	27%	30%	31%
Subtotal	2030	10%	7%	23%	29%	30%
Not involved	319	16%	8%	15%	23%	38%
I have left Shambhala	239	25%	12%	15%	18%	30%
Subtotal	558	20%	10%	15%	21%	34%
Total respondents	3093	13%	7%	21%	27%	32%
Total Current Members answering this series of questions N = 1299						
		% Each response				
Total current members	1299	9%	6%	25%	31%	30%
Total respondents relating to a local group or centre and answering this series of questions N = 2162						
		% Each response				
Local leader	681	6%	6%	24%	34%	30%
Not a local leader	1481	12%	8%	22%	27%	31%
Total respondents with demographic data answering this series of questions N = 2055						
		% Each response				
Started when Trungpa Rinpoche was alive						
Current members	366	2%	3%	20%	33%	43%
Not current members	182	7%	5%	12%	17%	60%

Table 3.1i. (cont) We need to create a structure and culture that includes students of Chogyam Trungpa Rinpoche who are not students of Sakyong Mipham Rinpoche

	Total respondents answering this series of questions	No opinion or prefer not to answer	Not important	Somewhat important	Very important	Essential
Started between 1987 and 1999						
Current members	268	8%	5%	29%	29%	29%
Not current members	127	13%	7%	9%	28%	42%
Started between 2000 and 2008						
Current members	312	11%	7%	26%	35%	22%
Not current members	225	15%	9%	19%	26%	32%
Started between 2009 and 2017						
Current members	334	14%	8%	27%	27%	24%
Not current members	217	22%	11%	15%	21%	31%
Started 2018-present						
Current members	19	42%	5%	11%	26%	16%
Not current members	5	0%	0%	0%	20%	80%

Table 3.1j. We need to continue making the Shambhala Vajrayana Teachings Available (Primordial Rigden Ngondro, Rigden Abhisheka, Scorpion Seal)

	Total respondents answering this series of questions	No opinion or prefer not to answer	Not important	Somewhat important	Very important	Essential
Total respondents answering this series of questions N = 3093						
		% Each response by Activity Level				
Newly involved	14	50%	7%	0%	14%	29%
Minimally involved	491	20%	14%	25%	20%	20%
Subtotal	505	21%	14%	25%	20%	20%
Somewhat involved	575	19%	12%	25%	21%	23%
Actively involved	708	16%	11%	23%	19%	31%
Extensively involved	747	8%	7%	17%	22%	46%
Subtotal	2030	14%	10%	21%	21%	34%
Not involved	319	27%	22%	21%	17%	13%
I have left Shambhala	239	36%	29%	16%	10%	8%
Subtotal	558	31%	25%	19%	14%	11%
Total respondents	3093	18%	13%	22%	19%	28%
Total Current Members answering this series of questions N = 1299						
		% Each response				
Total current members	1299	14%	12%	22%	21%	31%
Total respondents relating to a local group or centre and answering this series of questions N = 2162						
		% Each response				
Local leader	681	9%	9%	21%	22%	40%
Not a local leader	1481	18%	13%	23%	19%	27%
Total respondents with demographic data answering this series of questions N = 2055						
		% Each response				
Started when Trungpa Rinpoche was alive						
Current members	366	6%	7%	18%	24%	45%
Not current members	182	19%	21%	24%	19%	17%
Started between 1987 and 1999						
Current members	268	16%	5%	21%	23%	35%
Not current members	127	20%	20%	26%	17%	17%

Table 3.1j. (cont) We need to continue making the Shambhala Vajrayana Teachings Available (Primordial Rigden Ngondro, Rigden Abhisheka, Scorpion Seal)

	Total respondents answering this series of questions	No opinion or prefer not to answer	Not important	Somewhat important	Very important	Essential
Started between 2000 and 2008						
Current members	312	20%	7%	27%	18%	28%
Not current members	225	39%	10%	24%	13%	14%
Started between 2009 and 2017						
Current member	334	23%	16%	23%	20%	17%
Not current members	217	28%	20%	26%	12%	14%
Started 2018-present						
Current members	19	63%	11%	11%	11%	5%
Not current members	5	60%	20%	0%	0%	20%

Table 3.1k. We need to continue making the Kagyu and Nyingma Vajrayana teachings available (Kagyu Ngondro, Vajrayogini, etc.)

	Total respondents answering this series of questions	No opinion or prefer not to answer	Not important	Somewhat important	Very important	Essential
Total respondents answering this series of questions N = 3093						
		% Each response by Activity Level				
Newly involved	14	50%	0%	0%	29%	21%
Minimally involved	491	17%	8%	19%	26%	30%
Subtotal	505	18%	8%	19%	26%	30%
Somewhat involved	575	18%	8%	23%	24%	27%
Actively involved	708	16%	9%	26%	27%	23%
Extensively involved	747	10%	10%	28%	28%	25%
Subtotal	2030	14%	9%	26%	26%	25%
Not involved	319	32%	9%	19%	21%	29%
I have left Shambhala	239	28%	14%	16%	15%	28%
Subtotal	558	30%	11%	18%	18%	28%
Total respondents	3093	18%	9%	23%	25%	26%
Total Current Members answering this series of questions N = 1299						
		% Each response				
Total current members	1299	13%	9%	26%	27%	24%
Total respondents relating to a local group or centre and answering this series of questions N = 2162						
		% Each response				
Local leader	681	11%	8%	30%	30%	21%
Not a local leader	1481	17%	10%	23%	24%	27%
Total respondents with demographic data answering this series of questions N = 2055						
		% Each response				
Started when Trungpa Rinpoche was alive						
Current members	366	4%	7%	21%	32%	36%
Not members	182	8%	8%	16%	19%	49%
Started between 1987 and 1999						
Current members	268	10%	8%	31%	28%	23%

Table 3.1k. (cont) We need to continue making the Kagyu and Nyingma Vajrayana teachings available (Kagyu Ngondro, Vajrayogini, etc.)

	Total respondents answering this series of questions	No opinion or prefer not to answer	Not important	Somewhat important	Very important	Essential
Not members	127	11%	9%	20%	27%	32%
Started between 2000 and 2008						
Current members	312	13%	12%	32%	26%	17%
Not members	225	23%	12%	21%	22%	22%
Started between 2009 and 2017						
Current member	334	23%	12%	24%	22%	19%
Not members	217	29%	13%	21%	18%	19%
Started 2018-present						
Current members	19	63%	5%	11%	11%	11%
Not members	5	40%	20%	0%	20%	20%

Table 3.1I. We need to change policies that discouraged Shambhala Centres and Groups from inviting Buddhist teachers from outside of Shambhala to teach

	Total respondents answering this series of questions	No opinion or prefer not to answer	Not important	Somewhat important	Very important	Essential
Total respondents answering this series of questions N = 3093						
		% Each response by Activity Level				
Newly involved	14	36%	0%	7%	29%	29%
Minimally involved	491	4%	6%	14%	28%	48%
Subtotal	505	5%	6%	13%	28%	48%
Somewhat involved	575	7%	7%	11%	29%	46%
Actively involved	708	5%	8%	17%	31%	39%
Extensively involved	747	6%	13%	21%	27%	33%
Subtotal	2030	6%	10%	17%	29%	39%
Not involved	319	7%	8%	11%	27%	48%
I have left Shambhala	239	9%	4%	10%	19%	58%
Subtotal	558	8%	6%	10%	23%	53%
Total respondents	3093	6%	8%	15%	28%	43%
Total Current Members answering this series of questions N = 1299						
		% Each response				
Total current members	1299	5%	9%	16%	29%	41%
Total respondents relating to a local group or centre and answering this series of questions N = 2162						
		% Each response				
Local leader	681	4%	11%	20%	31%	34%
Not a local leader	1481	6%	8%	15%	27%	44%
Total respondents with demographic data answering this series of questions N = 2055						
		% Each response				
Started when Trungpa Rinpoche was alive						
Current members	366	4%	11%	16%	28%	40%
Not current members	182	4%	7%	7%	12%	69%
Started between 1987 and 1999						
Current members	268	5%	10%	18%	30%	37%
Not current members	127	5%	4%	13%	28%	50%

Table 3.1I. (cont) We need to change policies that discouraged Shambhala Centres and Groups from inviting Buddhist teachers from outside of Shambhala to teach

	Total respondents answering this series of questions	No opinion or prefer not to answer	Not important	Somewhat important	Very important	Essential
Started between 2000 and 2008						
Current members	312	3%	9%	17%	31%	41%
Not current members	225	8%	6%	8%	23%	56%
Started between 2009 and 2017						
Current members	334	5%	6%	14%	28%	47%
Not current members	217	6%	7%	11%	27%	50%
Started 2018-present						
Current members	19	26%	0%	26%	16%	32%
Not current members	5	0%	0%	0%	40%	60%

Observation: Issues related to reforming the culture in Shambhala in regards to behavior, addressing harms and repairing the reputation of our community were considered very important or essential by the most respondents, and particularly by those who are now inactive or who have left Shambhala.

Issues including increasing lungta (energy), creating a culture of kindness and repairing the reputation of Shambhala at a deep level were also supported strongly, although more of those who are inactive or who have left Shambhala have no opinion on these issues. A majority of respondents felt that decision makers need to listen more to the Shambhala membership, were concerned about sustainable revenue practices and aligning curricula with the needs of centres and groups.

Issues relating to whether Shambhala includes students of Chogyam Trungpa Rinpoche as well as the Sakyong, and which sets of Vajrayana teachings are available in the community were considered important, though not as important as those issues listed above. In large part, this was because more of the respondents who entered Shambhala after 1999, as well as those who are inactive or who have left, expressed no opinion on these issues. However, on the question of whether policies that discourage centres and groups from inviting Buddhist teachers from outside of Shambhala to teach, respondents across activity levels and decades began in Shambhala thought this was very important or essential.

Table 3.2. Top Priorities by Subgroup of respondents				
Subgroup of Respondents	Top 5 Priorities listed	% Consider this very important	% Consider this essential	% Consider this very important or essential
Newly or minimally involved	We need to reform a culture that tolerated inappropriate and unacceptable behavior by leadership	17%	68%	85%
	We need to overtly recognize and address past harms that occurred in the community	25%	55%	70%
	We need to change policies that discouraged Shambhala Centres and Groups from inviting Buddhist teachers from outside of Shambhala to teach	28%	48%	76%
	We need to prioritize kindness and the experience of welcoming inclusiveness in Shambhala culture	29%	44%	73%
	We need to repair the reputation of Shambhala at a deep level	21%	49%	70%
Somewhat involved, active or extensively involved	We need to reform a culture that tolerated inappropriate and unacceptable behavior by leadership	23%	60%	83%
	We need to prioritize kindness and the experience of welcoming inclusiveness in Shambhala culture	32%	51%	83%
	We need to overtly recognize and address past harms that occurred in the community	28%	49%	77%
	International decision makers need to listen more to the Shambhala membership	31%	40%	61%
	We need to address the causes of revenue loss and ensure sustainable financial practices at the local and international levels	38%	32%	70%
Not involved or have left Shambhala	We need to reform a culture that tolerated inappropriate and unacceptable behavior by leadership	14%	77%	91%
	We need to overtly recognize and address past harms that occurred in the community	17%	70%	87%
	We need to change policies that discouraged Shambhala Centres and Groups from inviting Buddhist teachers from outside of Shambhala to teach	23%	53%	76%
	International decision makers need to listen more to the Shambhala membership	23%	49%	72%

	We need to repair the reputation of Shambhala at a deep level	15%	54%	69%
Current members	We need to reform a culture that tolerated inappropriate and unacceptable behavior by leadership	21%	65%	86%
	We need to prioritize kindness and the experience of welcoming inclusiveness in Shambhala culture	32%	50%	82%
	We need to overtly recognize and address past harms that occurred in the community	26%	54%	80%
	International decision makers need to listen more to the Shambhala membership	30%	43%	73%
	We need to address the causes of revenue loss and ensure sustainable financial practices at the local and international levels	38%	34%	72%
Local leaders	We need to prioritize kindness and the experience of welcoming inclusiveness in Shambhala culture	33%	52%	85%
	We need to reform a culture that tolerated inappropriate and unacceptable behavior by leadership	22%	62%	84%
	We need to overtly recognize and address past harms that occurred in the community	28%	50%	78%
	International decision makers need to listen more to the Shambhala membership	31%	43%	74%
	We need to address the causes of revenue loss and ensure sustainable financial practices at the local and international levels	40%	33%	73%
Local non-leaders	We need to reform a culture that tolerated inappropriate and unacceptable behavior by leadership	22%	62%	84%
	We need to prioritize kindness and the experience of welcoming inclusiveness in Shambhala culture	31%	48%	79%
	We need to overtly recognize and address past harms that occurred in the community	26%	52%	78%
	We need to change policies that discouraged Shambhala Centres and Groups from inviting Buddhist teachers from outside of Shambhala to teach	27%	44%	71%
	We need to repair the reputation of Shambhala at a deep level	24%	45%	69%

Observation: Overall, the same set of three issues were considered the most important by all sub-groups: reforming a culture that tolerated inappropriate behavior by leaders, addressing past harms, and repairing the reputation of Shambhala. An additional set of four issues: prioritizing kindness and

inclusivity in Shambhala culture, having international decision makers listen to the membership of Shambhala, addressing the causes of revenue loss and ensuring sustainable financial practices at the local and international levels, and changing policies that discouraged Centres and Groups from inviting Buddhist teachers from outside of Shambhala to teach were among the top five issues for some, but not all of the subgroups.

Input on Decision-making

Shambhala includes several entities that span multiple centres and groups or that serve the entire international Shambhala community. The Sense of Shambhala survey asked respondents whether they were satisfied with their level of input into programs and services, organizational structure and decision making, and financial management of these entities.

Shambhala Land Centers

Table 3.3a. Would you prefer to provide less or more input on the programming and services of Shambhala Land Centers?

	Total respondents answering this series of questions	Does not apply to me	Much less input	Somewhat less input	Satisfied with current input	Somewhat more input	Much more input
Total respondents answering this series of questions N = 2635							
		% Each response by Activity level					
Newly involved	12	50%	8%	0%	42%	0%	0%
Minimally involved	411	42%	2%	1%	31%	17%	8%
Subtotal	423	42%	2%	1%	31%	16%	7%
Somewhat involved	483	36%	1%	1%	31%	23%	7%
Actively involved	619	29%	1%	2%	45%	17%	6%
Extensively involved	677	16%	0%	1%	52%	22%	8%
Subtotal	1779	26%	1%	1%	44%	21%	7%
Not involved	239	52%	4%	2%	24%	10%	7%
I have left Shambhala	194	70%	4%	0%	12%	6%	9%
Subtotal	433	60%	4%	1%	19%	8%	8%
Total respondents	2635	34%	2%	1%	38%	18%	7%
Total current members answering this series of questions N = 1266							
		% Each response					
Total current members	1266	27%	1%	1%	45%	20%	6%
Total respondents relating to a local group or centre and answering this series of questions N = 2117							
		% Each response					
Local leader	670	18%	0%	1%	53%	22%	5%
Not a local leader	1447	36%	1%	1%	37%	18%	7%

Table 3.3b. Would you prefer to provide less or more input on the organizational structure and decision-making of Shambhala Land Centers?

	Total respondents answering this series of questions	Does not apply to me	Much less input	Somewhat less input	Satisfied with current input	Somewhat more input	Much more input
Total respondents answering this series of questions N = 2635							
		% Each response by Activity level					
Newly involved	12	50%	8%	0%	42%	0%	0%
Minimally involved	411	53%	2%	1%	23%	14%	7%
Subtotal	423	53%	2%	1%	23%	14%	7%
Somewhat involved	483	52%	2%	1%	23%	17%	5%
Actively involved	619	45%	2%	1%	31%	15%	6%
Extensively involved	677	31%	1%	1%	42%	17%	8%
Subtotal	1779	41%	1%	1%	33%	16%	7%
Not involved	239	58%	3%	1%	21%	9%	8%
I have left Shambhala	194	77%	3%	1%	8%	5%	7%
Subtotal	433	66%	3%	1%	15%	7%	7%
Total respondents	2635	47%	2%	1%	29%	14%	7%
Total current members answering this series of questions N = 1266							
		% Each response					
Total current members	1266	34%	1%	1%	42%	17%	6%
Total respondents relating to a local group or centre and answering this series of questions N = 2117							
		% Each response					
Local leader	670	24%	1%	1%	51%	16%	6%
Not a local leader	1447	42%	1%	1%	34%	15%	6%

Table 3.3c. Would you prefer to provide less or more input on the financial management of Shambhala Land Centers?

	Total respondents answering this series of questions	Does not apply to me	Much less input	Somewhat less input	Satisfied with current input	Somewhat more input	Much more input
Total respondents answering this series of questions N = 2635							
		% Each response					
Newly involved	12	50%	8%	0%	33%	8%	0%
Minimally involved	411	48%	2%	1%	28%	13%	9%
Subtotal	423	48%	2%	1%	28%	13%	8%
Somewhat involved	483	46%	1%	1%	31%	15%	6%
Actively involved	619	37%	2%	2%	40%	13%	6%
Extensively involved	677	23%	1%	3%	50%	16%	8%
Subtotal	1779	34%	1%	2%	41%	15%	7%
Not involved	239	59%	3%	2%	20%	9%	8%
I have left Shambhala	194	73%	3%	1%	8%	5%	10%
Subtotal	433	65%	3%	1%	15%	7%	9%
Total respondents	2635	41%	2%	2%	35%	13%	7%
Total current members answering this series of questions N = 1266							
		% Each response					
Total current members	1266	34%	1%	2%	42%	15%	7%
Total respondents relating to a local group or centre and answering this series of questions N = 2117							
		% Each response					
Local leader	670	24%	1%	2%	49%	17%	6%
Not a local leader	1447	44%	2%	1%	34%	12%	8%

Observation: A plurality of respondents felt that questions about input on Land Center decision-making did not apply to them, although more active respondents and local leaders were more engaged with this question. A third or more of all respondents and half of local leaders were satisfied with their level of input on Land Center decision making, programming and financial management.

Shambhala Retreat Centers

Table 3.4a. Would you prefer to provide less or more input on the programming and services of Shambhala Retreat Centers?

	Total respondents who feel this question applies to them	Does not apply to me	Much less input	Somewhat less input	Satisfied with current input	Somewhat more input	Much more input
Total respondents answering this series of questions N = 2635							
		% Each response by Activity level					
Newly involved	12	50%	8%	0%	42%	0%	0%
Minimally involved	411	53%	2%	1%	27%	11%	5%
Subtotal	423	53%	2%	1%	28%	11%	5%
Somewhat involved	483	52%	1%	1%	28%	14%	5%
Actively involved	619	45%	2%	1%	38%	11%	4%
Extensively involved	677	31%	0%	1%	51%	12%	4%
Subtotal	1779	41%	1%	1%	40%	12%	4%
Not involved	239	58%	3%	1%	23%	11%	4%
I have left Shambhala	194	77%	3%	0%	12%	5%	4%
Subtotal	433	66%	3%	1%	18%	9%	4%
Total respondents	2635	47%	1%	1%	34%	11%	4%
Total current members answering this series of questions N = 1266							
		% Each response					
Total current members	1266	42%	1%	1%	41%	12%	4%
Total respondents relating to a local group or centre and answering this series of questions N = 2117							
		% Each response					
Local leader	670	34%	0%	1%	48%	13%	4%
Not a local leader	1447	49%	1%	1%	33%	12%	4%

Table 3.4b. Would you prefer to provide less or more input on the organizational structure and decision making of Shambhala retreat centers?

	Total respondents answering this series of questions	Does not apply to me	Much less input	Somewhat less input	Satisfied with current input	Somewhat more input	Much more input
Total respondents answering this series of questions N = 2635							
		% Each response by Activity level					
Newly involved	12	50%	8%	0%	42%	0%	0%
Minimally involved	411	55%	3%	1%	27%	9%	4%
Subtotal	423	55%	3%	1%	28%	9%	4%
Somewhat involved	483	57%	1%	1%	30%	8%	3%
Actively involved	619	49%	2%	0%	36%	10%	3%
Extensively involved	677	34%	1%	1%	50%	9%	5%
Subtotal	1779	45%	1%	1%	40%	9%	4%
Not involved	239	61%	3%	0%	23%	8%	5%
I have left Shambhala	194	78%	2%	1%	11%	5%	4%
Subtotal	433	68%	3%	0%	18%	7%	4%
Total respondents	2635	51%	2%	1%	34%	9%	4%
Total current members answering this series of questions N = 1266							
		% Each response					
Total current members	1266	46%	1%	1%	39%	9%	3%
Total respondents relating to a local group or centre and answering this series of questions N = 2117							
		% Each response					
Local leader	670	38%	1%	1%	47%	9%	4%
Not a local leader	1447	52%	1%	1%	38%	9%	3%

Table 3.4c. Would you prefer to provide less or more input on the financial management of Shambhala retreat centers?

	Total respondents answering this series of questions	Does not apply to me	Much less input	Somewhat less input	Satisfied with current input	Somewhat more input	Much more input
Total respondents answering this series of questions N = 2635							
		% Each response by Activity level					
Newly involved	12	50%	8%	0%	33%	8%	0%
Minimally involved	411	55%	2%	0%	27%	9%	6%
Subtotal	423	55%	2%	0%	28%	9%	5%
Somewhat involved	483	55%	1%	1%	30%	9%	4%
Actively involved	619	48%	2%	2%	37%	8%	3%
Extensively involved	677	36%	1%	2%	48%	8%	5%
Subtotal	1779	45%	1%	2%	39%	8%	4%
Not involved	239	63%	2%	2%	22%	6%	5%
I have left Shambhala	194	78%	3%	1%	10%	3%	6%
Subtotal	433	70%	2%	1%	16%	5%	5%
Total respondents	2635	51%	2%	1%	34%	8%	5%
Total current members answering this series of questions N = 1266							
		% Each response					
Total current members	1266	44%	1%	1%	39%	9%	4%
Total respondents relating to a local group or centre and answering this series of questions N = 2117							
		% Each response					
Local leader	670	38%	1%	2%	46%	8%	4%
Not a local leader	1447	52%	2%	1%	32%	8%	4%

Observation: As with land centers, a plurality of respondents felt questions about input to decision making in Shambhala retreat centers did not apply to them, with more leaders and actively involved respondents feeling more engaged. Again, about one-third of all respondents and about half of local leaders were satisfied with their current level of input.

Shambhala Regional Organizations

Table 3.5a. Would you prefer to provide less or more input on the programming and services of Shambhala Regional Organizations (language groups, geographic areas)?

	Total respondents answering this series of questions	Does not apply to me	Much less input	Somewhat less input	Satisfied with current input	Somewhat more input	Much more input
Total respondents answering this series of questions N = 2635							
% Each response by Activity level							
Newly involved	12	50%	8%	0%	33%	8%	0%
Minimally involved	411	55%	2%	0%	27%	9%	6%
Subtotal	423	55%	2%	0%	28%	9%	5%
Somewhat involved	483	55%	1%	1%	30%	9%	4%
Actively involved	619	48%	2%	2%	37%	8%	3%
Extensively involved	677	36%	1%	2%	48%	8%	5%
Subtotal	1779	45%	1%	2%	39%	8%	4%
Not involved	239	63%	2%	2%	22%	6%	5%
I have left Shambhala	194	78%	3%	1%	10%	3%	6%
Subtotal	433	70%	2%	1%	16%	5%	5%
Total respondents	2635	51%	2%	1%	34%	8%	5%
Total current members answering this series of questions N = 1266							
% Each response							
Total current members	1266	43%	1%	1%	37%	13%	5%
Total respondents relating to a local group or centre and answering this series of questions N = 2117							
% Each response							
Local leader	670	32%	1%	2%	43%	17%	6%
Not a local leader	1447	51%	1%	1%	30%	11%	5%

Table 3.5b. Would you prefer to provide less or more input on the organizational structure and decision making of Shambhala Regional Organizations (language groups, geographic areas)?

	Total respondents answering this series of questions	Does not apply to me	Much less input	Somewhat less input	Satisfied with current input	Somewhat more input	Much more input
Total respondents answering this series of questions N = 2635							
		% Each response by Activity level					
Newly involved	12	50%	8%	0%	33%	8%	0%
Minimally involved	411	55%	2%	2%	28%	9%	5%
Subtotal	423	55%	2%	2%	28%	9%	4%
Somewhat involved	483	55%	2%	1%	27%	10%	4%
Actively involved	619	44%	2%	2%	36%	11%	5%
Extensively involved	677	31%	1%	1%	46%	15%	6%
Subtotal	1779	42%	2%	2%	37%	12%	5%
Not involved	239	65%	1%	1%	19%	8%	6%
I have left Shambhala	194	80%	3%	1%	7%	5%	5%
Subtotal	433	72%	2%	1%	14%	6%	6%
Total respondents	2635	49%	2%	1%	32%	11%	5%
Total current members answering this series of questions N = 1266							
		% Each response					
Total current members	1266	43%	1%	1%	38%	12%	5%
Total respondents relating to a local group or centre and answering this series of questions N = 2117							
		% Each response					
Local leader	670	34%	1%	2%	43%	14%	6%
Not a local leader	1447	51%	1%	1%	31%	10%	5%

Table 3.5c. Would you prefer to provide less or more input on the financial management of Shambhala regional organizations (language groups, geographic areas)?

	Total respondents who feel this question applies to them	Does not apply to me	Much less input	Somewhat less input	Satisfied with current input	Somewhat more input	Much more input
Total respondents answering this series of questions N = 2635							
		% Each response by Activity level					
Newly involved	12	50%	8%	0%	33%	8%	0%
Minimally involved	411	56%	2%	1%	27%	8%	6%
Subtotal	423	56%	2%	1%	28%	8%	5%
Somewhat involved	483	54%	1%	1%	28%	10%	5%
Actively involved	619	44%	2%	1%	36%	11%	6%
Extensively involved	677	32%	1%	2%	45%	12%	7%
Subtotal	1779	42%	2%	2%	37%	11%	6%
Not involved	239	66%	2%	1%	17%	9%	5%
I have left Shambhala	194	80%	3%	1%	7%	4%	6%
Subtotal	433	72%	2%	1%	13%	6%	6%
Total respondents	2635	49%	2%	1%	32%	10%	6%
Total current members answering this series of questions N = 1266							
		% Each response					
Total current members	1266	42%	1%	1%	38%	11%	6%
Total respondents relating to a local group or centre and answering this series of questions N = 2117							
		% Each response					
Local leader	670	34%	1%	2%	43%	14%	6%
Not a local leader	1447	51%	2%	1%	31%	9%	6%

Observation: As above, about one- half of respondents, but a smaller portion of active respondents and local leaders, felt questions about input to Shambhala Regional organizations did not apply to them. About one- third of the remainder were satisfied with their current level of input, and one-quarter would like more input.

The Shambhala Board

Table 3.6a. Would you prefer to provide less or more input on the programming and services of the Shambhala Board?

	Total respondents answering this series of questions	Does not apply to me	Much less input	Somewhat less input	Satisfied with current input	Somewhat more input	Much more input
Total respondents answering this series of questions N = 2635							
		% Each response by Activity Level					
Newly involved	12	50%	8%	0%	33%	8%	0%
Minimally involved	411	43%	2%	1%	24%	15%	14%
Subtotal	423	43%	2%	1%	25%	15%	14%
Somewhat involved	483	36%	2%	2%	25%	25%	11%
Actively involved	619	28%	2%	2%	38%	19%	11%
Extensively involved	677	13%	0%	1%	45%	25%	16%
Subtotal	1779	24%	1%	2%	37%	23%	13%
Not involved	239	54%	3%	1%	19%	12%	11%
I have left Shambhala	194	73%	2%	1%	6%	6%	12%
Subtotal	433	63%	2%	1%	13%	9%	12%
Total respondents	2635	34%	1%	1%	31%	19%	13%
Total current members answering this series of questions N = 1266							
		% Each response					
Total current members	1266	25%	1%	1%	36%	23%	13%
Total respondents relating to a local group or centre and answering this series of questions N = 2117							
		% Each response					
Local leader	670	14%	1%	2%	42%	26%	16%
Not a local leader	1447	36%	1%	1%	31%	19%	12%

Table 3.6b. Would you prefer to provide less or more input on the organizational structure and decision making of the Shambhala Board?

	Total respondents answering this series of questions	Does not apply to me	Much less input	Somewhat less input	Satisfied with current input	Somewhat more input	Much more input
Total respondents answering this series of questions N = 2635							
		% Each response by Activity Level					
Newly involved	12	50%	8%	0%	33%	8%	0%
Minimally involved	411	43%	2%	1%	23%	17%	14%
Subtotal	423	43%	2%	1%	23%	17%	13%
Somewhat involved	483	38%	1%	1%	25%	22%	12%
Actively involved	619	30%	2%	1%	35%	20%	13%
Extensively involved	677	14%	0%	1%	43%	25%	16%
Subtotal	1779	26%	1%	1%	35%	22%	14%
Not involved	239	55%	3%	2%	18%	10%	13%
I have left Shambhala	194	74%	3%	1%	4%	6%	12%
Subtotal	433	64%	3%	1%	12%	9%	12%
Total respondents	2635	35%	2%	1%	30%	19%	13%
Total current members answering this series of questions N = 1266							
		% Each response					
Total current members	1266	26%	1%	1%	34%	23%	15%
Total respondents relating to a local group or centre and answering this series of questions N = 2117							
		% Each response					
Local leader	670	15%	1%	1%	41%	27%	15%
Not a local leader	1447	38%	1%	1%	29%	18%	13%

Table 3.6c. Would you prefer to provide less or more input on the financial management of the Shambhala Board?

	Total respondents who feel this question applies to them	Does not apply to me	Much less input	Somewhat less input	Satisfied with current input	Somewhat more input	Much more input
Total respondents answering this series of questions N = 2635							
		% Each response by Activity Level					
Newly involved	12	50%	8%	0%	33%	8%	0%
Minimally involved	411	47%	2%	1%	25%	11%	13%
Subtotal	423	47%	2%	1%	26%	11%	13%
Somewhat involved	483	43%	1%	1%	28%	18%	10%
Actively involved	619	33%	1%	1%	35%	18%	11%
Extensively involved	677	17%	1%	2%	45%	23%	13%
Subtotal	1779	29%	1%	1%	37%	20%	11%
Not involved	239	58%	3%	2%	15%	10%	12%
I have left Shambhala	194	76%	4%	1%	5%	5%	10%
Subtotal	433	66%	3%	1%	11%	8%	11%
Total respondents	2635	38%	2%	1%	31%	16%	12%
Total current members answering this series of questions N = 1266							
		% Each response					
Total current members	1266	29%	1%	1%	36%	20%	13%
Total respondents relating to a local group or centre and answering this series of questions N = 2117							
		% Each response					
Local leader	670	17%	1%	2%	44%	24%	12%
Not a local leader	1447	41%	1%	1%	29%	15%	12%

Observation: More respondents felt the questions on input to the Shambhala Board applied to them, compared to responses to the questions on Shambhala land centers and retreat centers. In general, for those who felt the question applied to them, about half were satisfied with current levels of input, and half would like more input. The portion of respondents who wanted input on Board decision making was

larger than the portion who wanted input on decision making at land centers, retreat centers or in regional organizations. To summarize all three Board-related questions, the results of which were quite consistent, on average, 36% of respondents did not think these applied to them, 34% were satisfied with the current level of input, and 31% wanted more input.

Shambala Global Services

Table 3.7a. Would you prefer to provide less or more input on the programming and services of Shambhala Global Services?

	Total respondents answering this series of questions	Does not apply to me	Much less input	Somewhat less input	Satisfied with current input	Somewhat more input	Much more input
Total respondents answering this series of questions N = 2635							
		% Each response by Activity Level					
Newly involved	12	50%	8%	0%	33%	8%	0%
Minimally involved	411	44%	2%	1%	25%	16%	11%
Subtotal	423	44%	2%	1%	26%	15%	11%
Somewhat involved	483	39%	2%	2%	28%	21%	8%
Actively involved	619	31%	3%	1%	39%	18%	9%
Extensively involved	677	13%	0%	1%	46%	27%	13%
Subtotal	1779	26%	2%	1%	38%	22%	10%
Not involved	244	56%	5%	0%	19%	12%	9%
I have left Shambhala	189	77%	0%	0%	7%	7%	9%
Subtotal	433	65%	3%	0%	14%	10%	9%
Total respondents	2635	35%	2%	1%	32%	19%	10%
Total current members answering this series of questions N = 1266							
		% Each response					
Total current members	1266	26%	2%	1%	38%	22%	11%
Total respondents relating to a local group or centre and answering this series of questions N = 2117							
		% Each response					
Local leader	670	15%	1%	1%	43%	28%	12%
Not a local leader	1447	37%	2%	1%	33%	17%	10%

Table 3.7b. Would you prefer to provide less or more input on the organizational structure and decision making of Shambhala Global Services?

	Total respondents answering this series of questions	Does not apply to me	Much less input	Somewhat less input	Satisfied with current input	Somewhat more input	Much more input
Total respondents answering this series of questions N = 2635							
			% Each response by Activity Level				
Newly involved	12	50%	8%	0%	33%	8%	0%
Minimally involved	411	45%	2%	1%	25%	15%	12%
Subtotal	423	46%	2%	1%	25%	14%	12%
Somewhat involved	483	42%	1%	2%	26%	20%	9%
Actively involved	619	32%	2%	1%	37%	19%	9%
Extensively involved	677	15%	0%	1%	44%	26%	13%
Subtotal	1779	28%	1%	1%	37%	22%	11%
Not involved	239	57%	2%	1%	18%	10%	12%
I have left Shambhala	194	76%	3%	1%	6%	6%	8%
Subtotal	433	66%	2%	1%	12%	8%	10%
Total respondents	2635	37%	1%	1%	31%	18%	11%
Total current members answering this series of questions N = 1266							
			% Each response				
Total current members	1266	29%	1%	1%	36%	22%	11%
Total respondents relating to a local group or centre and answering this series of questions N = 2117							
			% Each response				
Local leader	670	17%	1%	1%	43%	27%	12%
Not a local leader	1447	40%	1%	1%	30%	16%	11%

Table 3.7c. Would you prefer to provide less or more input on the financial management of Shambhala Global Services?

	Total respondents answering this series of questions	Does not apply to me	Much less input	Somewhat less input	Satisfied with current input	Somewhat more input	Much more input
Total respondents answering this series of questions N = 2635							
		% Each response by Activity Level					
Newly involved	12	50%	8%	0%	33%	8%	0%
Minimally involved	411	48%	1%	1%	25%	11%	13%
Subtotal	423	48%	2%	1%	25%	11%	13%
Somewhat involved	483	43%	1%	1%	28%	17%	9%
Actively involved	619	34%	1%	1%	36%	17%	11%
Extensively involved	677	18%	1%	2%	42%	25%	13%
Subtotal	1779	30%	1%	1%	36%	20%	11%
Not involved	239	60%	3%	0%	16%	9%	12%
I have left Shambhala	194	74%	4%	1%	6%	7%	9%
Subtotal	433	66%	3%	0%	12%	8%	10%
Total respondents	2635	39%	1%	1%	30%	17%	11%
Total current members answering this series of questions N = 1266							
		% Each response					
Total current members	1266	30%	1%	1%	35%	21%	12%
Total respondents relating to a local group or centre and answering this series of questions N = 2117							
		% Each response					
Local leader	670	18%	1%	2%	41%	26%	11%
Not a local leader	1447	42%	1%	1%	30%	14%	12%

Observation: As with the Shambhala Board, more respondents felt the question about input to Shambhala Global Services applied to them, with local leaders in particular engaged with this issue. For

those who felt their input was important, again about half felt satisfied with current input and half would prefer more input.

Awareness of issues and events outside of the local Shambhala Community

International Leadership

Table 3.8. Do you feel that you know enough about what is happening in at the international Shambhala leadership level?				
	Total respondents answering this series of questions	I know enough	I would like to know a little more	I would like to know a lot more
Total respondents answering this set of questions N = 2621				
		% Each response by Activity Level		
Newly involved	7	0%	71%	29%
Minimally involved	407	42%	32%	26%
Subtotal	414	42%	33%	26%
Somewhat involved	482	32%	38%	30%
Actively involved	618	32%	39%	29%
Extensively involved	675	30%	37%	33%
Subtotal	1775	31%	38%	31%
Not involved	238	52%	26%	22%
I have left Shambhala	194	66%	13%	21%
Subtotal	432	59%	20%	22%
Total respondents	2621	37%	34%	28%
Total current members answering this set of questions N = 1264				
		% Each response		
Total current members	1264	31%	36%	32%
Total respondents relating to a local group or centre and answering this series of questions N = 2110				
Local leader	669	32%	36%	32%
Not a local leader	1441	35%	37%	29%

Observation: Respondents, current members, local leaders and non-leaders were all split about in thirds on whether they knew enough, wanted to know somewhat more, or wanted to know much more about what was happening with international leadership. More respondents who are not involved or who have left feel that they know enough about what is happening at the international leadership level, although 42% would still like more information.

Table 3.9. What are your primary sources of information for learning about what is happening at the international Shambhala leadership level?

	Total respondents answering this series of questions	Email from international leaders	Friends or word of mouth	Email from local leaders	Shambhala Times	Social media (e.g. Facebook, Reddit)	Sangha Talk on Shambhala Network
Total respondents answering this series of questions N = 3093							
		% Each response by Activity Level					
Newly involved	14	29%	14%	50%	7%	0%	14%
Minimally involved	491	63%	38%	42%	12%	21%	12%
Subtotal	505	62%	38%	42%	12%	20%	12%
Somewhat involved	575	66%	43%	43%	15%	19%	14%
Actively involved	708	73%	51%	48%	23%	15%	18%
Extensively involved	747	83%	57%	48%	34%	21%	24%
Subtotal	2030	75%	51%	46%	25%	18%	19%
Not involved	319	52%	32%	30%	8%	21%	8%
I have left Shambhala	239	42%	30%	23%	8%	26%	10%
Subtotal	558	48%	31%	27%	8%	23%	9%
Total respondents	3093	68%	45%	42%	20%	19%	16%
Total current members answering this series of questions N = 1299							
		% Each response					
Total current members	1299	83%	57%	54%	27%	22%	23%
Total respondents relating to a local group or centre and answering this series of questions N = 2117							
Table 3.9. What are your primary sources of information for learning about what is happening at the international Shambhala leadership level?							

	Total respondents answering this series of questions	Email from international leaders	Friends or word of mouth	Email from local leaders	Shambhala Times	Social media (e.g. Facebook, Reddit)	Sangha Talk on Shambhala Network
		% Each response					
Local leader	681	91%	60%	52%	37%	22%	27%
Not a local leader	1489	77%	51%	53%	19%	20%	15%

Table 3.9 (cont). What are your primary sources of information for learning about what is happening at the international Shambhala leadership level?

	Total respondents answering this series of questions	Local websites	Newsletters	Forums on Shambhala Network	Process Team website	Main Shambhala Website
Total respondents answering this series of questions N = 3093						
		% Each response by Activity level				
Newly involved	14	36%	29%	7%	7%	21%
Minimally involved	491	12%	12%	11%	9%	8%
Subtotal	505	13%	12%	11%	9%	9%
Somewhat involved	575	14%	14%	11%	12%	9%
Actively involved	708	20%	18%	16%	15%	16%
Extensively involved	747	22%	22%	23%	21%	20%
Subtotal	2030	19%	18%	17%	16%	16%
Not involved	319	7%	11%	6%	11%	11%
I have left Shambhala	239	8%	9%	8%	10%	8%
Subtotal	558	7%	10%	7%	11%	9%
Total respondents	3093	16%	16%	14%	14%	13%
Total current members answering this series of questions N = 1299						
		% Each response				
Total current members	1299	22%	20%	19%	18%	16%

Table 3.9 (cont). What are your primary sources of information for learning about what is happening at the international Shambhala leadership level?

	Total respondents answering this series of questions	Local websites	Newsletters	Forums on Shambhala Network	Process Team website	Main Shambhala Website
Total respondents relating to a local group or centre and answering this series of questions N = 2170						
		% Each response				
Local leader	681	25%	24%	24%	23%	20%
Not a local leader	1489	18%	17%	15%	14%	14%

Table 3.9 (cont) What are your primary sources of information for learning about what is happening at the international Shambhala leadership level?

	Total respondents answering this series of questions	Board Website	No Source of information	Leadership zoom calls
Total respondents answering this series of questions N = 3093				
		% Each response by Activity Level		
Newly involved	14	7%	36%	7%
Minimally involved	491	6%	12%	2%
Subtotal	505	6%	12%	2%
Somewhat involved	575	7%	12%	2%
Actively involved	708	11%	10%	9%
Extensively involved	747	18%	5%	27%
Subtotal	2030	12%	9%	14%
Not involved	319	7%	15%	1%
I have left Shambhala	239	6%	20%	1%
Subtotal	558	6%	17%	1%
Total respondents	3093	10%	11%	9%

Table 3.9 (cont) What are your primary sources of information for learning about what is happening at the international Shambhala leadership level?

	Total respondents answering this series of questions	Board Website	No Source of information	Leadership zoom calls
Total current members answering this series of questions N = 1299				
		% Each response		
Total current members	1299	14%	9%	14%
Total respondents relating to a local group or centre and answering this series of questions N = 2170				
		% Each response		
Local leader	681	20%	7%	30%
Not a local leader	1489	10%	12%	5%

Observation: Email from international leaders, local leaders, and friends or word of mouth were the most frequent sources of information about issues with international leaders in Shambhala. Local leaders had more different sources of information than other sub-groups of respondents. Social media was a source of information for about 20% of respondents.

Financial issues

Table 3.10. Do you feel that you know enough about financial issues in Shambhala?				
Activity Level	Total respondents answering this series of questions	I know enough	I would like to know a little more	I would like to know a lot more
Total respondents answering this set of questions N = 2621				
		% Each response by Activity Level		
Newly involved	7	0%	71%	29%
Minimally involved	407	49%	27%	24%
Subtotal	414	49%	28%	24%
Somewhat involved	482	39%	33%	28%
Actively involved	618	39%	35%	27%
Extensively involved	675	38%	34%	28%
Subtotal	1775	39%	34%	27%
Not involved	238	52%	24%	24%
I have left Shambhala	194	70%	10%	20%
Subtotal	432	60%	18%	22%
Total respondents	2621	44%	30%	26%
Total current members answering this set of questions N = 1264				
		% Each response		
Total current members	1264	38%	32%	30%
Total respondents relating to a local group or centre and answering this series of questions N = 2110				
Local leader	669	39%	34%	28%
Not a local leader	1441	42%	33%	25%

Observation: Compared to international leadership issues, more respondents feel that they know enough about financial issues in Shambhala, although slightly more than half would like to know more. A larger portion of respondents who are not involved or who have left Shambhala feel they know enough about financial issues.

Table 3.11. What are your primary sources of information for learning about financial issues in Shambhala?

	Total respondents answering this series of questions	Email from international leaders	Email from local leaders	Friends or word of mouth	Social media (e.g. Facebook, Reddit)	Board website	Process Team website	Sangha Talk
Total respondents answering this series of questions N = 3093								
		% Each response by Activity level						
Newly involved	14	36%	50%	21%	0%	7%	21%	0%
Minimally involved	491	62%	36%	26%	12%	5%	5%	7%
Subtotal	505	61%	36%	26%	12%	5%	6%	7%
Somewhat involved	575	65%	38%	31%	10%	7%	8%	8%
Actively involved	708	67%	42%	33%	8%	11%	9%	7%
Extensively involved	747	80%	39%	36%	9%	15%	10%	9%
Subtotal	2030	71%	40%	34%	9%	11%	9%	8%
Not involved	319	54%	29%	24%	15%	4%	5%	5%
I have left Shambhala	239	41%	19%	24%	19%	5%	6%	5%
Subtotal	558	49%	24%	24%	17%	4%	5%	5%
Total respondents	3093	66%	36%	31%	11%	9%	8%	7%
Total current members answering this series of questions N = 1299								
		% Each response						
Total current members	1299	80%	47%	45%	11%	12%	10%	10%
Total respondents relating to a local group or centre and answering this series of questions N = 2170								
		% Each response						
Local leader	681	85%	44%	51%	10%	18%	13%	10%
Not a local leader	1489	75%	45%	40%	11%	8%	8%	8%

Table 3.11 (cont) What are your primary sources of information for learning about financial issues in Shambhala?							
	Total respondents answering this series of questions	News-letters	Local web sites	Forums on Shambhala Network	Shambhala Times	Main Shambhala Website	Zoom calls with Shambhala leadership
% Each response by Activity Level							
Newly involved	14	14%	0%	0%	0%	0%	7%
Minimally involved	491	4%	7%	5%	4%	4%	0%
Subtotal	505	5%	7%	5%	4%	4%	0%
Somewhat involved	575	7%	8%	5%	7%	7%	1%
Actively involved	708	8%	7%	6%	8%	8%	4%
Extensively involved	747	9%	9%	9%	8%	8%	15%
Subtotal	2030	8%	8%	7%	8%	8%	7%
Not involved	319	5%	5%	4%	4%	4%	0%
I have left Shambhala	239	5%	5%	4%	3%	3%	1%
Subtotal	558	5%	5%	4%	4%	4%	0%
Total respondents	3093	7%	7%	6%	6%	6%	5%
Total current members answering this series of questions N = 1299							
% Each response							
Total current members	1299	8%	8%	8%	9%	7%	8%
Total respondents relating to a local group or centre and answering this series of questions N = 2170							
% Each response							
Local leader	681	10%	7%	10%	9%	9%	17%
Not a local leader	1489	7%	8%	6%	7%	7%	2%

Observation: Email from international and local leaders, and information from friends or word of mouth, were the primary sources of information about financial issues in Shambhala. Local leaders also identified the Shambhala Board website and leadership zoom calls as sources of information, but these were not identified by other respondents.

Other Shambhala Groups and Centres

Table 3.12. Do you feel that you know enough about the activities of other Centres and Groups besides your own?				
Activity Level	Total respondents answering this series of questions	I know enough	I would like to know a little more	I would like to know a lot more
Total respondents answering this set of questions N = 2621				
		% Each response by Activity Level		
Newly involved	7	0%	71%	29%
Minimally involved	407	53%	33%	14%
Subtotal	414	52%	34%	14%
Somewhat involved	482	43%	40%	16%
Actively involved	618	39%	43%	18%
Extensively involved	675	39%	39%	23%
Subtotal	1775	40%	41%	19%
Not involved	238	63%	23%	14%
I have left Shambhala	194	78%	11%	10%
Subtotal	432	70%	18%	12%
Total respondents	2621	47%	36%	17%
Total current members answering this set of questions N =1264				
		% Each response		
Total current members	1264	41%	39%	20%
Total respondents relating to a local group or centre and answering this series of questions N = 2110				
Local leader	669	40%	40%	21%
Not a local leader	1441	44%	39%	17%

Observation: Between 40% and 50% of respondents know enough about what is happening in Centres and groups besides their own, and the remainder would like to know more. As above, those who are inactive or have left more frequently felt that they knew enough about what is happening at other Centres and groups, but still, 30% would like to know more..

Table 3.13. What are your primary sources of information for learning about other Shambhala Centers or Groups besides your own?

	Total respondents answering this series of questions	Friends or word of mouth	Email from international leaders	Email from local leaders	Local websites	Newsletters	Social Media (Facebook, Reddit)
Total respondents answering this series of questions N = 3093							
		% Each response by Activity Level					
Newly involved	14	21%	21%	36%	14%	14%	7%
Minimally involved	491	27%	36%	29%	13%	10%	13%
Subtotal	505	27%	36%	29%	13%	10%	13%
Somewhat involved	575	33%	35%	29%	18%	15%	12%
Actively involved	708	41%	34%	31%	25%	21%	8%
Extensively involved	747	48%	36%	31%	29%	27%	12%
Subtotal	2030	41%	35%	30%	24%	22%	11%
Not involved	319	24%	34%	24%	10%	10%	14%
I have left Shambhala	239	26%	23%	14%	6%	8%	17%
Subtotal	558	25%	29%	20%	8%	9%	15%
Total respondents	3093	36%	34%	28%	20%	18%	12%
Total current members answering this series of questions N = 1299							
		% Each response					
Total current members	1299	45%	40%	34%	26%	23%	13%
Total respondents relating to a local group or centre and answering this series of questions N = 2170							
		% Each response					
Local leader	681	51%	37%	35%	33%	32%	13%
Not a local leader	1489	40%	41%	35%	21%	18%	12%

Table 3.13 (cont) What are your primary sources of information for learning about other centers or groups besides your own?								
	Total respondents answering this series of questions	Main Shambhala Website	Sangha Talk	Forums on Shambhala Network	Shambhala Times	Zoom calls with Shambhala leadership	PT website	Board website
Total respondents answering this series of questions N = 3093								
% Each response by Activity Level								
Newly involved	14	14%	7%	7%	0%	7%	7%	0%
Minimally involved	491	10%	7%	7%	6%	1%	1%	2%
Subtotal	505	10%	7%	7%	6%	1%	1%	2%
Somewhat involved	575	11%	9%	7%	9%	1%	2%	1%
Actively involved	708	15%	11%	13%	12%	3%	3%	2%
Extensively involved	747	14%	15%	15%	16%	14%	4%	3%
Subtotal	2030	14%	12%	12%	13%	7%	3%	2%
Not involved	319	8%	6%	4%	4%	0%	3%	2%
Have left Shambhala	239	4%	4%	3%	4%	0%	2%	2%
Subtotal	558	6%	5%	4%	4%	0%	2%	2%
Total respondents	3093	12%	10%	10%	10%	4%	3%	2%
Total current members answering this series of questions N = 1299								
% Each response								
Total current members	1299	14%	13%	13%	14%	7%	4%	3%
Total respondents relating to a local group or centre and answering this series of questions N = 2170								
% Each response								
Local leader	681	15%	16%	17%	18%	16%	3%	2%
Not a local leader	1489	14%	11%	10%	10%	2%	3%	2%

Observation: There appear to be fewer sources of information on the activities of other Shambhala Centres and Groups, compared to the sources of information on international issues. Friends and word of mouth are the most common sources of information, and local leaders have more sources of information than members.

Geographic spread in Shambhala

One of the unique features of our international Shambhala community is the range and variety of geographic locations that are included. This also raises challenges for assuring accessibility to programs and services, and for respecting cultural diversity. A set of questions in the Sense of Shambhala survey

addressed these issues.

Table 3.14. Have any of the following issues created difficulties for you in accessing aspects of Shambala?

Region	Number of respondents answering this series of questions	% All respondents	None	Language barriers	Travel distance	Infrequent contact with senior teachers	Difficult to attend events due to their location
Africa	9	<1%	22%	<1%	67%	33%	44%
Asia and Oceania	37	1%	16%	<1%	62%	43%	59%
Canada	535	20%	51%	2%	23%	13%	27%
Central America and Mexico	19	1%	37%	<1%	37%	11%	32%
Europe -Eastern	49	2%	35%	10%	41%	20%	41%
Europe -Western	433	17%	46%	16%	29%	12%	20%
Middle East	4	<1%	0%	25%	50%	50%	50%
South America	36	1%	31%	22%	47%	17%	53%
United States	1500	57%	67%	1%	18%	11%	19%
Total	2622	100%	58%	4%	23%	13%	23%

Table 3.14 (cont). Have any of the following issues created difficulties for you in accessing aspects of Shambala?

Region	Number of respondents answering this series of questions	Scheduled times inconvenient due to location	Cultural differences lead to misunderstandings	High program costs due to currency issues	High material costs due to shipping expenses	Import taxes	Cultural assumptions do not fit local experience
Africa	9	33%	0%	44%	33%	0%	11%
Asia and Oceania	37	41%	5%	49%	32%	8%	3%
Canada	535	3%	1%	34%	9%	1%	2%
Central America and Mexico	19	5%	11%	37%	11%	5%	16%
Europe Eastern	49	10%	12%	53%	33%	8%	16%
Europe Western	433	9%	11%	15%	18%	6%	8%
Middle East	4	25%	0%	75%	25%	0%	0%
South America	36	8%	3%	33%	28%	8%	8%
United States	1500	2%	1%	5%	6%	0%	1%
Total	2622	5%	3%	15%	10%	2%	3%

Observation: Slightly less than half of the respondents reported some barriers to access of elements in Shambhala related to their geographic location. Travel distances and expenses were the most common issues identified, with respondents residing in Asia, Oceania, Africa, Eastern Europe, the Middle East and South America were the most affected.

Table 3.15. How well do the communications you receive from Shambhala recognize and respect your different culture, centre or group size, experiences, priorities and other circumstances?

	Number of respondents answering this series of questions	Hardly at all	Occasionally	Moderately well	Very well
Total respondents answering this series of questions N = 2622					
		% Each response			
Africa	9	22%	33%	33%	11%
Asia and Oceania	37	30%	14%	41%	16%
Canada	535	12%	15%	41%	32%
Central America and Mexico	19	26%	32%	21%	21%
Europe Eastern	49	6%	27%	45%	22%
Europe Western	433	13%	23%	42%	21%
Middle East	4	50%	25%	25%	0%
South America	36	14%	28%	31%	28%
United States	1500	12%	14%	40%	33%
Total	2622	13%	16%	40%	30%

Observation: There was wide variety across regions in reports about how well communications from Shambhala respect and recognize different cultural, regional or social contexts. Respondents located in the United States and Canada felt the most well recognized and respected.

Shambhala Vision Statement

A working group of the Shambhala Process Team proposed the following as a vision statement for Shambhala:

Vision: Where we hope to see the community several years in the future:

Shambhala as a thriving community, abiding in accord with the wisdom of all humanity and the Shambhala teachings and practices, which continually evolve through gentleness, kindness, fearlessness and wisdom.

Table 3.16. How similar is this statement to your personal vision for the Shambhala community?						
	Total respondents answering this series of questions	Very different	Somewhat different	Mixed	Somewhat similar	Very Similar
Total respondents answering this set of questions N = 2620						
		% Each response by Activity Level				
Newly involved	12	0%	0%	25%	25%	50%
Minimally involved	406	10%	11%	22%	25%	31%
Subtotal	418	10%	11%	22%	25%	32%
Somewhat involved	480	10%	11%	19%	27%	34%
Actively involved	616	5%	11%	16%	27%	40%
Extensively involved	674	5%	11%	16%	27%	41%
Subtotal	1770	7%	11%	17%	27%	39%
Not involved	238	13%	11%	24%	27%	24%
I have left Shambhala	194	32%	10%	29%	13%	15%
Subtotal	432	22%	11%	27%	21%	20%
Total respondents	2620	10%	11%	19%	26%	34%
Total current members answering this set of questions N =1261						
		% Each response				
Total current members	1261	6%	11%	18%	28%	37%
Total respondents relating to a local group or centre and answering this series of questions N = 2105						
		% Each response				
Local leader	668	4%	13%	15%	26%	41%
Not a local leader	1437	8%	10%	19%	27%	35%

Observation: The vision statement for Shambhala, proposed by the Process Team, is similar to the personal vision held by about 60% of survey respondents. More details on this and on additional open ended questions are included in Part 4 of this report.