



**Dear friends,**

How are you doing? Our center is still open but in Danang schools and universities are closed and students are required to follow online classes. Restaurants, hotels, resorts are more and more closed. Also flights are restricted and traveling is banned, which is a set back for the tourist industry. Big gatherings are not possible anymore and sports events are canceled. There was a great panic when a Vietnamese woman returned from a visit to her sister in Italy. In doing so, she contracted the coronavirus. She also visited London and came to Danang with two English tourists. They also got infected. Now at six points in the city traffic police are checking people. Although people are walking around with mouth masks, they are still doing their thing as good as possible, staying calm and trying to cope with the restrictions.



**Wonderful visits of friends**

We had some wonderful people visiting us. An American couple who have been working in Thailand for more than 40 years came to visit us. They were invited by a business couple to spend their holidays at a resort near our center. We had a great time together and they showed so much interest in what we were doing. A Dutchman who keeps bees came to visit his relatives in HCM city. He called us and was willing to take many folding cards with him for the workgroup in Holland who are selling them to support our work. He was a very interesting man, just like another visitor, a young entrepreneur who traveled several months throughout Asia. He was searching for new possibilities after he felt frustrated with his last job. We had a great time with him and all our young workers loved

him. It was so refreshing to meet all these people. Others came too but they were not all able to visit us, like a group of international students due to travel (virus) restrictions.

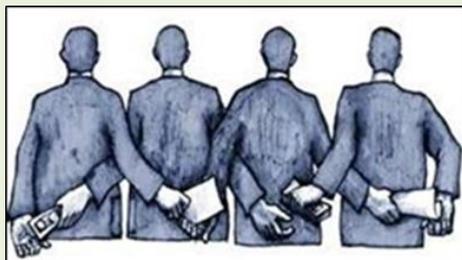
**Just in time**

In our center, we have one foreigner who works as a technical advisor. Every two years his permits for working and staying in Vietnam need to be extended. In January, after a health check, his application form was presented to local authorities. Because of the coronavirus, he needed to wait for two weeks after he visited Thailand during the Vietnamese new years celebrations. Our staff worked hard to get it all done in time, and to push hard to convince the officers. These officers were very confused at the beginning after the virus outbreak. Finally, he got his permissions, just before all kinds of restrictions were made by the government. Leaving the country is still possible, but there is no way to come back. When traveling to other cities in the country a 2-week quarantine is required in each city.



**Being robbed**

When a Korean company sponsored the 30,000 ovens, they were given credits by their government. A Vietnamese businessman in Hanoi worked as a mediator and spread the ovens in North Vietnam. We had to work very hard, but were very happy when we succeeded. The relationship with this businessman in Hanoi and the Koreans was very open and we hoped for another order. After we had not heard anything, our director started to search the internet early February. He was very surprised when he found a newspaper article, where they praised our clean ovens but under a different name. A very large order had been given to the businessman in Hanoi. He had contacted several companies to produce our ovens under a different name, even sealed it with copyrights. Our director could hardly believe it and felt being robbed. The businessman is unreachable for comments and the Koreans are not interested in our story. Their goal is to get credits from their government to expand their own businesses. There is nothing we can do, but we know that righteousness will prevail.



**Staying home**

At the moment we are still making clean cooking stoves, but with fewer people and in a different gear. We have asked Mr. Tuan to stay home although he is one of our oldest workers. Now we have less specialized work for him and the other workers can handle it. We are very thankful for all the years he served. He left us some remarkable instruments to be used and one of them is a mechanical clock made by bicycle parts, to move a 3-meter high parabolic cooker. It became for many visitors an attraction for taking pictures. When we told Tuan our present situation he was not surprised and is now trying to help his sister in the countryside.





★ Vietnam

**Not in vain**

At the moment we are experiencing the effect of coronavirus. We at Green Impact are not under fear, but we have to work together with others. We do what we can and keep our heads up. In our newsletters, we have told you that individuals, clubs, churches, sports events, schools, and organizations have been sponsoring us for many years. We have never asked for it, so it always came spontaneously. A Dutch workgroup asked us to update our folders and bookmarks. They also came up with a beautiful huge flag and were planning to exhibit all of it at a conference for more than 2000 participants. They worked hard and diligently to put a good presentation together. But one day before the conference was held, they received the news that the gathering was postponed due to the corona crisis. But we think that their effort was not in vain and that at a later point it will all be okay.

**What about our Family Business Training?**

After the Vietnamese New Year's holidays, we started to contact places throughout the country for our newest training courses. Some leaders expressed their concern about bringing people together although that time there was not so much fear. So, we decided to make trips to several locations where we had our training before. In February we shared a report of several successful participants who started several businesses like a shop for wedding dresses, a food restaurant and also a new idea of planting a special tree that was neglected by locals for a long time. But after this, there were lots of restrictions and now we are not allowed to travel anymore. We are relaxed in knowing that there will be a time soon that we can continue to bless many families again.



**Finally**

On the 22nd of May, it will be our 20th anniversary. In the last twenty years we have been going through many storms, so we believe that we will survive through this storm too. We have never done things in our own strength but relied on God's blessings and the wonderful friendships we had in the last twenty years with you. Again, thank you so much. It means a lot to us!

Greetings,

Green Impact team

Called to Serve

For more information write to: [infogreenimpact@gmail.com](mailto:infogreenimpact@gmail.com)

**Note:**

Our website is still under construction. Keep an eye on it. You will be able to open it soon: [\(Click here\)](#)



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