



The last few months it has been a real challenge to live in Vietnam, but probably not as much as in your country. The amazing thing is that no one died of the corona virus in Vietnam, although several hundred people were infected. For a while, people had to wear face masks, but now it is only required on certain important points. Schools in Danang have started already and shops and restaurants are doing their businesses again. The beaches are open to the public, so we are ready for the Summer.



Open during the crisis

We decided to stay open during this crisis. One day the streets were almost empty. The government had made some announcements but they were misunderstood. Many factories, shops, and restaurants were suddenly closed. It took a while before they were re-opened. But during this crisis more people were walking, running, and even more biking. Parents spent more time with their children. Relationships were restored, but it all changed when life became normal again.

Experiencing protection

The water tank on the roof became old and started to leak. A new tank had to be ordered. That was not so easy at first. The shops were closed after the announcement of the authorities. After things were clarified, a new tank was soon delivered. The old tank had to go down from the fourth floor. Our workers worked hard. Unfortunately, the rope broke and the tank fell down a few meters. Nobody was hurt and everyone was thankful. They were still able to replace it with a new tank and now we have water again.



The 20th Anniversary

In 1997 Mr.Bich became interested in a new type of solar cooker. He opened a factory and employed several workers. Some of them were disabled and very soon they made their first 8 solar cookers They were well received and in 2000 Mr.Bich was able to sign a contract with the University of Danang. This was the official beginning of Solar Serve (later named Green Impact). You can read all our developments on our website. Here is what we did during our celebration:

Keep it simple

Ten years ago we celebrated our 10th anniversary in a hotel. Our deaf workers entertained us with a great dance, but sadly we were interrupted. This year we decided to keep it more simple. After a few songs and sharing some forgotten stories, the wife of Mr.Bich had prepared a Vietnamese hotpot on the roof of our new building. Without being disturbed we were able to eat and enjoy each other. It was a great blessing and a very pleasant evening. Here are some pictures:



A great blessing

A Swiss organization sponsored 600 families during the corona crisis. On May 12, the first 300 ovens were shipped to Vung Tau, a city in South Vietnam with an additional 20 ovens sponsored by a young businessman. On May 23, another 300 ovens were transported to a few villages of the Katu ethnic minority in the Highlands. We were able to hand them out but one village was difficult to enter, so we had to transport the ovens by hand or cart. The people were very grateful.





Cutting skills

It is a lot of fun to work with our ethnic minorities. They are always singing, hard-working, and do not require a lot. They help each other with cooking and cleaning, but also cutting their hair. We have seen the most outstanding models. We were a bit cautious, but finally, some of us gave in and allowed them to use their skills on us. Hans from Holland was the first foreigner they ever cut. It was a great experience and everyone praised them. Finally, our director rewarded them with a pair of scissors.

A new model

We are considering making a new parabolic cooker. There are different models in circulation. At this moment we are using a new model in front of our center and it is very fast. We'd like to remodel it, but with the same capacity. We have contacted the engineer who made the machines for pressing our clean cookers. Now he is making several molds for this new parabol and we will be able to use our old machines, instead of purchasing a whole new machine. We have received funds for it already!



Videos and Website

If you have not seen our latest videos please [click on our YouTube channel](#) and click on the latest ones. We are also making a video of our 20 years journey in serving others and this will soon be released. Keep an eye on it. Another development is [our website \(click\)](#). We want to keep it very simple. At this moment we only focus on the 3G Clean Cookstoves and our new Parabolic Cookers. They are very useful and great gifts for sponsoring. We did not put the other products on the shelf, but their demands are limited.

FBT courses restarted

Mr.Bick and Mr.Phi have been teaching their popular FBT course again after the corona crisis calmed down. They were invited to Quang Ngai (150 km south of Danang). Around 30 family business owners showed up. The study was well-received. While teaching, they received a call from people in the mountains who joined their course last year (photo). They were very excited because they have made their village into a successful tourist attraction. This was a good example to stir up the new students in Quang Ngai.



Special relationship

Our workers are doing well. We have enough work for them to do and some of them are studying English too. There is more time for interaction. Vu is deaf and learns to deal with his shortcomings well. He is a very good worker. Our minority workers



love him and learned to communicate with him in simple sign language. They work together all day and often they take Vu out to play football or to swim at the nearby beach. It seems so simple, but they all grow up as people with a real identity.

Finally

Please contact us if you would like to help, especially the ones who are suffering from [indoor pollution \(click\)](#). We are more than willing to be an extension of your organization or company to help them. In the meantime, we wish you all the best. The beaches are crowded again and our city opens itself up for you, so please let us know if you are in the region and come to visit us.

Greetings,

Green Impact team

Called to Serve

For more information write to: infogreenimpact@gmail.com