

27th April 2020

Covid-19 : Implications for Nouvelle Planète

The global pandemic of Covid-19 has repercussions on *Nouvelle Planète* operations in Switzerland as well as in our countries of intervention. With regards to these exceptional circumstances, *Nouvelle Planète* has taken unprecedented measures in its 34 years of existence:

1) Project implementation in our regions of intervention carries on

Despite various challenges (compliance with government restrictions, preventive health measures, shortage of construction materials and social tensions, etc.), ongoing projects continue to be implemented. Protecting the health of our beneficiaries and our coordination teams is the utmost priority. All projects scheduled for 2020 will be implemented, in some cases with a delay. Our overarching goal is to limit the impact of the crisis on beneficiaries who are already in vulnerable position. Fortunately, we can rely on a solid financial base, loyal donors and competent and professional teams in the field.

2) All solidarity camps in 2020 are cancelled

All solidarity camps (youth, adult/senior, existing groups) are cancelled. *Nouvelle Planète* is responsible to limit the expansion of Covid-19 and to protect the beneficiaries of the projects. As the evolution of the situation is highly unpredictable, this does not allow for a smooth camp preparation, both in Switzerland and in host countries, without mentioning numerous operational constraints and uncertainties (restrictions on public gatherings, security and sanitary situation in the host countries, absence of flights, travel restrictions, delays in project implementation, risk of a new wave of infections, etc.).

We are encouraging everyone to sign up for next year's camps while hoping that the situation will have normalized.

3) In Switzerland, *Nouvelle Planète* team has made use of partial unemployment

These decisions have repercussions on our work in Switzerland. We have decided to make use of partial unemployment. Up until the end of September, the entire staff is working 50% of their usual working time. A regular presence at the office has been organized and we are responding quickly to emails, telephones and mail.

We would like to thank you for your understanding and support during these difficult times and we are looking forward seeing you soon. Take care.

Philippe Randin
Director

Laure Revertera
President of the Board