This is a strange time in the history of our planet and more than ever it is hard to know what tomorrow will bring. The updates below from our grant recipients certainly demonstrates how global this pandemic is. We really are all in this together, and together we will make it through this difficult time.

Project Alianza in Nicaragua
The global coronavirus pandemic is affecting our families, our communities, and our way of life. During this time, I wanted to reach out and let you know how we are addressing this challenge.

First and foremost, our goal is to keep our staff safe. All of our employees...
continue to pay our staff and contract workers and understand dozens of individuals rely on Alianza to feed and care for their families and loved ones. Many of our workers live with elderly or vulnerable family members. We have opened our Matagalpa office to them in case they sense a need to distance themselves from family members.

Sunsar Maya in Nepal
The Nepali government announced a nationwide lockdown, leaving only emergency and essential services in operation. While we believe this is the right course of action, we remain deeply concerned for the people of Nepal. The healthcare system is ill-equipped to handle a pandemic and many remote areas of the country do not have access to care.

- Prior to the lock-down, we provided in-depth corona-virus education to our students, focusing in particular on hand-washing and social distancing measures. We have also shared with the students the role they can play in educating their family and friends, as access to reliable information is difficult for many families without phones or televisions.
- Hand sanitizer is difficult to find in Nepal, so we have provided our students with as much soap as possible to take home.
- Daily meals are an important part of the services we provide. We will work to provide food and support as needed.
- Finally, we are committed to paying our teachers and staff their full salaries during the crisis.
Saha Global in Ghana
Like everywhere, the situation in Ghana is changing daily. They restricted travel from all countries with over 200 cases (so the US falls in that restriction), and school and public gatherings have been cancelled for the next 4 weeks. Since things are happening so quickly, our leadership team has daily calls each afternoon to discuss any new developments and if they require any new changes to our operations for the next day.

The goals of Saha's COVID response are the health of our staff and partner communities, spreading accurate information, and following the instructions of public health officials. With those 3 goals in mind, we have decided to pause any new water business openings while we await to see how the situation in Ghana unfolds. Instead, we are going to focus our efforts on making sure that our 245 current partner communities have the water treatment supplies that they need to keep their water businesses running smoothly, especially if travel becomes more restricted. We are also reaching out to our government partners to see how Saha can help spread accurate information about COVID, hand washing and/or other important messages since we have such strong relationships with so many remote, rural villages and the staff/transport required to visit those communities quickly.

Yspaniola in the Dominican Republic
Here at Yspaniola and Batey Libertad we are following all the necessary procedures issued by the government and the health department. Our schools are closed, and we are working from home until it is safe to go back. Additionally, we have been orienting community members with information about COVID-19 in ways to keep
members) for everyone to keep social distancing. Thankfully, at least for now, the community has not had anyone who has tested positive!