



Dear Friends:

Cordial greetings from the Piura region in Peru. We are on day 58 of the national emergency due to the COVID-19 pandemic and the situation is not very favorable. We are one of the four regions with the highest number of infected cases in the country and with a case fatality rate of around 10%, which is why mandatory social isolation with a curfew is being maintained and for much longer hours than in the rest of the country. We have so far 72,059 people infected with coronavirus nationwide and 2,575 deceased as of May 14th.

In the interior of the region, the communities have decided to isolate themselves because they do not have appropriate health services and are afraid of getting infected. They have a strict policy, "No one enters, no one leaves" and they do not allow even basic necessities to enter. The farmers cannot go to work on their farms; therefore we are supporting them with the basic food staples in this difficult situation. In addition to this, in the markets in the center of the region, the percentage of infected sellers exceeds 50% of the total cases. Thus many of these supply centers have had to close, further impeding the supply of basic food.

Official records indicate that there are 2,904 confirmed cases in this region, with 266 dead and 247 hospitalized. Despite this grave situation, we believe that we can move forward with the continued support of all those who want to collaborate with producer families in our region.

A strong embrace,

Santiago Paz





