



Guatemala, March 11, 2020

Dear friends,

Receive warm Greetings from CEDEPCA!

We all are appropriately concerned about the rapid spread of the coronavirus, COVID-19, around the world. It is now confirmed in 120 countries, at the latest count. Guatemala has not presented any cases as of today, but this is a dynamic situation that requires assessing risks and taking preventive action. Many who are planning travel to other countries need to think carefully about the matters involved.

If your group travels and either brings the virus with them or should contract it away, all may be in quarantine for some 14 days (and you could face quarantine when you return to the US, depending on current policies).

You may also be spreading the virus to others in the country visited, where often the health system is not equipped to handle such emergencies, with neither the staffing, equipment, nor medicines available, and they would likely also be in quarantine.

For the aforementioned, CEDEPCA and the Intercultural Encounters Program has decided to ask groups and church's leaders to postpone the trips planned for Summer 2020 (May-July), due to these risk factors.

As a caring community and as members of ACT Alliance, we want to share the following resources that you can refer to or use in your updates within your church, family and/or community:

[Guidance for congregations](#)


[Infographics for social media use](#)

[Getting the workplace ready for COVID-19](#)

Please prayerfully reconsider travel at this time to reduce the risks involved to yourselves and to those you visit. We lift up the global community in prayer during this time of crisis.

Grace and peace,


Judith Castañeda
General Coordinator


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Coordinator - Intercultural Encounters