



Paramaribo, April 23<sup>rd</sup> 2020

**Environmental Services & Support N.V. (ESS) is continuing with its work, while also committed to helping reduce the spread of the Corona virus and keeping us all healthy and safe.**



Our environmental consultancy work involves proposal development, field and lab work, data analysis and reporting. Given the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic, face-to-face meetings and collaborative field and lab work is now ill advised, as it is hard to engage in while taking proper measures to prevent virus transmission. Meetings via Skype, WhatsApp or Zoom can continue or replace face-to-face ones. They do not require physical proximity and are thus safe, as is much of project design, preparation, monitoring and evaluation, data analysis and reporting, and other work implemented remotely.

The situation in Suriname appears stable – a total of 10 Covid-19 cases, and no new ones the last two weeks – and we expect a gradual ‘re-opening up for business’ during the coming weeks / months. We hope that it will soon be possible – for both you and us – to resume all activities in a safe manner.

Jobs requiring international travel of experts to Suriname will expectedly remain problematic for some time, due to travel restrictions and quarantine requirements. There may be delays in obtaining supplies and sending specimens abroad, due to the disruption of air traffic. We can implement adaptive measures though, such as shifting all on-site work to local staff, if needs be with remote but intensive guidance by experts from their home base abroad. Not ideal, but we have experience with this. While air shipping to Suriname is currently problematic, slower shipping by boat still works (with delays).

We believe currently available time can be put to good use by investing it in the development or modification of projects, preparing for these to jumpstart as soon as Covid-19-related restrictions are (partially) lifted and it is safe to proceed. We look forward to work on this with and for you.

Stay safe / kind regards from the ESS core team (left to right)  
Bart De Dyn, Chantal Landburg, Sietze van Dijk, Cashmiërra Kartodikromo



Environmental Services & Support N.V.  
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