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NAMASTE!

We are excited to celebrate another year of transformation and prosperity for people in Eastern Nepal. From increases in farming income and access to reliable household water systems to expanded time and improved community health, dZi is privileged to partner with communities in their journey to sustained prosperity and well-being.

Earlier this year, we undertook a strategic planning process to make our organization more efficient and our programs more impactful. To address the growing breadth and depth of work in our partner communities, we strengthened our Nepal and US teams and restructured our programs to better align with our mission.

Our increased capacity has allowed us to adapt to better serve the changing needs of our partner communities. First developed to support isolated communities in the aftermath of Nepal’s civil war, dZi’s comprehensive approach worked with rural communities to increase access to resources at a time when Nepal’s government had little ability to support remote areas. Now, as Nepal’s new local-government structure completes its first 5-year term, we are welcoming fresh federal support and partnership in our working areas. By refining our framework, collaborating with new local government leaders, and continuing to follow the vision of our partner communities, we are increasing local capacity and opportunity in Nepal for years to come.

Together as partners, we are excited to celebrate the growth and impact of our programs and our team, and we deeply appreciate the generosity of all of our supporters. The path ahead is full of infinite possibility, and together we will share this journey toward equity, empowerment, and opportunity for all.

Sincerely,

Wende Valentine – Executive Director
Kripa Dongol – Director of Impact and Innovation
With support from our donors, we accomplished incredible things:

- **326**
  Students are now studying in new earthquake-safe classrooms

- **3,347**
  Students are experiencing higher-quality education

- **303**
  Farmers in dZi’s Agriculture Program are generating an average of $141 in additional income each year – a significant increase

- **3,213**
  People have access to safe drinking water within steps from their home

**ANNUAL ACCOMPLISHMENTS**
The impact of dZi’s work increases over time and it typically takes seven years to achieve durable results in our partner communities. We are tracking toward a point where our local partners take full ownership of our programs and dZi moves on to new communities.

After the final year in a community, we will have decreased costs for our infrastructure, agriculture, and education programs, at which point there will be no philanthropic investment needed to maintain income increases achieved. dZi will always need philanthropy to support our work in new regions, but our impact in each community can be maintained by local partners and government.
SEED-GROW-SUSTAIN

For young women like Kalpana, dZi’s Seed-Grow-Sustain model provides a path to lasting prosperity. By focusing on essential infrastructure like safe drinking water systems, Kalpana no longer has to walk long distances to collect water each day – saving valuable time that she can use to pursue her studies and hobbies.

The investment in organic farming and rural education during the ‘Grow’ phase of dZi’s framework increases her family’s income and Kalpana’s access to future opportunities. With earnings from their farm, her family is able to continue to invest in her education and buy nutritious food to supplement the crops they grow.

And with a healthier, better-resourced, and more connected community, the ‘Sustain’ phase provides a launching pad for a future full of opportunity. With access to financial security and basic needs, Kalpana can dream beyond subsistence farming. Now, her ability to achieve her goals will be determined by her hard work and ambition – not where she was born.

SEED
We work with partner communities to identify a common vision, build strong partnerships rooted in local knowledge, meet basic needs, and remove barriers to progress.

GROW
We partner with each community to build successful health, education, and livelihoods programs that create opportunities for people to thrive and foster community-led, sustainable growth.

SUSTAIN
dZi communities are more unified, earn more income, and lead safer, more productive, and more connected lives. Communities have the skills and systems in place to maintain and sustain these gains for a lasting impact.
In many communities, people used to walk significant distances to collect water from polluted and unreliable sources. A responsibility that usually fell to women and girls, this arduous daily task took valuable time away from school and hobbies.

The 530 taps that dZi built last year pipe safe drinking water to the homes of over 3,200 residents. Reliable access to water improves sanitation and personal hygiene, and allows community members to easily irrigate their kitchen gardens – improving food security and creating year-round access to nutritious vegetables.
In Nepal’s remote villages, public schools lack proper facilities, adequately trained teachers, and modern teaching materials. dZi’s Quality Education Program works with teachers, parents, and students in 41 schools to create a transformative learning environment. By providing innovative educational curriculum, training for teachers, and forming parent-teacher associations, students receive the support and engagement they need. In communities still being rebuilt after the 2015 earthquakes, dZi constructs earthquake-safe schools that provide a safe learning environment and peace of mind to parents.

dZi worked with school officials to improve student attendance by installing safe drinking water stations and child-friendly restrooms. In schools that used to have toilets without locking doors, acceptable plumbing, and running water, children – especially young women on their period – can meet their hygiene needs at school.

### Outputs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Students directly served by dZi’s Quality Education Program</th>
<th>3,347</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Students served through secondary activities like remote learning materials and COVID-19 awareness campaigns.</td>
<td>7,397</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Students studying in 18 new earthquake-safe classrooms that provide a safe, warm, bright, and child-friendly environment.</td>
<td>326</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Built or reconstructed toilets and one new handwashing station that help over 450 students maintain personal hygiene.</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
In the steep and rugged hills of Eastern Nepal, poverty rates reach 42.3% – almost double the national average. For communities that have traditionally relied on agriculture for subsistence, dZi helps farmers use their agricultural wisdom paired with new knowledge to improve their food security and access to opportunity. Through organic farming trainings, access to new seeds and cash crops, more efficient farming tools, and entrepreneurial coaching, local farmers are boosting crop yields, improving nutrition, and earning valuable income. This year, 827 farmers from 43 farmers’ groups graduated from dZi’s Agriculture Program and now receive farming support from the local government.

Our program now supports 3,003 farmers from 155 farmers’ groups based in 12 dZi partner communities.

Now, farmers can maintain their agricultural heritage and have the tools to gain greater food security. For those who are eager to pursue other ventures, their farming income can provide the economic foundation for a new dream.

And, with the construction of three new truss bridges, 1,272 people can now access new markets, schools, and opportunities safely.
In 2017, Chandrakala joined dZi’s Agriculture Program. She knew she was a great farmer but had struggled to make a living despite her tireless work. As a member of the neighborhood agriculture group dZi had formed, Chandrakala was able to receive new seed varieties, cultivation training, and farming equipment. While she’s often too busy to attend dZi’s training herself, she asks her children to attend and to teach her what they’ve learned. After five years, Chandrakala and her children can now cultivate onions, tomatoes, chilies, garlic, turmeric, cauliflower, coriander, cabbage, bananas, and more.

Chandrakala’s financial situation improved when she married in her early teens. Her husband had no debt and a sizeable amount of land in the neighboring village of Bung on which they could farm. They lived on a beautiful hillside and worked the land with their children. But when powerful earthquakes struck Nepal in 2015, their home and large amounts of their farmland were destroyed. She and her husband had to borrow around $19,000 to start to rebuild their lives.

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Her new skills have significantly increased her harvests. Now, Chandrakala grows enough food to feed her family and sell in the local market. The $230 a year she pays to rent her farmland used to feel like a burden, but now that her vegetable sales bring in $150 - $230 a month, she can dream of renting more land and expanding her operation in years to come.

Through dZi’s Agriculture Program, Chandrakala and her community are creating a different future.

By cultivating cash crops, increasing farming yields, and learning how to earn more at the market, residents are improving their nutrition and earning regular income in regions where there are few other industries. And through her hard work, Chandrakala is sending her children to school. Having not been able to receive an education herself, she is proud that her farming income can pay for her children’s education and ensure that they will have an easier life than she lived.
FINANCIAL SUMMARY

EVERY RUPEE COUNTS, AND WE COUNT EVERY RUPEE.

To view dZi’s audited financial statements and learn more about our commitment to transparency, please visit dzi.org/financials.