



Fall 2023

Journey to Shared Prosperity

celebrating
25
Years of dZi!



My name is Avini Dixit. As a development professional and a storyteller, I was excited to join dZi earlier this year – an organization that believes communities are the best architects of their own prosperity.

Founded with humble ambitions, dZi has grown to serve over 50,000 people in Eastern Nepal.

In September, the monsoon rains had waned enough for me to visit dZi's remote program area for the first time.



Beginning in the bustling streets of Kathmandu, we traveled for two days – past swollen rivers, sheer cliffs, and washed-out roads – to reach the village of Chheskam.

In the time it would have taken me to fly to North America, we had only traveled 100 miles.

Arriving here and seeing dZi's holistic impact in this community was truly inspiring.



Together, we're building a world of inclusive, thriving, and resilient rural communities that achieve shared prosperity on their own terms.

In Chheskam, I met community members like Hasta Maya Rai, a farmer and activist, who is realizing her dream for a better future.

When the village began its partnership with dZi, “Chheskam was very fragile”, says Hasta Maya. She and her community worked with dZi to develop an inclusive vision for prosperity and ensure that everyone in Chheskam has the opportunity to thrive.



Hasta Maya Rai, Chheskam,
Solukhumbu District

**“dZi has made
important contributions
to our community’s
well-being which has
improved my life.”**



Pabitra B.K. accessing safe
water at her home

Today, nearly all households in Chheskam have kitchen gardens, improving food security and nutrition. People have access to household toilets and safe drinking water, saving valuable time and improving hygiene. Now students study in earthquake-safe classrooms and a new truss bridge increases mobility and access to resources.

While Chheskam is thriving, Eastern Nepal is facing new challenges.

People told me how a lack of opportunity has caused many young people to leave in search of economic success abroad. They expressed how the annual monsoon rains limit access in Eastern Nepal for four months of the year. Climate change is making those rains longer, less predictable, and more likely to cause damage to crops and communities.

Indigenous subsistence farmers shared excitement about new government investments in their region and also concern that their secluded communities could be left behind amid rapid development.

dZi and our local partners are addressing these challenges head on.



Nanda Bahadur Nepali
preparing corn for storage

Even for someone like me – born in Nepal and familiar with our nation's resources and challenges – the barriers to prosperity for mountain communities seem enormous.

In an area with little investment or access, dZi is a catalyst for collective change.

Our local field staff live in the communities they serve, so they're never separated by the monsoon rains. Our programs are impactful and our innovation is constant – always responding to the changing needs of community members.

And, dZi's growing partnership with the local government is building regional capacity so that our successes and solutions can be replicated to benefit everyone in Eastern Nepal.



Jim Nowak, dZi's Founder, and dZi team members gathered in Chheskam in 2018



**We're on a journey to shared prosperity.
Will you join us and make a gift today?**

My trip was transformative; *your gift can be too*. Thank you for supporting an inclusive, thriving, and resilient future in Nepal!

With warmth and gratitude,
Avini Dixit – Communications Officer, dZi Foundation

Here's how to make your biggest impact:

- 1 Visit www.dzi.org/donate or scan the QR code to give online today
- 2 Donate in honor of a loved one, as a thoughtful gift this holiday season
- 3 Mail a check to: dZi Foundation, PO Box 632, Ridgway, CO 81432



Get in touch with any questions about your investment in dZi:

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