Message from Our Board of Directors

This Annual Report covers the time period January 1, 2019 through December 31, 2019.

In 2019 we focused on building individual homes for displaced widows in need, and also completed two larger group structures. The Report below gives a detailed summary of what we accomplished in 2019, and includes our 2019 fiscal year budget and financial statement.

Kateryna Zemskova
Nathan Belofsky
Baris Tuncer

1.0 About Us

Good Earth Global is a 501(c)(3) tax-deductible organization, registered in the State of New York. We share an office in Kathmandu with fiscal sponsor Expansion Nepal, a registered Nepali non-profit.

2.0 Mission

To employ Earthbag technology to build disaster-resistant and ecologically sustainable structures for those most in need; to teach these methods to others; to advance the everyday use and acceptance of Earthbag technology.

3.0 Vision

To build and strengthen impoverished and disaster-prone areas, and to make safe, sustainable building an everyday option for local communities, non-profit and relief groups, and ordinary families.

4.0 Values

• Professionalism
• Ethics, Integrity and Accountability
• Encouraging Self-Reliance and Self-Help
• Teaching What We Know To Others
• Respecting Local Cultures and Traditions

5.0 Governance
Co-Founders Kateryna Zemskova, Nathan Belofsky and Baris Tuncer constitute the Board of Directors and are President/CEO, Secretary/Treasurer and Vice-President respectively.

Kateryna Zemskova - CEO and Co-Founder: Kateryna is a New York City resident with a background in software development, business and real estate, and co-founded a travel business specializing in trips to Nepal. Kateryna has a degree in Computer Science from the University of Santa Cruz (California), worked as a software engineer/application developer at several startups and has been a member of leading New York City real estate firms.

Nathan Belofsky - Treasurer, Secretary and Co-Founder: Nathan is an attorney and author living in New York City. He maintains an active legal practice and has written books and articles for major publishers, newspapers and media outlets.

Baris Tuncer - Vice-President and Co-Founder: Formerly a program manager/systems engineer at Texas Instruments, Baris co-founded a travel business specializing in trips to Nepal and now works in real estate in New York City, where he also resides. Baris has a Masters in Electrical Engineering from Southern Methodist University and an MBA from the University of Texas at Dallas.

6.0 Key Management and Staff

Roshan K. Jha, Managing Director: Roshan has long experience in the non-profit sector, including stints directing employment programs for young adults, researching for United Nations International Labor Organization and as a Program and Project Coordinator for the Forum of Economic Studies in Kathmandu. Post-earthquake he worked with the Nepal Technical Office of Registered Engineers For Disaster Relief India (RedR India). Roshan has a Bachelor’s Degree in Business Studies and Master’s Degree in Economics from Tribhuvan University, Nepal.

Colin Hill, Director of Communications: Colin has an extensive background in business management. He owned, operated and sold a successful business, and has contracted his management services to numerous small businesses and start-ups.

Bandana Hamal, Project Manager: Bandana has a background in civil engineering, finance, banking, management, accounting and computer technology. She served as Construction Finance Manager for ADRA, a global humanitarian organization, and worked in financial services for GTFCU, a large Texas bank. Bandana has a Diploma in Civil Engineering from Pulchowk Institute of Engineering, a Bachelor’s in Accounting from Texas Lutheran University, a Master’s in Accounting from the University of Phoenix and an Associate’s Degree in Computer Information Systems from El Centro College.
**Ram Chandra Bharati**, Civil Engineer: Ram worked as an engineer for the Nepal Reconstruction Authority, where he specialized in rebuilding earthquake-resistant rural houses and was team leader of the Khijikati Rural Housing reconstruction program. He also worked as a site engineer at the Upper Hugdi Khola Hydroelectric Project for Himalaya Hydro Construction Pvt. Ltd. Ram has a Bachelor’s Degree in Civil Engineering from Tribhuvan University.

**Dn Dhital**, Construction Manager: Dn has worked as a program coordinator, manager and marketing executive, and volunteered in various earthquake relief programs. He has a Bachelor’s degree in Business Studies from Tribhuvan University.


**Durga Tamang**, Builder: Durga, formerly a farmer, learned Earthbag construction while working on his own family’s house at a Good Earth Global project. Since then he’s worked on multiple Good Earth projects, and become an expert Earthbag builder.

### 7.0 Volunteers

In 2019 we again hosted dozens of hard-working volunteers, and service groups from around the world. All were critical to our success, and we’re profoundly grateful for their efforts and generosity.

### 8.0 Individual Sponsors

Kevin H., of California, donated funds for the construction of three individual homes for widows. He and his partner Sharon visited Nepal, and with them we visited the homes and their grateful owners.

### 9.0 Partnerships and Collaborations

In 2019 we partnered with numerous non-profit organizations, including:

- Women For Human Rights (Nepal)
- Engineering for Change (USA)
- Build Abroad (USA)
- Resilient Steps (Netherlands)
- American School of Dubai (United Arab Emirates)
- Open Institute of Social Science
- Help Kids In Nepal (HKIN)
10.0 Building Projects-Overview

In 2019 we completed two group structures, and built a number of individual homes. At each we employed substantial local labor, and provided hands-on Earthbag training to local workers.

10.1 Group Structures

In Pokhara we completed a dormitory structure for abused and trafficked young women, begun in 2018. On the project we partnered with non-profit Resilient Steps, of the Netherlands.

On the outskirts of Kathmandu we completed a canteen for students at the Open Institute of Social Science, a Nepali research and teaching cooperative.

10.2 Homes

In early 2019 we finished a house in Kavre for the widow Kaplana and her three children, in collaboration with Women For Human Rights (WHR) and Help Kids In Nepal (HKIN).

In the summer, we completed two houses in Kavre, one for the widow Karma Lhama and her daughter Purnima, the second for the widow Sabitri Tamang.

In the winter in Kavre we began building a house for the widow Sushila and her two kids.

11.0 Teaching and Training:

At our Kathmandu headquarters we offered formal classroom training to numerous volunteers, who then put this training to use at one of our active worksites.

A short video by Dutch network Zoomin TV about our work in Kavre, Nepal illustrated Earthbag benefits and building techniques. The video received over three million views.

12.0 Volunteers

In 2019 we attracted altruistic volunteers from all over the world. Some were trained engineers, architects and professional builders, others just ordinary people wanting to make a difference.

13.0 Publishing and Presenting
Good Earth Global entered into a Research Collaboration with Engineers For Change, which then published *Analysis of Earthquake Testing Trends*, authored by engineer Cecilia Marsicovetere and architect Elizabeth van Overbeeke. The article discussed methods for measuring Earthbag strength and stability, and compared mathematical modeling with mechanical and Shake Table testing.

### 14.0 Next Steps

In the next year we hope to build on recent accomplishments, including the following:

- Continue building permanent shelters for displaced widows in Kavre, Nepal
- Plan, design and secure funding for a community structure serving abused and displaced widows in rural Nepal
- Continue teaching and training

Thank you for your attention.