Message from Our Board of Directors

This Annual Report covers the time period January 1, 2020 through December 31, 2020; the accompanying tax information fiscal year July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2021. The Report summarizes our accomplishments in 2020, and also our frustrations.

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. Our Nepali fiscal partner is Expansion Nepal, a government approved and audited Nepali non-profit.

2.0 Mission

To employ Earthbag technology to build disaster-resistant and ecologically sustainable structures for those most in need.

3.0 Vision

To build and strengthen impoverished and disaster-prone areas. To make safe, sustainable building an everyday option for local communities 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 Yorker 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, as a Program and Project Coordinator for the Forum of Economic Studies in Kathmandu, and working with the Nepal Technical Office of Registered Engineers For Disaster Relief India (RedR India). Roshan has a Bachelor's Degree in Business Studies and a Master's Degree in Economics from Tribhuvan University, Nepal.

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

Bandana Hamal, Project Manager: Bandana has a background in civil engineering, finance, 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 for Himalaya Hydro Construction Ltd. at the Upper Hugdi Khola Hydroelectric Project. 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.

Subash Gurung, Construction Supervisor: As a teenager Subash trained with noted sustainable architect Prabal Thapa, and he later built his first Earthbag house while obtaining a diploma in Architecture from Asian Engineering College in Nepal.

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

7.0 Sponsors

In early 2020 we completed three houses underwritten by Kevin H. from California, who late last year visited one of them, helped us with the building, and met the new owners. Smaller donors also contributed to our grassroots fundraising campaigns. We thank all of our supporters for the generosity they've displayed towards those in need.

8.0 Building Projects-Overview

2020 was a difficult, frustrating year. Each time the pandemic abated and lockdowns were lifted our intrepid builders went back to the worksites, only to be recalled when the Covid scourge returned, sometimes worse than before.

We managed to get some work done (see below). But with Covid sadly taking its toll on prospective partners and sponsors, we did lose some promising opportunities altogether.

9.0-Building Projects

We started 2020 by completing two houses whose walls were built by 32 students and their teachers from the American School of Dubai. The first house was built for an elderly Dalit (“untouchable”) couple living in a tin shack exposed to the elements, the second for three orphaned siblings also living in a tin shack.
Later in the year, with many starts and stops, we were also able to complete two more earthbag houses in Kavre, Nepal. The first is now inhabited by Sun Maya Shrestha, a widow and mother of two who was living in a squalid hovel. The second was for Sushila Tolange, a mother of three living in a crowded shelter for abused women.

10.0-Next Steps

Covid will not last forever, and we plan to get back to full-time building soon.

We'll continue our housebuilding program in rural Nepal. When international travel resumes we'll again host service trips to our worksites, from junior and senior high schools, universities, businesses and religious groups. With stepped-up funding we hope to build larger structures for use by the entire community. There's lots of work left to be done!

Thank you for your attention.

Kateryna Zemskova
Nathan Belofsky
Baris Tuncer