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Executive Director  
Dorothee Gizenga

To our friends and partners,

Warm season's greetings from the staff and board of the Diamond Development Initiative, on behalf of artisanal diamond miners and their communities.

DDI envisions a world in which artisanal and small-scale miners have access to the opportunities, information and tools they need to work with dignity within flourishing, self-sustaining communities, as valued actors in the formal economy and as contributors to their country's development.

We are happy to report that in 2015, with your support, our efforts moved us a little closer to that goal. Here are some of the numbers:

- The Development Diamond Standards™ (DDS) program, a certification system for responsibly-sourced artisanally-mined diamonds currently active in Sierra Leone, was expanded from **4** sites to **14**, where **230** miners will be trained on DDS.
- **4** mobile schools were inaugurated in remote artisanal mining communities in the DR Congo, thanks to **4** major donors, enabling **90** children to leave the mines and receive remedial education. Thousands more children in these mining communities are waiting for their opportunity to go to school.
- During the Ebola crisis, DDI reached **750** people in remote areas with sensitization training that was multiplied to others who were unreached by government and international aid programs. **4** wells were built to provide clean water to artisanal mining communities to help meet their basic needs and safeguard against future outbreaks.
- DDI registered more than **105,000** artisanal miners in the DR Congo, according them legitimacy with their own governments and assisting with the formalization of the ASM sector.
- DDI participated as an Independent Observer Member in the **2** annual meetings of the Kimberley Process. At the Plenary in Angola, DDI's work on the Diamond Development Standards was featured by the government of Sierra Leone and mentioned in the Final Communiqué.

DDI salutes its many supporters and partners in the jewelry industry, international diamond mining and trading, governments, local and international agencies. As we look forward to 2016, we are excited about the possibilities for improving the lives of artisanal diamond miners, and for enhancing relationships with people like you who make it possible. Thank you again for your interest and support.

Wishing you a very happy and healthy new year,



Dorothee Gizenga, Executive Director