



UNICEF AND CANADA

PARTNERING TO SAVE CHILDREN'S LIVES

UNICEF Canada 2014

Cover Photo:

Niger, November 2012

Haouaou feeds 8 month old Issiakou with 4 year old daughter Oumiera watching during a community health session in the village of Mazadou Abdou. During these sessions, community health workers demonstrate good health practices, such as proper breastfeeding techniques, to mothers like Haouaou.

With Canada's support, nearly 3,000 community health workers have been trained to support underserved villages across Niger since 2010, helping treat more than 5 million children and playing a vital role in strengthening the health system and reducing preventable child deaths.

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SAVING CHILDREN'S LIVES

UNICEF and Canada have a long history of partnering to improve the health and well being of children around the world. The Government of Canada has consistently been one of the top 10 government donors to UNICEF for years. While the Government of Canada supports a broad range of UNICEF programming, the Government's leadership through the Muskoka Initiative for Maternal,

Newborn and Child Health and has provided UNICEF with \$300 million in funding since 2010 in support of ending the preventable deaths of children and strengthening national health systems to reach all children. The programs that have been funded address some of the most urgent needs of women and children. They provide vaccines, micronutrient supplements, train community health

workers, register the birth of newborns, and treat and prevent malaria, diarrhea and pneumonia.

This report shares just some of the results that have been achieved. Together, UNICEF and Canada are working to support national governments and communities to build strong health systems grounded in good governance and

equitable access so that all women and children are able to realize their right to health and so that all children can grow to their full potential. Together, UNICEF and Canada are saving lives.

GHANA AND NIGERIA

7 million children have been provided with Vitamin A supplements to help reduce the risk of disease.

MALI

90,331 children were provided with lifesaving treatment for severe malnutrition in 2013.

BOLIVIA

Child deaths from severe malnutrition have been cut by 53% in targeted municipalities through the training of health workers and the provision of lifesaving medical supplies.

TANZANIA

4,500 pieces of cold chain equipment have been supplied to strengthen the reach of immunization activities.

ETHIOPIA

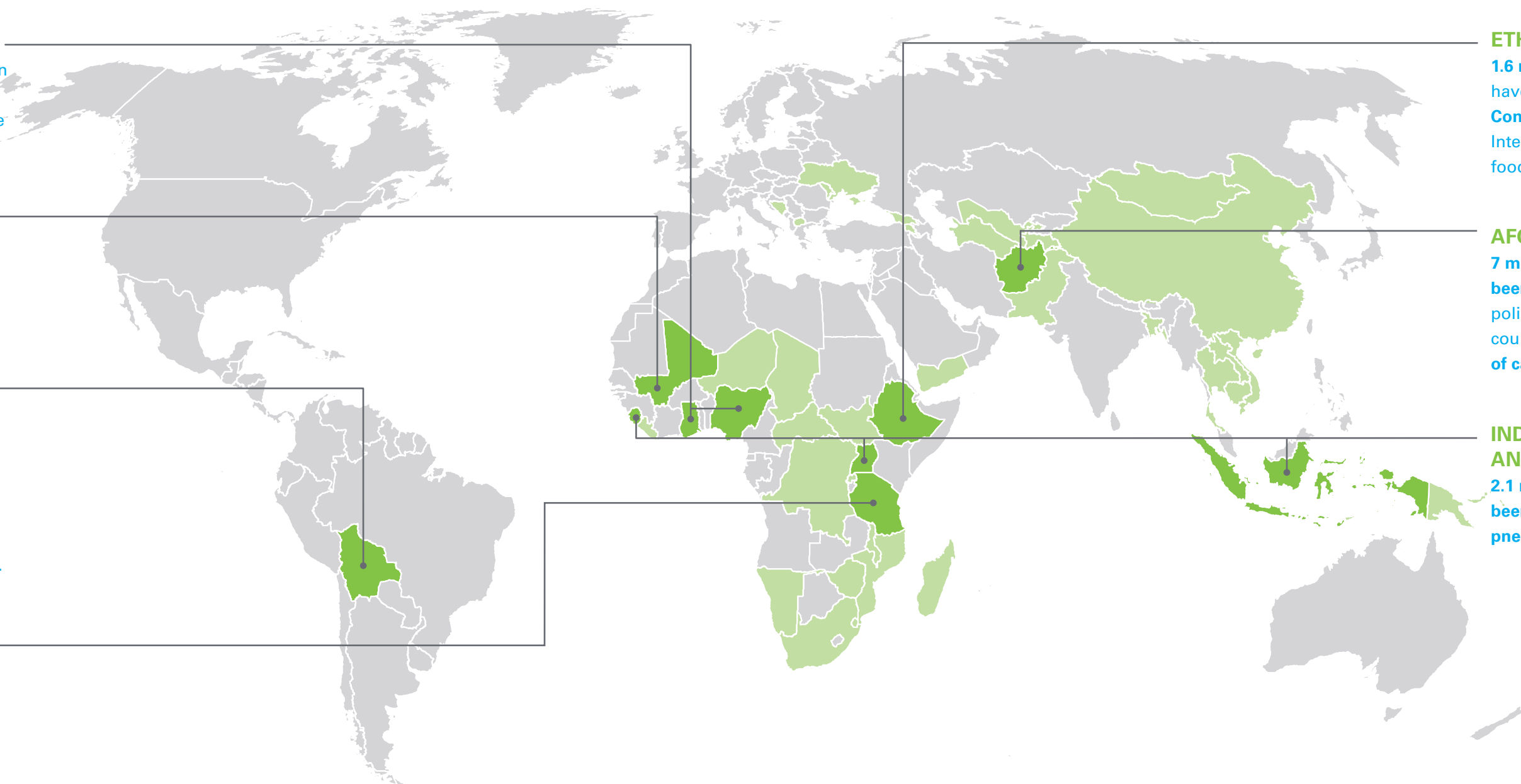
1.6 million children have been reached with Community Based Nutrition Interventions and improved food security.

AFGHANISTAN


7 million children have been vaccinated against polio each year, helping the country reduce the number of cases by 63% since 2012.

INDONESIA, UGANDA AND SIERRA LEONE

2.1 million children have been treated for malaria, pneumonia and diarrhea.



■ Countries where UNICEF has received funding for MNCH programs from the Government of Canada since 2010

 Foreign Affairs, Trade and Development Canada Affaires étrangères, Commerce et Développement Canada



These programs are undertaken with the financial support of the Government of Canada provided through the Department of Foreign Affairs, Trade and Development Canada (DFATD).

STRENGTHENING HEALTH SYSTEMS

Malaria, pneumonia and diarrhea are the main killers of children under five globally. The Government of Canada has partnered with UNICEF to integrate treatment and prevention of these diseases at the community level into the health systems of six countries in Africa with the aim of ending preventable deaths.

The Catalytic Initiative/Integrated Health System Strengthening Program, has played a critical role in ensuring that the hardest to reach children in Ethiopia, Ghana, Malawi, Mali, Mozambique, and Niger have access to basic health services, helping reduce under five mortality.

The program has supported the governments of these countries to train, equip and deploy 62,000

community health workers to diagnose and treat children for these dangerous and debilitating diseases.

The program has supported the development of national policies for the integration of community case management of pneumonia, diarrhea and malaria – playing a critical role in saving lives in the most remote communities.

MDG 4 REALIZED TWO YEARS EARLY

in Ethiopia and Malawi reducing child deaths by more than two-thirds since 1990.



62,000
health workers
trained



8.7
million
children
treated



COMMUNITY HEALTH WORKERS BRING HOPE FOR THE FUTURE

The village of Tiegoucourani in Mali has seen the death of many children before their fifth birthday, mainly from pneumonia, malaria and diarrhea. But this is changing.

With the arrival of newly trained community health workers – men and women who are now based in far flung villages to reach the most isolated populations furthest from the health centres – mothers from the village, like Ramata Traoré, have reason to hope that their children will survive and thrive.

Diallo Aramatou Niamélé is the community health worker who has brought hope to mothers like Ramata. Ramata took her young son Adama to Diallo when he became ill. Diallo was able to quickly diagnose Adama's severe case of malaria. Before the arrival of the community health worker it is unlikely that Adama would have ever received any formal health care, but Diallo was able to impress upon Ramata the severity of Adama's illness and given



© UNICEF Mali/2012

how sick he was, refer him for treatment at the nearest health centre. Adama received treatment and is doing well.

Through Canada's support, this program is strengthening the national health system and bringing health care to isolated communities giving the most vulnerable children a future.

REACHING THE HARDEST TO REACH

In some of the most remote parts of the world, the Canadian government is supporting UNICEF to bring lifesaving services to children and mothers, helping to ensure more children than ever are able to survive past their fifth birthday, and their mothers are healthy and well-nourished.

Across 33 African countries at outreach events known as Child Health Days (CHDs), or weeks, national governments ensure health providers are able to reach children who would not otherwise be reached by the regular healthcare system.

With Canada's support 180 million children were reached through CHDs and 144,000 lives were saved between 2010 and 2013.

CHDs are a 'one stop shop', where children receive vitamin A supplements to boost immunity and prevent blindness; de-worming medication to treat intestinal worms and iron-deficiency; routine immunization; and monitoring for their nutritional status.

In many countries, CHDs are also used to support the health and nutrition of mothers by providing tetanus toxoid vaccines, iron supplementation, HIV screening, and malaria treatment and prevention for pregnant women.

As well as front-line services to millions of families, CHDs also help countries build stronger health systems as CHD services are integrated into each country's wider health programs.

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INTEGRATING BIRTH REGISTRATION AND HEALTH SERVICES

Rose Wisdom rocks her baby girl back and forth. Mami is only two weeks old and appears uncomfortable with the heat and the bustle around her in Chikun, northern Nigeria.

After having her newborn daughter registered, Rose is waiting in line to vaccinate Mami at a Child Health Day in the state of Kaduna.

In Nigeria, only 42 percent of births are registered. Children in the poorest families have birth registration rates of less than 10 percent.

To reach the millions of unregistered children across the country many states in Nigeria, since 2010, have begun linking Child Health Days with birth registration efforts. With Canadian support, CHDs in Nigeria are helping ensure more children are registered at birth, receive lifesaving vaccines and vitamin A supplements.



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POLIO ERADICATION IN AFGHANISTAN

Polio is a highly contagious disease that spreads easily where there is poverty, lack of sanitation and lack of basic health care. It paralyzes many of its young victims, sometimes ending with death.

For only the second time in human history, we stand on the brink of eradicating a life-threatening disease. Polio is endemic in only three countries: Pakistan, Nigeria and Afghanistan.

Canada has been an unwavering supporter of the Global Polio Eradication Initiative (GPEI), of which UNICEF is a founding member, along with the World Health Organization, Rotary International, the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Since GPEI was founded in 1988, mass vaccination and communication efforts, the number of polio cases worldwide has decreased by 99.9 percent.

Canadian support has helped UNICEF work with the Government of Afghanistan to vaccinate more than seven million children each year against polio. As a result of these and other efforts, Afghanistan has had a 62 percent decrease in the number of polio cases reported in just one year and a drop of 80 percent since 2011.

Canada is the biggest government donor to UNICEF's polio program in Afghanistan, helping to bring the country closer to complete eradication.

BETWEEN 2012 AND 2013:

7 million children vaccinated reducing POLIO by

↓ 62%



UNSUNG HEROES IN THE FIGHT AGAINST POLIO

Female vaccinators hold the key to eradicating polio from Afghanistan. UNICEF met with one of these heroes, Rahila, to talk about her work. Here is what she had to say:

Three days before the vaccination campaign starts, we go house-to-house to dot-mark the houses. Each dot on the wall or the door of the house represents a child in that household. The vaccinators vaccinate all children less than 5 years of age.

In some areas where we work, some families do not allow us to vaccinate their children. Some communities do not like women walking house-to-house in the streets. The main challenge for social mobilizers and the vaccinators is that families sometimes think that the vaccine is not good for their children, or they complain about too many campaigns, so we, the vaccinators and social mobilizers have to help them understand why it is so important to vaccinate every child in every campaign and we have to convince them that the vaccine is safe for their children. Working in Kandahar as a female is very tough. First, most



© UNICEF/NYHQ2013-0479/D. Rajul

women have to convince their own families that it is good work for a good cause, that it is safe and that we will be working mainly with other women.

I have been working as a social mobilizer for polio for a few years now, and I continue to face challenges while working in communities. I am often criticized for working outside the house and for being engaged in this program, but I continue to work because I believe it is my right to contribute to making my community better and **I believe it is our children's right to be protected from polio.**

FOOD SECURITY IN ETHIOPIA

The Government of Ethiopia has made much progress in improving food and nutrition security over the last decades. However, along with poverty, frequent disasters related to climate change, including droughts, floods and landslides, exasperate food and nutrition insecurity in the country.

The Government of Canada has been supporting UNICEF's work with the Ethiopian government to improve nutrition security for mothers and children. The program is providing Community-Based Nutrition services to reduce stunting, ensure pregnant and lactating women are well-nourished and children are exclusively breastfed and then introduced to complementary nutritious food after 6 months of age.

SINCE 2011:

- 1.6 million children in 100 underserved districts were reached by 28,000 health workers trained in Community Based Nutrition.
- 90,000 severely malnourished children received lifesaving treatment.
- 225,000 people gained access to improved water systems and 760,000 people gained access to latrines.

The program is placing emphasis on local solutions and accelerating efforts to break the vicious cycle of drought, hunger and poverty by promoting resilience strategies.

IN 2013 ALONE:

4.6 million children were screened for malnutrition

1.4 million children received vitamin A

712,000 mothers received iron supplements



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PROTECTING CHILDREN AND EMPOWERING COMMUNITIES

In 2011, when much of eastern Ethiopia was affected by a serious drought, Bedria Yuya learned that one of her eight-month-old twins, Hehumati Shemsedin, was severely underweight. Hehumati's condition was discovered during a monthly growth-monitoring session in her village of Kebso Tekoma.

Hehumati was referred for treatment at the nearest health post where he was entered into the outpatient program. Bedria received a week's supply of Plumpy'Nut and a bottle of antibiotics to treat any infections along with instructions on how to administer the medication.

Monthly community sessions to monitor and promote the growth of children under two represent one of the pillars of community based nutrition. The program empowers communities to assess the nutritional status of their children and take action using their own resources to prevent malnutrition. With the help of the Canadian government, mothers like Bedria can keep their children healthy and well-nourished, preventing long-term under-nutrition which can have an irreversible negative impact on mental and physical development.

PARTNERING WITH CANADIANS

Like UNICEF, Canadians believe that no child is too far. Canadians have helped UNICEF work with governments, communities and families to reach millions of the most vulnerable children and save lives. Together UNICEF and Canadians are committed to creating a world where

all children can survive, thrive, and grow to their full potential.

Canadians have been strong supporters of UNICEF Canada since 1953. Individual Canadians, community groups, schools, and businesses are helping UNICEF reach

some of the hardest to reach children in the world with effective, lifesaving solutions. This support is not only reaching the current generation of children, but it is also helping create long-lasting and sustainable change for generations to come.

Eliminating Tetanus

Maternal and Neonatal Tetanus (MNT) can quickly turn the joy of childbirth into tragedy – taking the lives of more than 50,000 newborns and thousands of women each year because of unhygienic birthing practices. That is one child every 9 minutes. Its treatment is difficult, but it can easily be prevented with three vaccines that cost \$1.80.

UNICEF and Kiwanis have been working together to eliminate MNT since 2010. Kiwanis groups across Canada have committed to raising \$5 million by 2015, helping UNICEF vaccinate more than 2.7 million women, to protect them and their future babies, and making an important contribution to the global elimination of MNT.

IN THE LAST THREE YEARS THE PARTNERSHIP HAS HELPED

ELIMINATE TETANUS IN 15 COUNTRIES



GUARDING AGAINST MNT IN REMOTE REGIONS OF WEST AFRICA

In September 2012, Dr. John Button, a Canadian and the President-elect of Kiwanis International travelled to the city of Mali in Guinea with a delegation of Kiwanians to visit MNT elimination work. Mali is in one of the poorest and most remote regions in the country. It takes 12 long hours of driving on bumpy dirt roads to get here. While the city is remote, the villages and areas it serves are even harder to access.

In Mali, Dr. Button and other members of the delegation saw how the government of Guinea has provided life-saving anti-tetanus vaccines to women as a result of the strong partnership between Kiwanis and UNICEF.

As of 2012, 80 percent of newborns in Guinea were protected against tetanus through vaccinations from their mothers. This has helped the country reduce under-five deaths by nearly 60 percent since 1990.



The push is on to eliminate MNT in all countries by reaching every woman to protect her and her future babies. As Dr. Button explains, “Kiwanians across Canada are committed to eliminating tetanus. This commitment reflects our collective belief that we have a responsibility to help women and children around the world and our determination to save lives.”

Survival Gifts

Since 2010, Canadians have helped children in nearly 90 countries by purchasing Survival Gifts – lifesaving supplies that are sent to some of the most vulnerable children in the world.

From bed nets that help protect children from malaria to obstetric equipment that ensure safe deliveries and protect newborns, to bicycles that are helping health workers reach more children with lifesaving vaccines, Canadians are helping to stop preventable child deaths and saving lives.

Learn more at: survivalgifts.ca

SINCE 2010, CANADIAN SUPPORT HAS ALLOWED UNICEF TO WORK WITH PARTNERS TO:

- **PROVIDE 1 million packets of ready-to-use therapeutic foods for the lifesaving treatment of severely malnourished children**
- **VACCINATE 866,000 children against polio**
- **TREAT 600,000 children for diarrhea with 1.2 million litres of ORS**
- **PROTECT 110,000 children and pregnant women from malaria with long lasting insecticide treated bednets**

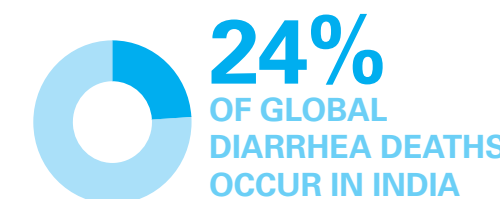


Preventing Diarrhea in India

Each year 225,000 children die in India as a result of diarrhea. This is despite the fact that treatment, comprising of zinc and oral rehydration salts (ORS), costs a mere 40¢.

With the support of Teck Resources Limited, UNICEF has partnered with governments in India to improve the coverage of effective diarrhea treatment and strengthen healthcare systems in the most marginalized communities across the three high-burden states of Uttar Pradesh, Odisha and Madhya Pradesh.

This partnership will help to save approximately 100,000 children’s lives between 2013 and 2018, and 50,000 lives annually going forward.



“Teck is committed to improving child health by partnering with organizations like UNICEF to provide life-saving zinc and oral rehydration salts to children.”

– Don Lindsay, President and CEO of Teck





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