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ChildFund®
Because we need each other.

Humanitarian
CAPACITY STATEMENT



Every child affected by crisis has the right to grow up healthy, educated, skilled and safe.

Across Africa, this right is increasingly under threat.

Today, millions of children across the continent are living through overlapping humanitarian crises driven by conflict, displacement, climate shocks, disease outbreaks, and economic stress. In Eastern and Southern Africa alone, nearly 30 million children are in urgent need of humanitarian assistance, while more than 42 million children across West and Central Africa required life-saving support in 2025.

Children are at the centre of these crises and experience their effects most severely. Across Eastern and Southern Africa, 4.2 million children under five are affected by severe acute malnutrition, while 25 million children are living in severe child food poverty. Conflict and displacement continue to interrupt children's lives at scale, with more than 13 million people uprooted across the region and 46 million children out of school due to conflict, instability, and repeated shocks.

Children are disproportionately affected in every crisis setting. Beyond immediate survival needs, crises expose children to heightened risks of violence, exploitation, family separation, interrupted learning, disease outbreaks, and psychosocial distress. Repeated shocks weaken the protective systems children rely on at home, in schools, and across communities, making recovery increasingly difficult and reducing opportunities to learn, develop skills, and thrive.

These impacts are driven and deepened by structural constraints, including limited access to essential services, fragile systems, inequality, and under-resourced humanitarian responses. Needs continue to rise faster than available resources, and crises are increasingly frequent, complex, and prolonged.

This reality calls for humanitarian action that is rapid, sustainable and child-centred. Responses must prioritize protection, strengthen local systems, and support recovery pathways that reduce future risk and vulnerability.



*Data sourced from UNICEF

ChildFund in Africa

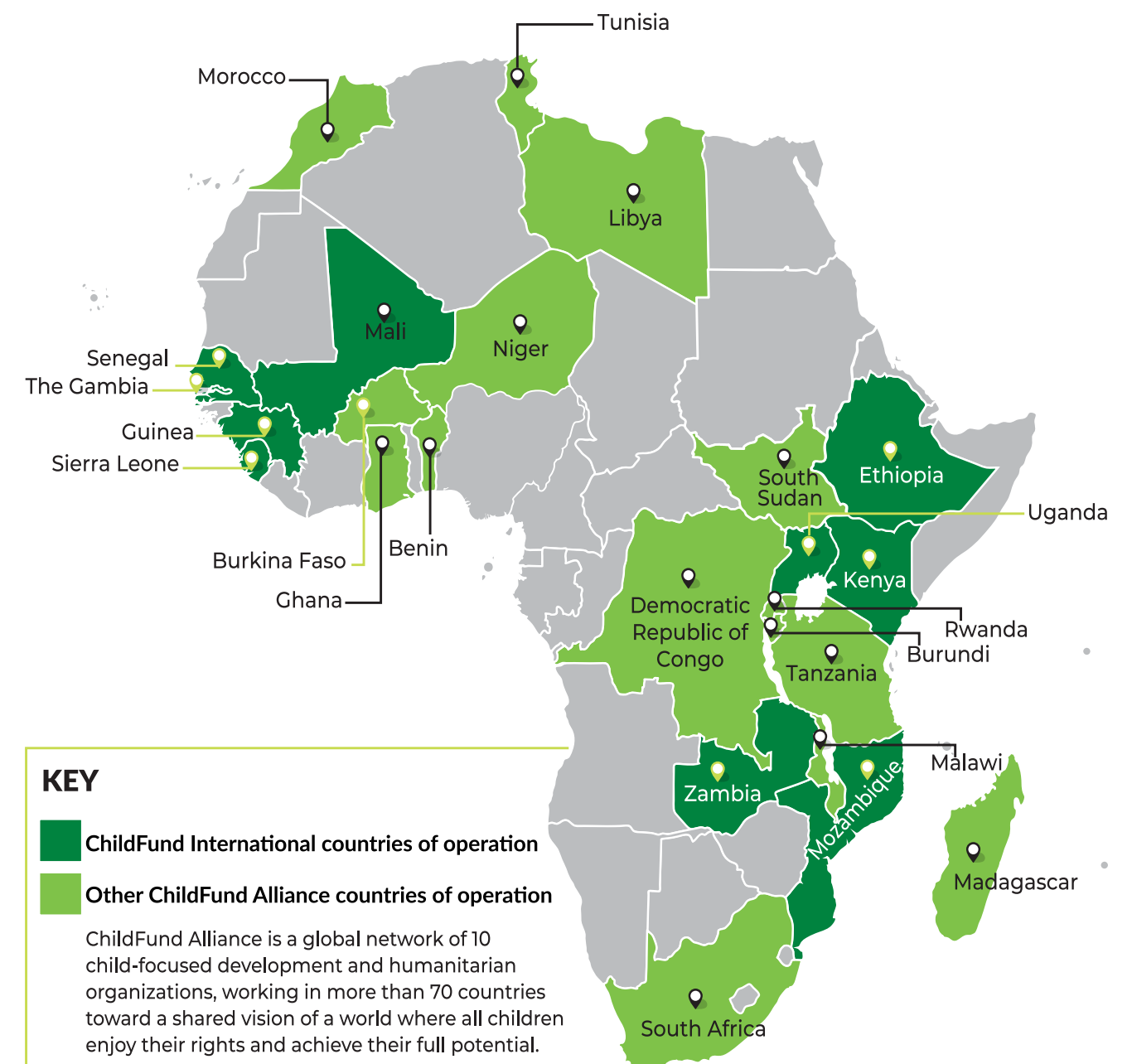
A Trusted Name with Deep Roots

ChildFund has been present in Africa for over 65 years, working hand in hand with families, communities, and governments.

In 2025 alone, we reached more than **12 million** children and their families across **10 countries** through partnership with over **56 local organizations**. We implement both short- and

long-term humanitarian and development programs that protect children, strengthen families, and build resilient communities.

We are a member of the ChildFund Alliance, a global network of **10** child-focused development and humanitarian organizations.



Our Humanitarian Sectoral Capacity



Child Protection



Early Childhood Development



Education



Water, Sanitation and Hygiene



Food Security



Livelihoods



Health and Nutrition



Youth Development



Advocacy

ChildFund works to ensure children affected by conflict, natural disaster, displacement, and protracted emergencies receive what they need to stay healthy, educated, skilled, and safe when crises strike.

Humanitarian CAPACITY STATEMENT



Our Humanitarian Response Capacity

ChildFund delivers lifesaving child-centred humanitarian action in conflict, displacement, climate, and public health emergencies through integrated, locally-led approaches.

Our programming combines lifesaving assistance with long-term recovery and

systems strengthening, helping children and communities survive crises and build safer futures. Through trusted local partnerships and community-based delivery models, we reach populations affected by conflict, displacement, climate shocks, and health emergencies across diverse contexts

In 2025, ChildFund responded to 13 emergencies across five countries: Ethiopia, Kenya, Uganda, Zambia, and Mozambique. These emergencies stemmed from conflict, cyclones, floods, drought, and fires. Through these responses, ChildFund reached 165,112 people.



Multi-country humanitarian presence across Eastern (Ethiopia, Kenya, Uganda) Southern (Mozambique, Zambia), and West Africa (Mali, Senegal, Guinea, The Gambia and Sierra Leone).



Proven experience responding to conflict, displacement, drought, floods, cyclones, disease outbreaks, and refugee crises.



Integrated programming across sectors including Child Protection, Education, Health, Nutrition, WASH, Food Security, Livelihoods, and Cash Assistance.



Partnerships with **56 local organizations**, governments, community structures including refugee-led groups, and humanitarian actors.



Experience operating across humanitarian, recovery, and resilience programming using a Humanitarian-Development-Peace approach.



Strong safeguarding, accountability, and community engagement systems.

Our Approach

ChildFund works to ensure children affected by conflict, natural disaster, displacement, and protracted emergencies receive what they need to stay healthy, educated, skilled, and safe when crises strike. Our approach is child-centered, locally-led, and lifesaving.

We deliver integrated responses that combine the following sectors based on the context:



Child Protection, including Psychosocial Support



Education in Emergencies



Health and Nutrition



Water, Sanitation & Hygiene (WASH)



Food Security and Livelihoods, including Cash and Voucher Assistance

1 CHILD-CENTERED

Children experience crises differently from adults based on their age and developmental stage. They can experience more distress and fear, with fewer physical and mental resources to cope. ChildFund places children's protection, wellbeing, participation, and recovery at the center of humanitarian action

while recognizing the interconnected needs of households and communities. Through all our programs, we seek the outcome: Community systems and actors prepare for, mitigate harm from, respond to, and recover from humanitarian crises to protect children. We accomplish this at four levels:



Children and youth

demonstrate increased capacity to protect themselves and their peers during humanitarian crises.



Parents and caregivers

demonstrate improved ability to support and protect their children and children in their communities during humanitarian crises



Local community groups and civil society

demonstrate increased capacity to lead coordinated, timely, and inclusive child-focused humanitarian responses.



National systems

coordinate with and financially and technically support community systems protecting children during humanitarian crises.

2 LOCALLY LED AND COMMUNITY DRIVEN

Localization is central to our humanitarian model. Across Africa, ChildFund partners with a network of over **56 local implementing partners**, including refugee-led organizations, community groups,

and government institutions, working alongside humanitarian coordination mechanisms to deliver timely, accountable, and context-responsive assistance.

Mali:

1 year of partnership with local organizations and government

Senegal:

41 years+ of partnership with **6** local partner organizations

The Gambia:

42 years+ of partnership with **3** local partner organizations

Sierra Leone:

41 years of partnership with **3** local partner organizations

Guinea:

21 years of partnership with **2** local partner organizations

Ethiopia:

45 years+ of partnership with **13** local partner organizations

Kenya:

47 years+ years of partnership with **13** local partner organizations

Uganda:

45 years+ years of partnership with **9** local partner organizations

Zambia:

41+ years of partnership with **6** local partner organizations

Mozambique:

22 years+ of partnership with **5** local partner organizations

Through these partnerships, ChildFund strengthens local humanitarian ecosystems while ensuring interventions remain responsive to community priorities and aligned with broader humanitarian coordination efforts. Our partnership model enables:



Faster and more context-responsive delivery



Improved access to vulnerable and hard-to-reach populations



Stronger community trust, participation, and accountability



Strengthened local institutional capacity and leadership

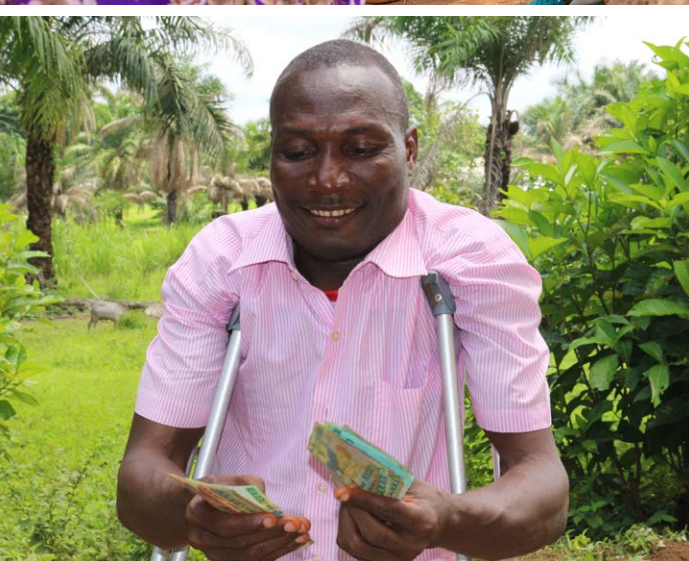


More sustainable outcomes beyond emergency response

3 LIFE-SAVING

ChildFund implements lifesaving activities - critical humanitarian interventions necessary to protect the lives and immediate wellbeing of children and their families during crises - in Africa and around the world.

ChildFund has experience implementing a variety of lifesaving humanitarian programs across child protection, WASH, health, and other sectors. They are complemented by our recovery- and resilience focused activities in agriculture and livelihoods to reduce future vulnerability.



Our Technical Expertise

1 CHILD PROTECTION IN EMERGENCIES

ChildFund delivers child protection interventions that prevent, mitigate, and respond to risks of violence, abuse, neglect, exploitation, family separation, and psychosocial distress.

Capabilities include:

-  Child-friendly spaces
-  Case management and referral pathways
-  Positive parenting and caregiver support
-  Mental health and psychosocial support
-  Community-based protection systems



HIGHLIGHTED PROJECTS

Ethiopia:

In conflict-affected **Tigray Region**, ChildFund's integrated response combined child protection, health, nutrition, mental health, GBV response, and cash assistance for internally displaced communities.

-  Established and equipped **6** Child-Friendly Spaces; trained **25** community facilitators and staff on child protection, psychosocial support, and safe space management; supported **700** caregivers through positive parenting sessions.
-  Supported the Ministry of Health to achieve **97.7%** polio vaccination coverage (**17,326** children) and delivered primary health care through mobile teams (**12,231+** people served).
-  Screened **9,482** pregnant and lactating women for malnutrition and linked them to nutrition services.
-  Delivered mental health and psychosocial support services, with **75%** of participants reporting improved psychosocial wellbeing.
-  Provided GBV prevention and response services, including case management, with **98%** of survivors receiving follow-up support within two weeks of intake.
-  Distributed multipurpose cash assistance to **315** households (totaling **USD 81,081**) and protection-focused cash assistance to **337** women and girls.

In **Eastern Tigray**, ChildFund reached over 23,000 people, including children with disabilities, survivors of violence, and vulnerable households through psychosocial support, community awareness, assistive devices, and cash assistance. 1,090 people with disabilities received assistive devices, while 428 conflict-affected individuals received multipurpose cash support.

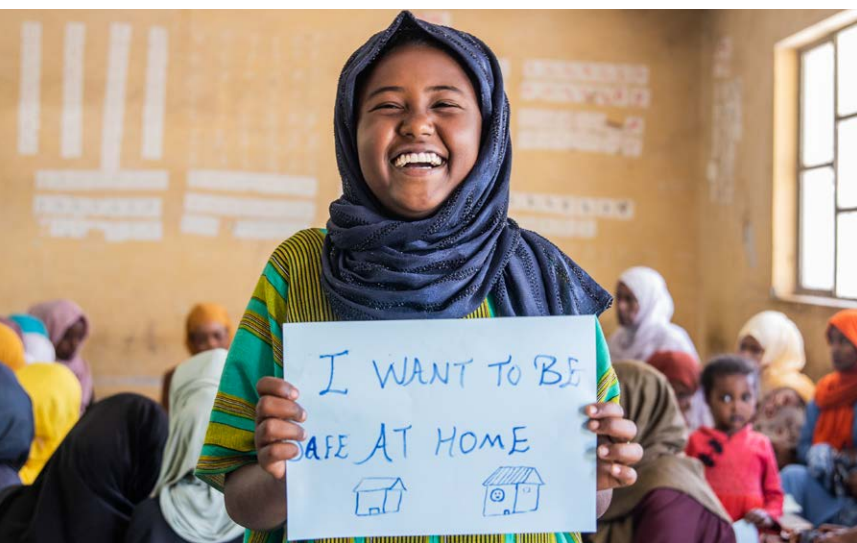
In Berhale Woreda, **Afar Region**, ChildFund strengthened community-based child protection systems and reached approximately 2,587 children and community members through local capacity strengthening, school support, positive parenting, and livelihood interventions.

Uganda:

Through the Building Resilience and Protection Systems for the Wellbeing of Children project in Palorinya Refugee Settlement, ChildFund reached **3,089** children with psychosocial support services, strengthened **221** community-based protection structures, and engaged more than **12,500** community members in child protection and violence prevention activities. ChildFund strengthened the capacity of **10** refugee-led and community-based organizations to improve prevention, reporting, referral, and response mechanisms for vulnerable children and adolescents. [Learn more.](#)

Mozambique:

Following Cyclone Chido, ChildFund delivered school and community-based MHPSS services reaching more than **13,000** children and community members and established two resilience and recreational centers to support recovery and protection. In addition, **10** classrooms were rehabilitated and equipped with teaching materials, restoring safe, conducive learning environments for **5,160** children.



2

EDUCATION IN EMERGENCIES

Schools are crucial institutions supporting children's protection and stability during crises. ChildFund supports continuity of access and learning during and after crises.



Our capabilities include:



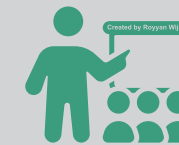
Temporary and rehabilitated learning spaces when schools are damaged or destroyed



Teacher and caregiver support



School-based disaster risk reduction and preparedness



Catch-up and remedial learning for children whose education was disrupted.



Inclusive education support, including assistive devices and accessible learning materials for children with disabilities, including children with conflict-related injuries.

HIGHLIGHTED PROJECTS

Ethiopia:

In Tigray, ChildFund restored access to education for conflict-affected children by providing learning materials to **3,559** students, rehabilitating school WASH facilities, and supporting schools to strengthen psychosocial wellbeing and resilience.

In Berhale Refugee Camp, ChildFund constructed, rehabilitated and equipped Early Childhood Development Centres and Child-Friendly Spaces benefiting approximately **1,536** refugee children.

Through the Protection and Education in Emergency and Recovery (PEER) project in Amhara Region, ChildFund worked with local authorities and schools to restore safe and inclusive learning. Support included rehabilitation of learning spaces, teacher training on inclusion and protection, and strengthened safeguarding systems, reaching **8,000** students, including children with disabilities.



Through the Protection and Education in Emergency and Recovery (PEER) project, ChildFund worked with local authorities and schools to restore safe and inclusive learning.

Mozambique:

Following Cyclone Chido, ChildFund enrolled **2,340** children in catch-up and remedial learning programs and rehabilitated **10** classrooms, restoring safe learning opportunities for more than **5,000** children.

Kenya:

ChildFund supported school feeding programs benefiting more than **12,000** learners, rehabilitated education infrastructure, strengthened school safety systems, and promoted disaster risk reduction.

Uganda:

Through the Integrated Livelihood, Education and Protection (ILEAP) project, ChildFund integrated early childhood education, resilience programming, and psychosocial support to improve school readiness and educational outcomes for refugee and host community children. [Learn more.](#)



3

HEALTH AND NUTRITION IN EMERGENCIES

ChildFund delivers integrated health and nutrition interventions focused on reducing morbidity and mortality by supporting continuity of care when it has been disrupted or destroyed in crises.



Our capabilities include:



Emergency nutrition services



Maternal and child health services



Nutrition screening and referral for severe and moderate acute malnutrition.



Community outreach to support government-led immunization and child health campaigns

HIGHLIGHTED PROJECTS

Zambia:

Implemented therapeutic and supplementary feeding to **11,289** children aged **6** to **59** months and **3,828** pregnant and lactating women during drought response in 2024.

Ethiopia:

Through the Integrated Multi-Sectoral Life-Saving Response project funded by OCHA, ChildFund reached more than **102,000** internally displaced persons and host community members with integrated health, nutrition, protection, psychosocial support, and cash assistance services.



Key results of the Integrated Multi-Sectoral Life- Saving Response project included:



More than **17,000** children vaccinated against polio, resulting in **97%** coverage.



Nearly **9,500** pregnant and lactating women were screened for malnutrition, with those identified as malnourished referred for appropriate treatment and nutrition services.



5,750 people received mental health services, with 75% reporting improved mental wellbeing.



457 community members were trained as psychosocial support providers, strengthening community capacity to provide basic psychosocial care and referrals.

Zambia:

In response to the 2024 drought, ChildFund provided therapeutic and supplementary feeding services to more than **11,000** children and nearly **4,000** pregnant and lactating women.

Kenya:

ChildFund, working with the Ministry of Health provided nutrition screening, referrals, school feeding, psychosocial support, and health outreach services for over **5,000** vulnerable households and children in drought-affected counties of Samburu, Turkana and Kajiado.



4

WASH IN EMERGENCIES

ChildFund supports access to safe water, sanitation, and hygiene services to reduce illnesses, save lives, and decrease public health risks.



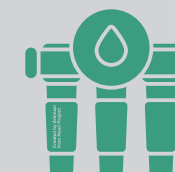
Our capabilities include:



Emergency water provision



Hygiene promotion



Water treatment and purification



Community sanitation approaches

HIGHLIGHTED PROJECTS

Ethiopia:

In Oromia Region, ChildFund reached **45,903** people affected by earthquake, drought, and conflict through emergency WASH interventions including water purification and hygiene promotion.

Senegal:

Following recurrent flooding, ChildFund supported **6,306** households to access safe drinking water through water purification interventions and community awareness initiatives.

Kenya:

ChildFund supported emergency water provision, treatment, hygiene promotion, and sanitation awareness reaching more than **1,672** households during flood responses in Kisumu and Nairobi counties.

Mozambique:

Following Cyclone Chido, ChildFund integrated WASH interventions into education and protection programming to improve health outcomes and support recovery, rehabilitating **2** water points to improve access to safe water for **13,345** people and distributing **618** dignity kits to girls and boys.

CASH ASSISTANCE, FOOD SECURITY & LIVELIHOODS

ChildFund supports vulnerable households through immediate assistance and recovery-oriented interventions.



Our capabilities include:



Multipurpose cash assistance



Household resilience strengthening through savings groups, market linkages, and community-based recovery support



Emergency food assistance



Climate-smart approaches that promote adaptation to shocks.

HIGHLIGHTED PROJECTS

Ethiopia:

Through the Joining Forces initiative in Tigray, ChildFund delivered over **USD 308,000** in multipurpose cash assistance to **2,002** households, enabling families to meet essential needs, strengthen resilience, and reduce harmful coping strategies.

Through a food assistance response funded by MFAT and ChildFund New Zealand, ChildFund reached more than **16,000** conflict-affected individuals through food security support, psychosocial services, awareness activities, and emergency cash assistance.

Kenya:

During drought responses, ChildFund supported more than **3,500** households through integrated food assistance, nutrition services, water access, and livelihood protection interventions.

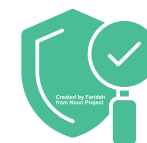
Uganda:

Through the Integrated Livelihood, Education and Protection (ILEAP) project, ChildFund strengthened household resilience through livestock production, climate-smart agriculture, and income-generating opportunities for refugee and host community households.

Humanitarian Standards and Accountability

ChildFund is committed to delivering humanitarian assistance that is accountable, inclusive, and responsive to affected populations.

Across our programming we prioritize:



Accountability to affected populations



Community feedback and complaints mechanisms



Gender-responsive and disability-inclusive programming



Child safeguarding and protection mainstreaming



Prevention of sexual exploitation, abuse, and harassment



Continuous learning and adaptation





Why Partner With Us

ChildFund offers a distinct combination of humanitarian capability and long-term community presence, including:



Child-centered humanitarian expertise.



Integrated multi-sector delivery.



Strong child protection, education, health, WASH, and livelihoods capability.



Deep local partnerships and localization experience, working with 56 local partner organizations in 10 countries.



Experience and active partnerships in fragile and hard-to-reach contexts.



Proven delivery of cash and resilience programming.



Strong safeguarding and accountability systems.



Ability to connect humanitarian response with recovery and long-term resilience.

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