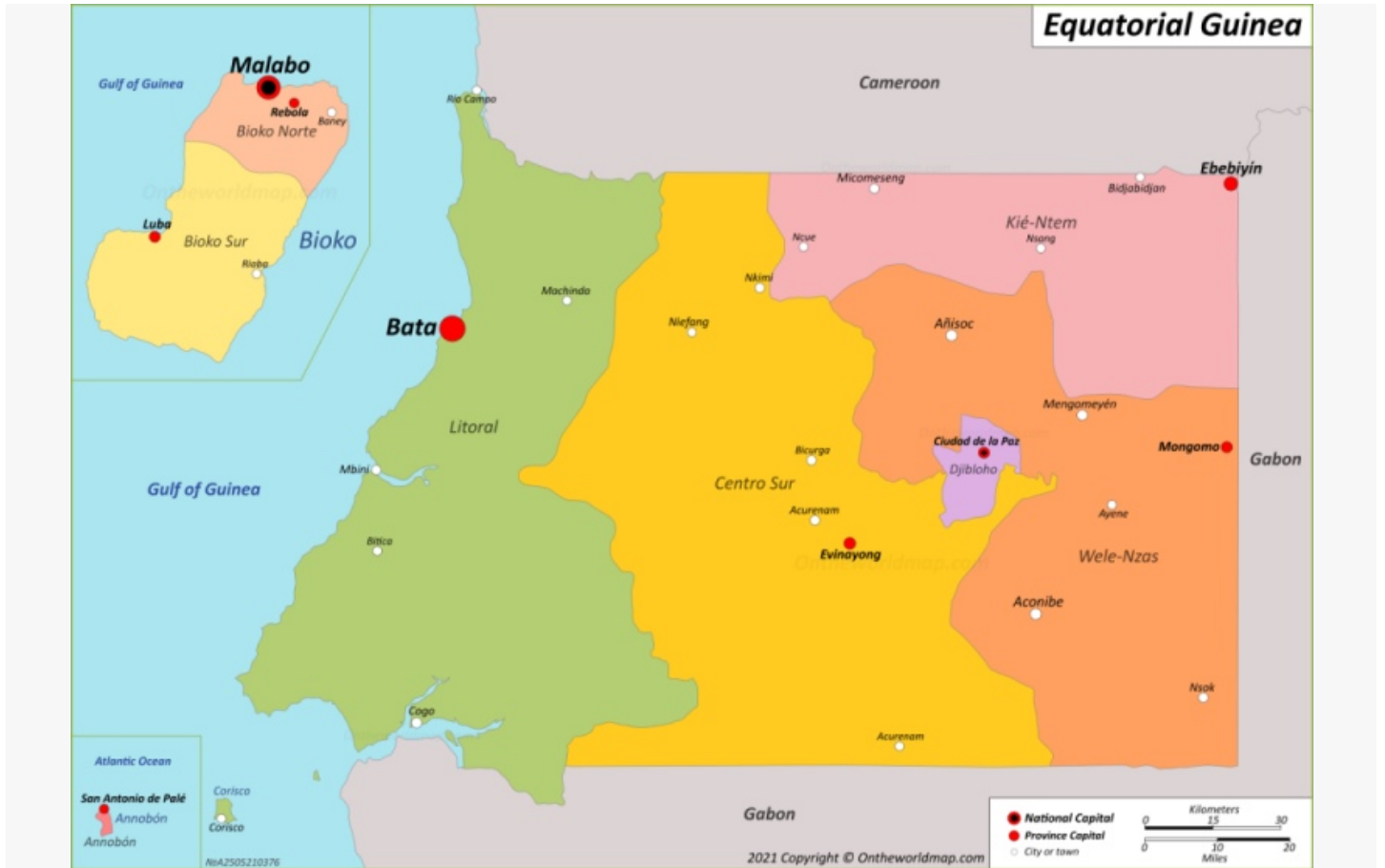




Red Cross of Equatorial Guinea volunteers distributing sleeping materials to rescued passengers following the shipwreck in Bata

Appeal: MDRGQ004	Total DREF Allocation: CHF 24,962	Crisis Category: Yellow	Hazard: Other
Glide Number: -	People Affected: 90 people	People Targeted: 89 people	
Event Onset: Sudden	Operation Start Date: 30-07-2024	New Operational End Date: 31-10-2024	Total Operating Timeframe: 3 months
Reporting Timeframe Start Date: 20-07-2024		Reporting Timeframe End Date: 20-09-2024	
Additional Allocation Requested: -		Targeted Areas: Litoral	

Description of the Event



Map of Equatorial Guinea

Date of event

20-07-2024

What happened, where and when?

On 20 July 2024, the National President of Equatorial Guinea Red Cross was alerted by government authorities from Bata when a shipwreck occurred on 20 July 2024, before dawn. The shipwreck is said to have occurred at the Rio Campo Cribi sea border between Equatorial Guinea and Cameroon. The rescued passengers indicate that they had been travelling since 1st July 2024, trying to reach Gabon where they had been promised jobs. The boat's captain escaped the boat upon seeing the coast of Equatorial Guinea, thus abandoning the passengers to their fate. This resulted into the shipwreck.



Provision of first aid services to shipwreck affected people in Bata, Equatorial Guinea



Distribution of hot meals to affected people in Bata

Scope and Scale

The boat was carrying 90 people, including 47 women from different nationalities (30 from Benin and 17 from Togo), as well as 43 men also from different nationalities (10 from Togo, 16 from Benin, 8 Burkina Faso nationals, 2 Niger nationals, and 6 Nigerians). One of the men died, but the 89 others were rescued. Among these, some were wounded, from superficial bruises to fractures. The host National Society provided first aid services to the wounded as soon as they were alerted by government authorities (the Gendarmerie Nacional).

A rapid assessment conducted by the Equatorial Guinea Red Cross (EGRC) indicated that the 89 rescued passengers were in a small room at the Gendarmerie in Bata, initially made to accommodate 4 people. They were not allowed to move out of the gendarmerie as none of them had the Equatorial Guinea visa. They arrived with no personal effects. They urgently need water, food, clothes, sleeping and hygiene material, mosquito nets, buckets, jerrycans and cups for drinking water.

On 26th July, authorities indicated that these people would be moved to a COVID management structure, where they would have more space and intimacy. However, two months after the accident, they are still in the gendarmerie, though in the bigger room. Men and women share the space and created a separation themselves. They received non-food items and hot meals from consulates and local NGOs during the first month. But for now, only Red Cross is still providing assistance to them, assistance which will stop at the end of this operation. Their fate is not clear, as repatriation has been discussed for a certain time, but nothing is certain for the moment. As they are not allowed to leave the gendarmerie to work and have no family, they rely only on external assistance for their basic needs.

Source Information

Source Name	Source Link
1. Red Cross of Equatorial Guinea	https://prddsgofilestorage.blob.core.windows.net/api/dref/images/CRUZ%20ROJA_yes.docx

Summary of Changes

Are you changing the timeframe of the operation	Yes
Are you changing the operational strategy	No
Are you changing the target population of the operation	No
Are you changing the geographical location	No
Are you making changes to the budget	No

Is this a request for a second allocation	No
Has the forecasted event materialize?	No

Please explain the summary of changes and justification:

The RCEG carried out all the training, purchase and distributions within the set timeframe. However, a one-month no-cost extension of the operation would be needed to enable the National Society to continue providing at least food assistance to the 89 people beneficiaries. Indeed, the RCEG is the only organization providing food support to them, and there is the fear that these vulnerable people will be left with no assistance whatsoever at the end of the DREF on 30 September, the current end date.

A month ago, the Consul of Nigeria in Bata declared that discussions were going on between the Government of EG, ECCAS, and concerned embassies for a possible repatriation of the affected people to their respective countries with ECCAS support. However, as of today, (one week to the end of the DREF timeframe), there are no indications that this will happen before the end of September 2024. In the meantime, the same needs from the beginning apply as they are all accommodated in a single room in the gendarmerie premises, not allowed to go outside and entirely relying on external assistance for their basic needs, assistance which for now is provided by the Red Cross only.

The RCEG will not need additional funds because they secured some savings, as some embassies, consulates and NGOs provided food assistance to the victims in the beginning of the operation. The savings will enable to cover the food needs of the affected people for a maximum of one month.

Current National Society Actions

Start date of National Society actions

20-07-2024



The representative of the beneficiaries discussing how they will share the food between women and men



The representative of the beneficiaries shares the food in 2 parts (for women and men)

Livelihoods And Basic Needs	The National society has been providing drinking water to the affected people since 20 July and food plates ready to eat since 23 July.
Health	Red Cross of Equatorial Guinea volunteers and staff provided first aid services to wounded people as soon as they were rescued by government teams. Red Cross volunteers also provided psychosocial support to affected people, helping them not to feel lonely after the accident in a foreign country.
Assessment	Red Cross of Equatorial Guinea volunteers and staff conducted a rapid assessment after the accident, that allowed to know the exact number of affected people and their situation and their needs.

IFRC Network Actions Related To The Current Event

Secretariat	Equatorial Guinea is covered by the Yaoundé Country Cluster Delegation (Yaoundé CCD). The Cluster's Program Coordinator is presently deployed to Equatorial Guinea to
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	<p>support the National Society. He has assisted the NS with the posting of the alert on Go Platform and is also helping NS staff to prepare the DREF request to respond to the situation.</p> <p>The President of the Red Cross of Equatorial Guinea requested IFRC support to respond to this situation, as when the accident occurred, the Government requested the NS to provide humanitarian support.</p>
Participating National Societies	There are no PNS in Equatorial Guinea.

ICRC Actions Related To The Current Event

ICRC covers Equatorial Guinea from its delegation based in Yaoundé. They provided food assistance to the 89 people rescued from the shipwreck during part of the first and second month of the disaster.

Other Actors Actions Related To The Current Event

Government has requested international assistance	No
National authorities	<p>Following the Shipwreck, people were rescued by the local authorities and brought to security in the Gendarmerie premises. 26th July, the authorities informed the NS of the possibility to move the affected people to another structure. A bigger existing structure from Government that have already been used to host and take care of people. But this was not done.</p> <p>The Government has not declared the emergency, but a representative called NS President to ask the NS for humanitarian assistance delivery following the accident. Following that, Local authorities granted access to the NS to visit and assist the affected people in the gendarmerie.</p>
UN or other actors	<p>IFRC informed the UN Resident Coordinator's Office in Malabo and while they indicated that they do not have a humanitarian component in their activities for Equatorial Guinea, they said they would be looking for possible support for this operation, probably through the various embassies involved.</p> <p>Some consulates of the nationalities involved provided water for bathing, and an association of Beninese doctors started administering first aid services to their fellow citizens.</p> <p>Two local NGOs have distributed some clothes to the affected people.</p>

Are there major coordination mechanism in place?

The embassies and consulates of the people affected met with EG government authorities and ECCAS representatives to discuss the immediate future of the affected people. Plans to repatriate those to their respective countries are being considered, but no date is anticipated about when this will happen.

Needs (Gaps) Identified



Shelter Housing And Settlements

The assessment indicated that the affected people urgently need non-food items for day to day use, sleeping materials, protection material.

The people arrived in the ship have nothing for themselves to use to protect themselves against weather, mosquitoes or other threats.

They lost the few items and assets they had in the ship accident and now need all possible support to protect themselves.

Being hosted currently in the Gendarmerie premises and potentially moved to another Government structure for the rest of their stay, they will still need the minimum assets to live with dignity and be able to protect themselves at least during the night.



Livelihoods And Basic Needs

Being in a foreign country with no one to take care of them, the people rescued from the shipwreck have no means to afford or even access food or household essentials like sleeping material or kitchen utensils. As they are hosted in a public space, they are not able to have cooking material, so they need cooked food and cutlery. Concerning their basic comfort, they would need sleeping mats and bed sheets.



Health

The first assessment of the situation carried out on the shipwreck day revealed that most of the people received were injured. The need for first aid was urgent and remains important for the follow-up of the injuries. Regular visits are necessary as well as kits to carry on with that assistance.



Water, Sanitation And Hygiene

The NS plans to distribute items that will likely contribute to generate waste. The premise of the Gendarmerie has garbage and waste management for regular days but during the time of the stay of the affected people, NS assistance will generate a significant amount of waste that needs to be considered. The management of the intervention requires to integrate the collection and smart management of waste such as empty bottles and sachets, and also sensitizing the populations on the need to keep the environment clean. Without proper management of the environmental hygiene in the rooms they will be allowed to stay in, and knowing they are remaining inside, the situation will surely affect hygiene conditions, leading to further health threats.

Cleaning and sensitization activities are required to mitigate that risk.

Furthermore, the women and girls in reproductive age will need support for menstrual hygiene management while all the individuals need support for their personal hygiene. There have been no considerations of that and no assistance to them since they arrived. The risk for the hygiene condition to deteriorate is high and must be avoided in such a situation.



Protection, Gender And Inclusion

Among the affected people there are 47 females, including 5 minors. People's age ranges from 17 to 44 years old.

The context of such displacements always requires a constant safeguarding to be integrated in the approach, especially as the affected people all live in a common room. It is also important for the assistance provided to be sensitive to the group represented and ensure they can maintain their dignity and safety. Continuous discussion and engagement is also needed to remain relevant.

Any identified gaps/limitations in the assessment

Two important elements must be raised here: the gaps of confirmed information on the time the people may stay in the country and the limited resources of NS to continue any of the assistance expected from local authorities.

- The affected people are presently in a room at the National Gendarmerie. It is not yet clear what Government authorities will decide to do with them, whether they will accommodate them as refugees, or send them back to their respective countries of origin. In any case, Red Cross of Equatorial Guinea will continue to assist the affected people while waiting for the Government's decision on the future of the affected people.

- Considering the low resources of the NS and absence of support already deployed external funding is required to ensure assistance is delivered as per the appeal for support from authorities directed to the NS. No alternative resources are available for now.



Operational Strategy

Overall objective of the operation

This operation is intended to provide 3 months' emergency assistance to the 89 survivors of a shipwreck in Bata on 20 July 2024. This will include food, essential items, first aids and protection against immediate risk associated to hygiene and safeguarding criteria for the people to be assisted.

Operation strategy rationale

Considering the high probability for their stay to exceed 6 weeks and NS resources deployed since 20th that are already exhausted, this DREF will help to cover the emergency needs encountered in such context for the first weeks. This allocation and the design of the intervention is made with the consideration of additional support for ICRC to complement the food assistance for a month and the context monitoring with expected clarity from Government on the status and protocols they will apply. For now, the absence of clarity on the decision that Government may undertake for the affected people make difficult to elaborate further actions. The strategy is therefore based on request from authorities to act and cover urgent humanitarian needs. With context evolution and partners support as times pass, NS could revise this intervention accordingly.

To address the un-covered humanitarian needs this DREF will aim at purchasing and distributing non-food items that are the critical needs as the people lost everything in the shipwreck anyway. The items provided will include single mattresses, Mosquito nets, Bedsheets, Buckets, Cups, Pillows, Large Pots, ladles, Plates, Spoons, plastic garbage rolls, Kitchen knives. Some items will also be provided to increase the individual hygiene. Individual hygiene kits provided will include toilet paper. Additional distributions will include the menstrual hygiene kits for the 47 identified women and girl in reproductive age and general items that will enhance the hygiene, focusing on waste management by the provision of garbage bag.

Food is one of the high priority since 20th and NS started distribution of food to the affected people. Still being uncovered, NS will continue the food provision through ready to eat ration. The most relevant way and healthy for the affected people being to ensure cooking and distribution of plates ready to eat in the place the people are currently hosted. For that activity, NS will purchase food items such as Liters of olive oil, Boxes of condensed milk, Sacks of large rice, Boxes of canned tomatoes, Strips of water, small Boxes of turkey wings, Boxes of mackerel, medium sized bowls, Packages of broth, and bags of Salt. NS will use these stocks to continue to facilitate the cooking in their own premises. Then distribute then where people are hosted which is for now in the Gendarmerie. Full access to distribute that assistance is granted and NS started already this activity given the urgent needs. In case they are moved and have more flexibility for the cooking where they will be relocated (as per Government projection), NS could re-assess with Government if it is relevant to pass the cooking to them. In that case, fire safety messages will be delivered as well to prevent against further incident while regular visits will be held. NS has already started distributing food through existing resources and this intervention will allow the refund and continue that assistance for at least a month while ICRC support may extend that intervention.

NS will ensure to prevent health main threats associated to the hygiene conditions, considering the people are staying in the premises and the waste management risk. First aid and PFA will continue for the coming weeks based on needs of each individual. Volunteers visits will be used to deliver both.

The regular visits will also serve for integrated multi-sector awareness. Volunteers visits will cover protections messages, WASH hygiene promotion, use of kits and key health threats to prevent. Hygiene promotion and environmental hygiene will be particularly enhanced to encourage the cleaning and helping with waste management, transport out of the premises and common spaces. This DREF will prioritize sensitization of the affected people on the need to keep the environment clean, preventing any risk associated to negligence of the basic hygiene but also it will serve to provide protection messages to people received in Bata through this accident and personnel in charge of their safety. This will be done through the Red Cross of Equatorial Guinea staff and volunteers since they have access to the affected people.

A remote support will be organized. It will be complement by a monitoring visit from delegation to ensure proper closing and quality reporting of the intervention. Especially considering that NS did not have any DREF training since 2012.

Targeting Strategy

Who will be targeted through this operation?

All 89 people rescued after the accident are targeted.



Explain the selection criteria for the targeted population

This operation is targeting the 89 people who were rescued after the shipwreck in Bata. They are all targeted as they are not from Equatorial Guinea, and they need everything having lost their belongings during the accident.

Total Targeted Population

Women	47	Rural	-
Girls (under 18)	-	Urban	100%
Men	42	People with disabilities (estimated)	-
Boys (under 18)	-		
Total targeted population	89		

Risk and Security Considerations

Please indicate about potential operation risk for this operations and mitigation actions

Risk	Mitigation action
During recent operations in Equatorial Guinea, procurement took a lot of time because they were done out of the country. This could lead to extended operation, and the procurement could be completed when the beneficiaries have already left the country.	All procurement planned will be done in Bata. The items planned are available there, and IFRC will help the NS with the procurement procedure to speed it up.
The status of the affected persons in Equatorial Guinea is not yet clarified, and they might be asked to leave the country any moment, thereby stopping the operation.	Red Cross of Equatorial Guinea is monitoring the situation closely. The non-food items planned to be distributed are essentials such as sleeping materials. The cooking kits planned are for Red Cross of Equatorial Guinea who will be doing the cooking for the affected people. Activities are planned for 2 months, but food items will be purchased on a weekly basis and stop immediately when the people leave the country.

Please indicate any security and safety concerns for this operation

There is no threat to the life of the affected people. However, their accommodation is not ideal as they are not arranged in a gender-friendly manner. However, with Government plans to relocate them to a COVID 19 site, Red Cross of Equatorial Guinea will suggest that men be separated from women.

Has the child safeguarding risk analysis assessment been completed?

No

Planned Intervention



Shelter Housing And Settlements

Budget: CHF 6,091

Targeted Persons: 89

Indicators

Title	Target	Actual
Number of people reached with non-food items	89	89

Progress Towards Outcome

The planned non-food items have been purchased and distributed to the affected people. Each affected person received a single mattress and a pillow, a mosquito net, a bucket, and a cup. Additionally, they received 100 bedsheets, 5 Large Pots, 4 ladles, 100 Plates, 100 Spoons, and 5 Kitchen knives.



Livelihoods And Basic Needs

Budget: CHF 4,191

Targeted Persons: 89

Indicators

Title	Target	Actual
Number of people receiving hot meals	89	89

Progress Towards Outcome

ICRC covered the food needs of the affected people from the beginning of the operation.

The NS has taken over with DREF funds, with a slide change in the operational strategy. In fact, there are no more purchase of raw food and cooking as the NS was finding it difficult to get the required supporting documentation for the items purchased in the market, for example spices in small quantities. The NS contracted a restaurant which is selling hotmeals and charging per plates. Each affected person receives 2 meals per day.



Health

Budget: CHF 2,356

Targeted Persons: 89

Indicators

Title	Target	Actual
Number of people reached with first aid services	89	89
Number of first aid kits purchased	10	10

Progress Towards Outcome

The planned first aid kits have been purchased. RCEG continued to provide first aid to wounded people until when it was no longer needed. The NS also hired a medical Dr to attend to one of the ladies who was pregnant, and who delivered during the DREF timeframe. This was not planned but appeared to be necessary.





Water, Sanitation And Hygiene

Budget: CHF 3,597

Targeted Persons: 89

Indicators

Title	Target	Actual
# people reached with wash activities	89	89
# cleaning visits	24	15
#Wash kits distributed to affected people for 2 months	89	89
	-	-

Progress Towards Outcome

RCEG volunteers have been keeping the gendarmerie clean from any waste arising from the operation. 50 Plastic rolls for waste management were purchased to that effect. Volunteers have been raising awareness to the beneficiaries on the need to keep the environment clean.

Menstrual hygiene kits have been purchased and distributed to all 47 women, with each 1 kit containing 2 packs of sanitary towels, 1 bottle of shower gel, 1 bottle of shower towel, 1 bottle of intimate gel, 2 panties.

48 Individual hygiene kits were distributed containing soap, toothpaste, towel, toothbrush. 16 packs of toilet paper were equally distributed.



Protection, Gender And Inclusion

Budget: CHF 1,650

Targeted Persons: 95

Indicators

Title	Target	Actual
% personnel and volunteers deployed that have been initially briefed on safeguarding	100	100
#people reached with PSEA and safeguarding awareness messages	89	89

Progress Towards Outcome

Planned activities were carried out, with volunteers and the beneficiaries briefed on PSEA and PGI.



Secretariat Services

Budget: CHF 3,032

Targeted Persons: 16



Indicators

Title	Target	Actual
Number of lessons learned workshop organized	1	-
Monitoring and supporting mission	1	1

Progress Towards Outcome

The NS maintained contact with Government and all the actors involved in the operation.



National Society Strengthening

Budget: CHF 4,044

Targeted Persons: 16

Indicators

Title	Target	Actual
Volunteers and staff mobilised, briefed on safeguarding and deployed	16	16

Progress Towards Outcome

The visibility material have been purchased and distributed to volunteers. All the briefings have been completed. The Lessons learned workshop will be carried out at the end of the operation.

About Support Services

How many staff and volunteers will be involved in this operation. Briefly describe their role.

Five staff, 10 volunteers, and 2 supervisors. Branch staff will support and a mission from HQ will be ensured.

If there is procurement, will it be done by National Society or IFRC?

Procurement will be done by the National Society.

The first aid kits will be procured to replenish the stock of the NS. The non-food items and food will be procured for distribution. Since the quantities are not much, it is expected that the tendering will take a maximum of 2 weeks. However, IFRC Logistics in Yaoundé will support the NS with the procurement procedure to speed up and avoid delays.

All the items planned are available in the local market, and easier to procure locally for speedy intervention. To enhance the quick assistance, NS engaged the resources they had available to start the emergency assistance and food distribution.

How will this operation be monitored?

IFRC has a staff in the country. He will ensure monitoring of the operation. IFRC will ensure kick-off to start properly the intervention and ensure planning and key steps are well understood. Necessary translations will be done for the purpose of the smooth implementation and ownership from HQ but also branches.



Regular meeting will be undertaken with NS and IFRC delegation program manager for proper monitoring of the implementation. When relevant, this will engage other units, especially finance, logistic and PMER.

Please briefly explain the National Societies communication strategy for this operation

The NS has a communications Director who will work in close collaboration with IFRC Communications Officer at Yaoundé CCD.



Budget Overview



DREF OPERATION

MDRGQ004 - Equatorial Guinea Red Cross Shipwreck in Bata

Operating Budget

Planned Operations	17,885
Shelter and Basic Household Items	6,091
Livelihoods	4,191
Multi-purpose Cash	0
Health	2,356
Water, Sanitation & Hygiene	3,597
Protection, Gender and Inclusion	1,650
Education	0
Migration	0
Risk Reduction, Climate Adaptation and Recovery	0
Community Engagement and Accountability	0
Environmental Sustainability	0
Enabling Approaches	7,076
Coordination and Partnerships	0
Secretariat Services	3,032
National Society Strengthening	4,044
TOTAL BUDGET	24,962

all amounts in Swiss Francs (CHF)



Contact Information

For further information, specifically related to this operation please contact:

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