



**WELCOME TO THE GEF!**

# **Global Environment Facility**

**An International Fund  
Dedicated to  
Investing in the Global Environment**

**Presentation by Yasemin Biro Kirtman, PhD  
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# The GEF is

## **An international partnership to help developing countries meet commitments under environmental conventions**

- United Nations organizations
- Multilateral development banks
- National entities
- International civil society organizations

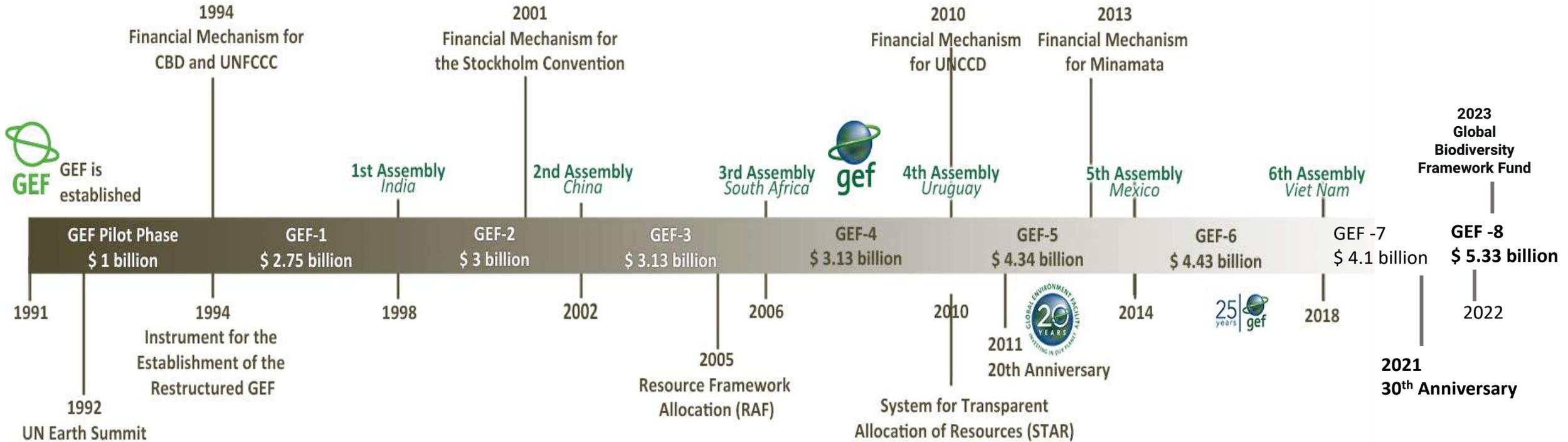
## **A financial mechanism to provide grant and concessional funding to developing country initiatives**

- United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)
- United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)
- Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants
- United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD)
- Minamata Convention on Mercury

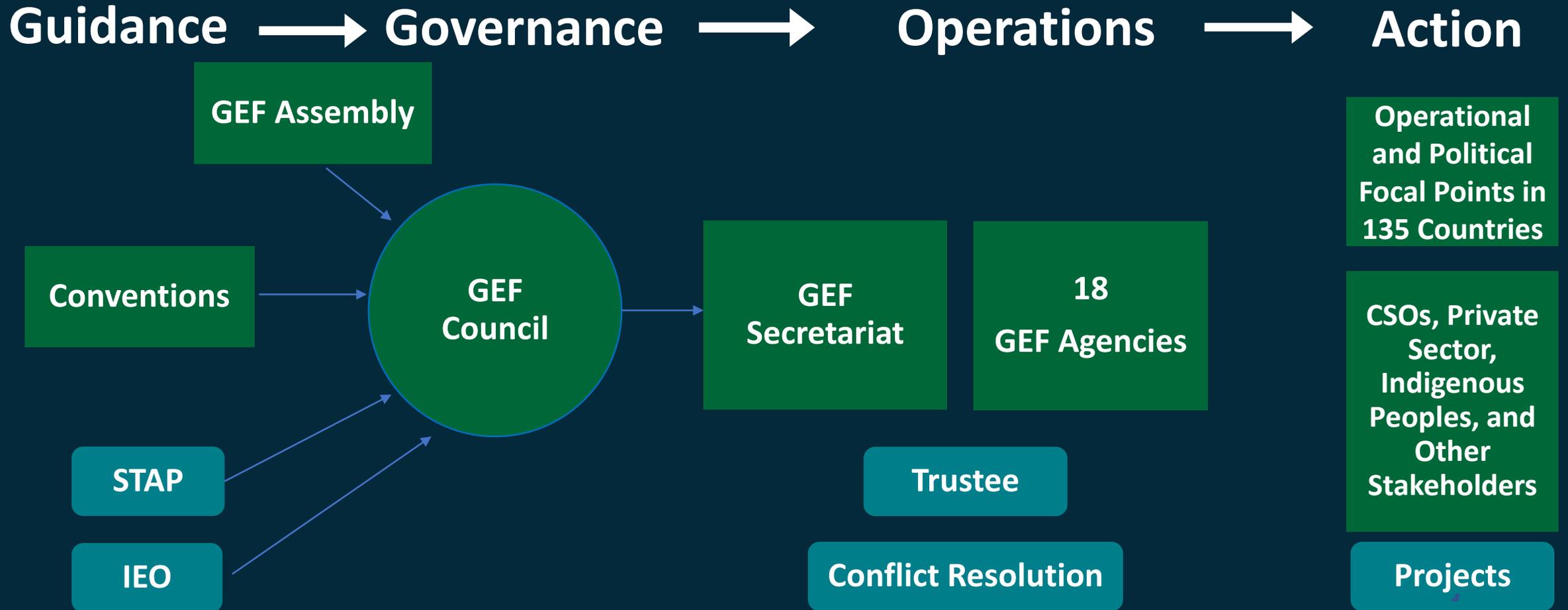
## **An innovator and catalyst - one of largest public funds to benefit the global environment**

- Support for innovation and scale-up in sustainable technology, institutes, policies, business models and practices
- Convening power and ability to mobilize resources
- Support for multi-stakeholder alliances
- Leveraging about US\$6 in additional financing for every GEF dollar invested.

# History of the GEF



# GEF Organization



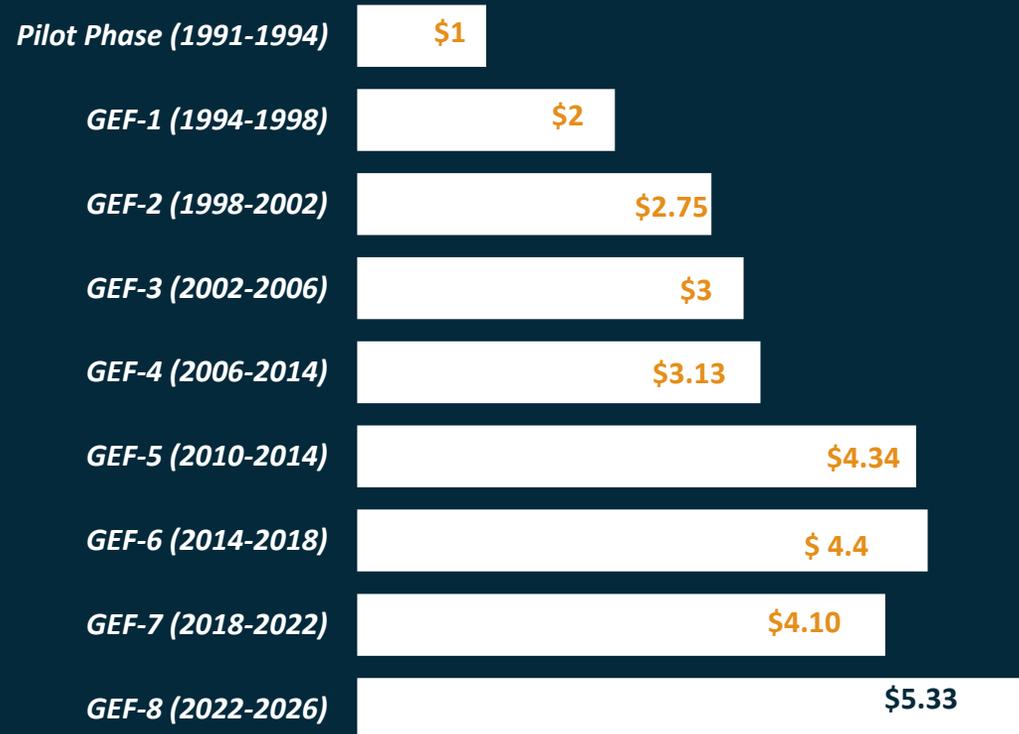
Over US\$100 billion mobilized for the global environment

**FOCAL AREAS:**  
Biological Diversity  
Climate Change  
Mitigation  
Land Degradation  
International Waters  
Chemicals and Waste

## GEF Trust Fund

Replenished by Donor Contributions every four years.

To date, the GEF has raised US\$30 billion in donor funds (40 donor countries) while leveraging about US\$120 billion in additional resources for more than 5,000 projects and programs.



Top 10 contributors:

- US
- Germany
- Japan
- UK
- France
- Sweden
- Canada
- Italy
- Netherlands
- Switzerland

■ Replenishment cycles (in billion dollars)



## Other trust funds operated by the GEF:

### The Special Climate Change Fund (SCCF)

Finances adaptation and technology transfer - US \$357 m

### The Least Developed Countries Fund (LDCF)

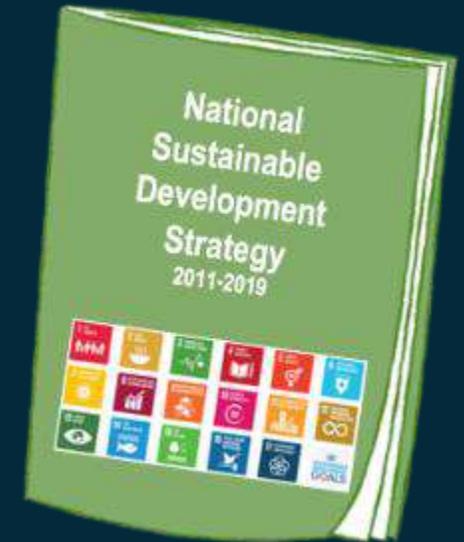
Addresses the urgent and immediate adaptation needs of Least Developed Countries - US \$1,980 m

The GEF also provides secretariat services, on an interim basis, for the **Adaptation Fund**.

# Key Eligibility Criteria

1. Eligible Country
2. National Priority
3. Government Endorsement
4. GEF Priorities
5. Incremental Financing
6. Comply with GEF Policies
7. Public Involvement

<http://www.thegef.org/documents/guidelines-implementation-public-involvement-policy>





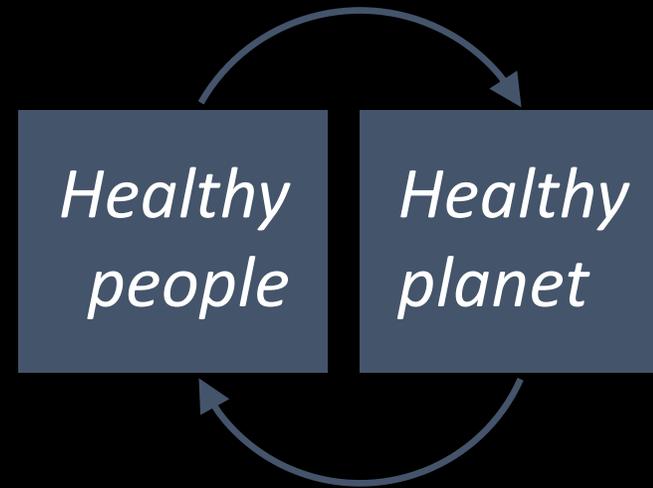
## A longer-term vision for GEF 8 and beyond

*To halt nature loss and ensure that the world is nature-positive by 2030 and carbon neutral and pollution-free by 2050*



# GEF-8 Strategy:

Embracing a post-COVID-19 framework  
- focus on Nature-Based Solutions



*...protecting nature and restoring health of the environment that can and needs to underpin the health and well-being of human societies.*

# GEF-8 GUIDING PRINCIPLES

## for IMPACT AND SCALE

***Transformative Change to Achieve Blue and Green Recovery***

*GEF investments will focus on maximizing these characteristics:*

**Integration of actions**  
- across sectors, focal areas,  
or drivers of environmental  
degradation

Address drivers of  
environmental degradation at  
global or regional scales;

Avoid leakage and promote  
policy coherence

Work across scales and sectors

**Transformative Investments**

Promote greater private sector  
engagement;

Innovate and take measured risk  
for higher return

**Ensure Durable Outcomes**

Design for resilience in the face  
of uncertainty

Build Institutional capacity and  
financing to sustain impact

# GEF-8 PROGRAMMING ARCHITECTURE

## HEALTHY PLANET, HEALTHY PEOPLE

GEF 8 Programming  
Directions Paper

### FOCAL AREAS

Biodiversity

Climate change  
mitigation

Land  
degradation

International  
waters

Chemicals and  
waste

### INTEGRATED PROGRAMS

1. Food Systems
2. Landscape Restoration
3. Sustainable Cities
4. Amazon, Congo, and Critical Forest Biomes
5. Circular Solutions to Plastic Pollution
6. Blue and Green Islands
7. Clean and Healthy Ocean
8. Greening Infrastructure Development
9. Net-Zero, Nature-Positive Accelerator
10. Wildlife Conservation for Development
11. Elimination of Harmful Chemicals from Supply Chains

### CROSS-CUTTING

### GLOBAL PROGRAMS

- Mobilizing the Financial Sector for Environmental Goals through Blended Finance
- Community Action for Global Transformation - Small Grants Program and Beyond

Circular economy • Nature-based solutions • Gender responsiveness • Resilience • Private sector engagement



# GEF and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

GEF investments are aligned with the 17 SDGs, on climate, oceans and marine resources, terrestrial ecosystems, forests, biodiversity, and land degradation.



# GEF Environmental and Social Safeguards Minimum Standards

1. Environmental and Social Assessment, Management and Monitoring
2. Accountability, Grievance and Conflict Resolution
3. Biodiversity Conservation and the Sustainable Management of Living Natural Resources
4. Restrictions on Land Use and Involuntary Resettlement
5. Indigenous Peoples
6. Cultural Heritage
7. Resource Efficiency and Pollution Prevention
8. Labor and Working Conditions
9. Community Health, Safety and Security

# Cross-Cutting Issues



**Stakeholder Engagement**



**Gender Equality & Women's Empowerment**



**Indigenous People & Local Communities**



**Civil Society**



**Private Sector Engagement**



**Knowledge & Learning**

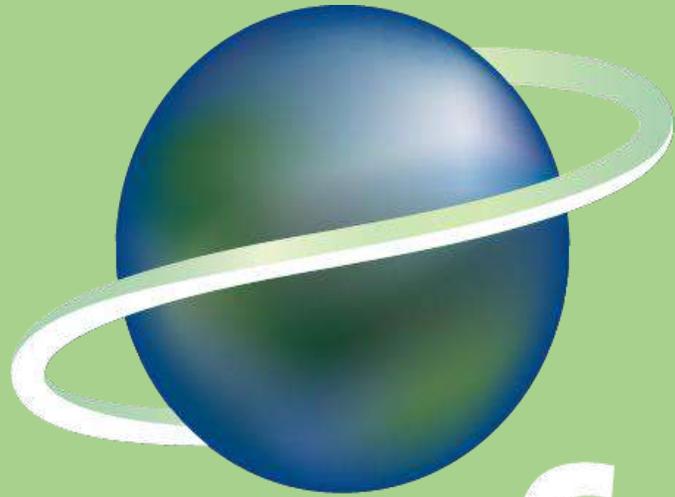


**Country Engagement**

# GEF Investments in Tourism: 96 projects

\$360 million in GEF Funds and \$2.6 billion in co-financing

- *Managing Together: Integrating community-centered, ecosystem-based approaches into forestry, agriculture and tourism sectors in **Sri Lanka** (2014 UNDP) - \$3.3 million GEF Funds and \$30 million co-financing*
- *Mainstreaming Biodiversity Management into Fisheries and Tourism Activities carried out in Coastal /Marine Ecosystems in **El Salvador** (2015 UNDP) - \$2.3 million GEF funds and \$6.5 million co-financing*
- *Energy Efficiency Improvement in the hotel Industry in **Honduras** (2015 UNDP) - \$1.2 million GEF funds and \$8.7 million co-financing*
- *Promoting Wildlife Conservation and Responsible Nature Based Tourism for Sustainable Development in **Vietnam** (2020 UNDP) - \$7.1 million GEF funds and \$105 million co-financing*
- *Mainstreaming biodiversity conservation in the tourism sector of the protected areas and strategic ecosystems of San Andres, Old Providence and Santa Catalina islands in **Colombia** (2020 WWF-US) - \$2.6 million GEF funds and \$22 million co-financing*
- *Hotel Green Revitalization Program to incentivize retrofit greening of SME hotels in 30+ countries **Global** (2021 IFC/WB) - \$9 million in GEF funds and \$802 million co-financing*
- *Electric mobility for sustainable tourism in **Albania** (2022 UNIDO) – \$763,000 GEF funds and \$8.9 million co-financing*



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**Thank you!**

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