



Annual Cluster Meeting Report

8-9 June 2023



The projects that form the European Health Cluster have received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme, under grant agreement, No. 945307 (eMOTIONAL cities), No. 945238 (ENLIGHTENme), No. 945105 (HEART), No. 945095 (RECETAS), No. 945391 (URBANOME), No. 945097 (WELLBASED).

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Based on the 6 projects' DoAs this common communication and dissemination strategy corresponds to the deliverables listed below.

1. Introduction

Representatives from the European Commission DG RTD and HADEA, project coordinators of six H2020 projects funded in the frame of the call SC1-BHC-29-2020, representatives of European Networks, met for the third annual Urban Health Cluster (UHC) meeting in Bologna, Italy, on 8th-9th June 2023.

The meeting advanced the urban health agenda through discussions of the technical aspects of urban health research, generating impact through research and innovation, and the translation of these research into urban health policy and action. We reviewed progress over the past 8 months of the cluster and prepared for the next phase of the cluster through workgroup sessions on science translation, health determinants and urban interventions, data protection, urban issues and epidemics, dissemination and communication, and citizen science and urban health.

The following report summarises the presentations and activities conducted, and the main key points.

Curated by

Simona Tondelli

ENLIGHTENme Project coordinator

Noemi Garcia Lepetit

WELLBASED Project coordinator

and current UHC leader

2. Agenda: Day 1 – 8th June 2023

14.00 - 14.15	<i>Registration @Sala dei poeti</i>
14.15 - 14.30	Welcome greetings/ introduction - UNIBO (host) + WELLBASED (Cluster coordinator)
14.30 - 15.30	<p>Parallel sessions – first round</p> <p>WG 1 - Science translation for policy and practice (URBANOME, ENLIGHTENme) @Sala dei poeti, MS Teams link</p> <p>WG 3 - Data analysis and protection - digital platforms (RECETAS, WELLBASED) @Aula 6, MS Teams link</p> <p>WG 4 - Urban issues and epidemics (HEART, eMOTIONAL CITIES) @Aula 7, MS Teams link</p>
15.30 - 15.45	Short coffee break – setting up for the next sessions
15.45 - 16.45	<p>Parallel sessions – second round</p> <p>WG 2 - Health determinants and urban interventions (eMOTIONAL CITIES, WELLBASED) @Sala dei poeti, MS Teams link</p> <p>WG 5 - Communication and Dissemination (URBANOME, HEART) @Aula 6, MS Teams link</p> <p>WG 6 - Citizen science approaches to urban health including ethics (ENLIGHTENme, RECETAS) @Aula 7, MS Teams link</p>
16.45 – 17.00	Discussion of topics related to the Seventh Ministerial Conference on Environment and Health in July (eMOTIONALCITIES) @Sala dei poeti
17.00 – 17.10	<i>Closing remarks (WELLBASED)</i>

EC, WG leaders and project coordinators only:

17.10 – 18.00	Cluster Coordination meeting (EC, WG leaders and project coordinators only)
19.15	UHC social dinner * @ La Scuderia - Piazza Giuseppe Verdi, 2, 40126 Bologna BO

3. Agenda: Day 2 – 9th June 2023

09.15 – 09.30	<i>Registration</i>
09.30 – 09.45	Welcome greetings and intro - UNIBO (<i>host</i>) + WELLBASED (<i>Cluster coordinator</i>)
09.45 – 10.00	Research perspectives and needs. The impact and implementation of the UHC - Nerea Aizpurua (<i>HADEA</i>) and Rita Araujo (<i>DG RTD</i>)
10.00 – 11.00	Results from the working groups (10' each)
11.00 – 11.25	Keynote speech “Urban determinants of health and wellbeing” (online) <i>Silvio Brusaferrero, ISS President and UHC AB</i>
11.25 – 12.00	<i>Coffee break</i>
12.00 – 12.30	Keynote speech “UNESCO Chair on Urban Health - Education and Research for Improved Health and Wellbeing in the Cities” – <i>Andrea Lenzi, Unesco Chair holder, HCI</i>
12.30 – 13.00	Keynote speech “Climate Change and Urban Health Challenges and Opportunities” - <i>Sotiris Vardoulakis, National Centre for Epidemiology and Population Health. Australian National University</i>
13.00 – 13.10	<i>Closing remarks (UNIBO)</i>

4. Day 1 Notes

Welcoming by **Noemi Garcia** and description of the recent UHC progress, WG updates and meeting objectives.

Discussion of topics related to the Seventh Ministerial Conference on Environment and Health in July (eMOTIONAL CITIES)

NEREA AIZPURUA:

She can be the nexus between projects/companies and with other clusters, (bilateral connection with other clusters)

IDEAS TO IMPROVE COMMUNICATION

- Knowledge exchange, avoid informing people in a passive way, be proactive and use active communication to take advantage of the influence certain people can have in the UE conversation/policies. Have impact and avoid one way communication, building trust, be as interactive as possible
- Example; URBANOME influence people but at city level is easier, at European level is more difficult
- The key is to find the right person for the objective that is needed (rather than having a factsheet to circulate)
- Uniform the message to make it easier to reach target people through connections
- Increase cross working group communication

BRUNO MIRANDA: discussed with the Officer the content of his contribution to the Conference (agenda



WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION
REGIONAL OFFICE FOR EUROPE

WELTGESUNDHEITSORGANISATION
REGIONALBÜRO FÜR EUROPA



ORGANISATION MONDIALE DE LA SANTÉ
BUREAU RÉGIONAL DE L'EUROPE

ВСЕМИРНАЯ ОРГАНИЗАЦИЯ ЗДРАВООХРАНЕНИЯ
ЕВРОПЕЙСКОЕ РЕГИОНАЛЬНОЕ БЮРО

Thirteenth meeting of the European Environment
and Health Task Force (EHTF)

EURO/EHTF13/7

Brussels, Belgium (hybrid)
20–21 April 2023

12 April 2023
Original: English

Provisional Agenda of the Ministerial Conference

1. Opening
2. Presidential panel (tbc)
3. Tackling the triple environmental crisis to protect health and building forward from the COVID-19 pandemic
4. Addressing the health effects of environmental pollution
5. Protecting health through nature and biodiversity
6. Elevating health in climate change
7. Adoption of the Declaration of the Seventh Ministerial Conference on Environment and Health
8. Promoting healthy and resilient settings
9. Strengthening governance, capacities and knowledge for health and environment
10. Acting in partnership
11. Closing

below):

Triple crisis meeting

Question to mention that all projects are contributing and gathering results from projects like WB

COORDINATORS MEETING:

1. Report back to EC end of June

Needs to be reported back to the commission how to resolve issues raised, Noemi sent a form to WG coordinators, to be filled by the 19/06

2. Transference of the outcomes back to individual projects; internal communication back to the projects

Proposals:

- Send newsletters twice a year to the cluster (Rita suggestion).
- Invite other projects to own project meeting to increase communication
- Do thematical workshops
- update contact list of representatives of WG to be sent by the project coordinators to all the members
- Collaborative space to update the data in the webpage if possible or team (Vassilis to check)
- Description of the task filled int the report 19th June

3. WG3 organisation and content

Harmonisation of data: experts on the topic to lead so

- Task are more defined now:
 - o Survey to DPOs
 - o Report from Ricard
 - o Ask each partner the type of data each project is using and GDPR
- Change line of WG3, we'll include technical data analysis. Call with task will be sent to all consortium members
- Rita thinks that all projects should deal with these aspects (fairness of data), link data between all projects (interoperability of data). GDPR important to be dealt with
- Rita suggests to reply to evaluators about evaluation report to explain how to address them to resolver misunderstandings

4. Communication from projects to Policy Makers via the cluster:

- WG5 discussed to do conferences, newsletters, policy briefs, thematic workshops and update the website with progress of projects. An update of what is going on in each project.
- Dissemination

5. Identify synergies from policy makers to projects:

- Identify additional activities
- How to focus communications to reach the target audience; pass the message to stakeholders and make sure feedback is received to understand the impact of what has been done
- Present in conferences
- Feedback to policy makers
- Set strategy to enhance link to policy makers WG1&5

6. IAB female member:

First; contact Caroline Constance Europe Health Network (proposed by Jill)

If no success, then we'll ask for 2 candidates to be presented by each partner

5. Day 2 Notes

09.30 – 09.45 **Welcome greetings and intro - UNIBO (host) + WELLBASED (Cluster coordinator)**

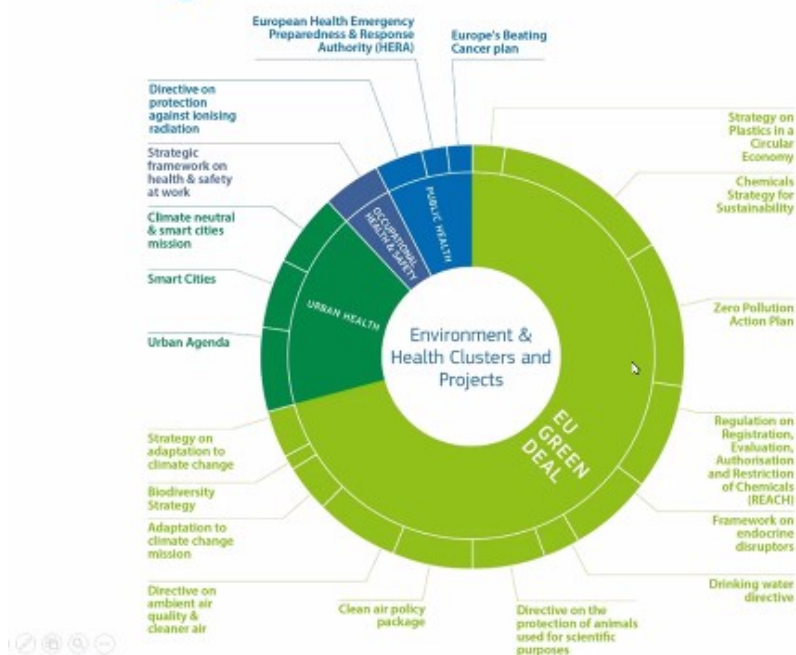
Summary of each WG

Welcoming of EC Project officers

09.45 – 10.00 **Research perspectives and needs. The impact and implementation of the UHC - Nerea Aizpurua (HaDEA) and Rita Araujo (DG RTD)**

Nerea in representation of Rita as well as herself

Policy Framework E&H funded research



Projects contributing initiatives from the EU

There is a new urban agenda and projects are aligned.

Contribution to 7 ministerial conferences, cluster to define some of the topics to contribute to it and present cluster activities – to show Policy Makers what is being done and contributions on the relevant areas

EU commission will follow UHC meetings and outcomes.

QUESTIONS

- POs will pass message to commission to address it by the relevant person
- Other topics to launch another partnership;

10.00 – 11.00 **Results from the working groups (10' each)**

WG1:

- identify relevant target group
- Transdisciplinary community
- Tools for effective translation of the message

- Done: systematize gathering of data / identify initiatives where we can impact on /
- Next steps: Enrich stakeholder database / Workshop / 2nd Policy brief

WG2:

- Scientific paper: synergies with the actions
- Present Policy brief: include also parts of other WG activity

WG3:

Subtasks have been outlined:

- Survey will be passed to project DPOs, and later on, analysis of these surveys will be presented
- Report how to build municipalities database; and then adapt it to the reality of the cluster (Ricard M.)
- Collect info and analyse the type of data, source it is coming from, technical issues, etc
- Exchange of health data for research (2024)
- Next steps: email to ask for collaboration from all projects
- QUESTIONS: divide the work by tasks so everything is better defined

WG4:

- Organize webinar for the joint application
- Next steps: Raise questions to different experts related to data collection, model tools, ethics and privacy, science to policy to publish a joint paper

Questions: coordinate among diff WG and all partners of each project; to have contact points to transfer the needed knowledge

Creating a database editable by everybody in the UHC

WG5:

- Discussion on exploitation of data to achieve maximum impact of UHC; update mailing list, 2nd newsletter published, need of more followers -partners to update project updates more regularly, more information of external stakeholders, increase number of annual meeting with specific content

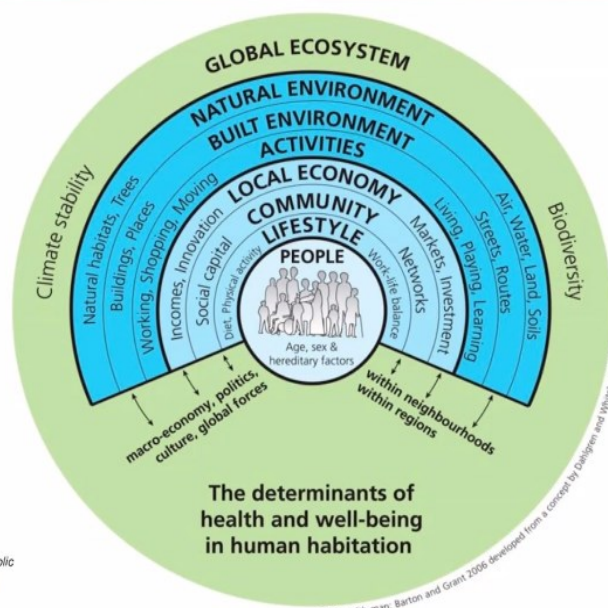
Comment Alberto: Increase bidirectional communication with Policy makers, tools to be better discussed + 2 newsletters per year (dates proposed September and February)

WG6:

- What's happening on the ground with each project and WG, small questionnaire will be passed to each consortium

11.00 – 11.25 **Keynote speech “Urban determinants of health and wellbeing”**
 (online)
Silvio Brusaferrero, ISS President and UHC AB

The determinants of health and well-being



Christopher Coultas and Micah Hahn Green Infrastructure, Ecosystem Services, and Human Health *J. Environ. Res. Public Health* 2015, 12(8), 9768-9798; doi:10.3390/ijerph120809768

12.00 – 12.30 **Keynote speech “UNESCO Chair on Urban Health - Education and Research for Improved Health and Wellbeing in the Cities” – Andrea Lenzi, Unesco Chair holder, HCI**

Issue of increasing population in cities with the contrast of difference of classes living almost together, just separated by a wall → ODS contemplates life’s in cities

HCI → created a manifesto to make cities healthier; network to account all the issues in the city related to health

Example. Diabetes increasing in cities substantially, it is becoming an issue in poorer neighbourhoods due to lack of education, less money and time to eat healthy

Recognition of obesity as a chronic disease.

12.30 – 13.00 **Keynote speech “Climate Change and Urban Health Challenges and Opportunities” - Sotiris Vardoulakis, National Centre for Epidemiology and Population Health. Australian National University**

Insight of Australian situation on energy poverty, climate challenges and building condition

5.1. Workgroup 1: Science translation for policy and practice

– Led by URBANOME / ENLIGHTENme

Participantes online: 4

On site: 12

Contents of the session:

- Alberto recaps the main objectives of the working groups, analysing the following aspects:
 - o Identification of relevant target groups at different level. It is done in collaboration with WG5.

- Definition of tools to engage different target groups and most relevant means of communication.
- Identification of the key messages and research findings to be translated at different policy levels.
- The ongoing activities carried on in the working group are:
 - Enhancement of the joint stakeholders list for communication and dissemination. A consent form will be shortly finalised in collaboration with WG5 and WG3.
 - Identification of relevant initiatives and policies that the cluster may impact in a cross-sectorial sense. An excel template has been shared among the participant to collect the list of policies and the stakeholder contact.
 - Identification of relevant tools and actions that the six projects are planning to develop in order to engage relevant stakeholders and translate science into policies. This collection is already partially ongoing through the same excel template mentioned before. In addition, Giulia shows the ENLIGHTENme tools aiming at this translating science into policies.
- Points of discussion:

Interaction with stakeholders should not be only “bottom-up” but it should be done in an interactive way organizing policy dialogues and informal communications with policy makers to keep them on board and identify together barriers for the policy implementation. It should not be one-way conversation. There is the need to understand which stakeholders are more active and that reacts to the cluster communication. The project officer Rita can be the contact point to have a link with relevant policy makers in the EU.

Suggestions come from the audience to make the spreadsheet for collecting policies to impact more coherent with UHC topics and indicators collected in WG2

- Next steps:
 - Enriching the stakeholders databases highlighting the stakeholders that are more active and responsive to our communication.
 - Prepare the WG1 workshop in 2024.
 - Decision to connect with other ongoing clusters (e.g. exposome) since many commonalities are highlighted. Attending each other events is the first step.
 - Collection of methods and tools for transferring research into practice actually used by the six projects
 - Keep the WG1 mailing list updated

5.2. Workgroup 2: Health determinants and urban interventions

– Led by WELLBASED/ eMOTIONAL Cities

Participantes online: 4 (2 de WELLBASED)

On site: 12

Contents of session:

- Bruno explains contents of scientific paper: goal and specific aims.
- Projects have to fill in a survey (in excel file format) to update data to be collected in their experiments. The basis is the information collected in 2022 to be used for the I JPB.
- Sections of the survey:
 - Policy
 - Each Project adds policy questions (not research questions) and policy context (already partly addressed at WG1 survey-questionnaire)
 - Methods and objectives

- For each policy question projects have to identify the methodology used to collect the evidence-information-data (each Project contributes with their own methodologies and protocols)
 - Health Determinants:
 - To differentiate sources and how each kind of data is collected to contribute to WG3.
 - SDG related to Urban Health
 - To align each project policy questions with SDGs and their targets
 - SDG specific:
 - To prioritise 5 of the SDGs and targets identified at the previous section that are addressed by the project matched with the policy questions
- Translation of science to policy is also addressed through the potential interactions between WGs:
 - WG2 and WG1
 - WG2 and WG3
 - WG2, 1 and 3
- Next steps:
 - eMotional Cities will provide the Excel file with their Project answers as example to follow.
- II JPB:
 - Presentation of the Plan
 - Contents (some are based on the inputs collected for Scientific paper) and structure proposed
- Annual Thematic Workshop at 21st European Week of Regions and Cities 9-12 October 2023.
 - This task is on progress, our proposed session has to be merged with other projects session. The goal is to present the second UHC JPB there.
- Presentation of WG2 Workplan for 2023-2024

5.3. Workgroup 3: Data analysis and protection

– Led by RECETAS / WELLBASED

Participants: min.7

1. Review of pending issues

- Subgroup 2: Conduct systematic review of data protection and standardization issues (Leader: Christos Frantzidis, URBANOME) – contact Christos (Jill). Urbanome wants to be updated on this.
- Subgroup 3: Develop and deliver geospatial data webinar (Leader: Joana Simoes (eMOTIONAL CITIES) – find a date in 2023, tell vasilis for communication (Jill)
- Subgroup 4: Develop case study on access to and exchange of health data for research (Leader: Maria Kaselimi, HEART) – for 2024 . cross working betweenWG2-3-4 (Noemi contacts Maria)
- Subgroup 1: Develop and deploy survey of data protection officers (Leader: Ricard Martinez, WELLBASED). Already done, need to pass it to DPOs.

Quantitative analysis to be shown. Present it in December 2023 and see how to communicate it (apply to all EU projects)

2. New GDPR proposals from Ricard

- Subgroup 6: “What do you need to build a public data repository space” . Laws, conditions of anonimisation, security and traÇability, governance & access to 3rd . Report & workshop. Will be done for the summer
- Rita: need to be connected with WG2.

Subgroup 7: Understand how each Project is exploring this. INTERsetting to map what is being done and how to promote interoperability of data available.

Make partners from other partners be involved.

Call for other projects to be involved tomorrow.

3. Meeting 19th of July

Progress on interoperability on data. Ricard will attend.

5.4. Workgroup 4: Urban issues and epidemics

– Led by HEART / eMOTIONAL Cities

Participants in the meeting

Live: ~8

online: 1

Contents of session:

Maria Kaselimi (HEART) welcome everybody and presented an overview of the WG4 and the activities carried so far. The following points were highlighted.

- Objectives of the WG4.

- the workshop organized in the 1st annual meeting, in Valencia, dedicated to the topic of urban issues and epidemics and the three invited-speakers, e.g. Nuno Marques da Costa (talk on “Mobility and epidemics in urban environments”); Hande Barlin (“Energy poverty and the impact of Covid-19 pandemic”); and Nicholaos Bakalos (“ICT tools and solutions for pandemic preparedness”).

- Cohesion activities and cross-fertilization with other projects, namely STAMINA, COMPRIMME&COMPRI_MOV; YADES and EUPOLIS).

- Next steps: To do a White Paper on the topic of Epidemics, data and technology

Next steps:

- Paulo Morgado (eMOTIONAL Cities) presented the outlines of the White Paper

The white Paper should be a:

> awareness on data gaps and challenges

> a platform for global-interdisciplinary research that is at the nexus of urban health issues, epidemiology and non-communicable diseases

- > a 'lessons learn' from the applied and data-driven research conducted by researchers from the UHC
- > contribute to efforts to reduce the health economic burden on public health and to adopt a preparedness approach for urban health.

Some topics left for open discussion.

- > should we adopt a scientific paper format or a guidebook format? The majority of the participants were more in favour of scientific format type.
- > what kind of questions we would like to provide an answer through the white paper: a list of questions, organized in four categories were presented for discussion, e.g. 1) data collection & analysis; 2) models, tools & technologies; 3) ethical considerations & data privacy; 4) knowledge transfer to policy recommendations.
- > what kind of journal?
- > who would be interest to contribute?
- > who would be the contact point from each project (it doesn't have to be the, or just, person(s) that were until now signed to the WG4.

To get the idea off the ground

Paulo asked the participants in the meeting to send to him and or Maria Kaselimi an email expressing their interest in collaborating on the white paper. And at the same time, an email from the co-coordinators will be sent to all the names in the list of contacts of the WG4 – UHC, presenting the idea of the white paper and how we plan to organize the join collaboration.

5.5. Workgroup 5: Dissemination, Communication & Exploitation

– Led by URBANOME / HEART

Participants

Online: 8 participants

On site: 6 participants

Key points discussed during the session:

- Website and communication materials
 - Cluster website has been updated with the information about the 2nd annual meeting and promotional posts were made in the cluster's social media leading up to the event.
 - The 2nd newsletter has been published and presentations video from the projects have been uploaded.
 - More people from the project members should follow the Twitter and LinkedIn accounts of UHC.
- We have already done the internal stakeholders list identification. We need more info about external stakeholders. To this end URBANOME and WELLBASED are going to finalize the informed consent document to be distributed together with the stakeholders list.
- Next steps regarding dissemination:

- Apply for Horizon results booster and we have planned to implement this after the summer break. We have to inform the dissemination leaders from each project to join the service and be trained on this.
- will introduce a standardized method to report dissemination and communication activities (example could be the one used for the White Tower forum organized by URBANOME).
- Organise a WG5 meeting in July and the next one in September.
- Next steps regarding exploitation:
 - Create a mini board to gather a list with suggestion about exploitation assets. The matrix has already been shared.
- Thematic workshops:
 - It is important to communicate to the clusters the results of the projects. Thematic workshops could be a good option to engage projects, asking them to present some key results.
- Individual projects' contributions:
 - We also have the policy brief from each project, we can disseminate the policy brief of each project through the cluster. We can prepare other short videos from each project. Another option discussed is to invite UHC members (e.g., Coordinators) to the project's annual meetings and to attract young researchers.
- Newsletters:
 - Also, we decided to increase the frequency of the cluster newsletters (now every 6 months) and to dedicate a short section to the individual projects where they can summarize the main outcomes/activities in that period.
- Joint scientific publications:
 - We should exploit further opportunities on this direction. We should also communicate open Call for Papers with the rest of the WGs to join efforts!

Plan ahead (2023):

- ✓ Next Thematic Workshop on Health determinants and urban interventions in 2023 | Co-organised by eMOTIONAL CITIES & WELLBASED
- ✓ Next Joint Policy Brief in M32 (Oct 2023):
 - ✓ 2nd Issue curated by eMOTIONAL CITIES
- ✓ Next Newsletter Issues:
 - ✓ 3rd Newsletter to be curated by the end of September 2023

5.6. Workgroup 6: Citizen science approaches to urban health including ethics

– Led by ENLIGHTENme / RECETAS

We had an exciting convening of WG6 members with an infusion of new attendees from the EnlightenME consortium, representing academic and policy professionals interested in community engagement and practice-informed research.

The focus of the meeting was to develop an instrument that we will deploy across the Urban Health Cluster to take stock of community participation and co-creation projects happening in each of the consortium and how these processes are advancing the work of each consortium. We discussed the scope of the instrument and a timeline for collecting data and preparing a summary report by end of December 2023.

Additionally, the workgroup was invited to an unveiling in Bologna of a lighting demonstration project. Members were able to see how participation worked to inform the demonstration's design and implementation with members of the community present at the event.

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