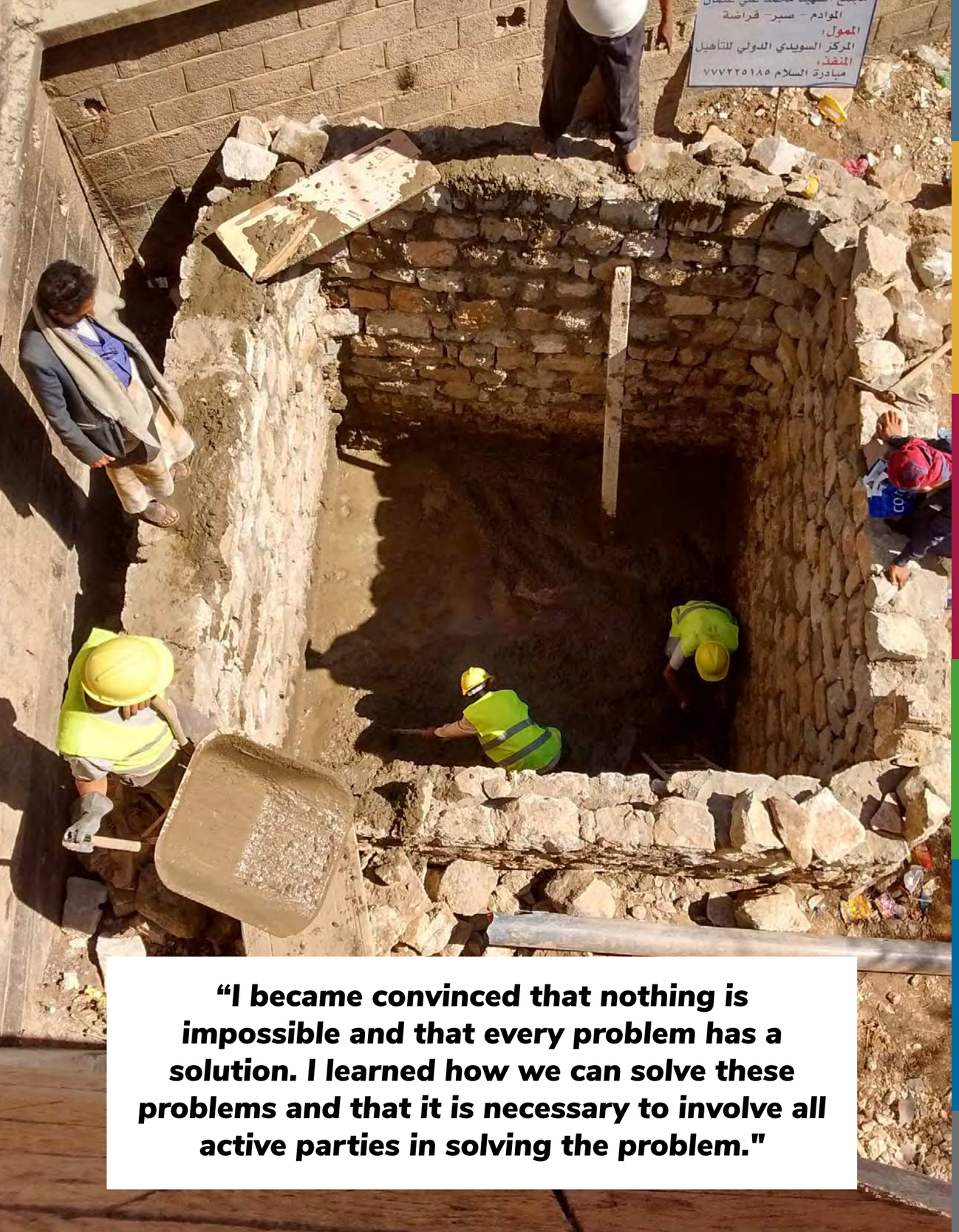


ANNUAL REPORT 2024

ITDC INTERNATIONAL
Training & Development Center



"I became convinced that nothing is impossible and that every problem has a solution. I learned how we can solve these problems and that it is necessary to involve all active parties in solving the problem."

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1 MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR

Dear Friends and Partners,

During my recent trip to Yemen, I had the chance to sit down for a long conversation with Ahmed, one of our senior staff members who has been part of our organization the longest.

Ahmed is deeply passionate about his country. Even while facing his own doubts and challenges, he has been modeling a new possibility for Yemen. He has four children, and has been forced to relocate his family multiple times since 2015. He shared with me the pains of uprooting his family now for the fourth time and leaving behind the community he had just started to make his home.

When I asked him what worries him most, his response was filled with great sadness. It wasn't centered on the personal hardships, the uncertainty, or the loss. What troubled him most was seeing the very fabric of his culture, nation, and even family deteriorating. He sees it in the younger generation—children growing up with no memory of a Yemen before the war, only knowing a life shaped by conflict and division.

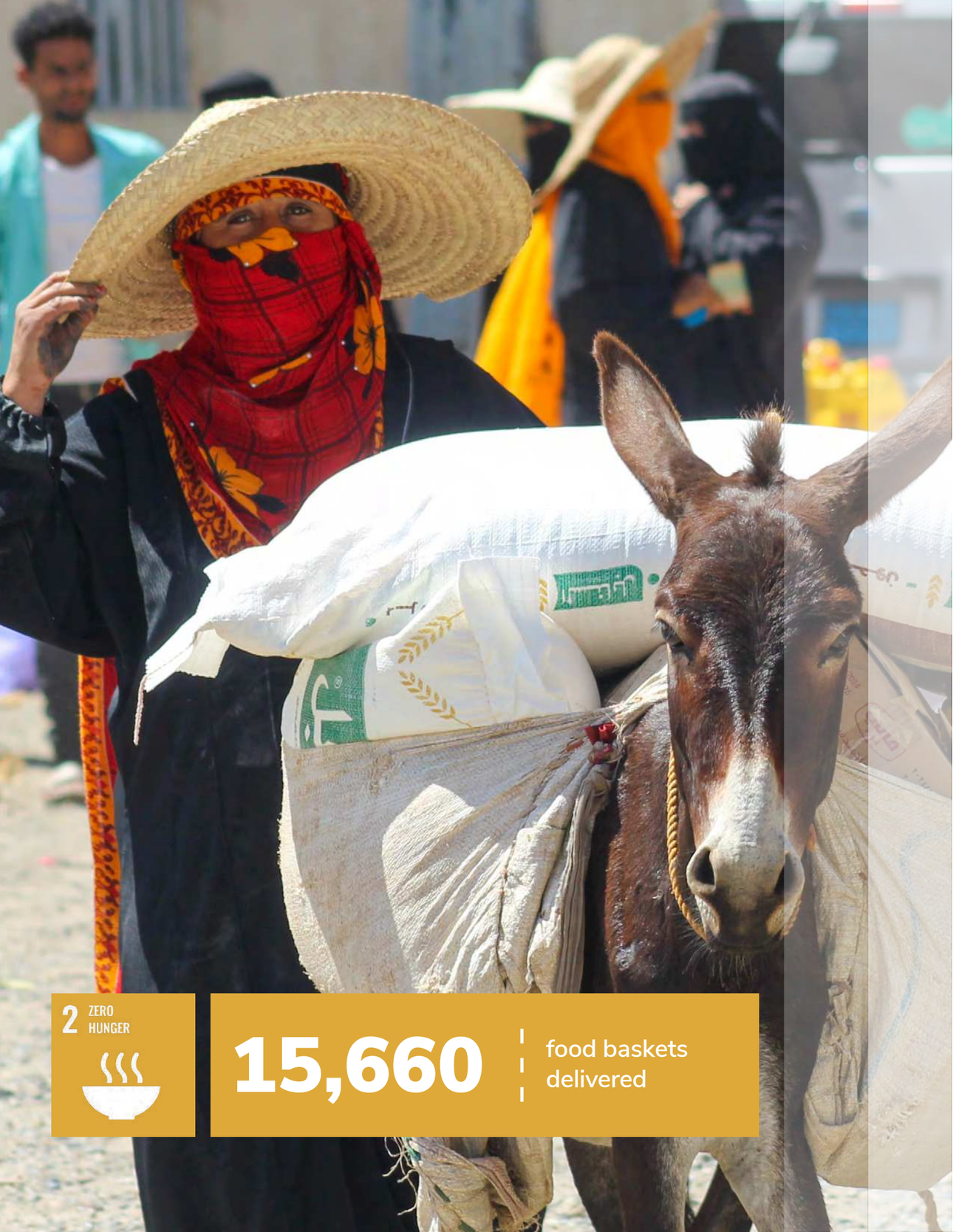
"I always knew I would have to fight for my future," he told me. "But now, the journey toward a peaceful and stable future for my children seems even more distant."

Yet in the midst of displacement, economic devastation, and the overwhelming weight of war, we see families and communities engaging in ITDC's programs with remarkable determination. Like Ahmed, they are seeking opportunities, working toward social cohesion, and holding onto the glimpses of hope they still have.

To all our partners, friends, and team members, your engagement is helping families rebuild their lives, find dignity, and push toward a more hopeful future.



WALDEMAR BRAUN
Country Director



2 ZERO HUNGER

15,660 food baskets delivered

"Before receiving the food basket, I lived in constant worry, anxiety and fear because of my difficult living conditions. My family and I only had two meals a day and we ate only rice."

The impacts of a protracted civil war, rampant poverty rates, widespread unemployment, ongoing tensions and violence have left 64% of Yemen's population food insecure with alarming rates of malnutrition. 17.6 million people are in need of regular food support, many in a catastrophic situation after depleting all other resources.

In response, ITDC offered emergency food assistance to 36,768 people from vulnerable households in 2024, providing monthly food baskets that contain a month's supply of flour, beans, oil, sugar, and salt.

Most households are targeted for six months of support, so the food not only reduces rates of hunger and malnutrition, but it also provides an opportunity for families to save money and use it for other urgent expenses, such as medical treatment or children's education.

For the most vulnerable segments of society, such as internal refugees, persons with disabilities, or the marginalized, food support creates a renewed sense of dignity and hope.

Distributions of non-food items (NFIs), such as clothes and medical supplies from in-kind donations brought into the country via shipping containers, has reinforced the impact of the food distributions. These goods enabled ITDC to reach an additional 12,395 people.

"With this assistance, I am no longer worried about food. I have peace of mind. I am able to keep my children in school."

“This was a turning point in my agricultural life. I started applying what I learned, and as a result, I witnessed a substantial increase in crop growth."

ITDC moved into new territory this year by introducing innovative farming and herding techniques to Yemen, which are drought and disease resistant as well as resource efficient. These aspects of ITDC’s livelihood/early recovery program include (1) Conservation Agriculture, (2) Farmer Managed Natural Regeneration, (3) Livestock Management, (4) Kitchen Gardening, and (5) Micro Husbandry.

ITDC piloted Conservation Agriculture support with 53 rural farmers, teaching them the principles of minimizing soil disturbance, restoring organic matter to the soil, and applying regular crop rotation.

Farmer Managed Natural Regeneration was piloted with 60 rural herders and farmers using a low-cost, land restoration technique to systematically regenerate tree cover.

Livestock Management training and kits reached an additional 339 herders, resulting in noticeable improvements in animal health and reproductivity in the pilot region.

"Over time, the crops in the Kitchen Gardens began to grow and flourish. The success amazed and delighted everyone, as they now had fresh vegetables available daily."

The Kitchen Gardening program reached 266 rural women, using regenerative agriculture principles to support food security by creating sustainable home farming plots.



2 ZERO HUNGER

719 farmers and herders supplied with agriculture or livestock kits and trained in drought-resistant approaches



“The water filters you distributed were the best thing you have done for us.“

Yemen faces one of the world's most severe water crises, with rapidly depleting water resources and limited access to clean drinking water for millions. ITDC responded to these needs with several WASH-related activities, focusing on tackling the problem of contaminated drinking water by supplying vulnerable families with low-cost ceramic filters.

Recognizing the health risks posed by poor sewage management in communities, ITDC constructed three community sewage pits and three school bathrooms, improving sanitation, reducing waterborne diseases, and easing village tensions caused by sewage-related disputes.

ITDC is committed to creating healthier communities by improving hygiene conditions and promoting positive behavioral change. ITDC provided 3,754 vulnerable individuals with essential hygiene kits, ensuring access to soap, detergent, and clean water containers—critical necessities for maintaining well-being.

“Thank God, we will no longer see diseases spreading among our children and animals."

Beyond distribution, ITDC's impact extended further through hygiene awareness campaigns that reached over 12,253 people, empowering them with vital knowledge on handwashing, cholera prevention, and safe water practices. Together, we are fostering lasting change and safeguarding community health in rural areas of Yemen.

"The sewage project was not just the construction of reservoirs and drainage networks, but a spark that launched a candle of hope in the lives of many in our village."

Small community rehabilitation projects, especially after years of war or neglect, can be a strategic opportunity to empower communities to take a hands-on-approach to addressing their own needs.

ITDC provides Project Management training to community leaders and empowers them to direct small rehabilitation projects through a Cash-for-Work (CFW) model. In this year, 140 unemployed laborers were each hired for three months to complete strategic projects. Eighteen projects were chosen, led and completed by the communities themselves.

These project included road repairs, renovations of school classrooms, renovation of health units, repair of sanitation networks, construction of women's centers, construction of meeting halls for people with disabilities, and construction of school bathrooms.

"The cash-for-work projects in our community left a significant impact even after the activity ended. We realized that if we work together and have a common goal, we can carry out any community activity."

In addition to the positive community impact, this opportunity re-engages unemployed day laborers in the workforce with encouragement to find other employment or to save money to start their own business.





"The solar energy course has given me all the necessary skills I needed to enter the labour market and rely on myself."

ITDC's equips both men and women to design, install and maintain solar PV systems within 9 days. To graduate, each participant must build an AC and DC solar system for their instructors. ITDC normally does not provide equipment or solar panels to the graduates, yet the 2024 graduates reported repairing 602 existing solar PV systems and installing 4.8 kW of new solar power - all self-funded!

Hamed, an electrical engineer, said: "At the end of the course, I decided to revisit all the people for whom I incorrectly installed solar PV systems to repair them."

"From now on, I am going to work on designing the solar systems carefully and correctly," said Hamed.

Zainab, one of our female graduates remarked: "Previously I waited in the dark for whole day for the solar engineer to arrive, since there were no solar technicians in our village. Now I repaired and corrected the problems in my own system, as well of all the solar systems of my neighbors!"

"This course was a turning point in my life."

ITDC uses solar cooking alongside humanitarian food distributions so that beneficiaries have a no-cost way of cooking the food they received. 429 households were trained and equipped with solar cookers this year. These solar cookers use a 60cm satellite dish, or cardboard and aluminum foil reflectors.

Solar Training Video

7

SOLAR ELECTRIC VEHICLES

“Although I own a truck, I do not use it due to the high price of petrol."

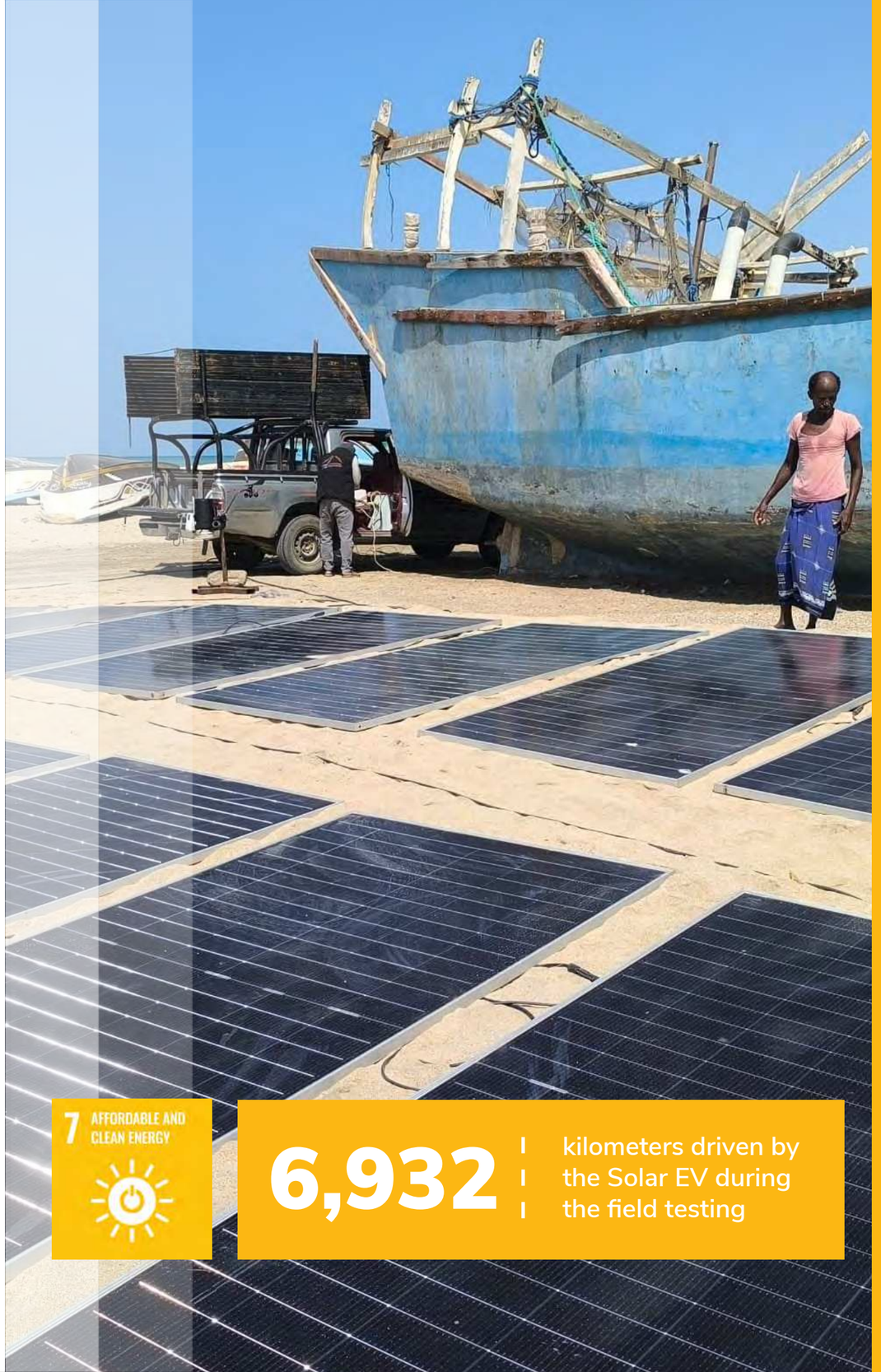
Yemeni villagers suffer from petrol scarcity and high cost, which makes it harder for them to access food, education or medical care. By converting existing village vehicles and harvesting the abundant solar energy in Yemen, ITDC has created a solar powered EV.

ITDC performed the nation’s first EV conversion in August 2024, when two Yemeni mechanics converted a 2004 Toyota Hilux from petrol to EV (see video). Using a drop in kit designed for ITDC by FUSE EV Conversions and an instructional video, the mechanics were able to complete the entire conversion in 4 days despite never having worked on an EV before.

Using a mobile charging unit consisting of a solar array (10kW), inverter and EV charger, the Solar EV was deployed to twelve villages while carrying its own charging unit. At each village, the solar array was deployed onto a roof or an open field and the vehicle was recharged. The vehicle even demonstrated the ability to drive 97km with the charging unit, deploy it, recharge and return within the same day.

"Due to the very high transportation costs, we are forced to only visit our relatives once every two years."

The Solar EV drove to the villager's routine destinations, carrying 291 passengers and 31 MT of cargo with local drivers doing 1,900 km of the test driving. Their feedback is being used to design the future production model of the drop-in kit.



7 AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY

6,932 kilometers driven by the Solar EV during the field testing

Conversion Video



3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

1,085 Graduates from 10-week Psychosocial Support program

"After the Psychosocial Support program, my father changed a lot. He used to hit us and insult us, but now he treats us with love, kindness, and affection."

Many Yemenis are suffering from anxiety and depression due to living in a country mired by years of prolonged violent conflict, but also due to the resulting tears in the social fabric, family relationship friction, and practical economic struggles.

ITDC works with communities affected by conflict by providing psychosocial support (PSS) and practical tools that they can apply in their personal and community lives. ITDC trained 111 community facilitators during the last year and 1,085 adult participants graduated from the full PSS program.

The 10-week program uses a support group model to assist community members struggling with anxiety or depression.

"I felt as if I had been born again, and I found myself in a world I loved and that loved me back."

The program is summarized well by one of the participants, Amal: “Negative feelings affected everything. My life seemed like a dark world, where I could neither hear nor see nor understand, and I felt worthless and aimless."

"Then came the transformation when I joined the Psychosocial Support sessions. It started with gradual improvement, applying the skills I learned from each session. But by the end, I began to love life, sharing in others' joys and sorrows."

PSS Video

"I used to faint or get sick out of fear for my mother's health, but now I am able to provide strength and support to my siblings."

Any Yemeni child less than 13 years old only knows a country mired in conflict. As a result, many of them are suffering from trauma, anxiety, and depression. The mental weight of this can stunt their emotional growth, harm their relationships, and impair their education.

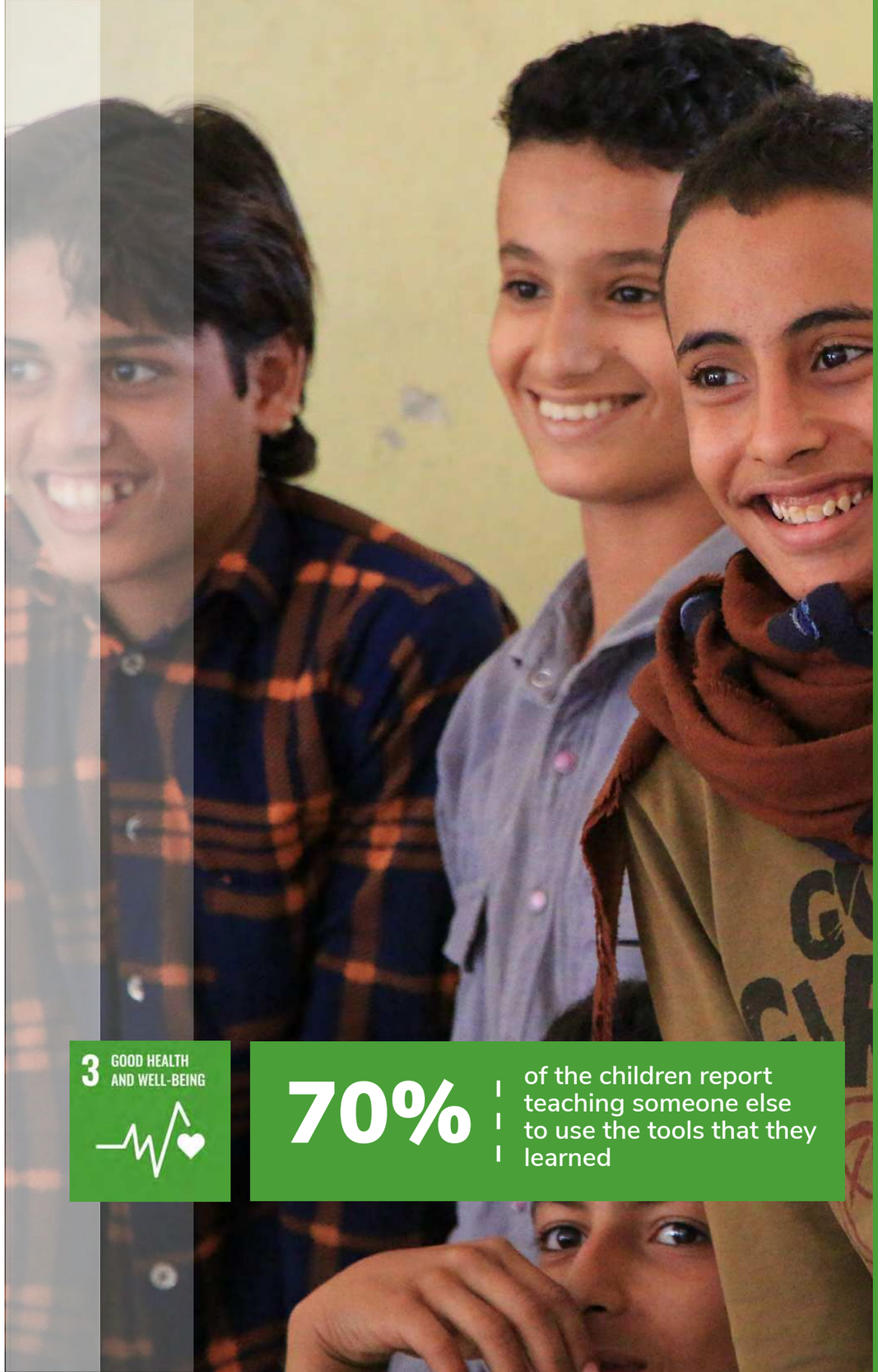
ITDC uses a trauma coping program called "I Will Be Fine" for children between the ages of 10-18 years old. The program provides practical coping tools to help young people manage and overcome their past experiences and fears.

"My younger sister said it's the first time she feels loved by me."

Malak, a thirteen year old, shares: "The scene of killings, bloodshed, and the sounds of gunfire became ingrained in my mind. I would fall ill and faint every time I recalled those scenes. I couldn't sleep alone and would ask my mother to stay with me. But then I started applying these techniques before going to sleep, and I became able to sleep alone without fear."

"This training helped me improve my academic performance by helping me control the anxiety I feel before exams."

Ali shared, "My friends would tease me because of my fear of dogs. However, through the use of IWBF tools, specifically the deep breathing and the safe zone techniques, I managed to overcome my fears. This made me feel love for myself since I am more confident now."





“This project has restored our hope after our despair of education."

Rahaf, a determined fifth-grader, faced immense challenges after losing vision in one eye. Her father nearly withdrew her from school since he was unable to provide her with the required school materials. She pleaded, "Dad, don’t deprive me of my studies." Hope returned when ITDC provided her with books and supplies. Her father now feels confident to support Rahaf’s educational journey.

4.5 million Yemeni children are out of school, with education suffering due to overcrowding, unpaid teachers, inadequate training, and damaged facilities. ITDC is responding by providing textbooks, exam fees, school supplies, and training teachers and providing salariy incentives.

ITDC renovated two schools, building 4 new classrooms to allow young girls to finish their high school studies. ITDC strives to help schools become safe spaces of engaging, student-centric learning where all students can envision a brighter future.

“My sister told me that the beauty in my eyes towards life has increased, as my perspective has become more positive.”

One student, Yusra, shared“For the first time, we felt just like those students in schools in the city. The ITDC training program benefited us in all aspects of our lives, whether at home or at school.”

“Each training day felt like a new beginning, as if I was reborn."

Participants in ITDC's peacebuilding program's programs are invited to begin a journey of learning about themselves and about ways to create space for their communities to participate in peacemaking with them. As participants learn more about who they are, they acquire skills and attitudes to become peacemakers and leaders in their communities.

Najiba shared:“The training was like a light that illuminated our path.” She is among hundreds who speak to the transformational journey and peacemaking path these leaders embark on after ITDC’s training courses. Bilal shared: “A friend of mine was speaking harshly to his mother, and behaved badly toward her.

His mother asked me to advise him. I sat with him and shared the program topics relating to how to interact with others, including learning styles, emotional intelligence, and the Think Star.

My friend listened to me, regretted his behavior towards his mother, and went to apologize to her.

The next day, his mother noticed the change in his behavior and asked me to share with her those topics that helped her son change." When leaders are equipped with powerful peacebuilding tools, their skills do not remain in the training room. Bilal’s story is a wonderful example of how participants are using their skills to bring compassion and peaceful relationships to their communities, while equipping others to do the same.





“The training taught me that women have an important role in society and that I can participate in change."

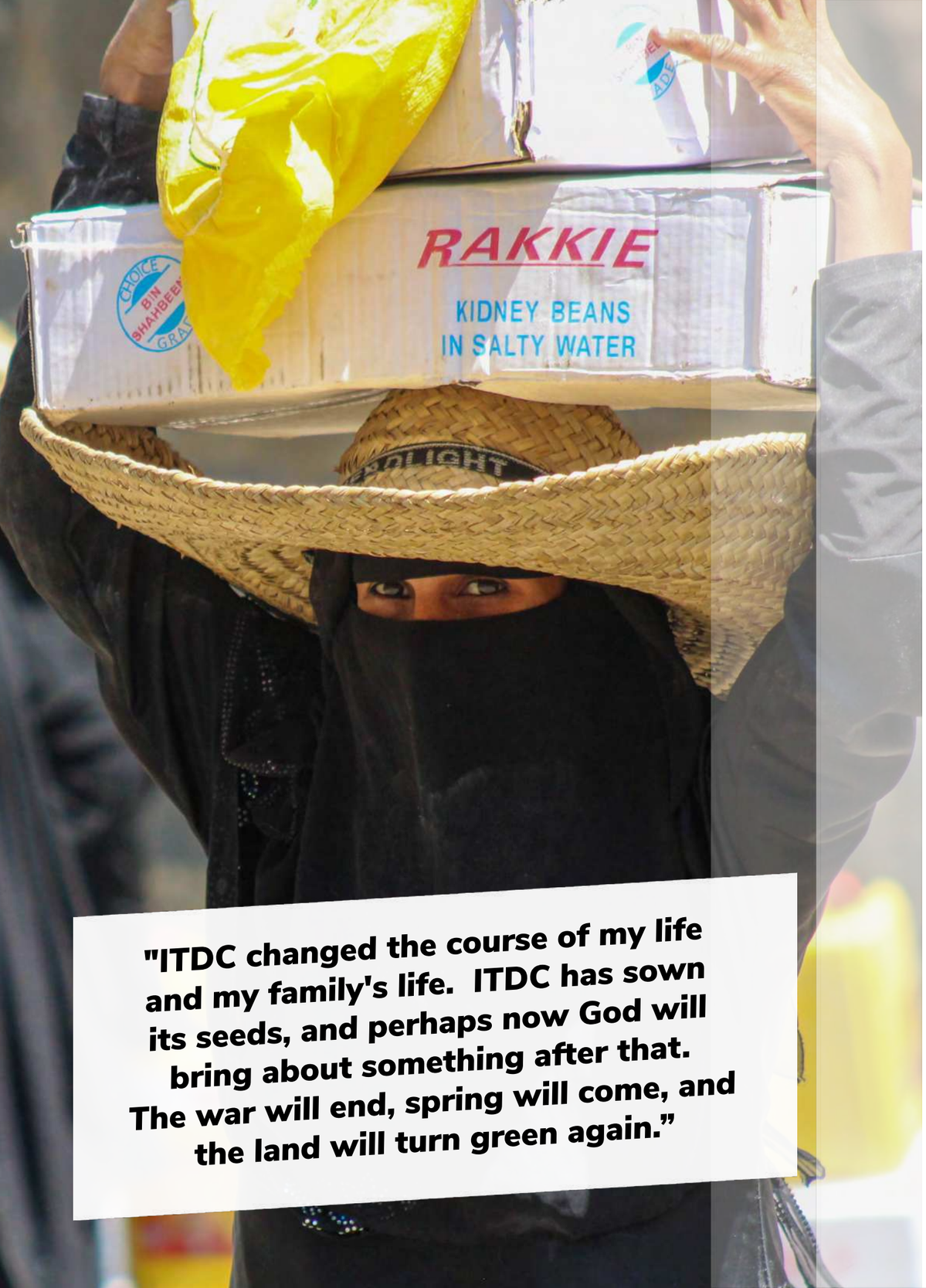
Successful peacebuilding requires reaching the whole community, involving men, women and children of all ages. This approach requires ITDC to provide different types of activities that addresses each group's perceived, immediate needs as well as long-term development needs.

The community approach address economic security (food distribution, livelihoods) and cognitive, emotional or social problems (mental health, education, leadership). Individuals are trained in peace building and brought together as a cadre of community leaders with the goal of promoting trust, belonging,

Reintegrating the marginalized, the ostracized, or people with disabilities back into community life is key to helping everyone see value in civic involvement and be willing to participate. ITDC trains people in advocacy, human rights, and civic engagement, fostering participation in local committees and community dialogues.

"I feel that my self-confidence has increased to present ideas and participate in public discussions.”

ITDC conducted two large-scale projects this year with entire districts (9,000 people) where 70% of the community households participated directly in an activity. Groups of leaders from previous programs were introduced to these new communities to foster new networks of peacebuilding communities.



"ITDC changed the course of my life and my family's life. ITDC has sown its seeds, and perhaps now God will bring about something after that. The war will end, spring will come, and the land will turn green again."

Consolidated Financial Statements	***2023***	***2024***
Integrated Peacebuilding Projects	$408,048	$455,451
Humanitarian Projects	$3,123,547	$1,184,646
Development Projects	$630,265	$542,014
Total (USD)	**$4,161,860**	**$2,182,111**

MAJOR PROJECT DONORS

- Canadian Foodgrains Bank
- Grand Challenges Canada
- United Kingdom Foundation
- Dutch Relief Alliance Netherlands
- Ministry of Foreign Affairs Finland
- Mid Sweden Aid (MSwA)
- LM International
- Sida (PMU Sweden)
- RadioAid Sweden



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