

MIDDLE EAST HUMANITARIAN APPEAL



DISASTERS
EMERGENCY
COMMITTEE

18 months on

October 2024 – April 2026



How donations are helping

Nazek* and her daughter Nour* became malnourished due to food shortages in Gaza. With support from a DEC funded nutrition clinic their condition improved though remains fragile.
Photo: © Eyad AlTawil/Save the Children

Published August 2026

HUMANITARIAN CONTEXT

Since October 2023, conflicts across Gaza, the West Bank and Lebanon have created one of the region's most severe humanitarian crises, causing widespread casualties, displacement and destruction of essential infrastructure.

Despite the October 2025 ceasefire in Gaza, around 1.7 million people remained displaced by mid-2026, with most dependent on humanitarian assistance. Restrictions on movement and aid access, together with damaged health, water and sanitation systems, continued to endanger civilian lives.

In Lebanon, renewed conflict and economic instability displaced around one million people by April 2026, while this escalation of violence also forced over 147,000 people into Syria.

Amid these complex and evolving crises, DEC member charities have demonstrated operational flexibility, adapting their response through local partnerships to sustain life-saving assistance, while prioritising the protection of staff and affected communities.

¹ UNRWA Situation Report #172 on the Humanitarian Crisis in the Gaza Strip and the West Bank, including East Jerusalem | UNRWA

² New FAO-WFP report warns worsening hunger puts 13 hotspots at significant risk | World Food Programme / Lebanon: Acute Food Insecurity Projection Update for April - August 2026 | IPC - Integrated Food Security Phase Classification.

AT A GLANCE

Over

70,000

people reported killed in Gaza since October 2023.

(figures reported by the Gaza Ministry of Health)

Over

1.9 million

people had been internally displaced in Gaza since October 2023, many multiple times.¹

An estimated

1.24 million

people in Lebanon were experiencing acute food insecurity in 2026.²

All names marked * in this report have been changed to protect the individual's identity.

Information is correct at the time of writing, but due to the ongoing nature of the crisis, the data included is expected to change. Members' relief activities are subject to change to address the evolving needs of affected groups across the region.

THE DEC APPEAL

The DEC Middle East Humanitarian Appeal has raised £67.7 million as of 17 July 2026. Of this, £41.2 million was raised by the DEC, plus £13 million through the UK Government's Aid match scheme.

DEC Appeal Income

Category	Percentage
DEC Direct Donors	62%
UK Aid Match	19%
Member Retained Income	19%

£67.7m raised

DEC Direct Donors	£41.2 million
UK Aid Match	£13 million
Member Retained Income	£12.9 million

As of 17 July 2026

Photo: Staff and volunteers from a DEC member charity carry out a food parcel distribution to people impacted by the conflict in Lebanon.
© Islamic Relief

THE DEC RESPONSE

Number of members and priority sectors by location (April 2026)

Priority sectors

Accountability to affected population*

Health

Protection

Capacity Bridging

Holistic/Multi-sector programming

Shelter & Non-food items

Disaster Risk Reduction

Livelihoods

Water, sanitation and hygiene

Education

Multi-purpose cash

Food security

Nutrition

Lebanon

DEC members: 15

ACTION AGAINST HUNGER

actionaid

ageInternational

BritishRedCross

CAFOD

Catholic Agency for Overseas Development

care

christian aid

CONCERN worldwide

RESCUE

ISLAMIC RELIEF

OXFAM

PLAN INTERNATIONAL

Save the Children

tearfund

World Vision

Accountability to affected population*

Health

Protection

Capacity Bridging

Holistic/Multi-sector programming

Shelter & Non-food items

Disaster Risk Reduction

Livelihoods

Water, sanitation and hygiene

Education

Multi-purpose cash

Food security

Nutrition

Syria

DEC members: 1

OXFAM

Accountability to affected population*

Health

Protection

West Bank

DEC members: 7

ageInternational

BritishRedCross

care

christian aid

Save the Children

tearfund

World Vision

Disaster Risk Reduction

Livelihoods

Water, sanitation and hygiene

Education

Multi-purpose cash

Food security

Nutrition

Gaza

DEC members: 14

ACTION AGAINST HUNGER

actionaid

ageInternational

BritishRedCross

CAFOD

Catholic Agency for Overseas Development

care

christian aid

CONCERN worldwide

RESCUE

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Accountability to affected population*

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Water, sanitation and hygiene

Education

Multi-purpose cash

Food security

Nutrition

LEBANON

SYRIA

WEST BANK

GAZA

MEDITERRANEAN SEA

Number of members
0 15

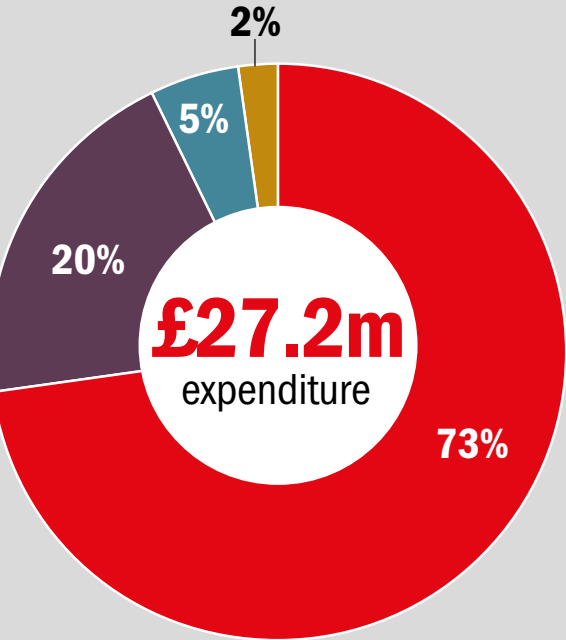
*Accountability to affected populations are activities that meaningfully engage people affected by crises in decisions, ensure they have access to timely and relevant information, provide safe and accessible channels to give feedback and raise complaints, and use their views and needs to adapt programmes and services.

The data provided is based on DEC Member Charities Phase 2 12 month reports (submitted 31/05/2026) and is subject to change. The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the DEC.

02

03

18 month expenditure by location
October 2024 – April 2026



The figures presented in this report are accurate as of the date of publication. However, reclassifications of expenditure across reporting period and between locations may result in minor figure adjustments.

Photo: The local partner of a DEC member charity, uses a diesel powered generator to operate a water well, to help provide clean water to around 7,000 residents in Gaza.
© Majdi Fathi/Christian Aid

Gaza **West Bank**
Lebanon **Syria**

Partnership

Total programme budget 17 October 2024 – 31 January 2027
£45.7 million

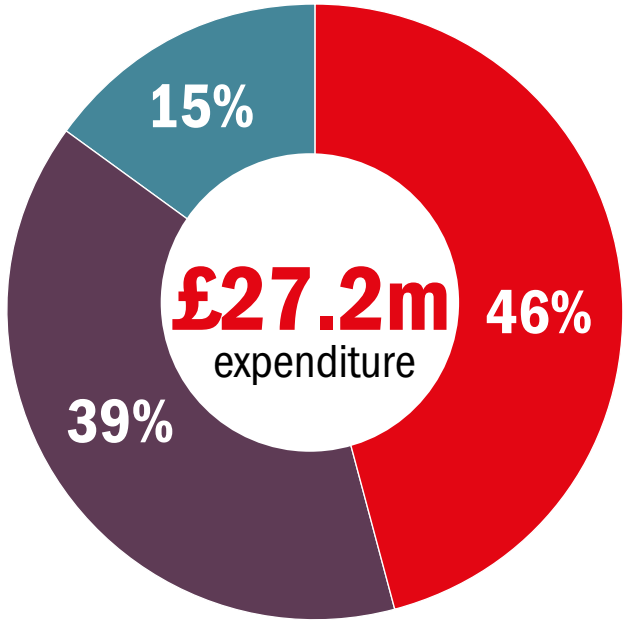
18 month expenditure 17 October 2024 – 30 April 2026
£27.2 million

Local / National partners	International / other partners
37	7

Funds raised by the DEC are allocated to the 15 member charities responding to this humanitarian crisis. They work with local communities through direct implementation and with their local, national, and international. During the first 18 months of the response, DEC members worked with 37 local/national partners, and 7 international/other partners³.

³ International or Other partners include partners such as International Health Partners (IHP) who are UK based.

18 month expenditure –
DEC members and partners
October 2024 - April 2026



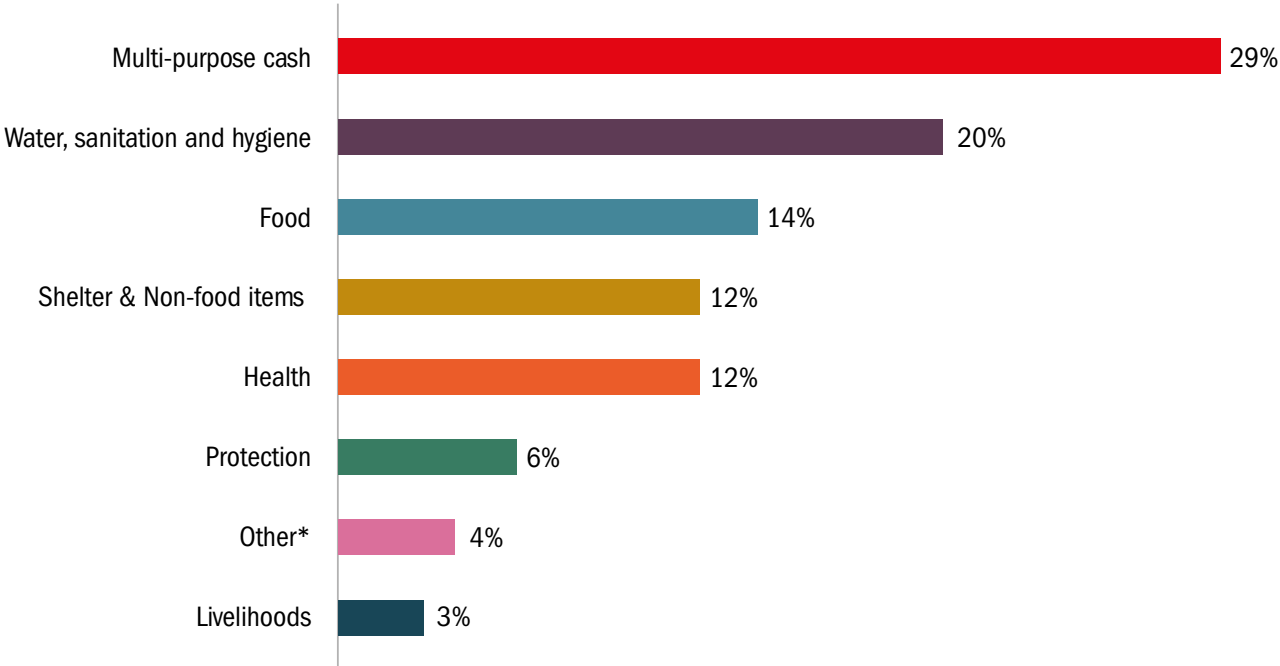
- Through local/national partners
- DEC members direct spending
- Through international/other partners*

46% of DEC funding has been channelled through national and local partners, showing a clear and practical commitment to locally led delivery as a core part of the response.

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS
ACROSS ALL LOCATIONS – 18 MONTHS

- More than **717,000** hot meals, fresh food items and food parcels distributed.
- More than **663,000** people supported with improved access to drinking water.
- More than **210,000** people received essential items, such as clothes, blankets, tents and hygiene kits.
- More than **149,000** consultations provided through the provision of primary healthcare services.
- More than **76,000** people supported with cash or voucher assistance, allowing them the flexibility to meet their specific needs, such as buying food, clothes, or basic household items.

18 month expenditure across all locations by sector
October 2024 - April 2026



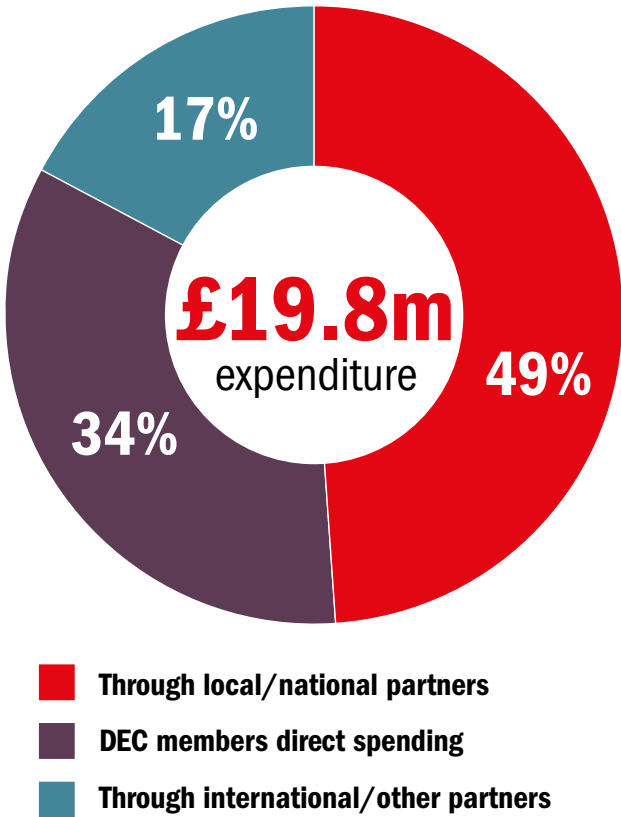
*Other includes expenditure for Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR), education and nutrition activities; capacity bridging and accountability to affected populations

GAZA

Humanitarian context in Gaza

By the end of April 2026, the humanitarian situation in Gaza remained catastrophic. More than 72,000 Palestinians had reportedly been killed since October 2023, while widespread destruction of homes, hospitals, schools, water networks and sanitation systems severely restricted access to essential services. Over 1.9 million people had been internally displaced, many multiple times, and were living in overcrowded shelters with limited access to clean water, healthcare, sanitation and electricity. Although the October 2025 ceasefire temporarily increased the entry of aid and commercial goods, humanitarian needs remained overwhelming. Continued insecurity, uncertainty over the ceasefire, expansion of the military-controlled “Yellow Line”, and repeated displacement prevented many families from returning home. Humanitarian access remained far below operational requirements due to crossing restrictions, lengthy coordination procedures and inspection delays. Fuel, medicine and medical supply shortages further strained an already weakened health system.

Gaza: 18 month expenditure
October 24 – April 26



Saadi (80), lives in a makeshift shelter in a camp in North Gaza where, a local partner of a DEC member charity are providing clean water to displaced families.
© Majdi Fathi/Christian Aid

How DEC members responded in Gaza

Despite this highly constrained operational environment DEC member charities and their partners continued to deliver a wide range of humanitarian assistance aimed at preserving protection, reducing public health risks, and addressing critical needs among vulnerable communities. Their programmes remains responsive to the evolving humanitarian situation and committed to supporting affected populations.

Across water and sanitation, health, food security, shelter, protection, education and livelihoods, DEC-supported interventions have helped sustain essential services for highly vulnerable and displaced populations. Water trucking reached 117,000 people, while member charities and their partners supported water infrastructure rehabilitation, sanitation improvements and hygiene promotion. In the health sector, some members and their partners, maintained access to essential primary healthcare through 12 supported health facilities, including frontline services and a field hospital operating within a severely strained health system. Food assistance reached more than 653,000 displaced and vulnerable households through food parcels, hot meals, vouchers and cash-based support, while shelter and non-food item assistance provided emergency support despite significant supply chain barriers.

Protection and mental health remained also a central priority, with more than 23,000 people accessing mental health and psychosocial support through counselling, psychological first aid, safe spaces and community-based activities. Education support was also initiated through two temporary learning spaces providing structured lessons for children.

In the last six months, some DEC charities and their partners began shifting towards early recovery approaches, supporting agricultural production, small businesses, livelihoods training and local food systems to help communities rebuild resilience and restore income opportunities where conditions allowed.

Despite these achievements, humanitarian needs continued to exceed available capacity. Access restrictions, insecurity, shortages of essential supplies and delays in importing shelter materials significantly constrained operations.



People carry boxes of relief items they've received from a local partner organisation of a DEC member charity, at a distribution point in southern Gaza.
© British Red Cross

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS IN GAZA – 18 MONTHS

- More than **653,000** hot meals, fresh food items, food parcels, and food vouchers distributed.
- More than **476,000** people supported with improved access to drinking water.
- More than **340,000** people reached through support provided to healthcare facilities, including structural repairs and essential supplies.
- More than **39,000** people supported with cash or voucher assistance, allowing them the flexibility to meet their specific needs, such as buying food, clothes, or basic household items.
- More than **24,000** people accessed mental health and psychosocial support.
- More than **1,000** people provided with practical support to restore their livelihoods, through training, small business grants, cash for work or agricultural items.

LEBANON



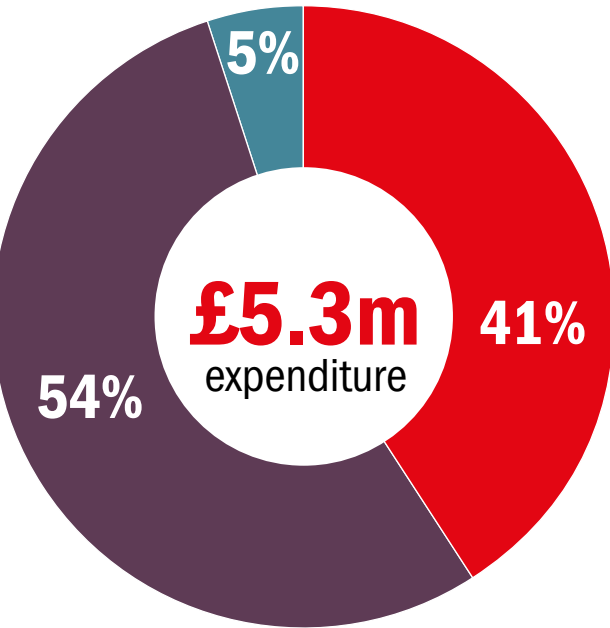
Children interact with staff from DEC charity member during a Mental Health and Psychosocial Support Session at a collective shelter in Beirut.
© Save the Children

Humanitarian context in Lebanon

Lebanon’s humanitarian crisis worsened between late 2024 and April 2026 as renewed conflict compounded a prolonged economic crisis and weakened essential services. Intensified hostilities from September 2024 displaced over one million people, with many later returning to damaged communities following the November 2024 ceasefire agreement. Escalating regional violence from March 2026 triggered further displacement and increased humanitarian needs. By April 2026, 1.24 million people were projected to face acute food insecurity due to displacement, income losses, market disruption, and rising prices. Conflict impacts continued to strain livelihoods, infrastructure, health services and access to essential assistance, particularly for vulnerable displaced and host communities.

Lebanon: 18 month expenditure

October 2024 – April 2026



How DEC members responded in Lebanon

Following the escalation of violence in March 2026, DEC member charities have significantly scaled up their emergency response efforts in Lebanon through flexible funding and additional allocations. Before the escalation, 11 DEC member charities and seven local partners were supporting displaced and returning families with cash assistance, protection, food, water, sanitation, non-food items, and mental health services. The additional funding enabled four member charities to launch new programmes and one to restart operations, bringing all 15 DEC member charities into the response working through 12 local partners. Programming expanded to meet urgent needs among newly displaced populations, host communities, and vulnerable groups, including women, older people, refugees, and people with disabilities. While the Lebanese government has primarily concentrated assistance within government-run collective shelters, members and local partners are working to identify effective ways to reach people living outside these facilities, who represent the majority of the displaced population.

- Through local/national partners
- DEC members direct spending
- Through international/other partners

Multi-purpose cash assistance (MPCA) remained a key modality, with previous support reaching 4,587 people and additional funding enabling further assistance to newly displaced and vulnerable households. Cash support allowed families to prioritise essential needs, including food, medical expenses, repairs, rent, education, hygiene items and household goods.

Water and sanitation interventions adapted to the changing context, shifting from longer-term infrastructure rehabilitation towards emergency support, including hygiene kit distributions, menstrual hygiene assistance, hygiene promotion and measures to maintain access to safe water for displaced populations. Shelter and non-food items assistance supported displaced communities through the rehabilitation of collective shelters and distribution of essential items, including blankets, mattresses and household supplies.

Protection needs increased significantly due to repeated displacement, insecurity and loss of livelihoods. DEC partners expanded psychosocial support, protection awareness, psychological first aid and referral services, while integrating cash support so people had the resources needed for their wellbeing. The distribution of educational kits helped newly displaced children return to school. Emergency food assistance was also scaled up, including ready-to-eat food kits and hot meals for displaced families.

Health programming was strengthened to support vulnerable displaced people, including older people, people with disabilities and women-headed households. New programmes aim to reach over 100,000 people with primary healthcare services, while providing essential medicines and health-related supplies to those most in need.

Children play in a collective shelter in Beirut where a DEC member charity runs mental health and psychological support sessions for children and their families.
© Save the Children



KEY ACHIEVEMENTS IN LEBANON – 18 MONTHS

More than **157,000** people received mental health and psychosocial support or other protection services including access to safe spaces, wellbeing support for children and their caregivers and community awareness raising sessions.

More than **81,000** people reached with essential hygiene items such as soap, shampoo, cleaning supplies, sanitary pads, etc.

More than **47,000** hot meals, fresh food items, food parcels, and food vouchers distributed.

More than **36,000** people reached through support provided to healthcare facilities, including the rehabilitation of structures and distribution of essential supplies.

More than **31,000** people supported with cash or voucher assistance, allowing them the flexibility to meet their specific needs, such as buying food, clothes, or basic household items.

WEST BANK

Humanitarian context in the West Bank

Over the past 18 months, humanitarian conditions in the West Bank have significantly deteriorated due to intensified military activity, violence, movement restrictions, economic decline and repeated displacement. These challenges have increased protection risks, disrupted livelihoods, deepened food insecurity and constrained access to essential services.

How DEC members responded in the West Bank

DEC member charities and their partners have responded through multi-sector assistance, supporting vulnerable communities with cash and voucher assistance, food aid, healthcare, shelter and protection interventions. More than 24,000 people received cash or voucher support to address urgent needs, while food assistance reached nearly 18,000 people affected by displacement and rising costs. Healthcare services were strengthened through support to 14 health structures, improving access to essential care. Partners also rehabilitated water infrastructure, supported displaced families with shelter and household items, and strengthened community protection through safe spaces rehabilitation, emergency equipment and local response mechanisms to improve resilience amid ongoing insecurity.

Sherin, a 41-year-old farmer from the West Bank with her family in their olive grove. Sherin is one of 300 farmers in the West Bank supported by DEC funded conditional cash assistance.
© World Vision



More than
132,000
people reached through support provided to healthcare facilities, including the rehabilitation of structures and distribution of essential supplies.

More than
24,000
people received essential items, such as clothes, blankets, tents and hygiene kits.

More than
19,000
hot meals, food parcels, and food vouchers distributed.

More than
3,000
people provided with practical support to restore their livelihoods or the livelihood of their family, through rehabilitation of water irrigation systems.

SYRIA

Humanitarian context in Syria and how DEC members responded

Between March and May 2026, 79,424 people arrived in Syria from Lebanon following the escalation of regional hostilities. This created additional humanitarian needs, and people urgently needing cash assistance, additional humanitarian needs and requiring urgent support including cash assistance, shelter, food, non-food items and protection services.

One DEC member charity responded in northern Syria through a multi-sector approach. Winterisation kits supported vulnerable

families facing harsh conditions during winter, while hygiene kits distributions and water and sanitation interventions improved access to essential services, including safe water for approximately 154,500 people through the maintenance of water systems in Idleb and Hama. Protection assistance included emergency cash support, dignity and maternity kits, case management, psychosocial support, recreational activities and awareness sessions. These interventions helped strengthen safety, dignity and resilience among vulnerable households, including returnees, displaced people and host communities.



The local partner of a DEC member charity responds to the urgent needs of returnees and refugees entering Syria, amid conflict in the region, including through mobile health units and shelter support.
© British Red Cross/Syrian Arab Red Crescent

LOOKING AHEAD

DEC member charities and their partners will focus on delivering multi-purpose cash assistance, water, sanitation, and hygiene services, shelter, and health support, until

the end of the programme (31 January 2027). DEC member charities will continue providing life-saving assistance while strengthening recovery and resilience where conditions allow.

DEC MEMBER CHARITIES



act:onaid

ageInternational



CAFOD
Catholic Agency for
Overseas Development



CONCERN
worldwide



tearfund

World Vision

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