



Humanitarian Response
UNFPA Venezuela
2021





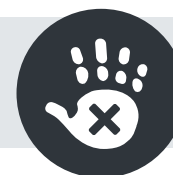
UNFPA is the United Nations sexual and reproductive health agency.



Humanitarian Response **Venezuela 2021**

Presentation of activities of the components: Sexual and Reproductive Health (SRH) and Gender-Based Violence (GBV) and Area of Responsibility in the states of Anzoátegui, Apure, Bolívar, Capital District, Miranda, Táchira, and Zulia.

The United Nations sexual and reproductive health agency



Our mission is to deliver a world where every pregnancy is wanted, every childbirth is safe and every young person's potential is fulfilled.





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Acknowledgments:

This publication is dedicated to all women and men who work at UNFPA; to our implementing partners: Asociación Civil Aliadas en Cadena, Asociación Civil Niña Madre, Asociación Civil de Planificación Familiar (PLAFAM), Asociación Civil UNIANDES, Comisión para los Derechos Humanos y la Ciudadanía (CODEHCIU), Dividendo Voluntario para la Comunidad (DVC), Premiere Urgence Internationale (PUI), Sociedad Wills Wild, Tinta Violeta y Ven Da tu Mano; to our counterparts, allies, donors and all public institutions and organizations social that with their dedication and commitment support us and make it possible help thousands of women, adolescents and Venezuelan girls.

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Preface

2021 was a year of many challenges. The prolonged economic crisis and the COVID-19 pandemic continued impacting the Venezuelan population, especially women, adolescents and girls, who in humanitarian contexts are much more affected. But it was also a year of many efforts with satisfactory results.

During this year, UNFPA Venezuela, with the support of the donors, public institutions and various non-governmental organization, and in coordination with other humanitarian actors, has worked to bring assistance to people most in need through our humanitarian program that aims to provide and ensure services to prevent, response and support sexual and reproductive health (SRH) and gender based violence (GBV) that save lives of women and adolescent girls most needy in priority states of Venezuela.

In 2021 we reached more than 209 thousand people, leaving us a total of 900 thousand assisted since 2019, and with this document we want to share with you the scope of our work in different communities of the country.

However, we still have a long way to go to attend the people in need of humanitarian aid, achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) and achieve the goal of our Plan Strategic 2022-2026 of **Zero unsatisfied needs of family planning, Zero preventable maternal deaths and Zero gender-based violence.**

For 2022, based on an understanding of multiple factors, impacts and root causes of the crisis, the UNFPA team in Venezuela has outlined its intervention strategy towards the generation of the necessary synergy between the actions that save lives, cooperation for the development and strengthening of capacities, and the promotion of peace structures to address comprehensively the needs, vulnerabilities and risks that faced by women, adolescents and young people.



UNFPA is officially called
**United Nations
Population Fund.**

Understanding the Context

Venezuela is currently going through a prolonged, accumulated and significant economic contraction, accompanied by episodes of hyperinflation, the COVID-19 pandemic and localized direct violence in some communities. These are today the main generators of humanitarian needs, that have a differentiated impact on women and teenagers.

The challenges faced by women and adolescents in the impoverished communities of Venezuela include high rates of maternal mortality (125.4 per 100,000 live births), increased gender-based violence, including sexual violence and different forms of sexual exploitation and abuse, increase in the teenage pregnancy rate (97.7 per every 1000 women between 15 and 19 years old), as well as the spread of sexually transmitted infections (STIs), including congenital syphilis and HIV.

The most vulnerable families face challenges access food and essential supplies, as well as health and protection services, due to the lack of purchasing power and its high cost. In cases where the families manage to save some resources, the purchase of essential supplies, such as contraceptives and toiletries feminine hygiene, or access to services implies a prioritization that often neglects attention to the particular needs of women and teenagers.

The crisis has dramatically affected the operational capacities of the National Public Health System, causing a limitation in the timely provision and quality of sexual health services and Reproductive (SSR). The deterioration of health centers is evidenced in the limited functioning of the electricity and water services, the scarcity of medical supplies, including personal protective equipment (PPE), and the decrease in qualified health personnel.

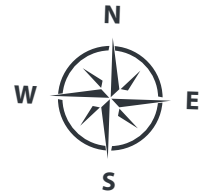
Along with the challenge of the pandemic, there has been an increase in GBV, including physical violence, psychological and sexual. According to a recent needs assessment carried out by UNFPA Venezuela in border and mining communities, the women and adolescent girls are recruited by illegal groups and forced into prostitution and sexual slavery. Others resort to forced marriages as protection mechanism. The assessment also shows that women and adolescents in Venezuela are approached with false job offers in other regions and recruited by sex trafficking gangs. Those who cross legal checkpoints on foot and illegal immigrants in border areas face sexual abuse, extortion and physical violence.

Today, more than ever, it is necessary to strengthen the commitment and guarantee the continuity of the response and assistance. It is key to have the support of allies and donors, who, by trusting UNFPA, **allow to ensure that Venezuelan women, adolescents and girls are not left behind.**

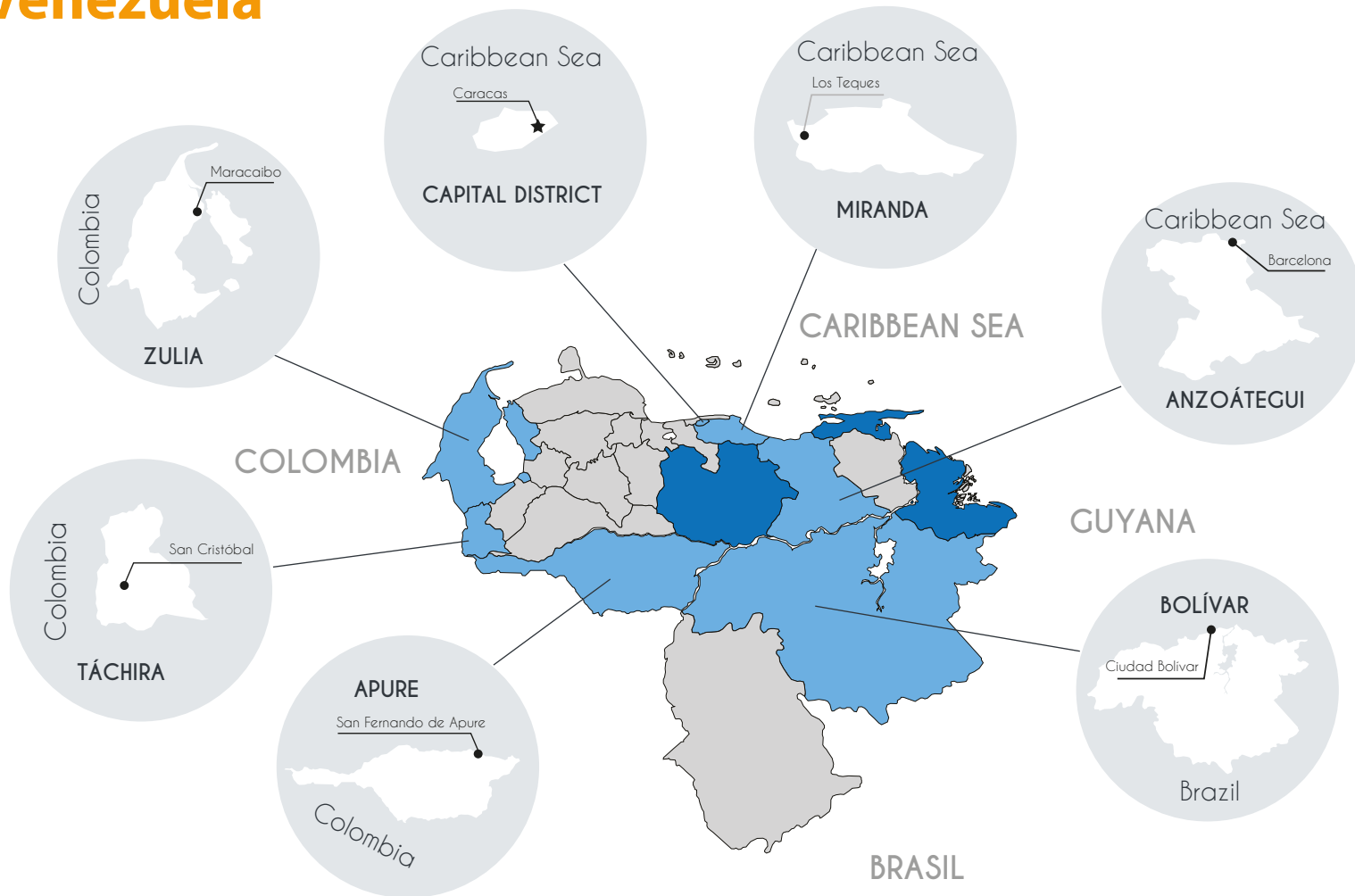


Between now and 2030, we expect **to end:**

- Unmet needs in terms of planning family.
- Maternal deaths avoidable.
- Gender violence and all harmful practices.



Venezuela



NOTE: The names used in this map and the way in which data is shown do not imply, on the part of the United Nations Secretariat, any judgment whatsoever as to the juridical status of countries, territories, cities, or zones, or their authorities, or the demarcation of their borders..

- States where we perform humanitarian activities since 2018
- States where we will begin operations in 2022: Guárico, Sucre, and Delta Amacuro.



**Ensure that no one is
left behind...**



Where are we and how do we work?

UNFPA Venezuela is celebrating 20 years of uninterrupted operations in the country.

From its opening in 2003 and until 2018, UNFPA Venezuela had dedicated all its efforts exclusively to the development agenda of the country. However, since 2018, within the framework of the Response Plan Humanitarian, UNFPA Venezuela focuses its actions on providing timely and quality response and support services in Sexual and Reproductive Health (SRH) and Violence against Gender (GBV) in prioritized localities in **Anzoátegui, Apure, Bolívar, Capital District, Miranda, Táchira and Zulia**; and from the end of 2021 it is being extended to **Guárico, Sucre and Delta Amacuro** states. As a result, UNFPA's presence on the ground has expanded with more than 60 people from his team deployed in the national territory and alliances with a dozen NGOs and other actors as implementing partners in the above mentioned states.

As part of the UUNN humanitarian architecture in Venezuela, UNFPA is actively involved in humanitarian assistance as a member of the Humanitarian Country Team (HCM) and the Territorial Coordination Centers (CCTs in Spanish), advocating for a differentiated response to the needs of women and adolescent girls. UNFPA designs and promotes actions within the Health and Protection clusters and collaborates with the Education cluster. In addition, **UNFPA leads the Area of Responsibility for VBG**, made up of more than 80 organizations, including women's organizations, ensuring



good coordination of actions and avoiding duplication of efforts between humanitarian actors to respond, mitigate and prevent GBV in the emergency context.

UNFPA's work model in Venezuela is based on:

- Focusing programs on the people most left behind.
- Providing a Last Mile assurance, guaranteeing that the supplies reach directly into the hands of those in need.
- Promoting local associations and the strengthening of their capabilities.
- Inquiring closely the impressions of the communities served on the quality of our assistance.
- Monitoring and evaluating the implementation in real time of the programs.
- Promoting inter-institutional coordination and synergy.
- Advocating in a sustained manner for the Humanitarian Principles: Humanity, Neutrality, Impartiality and Independence.

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Anzoátegui

Anzoátegui state is located in the northeastern region of the country. UNFPA has carried out activities mainly in the cities of Barcelona, Puerto Píritu, Pariaguán and El Tigre, however, the population of at least 27 parishes in the state has seen benefited with actions linked to the Sexual and Reproductive Health component.



93.786

People received condoms masculine and information about prevention of STIs and HIV.



Population served

5.328

Adolescent women
(ages 10-19)

14.288

Adult women
(aged 20 years or over)

1.232

Adolescent men
(ages 10-19)

2.908

Adult Men
(aged 20 years or over)

Actions made in the entity:

We have had the opportunity to perform actions of contraception, mainly dispensation of methods contraceptives, specifically: subdermal implants, intrauterine devices, injectables and condoms.

Also, there were conferences held awareness raising in terms of SSR, STI-HIV, Pregnancy and COVID-19.



**3.814
people**
took diagnostic tests
of HIV and Syphilis.

**16
people**
with disabilities received
attention on the
Gender-Based Violence
and services Sexual and
Reproductive Health.



Apure

Located in the south of the country and bordering Colombia, the Apure state, is one of the main border passes. In this state the activities are carried out on both components, some of the actions are: raising awareness, response, prevention and capacity building for the construction of community resilience against GBV.



1.980

Women were sensibilized
Gender-Based Violence prevention.

Multisectorial Response Services

1.206 women had access to specialized psychosocial services, guidance legal, psychological evaluations, case management, sexual and reproductive health services and psychosocial support groups sessions.

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5.477
people
received various
contraceptive methods.



Safe Spaces for women, adolescents and girls

These are places where women can access information for GBV prevention and response and places promoting empowerment of women to become agents of change within of their communities.

In Apure State, **3 new Safe Spaces for Women, Adolescents and Girls** were installed in:

Orichuna - Parroquia El Amparo, Barrio Táchira– Parroquia Guasqualito, and Colinas de San Camilo del Nula in Parroquia San Camilo.



Population served

829
Adolescent
women
(ages 10-19)

2.829
Adult
women
(aged 20 years
or over)

57
Adolescent
men
(ages 10-19)

235
Adult
Men
(aged 20 years
or over)

25
people
with disabilities received
attention on
the Gender-Based Violence
and Health Sexual and
Reproductive services.



Bolívar

Located in the southeast of the country and bordering to the south with Brazil, it is one of the border crossings where UNFPA Venezuela works. The actions of this state are mainly focused in the prevention of gender-based violence, with special emphasis on sexual violence, including trafficking for sexual exploitation.



2.760

Women were sensibilized in prevention of Gender-Based Violence.

Dispensing of contraceptive methods

In addition to participating in sessions of awareness of Gender based violence on women and adolescents, they also have access to contraception.

20 Health Care Centers

strengthened with supplies
for clinical management
of Sexual Violence.



97 people

with disabilities received
attention on the
Gender-Based Violence
and services Sexual and
Reproductive Health.

Informative talks for the prevention of Gender-Based Violence

UNFPA sensibilizations offer information to women, adolescents and girls on their rights, including the right to a life free of violence. UNFPA has developed materials that are easy to understand to ensure the empowerment of women in their communities.

Population served

1.939

Adolescent
women
(ages 10-19)

3.520

Adult
women
(aged 20 years
or over)

141

Adolescent
men
(ages 10-19)

247

Adult
Men
(aged 20 years
or over)



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Capital District

The Capital District is located in the center-north area of the country and is one of the most populated in the country. It has 22 parishes in which UNFPA is developing actions of Sexual and Reproductive Health.

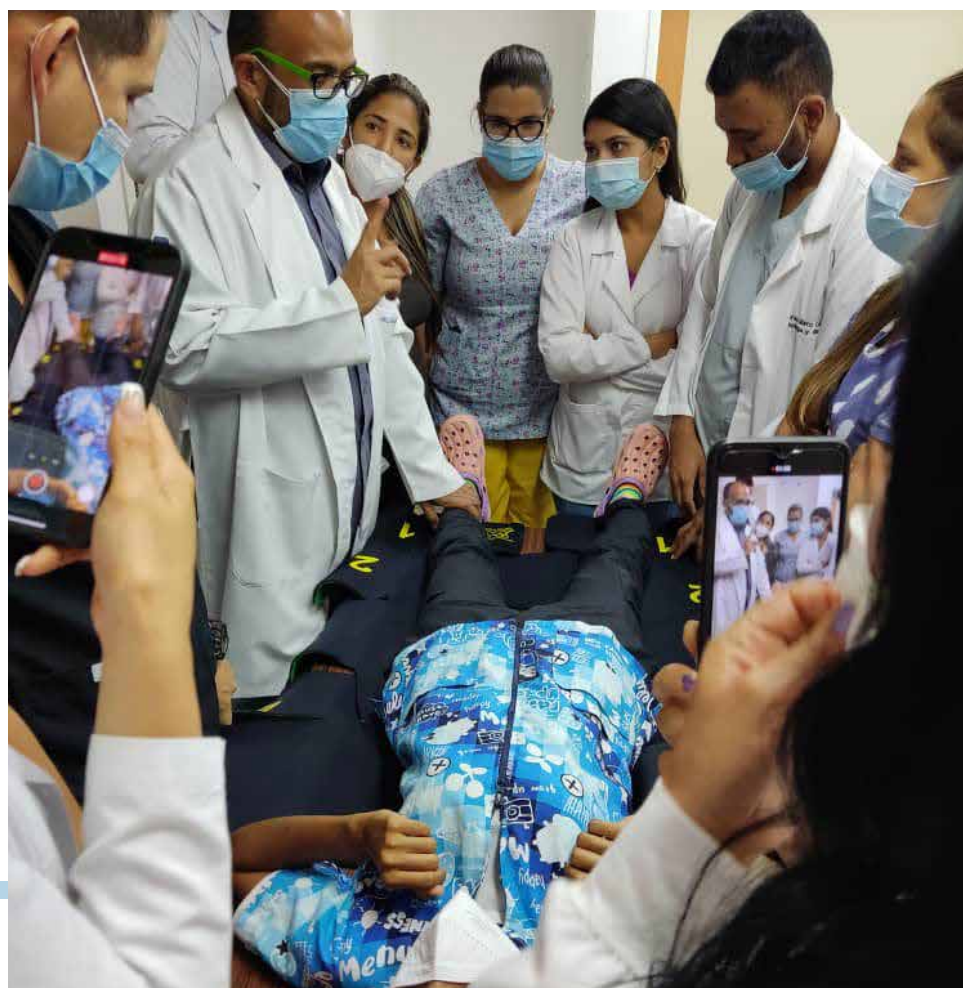


6.468

Women were reached through sexual and reproductive health services, including STI/HIV, gynecological, obstetric, planning family, prenatal consultations, among others.

Capacity building of health personnel

410 professionals from various health centers of the Ministry of Health participated in training workshops and/or knowledge updating in: emergency obstetric care, HIV and STIs, care of pregnant women, COVID-19, among others.





**48
people**

with disabilities received attention on the Gender-Based Violence and services Sexual and Reproductive Health.



**8.239
people**

took diagnostic tests of HIV and Syphilis.

Dispensing of Contraceptive Methods

Throughout the entity, **59,178 methods** were distributed contraceptives (subdermal implants, IUD, Injectable, condoms) considering the needs of users, who also received information on how to prevent STIs and unwanted pregnancies.

Population served

11.294

Adolescent women
(ages 10-19)

32.985

Adult women
(aged 20 years or over)

358

Adolescent men
(ages 10-19)

836

Adult Men
(aged 20 years or over)

Miranda

The state is located in the center-north area of the country and is the second most populous in the country, the present needs have generated that the UNFPA carry out activities of both components: Sexual and Reproductive Health and Gender Based Violence.



6.133

Women were sensibilized on Gender-Based Violence prevention.

Access to Sexual and Reproductive Health

52.240 women and men received guidance and information about your sexual and reproductive right, they also had access to various services such as: STI/HIV consultations, diagnostic tests (HIV / Syphilis), awareness raising, sexual violence prevention, contraceptive methods dispensation, among others.



**20.340
people**

took diagnostic tests of
HIV and Syphilis.



**214
people**

with disabilities received
attention on the
Gender-Based Violence
and services Sexual and
Reproductive Health.

Multisectoral Response Services for the response to Gender-Based violence

In the Safe Space located in the Central District of Curiepe, the Miranda women can access specialized psychosocial care services, legal and individual guidance, find staff specialized for GBV case management, among others.

Population served

14.513

Adolescent
women
(ages 10-19)

45.027

Adult
women
(aged 20 years
or over)

1.738

Adolescent
men
(ages 10-19)

5.896

Adult
Men
(aged 20 years
or over)



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Táchira

This entity is located in the west of the country and borders Colombia, is considered a very important cross border pass. UNFPA carries out activities of both components: Sexual and Reproductive Health and Gender Based Violence.



14.328

People received condoms and information about prevention of STIs and HIV.



The Comprehensive Care Center for Girls, Children, Adolescents and Women (CAINNAM)

This space is a joint initiative of UNFPA and UNICEF located in San Antonio where people in transit, in-and-out of Venezuela, received Sexual and Reproductive Health counseling and services and guidance and management of GBV cases.



**8.673
Women
reached**

through strengthened
of Sexual and Reproductive
Health services.



Sensibilizations and conferences on Gender-Based Violence

5.203 women were sensibilized and received printed materials on the prevention of Gender-Based Violence.

For UNFPA it is key to achieve the empowerment of women, adolescents and girls, as a strategy to end the cycles of violence.

Population served

2.790

Adolescent
women
(ages 10-19)

11.772

Adult
women
(aged 20 years
or over)

358

Adolescent
men
(ages 10-19)

859

Adult
Men
(aged 20 years
or over)

**36
people**

with disabilities received
attention on the
Gender-Based Violence
and services Sexual and
Reproductive Health.



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Zulia

Another of the most important border crossings in the country, the state Zulia is located to the northwest and borders Colombia. Has a large number of inhabitants and five indigenous ethnic groups: Añú, Barí, Wayúu, Yukpa and Japreria. In this state both components work together to meet the needs of the women, adolescents and girls from the area.



96.768

People received condoms and informative sessions on STIs and HIV prevention.



Population served

8.669

Adolescent women
(ages 10-19)

28.746

Adult women
(aged 20 years or over)

625

Adolescent men
(ages 10-19)

4.180

Adult Men
(aged 20 years or over)



Healthcare professionals participated in workshops and trainings on protective equipment, pregnant care, COVID-19, among others.



Ensuring no one is left behind

Both components have been working together to meet the specific needs to the indigenous communities present in the state. These groups have historically suffered from discrimination and find themselves behind the rest of the population.

UNFPA has attended these communities with information and supplies which has been with great appreciation.

**33.742
women
reached**

through strengthened of
Sexual and Reproductive
Health services.



**64
people**

with disabilities received
attention on the
Gender-Based Violence
and services Sexual and
Reproductive Health.

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Area of Responsibility of Gender-Based Violence

The Gender-Based Violence Area of Responsibility (AoR VBG) of Venezuela was established in March 2019. This is an instance within the UUNN country's humanitarian structure in charge to coordinate the response of various humanitarian actors to the GBV bringing together United Nations System agencies and National and international NGOs.

Main Results of 2021:

- Unification of criteria and procedures for the Prevention and Multisectoral response to GBV. (Design and implementation of Guidelines (SoP))
- Mapping of 426 GBV Response Services.
- 900 people from humanitarian organizations and institutions strengthened their capacities in GBV.
- 83 organizations improved their capacities in the management of GBV cases (CM/CBI initiative)
- Supported the integration of GBV risk mitigation in the WASH, Housing, Education and Nutrition clusters.
- GBV risk mitigation guidelines created.
- Designed instant messaging monitoring tools of the progress of GBV cases.



For 2022, **UNFPA is requesting \$17.7 million dollars** to save lives and protect rights of 545,000 people in the larger communities vulnerable of Venezuela.





UNFPA ensuring rights and choices for all.

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