

DARING DOGSLEDDERS
Denmark's Elite Patrol

ULTIMATE SURVIVORS
Life After Land Mines

MONTANA STALWARTS
Today's Homesteaders

NGM.COM JANUARY 2012

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC



TWINS

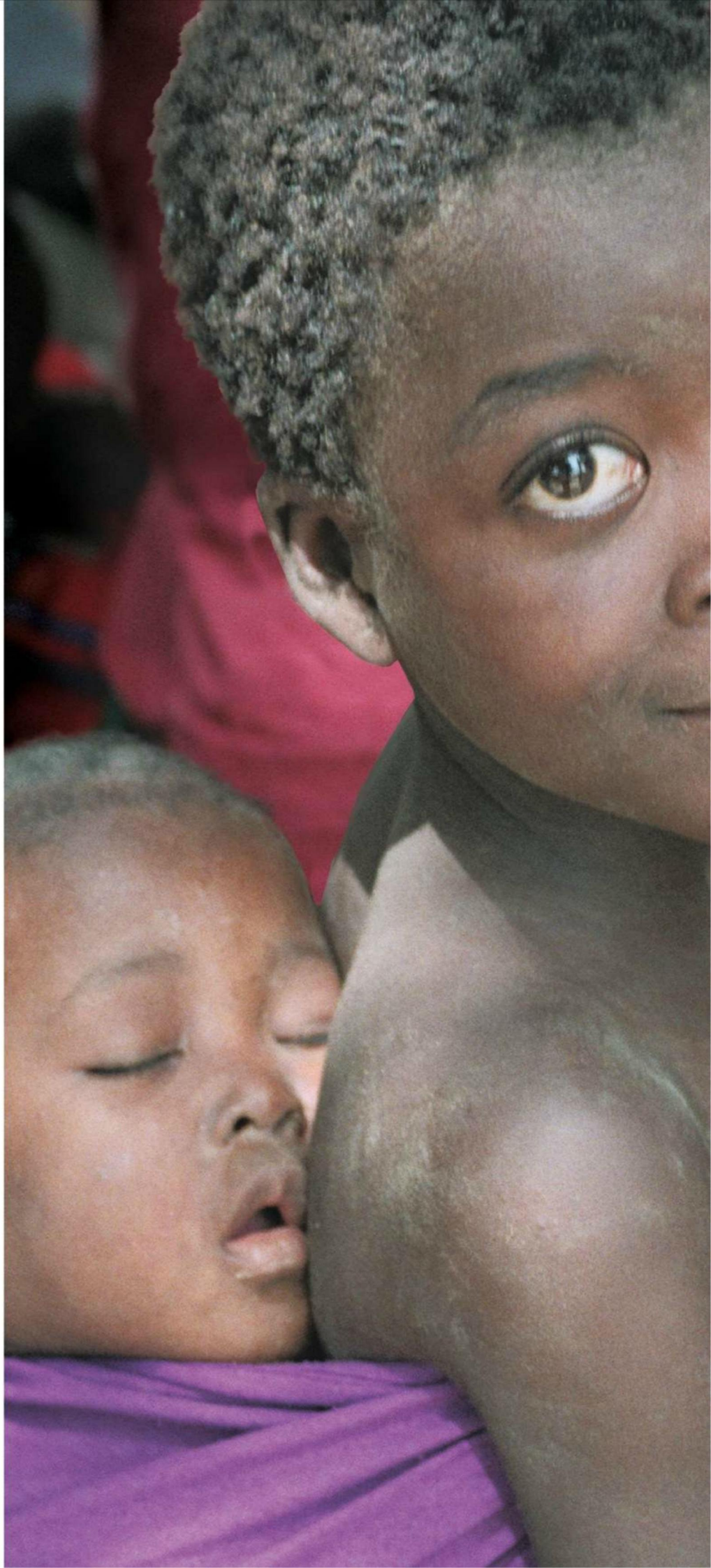
ALIKE BUT NOT ALIKE



**American
Red Cross**

Measles remains a deadly killer that threatens children worldwide. The Measles Initiative, which has supported the vaccination of more than 700 million children in over 60 countries, is a partnership committed to reducing measles mortality.

Leading this effort are the American Red Cross, United Nations Foundation, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, World Health Organization and UNICEF. To learn more, please visit www.measlesinitiative.org.





Bonin White-eye (*Apalopteron familiare*)

Size: Head and body length, approx. 14 cm **Weight:** 13 - 15 g **Habitat:** Low secondary forests and forest edges on three of the Ogasawara (also known as Bonin) Islands **Surviving number:** Estimated at 10,000 - 15,000



Photographed by Akira Ozono

WILDLIFE AS CANON SEES IT

And then there was one. The only endemic bird remaining on the Ogasawara Islands, the Bonin white-eye has seen the teeming subtropical forests it once made its home largely cleared. It continues to build its cup-shaped, double-layered nests in secondary forests and spend its days foraging for insects and fruits. As there are relatively few birds around, its role as a seed disperser has taken on an oversized importance in the health of the

ecosystem. With the recent naming of the islands as a World Heritage Site, the bird's future is looking brighter. But limited as it is to three islands, populations remain vulnerable.

As we see it, we can help make the world a better place. Raising awareness of endangered species is just one of the ways we at Canon are taking action—for the good of the planet we call home. Visit canon.com/environment to learn more.



FRITZ HOFFMANN

After a six-hour sledding stint across Greenland's packed snow and ice, patroller Jesper Olsen checks his dogs, one by one, for any injuries. Story on page 82.

January 2012

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Twins could unlock the secret to how genes and the environment interact to make us who we are.

By Peter Miller

Photographs by Jodi Cobb and Martin Schoeller

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At an ancient cemetery, gold is surfacing so fast the archaeologist is tempted to yell, Stop, stop!

By A. R. Williams Photographs by David Coventry

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It's 25° below zero. The dogs are unruly. Polar bears lurk. Pay is low. Yet Danes proudly serve.

By Michael Finkel Photographs by Fritz Hoffmann

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"One less land mine, one less child without a leg."
Cambodia recovers from the scourge of mines.

By Mark Jenkins

Photographs by Lynn Johnson

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Africa's Afar depression has swallowed camels, spit up a lava lake, and created precious salt.

By Virginia Morell Photographs by George Steinmetz

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Hype brought a flood of Montana homesteaders. Their descendants still struggle with tough terrain.

By David Quammen Photographs by William Albert Allard

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