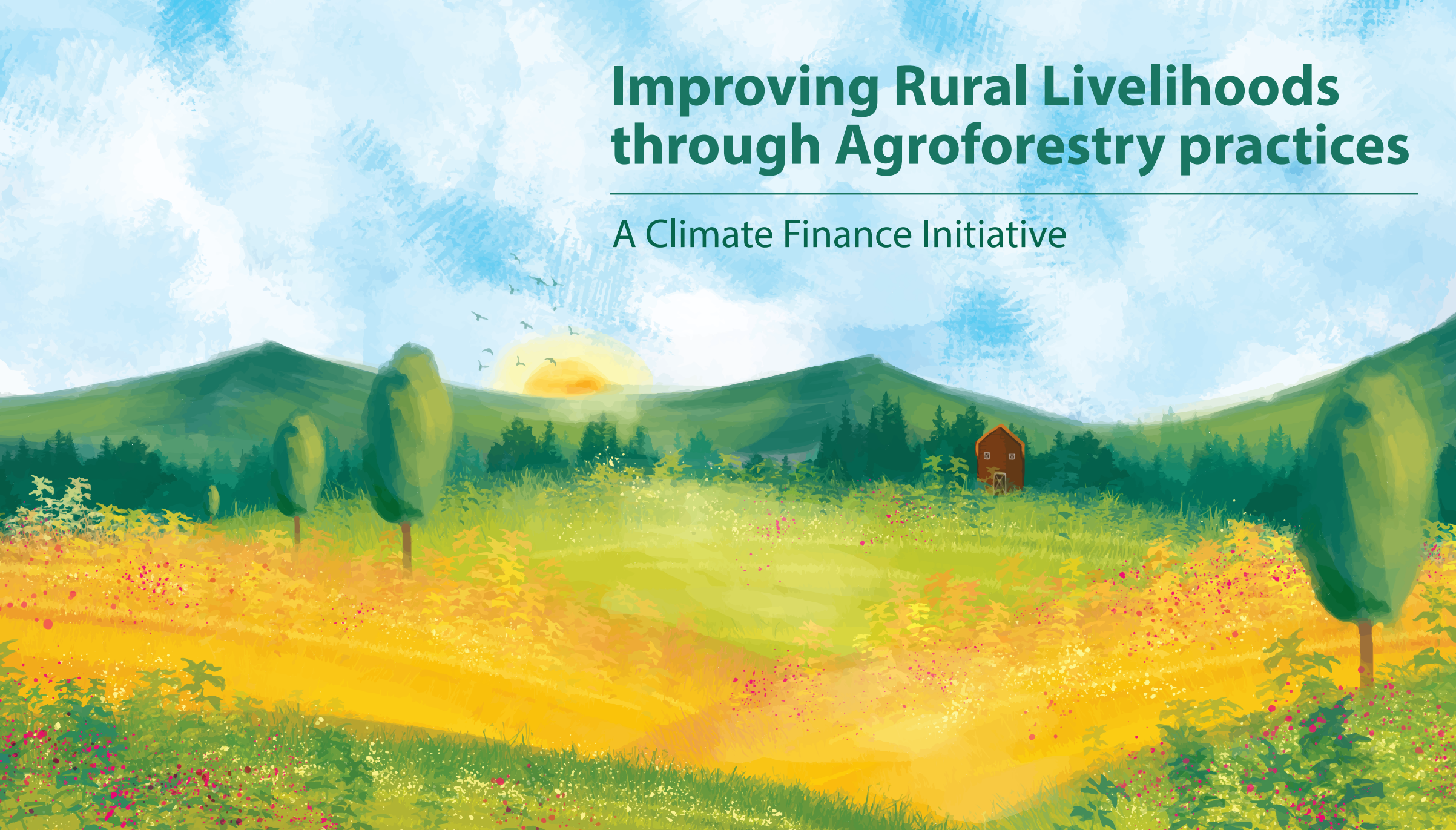
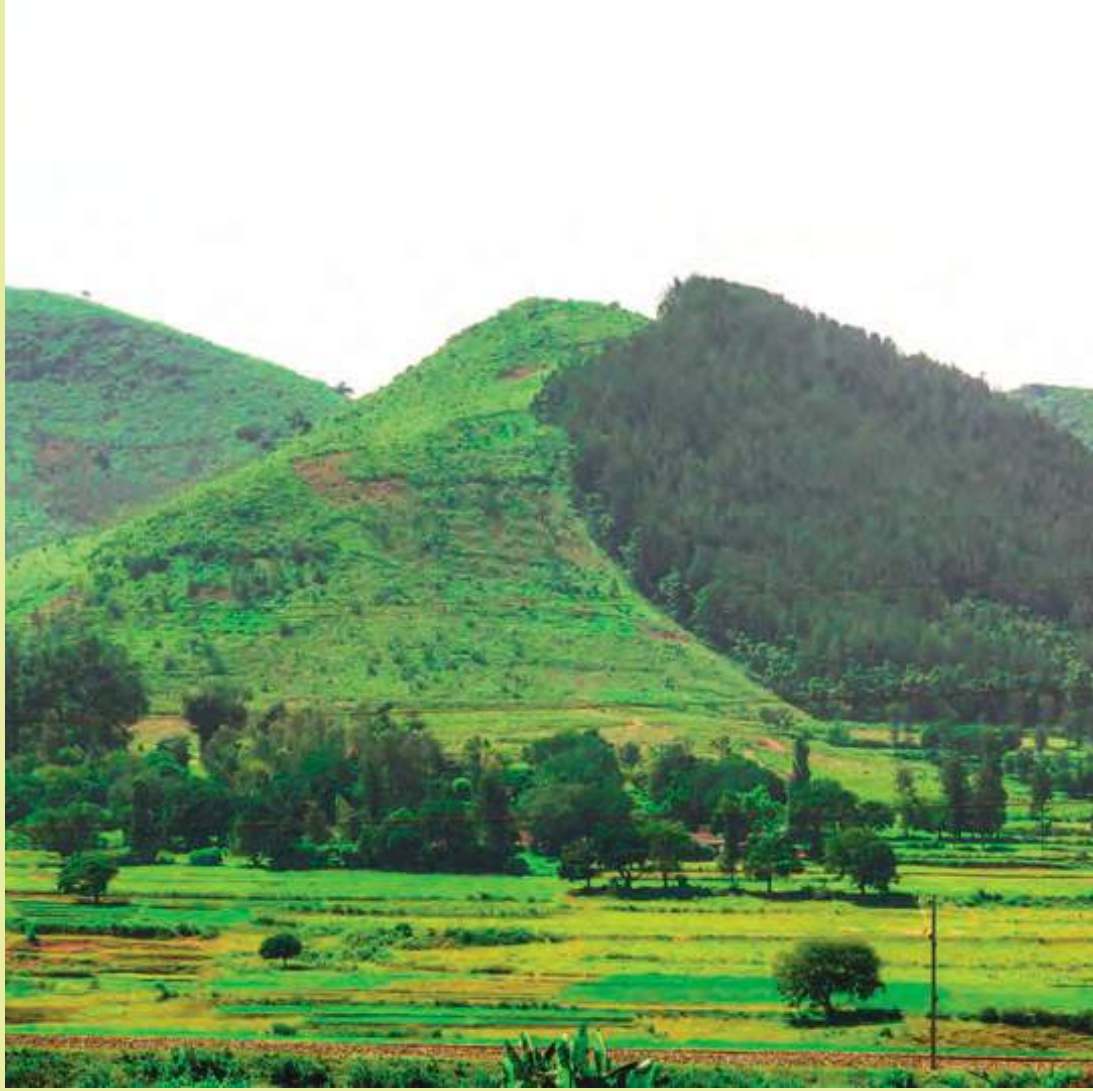
Improving Rural Livelihoods through Agroforestry practices

A Climate Finance Initiative



Introduction to the program

- The project aims to facilitate innovative partnerships among corporates, social enterprises and small farmers.
- The project activity mobilizes resource-poor farmers to raise tree plantations on farmlands and proposes to link them to international carbon markets to enhance their livelihood opportunities.
- In collaboration with the private industry and small farmers, and by building on the success of VCCSL's A/R CDM projects through scaling up and replication of activities, the project intends to deliver additional revenue to the participating farmers from the sale of carbon credits generated from the plantation activity on degraded lands.



Source: Eswararaokenguva

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Project 4531 : Improving Rural Livelihoods Through Carbon Sequestration By Adopting Environment Friendly Technology based Agroforestry Practices

Project title	Improving Rural Livelihoods Through Carbon Sequestration By Adopting Environment Friendly Technology based Agroforestry Practices - project design document (3258 KB) PDD appendices Appendix 1 - Enclosure (3701 KB) Appendix 2 - Enclosure 1 (1589 KB) Appendix 3 - Enclosure 2 (5932 KB) Appendix 4 - Enclosure 3 (149 KB) - registration request form (208 KB)
SDC description report	Not Available. Please refer to our Further Information on SD-Tool
Host Parties	India , involved indirectly approval (435 KB) authorization (435 KB) Authorized Participants: M/s VEDA Climate Change Solutions Ltd ; M/s JK Paper Ltd
Other Parties Involved	Canada *Party withdrawn from KP effective 15/12/2012 , involved directly approval (11 KB) authorization (11 KB) Authorized Participants: Government of Canada - Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Trade
	France , involved indirectly approval (73 KB) authorization (73 KB) Authorized Participants: Eco-Carbone S.A.S (withdrawn as of 20/07/2020)
	Italy , involved directly approval (34 KB) authorization (34 KB) Authorized Participants: Government of Italy - Ministry for the Environment, Land and Sea (withdrawn as of 20/07/2020)
	Japan , involved indirectly approval (3041 KB) authorization (3041 KB) Authorized Participants: Isemitsu Kosan Co.,Ltd. (withdrawn as of 21/07/2020) ; Japan Iron and Steel Federation (JISF) (withdrawn as of 21/07/2020) ; Japan Petroleum Exploration Co.,Ltd. (JAPEX) (withdrawn as of 21/07/2020) ; The Okinawa Electric Power Co., Inc. (withdrawn as of 21/07/2020) ; Sumitomo Chemical (withdrawn as of 21/07/2020) ; Sumitomo Joint Electric Power Co. Ltd. (withdrawn as of 21/07/2020) ; Suntory Holdings Limited (withdrawn as of 21/07/2020) ; Tokyo Electric Power Company Holdings, Inc. (withdrawn as of 21/07/2020)
	Spain , involved directly approval (2399 KB) authorization (2399 KB) Authorized Participants: Kingdom of Spain - Ministry for the Ecological Transition & Ministry of Economy and Business (withdrawn as of 20/07/2020)
	Luxembourg , involved directly approval (3590 KB) authorization (3590 KB) Authorized Participants: Government of Luxembourg – Ministry of the Environment, Climate and Sustainable Development (withdrawn as of 21/07/2020)
Sectoral scopes	14 : Afforestation and reforestation
Activity Scale	LARGE
Methodologies Used	AR-AM0004 ver. 3 - Reforestation or afforestation of land currently under agricultural use
Standardized baselines used	N/A
Amount of Reductions	4,895 metric tonnes CO2 equivalent per annum

Objectives

- Enhance the carbon sequestration potential in degraded lands
- Development of market linkages
- To reforest degraded lands to control soil and water erosion and reclaim lands.
- Develop plantation and agro forestry models, which can provide multiple co-benefits to farmers.
- To provide additional income through carbon revenue and ensure empowered livelihoods of rural communities in the area
- Ecological conservation of the indigenous biodiversity
- Capacity Building of various stakeholders

Key Details

1607 HA
of land generated carbon revenue under the current A/R CDM Project in Southern India

1000 HA
of potential degraded land to be brought under the A/R CDM Project, replicated and scaled up

1500 Farmers
to benefit from this program, both economically as well as socially through additional revenue, income generating activities and a multitude of co-benefits

10000 tCO2
per annum worth of emission reductions to be generated, thereby enhancing the carbon sequestration potential.

Key Details

70,000 VERs

Per verification have been delivered by VCCSL through Emission Reduction Purchase Agreements (ERPAs) with World Bank which has provided additional carbon revenue to more than 1500 participating small farmers and is aiming to deliver the remaining VERs through ERPAs with corporates till 2034.

Location of the Program Land Area & Land Use

- The project area is spread over a total of six districts in two Indian states namely Orissa and Andhra Pradesh.
- Rayagada, Koraput and Kalahandi districts in Orissa.
- The districts in Andhra Pradesh include Visakhapatnam, Srikakulam, and Vizianagaram with pre-dominance of indigenous population, mainly small landholders.
- The project boundary includes all discrete parcels of lands owned by different farmers in the blocks of the six districts.
- Current land use is minimal or intermittently used for rain-fed agriculture, and holds potential for expansion of cultivation of millets, cereals, pulses and various other crops given the adequate technological and financial support.

Local governance structure of the farmer Communities

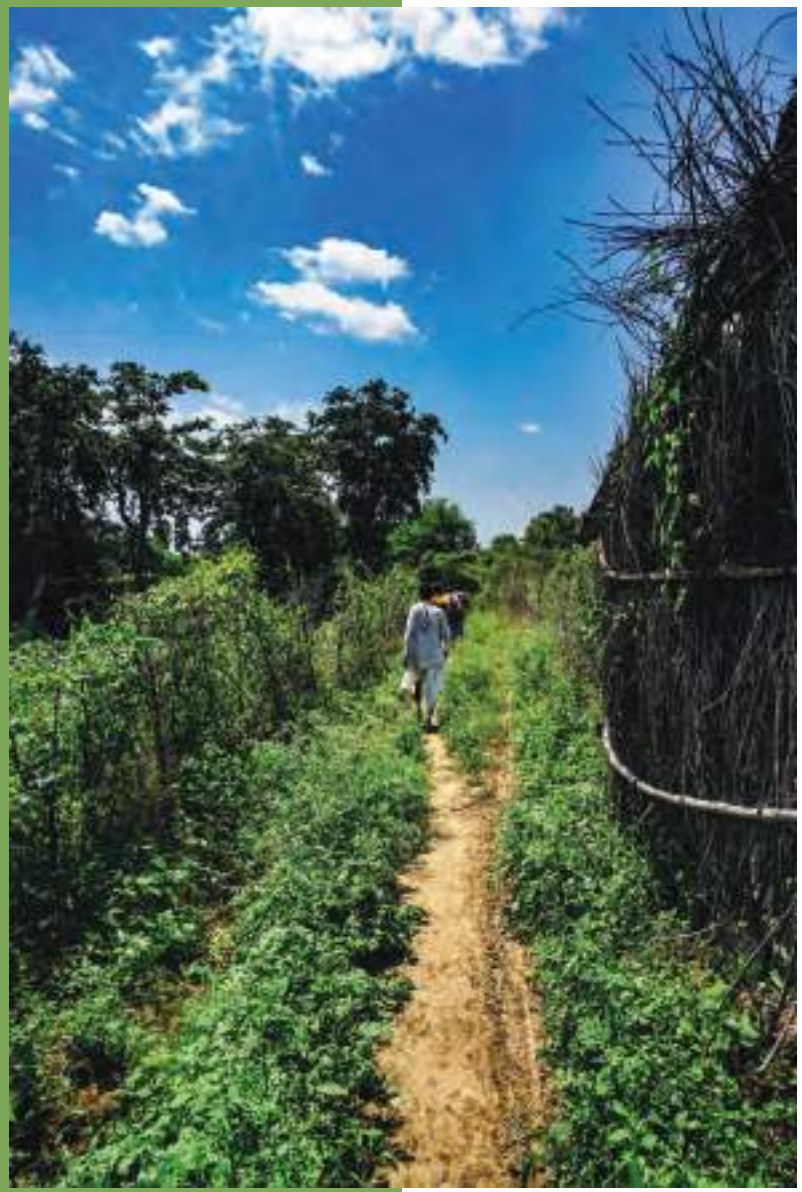
- The land used for implementing the project activity is legally owned by local people and is private property. These lands are expected to remain under the control of the project participants during the crediting period as well.
- Clear roles and responsibilities have been charted out with the relevant stakeholders included.
- The farmers will hence be divided into Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs) for easy management and monitoring

Compliance with UNSDGs

Source: trekearth

Sustainable Agricultural Techniques currently adopted by farmer communities

- One of the main technologies employed in this project is reforestation through direct planting with environmental-friendly techniques on less productive and degraded lands.
- Best practices guidance, successful technologies and experiences gained from the previous forestry projects have been duly adopted.
- Improvised methods of tree growing have been implemented based on the technical experience of project partners in the past working in association with the local farming community of resource poor farmers.
- R&D programs are being conducted to increase productivity of farm forestry by developing state of the art technology and infrastructure such as greenhouses, hardening chambers, nurseries and laboratories.
- The Agro-Economic Research Centre (AERC) in southern Orissa is involved in disseminating modern agriculture practices to farmers.



Socio-economic benefits

Employment opportunities for marginalised farmers to empower livelihood upliftment

Generation of additional income from carbon credits to the farmers

Gender sensitive strategies promoted by providing gainful employment to women.

Raising of plantations locally would reduce dependence on import of wood for paper manufacturing, thereby increasing foreign currency savings

Development and strengthening of the capacity of various stakeholders - resource-poor farmers, governmental and non-governmental organizations through training and technical assistance to take advantage of improved international mechanisms.

Participation of people in afforestation activities would reduce the burden on government to provide funds for plantation activities.

Increased income results in improved access to education and improved health and safety.

Promotion of local financing arrangements for restoration of degraded lands by resource-poor farmers.

Improved regulations on cultural preservation.

Other benefits include:

- Improved air quality, soil quality, and biodiversity from the afforestation of degraded lands.
- Development, testing and dissemination of best practices in plantation and agro forestry to minimize risks (fire, pests, insects and disease) and maximize environmental and social benefits.
- Improvement in productivity of degraded lands under the project activity through a participatory approach involving local farmers, industry and social enterprises;
- Development of institutional mechanisms for implementing Carbon projects.
- Identification of resource-poor farmers and improving their awareness of appropriate agroforestry models.
- Promotion of farmer-industry partnerships with buy-back arrangements.
- Reduced dependence on natural forests by producing raw material for housing, construction and industry on private lands through plantation forestry.
- Building partnerships with national and international research organizations to enhance applicable knowledge of agriculture in the area.

Contact

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