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REFLECT

CECI Nepal's Newsletter

September—December
2018

MESSAGE FROM THE COUNTRY REPRESENTATIVE



Dear Friends,

Welcome to the CECI Nepal's Newsletter 'REFLECT'. Again, I am very much delighted to present this edition of REFLECT to you all. As you go through the newsletter, I expect you will gain insights about CECI Nepal's project activities that took place between September and December 2018. I do hope, as in the past quarters, you will accept this effort of ours to connect with you through this newsletter.

I would like to highly appreciate the support given to us from all our development partners, government agencies, donors, project partners, civil society who are directly or indirectly connected with us to make our development efforts meaningful, and I firmly believe that the same level of support will be extended in the days to come. Also, I would like to take this occasion to express my gratitude towards everyone in CECI Nepal for their support and constant dedication towards CECI's mission in Nepal.

Sita Ram Bhatta
Country Director
CECI Nepal

MONTESSORI TRAINING: BUILDING TECHNICAL WORKFORCE IN EDUCATION

The Livelihood Promotion of Earthquake Affected Population of Nepal (PUNARNIRMAN) project, funded by Global Affairs Canada (GAC), has successfully provided Montessori training to 12 young women of Sindhupalchowk, Kavrepalanchowk and Lalitpur District. Montessori training



Montessori training participants



completed their college education and are looking forward to work in the primary schools in their own community, will utilize their technical knowledge on promoting the education system.



Practical session in the school

is specially designed to produce a technical workforce in the field of education, equipped with skills and knowledge related to a Montessori system of education. It is believed that this training will contribute to meet the demands of such workforce and contribute in the national education system. The training graduates, who have

Providing Technical Skills to 77 youths in the earthquake affected areas in Sindhupalchowk, Kavrepalanchowk and Lalitpur districts in Nepal is one of the major components of the project. Based on the labour market assessment, the training is a part of seven other identified skills including beautician, electrician, plumber, cook, mason and aluminum fabrication.

EXPOSURE VISIT

Cross-learning Opportunities for Farmers

The PUNARNIRMAN project organized 4/5 days exposure visits to 89 farmers (Female 53 and male 36) of Lalitpur, Kavrepalanchowk and Sindhupalchowk Districts to Dhading, Kaski, Baglung, Chitwan, Lalitpur, Tanahu, Syanga, Tanahu, Bhairahawa, Lalitpur, Kavrepalanchowk and Sindhupalchowk. The visits were organized by the Local NGO partners of the project. During the visit, the farmers observed cattle and vegetable farming in the agricultural research centre in Kaski and Chitawan; marketing strategy in the agricultural expo in Dhading and Baglung; and also the cultivation of a large amount of vegetables in the hi-tech green house in Chitawan and Lalitpur. In addition, they were taken to the community and

individual farms and door to door visits to see the adaptation of new technologies and non-pesticide and sustainable farming (both plant and animal). They also had the chance to interact with the local farmers to know about the hardships behind each success story.

This exposure visit offered a bundle of benefits. It was able to generate new ideas, create common understanding, make commitments to new approaches and was able to build up relationships among the people from different places who are in the same profession, allowing them to view practical examples and successful techniques.



IVD CELEBRATION

Annually CECI Nepal welcomes more than 50 Canadian and Australian volunteers in Nepal. This year Australian Volunteer Program (AVP) and Canadian Volunteer Cooperation (Uniterra) celebrated the International Volunteers' Day (IVD) on the 5th of December, 2018 to honour the contribution of volunteers in the social and economic development of Nepal.



Uniterra team with Canadian volunteers

The Australian volunteers celebrated the IVD 2018 with the theme “volunteers build resilient communities“. The event was celebrated in fine style with a whistle stop cultural tour of the Budhanilkantha Municipality. Australian

Ambassador Peter Budd, Mayor of Budhanilkantha municipality and various other stakeholders participated in the event.

Similarly Uniterra Nepal celebrated the IVD with volunteers and partner organizations sharing and acknowledging volunteers' contributions and achievements, along with some fanfare activities.

CECI manages both the Australian and Canadian Volunteer Cooperation Programs in Nepal with financial support from the Australian Government and Canadian Government respectively.



Australian Volunteers with AVP Nepal team

Glimpse of IVD Celebration



Informal talk with his Excellency the Australian Ambassador Peter Budd



Canadian Volunteers in Nepal



Australian volunteers enjoying Nepali traditional dance



Canadian volunteers cutting the IVD cake



Team building exercise



Tour to organic farm



Canadian volunteers dancing with Nepali team



Canadian volunteers with representative of partner organizations

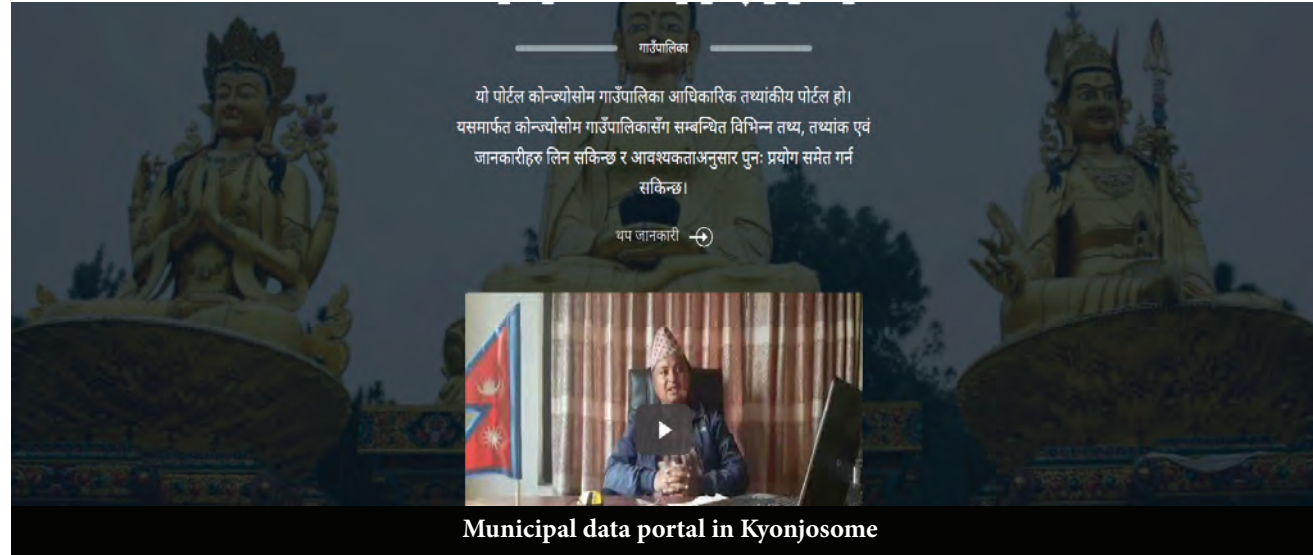


Canadian volunteer making fun

SUSASAN MUNICIPAL DATA PORTAL AND TECHNO-HUB IN OPERATION

Municipal Data Portal is a technological platform of the local governments to digitize and proactively disclose public information. Such portals are a part of the government's initiative towards promoting transparency and accountability within their constituencies. The Sustainable Use of Technology for Public Sector Accountability in Nepal (SUSASAN) project is being implemented with financial support from Global Affairs Canada (GAC) to provide technical support to local governments in six districts (Achham, Dadeldhura, Bajhang, Kailali, Sindhupalchowk and Lalitpur) of Nepal. SUSASAN project aims to establish 27 Techno-Hubs out of which 18 Techno Hubs have already been established.

SUSASAN project has co-created technological tools, platforms and mechanisms for 12 municipalities (i.e. Konjyosom, Bagmati, Barhbise, Sunkoshi, Dhangadhi, Kailari, Sanfebagar, Bannigadhi-Jayagadh, Amargadhi, Nawadurga, Jay Prithvi and Masta) in two Provinces: Provinces 3 and Sudur Paschim. The data portal



Municipal data portal in Kyonjosom

includes e-profile, policies, municipal decisions, programs, budget, point of interest map, data hub, document library, municipal voice, messaging system and other information about the respective local government. These portals enable citizens to engage and improve their communities in correspondence with local government. They provide online and offline access to information based on identified need in the community and provides information, communication and technology (ICT) support to the local government.

SUSASAN is also helping the municipalities increase development, test, implement and roll out new technological tools and platforms. These new tools and platforms include, Infrastructure Management System, Municipal Mobile Apps, IVR based messaging System, Grievance Redress Mechanism, Public Hearing Procedure, Electronic citizen charter.



Learning to use mobile apps



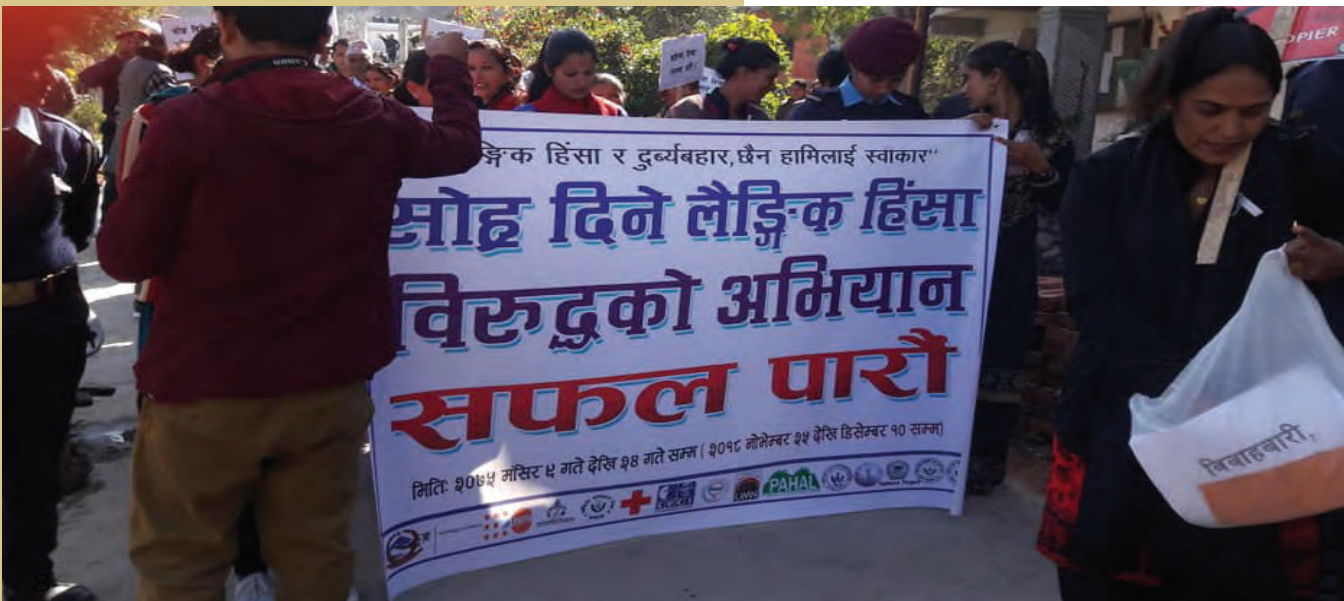
Learning to use mobile apps

16 DAYS CAMPAIGN AGAINST GBV

CECI together with the local implementation partners in Achham, Dadeldhura, Bajhang, Kailali, Sindhupalchowk and Lalitpur districts marked the 16 days Campaign against Gender Based Violence (GBV). Local governments in the SUSASAN project districts organized the awareness raising campaigns and rallies on the 10th of December, 2018, where Social



Mobilizers and representatives of partner organizations participated. Major activities organized were inter-school speech competition and rallies on Human Rights Day, December 10th with the message no more violence against women and no more corruption in public services.



UNITERRA PROGRAM'S SUPPORTS

ALTERNATIVE WATER RESOURCE SUPPORT

Coffee Cooperative Union Lalitpur (CCUL) has been successful to store/manage water for the dry season through the pilot deep irrigation project, which was initiated by a Canadian Volunteer Kamal Mirani in Thuladurlung, Lalitpur. Thuladurlung is a very remote area in the southern part of Lalitpur with high potential for coffee production. However, irrigation is the greatest challenge faced by farmers, especially during the dry season.

Coffee productivity is severely affected by the long-term water shortage, basically during the critical stages of flowering and blooming. Without sufficient water supply, the size of a bean wasn't up to the standard, which makes it difficult for CCUL to manage the consistency of products. The volunteer taught CCUL about deep irrigation system, fog water collection, and other storage options and demonstrated ways they could construct water storage systems. During the Deep Irrigation Project, the Volunteer demonstrated and trained around 29 local coffee farmers.

GROWING SUPPORT TO DIARY INDUSTRY

Central Dairy Cooperative Association Nepal (CDCAN) with the support from CECI/Uniterra conducted a one day workshop on Livestock Insurance in Hetauda. Overall, there were 42 participants from the Makwanpur District Milk Producer's Cooperative Union Limited and district members. Private insurance company representative presented on the importance of livestock and personal insurance for farmers. During this workshop Uniterra volunteer Greta Dearing, who is an Instructional Design Specialist with the Cooperators General Insurance Company in Canada presented about the importance of insurance and the insurance policy and practice in the dairy and cooperative sector.

Along with this workshop, Uniterra has supported CDCAN in conducting a series of 3-day trainings on Good Manufacturing Practice (GMP) of raw milk production, handling and transportation. The trainings were conducted in Kaski, Bara, Dhading, Morang, Kaski, Rupandehi, Bardiya and Kanchanpur. The purpose of the training was to enhance the capacities of cooperative member farmers and the farmers who are involved in raw milk production. The trainings taught the farmers to improve the quality of milk production by maintaining a hygienic practice on cattle and shed sanitation, milking practice, personal hygiene and proper handling of raw milk. In total, 226 cooperative members attended the training.

GENDER ANALYSIS CONSULTATIVE WORKSHOP

Uniterra Nepal conducted 5 consultative meetings on Gender Analysis with beneficiaries, local partners and other strategic stakeholders on the 20th, 21st, 22nd and 26th of November 2018. Overall 53 participants were consulted to generate insightful knowledge about the access to and control over the economic resources, capacity to make decisions, and access to a non-discriminatory environment.



GESI STRATEGY DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOP

CECI Nepal along with Uniterra volunteer, Mig Alphonso, facilitated a 2-day workshop on Organizational and Gender Equality and Social Inclusion (GESI) Strategy Development for the Himalayan Grassroots Women's Natural Resource Management Association (HIMAWANTI). The workshop aimed to identify organizational strength, weakness, opportunities and barriers along with the area of GESI mainstreaming in Natural Resource Management. The ultimate purpose of the workshop was to formulate a five year GESI strategic plan with recommended activities, targets and resources of the organization. The workshop took place in Sundhara from the 21st - 22nd of November. Overall, 20 HIMAWANTI board members and staff benefitted from the workshop.

DISABILITY FRIENDLY VAN: CONTRIBUTION OF AUSTRALIAN VOLUNTEER

The Australian Ambassador to Nepal, His Excellency Peter Budd congratulated the Independent Living Center for Persons with Disabilities (CIL-Kathmandu) for the achievement of modification of a van to make it disability inclusive. Ambassador Budd said, “We are happy that this was a part of the Australian Volunteer assignment with CIL-Kathmandu and carried out by our volunteer taking the lead for the project through the Community Grant Scheme, administered by the Australian Volunteer International (AVI), previously given name to the program, and the Australian Volunteer Program (AVP) in partnership with the Planet Wheeler Foundation. This modified van will benefit CIL-Kathmandu’s members in the

supply of safe and dignified transport to attend training and workshops and will provide opportunities to reduce isolation.”

Australian Volunteer Madeleine Broadbridge is a Communications and Partnerships Officer with CIL-Kathmandu, and has been working closely with her counterpart, Jamuna Subedi an Australia Awards alumnae, to establish partnerships that will generate better training and awareness about reducing disaster risks. Madeleine helped launch the Accessible Van Inauguration Program.

With her support, the organisation has successfully modified a Toyota Hiace van to become the first fully accessible disability inclusive vehicle in Nepal.



NEW FACES OF CANADIAN VOLUNTEERS

Between September and December 2018, CECI/Uniterra program welcomed 13 new volunteers in Nepal. These volunteers are working/worked with different partner organizations as part of Uniterra, Canadian Volunteer Cooperation program.



Greta Dearing

Greta Dearing is an Instructional Design Specialist with the Cooperators General Insurance Company in Guelph Ontario Canada. She

is a Chartered Insurance Professional with more than 20 years of experience in the insurance and education industries. Greta enjoys exploring in the great outdoors and travelling to new and beautiful places. Greta came to Nepal as a Leave for Change volunteer and worked with Central Dairy Cooperative Association Nepal (CDCAN) as a Livestock Insurance Advisor.

Mig Alphonso

Mig Alphonso, originally from Guyana, lives in Canada and works at Simon Fraser University in British Columbia. She is currently in Nepal for a one-

year mandate and supporting multiple Uniterra partners as a Gender Equality and Social Inclusion (GESI) Advisor. Mig's role includes collaborating and supporting the facilitation of gender and social inclusion capacity development activities. She is also supporting with reviewing and updating their policies and strategies for women's economic empowerment and implementation of a responsive monitoring and evaluation framework.



Rusha Jeyathavapiriya

Rusha Jeyathavapiriya, has a University degree in International Development and is currently volunteering in Nepal as a communication and documentation intern at the Federation of Women Entrepreneurs' Association of Nepal. At FWEAN she manages their social

media websites, provide communication and media training and develops communication materials. She looks forward to the months ahead and is excited to gain valuable experiences.



Siobhan Pickering

Siobhan Pickering is from the University of Waterloo, working with CECI as a documentation intern as my work experience for school. She will be spending the next 8 months in Kathmandu Nepal working for HICAST. She is helping HICAST to publish their yearly journal. She is very excited for this



opportunity as she has worked on farms back home, and now she is getting to see the more technical side of the operations as done in Nepal.

Lauren Preiditsch

Lauren Preiditsch is a student from University of Waterloo, studying international development. She is in Kathmandu Nepal for an 8-month internship with the National Federation of Youth NGOs (NFYN). She is working as Fundraising and Program Development Intern, to help build NFYN's capacity in grant writing and program development.



and a researcher in educational sciences. She specializes in the study of quality assurance systems and public education policies. In Nepal, she is a teaching and learning advisor for the Council for Technical Education and Vocational Training (CTEVT) affiliated technical schools in Pokhara, Lahan and Uttarpani.



works to strengthen small-scale farming in rural communities came to Nepal as a Leave for Change (L4C) volunteer. She is working with WECCSL as a financial literacy advisor. Through her time she was able to make a positive impact on WECCSL and the community where she worked.



Hifsa Waseem

Hifsa Waseem is a 4th year International Development student at the University of Waterloo in Canada.

As part of her bachelor's degree, she is completing an 8-month placement in Nepal as a Marketing Promotion Intern with Organic World and Fair future (OWF). alleviation.



Dina Duquette

Dina Duquette from Kamloops B.C. Canada, worked with SKBBL as Business (Plan)Development

Advisor. She lives in Canada with her husband and have 2 grown daughters. She work at Thompson Rivers University and my hobbies are playing tennis and biking.

Lucas Mesquita

After graduating from Concordia University, Lucas Mesquita came to Nepal in a volunteering assignment and is now working with the Bagmati Municipality and Solve Nepal in the southern part of Lalitpur Districts. He is working there as a governance advisor.



Bintou Houessou

Bintou, who is currently working for non-profit Canadian organization that



NEW FACES OF AUSTRALIAN VOLUNTEERS

Between September and December 2018, CECI managed a total of eight Australian volunteers in Nepal whereas there are three newcomers.



Ms. Nari Blackett is working as a Sustainable Tourism Officer in Kritipur Municipality. Her major responsibilities include: develop Strategic Plan for

promotion and development of tourism, develop sector wise plan of tourism eg. Eco tourism, cultural tourism, design system to maintain tourism related data and documents, support municipality team in the implementation of action plan and develop and/or maintain partnerships with local, regional and international organisations, local and national government, professional and peer networks.

Mr. Stephen Clark is working in Budhanilkantha Municipality in the capacity of Tourism Plan Development

Officer. He is mainly supporting the Municipality to carry out a feasibility study of tourism development potentials within the municipality; to organize consultations with government and private sector stakeholders ; develop a tourism development plan based on the results of feasibility study and stakeholder consultation , design implementation plan, resource management plan and marketing strategy, implement the plan in a phase wise manner. He is also working vigorously to develop and/or maintain partnerships with local, regional and international organisations, local and national government, professional and



peer networks.

Mr. Hugh Pennicook came Nepal to work as a

Program Development Officer for Judicial Research and Training. His major assignments mainly include: develop proposals for judicial research and training programs; providing training/coaching in the program/proposal development, support in the publication and editing of research reports and journals, support implementation of research and training programs, develop and/or maintain partnerships with local, regional and international organisations, local and national government, professional and peer networks.



SUPPORTS IN NEED: VOICES FROM THE COMMUNITY

CECI Nepal in a financial supports from Global Affairs Canada (GAC) has been implementing a 3-year economic recovery project: Livelihood Promotion for Earthquake Affected Population in Nepal (PUNARNIRMAN) since January 2017. This project aims at improving the quality of life of the most vulnerable earthquake affected communities in Nepal, particularly in Sindhupalchowk, Kavrepalanchowk and Lalitpur. It has three major components: building capacity and promoting environmentally friendly and gender-sensitive agricultural and dairy production skills; facilitating the development of micro, small and medium-sized enterprises (MSMES); and increasing the employability of working-age adults, especially women and youth through market oriented skills training programs. Many activities have been done successfully benefiting the community and individual.



Santa Tamang of Kavrepalanchowk states, "because of poly house and drip water irrigation system support from the PUNARNIRMAN project, I can now grow seasonal vegetables in every season and double my income. I could earn three times more from tomato this year than previous years."



Karina Shrestha from Kavrepalanchowk noted, "with the support of PUNARNIRMAN project, I received Dhaka weaving training and also bought a Dhaka Weaving Machine. It changed my life style from housewife to entrepreneur."

Shreejana Lama of Chyaring-besi, Kavrepalanchowk testified "I could double my income after receiving electric sewing machine from the PUNARNIRMAN Project. Before, I could hardly make two pairs of Kurtha Salwar (ladies suits) and earn approximately Rs. 300-400 a day, but now I can make 5 pairs of Kurtha Salwar and earn about Rs. 800-1000 a day. I also don't need as much labour and time as I did with a manual sewing machine. I now can use the extra time saved to give training to young girls in my community."





Raj Kumar Waiba, who is running a milk-chilling centre in Chasing Kharka, received financial support from the project to buy an electric khowa (milk cake) making machine. He stated “this machine has not only benefitted him, but has also benefitted the entire community. It has saved milk from curdling and subsequently losing income of farmers due to high temperatures and transportation issues sometimes due to road blockades as a result of landslides during the summer season. Now if the farmer can’t sell milk to the dairy centre, they can bring milk and make khowa using the electric khowa machine and then later sell it in the market.



“Electric khowa making machine saved my time and doubled my income. I buy milk from the local farmers and make khowa and then send it to sell in Dhulikhel,” said Uddav Dahal.



Narayan Adhikari said from financial support of the PUNARNIRMAN project we constructed a buffalo sheds, which has reduced the time for cleaning original feeding area. Buffalo also could eat hygienic food that contributed to the increase of milk production.

To become suddenly a single woman wasn’t my choice, it was my destiny, but it made my life hard. I became alone and helpless to raise my children. The project taught me poly house vegetable farming and supported to build a poly house. Now I can earn my living through seasonal vegetable farming.



Netra Laxmi Sanjel says “training in vegetable production, changed the traditional way of farming into using new technologies, which has increased in the production.”



NEWS IN BRIEF

UNITERRA TOWARDS ACHIEVING SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



On November 23rd, the National Federation of Youth NGOs Nepal (NFYN)

held the Provincial Conference on Youth and the Sustainable Development Goals in Province 2. The conference focused on education and child's rights governance and youth entrepreneurship for sustainable growth. The Sustainable Development Goals discussed were Quality Education, Peace and Justice, No Poverty and Good Jobs and Economic Growth. After the conference, a declaration bill was issued and an SDG Youth Network was formed for Province 2. Overall, 141 individuals participated, of which 19 there were women and 3 were members of the LGBTQ community.

REVIEW MEETING

SUSASAN second year 3rd quarter review was organised today in CECI Nepal, Kathmandu office. The partners of province 3 representing Sindhupalchowk district from TUKI, Lalitpur district from SOLVE, our national partners Freedom Forum and Young Innovations presented their quarterly project reviews and their learnings, challenges were discussed in group



SUSASAN IN MEDIA





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