



## Mainstreaming Gender Dimensions into Water Resources Development and Management in the Mediterranean Region

### Newsletter

In this issue:

Issue No 3

December 2006

#### Important Events:

- 3<sup>rd</sup> Arab Water Regional Conference, Special Session: "Mainstreaming Gender in IWRM: Monitoring and Evaluation"  
December, Cairo-Egypt

- Training Programme on Gender Role in Extension and Water Awareness  
September, Amman-Jordan

- Advisory and Consultation Gender Committee  
September, Bari-Italy

- Gender Training Seminar in collaboration with AQUASTRESS Project  
November, Silesia-Poland

- 6<sup>th</sup> Convention of the Women of the Earth  
November, Rome-Italy

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### 3<sup>rd</sup> Arab Water Regional Conference: "Research Advancement in Managing Limited Water Resources"

#### Special Session on Gender

The Special Session on Gender was organized in the framework of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Arab Water Conference which took place in Cairo from 9<sup>th</sup> to 11<sup>th</sup> December, 2006 under the coordination of one of the Egyptian GEWAMED partners: the National Water Research Center.

The Conference in itself was a big success attended by 371 participants and 10 international organizations. Some 85 papers and 21 posters were presented and more than 20 stands of institutions and commercial firms were set up. Four Special sessions were organized and among them the one on gender was surely the one with the largest attendance.

The Session, scheduled on December 11 in the morning, was attended by around 100 persons including the following project partners:

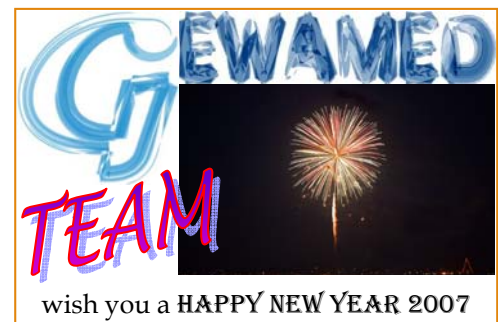
- Mr. J. A. Sagardoy, Mr. A. Hamdy and Mrs. Rosanna Quagliariello (MAI-Bari, Italy);
- Mrs. Nahla Abou El-Fotouh (National Water Research Center, Egypt);
- Mrs. Mawaheb Abou Elazm (Egyptian Environmental Affairs Agency);
- Mr. Denis Desille (Water Solidarity Programme, France);
- Mrs. Nayla Aoun (René Moawad Foundation, Lebanon);
- Mrs. Michael Lizette (African Training and Research Centre in Administration for Development, Morocco);
- Mr. Ali Kaissi, Mr. Riad Al Chayeb and Mrs. Samira Al Zoghby (GCSAR, Ministry of Agriculture and Agrarian Reform, Syria).

The Session was planned and prepared in collaboration with GWA (Gender and Water Alliance) and two representatives of this International Organization presented relevant contributions:

- Mrs. Joke Muylwijk (Executive Director GWA);
- Mrs. Soumaya Ibrahim (Researcher, GWA).

The main purpose of the Session was to give a place to gender issues in water management in such an important event for the experts coming from the Arab Countries. In particular the Session aimed to:

- increase the understanding of gender in water management in the Mediterranean Region;
- illustrate the practice of gender mainstreaming in IWRM in the region;
- develop regionally appropriate indicators for monitoring and evaluation of gender in water management;
- involve interested water professionals, decision-makers as well as gender experts in the debate.



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The programme included the following six presentations:

1. Gender mainstreaming in IWRM: WHY? Gender, efficiency and sustainability, by Mrs. Joke Muylwijk, Executive Director GWA
2. Gender mainstreaming in water management. A challenge to sustainable development, by Prof. Dr. Atef Hamdy, CIHEAM/MAI-B
3. Gender Mainstreaming in agriculture, HOW?: Some research experiences from Egypt, by Mrs. Soumaya Ibrahim, Researcher
4. Gender Indicators for Monitoring Progress in Water Management, by Mr. Juan Sagardoy, Project Manager, GEWAMED
5. Water Resources in Syria Management, Development and Women's Role, by Dr. Ali Kaisi, Deputy Director, General Commission for Scientific Agricultural Research (GCSAR) and Samira Al Zoghby, Syria
6. Gender Integration in the Water Supply Projects. pS-Eau/ AFD Experience and Monitoring, by Denis Dessille, pS-Eau, France

Each presentation was followed by an ample and interesting discussion that could not extended due to time limitations. All the presentations and detailed papers have been sent to the GEWAMED partners but they are available on request for any interested reader of this Newsletter.

The Special Session has given of great visibility to the GEWAMED project and spread some important gender messages. The opportunity is taken here to thank to all those that have contributed to its success.

## Training Programme on Gender Role in Extension and Water Awareness

Under the kind auspices of H.E. Dr. Akif Al Zoebi, Minister of Agriculture in the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, AOAD held in cooperation with the Jordanian Ministry of Agriculture, the Training Program on Gender Role in Extension and Water Awareness in Amman - Jordan during the period 17 - 21 September 2006. Eng. Sawsan Naber and Eng. Hala Rawabdeh from GEWAMED Project at the University of Jordan participated in the abovementioned event.

The programme was inaugurated by H.E. Dr. Salem Al Lozi, AOAD Director General in the presence of H.E. Dr. Radi Al Tarawna, Under secretary of the Jordanian Ministry of Agriculture. The objectives of the workshop were:

- to support the women role in water conservation extension and awareness.
- to exchange experience among different Arabs state on the role of women in rural development.
- to prepare women leaders able to organize and conduct public awareness programs in water conservation and saving.

The workshop included different lectures on the above themes, presentations of case studies and success stories on the role of women in water management and conservation in Arab states as well as a documentary film about the water status in the Arab countries.



## First Session of the Consultation and Advisory Gender Committee

On the 27 of September 2006, the First Session of the Consultative and Advisory Gender Committee of GEWAMED was held at the Mediterranean Agronomic Institute of Bari, Italy. It was attended by 3 external advisers:

- Joke Muylwijk, Executive Director of GWA (Gender and Water Alliance),
- Rasha Omar, Country Programme Manager and Gender Coordinator of the Near East and Africa Regions of IFAD (International Fund for Agricultural Development), and
- Ilaria Sisto, Training Officer, Gender and Development Service of FAO (Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations).

and the following internal advisers:

- Atef Hamdy, Emeritus Professor (MAI-B), and
  - Claudio Bogliotti, International Consultant (MAI-B).
- as well as the following staff of GEWAMED:
- Nicola Lamaddalena, Project Coordinator,
  - Juan Antonio Sagardoy, Project Manager,
  - Rosanna Quagliariello, Technical Officer, and
  - Raouf Guelloubi, Technical Support Officer.



The meeting lasted one day and included the presentation and the discussion of the progress report and the planned activities for the work packages 1, 2, 3, 5, and 7, and was chaired by Ilaria Sisto (FAO). The one-day meeting of the CAGC was productive and showed the engagement of all the involved participants.

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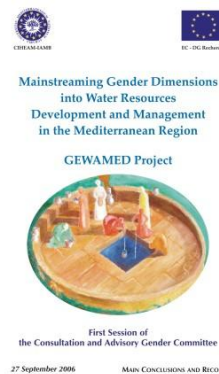
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In general, the Consultation and Advisory Gender Committee (CAGC) recognized that the GEWAMED Project has made good progress since its launching on the 15<sup>th</sup> February 2006 with positive preliminary achievements in four Work packages (namely 1, 2, 3 and 5). The progress made during the first 6 months of the project is impressive. Most projects need a long time to start up, but GEWAMED started immediately (i.e. the Kick-off meeting took place one week after the official starting date of the project) and made a substantial progress.

Recommendations were formulated for every work package, and for every activity and all of them were grouped in a report: "First Session of the Consultation and Advisory Gender Committee: Main Conclusions and Recommendations", which was sent to all the partners; electronic copies are available on request to the following contact: email: [gewamed@iamb.it](mailto:gewamed@iamb.it)



## Gender Training Seminar in Collaboration with the AQUASTRESS Project

The AQUASTRESS (Mitigation of Water Stress through New Approaches to Integrating Management, Technical, Economic and Institutional Instruments) Project requested the collaboration of the GEWAMED project and the Gender and Water Alliance Association to undertake a Round Table and Gender Training Seminar in Poland. This activity is one of the Deliverable of the AQUASTRESS Project and is framed within the polish Case Study in Przemsza, in Katowice, the capital of SILESIA, the Polish region with heavy industry.



Following initial agreements, Hydrodata, in collaboration with the Technical University of Cracow (CUT) and the MAI-B (CIHEAM), undertook the preparation, implementation and follow-up of a specific training seminar on "Setting Up Strategies for the Integration of Gender in Water Management" in Katowice, 7-8 November 2006.

The main objective of the 2-days' round-table and training seminar was to provide professional men and women, water managers, researchers and decision-makers in general with an understanding of gender aspects in water management, with the aim to learn to strategise and promote the integration of gender in water management for more efficiency, effectiveness, equity and sustainability, especially in the Silesia Region and the Przemsza Test Site.

The two days event covered the following topics:

- EU Project AquaStress, and the present practice of gender mainstreaming;
- national initiatives and regional projects on gender in Poland;
- gender policy and regulatory framework in Poland;
- criteria and indicators to assess gender integration;
- overview and state of the art of gender integration in water management in the various water sectors: for food, for people and for the environment;
- current constraints and options in gender and water management;
- analysis and evaluation of past experiences and good practice;
- social, economic, institutional, environmental concerns linked to gender in water management;

If you wish to receive regularly, free of charge, the GEWAMED Newsletter or you want to inform us about new relevant events to be inserted in GEWAMED Newsletter, please send a message to: [gewamed@iamb.it](mailto:gewamed@iamb.it)



- the GEWAMED project: an EU Euro-Mediterranean initiative to strengthen gender networks at national and regional scale;
- Gender and Water Alliance (GWA): a global network for mainstreaming gender in IWRM.

The main trainers and facilitators were:

- Ms. Elzbieta Druzynska,
- Ms. Cecilia Mosca,
- Mr. Juan Antonio Sagardoy,
- Ms. Anna Adamus-Matuszynska,
- Ms. Joke Muylwijk,
- Ms. Dorota Stasikowska-Wozniak,
- Ms. Kasia Ponikowska,
- Ms. Malgorzata Tkacz-Janik.

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The Seminar was attended by 22 participants many of which occupied important positions at the regional and central level of water management organizations and other institutions. Simultaneous translation from Polish to English and vice versa was available and of excellent quality. Part of the last day was dedicated to promote a greater interaction through working groups that were given selected topics to develop. The seminar was evaluated by the participants and it was very highly ranked.

The Seminar could be a positive experience for the GEWAMED project as in the coming years similar events will have to be organized in the SEMR countries and the experience gained will be of practical use and guidance.

For more information about the Seminar programme or the material presented please contact [gewamed@iamb.it](mailto:gewamed@iamb.it)

## 6<sup>th</sup> Convention of the Women of the Earth

To commemorate the World Rural Women Day of 2006, which is on the 15 of October, ONILFA (GEWAMED partner) organized on 14 November 2006 an International Convention in Rome. Mrs. Veronica Navarra, President of ONILFA, belonging to the Ministry of Agrofood and Forestry Policies of Italy, was the main organizer of the event in collaboration with ISMEA (Institute of Services for the Agro-food Market). The leading theme of the Convention was: "Rural Women, leaders of tomorrow". The meeting was chaired by the Minister of Agriculture. Dr. Paolo di Castro, the Director of the Department of Development Policies, Dr. Giuseppe Ambrosio and Dr. Veronica Navarra.



The Convention was attended by more than 200 persons and keynote papers were presented by a several speakers of national and international reputation that included: Dr. Mohamed Mohatane, Secretary of State for Rural Development at the Ministry of Agriculture, Rural Development, Maritime Fisheries of Morocco, Dr. Wafa Al Dika, Adviser of the Minister of Agriculture of Lebanon and Rosanna Quagliariello, Responsible for the Foreign Relations at the Mediterranean Agronomic Institute of Bari (CIHEAM) as well as several leaders of agriculture associations and cooperatives. The papers presented underlined the numerous constraints that affect women in the rural sector but also evidenced that considerable progress is being made, however there are still many needs that require urgent action.

At the end of the meeting, awards were presented to the best and more innovative five projects undertaken by women in the agro-food sector during the 2006.

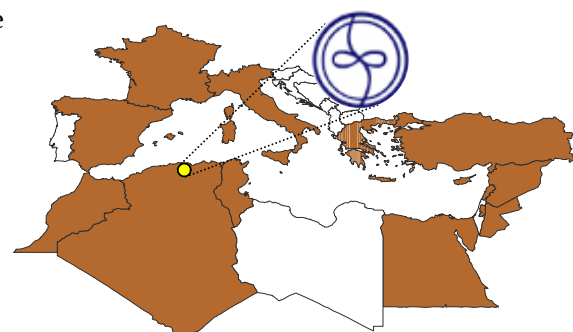
The whole event was well covered by the media. More information about this event can be found at the ONILFA website: [www.onilfa.gov.it](http://www.onilfa.gov.it)



## CREAD: Centre de Recherche en Économie Appliquée pour le Développement Gender and Water Network

Through its Gender and Water Committee, the CREAD aims to:

- build a national database about the issues of gender and water,
- promote a dialogue and a coordination between different institutions interested in the subjects of gender and water,
- increase public and authorities' awareness about the importance of the integration of the gender aspects in order to achieve sustainable development and management of this natural resource.



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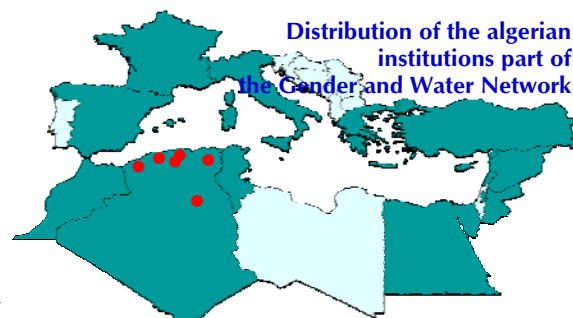
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The CREAD deployed and continues to make efforts to make such initiative concrete by contacting people working in governmental institutions, extension services, associations of rural women, NGOs, etc. Actually, the Network includes the following members

- Five Rivers Basin Authorities,
- The National Agency for Water Resources,
- The National Agency for Dams,
- Water Supply Office (Algérienne Des Eaux),
- Two Rural Women Associations,
- Ministry of Agriculture
- One NGO (Touiza),
- One Research Institution (CREAD).

and it is believed that the network will expand in the future. Nevertheless, 23% of the people asked for collaborating in the framework of this national network refused any cooperation, in spite of the efforts made through highlighting the importance in gathering data related to the gender aspects and creating a network for the dissemination of the created knowledge. Such situation can be explained by the fact that actions of networking constitutes a new culture for the researchers independently of their field of work. CREAD gender and water team will undertake the first meeting of the workshop on 9 January 2007; during this meeting the activities to be discussed are the preparation of a national action plan for the collect, dissemination and use of data.



## ARI and the Water Cooperation Session in Mediterranean River Basins 4<sup>th</sup> MENBO General Assembly

The Mediterranean Network of Basin Organisations (MENBO) organised jointly with the European Water Initiative Mediterranean (EUWI-Med), the Global Water Partnership Mediterranean (GWP-Med) and the Greek Ministry of Environment Cooperation Session on the 5<sup>th</sup> of November in the Greek capital.

This Cooperation Session was honoured with the presence of over 30 High Representatives from 8 different countries (Bosnia & Herzegovina, Cyprus, France, Greece, Lebanon, Morocco, Palestine and Spain) as well as representatives from the Mediterranean Institute for Water (IME), the Euro-Mediterranean Water Information System (EMWIS) and the Ministry for Land Management, Environment and Water from Morocco (MATEE), which holds the presidency of MENBO. A total number of 116 participant attended this important event.

During the Session, several projects, organisations and initiatives on IWRM in the region were presented, among them the project GEWAMED, by D. Chimonidou (ARI, Cyprus).

The Cooperation Session offered a magnificent opportunity to approach subjects of common interest. The Cooperation between the diverse water actors in the Mediterranean means to share problems as well as solutions and in this sense, it was proved that thanks to the Cooperation and the exchange of experiences, knowledge and information, improvement can be obtained in the Integrated Water Resources Management in each region.

The numerous projects and initiatives presented will help to create tighter links between river basin organisations and institutions in charge of water management in the Mediterranean.

Further information are available on the website: [www.remoc.org](http://www.remoc.org)



## MIO-ECSDE Activities and GEWAMED Project

- Information about the project and its activities was distributed to the participants (450 approximately) of the Euro-Mediterranean Civil Forum that took place in Marrakech, Morocco from 5-7 November 2006.
- A presentation of the project GEWAMED was made during the MIO-ECSDE General Assembly (19 November, Cairo) in which participated 40 representatives of Mediterranean NGOs (EU and non-EU), members of MIO-ECSDE. A copy of the GEWAMED brochure was also distributed in this occasion.



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- A copy of the GEWAMED brochure was also included in the folder of Parliamentarians participating in the 5<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Circle of Mediterranean Parliamentarians for Sustainable Development (COMPSUD 5). The meeting was organised by MIO-ECSDE and the Global Water Partnership-Mediterranean (GWP-Med), which jointly facilitate the Secretariat of COMPSUD, with the support of UNEP/MAP, the Finnish Presidency of the EU and the European Commission. Logistical support has been also provided by the Cairo based Arab Network for Environment and Development (RAED) and the Arab Office for Youth and Environment (AOYE). The event has taken place on the 19<sup>th</sup> of November 2006, in the premises of the League of Arab States, and was under the auspices of H.E the Secretary General of the League, Mr. Amr Moussa and of H.E the Minister of State for Environmental Affairs, Eng. Maged George.
- Copies of the GEWAMED brochure have also been available to participants of the Regional Water Workshop organised in Cairo on 20-23 November 2006, hosted by the Egypt Delegation and supported by Aidco. The training was addressed to representatives of EC delegations based in Africa (included the Mediterranean countries) and in the Middle East.

### Future Events

The next GEWAMED regional workshop will be held in Cyprus, from 12 to 14 March 2007. The title of the workshop is: **Mainstreaming Gender Dimensions in Water Management for Food Security and Food Safety**. The workshop is not limited to the project partners, but is open to all potential participants. The title is ample enough to provide a large umbrella for any contribution. However, the papers should be articulated as follows:

- Give a brief overview of the food security problems and related policies of your country but do not dedicate much space to it (1-2 pages). The issue that we try to analyse is the women and men role in water management to ensure food security and not the food security policies.
- Do not limit the paper to the role of women in food production but try to cover other aspects that go beyond the production. Food security includes food production and covers the distribution and access to food. So try to analyse the role of women in the distribution and processing of food.
- Regarding Food Safety women have a central role in the diet of the children and of the whole family. Are they prepared for this role? To what extent the provision of safe water covers the country and the rural households?
- Try to identify the constraints of rural women to participate more actively to food security but also identify positive aspects and achievements. It will be also important if you could identify the needs of rural women to support new ideas and enterprises (subsidies, technical guidance, regulations, etc.). Maybe there are some interesting examples in your country.

Papers should be submitted before the 15 February to the following contacts:

- Juan Antornio Sagardoy, GEWAMED Project Manager, [sagardoy@iamb.it](mailto:sagardoy@iamb.it)
- Raouf Guelloubi, GEWAMED Project Technical Support Officer, [guelloubi@iamb.it](mailto:guelloubi@iamb.it)



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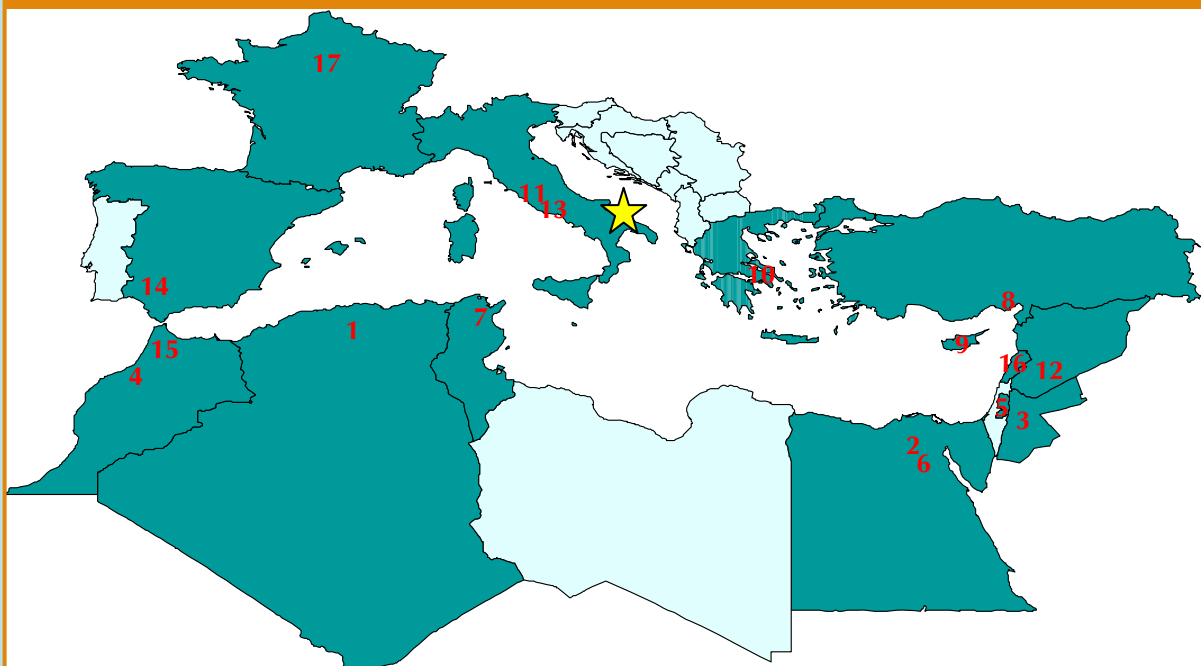
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### Coordinator:

Centre International de Hautes Etudes Agronomiques Méditerranéennes (CIHEAM) - Istituto Agronomico Mediterraneo, Bari (IAMB), ITALY

### Partners:

- 1 Centre de Recherche en Économie Appliquée pour le Développement (CREAD), ALGERIA
- 2 Strategic Research Unit-National Water Research Center, (SRU-NWRC), EGYPT
- 3 Faculty of Agriculture, University of Jordan (UJ-FA), JORDAN
- 4 Association Marocaine de Solidarité et de Développement (AMSED), MOROCCO
- 5 Palestinian Agricultural Relief Committee (PARC), PALESTINE
- 6 Egyptian Environmental Affairs Agency (EEAA), EGYPT
- 7 The Center of Arab Women for Training and Research (CAWTAR), TUNISIA
- 8 Çukurova University, Faculty of Agriculture (CUKUR), TURKEY
- 9 Agriculture Research Institute (ARI), CYPRUS
- 10 Mediterranean Office for Environment, Cultural and Sustainable Development (MIO-ECSDE), GREECE
- 11 Osservatorio Nazionale per l'Imprenditoria ed il Lavoro Femminile in Agricoltura (ONILFA), ITALY
- 12 General Commission for Scientific Agricultural Research-Ministry of Agriculture and Agrarian Reform (GCSAR), SYRIA
- 13 International Commission on Irrigation and Drainage-Italian Committee (ITAL-ICID), ITALY
- 14 Instituto Andaluz de la Mujer - Junta de Andalucía (IAM-JA), SPAIN
- 15 African Training and Research Centre in Administration for Development (CAFRAD), MOROCCO
- 16 René Moawad Foundation (RMF), LEBANON
- 17 Programme Solidarité Eau (pS-Eau), FRANCE

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