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SUDAN

SAFE ENVIRONMENT

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Cover photo: A young girl smiles sitting on a tree in the courtyard of her house in Tellou Aljouba village, six kilometers east of the town of Kadugli, South Kordofan. UNICEF brought water and sanitation to her village in 2018.

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ACRONYMS

AfDP	African Development Bank
AUHIP	African Union High-Level Implementation Panel
AWD	Acute Watery Diarrhea
C4D	Communication for Development
CLTS	Community-Led Total Sanitation
CMOM	Community Management for Operation and Maintenance
DDK	Diarrhoeal Disease Kits
FMoH	Federal Ministry of Health
IDPs	Internally Displaced Persons
IMS	Information Management System
IOM	International Organization for Migration
IWRM	Integrated Water Resource Management
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
MHM	Menstrual Hygiene Management
MICS	Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey
MoH	Ministry of Health
MoWRE	Ministry of Water Resources, Irrigation and Electricity
ODF	Open Defection Free
OR	Other Resources
RR	Regular Resources
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
3SM	Standard Spatial Survey
SWA	Sanitation and Water for All
SWC	State Water Corporation
SWGU	Sudan Women General Union
UN	United Nations
UNDAF	United Nations Development Assistance Framework
UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
UNHCR	United Nations Refugee Agency
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
UNOPS	United Nations Office for Project Services
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
WASH	Water, Sanitation and Hygiene
WES	Water and Environmental Sanitation
WHO	World Health Organization

I. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The current context in Sudan is one of ongoing protracted and multi-faceted needs, with more than two million internally displaced people and displacement-affected communities, a total of 1.2 million refugees and vulnerable communities including significant numbers of children requiring assistance, combined with underdevelopment and a need to address the root causes of vulnerability, including conflict and climate change. In this context, multiple activities need to run concurrently across the humanitarian-development-peace equation, sometimes in the same geographical areas, to adequately address needs in ways that can achieve a sustainable impact. This includes response to emergencies and lifesaving needs; investment in preparedness and resilience; seeking durable solutions for displaced people; supporting conflict prevention, social cohesion and peacebuilding; planning for longer term development; and building and working with national capacities.

In 2018, Sudan also faced an intense economic crisis, characterised by extreme inflation and shortages of basic commodities after administrative austerity measures were adopted in January 2018. Rather than alleviate the crisis, these measures had a paralysing effect on the economy throughout the year, causing a severe shortage of fuel and other commodities such as bread and increasing social tensions. Restrictions on bank withdrawals also caused a liquidity shortage, causing a slowdown in humanitarian and development operations by the government, international and national Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs), and development partners.

Last year was also a remarkable year for the Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) sector, especially in terms of securing high-level political commitment for WASH. Improving sanitation services - with a focus on eliminating open defecation in the country - was high on the agenda. The national roadmap to make Sudan Open Defecation Free (ODF) by 2022, which was launched in the presence of nine ministers and nearly 300 participants - was a resounding success, as evidenced by numerous citations in Sudanese media.

Sustainable Development Goal six - ensure availability of sustainable management of water and sanitation for all - plans and budgets were developed for all Sudan's 18 states to ensure universal access to basic water and basic sanitation for all by 2030. UNICEF facilitated wider consultations with sector stakeholders at national and state levels to formulate the above plan. An initial estimate called for an investment of about USD 20 billion to achieve basic water and basic sanitation for all Sudanese, including WASH-facilities in all schools and health centers by 2030.

The main challenges faced by the WASH-sector were related to the worsening economic situation and included: inflation (which led to increasing costs for construction and transportation), fuel and cash scarcity and customs levies. This led to cost increases for private water delivery, rehabilitation and construction of facilities, operation and maintenance, chemicals fuel procurement and transportation of supplies (e.g. chlorine from the capital to the various states). Soaring prices and shortages put significant pressure on vulnerable communities and stretched the WASH-programme's resources to respond to their needs.

Despite the economic challenges, progress was achieved by creatively deploying the available resources. Through UNICEF Sudan's Water, Sanitation and Hygiene programme, an additional 1.1 and 1.8 per cent of Sudanese children and family members have access to basic sanitation and basic water respectively.

UNICEF's technical and financial support significantly contributed towards increasing children's access to WASH-services, specifically towards achieving the following outputs and results:

- OUTCOME 2** By 2021, more children and their families are living in an Open Defecation Free environment, using improved drinking-water sources and adopting improved hygiene practices.
- OUTPUT 2.1** More children and their families in targeted vulnerable communities access basic sanitation facilities and adopt adequate hygiene practices.
- OUTPUT 2.3** WASH-sector institutional capacity and systems are strengthened for scaled-up equitable and sustainable access to basic improved WASH-services.

The key results achieved are (amongst others):

- In 2018, an additional 1.1 and 1.8 per cent of Sudanese gained access to [basic sanitation and basic water services](#) respectively. The beneficiaries reached include 90,000 school children and patients/caregivers at 58 health and nutrition centres. UNICEF influenced wider sector thinking and advanced the humanitarian-development-peace nexus through the launch of the Sudan Open Defecation Free (ODF) roadmap, Sustainable Development Goals six plans and the WASH Information Management System (IMS).
- With UNICEF support, an additional 173,572 people now live in 226 [Open Defecation Free \(ODF\) certified communities](#). In 2018, UNICEF's contributions to ODF-certified communities represented 84 per cent of the WASH-sector (humanitarian) results and 73 per cent of the basic sanitation results for the WASH-sector (humanitarian).
- In 2018, 737,000 people (379,000 women and 358,000 men), including 368,000 children, gained access to [improved water sources](#). In consultation and coordination with the education sector, WASH-interventions benefited over 90,000 school children (46,760 girls and 43,900 boys). Patients and caregivers had improved access to water and sanitation facilities at health and nutrition centres (through the construction of water facilities in 58 health and nutrition centres and sanitation facilities in 26 centres). UNICEF's contribution represented 46 per cent of WASH-sector achievements for water (humanitarian). UNICEF continued to ensure access to improved water sources to 711,806 people (355,529 men, 356,277 women) by supporting the operation, maintenance, and disinfection of water sources, including disinfection at household-level.

UNICEF will increasingly engage in the upstream policy dialogue and support implementation of national and states road maps for making Sudan Open Defecation Free by 2022. To help Sudan realise the SDG 6.1 and 6.2 targets, UNICEF will continue to strengthen systems and capacities at national and sub-national level while empowering local communities. Key priorities going forward will be:

- Scaling-up sanitation services, with a focus on eliminating open defecation.
- Sustaining and increasing access to basic water supply with a focus on the most vulnerable people, guided by Integrated Water Resources Management principles.
- Expand the 'whole community' approach to extend WASH services in schools and health centres. To maximise impact, UNICEF seeks to integrate WASH-interventions with health, nutrition and education interventions, according to the 'whole child' approach.
- Contribute to the implementation of the SDG-6 Plans in the priority states and localities
- Completion of the national school assessment and the roll-out of the WASH Information Management System.



II. STRATEGIC CONTEXT

On the political level, the situation in Sudan is characterised by the existence of unresolved internal conflicts and unfulfilled political reform. While the security situation relatively improved, it remained volatile. The comprehensive implementation of the African Union High-level Implementation Panel (AUHIP) roadmap to end the armed conflicts in Darfur, Blue Nile, and South Kordofan, and on the National Dialogue remains the basis for efforts to attain sustainable peace required to end long-standing armed conflicts in the country.

The economic situation reached a point of ‘instability and dysfunction’ (according to the World Bank).¹ In September, the Sudanese Government adopted a series of austerity measures, including a major cabinet reshuffle, additional exchange rate devaluation and further restrictions on bank withdrawals. However, these measures were unable to stabilise the situation, and long queues continued at cash machines, fuel stations, and bakeries across Sudan. In December, following public demonstrations and protests, a state of emergency and school closures were imposed in several cities and towns, causing major disruption in children’s access to basic services, especially in education and health care. Economic insecurity was also an important driver in government restructuring and reorganisation of presidential, executive, and national state governance bodies in terms of objectives, ranking, and mandates.

The current context in Sudan is one of ongoing protracted and multi-faceted needs, with significant numbers of internally displaced people and displacement-affected communities, refugees and vulnerable communities including children requiring assistance, combined with underdevelopment and a need to address the root causes of vulnerability, including conflict and climate change. In such a context, multiple activities need to run concurrently across the humanitarian-development-peace equation, sometimes in the same geographical area, to adequately address those needs in a way that achieves a sustainable impact. This includes response to emergencies and lifesaving needs, investment in preparedness and resilience, seeking durable solutions for displaced people, supporting conflict-prevention, social cohesion and peacebuilding, planning for longer-term development, and building and working with national capacities. UNICEF actively participated in the process of operationalizing the humanitarian-development-peace nexus.

Inadequate institutional and human resource capacities to manage, lead, and coordinate the WASH-sector at both national and sub-national levels has resulted in fragmented sector coordination, poor data management across departments, ineffective allocation of resources, and inadequate operation and maintenance regime affecting WASH-services sustainability and scale-up.

The onset of the economic crisis was a major challenge, putting enormous hardship on the already vulnerable families and stretching UNICEF’s WASH-programme’s resources to respond to their needs. This economic challenge demonstrated an increase in the cost of rehabilitation and construction of water and sanitation facilities, operation and maintenance, spare parts, water treatment chemicals and fuel. Besides, 2018 saw a decline in humanitarian funding for WASH compared with previous years

¹ Sudan Country Office Annual Report 2018

(UNICEF only received 18.5% of the funding requested under UNICEF Sudan’s Humanitarian Action for Children (HAC) appeal for WASH).

To respond to this challenge, UNICEF Sudan implemented WASH-programmes in both developmental and humanitarian settings. UNICEF used development funding and creatively adapted Community-Led Total Sanitation (CLTS) to address sanitation challenges for returnees, refugees and Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) in host communities. UNICEF also prioritised development funding for water supply interventions in communities hosting returnees, refugees and IDPs. Through UNICEF’s support towards operation and maintenance costs, over 710,000 vulnerable families retained access to water - representing 51 per cent of the humanitarian WASH-sectoral achievements.

UNICEF influenced wider sector thinking by co-leading the national and subnational WASH-sector coordination forums and advanced the humanitarian-development-peace nexus agenda. This was done through a three-pronged approach to WASH-interventions, comprising – inclusive community engagement and empowerment, systems strengthening and capacity-building, influencing policies, strategies and plans. UNICEF supported Sudan’s Sanitation and Water for All (SWA) commitments, WASH-sector reform, SDG 6-planning, and the national Open Defecation Free (ODF) roadmap, in addition to a comprehensive web-based WASH Information Management System (IMS) to better target inequities. Initial efforts to set up a common WASH-coordination forum bringing together the development and humanitarian actors was ongoing with UNICEF’s active engagement.

UNICEF closely collaborated with other UN-agencies, amongst others through the development of joint proposals. With UNDP, WHO, UNEP and IOM, UNICEF is providing a complete WASH-package in 45 communities and 50 schools as part of the larger UN-supported Darfur Recovery and Development Fund in five Darfur states. UNICEF also coordinates an Urban Water for Darfur project with UNOPS implementing the water, and UNICEF the sanitation component. In addressing climate change in Sudan, UNICEF is collaborating with UNEP, UNHCR, WFP and UNOCHA in the planning and implementation of the ‘Adaptation to climate change in sub-Saharan African humanitarian situations’ project. UNICEF’s WASH-section continues to work closely with WHO on water quality surveillance, Acute Watery Diarrhea (AWD) preparedness and response, and with UNHCR on addressing the WASH-challenges refugees face.

III. RESULTS

OUTCOME 2

By 2021, more children and their families are living in an Open Defecation Free environment, using improved drinking-water sources and adopting improved hygiene practices.

OUTPUT 2.1

More children and their families in targeted vulnerable communities access basic sanitation facilities and adopt adequate hygiene practices.

OUTPUT 2.3

WASH-sector institutional capacity and systems are strengthened for scaled-up, equitable and sustainable access to basic improved WASH-services.



© UNICEF Sudan/Noorani. A man stands in front of his house in a village — benefitting from WASH-services — in South Kordofan.

OUTCOME 2

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In 2018, an additional 1.1 and 1.8 per cent of Sudanese gained access to basic sanitation and basic water services respectively. The beneficiaries reached include 90,000 school children and patients/caregivers in 58 health and nutrition centres. UNICEF influenced wider sector thinking and advanced the humanitarian-development-peace nexus through the launch of the Sudan Open Defecation Free (ODF) roadmap, Sustainable Development Goals six plans and WASH Information Management Systems (IMS).

OUTPUT 2.1

More children and their families in targeted vulnerable communities access basic sanitation facilities and adopt adequate hygiene practices.

With UNICEF support, an additional 173,572 people now live in 226 Open Defecation Free (ODF) certified communities. In 2018, UNICEF's contributions to ODF-certified communities represented 84 per cent of the WASH-sector (humanitarian) results and 73 per cent of the basic sanitation results for the WASH-sector (humanitarian).

In addition, UNICEF creatively adapted the Community-Led Total Sanitation (CLTS) approach to improve sanitation coverage in conflict-affected areas, despite the comparatively low humanitarian funding. Hygiene promotion interventions reached nearly 3.7 million people (1.9 million women and 1.8 million men) across Sudan (319% of the targeted 1.16 million people).

OUTPUT 2.2

More children and their families in targeted vulnerable communities have equitable and sustainable access to improved drinking water facilities.

In 2018, 737,000 people (379,000 women and 358,000 men), including 368,000 children, gained access to improved water sources. In consultation and coordination with the education sector, WASH-interventions benefited over 90,000 school children (46,760 girls and 43,900 boys). Patients and caregivers had improved access to water and sanitation facilities in health and nutrition centres (through the construction of water facilities in 58 health and nutrition centres and sanitation facilities in 26 centres). UNICEF's contribution represented 46 per cent of WASH-sector achievements for water (humanitarian). UNICEF continued to ensure access to improved water sources to 711,806 people (355,529 men, 356,277 women) by supporting the operation, maintenance, and disinfection of water sources, including disinfection at household-level.

Community Management of Operation and Maintenance (CMOM) of WASH-services was a main strategy aimed at promoting the humanitarian-development-peace nexus, community ownership, and long-term sustainability. The Zamzam IDP-camp in North Darfur, which hosts around 218,000 residents, successfully carried out the CMOM approach with UNICEF's support. Camp residents managed camp water services and demonstrated viable water tariff collection and management. CMOM was further instituted in 124 communities across the UNICEF-supported states.

OUTPUT 2.3

WASH-sector institutional capacity and systems are strengthened for scaled-up equitable and sustainable access to basic improved WASH-services.

The key achievements under this output have been the launch of the National Open Defecation Free (ODF) roadmap and the development of SDG 6 plans and budgets for the 18 states in Sudan. UNICEF actively contributed to the ongoing African Development Bank (AfDB) funded WASH-sector reform consisting of the 2018-2021 WASH strategic plan, WASH-sector monitor framework, and water tariff setting. A web-based national WASH-sector Information Management System (IMS) with national-, state-, locality- and community-level WASH information was developed and tested. At the federal level a high-level users' training was conducted. UNICEF contributed to the climate-resilient and water resource management approach in the Darfur states (a joint Qatar funded project), and to the humanitarian-development-peace nexus agenda by mainstreaming the needs of IDPs in long-term planning in sanitation and hygiene master plans for Zalingei and El Fasher towns (Darfur States).

UNICEF contributed to the establishment of centres for excellence by collaborating with sector practitioners and learning institutions to build national capacity in WASH by designing training courses and curriculum (e.g. WASH strategic leadership and gender equality mainstreaming) and seeking opportunities for research and innovation. The capacities of 442 sector practitioners (235 women and 207 men) at national, state and locality levels and 9,189 community members (4,611 women and 4,578 men) were enhanced in monitoring and evaluation, sanitation promotion, WASH in schools, community management, and WASH-mechanics with a focus on women and girls' empowerment.

IV. FINANCIAL ANALYSIS

The following tables illustrate the expenditures as per the planned activities and results under the new thematic pool Safe Environment. Most of the spending has been under the traditional WASH thematic pool as the pool was just established in 2018.

TABLE 1: PLANNED BUDGET BY OUTCOME AREA (IN USD)

Intermediate Result	Funding Type	Planned Budget
Output 1. Basic Sanitation and hygiene	RR	137,500
	OR	2,488,494
	Total	2,625,994
Output 2. Basic Water	RR	171,500
	ORR	3,035,985
	Total	3,207,485
Output 3. Enabling Environment	RR	1,034,300
	OR	696,756
	Total	1,731,056
Total	RR	1,343,300
	OR	6,221,235
	Total	7,564,535

TABLE 2: COUNTRY-LEVEL THEMATIC CONTRIBUTIONS RECEIVED IN 2018 (IN USD)

Donors	Grant Number	Contribution Amount	Programmable Amount
SIDA - Sweden	SC1899070005	397,088	369,292
Total		397,088	369,292

TABLE 3: EXPENDITURES BY KEY-RESULTS AREAS (IN USD)

Organizational Targets	Expenditure Amount			
	Other Resources-Emergency	Other Resources-Regular	Regular Resources	All Programme Amounts
24-05 Environmental Sustainability	2,190,762	2,533,795	1,164,698	5,889,255
Total	2,190,762	2,533,795	1,164,698	5,889,255

TABLE 4: THEMATIC EXPENSES BY PROGRAMMA AREA

	Grants	Expenses amount
Other Resources - Emergency		
24-05 Environmental Sustainability	SM189910	245
	Total	245
Other Resources - Regular		
24-05 Environmental Sustainability	SC149903	46,189

	SC149905	555,114
	SC189906	227,089
	Total	828,391
Grand Total		828,636

TABLE 5: EXPENSES BY SPECIFIC INTERVENTION CODES (IN USD)

Intervention Codes	Expenses
24-05-99 Technical assistance - Environmental sustainability	4,521,335
26-01-01 Country programme process (including UNDAF planning and CCA)	6,441
26-01-02 Programme reviews (Annual, UNDAF, MTR, etc.)	3,781
26-02-02 MICS - General	6,153
26-02-04 Stimulating demand for and capacity to use data	11,709
26-02-05 Administrative data, registers and non-MICS household surveys and censuses	5,184
26-02-06 Analysis of data	883
26-02-07 Data dissemination	1,667
26-02-08 Programme monitoring	40,664
26-02-09 Field monitoring	3,948
26-03-03 Children, adolescent and youth engagement and participation	1,123
26-03-04 Community engagement, participation and accountability	27
26-03-07 Strengthening C4D in Government systems including preparedness for humanitarian action	2,666
26-03-99 Technical assistance - Cross - sectoral communication for development	26,144
26-05-06 Building global / regional / national stakeholder evaluation capacity	147
26-05-11 Building global / regional / national stakeholder research capacity	412
26-06-04 Leading advocate	7,793
26-06-05 Leading voice	1,482
26-06-06 Supporter engagement	358,191
26-06-07 Leading brand	145
26-07-01 Operations support to programme delivery	892,246
27-01-06 HQ and RO technical support to multiple Goal Areas	12,922
27-01-15 CO programme coordination	18,414
27-01-16 CO advocacy and communication	3,785
28-07-04 Management and Operations support at CO	-38,006
Grand Total	5,889,255

TABLE 6: PLANNED BUDGET FOR 2019 (IN USD)

Output	Funding Type	Planned Budget	Funded Budget	Shortfall
Output 3: Enabling Environment	RR	1,034,300	212,924	-821,376
	OR	696,756	250,256	-498,944
	Total	1,731,056	463,180	-1,320,320
Total		1,731,056	463,180	-1,320,320

V. FUTURE WORK PLAN

UNICEF will increasingly engage in the upstream policy dialogue and support implementation of national and states road maps for making Sudan Open Defecation Free by 2022. To help Sudan realise the SDG 6.1 and 6.2 targets, UNICEF will continue to strengthen systems and capacities at national and sub-national level while empowering local communities. Key priorities going forward will be:

- Scaling-up sanitation services, with a focus on eliminating open defecation.
- Sustaining and increasing access to basic water supply with a focus on the most vulnerable people, guided by Integrated Water Resources Management principles.
- Expand the ‘whole community’ approach to extend WASH services in schools and health centers. To maximise impact, UNICEF seeks to integrate WASH-interventions with health, nutrition and education interventions, according to the ‘whole child’ approach.
- Contribute to the implementation of the SDG-6 Plans in the priority states and localities
- Completion of the national school assessment and the roll-out of the WASH Information Management System.

In line with Sudan's Multi-Year Humanitarian Strategy 2017-2019, Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) 2019 and Integrated Strategic Framework 2017- 2019, the 2018-2021 UNDAF and UNICEF's Country Program Action Plan (WASH component), UNICEF will strengthen the linkages between humanitarian, development and peacebuilding efforts in Sudan. In addition to urgent humanitarian interventions, UNICEF's support will target vulnerable children affected by conflict, epidemics and natural disasters in the context of chronic poverty and underdevelopment. A holistic approach will be used to implement WASH-programmes, and investments will be made in building resilience of communities and sustainable peace.

UNICEF will work closely with governments and humanitarian and private sector partners to accelerate access to WASH-services in the most vulnerable areas. UNICEF will advocate with the government to establish social protection policies that prevent and reduce humanitarian need, while continuing to provide leadership for the coordination of the WASH-sector.

UNICEF Sudan's Safe and Clean Environment - targets for 2019 are the following:

BASIC SANITATION AND HYGIENE	TARGET
Number of people who gained access to basic sanitation services	500,000
Number of communities certified free of open defecation	150
Percentage of UNICEF targeted population in humanitarian situations accessing appropriate sanitation facilities and living in environments free of open defecation	200,000
Percentage of UNICEF-targeted population in humanitarian situations reached with messages on appropriate hygiene practices	780,000
Schools with access to improved sanitation facilities	150
BASIC WATER SUPPLY	TARGET
Number of people accessing a basic sustainable drinking water source	400,000
Percentage of UNICEF-targeted population in humanitarian situations who access and use safe drinking water	290,000
Schools with access to improved drinking water	150

VI. EXPRESSION OF THANKS

UNICEF would like to thank our donors for their generous contribution to the Safe and Clean Environment programme in Sudan. A special thanks to the Government of Sweden, on behalf of all the children, women and vulnerable communities throughout the country, who have benefited greatly from this generous support for the new thematic pool Safe and Clean Environment. The results summarised in this report could not have been possible without your crucial support and commitment to the programme.

UNICEF Sudan appreciates the flexibility of the funding received, which enabled support to the most vulnerable children and their families in Sudan and looks forward to a continued partnership in 2019 and beyond.

ANNEX 1: HUMAN INTEREST STORY

WOMEN BRING POSITIVE CHANGE TO THEIR COMMUNITIES

More and more families in Sudan have access to toilets in their communities. At the same time the practice of open defecation has decreased. Yet, despite these promising changes there is still a long way to go to meet the Sustainable Development Goal target for improved sanitation.



Regardless of this challenge, the Government of Sudan is committed to making the country open defecation-free by the end of 2022. And who would be a better partner in achieving this result than the women of Sudan? The Sudan Women General Union (SWGU) has more than 22,000 centres and 4.8 million members throughout the country. The network, through volunteers, has the ability to reach every household in rural Sudan.

UNICEF supported the new initiative called ‘achieving open defecation free communities in rural Sudan under the leadership of women’. The initiative focusses on sanitation and hygiene promotion to prevent open defecation. Out of the total 10.5 million people practicing open defecation in Sudan around 10 million live in rural areas.

In total 34 women from seventeen states were trained on community-led sanitation. The training is the first step for the implementation of the new partnership. Participants developed a work plan which will be implemented in their respective communities.

One of the women involved, Samia Abdalla Salim, established a women’s group in her village that supported poor families who didn’t have the resources to build a toilet. Through collective effort, the women managed to provide the struggling families with sufficient money for a toilet. Like Samia, the other women can’t wait to bring positive change to their community.

ANNEX 2: FEEDBACK FORM

UNICEF is working to improve the quality of our reports and would highly appreciate your feedback. The form is available on line at this link: [English version](#) or [French version](#).

Thank you!



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