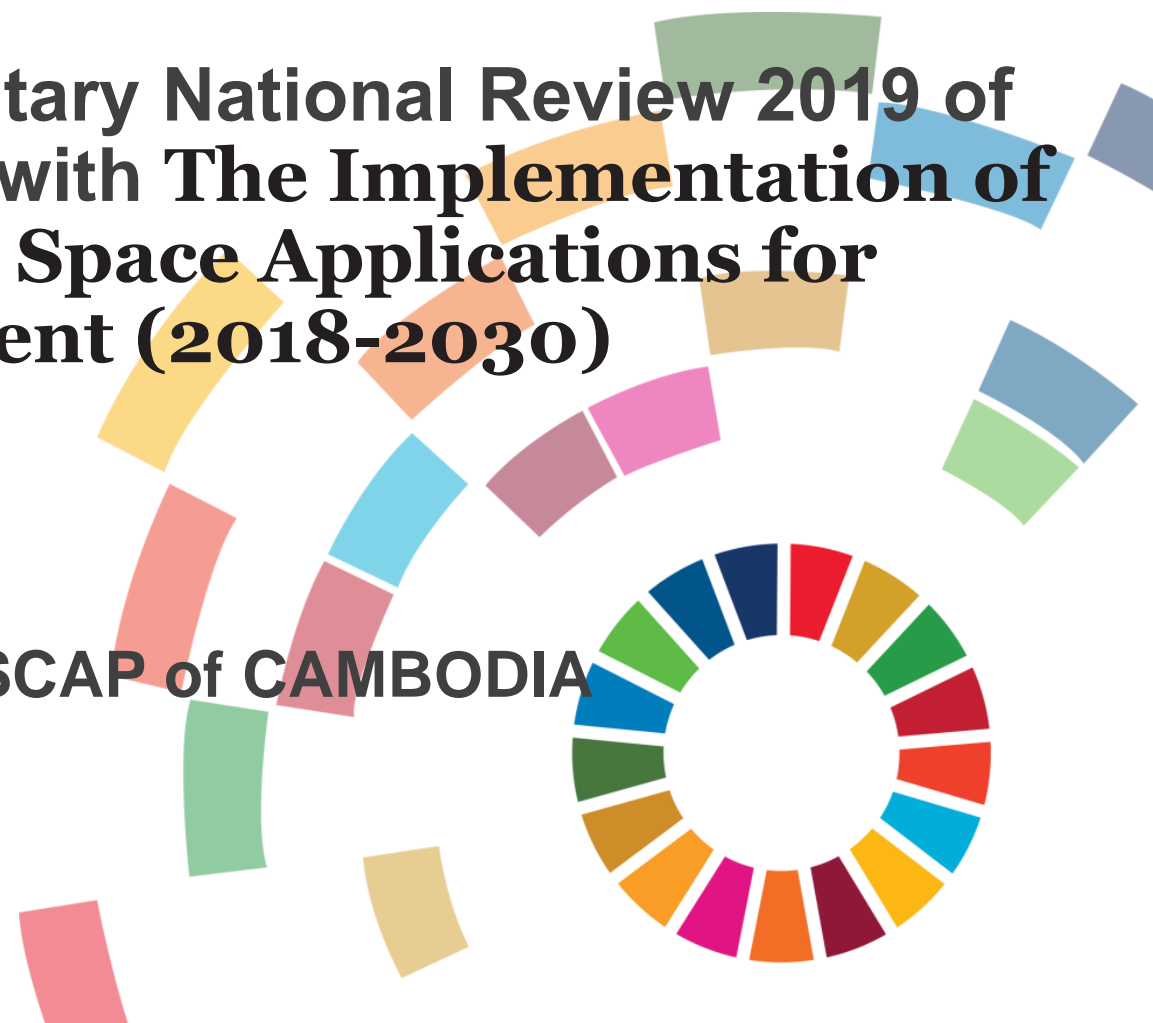




24<sup>th</sup> session of ICC on RESAP  
18-19 August 2020

# **The Alignment of Cambodia's Voluntary National Review 2019 of The Implementation of 2030 Agenda with The Implementation of Asia-Pacific Plan of Action on Space Applications for Sustainable Development (2018-2030)**

**National Committee for ESCAP of CAMBODIA**



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# I. Cambodia's Voluntary National Review 2019 Of The Implementation Of 2030 Agenda



## 1. Progress to date

- Following the endorsement of the SDGs at the UN General Assembly in late 2015, the RGC has worked to adapt the goals to the national context and has crafted a fully localized framework – the Cambodian SDGs (CSDGs).
- In addition to [the global 17 goals](#), an 18th goal requiring the clearance of landmines and unexploded ordinance was added. The final framework comprises [18 CSDGs](#) , [88 nationally relevant targets](#), and [148 globally and locally defined indicators](#). This underlines the level of nationalization of the SDGs and commitment of the RGC
- The process underpinning Cambodia's first Voluntary National Review (VNR) began in late 2018, led by the Ministry of Planning. As with the CSDG Framework, the VNR relies on a wide consultative process. It has adopted a whole of government approach - drawing in line ministries and agencies, and local administrations; and a whole of society approach - open to civil society and business actors; with regular consultations taking place throughout the process.

## 2. Integration and nationalization process

- The localization process of the SDGs in Cambodia began with the assessment of achievements and unfinished goals of the CMDGs in relation to the goals, targets and indicators of the SDGs. Priority was given to the coordination of the planning and implementation of the SDGs with local development strategies
- The RGC partnered with United Nations agencies in developing two preliminary analyses– [the Rapid Integrated Assessment \(RIA\) \(2016\)](#) and [the SDG Assessment \(2017\)](#). The RIA mapped Cambodia's National Strategic Development Plan (NSDP) and other principal strategies to identify areas of alignment between the SDGs and Cambodia's policy agenda, while the SDG assessment focused on the indicators and availability of reliable data sources. The RGC then fully adapted the SDGs to fit with the Cambodian context to include national needs, challenges, and aspirations.
- The CSDGs have been fully integrated into [the NSDP 2019-2023](#), where they provide a large proportion of the M&E data;
- and via proposed inclusion in line ministry and agency Budget Strategic Plans (which are a major part of Cambodia's
- performance-based budgeting arrangements). The latter is especially innovative and marks Cambodia out globally.

### 3. High Level Political Forum (HLPF) and Cambodia's VNR 2019

- The global theme of the 2019 HLPF is *'Empowering people and ensuring inclusiveness and equality'*. While countries are encouraged to review all the goals and national priorities, the set of goals to be reviewed by this year's HLPF are:
  - ✓ SDG 4 (Quality Education),
  - ✓ SDG 8 (Decent Work and Economic Growth),
  - ✓ SDG 10 (Reduced Inequalities),
  - ✓ SDG 13 (Climate Action),
  - ✓ SDG 16 (Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions), and
  - ✓ SDG 17 (Partnerships for the Goals).



**VNR compilation and sources:** the VNR process adopted an open and inclusive approach – it relied on a wide variety of quantitative and qualitative information provided from a number of stakeholder sources. Moreover, a series of consultations were undertaken within the RGC and with the wider Cambodian policy circles. The key sources and information flows are depicted in the chart below.



## 4. Geospatial Information for Sustainable Development

- The development of geospatial data and space applications has accelerated in recent years and are now contributing to several sectors ranging from **health, education, food security, agriculture, energy, to disaster risk reduction and resilience-building**. These applications are vital in our digital world, not only to every day life, but as an important contributor to national development planning and decision making.
- **Asia-Pacific Plan of Action on Space Applications for Sustainable Development (2018–2030)** Countries within the Asia-Pacific region are already making steady progress on the uses of geospatial information and space applications. This Plan of Action is a regionally-coordinated, inclusive and needs-driven blueprint that harnesses space and geospatial applications, as well as digital innovations to support countries, particularly those with special needs, to achieve the 2030 Agenda.



## 5. Space applications and the global sustainability agenda

- With the adoption of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction and the Paris Agreement in 2015, a new integrated global development agenda was set. The next 10 years to 2030 will be crucial in developing and delivering the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and transforming our world for generations to come.
- The plan of action is fully aligned with the ESCAP's Regional Roadmap for Implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in Asia and the Pacific. It includes 188 actions in the following thematic areas: (a) disaster risk management; (b) natural resource management; (c) connectivity; (d) social development; (e) energy; and (f) climate change. All actions will significantly contribute to 37 Targets of 14 Goals of 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

# Contributions and emerging needs in implementation

CSDGs 2016-2030

Cambodia Vision 2050

Rectangular Strategies/ RGC's Policies

NSDP 2019-2023, 2024-2028, 2029-2033, ...

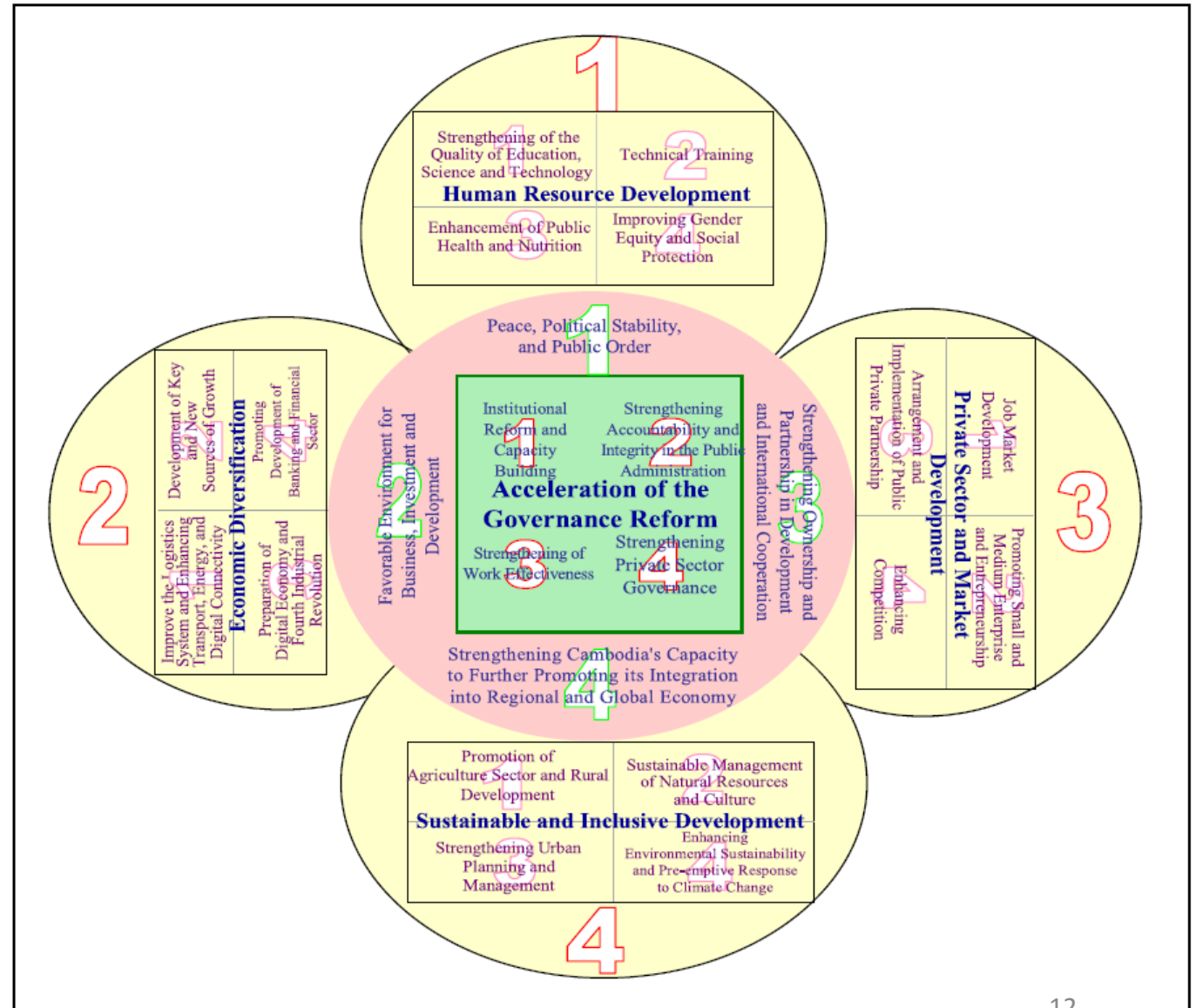
National planning timelines and CSDGs

## 6. Matching the three dimensions of sustainable and inclusive development to Cambodia's development strategies

- **Integration of economic, social and environmental dimensions** is key to achieving sustainable development. These three dimensions are mainstreamed into strategic planning both at the national and sub-national levels
  - ❑ **At the national level:** the core framework of the Rectangular Strategy (RS-IV), endorsed in July 2018, specifies four policy rectangles: (1) Human resource development; (2) Economic diversification; (3) Private sector and market development; and (4) Sustainable and inclusive development. The Rectangular Strategy (RS) then feeds into the NSDP, which in turn drives sector planning and delivery, and hence budgeting. The RGC is confident that the CSDGs are well integrated at national level, through their synthesis within the *NSDP*.
  - ❑ **At the sub-national level:** a sub-decree on 5-year development plans and 3-year rolling plans at capital and provincial level was promulgated in 2009. At provincial level, 5-year development plans are developed and endorsed by the capital and provincial councils. The preparation of these development plans supports the *RS-IV* by identifying priority areas, indicators, and timeframe for the implementation of the plans, the monitoring and evaluation mechanism, and the responsibilities of the implementing agencies and relevant stakeholders, under the frameworks of the capital and provincial administrations.

The planning processes addresses 4 challenges including (1) economy, (2) social development, (3) natural resources, environment, and climate change adaptation, and (4) security. The RGC accepts that the CSDGs still need to be matrixed to these sub-national processes, which will start from this year 2019.

## Rectangular Strategy Phase IV



## 7. The Cambodia Disaster Management Framework and National Action Plan 2019-2023

- is primary document that will guide national efforts to achieve the national vision of “safe and resilient communities for sustainable national development”. The purpose of this document is to articulate the country’s long-term goals for disaster risk reduction and management, promote the systematic management of hazards, and inform and guide the development of policies and programs of line ministries, development partners and all other stakeholders through an initial 5-year ‘National Action Plan for Disaster Risk Reduction’.
- Building resilience in all sectors of society will enable communities and the country, as a whole, to better understand, prepare for, and withstand the impacts of disasters and calamities and enhance its ability to recover from a crisis. Unless disaster and climate risks are effectively managed, disaster losses and impacts will continue to increase and undermine efforts to reduce poverty and achieve sustainable development. With resilient communities, Cambodia will be able to face current and future risks with minimum disruptions and will be in a better position to pursue its human development ambitions for its people.

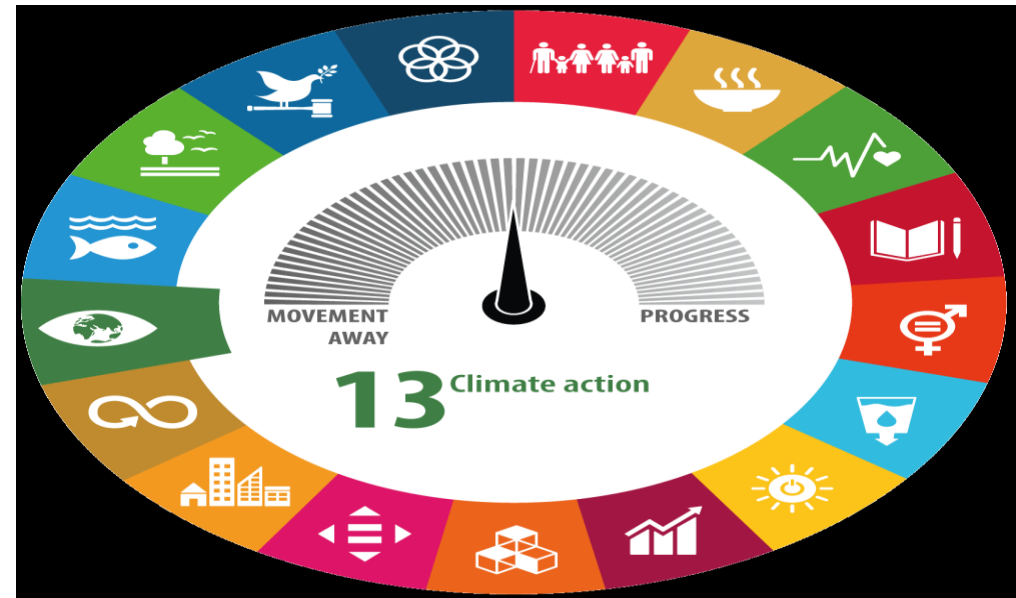
## 8. Securing environmental sustainability

- In aiming to achieve its Vision 2050, the RGC is keen to place stronger emphasis on **the environmental impacts of rapid social and economic development**. Greater attention will be given to better management of natural resources and responding to the impacts of climate change. There **are two specific policy** initiatives:
  - a. Firstly, there is a need to improve the management of Cambodia's abundant forests and watercourses. For this reason, the *Environment and Natural Resources Code* is being drafted to enable the sustainable development of Cambodia, by protecting the environment and conserving, managing, and restoring natural and cultural resources. Secondly, efforts are needed to mitigate the effects of rising temperatures. **The Cambodia Climate Change Strategic Plan 2014–2023 (CCCSP)** has been formulated reflecting political will, and the firm commitment and readiness of the RGC to reduce climate change impacts on national development, and contribute, with the international community, to global efforts for mitigating GHG emissions under the UNFCCC.



## Securing environmental sustainability (Cont.)

b. Integration of climate change into national and sub-national level planning, and the development of climate change strategies, action plans and financing frameworks are priority actions for the RGC. The CCCSP will guide national entities and assist non-governmental organizations and development partners in developing concrete and appropriate measures and actions related to adaptation and GHG mitigation, which are key supportive pillars for the achievement of the Rectangular Strategy and the CSDGs .



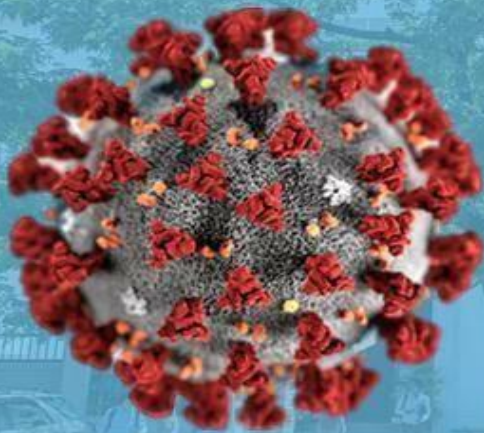
## II. Good practice in combating covid-19 and lessons learnt



**ក្រសួងសុខាភិបាល**  
**MINISTRY OF HEALTH**

**សេចក្តីប្រកាសព័ត៌មាន**

**PRESS RELEASE**



**COVID-19**

CORONAVIRUS DISEASE 2019

# 1. Cambodia's Covid-19 Outbreak

- **Confirmed Infected and Recovered Cases:** The first case had been confirmed in Sihanoukville on a 60-year-old Chinese man who arrived from Wuhan, Hubei with his family on January 27. The second case which was a local case, was only confirmed only more than a month later with a Cambodian man in Siem Reap who had direct contact with a Japanese man who tested positive upon arrival in Japan. Since the first case was recorded in late January until August 14, 2020, **the number of infections was at 271 people, of whom, 225 were recovered and no death.** In general, Covid-19 in Cambodia has the following characteristics. **First**, most of the infected cases is imported. **Second**, the proportion of foreigners infected is much higher than the local people among the infected population in Cambodia. **Third**, men are more likely to get infected than women.



## 2. Contain the Outbreak

The government is fighting three battles simultaneously against the deadly corona virus.

1. the country is fighting against imported cases, **since over 80 percent of the infected population was the imported ones**, by banning all entries from Italy, Germany, Spain, France and the United States.

2. the government is raising people awareness on self-protection and is introducing measures such as social distancing, early school break, a gathering ban, and especially a **cancellation of Khmer New Year holidays** together with a temporary inter-provincial travel restriction, among others.

3. the government has strived to offer effective treatment, which, in turn, resulted in recovery of most infected patients. The country has also prepared for a bigger war should it happen. **Some 3,000 rooms have been made** available in the whole country and **422 additional staffs** were mobilized to fight against Covid-19

### 3. A Glimpse of Hope

Big pharmaceutical companies and biotechs are racing to come up with an effective treatment for the novel coronavirus. A wide range of vaccines being studied. One of these is a promising drug called Remdesivir, which was said to have showed potential against Covid-19. According to CNN recent health report, the patients, who took part in a clinical trial of the drug, had all got severe respiratory symptoms and fever but they were able to leave the hospital after less than a week of treatment.

## 4. Lesson from Wuhan Lockdown

On January 23, 2020, the Chinese government imposed a full lockdown on the City of Wuhan. This caused a spike in demand for staples such as rice, wheat flour, and cooking oil, as well as vegetables, meat, fish but this was offset by lowered demand for non-essential goods and consequence in a sharp drop of overall demand. Production and employment were also severely affected. This lockdown, nevertheless, created opportunities for some e-commerce firms. For instance, anticipating a spike in demand for online consultation for Covid-19, JD.com ramped up its telemedicine business, quickly adding more doctors to its network. It soon became a major channel for processing the purchase of medical products and turned itself into one of the front-line Covid-19 triage services for citizens all over the country



## 5. Potential Impacts

In Cambodia, the spread of Covid-19 has not reached the extent to which cluster lockdown is needed yet. However, the economy starts to feel the heat now. **Textile industry**, once a driver of the nation's rapid economic growth, is faltering as orders from big apparent companies disappear. Meanwhile international tourist arrivals become a rare sight. A closure of all schools to content virus spread encourages many schools especially the better-off private entities located in the capital to implement distance learning using online platform as a medium of teaching to students. The ongoing Covid-19 outbreak seems to have been affecting the economy through narrowing domestic demand, reducing tourism and business travel, trade and production linkages, and triggering negative health effects.

III. Other issues, including requests for assistance, advice on partnerships and agreements you participate in, new and innovative activities or advances relating to the use of space applications in your country/organization, etc.

- to exchange on and promote the use of geospatial information to identify problems and find solutions regarding the overarching goal of sustainable development of the countries.
- to identify regional issues relevant to geospatial information management, take necessary actions on them and maximize economic, social and environmental benefits of geospatial information in Asia and the Pacific region.
- Geospatial information has also increasingly been incorporated into development, national and local planning, which has led to more targeted use of resources and accurate monitoring and evaluation of interventions and programmes.
- Building the capacity using the space applications, including geographic information systems and geospatial information technology, to enhance measurement tools, data collection, data analysis and dissemination of data for better disaster risk information.

- Promote the using of Space applications as it offers valuable information to support sustainable resource management and conservation and space-derived information, its analysis and visualization, offer increasingly important input into decision-making processes for natural resource management.
- Acknowledge the important of Meteorological and environment satellites can complement many other sources of information and support various strategies to help build resilience or productivity in the agriculture sector.
- Requested the assistance in advancement of geospatial applications, satellite technologies, remote sensing and ICT in the country.
- Building the capacity of operating agencies/staffs in application of these technologies.

# THANK YOU

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