



**BASIC INFORMATION**

**A. Basic Project Data**

Country Burundi	Project ID P171745	Project Name Burundi Coffee Landscape Restoration and Resilience Project	Parent Project ID (if any) P160613
Parent Project Name Burundi Landscape Restoration and Resilience Project	Region AFRICA	Estimated Appraisal Date 01-Jul-2020	Estimated Board Date 26-Nov-2020
Practice Area (Lead) Environment, Natural Resources & the Blue Economy	Financing Instrument Investment Project Financing	Borrower(s) Ministry of Finance, Budget, Cooperation and Economic Development	Implementing Agency Ministry of Environment, Agriculture and Livestock

GEF Focal Area

Multi-focal area

Proposed Development Objective(s) Parent

The Project Development Objective is to restore land productivity in targeted degraded landscapes and, in the event of an eligible crisis or emergency, to provide immediate and effective response to said eligible crisis or emergency.

Components

Institutional Development and Capacity Building for Landscape Restoration and Resilience  
 Sustainable Landscape Management Practices  
 Improved Management of Protected Areas and Reserves  
 Contingency Emergency Response (CERC)  
 Project Management, Coordination, and Monitoring

**PROJECT FINANCING DATA (US\$, Millions)**

**SUMMARY**

<b>Total Project Cost</b>	6.00
<b>Total Financing</b>	6.00
<b>of which IBRD/IDA</b>	0.00
<b>Financing Gap</b>	0.00



**DETAILS**

**Non-World Bank Group Financing**

Trust Funds	6.00
Global Environment Facility (GEF)	6.00

Environmental Assessment Category

B-Partial Assessment

‘Have the Safeguards oversight and clearance function been transferred to the Practice Manager?’ Yes

Decision

Other Decision (as needed)

**B. Introduction and Context**

Country Context

- This proposal deals with an Additional Financing (AF) grant in the amount of US\$6 million to Burundi for the *Burundi Landscape Restoration and Resilience Project* (BLRRP, P160613) with funds from the Global Environment Facility (GEF). BLRRP was approved in 2018 to address the root causes of landscape degradation upstream, by investing in building a resilient landscape through restoration efforts and sustainable landscape management (SLM) practices. The proposed GEF AF will help finance the costs associated with a scale-up of the parent project activities in selected coffee landscapes in the Kayanza Province.**
- Indeed, Burundi’s geographic and demographic characteristics, exacerbated by climate risks, have subjected the forests and agricultural lands to immense pressure.** Much of the country’s terrain is hilly and mountainous, with natural forests once covering 30–50 percent of its territory. However, with high population density (470 per square km) and rapid population growth (3.3 percent per year over the past two decades), forests have been cleared for agricultural production, and now account for only 6.6 percent of the territory. Steep hillsides have increasingly been brought under cultivation and, with significant land fragmentation into tiny plots, intensive farming practices have failed to preserve soil fertility and caused significant land degradation.
- The consequences of deforestation and land degradation have been costly to the population, the economy, and the environment.** Indeed, as poverty reaches 77 percent of the population, with the vast majority of the poor being rural, the population depends significantly on the land resource for food, income, and energy. However, land is particularly vulnerable to devastating events. Deforestation and



intensive agriculture on hillsides without proper erosion control, and the illicit exploitation of protected areas due to the reduced availability of wood resources outside them, have disturbed soil integrity and compromised the water retention function of the soil upstream. As a result, landslides and floods are frequent and intense, causing substantial damage to the infrastructure and human lives downstream. Compounding the effects of soil erosion, intensive agriculture without adequate use of fertilizer has also affected yields. Thus, production has stagnated over the last two decades. Soil erosion has also led to the shrinking of water bodies and siltation and drying up of rivers. Finally, deforestation and land degradation have caused the loss of important biodiversity due to changes in habitats, e.g. in Protected Areas (PA).

4. **Burundi has a history of extreme climate-related events.** It is the fourth most vulnerable country and the 20<sup>th</sup> least ready country for combating climate change effects and coping with natural disasters. Past extreme weather events in the 2000 decade affected over 2 million Burundians and accounted for losses over 5 percent of GDP. With climate change, the frequency and intensity of severe events are likely to increase, amplifying the risks of further soil erosion and yield reduction. **The annual cost** of yield losses of major crops because of soil erosion amounts up to US\$209 million, while that of flood risk due to unsustainable land management is about US\$3.3 million (2016 Country Environmental Analysis (CEA)). In addition, pressure on the land resource, further stressed in some instances by the return of displaced populations, has directly contributed to social tensions and related instability.

5. **Landscape restoration is therefore a key pillar of Burundi's 2018-2027 National Development Plan** and its strategies for forest conservation, sustainable land management and emission reduction. It is also reflected in the territorial land use plans of project-targeted provinces. At the global level, Burundi has ratified the three Rio conventions and has in place a National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan and a National Adaptation Plan of Action, which emphasize the importance of forests and adaptation of farming practices and the impact of soil erosion. Burundi also has in place a 2012 National Climate Change Policy and a National Strategy and Action Plan on Climate Change. Its Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) under the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change is a reduction in Green House Gas (GHG) emissions by 23 percent and 12,000 ha/year reforested. Under the UN Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) Land Degradation Neutrality (LDN) Target Setting process and the Bonn Challenge, it has a reforestation commitment of 2 million ha.

#### Sectoral and Institutional Context

6. **Coffee cultivation is a key feature of the country's landscape.** It is indeed critical to both the economy and natural resource management in Burundi. Hence, coffee production and exports in Burundi account for 80 percent of the country's total exports, making the country the 13<sup>th</sup> largest Arabica producer globally. Coffee production covers 70,000 ha nationally with very good agronomic conditions for Arabica cultivation. It plays a vital role in the country for job creation, food security and poverty reduction. It is identified by Burundi's National Agricultural Investment Plan (NAIP) as a top priority sector for investments with a Coffee Sector Development Strategy approved in 2015.

7. **However, by significantly contributing to the unsustainable land management processes** described earlier, it has been a lead cause of deforestation and affected overall land productivity. Coffee has historically been promoted as unshaded monocrop, which bears sustainability issues. Moreover,



coffee production should increase as a result of global demand for Burundi's specialty coffee and national promotion efforts. Related threats could further increase.

8. **However, more sustainable coffee farming techniques** such as multi-cropping, shade-grown systems, and organic farming are gaining interest, in line with the government's strategy to promote ecological coffee production and strengthen the country's position on specialty coffee markets. Moreover, while monocropping does characterize most coffee plots, the related landscapes are characterized by a diverse mix of crops, livestock and tree plantations, which compete for land to provide for food, incomes, and wood energy. Therefore, coffee landscape restoration and management call for an integrated approach beyond one single crop.

9. To meet its PDO, the parent BLRRP is introducing measures under an integrated approach, to rehabilitate deforested and degraded land, prevent further deforestation in natural habitats adjacent to production landscapes, prevent future upstream soil erosion and downstream catastrophes, promote wider adoption of improved agricultural practices, and strengthen climate-smart planning approaches.

10. To achieve this, BLRRP implements a community-led landscape approach to restore degraded landscapes and improve land management in 22 production hills across the provinces of Bujumbura and Muyinga (Component 2). To effectively cut down erosion, the approach is systematic, i.e. covering the largest proportion of each hill. It entails land certification, landscape restoration and erosion control, and improved crop production practices.

11. BLRRP also aims at reducing conversion and degradation of forests due to encroachment within three protected areas (PA) (Bururi, Ruvubu and Kibira) and improve land management practices in the riparian production landscapes (Component 3). This is being achieved by strengthening the capacity of the PA administration and riparian communities' role in decision making and conservation activities regarding the natural habitats, while promoting alternative livelihoods around the PAs.

12. Finally, the project promotes institutional development and capacity building for landscape restoration and resilience at the national and decentralized levels, including watershed planning and relevant policies (Component 1).

13. The BLRRP is financed by a US\$30 million IDA loan approved on April 11, 2018, which became effective on September 21, 2018. Considering the scale of related needs in the country, it has been designed as the first of similar potential projects. Four other provinces were already prioritized during appraisal for possible support at a later stage, including Kayanza. The BLRRP is still in its start-up phase where the project team has recently been established. Field activities in the three protected areas and in support of communities started in December 2019. It is too early to report on results. The Project is rated "Moderately Satisfactory" in terms of both "Progress towards achievement of PDO" and "Overall Implementation Progress". The BLRRP PCU is a new unit and comprises Government staff and consultants with expertise in fiduciary domains, relevant technical domains, M&E, safeguards, gender, communication, community mobilization, and administration. Established at the central level, the PCU has small decentralized teams at the provincial level.



14. The areas where the parent project is intervening do not have coffee production despite its importance to the country. This AF grant from GEF under the Food, Land Use and Restoration (FOLUR) Impact Program will finance costs associated with a scale-up and expansion of the parent project activities in an additional province that does include degraded coffee landscapes. This would contribute to better achieving the PDO of the parent project and achieving programmatic goals of the GEF.

15. At global level, the GEF FOLUR Impact Program seeks to transform food and land use systems and help countries reconcile competing social, economic, and environmental interests by moving away from unsustainable sectoral approaches. GEF support helps countries meet the growing demand for increased crop and livestock production, such as coffee, while eliminating the risk of further expansion of farmland into natural high-biodiversity habitats and forests, erosion of genetic diversity, overexploitation of land and water resources, overuse of chemical fertilizers and pesticides, and inefficient practices that lead to greenhouse gas emissions.

### **C. Proposed Development Objective(s)**

#### Original PDO

The Project Development Objective is to restore land productivity in targeted degraded landscapes and, in the event of an eligible crisis or emergency, to provide immediate and effective response to said eligible crisis or emergency.

#### Current PDO

The Project Development Objective is to restore land productivity in targeted degraded landscapes and, in the event of an eligible crisis or emergency, to provide immediate and effective response to said eligible crisis or emergency.

#### Key Results

1. A total of 8,560 ha of degraded landscapes will be under improved management, including 3,060 ha of coffee production landscapes and 5,500 ha of protected area restored through encroachment control and reforestation. GHG emissions will be mitigated for an estimated total of 1,338,000 MT of CO<sub>2</sub> over a 20-year period. Additionally, 48,500 people, 54 percent of which female, are expected to directly benefit from the blending of this project in the BLRRP, bringing the BLRRP direct beneficiaries' target to 663,200 people. Finally, the project will set a path for transformation by connecting to the ongoing BLRRP and taking action at scale, by supporting sustainable coffee production practices for broader uptake by other projects, institutions and stakeholders, and by promoting ecological certification as an incentive for expanding sustainable coffee production systems.

PDO-Level Results Indicators are those of BLRRP:

1. Land productivity in targeted degraded landscapes (%)
2. Land area under sustainable landscape management practices (ha)
3. Share of targeted community members with rating 'Satisfied' or above on project interventions (disaggregated by sex) (%)



## D. Project Description

### Proposed interventions

16. **Component 1: Development of integrated landscape management (ILM) systems** (USD 490,000–GEF aligned with parent project component 1 on *Institutional Development and Capacity Building for Landscape Restoration and Resilience*). As BLRRP supports the development of the policies and capacities at the national and local levels to plan and implement landscape restoration and ILM at scale, the AF will promote a more sustainable contribution of coffee systems to that goal. Specific institutional support and capacity building activities will be implemented at national level and across the targeted landscape.

17. At national level, the project will address analytical gaps by conducting evaluations on the economic benefits of sustainable coffee practices and ecological certification, as a basis to inform stakeholders' strategic decisions and practices. Building on the parent project's M&E activities, it will also test land and forest change observation and M&E tools to document the benefits of these practices. It will evaluate the environmental changes resulting from the interventions within and around the Kibira PA to position Burundi towards possible climate finance and contribute to designing related incentive instruments.

18. The project will also develop/disseminate training guidelines and promotion material on landscape restoration and sustainable coffee production practices (with emphasis on shade coffee, agroforestry, organic production, and integrated farming) as well as ecological certification. On these issues, it will organize training, knowledge sharing and dialogue workshops on sustainable coffee options and practices, their contribution to sustainable landscapes, and related certification opportunities. Finally, to address a critical bottleneck, it will provide training to additional ecological certification auditors in Burundi.

19. Across the targeted landscape, the project will promote participatory planning for improved land use and allocation: The project will support local stakeholders in developing an integrated territorial plan for sustainable management with the participation of relevant institutional and economic players.

20. **Component 2: Promotion of sustainable food production practices and responsible commodity value chains** (USD 4,560,000 - GEF aligned with parent project component 2 on *Sustainable Landscape Management Practices*). The project will support communities in restoring the degraded coffee landscapes, controlling erosion, and intensifying SLM and crop production practices in the targeted production hills. The approach will be comprehensive, integrated, and driven by the active participation of local communities at the scale of each hill.

(a) **Sub-component 2.1 - Landscape Restoration and Erosion Control:** On-the-ground restoration will be carried out by developing anti-erosive ditches and terraces, bioengineering, a/re-forestation and other techniques with the direct engagement of communities, land users and the local governments.

(b) **Sub-component 2.2 - Improved Crop Production Practices and Nutrition:** Interventions will support farmer groups in protecting the topsoil, recovering their soil fertility, and intensifying crop production through SLM practices. They will entail farmers' training and experience sharing, as well as access to improved inputs and livestock as source of manure. On coffee, and linking up with other relevant projects/organizations, knowledge dissemination will emphasize deforestation-free coffee



cultivation, shade coffee, agro-forestry, organic coffee production and ecological certification requirements. The project will facilitate producer-buyer exchanges to promote locally produced commodities that contribute to sustainable landscape management. Support will also be offered to two local coffee washing stations to undertake the initial audit towards ecological certification. The project will also offer technical guidance and training to coffee projects/institutions on integrated landscape planning and SLM practices towards their promotion in other areas.

- (c) **Sub-component 2.3 - Land certification:** Land certification will be offered prior to restoration works using approaches that have proven effective in Burundi. This will secure land users' long-term investment and address any land disputes.

21. **Component 3: Conservation and restoration of natural habitats** (USD 400,000-GEF aligned with the parent project component 3 on *Improved Management of Protected Areas and Reserves*). The project will promote activities that reduce conversion and degradation of forests due to encroachment within the Kibira NP areas adjacent to the targeted coffee landscapes, and promote improved land management practices in the riparian landscapes. This will be done by increasing riparian communities' role in decision making regarding the natural habitats through awareness campaigns, and involving them in community-led conservation activities (e.g., PA restoration). The project will collaborate with local conservation groups towards this. Also, to reduce the destructive use of natural resources, the project will promote alternative income-generating activities and sustainable agricultural production (e.g., agroforestry).

22. **Component 4: Project Management, Coordination and Monitoring** (USD 550,000, Aligned with component 5 of the parent project on *Project Management, Coordination and Monitoring*). Project coordination will be fully integrated with that of the BLRRP. An additional PCU decentralized team will be set up in the Kayanza Province to coordinate project activities locally. The project M&E plan will build on BLRRP's, which includes household surveys and satellite observation to assess and monitor project outcomes at landscape scale. Finally, this component will finance the participation of sector stakeholders in FOLUR events and cross learning mechanisms.

## E. Implementation

### Institutional and Implementation Arrangements

23. The AF will be implemented using the modalities of the BLRRP Project. The PCU will consult other relevant projects operating in the Province or in similar domains to inform its own planning as well as for analytical, training and dialogue activities. Project oversight functions will be conducted, like for the parent project, by a multi-stakeholder steering committee and its decentralized representation at Kayanza province level. Relevant coffee sector organizations will be invited to sit on these committees.

## F. Project location and Salient physical characteristics relevant to the safeguard analysis (if known)

The project AF area will intervene in one the targeted provinces of the parent project and includes the commune of Matongo (Kayanza province). The AF will specifically intervene in nine highly degraded coffee cultivation hills adjacent to the Kibira National Park (NP) in the municipality of Matongo and degraded forest



landscapes within and along the South Eastern two sectors of the Kibira Park (Teza and Rwegura). Interventions in the area is critical in order to stabilize and increase coffee productivity (on the slopes) and to protect those hills from landslides caused by heavy rains. The impacts of climate change are also exacerbating the vulnerabilities, with rainfall becoming more intense and resulting in increased soil erosion and siltation of rivers and marshlands. The Burundi Poverty Assessment identifies the province of Kayanza and their related communes as among the more impoverished provinces and most heavily environmentally degraded in the country. Despite large scale environmental degradation, Burundi still retains some protected areas with rich biodiversity such as Kibira National Park that must be protected. Increasing population pressures for agricultural expansion and land conflicts are putting these natural ecosystems at risk. The absence of a functional land use planning or management system makes it difficult to properly coordinate development and conservation together. Batwa among other vulnerable groups are present in the entire project area.

**G. Environmental and Social Safeguards Specialists on the Team**

Brandon Enrique Carter, Environmental Specialist  
 Richard Everett, Social Specialist  
 Alexis Manirambona, Environmental Specialist  
 Yves Bertrand Koudjou Tatang, Social Specialist

**SAFEGUARD POLICIES THAT MIGHT APPLY**

Safeguard Policies	Triggered?	Explanation (Optional)
Environmental Assessment OP/BP 4.01	Yes	
Performance Standards for Private Sector Activities OP/BP 4.03	No	
Natural Habitats OP/BP 4.04	Yes	
Forests OP/BP 4.36	Yes	
Pest Management OP 4.09	Yes	
Physical Cultural Resources OP/BP 4.11	Yes	
Indigenous Peoples OP/BP 4.10	Yes	
Involuntary Resettlement OP/BP 4.12	Yes	
Safety of Dams OP/BP 4.37	No	
Projects on International Waterways OP/BP 7.50	No	



Projects in Disputed Areas OP/BP 7.60 No

## KEY SAFEGUARD POLICY ISSUES AND THEIR MANAGEMENT

### A. Summary of Key Safeguard Issues

1. Describe any safeguard issues and impacts associated with the proposed project. Identify and describe any potential large scale, significant and/or irreversible impacts:

The project will scale up and expand the same interventions as the parent project in a new province. Therefore, as appraised for the parent project earlier, it will not result into any large scale, significant or irreversible impacts. Negative impacts likely to be generated include possible air and water pollution, changes in physiochemical properties of soil, loss of vegetation due to terracing, and the use of agricultural inputs. A no-project alternative would, however, accelerate environmental degradation and severely affect the productivity of agricultural lands. The overall impacts of the project will, therefore, be positive. The expected benefits of restoring landscapes in Burundi include better soil fertility, increased agricultural productivity and food security, greater availability and quality of water resources, reduced desertification, enhance biodiversity, creation of green jobs, economic growth, mitigation and increased resilience to climate change. Risks are also linked to possible exacerbation of land disputes in the collines that will be restored, and any potential land tenure issues involving the indigenous Batwa.

Batwa are present throughout the project area and vulnerable as a result of smaller than average plot sizes and increased risk of land tenure insecurity. The project is designed to ensure the social inclusion of socio-economic different communities within the landscape and has consulted with national and regional Batwa organizations and communities to ensure that Batwa can participate in and benefit from the project. An IPPF has been disclosed. Other potentials risks are related to GBV/SEA/SH and gaps due to (poor access of women to paid jobs, land rights, and non-access to extended services). The GBV strategic plan that has been carried out for parent will be used for AF to minimize these identified GBV risks and gaps.

2. Describe any potential indirect and/or long term impacts due to anticipated future activities in the project area:

The project involves a menu of land restoration interventions ranging from soil erosion stabilization techniques (contour bunding, progressive/radical terracing, planting of anti-erosion hedges) and fodder shrubs, to rainwater conservation practices. Existing infrastructure will, furthermore, be protected and this may require some minor civil engineering works. Thus, some minor negative impacts could be generated.

3. Describe any project alternatives (if relevant) considered to help avoid or minimize adverse impacts.

An analysis of a “Do Nothing” scenario shows the degradation of the landscapes will continue, while the persistence and intensification of environmental disasters will have dire socio-economic costs. No specific project alternatives were considered during preparation of the project, but the project is designed to ensure lessons are learnt and considered prior to committing to further investments in a possible subsequent phase of the project.

4. Describe measures taken by the borrower to address safeguard policy issues. Provide an assessment of borrower capacity to plan and implement the measures described.

The Project Coordination Unit (PCU) will continue to have overall responsibility for managing the project. The Unit has been established under the parent project as a new one and comprises government staff and consultants with



expertise in safeguards and gender. It will continue to be responsible for ensuring monitoring and supervision, and reporting on the project performance to the National Project Steering Committee (NPSC) and the Bank. Established at central level, the PCU will have decentralized teams at provincial level, the Provincial Project Coordination Units (PPCUs). These will ensure the link between central management and local actors. Staffed each with 2 technical/executive officers, they will contribute to implementation of the PCU's responsibilities locally, including project supervision and monitoring. The PCU is adequately staffed and equipped to take on this task. To fulfill the safeguards function of the PCU, the project has recruited an environmental safeguards specialist and a social specialist, and will provide them with adequate training as needed. Additional resources are also dedicated for the training of key actors at provincial and community levels. OBPE has been entrusted with an oversight function to ensure that national laws and procedures are being properly implemented.

In addition, the project is developing a GRM to resolve potential conflicts arising over land ownership and certification including the return of absent/refugee owners, labor intensive community works grievances, health-and-safety complaints, and other complaints or social conflicts that are associated with the project. The GRM builds on existing forms of conflict resolution within the community as much as feasible and on the participatory nature of the activities, and takes into account the vulnerability and specific needs of the beneficiaries. The GRM is based on a social analysis of the communities in which it is implemented and will be included in the project manual.

Hence the project will address land dispute risks through the certification process, which will be characterized by comprehensive use of information, communication, awareness, community participation, mediation of identified disputes, and an appeal mechanism, including for conflict-related displaced people and refugees.

This social issue will be a key aspect of supervision undertaken for the project. In particular, the project will hire an NGO to monitor and report on its social quality and accountability in the targeted communities.

5. Identify the key stakeholders and describe the mechanisms for consultation and disclosure on safeguard policies, with an emphasis on potentially affected people.

The key stakeholders are the agricultural communities on whose lands the terraces will be built, meaning those in the commune of Matongo (Kayanza province), as well as the communities around the Kibira National Park. Focus groups (farmers groups, young people, women's groups, men's groups, Batwa communities, others vulnerable) and field visits were organized in the project AF areas of the commune Matongo and around the targeted protected area of Kibira. The project and safeguards instruments were updated taking into consideration local consultations with these communities of the AF areas and will be disclosed after finalization. The Plan to Promote Inclusion of Batwa was consulted locally and regionally with the Batwa communities, including the ones living around the protected area of Kibira, and nationally with UNIPROBA (Unissons-nous pour la Promotion des Batwa). Consultations also involved public actors, local NGOs, Associations, Cooperatives from different targeted commune, local authorities of the Matongo commune. The project will develop and implement a Citizen Engagement Plan and an operational GRM manual to ensure citizens' active participation, involvement and ownership of the activities during the implementation phase until the closing of the project.



**B. Disclosure Requirements (N.B. The sections below appear only if corresponding safeguard policy is triggered)**

**Environmental Assessment/Audit/Management Plan/Other**

Date of receipt by the Bank	Date of submission for disclosure	For category A projects, date of distributing the Executive Summary of the EA to the Executive Directors
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**"In country" Disclosure**

**Resettlement Action Plan/Framework/Policy Process**

Date of receipt by the Bank	Date of submission for disclosure
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**"In country" Disclosure**

**Indigenous Peoples Development Plan/Framework**

Date of receipt by the Bank	Date of submission for disclosure
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**"In country" Disclosure**

**Pest Management Plan**

Was the document disclosed prior to appraisal? NA	Date of receipt by the Bank	Date of submission for disclosure
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**"In country" Disclosure**



**C. Compliance Monitoring Indicators at the Corporate Level (to be filled in when the ISDS is finalized by the project decision meeting) (N.B. The sections below appear only if corresponding safeguard policy is triggered)**

**CONTACT POINT**

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**APPROVAL**

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**Approved By**

Safeguards Advisor:		
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Country Director:		
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