



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations

5th African Soil Partnership plenary meeting

**VIRTUAL MEETING
6-7 JULY 2021**

**The Global and the African Soil Laboratory
Networks: GLOSOLAN and AFRILAB**

Filippo Benedetti, GSP Secretariat

Joseph Uponi, AFRILAB Chair





GLOSOLAN

GLOBAL SOIL LABORATORY NETWORK

Established in November 2017 to:

- Strengthen the performance of laboratories through the use of standardized methods and protocols
- Harmonize soil analysis methods so that soil information would be comparable and interpretable across laboratories, countries and regions

Soils: if you cannot measure it, you cannot manage it

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Soils: if you cannot measure it, you cannot manage it.

GLOSOLAN value chain

Why soil analysis matters?



GLOSOLAN aims to harmonize soil analysis methods so that soil data is comparable and interpretable across soil laboratories in a country, between countries and regions, and globally.

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JOB NUMBER



GLOBAL SOIL PARTNERSHIP

Why GLOSOLAN?

Investing in more efficient labs and harmonized data has national, regional and global implications.

GLOSOLAN is an efficient and effective way to:

- Provide reliable evidence to support **better decision-making** at both field and policy levels;
- Support countries in reporting on progress made towards the **Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)**;
- Contribute to the development of **international standards and indicators**;
- Contribute to the assessment, monitoring and sustainable management of soil and provide quality data to support the establishment of **National Soil Information Systems** that can feed into the Global Soil Information System (GLOSIS);
- **Assist companies** manufacturing laboratory equipment in improving their products;
- Identify **research gaps** and increase investments in research.

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Four major areas of work:



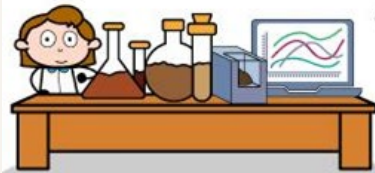
QA/QC

- Execution of external quality control (proficiency testing)
- Training on the execution of internal quality control



SOPs

- Harmonization of Standard Operation Procedures (SOPs)
- Training on the implementation of GLOSOLAN SOPs
- Training on safety and health



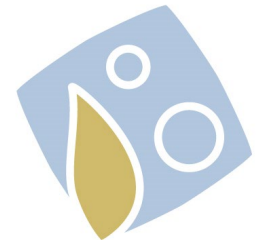
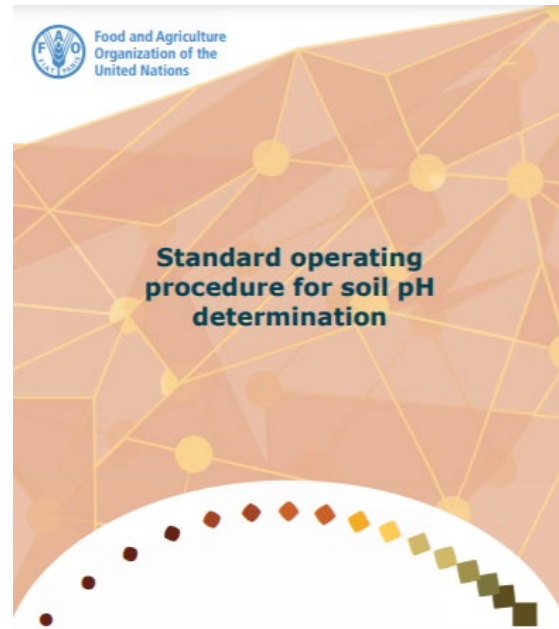
Equipment

- Training on equipment use, maintenance and purchasing
- Establishment of a donation/bartering system
- Soil spectroscopy



Fertilizers
quality
assessment

- Harmonization of fertilizers quality assessment procedures



INFA

International Network
on Fertilizers Analysis

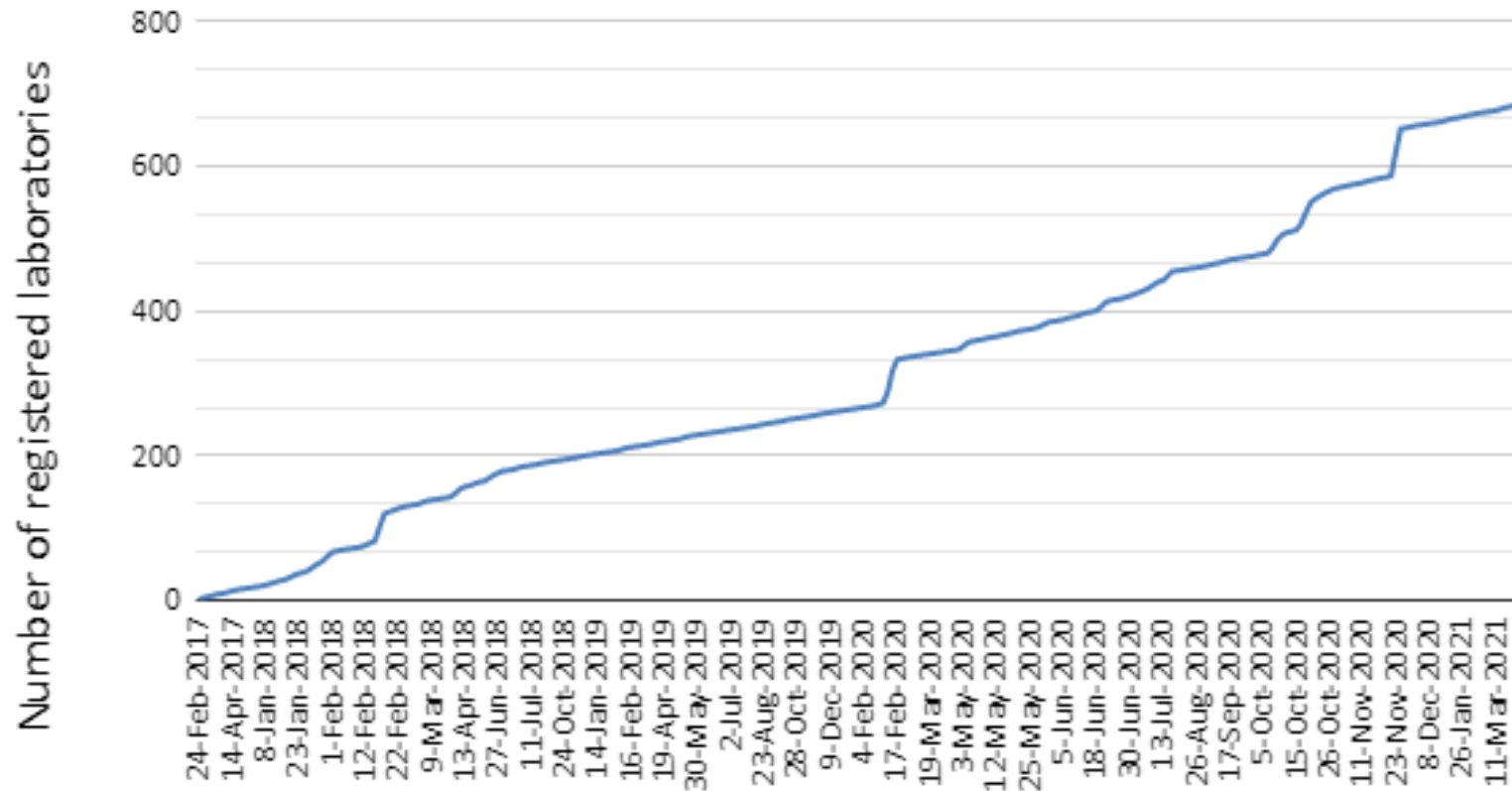
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GLOBAL SOIL
PARTNERSHIP

A network of almost 700 laboratories from more than 150 countries

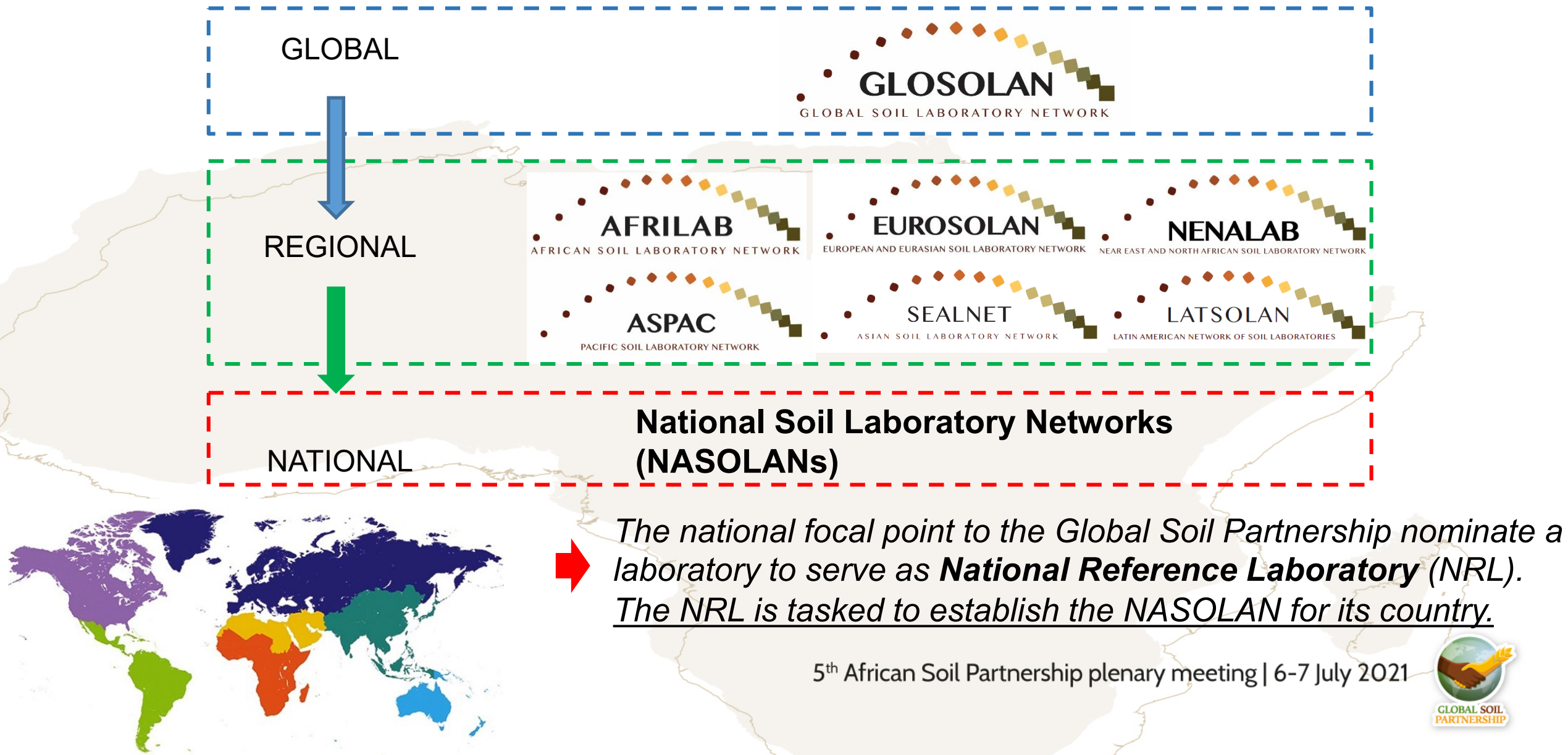
GLOSOLAN growth



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How does GLOSOLAN work?



African Soil Laboratory Network: AFRILAB



- Established in 2019 in Nairobi
- Meets annually to revise its work plan according to the laboratory needs, and the position in GLOSOLAN



AFRILAB-II/20/Report



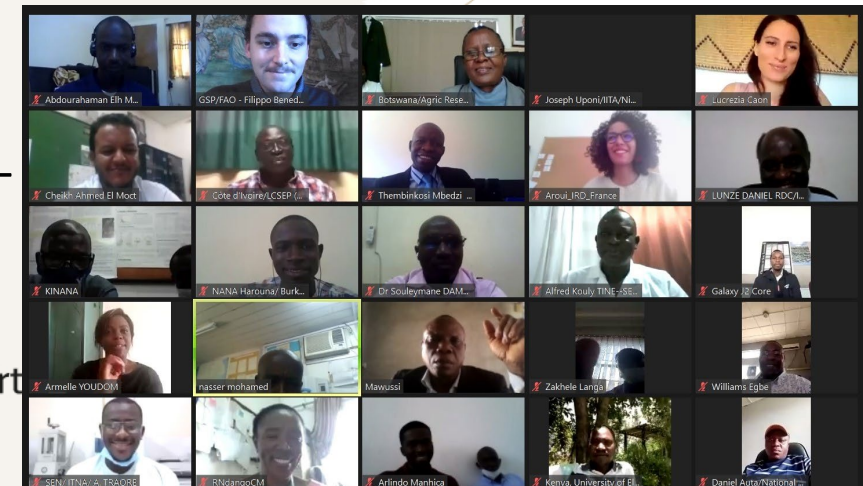
Report of the Second meeting of the African Soil Laboratory Network (AFRILAB)

Virtual meeting, 30 September, 1 and 8 October 2020 (English-speaking countries)
Virtual meeting, 6 – 8 October 2020 (French-speaking countries)

- Governance:
 - Chair: Dr. Joseph Uponi (Nigeria)
 - Vice-Chair for **English**-speaking countries: Dr. Lesego Mooketsi-Selepe (Botswana)
 - Vice-Chair for **French**-speaking countries: Dr. Abdourahaman Moustapha (Niger)

5th African Soil Part

<http://www.fao.org/global-soil-partnership/glosolan/regional-soil-laboratory-networks/afri-lab/en/>



A regional network of more than 130 soil laboratories

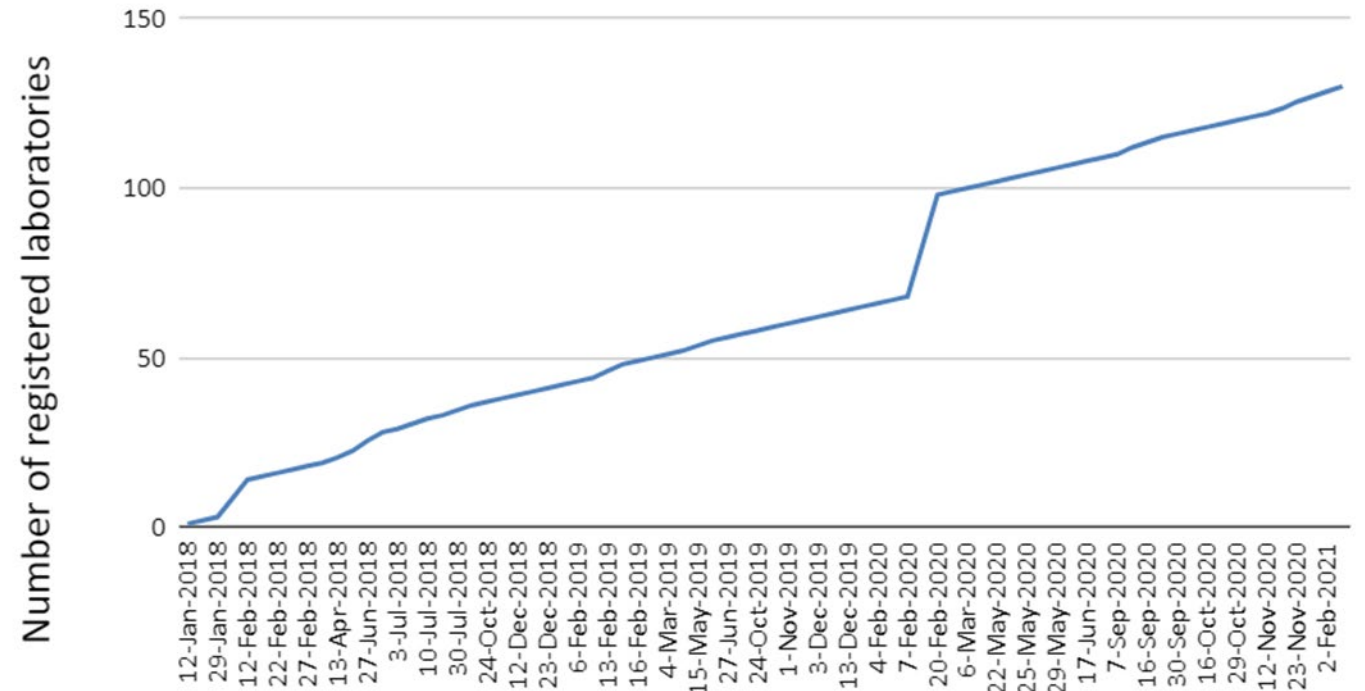
<http://www.fao.org/global-soil-partnership/glosolan/regional-soil-laboratory-networks/afriLAB/en/>

Currently 137 institutions from 39 African countries

To register in the network: download the [online form](#) and send it back to GSP-Secretariat@fao.org

Missing countries: Angola, Burundi, Central African Republic, Comoros, Republic of Congo, Equatorial Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Mauritius, Seychelles

AFRILAB network growth



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Organisation des Nations Unies pour l'alimentation et l'agriculture

Bonnes pratiques en matière d'achat et d'utilisation d'équipement de laboratoire



Ce document vise à fournir au personnel et aux responsables de laboratoire des conseils sur ce qu'il faut faire et ce qu'il ne faut pas faire lors de l'achat de matériel de laboratoire ou de sa réception comme un don.

Ce document est divisé en trois sections et offre aux utilisateurs autant de support que possible. Il comprend également des conseils sur les bonnes pratiques de gestion du matériel consommable et des substances dangereuses.



Activities

- Laboratory equipment purchasing
- Training sessions
- Participation in Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) harmonization
- Translation of GLOSOLAN technical documents



4. Prepare for Emergencies from Uncontrolled Hazards

In case of an emergency.../En cas d'urgence...



Know the locations of:

- fire extinguisher
- fire blanket
- body shower
- eyewash station
- first aid kit



Know Your Surroundings





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Thanks for your kind attention

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