

2026



Understanding and tackling the decline of insects

HORIZON-CL6-2026-01-BIODIV-01

Program:	Horizon Europe - Cluster 6.
Típus:	Research and Innovation Actions
TRL szint:	-
Támogatás projektenként:	6,5 M EUR
Támogatott projektek száma:	2
Pályázati felület megnyílik:	2026. április 17.
Beadási határidő:	2026. szept. 17., 17:00

Felhívás linkje:

<https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/opportunities/topic-details/horizon-cl6-2026-01-biodiv-01>

The dramatic decline of insects, estimated around 75% in the last three decades, is raising increasing concern among scientists and in the public, since it could have far-reaching implications. In order to be able to tackle this decline, there is a need to improve our understanding of the drivers of loss and how they interplay. A better knowledge of insects themselves is necessary.

With targets 4 and 5 of the EU biodiversity strategy for 2030, the EU took, among others, the commitment that by 2030 habitats and species show no deterioration in conservation trend and status, at least 30% reach favourable conservation status or at least show a positive trend, and that the decline of pollinators is reversed.

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Developing methods to assess the presence, functions and sensitivity of groundwater ecosystems

HORIZON-CL6-2026-01-BIODIV-02

Program:	Horizon Europe - Cluster 6.
Típus:	Research and Innovation Actions
TRL szint:	-
Támogatás projektenként:	5 M EUR
Támogatott projektek száma:	2
Pályázati felület megnyílik:	2026. április 17
Beadási határidő:	2026. szept. 17., 17:00

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<https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/opportunities/topic-details/horizon-cl6-2026-01-biodiv-02>

The European Environment Agency (EEA)'s report on Europe's state of water (2024) highlighted that 77% of groundwater, which supplies two thirds of the EU's drinking water, is in good chemical status. For groundwater not reaching good chemical status, the report identified nitrates, pesticides and pharmaceuticals among main issues.

Significant knowledge gaps exist regarding groundwater ecosystems and their biodiversity in Europe, making it challenging to establish their effective protection. Proposals should address such gaps, which would ultimately lead to better protection of our precious drinking water resources, as well as groundwater biodiversity and geodiversity, but also groundwater (aquatic and terrestrial)-dependent ecosystems and biodiversity.

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Pushing the frontier of knowledge and conservation action for deep sea ecosystems

HORIZON-CL6-2026-01-BIODIV-03

Program:	Horizon Europe - Cluster 6.
Típus:	Research and Innovation Actions
TRL szint:	-
Támogatás projektenként:	9 M EUR
Támogatott projektek száma:	2
Pályázati felület megnyílik:	2026. április 17.
Beadási határidő:	2026. szept. 17., 17:00

Felhívás linkje:

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The deep sea represents 90% of the Ocean volume and remains the least explored biome of the planet. Nevertheless, we know that the deep sea forms an extensive and complex ensemble of ecosystems which functioning is crucial to the rest of the biosphere, global biogeochemical cycles and ecosystems upon which much terrestrial life, including human civilisation, depends. The critical limiting factors in the definition and implementation of protection and restoration measures are the lack of biodiversity knowledge and appropriate monitoring, especially in layers below 1000 m. The main reasons are the limited access and high cost of explorations of the diversity of biotopes in the deep sea, and the resources available to identify organisms across the full range of sizes (from microorganisms to megafauna) and describe ecosystems functioning.

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Ensuring continuous effectiveness of protected areas in conserving habitats and species while facing intensifying drivers of biodiversity loss

HORIZON-CL6-2026-01-BIODIV-04

Program:	Horizon Europe - Cluster 6.
Típus:	Research and Innovation Actions
TRL szint:	-
Támogatás projektenként:	6,5 M EUR
Támogatott projektek száma:	2
Pályázati felület megnyílik:	2026. április 17.
Beadási határidő:	2026. szept. 17., 17:00

Felhívás linkje:

<https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/opportunities/topic-details/horizon-cl6-2026-01-biodiv-04>

This topic is expected to support the EU commitment to legally protect a minimum of 30% of the EU's land area and a minimum of 30% of the EU's sea area of the EU biodiversity strategy for 2030 (target 1) and the related legislation, and the corresponding target of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (target 3). Knowledge generated under this topic is also expected to inform deliberations on EU biodiversity policy after 2030 and the design and implementation of climate policies. Proposals should seek to address some knowledge gaps identified by the relevant IPBES assessments and if appropriate provide recommendations to policy makers.

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Advancing integrated scenarios and prediction models for informing transition to a nature positive society

HORIZON-CL6-2026-01-BIODIV-05

Program:	Horizon Europe - Cluster 6.
Típus:	Research and Innovation Actions
TRL szint:	-
Támogatás projektenként:	5 M EUR
Támogatott projektek száma:	2
Pályázati felület megnyílik:	2026. április 17.
Beadási határidő:	2026. szept. 17., 17:00

Felhívás linkje:

<https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/opportunities/topic-details/horizon-cl6-2026-01-biodiv-05>

To address the objectives of the European Green Deal, the EU biodiversity strategy for 2030, the EU Nature Restoration Regulation and the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF), as well as Sustainable Development Goals, actions funded under this topic should support the scientific development of A) integrated scenarios, B) predictive models and C) model intercomparison experiments for Member States and Associated Countries. Developments should be verified in case studies covering at least 2 European biogeographic regions⁹⁹ and spanning key economic sectors to inform systemic policy transformations and enable long-term planning for a nature positive society.

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Boosting agrobiodiversity for food security and sustainable competitiveness

HORIZON-CL6-2026-01-BIODIV-06

Program:	Horizon Europe - Cluster 6.
Típus:	Research and Innovation Actions
TRL szint:	-
Támogatás projektenként:	6 M EUR
Támogatott projektek száma:	2
Pályázati felület megnyílik:	2026. április 17.
Beadási határidő:	2026. szept. 17., 17:00

Felhívás linkje:

<https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/opportunities/topic-details/horizon-cl6-2026-01-biodiv-06>

Genetic erosion poses a significant threat to agricultural resilience, as genetic diversity is crucial for crops to withstand environmental stresses such as climate variations, pests, and diseases. As the global population grows, the demand for increased food production often drives large-scale agriculture, which compromises biodiversity and long-term productivity. While promoting and expanding agrobiodiversity enhances agricultural resilience, socio-economic obstacles hinder broader adoption. Beyond highlighting the importance of conserving agricultural biodiversity for food security, it is essential to demonstrate its role in enhancing food production, increasing farmers' incomes, and safeguarding livelihoods against environmental challenges. A significant obstacle to a wider adoption of more diversified production systems, is perceived risk in that process, in terms of yield, (marginal) income, lack of demand, stable and sufficient pricing, and potential increase of pests.

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Living labs for co-creating solutions for the restoration of ecosystems

HORIZON-CL6-2026-01-BIODIV-01-two-stage

Program:	Horizon Europe - Cluster 6.
Típus:	Research and Innovation Actions
TRL szint:	-
Támogatás projektenként:	7 M EUR
Támogatott projektek száma:	2
Pályázati felület megnyílik:	2026. február 12.
Beadási határidő:	2026.04.16. és 09.23.

Felhívás linkje:

<https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/opportunities/topic-details/horizon-cl6-2026-01-biodiv-01-two-stage>

The EU biodiversity strategy for 2030 defines nature restoration objectives in line with target 2 of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework. The EU Nature Restoration Regulation provides that Member States shall put in place effective and area-based restoration measures. Living labs have the potential to empower a green transition towards nature restoration and climate change mitigation and adaptation by developing solutions in a co-creative manner and involving actors in real life settings to achieve large-scale impact and foster collaboration between sectors and communities.

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Open topic: Uncovering the causes of specific species' rapid decline and exploring actionable solutions

HORIZON-CL6-2026-01-BIODIV-02-two-stage

Program:	Horizon Europe - Cluster 6.
Típus:	Research and Innovation Actions
TRL szint:	-
Támogatás projektenként:	3 M EUR
Támogatott projektek száma:	4
Pályázati felület megnyílik:	2026. február 12.
Beadási határidő:	2026.04.16. és 09.23.

Felhívás linkje:

<https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/opportunities/topic-details/horizon-cl6-2026-01-biodiv-02-two-stage>

As a result of unsustainable human activities, the global population of wild species is estimated to have fallen by more than 70% over the last 50 years¹⁰⁶. This is notably documented for bird populations, with long-term trends demonstrating that Europe has experienced a major decline in biodiversity¹⁰⁷. Some species that were considered common in the past have recently been assessed as threatened or endangered. Proposals should support the implementation of the EU biodiversity strategy for 2030, and particularly target 4: “by 2030, significant areas of degraded and carbon-rich ecosystems are restored. Habitats and species show no deterioration in conservation trends and status; and at least 30% reach favourable conservation status or at least show a positive trend”, the EU legislation on biodiversity protection and the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF), especially target 4: “Halt Species Extinction, Protect Genetic Diversity, and Manage Human-Wildlife Conflicts”.

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Unlocking the potential of citizen action for nature protection and restoration

HORIZON-CL6-2026-01-BIODIV-03-two-stage

Program:	Horizon Europe - Cluster 6.
Típus:	Innovation Action
TRL szint:	-
Támogatás projektenként:	5 M EUR
Támogatott projektek száma:	2
Pályázati felület megnyílik:	2026. február 12.
Beadási határidő:	2026.04.16. és 09.23.

Felhívás linkje:

<https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/opportunities/topic-details/horizon-cl6-2026-01-biodiv-03-two-stage>

The EU biodiversity strategy for 2030 acknowledges that protecting and restoring nature will need more than regulation alone and will notably require action by citizens. This topic intends to support citizens willing to take directly part in nature protection and restoration. It is expected to contribute to the implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework and in particular to its target 21. A wide range of ecosystem types (in terrestrial environment, in fresh and/or marine water) can be considered.

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Mainstreaming and scaling-up evidence-based Nature-Based Solutions towards a nature positive and climate-resilient economy

HORIZON-CL6-2026-01-BIODIV-04-two-stage

Program:	Horizon Europe - Cluster 6.
Típus:	Research and Innovation Actions
TRL szint:	-
Támogatás projektenként:	6 M EUR
Támogatott projektek száma:	3
Pályázati felület megnyílik:	2026. február 12.
Beadási határidő:	2026.04.16. és 09.23.

Felhívás linkje:

<https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/opportunities/topic-details/horizon-cl6-2026-01-biodiv-04-two-stage>

Proposals should thrive to equip policymakers and practitioners with robust evidence, knowledge and practice on NbS. When implemented at scale, and following a credible design and implementation approach thriving for ecosystem integrity and connectivity, NbS can deliver significant benefits and reduced costs.

This topic aims to contribute to the evidence base on the role of NbS in a nature positive and climate resilience society. It supports climate adaptation and mitigation strategies, that ensure long-term economic security and opportunities, respect planetary boundaries and address climate uncertainties.

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Integrating Remote Sensing and in-situ observations of Biodiversity, towards a fully interoperable observation and data framework

HORIZON-CL6-2027-01-BIODIV-01

Program:	Horizon Europe - Cluster 6.
Típus:	Research and Innovation Actions
TRL szint:	-
Támogatás projektenként:	5 M EUR
Támogatott projektek száma:	2
Pályázati felület megnyílik:	2027. Április 20.
Beadási határidő:	2027. szept. 22. 17:00

Felhívás linkje:

<https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/opportunities/topic-details/HORIZON-CL6-2027-01-BIODIV-01>

Achieving the goals of the EU biodiversity strategy for 2030, the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, and assessing progress towards their defined targets, requires coherent, integrated and long-term monitoring approaches, underpinned by FAIR (Findable, Accessible, Interoperable and Re-usable) data systems. Many existing in-situ data collections were not designed with Satellite Remote Sensing integration in mind and lack the structure, interface and metadata required to support advanced analytics, including AI. FAIR data on species and ecosystems will also help to ensure that biodiversity preservation is a mainstream feature of other sectors, such as agriculture, transport, energy or the bioeconomy. There is a need for systemic, harmonised or standardised biodiversity data at Earth's surface in order to support AI applications ranging from genome to space and to build up our knowledge on the status and trends of habitats, species, ecosystems, and on the drivers of decline.

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Science-policy support to the implementation of EU and global biodiversity policies and strategies

HORIZON-CL6-2027-01-BIODIV-02

Program:	Horizon Europe - Cluster 6.
Típus:	Coordination and Support Actions
TRL szint:	-
Támogatás projektenként:	7 M EUR
Támogatott projektek száma:	1
Pályázati felület megnyílik:	2027. április 20.
Beadási határidő:	2027. szept. 22. 17:00

Felhívás linkje:

<https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/opportunities/topic-details/HORIZON-CL6-2027-01-BIODIV-02>

The EU biodiversity strategy for 2030 includes a science-policy mechanism and greater efforts to support the implementation of biodiversity commitments at EU and global levels. The strategy also explicitly calls for the use of NbS as a central component in addressing both biodiversity loss and climate change. In line with the Commission's priority 'A global Europe', the EU is demonstrating leadership in this field, notably by enhancing its support to the multilateral processes and platforms addressing the biodiversity crisis. This topic covers essential functions of the Science Service for Biodiversity, broader science-policy support for multiple actors in relation to the global IPBES and CBD processes, as well as support to collaborations and knowledge exchange specifically on NbS.

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Technical innovation to protect ecosystems and to scale up their restoration

HORIZON-CL6-2027-01-BIODIV-03

Program:	Horizon Europe - Cluster 6.
Típus:	Innovation Action
TRL szint:	TRL 6-7
Támogatás projektenként:	7 M EUR
Támogatott projektek száma:	2
Pályázati felület megnyílik:	2027. április 20.
Beadási határidő:	2027. szept. 22. 17:00

Felhívás linkje:

<https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/opportunities/topic-details/HORIZON-CL6-2027-01-BIODIV-03>

With target 4 of the EU biodiversity strategy for 2030, the EU took the following commitments: significant areas of degraded and carbon-rich ecosystems are restored; habitats and species show no deterioration in conservation trend and status, and at least 30% reach favourable conservation status or at least show a positive trend. According to the EU Nature Restoration Regulation, Member States shall put in place effective and area-based restoration measures with the aim to jointly cover, as a Union target, at least 20 % of land areas and at least 20 % of sea areas by 2030, and all ecosystems in need of restoration by 2050. This is reflected in target 2 of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework. The European Climate Law requires Member States to adopt and implement national adaptation strategies and plans in which they should promote Nature-based Solutions and ecosystem-based adaptation. These policies and legislations have reached the implementation stage in the EU and worldwide.

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Living Labs for the eradication and/or management of invasive alien species

HORIZON-CL6-2027-01-BIODIV-04

Program:	Horizon Europe - Cluster 6.
Típus:	Research and Innovation Actions
TRL szint:	-
Támogatás projektenként:	8 M EUR
Támogatott projektek száma:	3
Pályázati felület megnyílik:	2027. április 20.
Beadási határidő:	2027. szept. 22. 17:00

Felhívás linkje:

<https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/opportunities/topic-details/HORIZON-CL6-2027-01-BIODIV-04>

Proposals are expected to support the prevention, eradication and/or management of invasive alien species by stakeholders, including adaptive management approaches. This topic is related to target 12 the EU biodiversity strategy for 2030 (50% reduction in the number of Red List species threatened by invasive alien species) and to target 6 of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework: reduce the introduction of Invasive Alien Species by 50% by 2030 and minimize their impact. Proposals should support the implementation of the EU Nature Restoration Regulation, the EU regulation on invasive alien species and the Marine Strategy Framework Directive. Proposals should seek to address some knowledge gaps identified by the IPBES assessment on invasive alien species (2023). All ecosystem types (terrestrial, fresh and/or marine waters) may be addressed.

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Accelerating the transition to a nature positive economy: Integrating biodiversity into the private sector

HORIZON-CL6-2027-01-BIODIV-05

Program:	Horizon Europe - Cluster 6.
Típus:	Research and Innovation Actions
TRL szint:	-
Támogatás projektenként:	7 M EUR
Támogatott projektek száma:	2
Pályázati felület megnyílik:	2027. április 20.
Beadási határidő:	2027. szept. 22. 17:00

Felhívás linkje:

<https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/opportunities/topic-details/HORIZON-CL6-2027-01-BIODIV-05>

Current economic systems are often driven by growth models and competitive pressures that prioritise short-term profits and speed over the long-term health of ecosystems. These systems also fail to account for environmental externalities, making nature positive solutions appear less affordable than they truly are. This has led to the exploitation of natural resources, habitat destruction, and loss of biodiversity, which in turn has significant negative impacts on both the environment and human well-being. Safeguarding biodiversity and ecosystem services is not just important, it is essential to preserving life on Earth, as they underpin the very systems that sustain all human and natural life. As these systems continue, the consequences are becoming increasingly clear: climate change, soil degradation, water scarcity, pollution and species extinction, all of which undermine the foundations of human society, business, and future prosperity.

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Living labs driving transformative change via knowledge integration and inclusive governance

HORIZON-CL6-2027-01-BIODIV-06

Program:	Horizon Europe - Cluster 6.
Típus:	Research and Innovation Actions
TRL szint:	-
Támogatás projektenként:	7 M EUR
Támogatott projektek száma:	2
Pályázati felület megnyílik:	2027. április 20.
Beadási határidő:	2027. szept. 22. 17:00

Felhívás linkje:

<https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/opportunities/topic-details/HORIZON-CL6-2027-01-BIODIV-06>

As nature positive actions gain momentum and biodiversity is increasingly integrated into policies, it is essential to ensure governance frameworks can support large-scale, coordinated implementation. Relevant stakeholders should be actively involved in shaping new solutions adapted to different and local contexts. Living labs have the potential to empower a green transition and a transformative change towards nature positive society and economy by developing solutions in a co-creative manner and involving actors in real life settings to achieve large-scale impact and foster collaboration between sectors and communities. Proposals should align with key policies including the European Green Deal and the EU biodiversity strategy for 2030, the Sustainable Development Goals, the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF), the Paris Agreement, the European Climate Law and the One Health approach.

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Health of ecosystems and wild species, predictions and impacts on human health, in the face of existing and emerging stressors, from a One Health approach

HORIZON-CL6-2027-01-BIODIV-07

Program:	Horizon Europe - Cluster 6.
Típus:	Research and Innovation Actions
TRL szint:	-
Támogatás projektenként:	7 M EUR
Támogatott projektek száma:	2
Pályázati felület megnyílik:	2027. április 20.
Beadási határidő:	2027. szept. 22. 17:00

Felhívás linkje:

<https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/opportunities/topic-details/HORIZON-CL6-2027-01-BIODIV-07>

The One Health approach recognises the inherent connection between the health of ecosystems, wildlife, humans, domestic animals and plants. This approach is key to prevent, anticipate, detect and respond to health threats across sectors. It has the potential to reduce the impact and societal and economic costs of such threats and prevent their emergence, while also reducing pressures on the environment, contributing to food security and ensuring access to clean air and water. Proposals should support the objectives and the implementation of the EU Green Deal, the EU biodiversity strategy for 2030, and the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework as well as the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) Global Action Plan on Biodiversity and Health¹²⁷. Proposals should seek the mainstreaming of the One Health approach, address the knowledge gaps identified by IPBES assessments, and provide policy recommendations.

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Fostering common farmland birds and mammals for resilient food production systems

HORIZON-CL6-2027-01-BIODIV-08

Program:	Horizon Europe - Cluster 6.
Típus:	Research and Innovation Actions
TRL szint:	-
Támogatás projektenként:	6 M EUR
Támogatott projektek száma:	2
Pályázati felület megnyílik:	2027. április 20.
Beadási határidő:	2027. szept. 22. 17:00

Felhívás linkje:

<https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/opportunities/topic-details/HORIZON-CL6-2027-01-BIODIV-08>

Maintaining and improving farmland bird populations is crucial for both conservation and the long-term sustainability of food production systems. Farmland birds and mammals provide valuable ecosystem services, such as pest control, pollination, and seed dispersal, which are essential for resilient agriculture. Focusing on birds ensures the preservation of these services, while also contributing to broader biodiversity goals. Additionally, including farmland mammals in the research helps assess potential synergies and trade-offs in pest control, providing a more holistic ecological understanding. As farmland birds and mammals can cause damage by consuming crops, it is important that research seeks the correct equilibrium between the utility of these animals and the damage they can cause. This broader perspective allows for more informed decisions on how to design farming systems that are not only beneficial to bird populations but also support the protection and restoration of healthy ecosystems.

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Enhancing the competitiveness of organic crop breeding: focus on intercropping adapted varieties

HORIZON-CL6-2027-01-BIODIV-09

Program:	Horizon Europe - Cluster 6.
Típus:	Research and Innovation Actions
TRL szint:	TRL 4-5
Támogatás projektenként:	6 M EUR
Támogatott projektek száma:	2
Pályázati felület megnyílik:	2027. április 20.
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Plant breeding has focused on maximising yield in single species stands for monocropping systems, leading to highly productive yet specialised varieties. As a result, most varieties on the market may not perform well in intercropping systems, where productivity and benefits often depend on the interactions between crops. To support farming practices that promote agrobiodiversity, there is a need to develop varieties specifically adapted to intercropping. However, selecting varieties specifically for intercropping remains a practical challenge for breeding.

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