TECHNISCHE UNIVERSITÄT DRESDEN

Faculty of Environmental Sciences -
Centre for International Postgraduate Studies of Environmental Management

UNEP/UNESCO/BMUV Environmental Management Training Program for Developing Countries | 2023-24 call for applications

In support of both the Sustainable Development Goals and the Paris Climate Agreement, Technische Universität Dresden (Germany) is offering a range of integrated environmental management courses for developing countries including emerging economies in 2023 and 2024:

87th UNEP/UNESCO/BMUV International Short Course on
Ecosystem restoration for SDGs: implications for natural resources management (SC87)
Application period: **15 February to 29 March 2023**
Course period*:* **31 July to 01 September 2023 (5 weeks, online) in a full-time format**
>> more information on page 3

88th UNEP/UNESCO/BMUV International Short Course on
Nature-based Solutions to emerging water challenges (SC88)
Application period: **15 February to 29 March 2023**
Course period: **18 October to 10 November 2023 (3,5 weeks on-site) in a full-time format**
>> more information on page 6

89th UNEP/UNESCO/BMUV International Short Course on
Climate adaptation towards social justice and just transition (SC89)
Application period**: 01 March to 12 April 2023**
Course period: **13 November to 15 December 2023 (5 weeks, online) in a full-time format**
>> more information on page 9

47th UNEP/UNESCO/BMUV International Postgraduate Course on
Environmental Management for Developing Countries (EM47)
Application period**: 29 March to 15 May 2023**
Course period: **11 January to 12 July 2024 (6 months, on-site in Dresden) in a full-time format**
>> more information on page 12

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The Centre for International Postgraduate Studies of Environmental Management (CIPSEM) offers a range of integrated and multidisciplinary training programs in line with the Sustainable Development Goals and the Paris Agreement, covering key aspects of sustainability and environmental management.

CIPSEM has designed these programs to contribute to individual and institutional capacity building in developing countries. The aim is to enhance the skills of professionals in environmental planning, coordination and management within their home countries' ministries, agencies and local government units, NGOs and applied research institutions. CIPSEM's systemic, interdisciplinary approach adequately addresses the complexity of managing environmental resources in a multifaceted way, while focusing on local strategies and appropriate measures to protect the environment in an ecologically, socio-economically and culturally sound manner. Cross-cutting elements such as good scientific work, science-policy interfaces and joint social activities link the modular system and create the essential key competencies for modern, sustainable management of rural and urban environments in a global perspective.

For this purpose, 21 established or aspiring experts and leaders from different countries are invited to participate in each course. All courses are designed for professionals from government, science or civil society who already bear responsibility for sustainable development in developing countries, including emerging economies. Our participants typically have several years of relevant work experience and apply for the training with the support of their local institutions. The course language is English.

The postgraduate courses are organized in partnership with UNEP and UNESCO in support of the 2030 Agenda, with funding and support from the German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Nuclear Safety and Consumer Protection (BMUV) and the German Environment Agency (UBA). Through this postgraduate program, both facilitators and participants can improve their intercultural skills, work in a global context, and learn how to work with others from different backgrounds. Thus, CIPSEM provides an excellent opportunity for colleagues working at the national, regional or local level to expand their networks, learn from each other and become more effective and recognized leaders.

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Ecosystem restoration for SDGs: implications for natural resources management (SC87) >> 31.07. – 01.09.2023 (online)

Interactive online full-time course with intense personal guidance and support for building lasting networks in a peer-group of international professionals

Motivation

By proclaiming the UN Decade for Ecosystem Restoration, governments have recognized the need to prevent, halt and reverse the degradation of ecosystems worldwide for the benefit of people and nature. The 2021-2030 timeline underscores the urgency of the task. For example, about one-third of the world's agricultural land is degraded, about 87 percent of inland wetlands have disappeared since 1700, and one-third of commercial fish species are overexploited. Degradation is already affecting the well-being of an estimated 3.2 billion people - that's 40 percent of the world's population. In addition, we lose ecosystem services worth more than 10 percent of our global economic output every year.

UNITED NATIONS DECADE ON ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION 2021-2030

1: Source: Society for Ecological Restoration, 2023

The UN Decade for Ecosystem Restoration provides a unique opportunity to transform food, fiber, and feed production systems to meet 21st-century needs and eliminate poverty, hunger, and malnutrition. This short course (SC87) contributes to the powerful efforts within the Decade to restore ecosystems, without which we cannot achieve the climate goals of the Paris Agreement, the Sustainable Development Goals, or the Convention on Biological Diversity targets.

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Course concept and objectives

This course offers **a unique opportunity** to address **effective and innovative landscape management** that prevents and stops degradation and restores degraded ecosystems. The short course will explore critical discussions such as:

- How ecosystem restoration and other natural solutions could contribute more than a third of the total climate mitigation needed by 2030?
- How ecosystem restoration can also contribute to mitigate the risk of mass extinction and future pandemics?
- How actors from governments and businesses to civil society groups and individuals can best contribute to ecosystem restoration?
- Particular attention will be paid to the question of how to reduce the economic reliance on inefficient and destructive measures, and how to achieve sustainable development through the sustainable use of biodiversity's economic potential.

Moreover, tools such as integrated spatial planning will be introduced in the course to improve the balance between economic, social, and environmental goals, ensure the sustainability and efficiency of these systems and reduce their overall footprint. For example, agricultural land could be restored to produce more food, converted for timber production, or restoration can be directed towards biodiversity conservation or water management.

After completing the course, participants will be able to:

- Explain the concept of ecosystem restoration and its value for sustainable development, 2030 Agenda and its SDGs;
- Build up capacities to monitor ecosystem degradation and biodiversity loss and its consequences for ecosystem resilience and human livelihoods;
- Apply different ecosystem restoration approaches in different biomes and socio-ecological systems also to a real-life policy-making context;
- Apply the landscape management approach in the development and implementation of different measures/strategies;
- Assess different aspects of biodiversity conservation, ecosystem restoration approaches and technologies in a holistic anthropocentric view.

With the course-accompanying creation of **Post-Training Action Plans (PTAPs)**, participants prepare themselves to transfer knowledge acquired in the training into their professional action spaces.

Target groups

This course is aimed at **experts who prepare and implement political decisions and practical measures** towards the goals of ecosystem restoration and sustainable development in ministries, authorities, local government and non-governmental institutions of developing countries (including emerging economies).

We expect a high motivation to explore concepts for ecosystem sustainability and to work towards implementing them. A first university degree (e.g., BA, BSc) in a related field is essential. Adequate communication skills in the English language and the nomination by the delegating institution for this full-time course are mandatory.

What makes participating in this online course transformative?

- Experience of the CIPSEM team in conducting engaging, meaningful online trainings considering the challenges in developing countries and emerging economies
- A full time, 5-weeks learning experience combining live video-conference sessions, self-study units and exchange on our online learning platform
- Renowned international and German facilitators
- Financial support towards good internet access and living costs (640 €)
- Participants become part of a large international network of environmental experts and leaders (more than 2 500 alumni from 145 countries)
- Transfer of the gained knowledge and skills though mentored development of post-training action plans
- Alumni of this course can apply for one of several Transfer-to-Action-Fellowships supporting the implementation of the post-training action plan with 2000 €

Application and participation

Qualified professionals are welcome to apply for this training from **15 February until 29 March 2023** on CIPSEM's online application portal. The Steering Committee selects 21 participants of this course by **end of May 2023**. Only selected participants will be informed via email. Successful participants are awarded a **Certificate of Proficiency in Ecosystem restoration for SDGs: implications for natural resources management**

For more information and to apply, please visit https://tud.de/cipsem/upcoming

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TECHNISCHE UNIVERSITÄT DRESDEN

Faculty of Environmental Sciences -
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Nature-based Solutions to emerging water challenges (SC88)

>> 18.10. – 10.11.2023 (on-site in Dresden)

Interactive full-time course with intense personal guidance and support for building lasting networks in a peer-group of international professionals

Motivation

Many countries are increasingly vulnerable to climate change, which affects both water quantity and quality and is exacerbated by population growth, urbanization, and increasing water demand. This is compounded by the worrying degradation of critical natural resources such as wetlands, forests, rivers, and lakes on which so many depend. This short course aims to demonstrate the potential of nature-based solutions (NbS) to respond to the emerging climate-related challenges in water management by providing a science-based state-of-the-art, presenting a collection of case studies, and discussing lessons learned to date.

2: Source: United Nations, 2023

The inherent diversity and flexibility of NbS and their broad contribution to sustainable development goals make them a critical mechanism for building resilience to climate change in the water resources sector while also creating an essential contribution to achieving multiple SDGs. Furthermore, in the context of economic recovery from the COVID pandemic, there is a need and an opportunity to invest in solutions that can benefit across sectors. NbS provide such an opportunity through infrastructure solutions that address vital water management and climate change challenges while providing a wide range of environmental and socio-economic benefits.

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Course concept and objectives

This course offers a unique opportunity to discuss how **nature-based solutions can help tackle many different environmental risks** in urban and rural territories especially related to water challenges, **while offering additional benefits for health, well-being and economies**. The short course will explore critical topics such as:

- The path towards resilient and sustainable ecosystems
- Planetary Boundaries and Doughnut Economy
- Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction and the synergies with climate action
- The concept of NbS
- Theory of change and systemic change
- Nature-based Solutions in water management
- Policies Frameworks for implementing NbS in urban and rural territories
- Ecosystem-based adaptation and climate justice

Moreover, case studies presented during field trips and seminars range from urban greening projects and coastal protection initiatives to local wastewater treatment and municipal eco-engineering projects, demonstrating the versatility of NbS options for different conditions. The short course also looks at the international, national, and local mechanisms for implementing and financing NbS.

Objectives

After completing the course, participants will be able to:

- Explain the concept of NbS and its value for sustainable development, 2030 Agenda and its SDGs;
- Identify and distinguish key elements of effective sustainability towards water challenges
- Apply NbS to a real-life policy-making context;
- Apply the NbS approach in the development and implementation of measures/strategies in water problems;
- Discuss the main challenges/opportunities for advancing NbS in the context of water management;
- Distinguish and use key elements of effective policy planning to promote sustainable urban and rural development;
- Pursue an integrated, holistic approach to political and investment decisions towards sustainable natural resources use;
- Apply gained knowledge on environmental communication and mediation skills;
- Develop long-term visions for sustainable water systems, informed by the SDGs, and derive adaptable plans towards these visions.

With the course-accompanying creation of **Post-Training Action Plans (PTAPs)**, participants prepare themselves to transfer knowledge acquired in the training into their professional action spaces.

Target group

This course is aimed at **experts who prepare and implement political decisions and practical measures** towards the goals of sustainable development and water management in ministries, authorities, local government and non-governmental institutions of developing countries (including emerging economies).

We expect a high motivation to explore concepts for water sustainability and to work towards implementing them. A first university degree (e.g. BA, BSc) in a related field is essential. Adequate communication skills in the English language and the nomination by the delegating institution for this full-time course are mandatory.

What makes participating in this course transformative?

- Experience of the CIPSEM team in conducting engaging, meaningful trainings considering the challenges in developing countries and emerging economies
- A full-time, 3,5-weeks learning experience combining sessions and group work with guided self-study units and exchange on our network
- Renowned international and German facilitators
- Participants become part of a large international network of environmental experts and leaders (more than 2 500 alumni from 145 countries)
- Transfer of the gained knowledge and skills though mentored development of post-training action plans
- Participants stay in our comfortable single studio apartments and receive a stipend to cover basic living expenses (550 €). In addition, flights, health insurance, public transport tickets will be covered. The course office will provide additional manifold assistance.
- Alumni of this course can apply for one of several innovation fellowships supporting the implementation of the post-training action plan with 2000 €

Application & participation

Qualified professionals are welcome to apply for this training from **15 February until 29 March 2023** on CIPSEM's online application portal. The Steering Committee selects 21 participants of this course by **early June 2023.** Only selected participants will be informed via email. Successful participants are awarded a **Certificate of Proficiency in Nature-based Solutions to emerging water challenges.**

For more information and to apply, please visit https://tud.de/cipsem/upcoming

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Faculty of Environmental Sciences -
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Climate adaptation towards social justice and just transition >> 13.11. - 15.12.2023 (online)

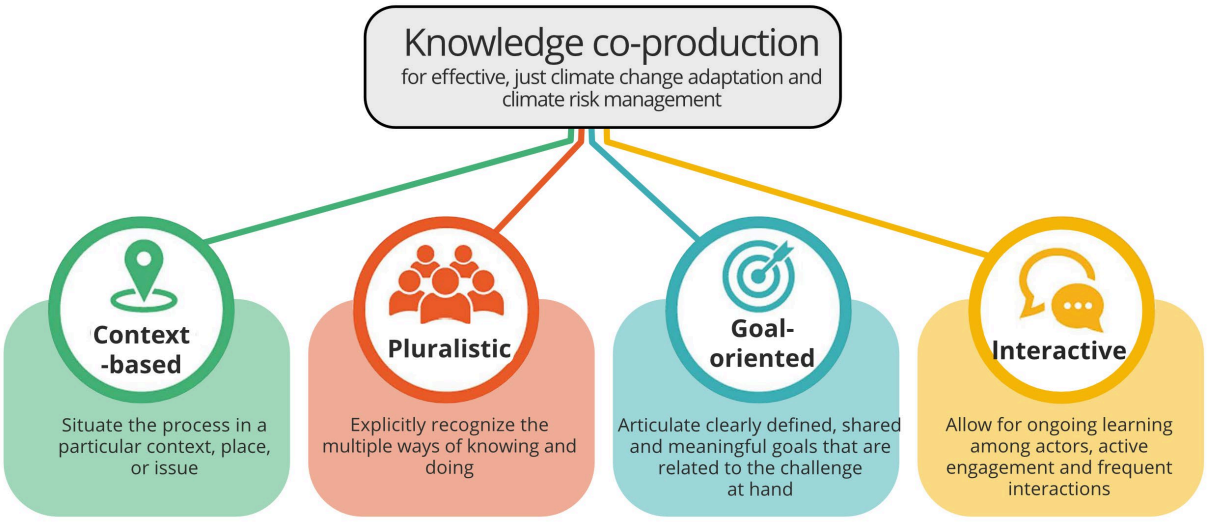
Interactive online full-time course with intense personal guidance and support for building lasting networks in a peer-group of international professionals

Motivation

The short course examines the unequal consequences of both climate impacts and adaptation measures and explores how a fair and equitable transition to climate neutrality can be achieved.

Many impacts of the climate crisis hit the most vulnerable members of society hardest. They have the least capacity to adapt. Adaptation measures to address climate risks will also have unequal impacts. These impacts of adaptation measures may differ from the impacts of the climate risks they seek to avoid. Some adaptation interventions may have unintended negative impacts, leaving others more exposed to climate risks.

Effective and equitable adaptation requires that distributional impacts be considered throughout the policy cycle. Equity and inequity must be considered at all stages of policy design, implementation and evaluation to ensure that adaptation policies are consistent with a just transition to a well-adapted society. In-depth exchange with affected stakeholders forms a basis for designing such effective adaptation policies.



3: Principles of knowledge co-production for climate change adaptation and climate risk management (source: adapted from Norström et al. 2020

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Course concept and objectives

In this short course, participants will deepen their knowledge of current climate change adaptation issues and critically analyze key debates in the field. Participants will learn about relevant theory and how to apply it in practice. Together, we will critically analyze frameworks for climate change adaptation, examine successes at the international level and in the Global South, and identify challenges in the field. Throughout the course, participants will explore the issues through a critical review of published literature and real-world case studies. Participants will explore how full and regular engagement with all affected stakeholders throughout the policy cycle can be at the heart of adaptation policy design.

After completing the course, participants will be able to:

- Critically analyze local, national and international frameworks for climate change adaptation
- Set up just climate adaptation strategies
- Throughout the adaptation policy cycle, engage with stakeholders affected by climate change for most effective policy design

With the course-accompanying creation of **Post-Training Action Plans (PTAPs)**, participants prepare themselves to transfer knowledge acquired in the training into their professional action spaces.

Target groups

This course is aimed at experts who prepare and implement political decisions and practical measures in ministries, authorities, local government and non-governmental institutions of developing countries (including emerging economies) working on resource sustainability and climate protection as well as sustainable societal development.

We expect a high motivation to explore concepts for climate action and to work towards implementing them. A first university degree (e.g. BA, BSc) in a related field is essential. Adequate communication skills in the English language and the nomination by the delegating institution for this full-time course are mandatory.

What makes participating in this online course transformative?

- Experience of the CIPSEM team in conducting engaging, meaningful online trainings considering the challenges in developing countries and emerging economies
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- Alumni of this course can apply for one of several innovation fellowships supporting the implementation of the post-training action plan with 2000 €

Application and participation

Qualified professionals are welcome to apply for this training from **01 March until 12 April 2023** on CIPSEM's online application portal. The Steering Committee selects 21 participants of this course by **July 2023.** Only selected participants will be informed via email. Successful participants are awarded a **Certificate of Proficiency in Climate adaptation towards social justice and just transition.**

For more information and to apply, please visit https://tud.de/cipsem/upcoming

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47th UNEP/UNESCO/BMUV International Postgraduate Course on Environmental Management for Developing Countries (EM47)

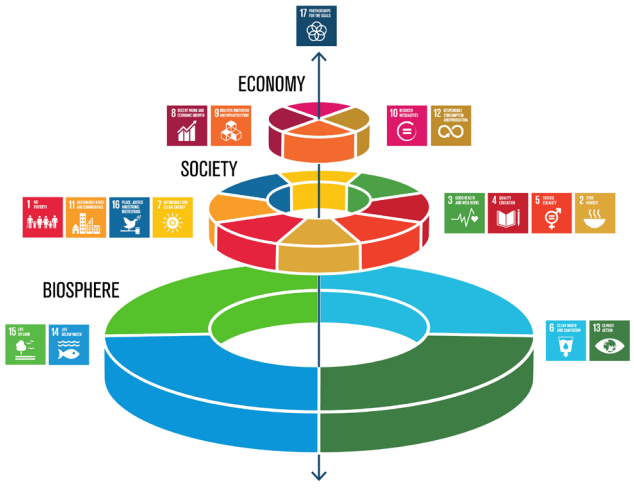
>> 11.01.2024 – 12.07.2024 (on-site in Dresden)

Motivation

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) were a remarkable advancement when adopted by the United Nations in 2015. For the first time, the world committed towards a broad spectrum of common goals ranging from climate action to sustainable economic growth, from life below water to sustainable cities, ending hunger and poverty to responsible consumption and production, and reduced inequalities to inclusive industrialization. The 2030 Agenda is a clear recognition that our biosphere's preservation depends on the sustainable stewardship of planet Earth.

Course concept and objectives

Worldwide, implementation of both the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the Paris Climate Agreement is lagging far behind the ambitious targets. In support of both agreements, the UNEP/UNESCO/BMUV 6-month course follows an integrated and interdisciplinary approach in line with the SDGs and the Paris Agreement, covering key aspects of sustainability and environmental management.



4: Biosphere foundation for global sustainability (Source: Rockström and Sukhdev 2016, Azote Images for Stockholm Resilience Centre)

The curriculum is organized in several modules comprising conservation and restoration ecology, water and atmosphere, soil and land resources, sustainable urban and regional development,

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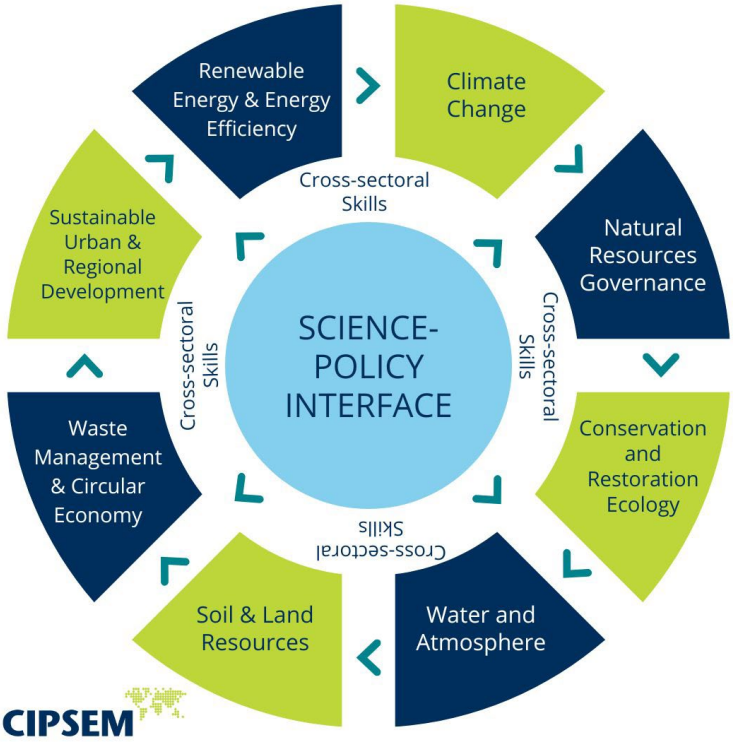
waste management and circular economy, renewable energy and energy efficiency, climate change and natural resource governance. An overarching science-policy interface frames all disciplines.



5: Modular structure of the course contents of the UNEP/UNESCO/BMUV International Postgraduate Course on Environmental Management for Developing Countries (EM)

Moreover, all participants will train fundamental skills with cross-sectoral relevance such as policy advice, presentation skills, project planning and management, which can be applied in the context of their local realities as well as communication across disciplines and cultures, participatory government practices, and understanding of geo-information.

CIPSEM follows an integrative and interdisciplinary teaching approach which conveys not only knowledge on global environmental processes and methods for the sustainable management of resources, but also promotes abilities in a holistic way of thinking with respect to environmental thematic problems and in finding corresponding solutions. The overall approach is to blend academic knowledge with local, traditional and professional expertise.

The lectures are given by professors of Technische Universität Dresden and experts from various national and international institutions. This includes contributions by CIPSEM alumni. Participants are required to carry out a research project with a scientific scope on a specific environment-related subject and present the results of this work in a symposium at the end of the course.

After attending the course, participants will be able to develop multi- and interdisciplinary measures and strategies for sustainable development and implement them appropriately for environmental protection and management that considers ecological, socio-economic, political and cultural aspects.

Target groups

This course is particularly designed for experts and leaders of public governance and administration at the national, regional and local level requiring an overall-competence in environmental matters. However, professionals from science, economy or civil society who already bear responsibility for sustainable development in their countries are welcome to apply as well. To be eligible, candidates need to originate from and work in developing countries, including emerging economies. Applicants also need to have several years of professional practice in the course's scope for a mutually beneficial exchange of experiences. A first university degree (e.g. BA, BSc,), adequate communication skills in the English language, and the delegating institution's nomination are mandatory.

6: Impressions from past trainings on environmental management (photos by CIPSEM)

Application and participation

Qualified professionals are welcome to apply for this training from **29 March until 15 May 2023** on CIPSEM's online application portal. The Steering Committee selects 21 participants of this course by **early August 2023**. Only selected participants will be informed via email.

Participants stay in our comfortable single studio apartments and receive a stipend to cover basic living expenses (550 €/month). In addition, flights, health insurance, public transport tickets, costs of over-night stays for excursions etc., will be covered. The course office will provide additional manifold assistance.

Participants successfully completing this course will be awarded a **Postgraduate Diploma in Environmental Management.**

For more information and to apply, please visit https://tud.de/cipsem/upcoming

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7: EM-Participants during the festive opening ceremony of 2023 (by Victor Smolinski / CIPSEM)

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