

The Twelfth Session of the Scientific Advisory Committee
on the Acid Deposition Monitoring Network in East Asia
22-24 November 2012, Yangon, Myanmar

Progress Report on the Activities of the Task Force on Research Coordination

Chair of the Task Force/NC

I. Background

1. The Ninth Session of the Intergovernmental Meeting (IG9) held on 19-20 November 2007 in Vientiane, Lao PDR approved the establishment of the Task Force on Research Coordination together with other Task Forces and Expert Groups based on the recommendation of the Seventh Session of the Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC7). The establishment of the new task forces and expert groups was to enable more effective implementation of the scientific activities of the Strategy on EANET Development (2006-2010) in collaboration with the NC and the Secretariat of EANET.
2. SAC7 appointed Dr. Sergey Gromov as the Chairperson of the Task Force on Research Coordination and the Network Center for EANET (NC), as the secretariat. SAC7 also decided that all the chairs of the other task forces and expert groups under the Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC) should be members of the Task Force on Research Coordination.

II. Activities

II-1. First meeting of the Task Force

3. The first meeting of the Task Force on Research Coordination was held at the Acid Deposition and Oxidant Research Center (ADORC) in Japan on 25-26 June 2008.
4. Based on the discussion at the first meeting and follow-up communication with the meeting participants, the NC coordinated the preparation of the concept papers of the high priority research projects by the designated project leaders. The NC also prepared a set of draft Guidelines for Selection and Implementation of High Priority Research Project funded by EANET as requested by the Task Force. The concept papers and set of guidelines were circulated among the members of the Task Force in early September 2008 for their comments.
5. The concept papers and draft Guidelines were revised based on the comments and suggestions from the members. The Task Force agreed to submit the documents to the Eighth Session of the Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC8) for further review and endorsement.

II-2. Discussion at SAC8

6. The SAC8 was held from 15 through 17 October 2008 in Hanoi, Vietnam. The NC presented the Draft Procedures for Establishing Task Forces and Expert Groups under SAC. The Session was informed on the necessity to develop a new set of guidelines for establishment and working procedures of the task forces and expert groups under SAC for consideration and approval of the IG.
7. The Session agreed to the revised draft Procedures for Establishing Task Forces and Expert Groups under SAC including the respective Terms of Reference (TOR) and memberships (as of October 2008). The Session agreed that the procedures as well as the revised TOR will be submitted to the Tenth Session of the Intergovernmental Meeting (IG10) to be held in November 2008 for endorsement.
8. SAC agreed to the three high priority research projects recommended to IG for funding using EANET budget:
 - i) Analysis of existing data for improving the understanding of the status of acidification in East Asia
 - ii) Studies on the suitability of various low-cost methodologies, such as passive samplers, for monitoring air concentration
 - iii) Aerosol deposition study in forests for improvement of estimation methods for dry deposition flux
9. The concept papers of these projects with the estimated cost have been prepared by the respective project leaders. Detailed implementation plans for each project would be prepared upon approval of the budget by the IG. SAC agreed that the duration of the research projects could be extended beyond a year depending on the objectives.
10. SAC adopted the set of guidelines for selection and implementation of high priority research projects and took note of the list of potential future research activities (for reference) prepared by the task force.

II-3. Discussion at IG11

11. The IG11 was held from 19 to 20 November 2009 in Bangkok, Thailand. The Chairperson of the SAC9 presented the Outcomes of the Ninth Session of the Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC9) (EANET/IG 11/9), and the Session endorsed the report.
12. and the “Terms of Reference of the Task Forces and Expert Groups (revised)” (Annex 4 of EANET/IG 10/14 Report of the Session).
13. The Session endorsed the three high-priority research projects proposed by SAC (Annex 1 of EANET/IG 10/7).

III-1. Second meeting of the Task Force

14. The second meeting of the Task Force on Research Coordination was held in Tsukuba, Japan on 13 October 2009, back to back with the Ninth Session of Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC9).

III-2. Discussion at SAC9

15. The Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC) of the Acid Deposition Monitoring Network in East Asia (EANET) held its Ninth Session (SAC9) from 14 to 16 October 2009 in Tsukuba, Japan. The Chairperson of the Task Force on Research Coordination presented a Progress Report on the Activities of the Task Force on Research Coordination (EANET/SAC 9/8/6)

III-3. Discussion at IG11

16. The IG11 was held from 19 to 20 November 2009 in Bangkok, Thailand. The Chairperson of the SAC9 presented the Outcomes of the Ninth Session of the Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC9) (EANET/IG 11/9), and the Session endorsed the report.

IV-1. Third meeting of the Task Force

17. The third meeting of the Task Force on Research Coordination was held in Pattaya, Thailand on 14 October 2010, back to back with the Tenth Session of Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC10).

18. The major decisions of the meeting are summarized as follows:

- Following the proposal of the chair of TFRC, the reviewers for the fellowship report for 2009 and 2010 were selected: Prof. Cho and Dr. Ohizumi would review the report of Dr. Rattapon Onchang in 2009, Dr. Phillip and Dr. Ohizumi will review the report of Ms. Sopittaporn Sillapapiromsuk in 2010, and Dr. Gromov and Dr. Akimoto will review the report of Mr. Pham Van Sy in 2010.
- It was pointed out that in order to improve the efficiency and support of EANET research, the co-benefit approach between climate change and air pollution should be utilized. One of the possibilities could be studies on short-live greenhouse substances like Black Carbon, Methane and Ozone as a part of EANET research activity.
- It was also pointed out that Socio-economics aspects should be more focused in the scope of EANET research activity. Cooperation with initiatives within Asia-Pacific region such as Male Declaration and Joint Forum of Atmospheric Environment was proposed as more important than exchange of result with initiatives in other regions.
- In order to help countries of EANET to organize cooperation projects, the guideline should be developed. It was mentioned that possibilities to effectively realize participating counties willingness to support research activities by national resources under the formal framework of research cooperation. It was pointed out, however, the mechanisms of research fund raising may be different country by country. The chair requested the contributions from members to develop the mentioned guideline.

- Dr. Akimoto suggested to discuss the possibility on special EANET session during Acid Rain 2010 to present EANET activities more widely.
- The Secretariat of EANET informed that innovative and closely-related projects could be submitted to Global Environment Facilities. The relevant template may be distributed by the Secretariat of EANET for the preparation of project proposals.
- It was decided to extend the list of potential future research projects of EANET should include co-benefit approach studies and socio-economic aspect of regional air pollution. The chair asked to give input if any research activities to be added to the list.
- It was recommended to evaluate the applicability of the list based on the implemented activities since the start of Task Force to be presented at the next meeting. It was commented that Promotion of Emission Inventory could be a good start to use this list.

IV-2. Discussion at SAC10

19. The Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC) of the Acid Deposition Monitoring Network in East Asia (EANET) held its Tenth Session (SAC10) from 13 to 15 October 2010 in Pattaya, Thailand. The Chairperson of the Task Force on Research Coordination presented a Progress Report on the Activities of the Task Force on Research Coordination (EANET/SAC 10/8/7).

IV-3. Discussion at IG12

20. The IG12 was held from 23 to 24 November 2010 in Niigata, Japan. The Chairperson of the SAC10 presented the Outcomes of the Tenth Session of the Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC10) (EANET/IG 12/8), and the Session endorsed the report.

V-1. Fourth meeting of the Task Force

21. The fourth meeting of the Task Force on Research Coordination was held in Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam on 11 October 2011, back to back with the Eleventh Session of Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC11).

22. The major discussions of the meeting are summarized as follows:

- The Director General of the ACAP emphasized the importance of scientific activities in EANET. To enhance it, scientists from countries were invited to conduct some scientific research activities such as modeling and inventory study. He also mentioned the EANET high priority research projects will finish this year.
- The chair of the Task Force presented the progress of the activity since the previous session of the Task Force including discussions at SAC10 and IG12 and reminded the discussion at TFRC3 that the list of potential future research projects should be extend to include co-benefit approach studies and socio-economic aspect of regional air pollution, and evaluate the applicability of the list.
- As for the research fellowship program, it was clarified and agreed that the program was

designed for a full-scientific research activity, not for training purposes. Considering the comments from reviewers for the reports of research fellows that the quality of some reports was poor and should be revised intensively, it becomes evident that in order to make a good report NC takes a systematic help and uses approach to extend the study after the finish of fellowship duration. It was also suggested that considering the budget limitation and making the stay at the NC effectively, the research fellows should start their research projects a few months before they come to the NC, and continue their research after they come back to their countries. The chair of TFRC and the NC were requested to review and revise the procedures and themes of the program for the research fellowship based on the discussion of TFRC4.

- The NC also informed that two research fellows of 2011 had already decided by selection committee of NC, and they will start their research activities from the end of October. For the process of report review in 2011, Dr. Tamara Khodzher and Dr. Pojanie Khummongkol were selected as reviewers to review the report of Dr. CHU Baolin, and Dr. Ocampo (member of TF for Soil and Vegetation) and Dr. Jesada Luangjame would review the report of Dr. Susilawati KASIM.
- The review of the current research projects of NC were presented and the current status of 2 high priority research (HPR) project will be presented at SAC11. Dr. Akimoto introduced the research project on transboundary air pollution regarding co-benefit approach between climate change and air pollution by, and also explained that the cost-benefit/effectiveness analysis would be implemented by using GAINS model of IIASA and AIM model of NIES.
- Based on the revised list of research area, the future research areas of EANET were discussed. Because the high priority research projects will finish in this year, the discussion was done how to identify new necessary research studies of high priority among the future research areas to be carried out in EANET. In order to utilize the expertise and capacity of other EANET sub-bodies and participating countries, TFRC requested other Task Forces (on Dry Deposition Monitoring, on Soil and Vegetation Monitoring, on Monitoring Instrumentation) to identify one of research topic per each TF to be discussed as future HPR project.
- The Task Force requested the Secretariat for EANET to prepare document on possibility and measures to establish an EANET research fund to be discussed in the next WGFD. This paper could include the possible ways how to mobilize funding from potential funding sources and agencies, countries for research activities along with implementation of “Instrument for the Strengthening the Acid Deposition Monitoring Network in East Asia (EANET)” and other possibilities under UNEP. It was also discussed and decided to request the Secretariat for EANET to consider establishing a small expert group for creating research proposals for donor agencies such as ADB, GEF, etc
- The NC made a presentation on “Review of Current Status of Air Pollution in East Asia” including draft proposal on establishment of a new Expert Group (EG) on Review of Present Status of Air Pollution in East Asia under the TFRC with the reasons to continue reviewing a status of regional air pollution in East Asia and to meet a request from WGFD about scientific discussion on extension of EANET scope. It was pointed out, however, that the name of the proposed EG is not appropriate if review should be done periodically,

because an Expert Group has some specific subjects and limited tasks with termination of its work when subjects and tasks are completed. While the report of WGFD10 held in 2011 mentioned the necessity of reviewing the present status of air pollution in East Asia with the purpose to propose an expansion of EANET scope, and it was also suggested at WGFD10 that the expansion issue should be discussed at the Twelfth Session of the Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC12) and subsequently by the possibility of the Working Group on Future Development of EANET (WGFD), TFRC recognized it was still unclear that what SAC can do for the report to next IG13 or further. During the session of Task Force, it was concluded that TFRC had no clear opinion about this proposal, and ask SAC to discuss and resolve this issue.

V-2. Discussion at SAC11

23. The Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC) of the Acid Deposition Monitoring Network in East Asia (EANET) held its Eleventh Session (SAC11) from 12 to 14 October 2011 in Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam. The Chairperson of the Task Force on Research Coordination presented a Progress Report on the Activities of the Task Force on Research Coordination (EANET/SAC 11/10/2).

24. It was highlighted that:

- The chair of TFRC and the NC will revise the procedures and themes of the program for the research fellowship.
- Other Task Forces (on Dry Deposition Monitoring, on Soil and Vegetation Monitoring, and on Monitoring Instrumentation) were requested to identify one research topic per each Task Force to be discussed as potential high priority project.
- The Secretariat for EANET was requested to prepare document on possibility and measures to establish an EANET fund for research and to consider establishing a small expert group for feasibility study on fund establishment and creating research proposals for donor agencies

25. In conjunction with the presentation made by the NC on the Review of Present Status of Air Pollution in East Asia (EANET/SAC 11/9), which includes the proposal on the establishment of a new "Expert Group on Review of Present Status of Air Pollution in East Asia", the following comments and discussions were made:

- It was informed that PRSAD2 includes review of the literatures on air pollution in East Asia in Chapter 6. However, the literatures were mainly related to EANET activities. It was further clarified that more comprehensive review including the literatures outside EANET might be informative for the SAC.
- It was stressed that review of present status of air pollution would contribute and support the preparation of the next medium term plan.
- It was pointed out that the review of the present status of air pollution could be reflected to the next periodic report and Executive Summary, which would be informative for the

SAC. With the comprehensive review, assessment of the EANET data for the next periodic report may be conducted effectively.

- It was suggested that the establishment of the new Expert Group might need much energy including manpower.
- Some issues were raised on the TOR of the proposed Expert Group as well as the outcomes of the review.
- It was pointed out that external scientific data should be used cautiously for EANET formal reports so as not to weaken the report.

26. In consideration of the discussion, the Session agreed to refer the Review of the Status of Air Pollution in East Asia into the existing Task Force on Research Coordination according to the TOR of the Task Force.

V-3. Discussion at IG13

27. The IG13 was held from 30 November to 1 December 2011 in Hanoi, Vietnam. The Chairperson of the Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC) presented the Report on the Outcomes of the SAC11 (EANET/IG 13/5) for the review by the Session. After the review, the Session endorsed the report and Part I, Part II and the revised Executive Summary of the PRSAD2 with understanding that the comments made by some countries will be fully incorporated into the PRSAD2 before its publication by the end of January 2012.

28. After the Session discussed, reviewed and made comments on the document “Consideration on Expansion of Scope of EANET (EANET/IG 13/7)”, it took note that the Task Force on Research Coordination will review the status of air pollution in East Asia. The Session recommended the WGFD to discuss the issues on expansion of the scope, including the possible way to make use of the review to be conducted by the TFRC.

VI. Fifth meeting of the Task Force

29. The fifth meeting of the Task Force on Research Coordination was held in Yangon, Myanmar on 21 November 2011, back to back with the Twelfth Session of Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC12).

30. The major discussions of the meeting are summarized in Annex. It will be finalized in detail later.

ACID DEPOSITION MONITORING NETWORK IN EAST ASIA (EANET)**FIFTH MEETING OF THE
TASK FORCE ON RESEARCH COORDINATION
SCIENTIFIC ADVISORY COMMITTEE (SAC) OF EANET****Hotel Yangon, Management meeting room on the 1st Floor
Yangon, Myanmar, 21 November 2012****AGENDA****16:00-16:05**

1. Opening remarks Dr. Akimoto

16:05-16:15

2. Introductory remarks by the Chair Chair

16:15-16:45

3. Report of progress since the fourth meeting of the Task Force
including SAC11 and IG13 decisions relevant to the Task Force Chair and NC

16:45-17:25

4. Consideration on establishment of the Reviewing Committee on
Present Status of Air Pollution in East Asia under TFRC Chair and NC

17:25-17:45

5. Review of the Reports of Research Fellowship in 2011 NC

17:45-18:05

6. Review of the current research projects of NC NC

18:05-18:25

7. Discussion on the future research areas of EANET Chair and NC

18:25-18:45

8. Discussion on EANET Science Bulletin Vol. III NC

18:45-19:00

9. Summary of discussion, next steps and schedule Chair

19:00 Close

DRAFT MEETING MINUTES

1. Opening remarks

The Director General of the ACAP (the Network Center for EANET: the NC) welcomed the members of the Task Force on Research Coordination of the EANET Scientific Advisory Committee at Hotel Yangon, Yangon, Myanmar. He highlighted that;

(1) EANET is now on its 2nd stage and the proposed “Reviewing Committee” will have an important role in conjunction with the discussion of expansion of EANET.

(2) EANET high priority research projects (HPR) finished last year and new subjects have to be discussed.

2. Introductory remarks by the chair

The chair reminded the TOR of Task Force and briefly introduced the agenda of the meeting.

3. Report on the progress since the third meeting of the Task Force

The chair of the Task Force and the NC as the secretariat for the Task Force made the presentation on the progress of the activity of the Task Force including discussions at SAC11, IG13 and the 4th meeting of TFRC (TFRC4) (11 October, 2011).

The recommended by TF were provided as follows;

(1) The chair and the NC are requested to develop comprehensive procedures for the process of research fellowship program. The NC shall develop the information (advertising) materials (for instance, leaflet) to disseminate the goals, purpose and manner of fellowship program among EANET participating countries on the permanent way, including web-page of NC.

(2) The NC shall create the proposal on the establishment of the Expert Group for creating research proposals of priority researches to potential funding sources or donor agencies, and the Secretariat for EANET shall support it.

(3) Themes for new high priority research projects shall be recommended by the Chairs of other TFs upon the consultation among their members.

4. Consideration on establishment of the Reviewing Committee on Present Status of Air Pollution in East Asia under TFRC

The NC made the presentation on the initial issues of the “Review on Present Status of Air Pollution in East Asia” including current status of the establishment of the Reviewing Committee (Attachment 1) with the list of preliminary candidates to Reviewing Committee (Attachment 2). The preliminary draft contents of the Review was also been observed (Attachment 3). Based on discussion on process and content TF recommended the followings:

(1) To keep in mind the expected schedule of EANET meetings in 2013 and 2014, such as the dates of SAC and WGFD, where this Report would be reviewed, to correspond to the proposed procedures of Report preparation.

(2) The experts for the impact of human health need to be nominated in addition to the current proposed members and a couple of reference sources were shared.

(3) The better correspondence between scope of the title and its contents of the review could be more adjust through the further discussions at the committee.

5. Review of the Reports of Research Fellowship Program in 2011

The NC made the presentation on the brief history of research fellowship program and its results in 2011. It was expected that fellowship program will be continued in spite of budget constraints.

The NC also informed that a research fellow of 2012 had already decided by selection committee of NC, and the researcher from Thailand has started his research activities from October. For the process of report review, the chair proposed to select two reviewers. The task force selected Dr. D.H.Son and Dr. Sergey Gromov as the reviewers for the fellowship report by Mr. Ittpol Paw-armart for 2012.

After the discussion on the latest experience of the NC with the reports of fellows, it was recommended that the end-of-period report has to reflect clearly the theme and whole content of fellowship while their later scientific papers might contain other results also. The chair recommended that the NC shall develop the procedure clarifying the outcome and process of the completion of each fellowship study by late spring in 2013 to be informed to the fellow before start.

6. Review of the current research projects of NC

The NC presented the brief review of two current joint research projects with the institutions from EANET countries. It was highlighted that one of them, “Dynamics of sulfur derived from atmospheric deposition and its possible impacts on the East Asian forests” was successfully designed by the EANET country researchers for realization a new approach in the catchment study being supported by APN with a view to help by international network. The other project under the title “Parallel monitoring of carbonaceous aerosol and other air pollution” was conducted to investigate intensive measurement results at several sites as well as to check measurement equipment of different design.

7. Discussion on the future research areas of EANET

The Task Force got review how the list of the future research areas of EANET was used for on-going research projects. It was indicated that the most of research were initiated in line with mentioned list developed by TF RC.

8. Discussion on EANET Science Bulletin Vol. III

NC proposed tentative dates for issuing a next Bulletin by the end of next year (2013). The chair recommended to the NC to open an announcement for scientific research papers to “EANET Science Bulletin Vol. III” immediately using EANET web site, circulation letter among NFPs, national centers and other contacts related to EANET activities. The national centers and NFPs should be advised to provide references of publication been prepared for national and international journals with the use of EANET data.

9. Next steps and schedule

The chair proposed that the members may use any possibility to contact and make exchange for discussion, e.g. through e-mail, as well as get together before proposed next meeting in autumn 2013.

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STATUS OF ESTABLISHMENT OF REVIEWING COMMITTEE AND POSSIBLE SCHEDULE OF REVIEW OF AIR POLLUTION IN EAST ASIA

Based on the discussion at the Fourth Meeting of the Task Force on Research Coordination (TFRC4) and Eleventh Session of the Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC11) held in October 2011 and in accordance with the guidance of the Thirteenth Session of the Intergovernmental Meeting (IG13) on the EANET, review of the status of air pollution in East Asia will be implemented by the “Reviewing Committee on the Status of Air Pollution in East Asia (Reviewing Committee)” under the Task Force on Research Coordination (TFRC). Status of the establishment of the Reviewing Committee and possible schedule of the review are as follows:

1. The status of the establishment of the “Reviewing Committee”:
 - i) The Chairperson of the TFRC, Dr. Gromov, assigned Prof. Cho Seog-Yeon and Prof. Wilfredo M. Carandang as the Co-chairpersons of the Reviewing Committee in May 2012.
 - ii) The TFRC5, which will be held in November 2012, one day ahead of the Twelfth Session of the SAC in Yangon, will assign several members of the committee.
 - iii) The Network Center (NC) acts as the secretariat of the Reviewing Committee.
2. The possible schedule of the review:
 - i) After getting the approval of the SAC12, and with the guidance of the IG14, the first meeting of the Reviewing Committee will be held in January 2013.
 - ii) The second meeting of the committee will be held before the SAC in 2013 for the development of the draft report of the “Review on the Status of Air Pollution in East Asia”.
 - iii) Preliminary draft of the report of the review will be submitted to the TFRC and the SAC in 2013.
 - iv) Final draft of the review report will be submitted to the TFRC for finalization and to the Session of the SAC in 2014 for approval.
 - v) The SAC will submit the approved draft to the WGFD and the IG in 2014 as a basis of the discussion on future expansion of scope of the EANET and decision as appropriate.

**Preliminary draft candidate members
of
The Reviewing Committee on Present Status of Air Pollution in East Asia under TFRC**

1. Co-chairperson:

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Prof. Cho Seog-Yeon
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2. Candidates for the committee members:

- Atmospheric Field Experts

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Dr. Savitri Garivait
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- Risk Assessment Field Experts

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Prof. Junko Shindo
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3. Other potential candidates

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Prof. Katsunori Suzuki
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Preliminary draft contents of
“The Review on Present Status of Air Pollution in East Asia”

Executive Summary

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 - 2.2 Regional scale inventories in Asia
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 - 3.1 Sulfur and nitrogen in East Asia
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4. Risk Assessment
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 - 4.3 Ecosystem Impact Assessment
5. Climate interaction and co-benefit/co-control approaches
6. Mitigation Measures
7. Conclusions and Recommendation
8. References