

# **Preliminary 2<sup>nd</sup> Draft Medium Term Plan for the EANET (2021-2025)**

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## Acronyms and Abbreviations

ACAP	Asia Center for Air Pollution Research
APCAP	Asia Pacific Clean Air Partnership
DQO	Data quality objective
EANET	Acid Deposition Monitoring Network in East Asia
EC	Elemental carbon
EG	Expert Group
IG	Intergovernmental Meeting (on the EANET)
JA	Joint Announcement on the Implementation of the Acid Deposition Monitoring Network in East Asia (EANET)
MTP	Medium Term Plan
MTR	Mid Term Review
NC	Network Center for the EANET
PM	Particulate matter
PR SAD	Periodic Report on the State of Acid Deposition in East Asia
PSC	Program Support Cost
QA/QC	Quality assurance and quality control
RPM	Report for Policy Makers
SAC	Scientific Advisory Committee
SOP	Standard operating procedure
STM	Senior Technical Managers' Meeting
TD	Tentative Design of the Acid Deposition Monitoring Network in East Asia
TF	Task Force
UN	United Nations
UNEA	United Nations Environment Assembly
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
WG	Working Group
WGFD	Working Group on Future Development of the EANET

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## **1. Introduction**

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To enhance transparency and effectiveness in implementing the activities to achieve the objectives, starting from 2006, the EANET decided to develop its five-year plan, the Medium Term Plans (MTP). In 2021, the EANET will begin the implementation of its fourth MTP for the period 2021 to 2025.

The Medium Term Plan (MTP) for the EANET (2021-2025) provides general guidance and a framework for the EANET operations in planning and implementing its activities for the coming five years from January 2021 to December 2025.

Along with this MTP, more detailed arrangements and specific/individual activities will be defined in the annual work programme and budget for each year, which will be determined by the annual IG Session, taking the SAC considerations from the scientific and technical viewpoint into account. Individual activities also will be determined by the Participating Countries from time to time, along with the framework defined by this MTP.

It also provides new features and mechanisms introduced to the EANET operations with aims to expand the scope of the EANET activities, reflecting the preparatory discussions among the Participating Countries, among others the introduction of new proposed expanded activities, project activities as well as project fund mechanism.

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## 2. General Guidance

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### 2.1. Justification for expanding activities of the EANET

The Participating Countries established the EANET in 2000 as a response to the recognition of increasing concerns about acid deposition as a result of rapid economic development in East Asia that had jeopardized environmental sustainability. The establishment of EANET has been benefited from environmental sustainability. The establishment of EANET has been benefited from the experience of Europe and other countries that have earlier carried out relevant activities for monitoring of acid deposition and related substances (such as PM and ozone), including quality assurance and quality control (QA/QC), data accumulation and evaluation.

Over the span of 20 years, the accumulation of scientific knowledge and economic development in each country, the environmental pollution situation around the world, and the urgent and important fields of action have changed significantly. For example, Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) have been agreed as globally common goals, and air pollution control measures such as PM<sub>2.5</sub> are included as goals to be achieved in view of the health effects of air pollution.

Furthermore, the establishment of the Paris Agreement under the Framework Convention on Climate Change has intensified efforts towards a carbon-free society. From that perspective, energy use without the combustion of fossil fuels, which is one of the factors contributing to the generation of acid deposition, is expected. Especially in the context of climate change, the effects of short-lived climate pollutants (SLCPs) such as black carbon (BC), VOCs, and NO<sub>x</sub> have been scientifically clarified, and it is necessary to understand the emission of SLCPs and elucidate their behavior in the atmosphere is a common recognition.

In the last two decades, various air pollution problems have become a serious threat to many countries. It has changed the air pollution control measures of many EANET Participating Countries. As also reported in the Third Periodic Report on the State of Acid Deposition in East Asia (PR SAD3), during that time, it was also observed the shift of major air pollutants from NO<sub>x</sub>, SO<sub>x</sub>, etc. to PM<sub>2.5</sub>, ozone, VOC, etc. By considering the changes in global trends and the shift of major air pollutants in each country, it may change the priority actions to be taken by the Participating Countries of EANET.

Based on progress achieved in the first half of implementation of the MTP (2016-2020), the Mid-Term Review Report (MTR) on the Implementation of the MTP for the EANET (2016-2020) made recommendations to continue and improve the implementation of activities to achieve objectives of the EANET.

The MTR acknowledged many essential activities for the future development of the EANET, such

as PM and ozone monitoring, capacity building activities, technical support, and research activities, especially emission inventories and modeling, information exchange, development of policy-relevant reports, public awareness activities. Implementation of the MTR recommendations should be strengthened for the next MTP (2021-2025).

Moreover, Report of the Proposed Ideas of the Participating Countries for the Next MTP for the EANET (2021-2025) also made recommendations of the activities to be included in the MTP (2021-2025) beyond acid deposition. In the Report, the framework of the expanded scope of the MTP (2021-2025) proposed to include that the EANET will:

- contribute to solving the emerging air pollution issue in East Asia region;
- expand its scope from acid deposition to air pollution;
- enhance activities related to solutions and measures for air pollution;
- build strategic collaboration with the relevant international organizations and foster collaboration among member countries to tackle air pollution to utilize existing resources effectively and enrich its activities.

The proposed activities were captured in this report and are reflected in this MTP, including new activities within the scope of five objectives of the MTP for the EANET (2021-2025).

As such, the Participating Countries acknowledged that the EANET had made excellent progress in acid deposition monitoring cooperation. The EANET has fostered a regional acid deposition monitoring methodology and scientific exchange platform in recent years and has contributed gradually to solving acid deposition problems in East Asia. Considering the success of the EANET in tackling the acid deposition problem and relevant issues, the Participating Countries viewed the EANET could play a role in tackling air quality issues of the region.

The implementation of the EANET has been, directly and indirectly, contributed to an improved understanding of air pollution, including not only acid deposition and its primary sources, but also other air pollution issues, and to encouraged stakeholders to take action against the issues. As a result, the Fourth United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA) recognized EANET's contribution to progress implementation of resolution 3/8 on preventing and reducing air pollution to improve air quality globally through its monitoring and assessment activities.

Considering the above-mentioned progress and changing situation around air pollution-related issues, the EANET will further contribute to the achievement of various relevant Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and targets, given the cross-cutting nature of air pollution and its sources. The following SDGs and targets are of particular relevance to the EANET:

- SDG 3 – target 9: By 2030, substantially reduce the number of deaths and illnesses from hazardous chemicals and air, water, and soil pollution and contamination;
- SDG 12 – target 4: By 2020, achieve the environmentally sound management of chemicals and all wastes throughout their life cycle, in accordance with agreed international frameworks, and significantly reduce their release to air, water and soil in order to minimize their adverse impacts on human health and the environment;
- SDG 17 – target 9: Enhance international support for implementing effective and targeted capacity-building in developing countries to support national plans to implement all the sustainable development goals, including through North-South, South-South, and triangular cooperation.

## **2.2. Areas for expanding activities of the EANET**

The current discussions among the Participating Countries about necessities and interests for expanding the scope of the EANET activities from acid deposition to a wide range of air pollution issues are relevant and in line with these new circumstances. However, the current discussions do not precisely define or converge on the areas of the scope to expand, or specific activities to be implemented for such areas. Thus, this MTP provides a framework to initiate, plan, and implement activities that would be deemed in the expanded scope.

The EANET activities have been implemented in accordance with the Instrument for Strengthening the Acid Deposition Monitoring Network in East Asia (hereinafter referred to as the Instrument). The Item 2 of the Instrument provides that the scope of this Instrument may be extended by the Meeting of the Participating Countries, which is known under the Instrument as the “Intergovernmental Meeting” or “IG.”

Based on this Item of the Instrument, certain activities deemed outside of the original scope of the EANET shall be identified, initiated, planned, and implemented by IG decisions including annual work program or individual endorsement processes for such activities under the MTP (2021-2025).

Although the expanded activities for this MTP are not precisely defined, the list of examples of expanded areas of activities shown in Table 1 below is prepared as an indicative reference for the consideration of Participating Countries and potential external funders. It should be noticed that the list is for reference only, without indication of prioritization nor confirmation of implementation, and it is not an exhaustive list.

Table 1. Examples of Expanded Areas of Activities:

No.	Type of Activities	Sample of Expanded Areas of Activities
1	Activities for target substances that are not explicitly dealt with in the current scope (PM and ozone are already included)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• VOCs</li> <li>• Black carbon</li> <li>• PM2.5</li> <li>• Other short-lived climate pollutants (SLCP)</li> </ul>
2	Activities related to spatial areas and/or phenomena	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Areas and/or phenomena where significant seasonal pollution is regionally observed</li> <li>• Areas heavily polluted affecting regional air mass, etc.</li> </ul>
3	Activities that contribute to policy development, etc.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Development of emission inventory and its support</li> <li>• Joint activities with other organizations that utilize the opportunities and functions of the EANET</li> <li>• Conducting seminars, events, etc. in collaboration with policymakers and stakeholders</li> <li>• Provision of opportunities for the Participating Countries and relevant organizations to share information with other stakeholders regarding air pollution issues and countermeasures in the region</li> </ul>
4	Activities that enable the scientists and experts in the Participating Countries to contribute to activities related to air pollution countermeasures, policies, technologies and others that are carried out by other organizations.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Strategic outreach activities</li> </ul>

In practice, some of the activities may not be a common interest nor a need of all Participating Countries. In that case, such activities could potentially be implemented with additional resources by voluntary contributions by some of the Participating Countries or external funds upon approval of the IG.

### 2.3. Approach for expanding the activities

The MTP (2021-2025) is developed through various EANET meetings and discussions by focusing on the continuity of current activities as well as the possible expansion of the scope and covers some new types of activities that might be fallen in the expanded scope. For that reason, the MTP (2021-2025) includes new features, such as re-defining the categories of activities, introducing a new financial arrangement, and seeking collaboration with potential partners, in accordance with the IG's decision.



Some of the activities identified in the MTP (2021-2025) would be continuously implemented as regular activities of EANET. For the newly proposed activities, depending on the type of activities and on the financial arrangement, they would be implemented gradually and managed in a phased manner. Particularly, such activities would be implemented in a tentative manner during the early period of the MTP, such as during the first two years of the MTP period (2021-2022), and then, it could be fully operationalized in the remaining period based on the experiences and practices gained in the early period.

Some of the activities that were implemented in the previous MTP (2016-2020) and will be completed in this MTP period (2021-2025) would be implemented in a similar manner taken in the previous MTP implementation of expanded activities and will be implemented gradually, particularly during the early years (2021-2022). The phased approach would be reflected in each annual work programme and budget, in the period of this MTP and include the revision of relevant administrative regulations and guidelines.

Besides, some of the activities that were implemented in the previous MTP (2016-2020) including some of the activities carried out by task forces, which were established with the approval of the IG that are inactive, would be streamlined. In addition, the activities that are of low priority or less urgency will be reviewed based on the needs of the Participating Countries and according to scientific viewpoints.

Throughout the MTP, preparation and implementation of a new type of activities would be reviewed to further development and refinement of the new features. In this context, this MTP could be revised by the IG in line with the development of new features and collaboration with partners.

### 3. Framework of Activities

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#### 3.1. Objectives

In developing the MTP (2021-2025), the general nine principles proposed by the Participating Countries are: (i) keep and extend the obtained experience of the EANET in developing the MTP; (ii) concentration on the real needs of countries in monitoring and data handling or using; (iii) continue with the scientific assessment of the EANET data and related information over the EANET region; (iv) initiate and develop new environmental issues being sensitive for the EANET region in terms of pollutants, environmental effects, transboundary problems, consumption of fuel types; (v) maintain the sustainability of the EANET monitoring; (vi) pursue a policy on data dissemination and assessment; (vii) develop a more complex evaluation of data including a specific simplified model application and environmental investigation of air pollution effects; (viii) promote sound financial basis; and (ix) promote cooperation among countries and with other regional initiatives on new environmental issues in the EANET region.

Considering these proposed principles and the activities taken under previous MTPs of the EANET, the following five objectives are set for the EANET activities under the MTP for the EANET (2021-2025)

#### **Objectives of the MTP for the EANET (2021-2025)**

**Objective 1: Monitoring of air quality and acid deposition including related chemical substances such as ozone and PM with quality assurance and quality control (QA/QC)** – Assist Participating Countries to conduct qualified monitoring of air quality and acid deposition through providing technical guidance, maintenance of the monitoring instrument, improvements of the methods, guidelines, conducting quality assurance and quality control (QA/QC) activities.

**Objective 2<sup>1</sup>: Promotion of data utilization and dissemination** – Collect, analyze and evaluate data of monitoring of air quality and acid deposition as well as relevant and share the results to relevant stakeholders to encourage them to utilize the results to tackle the air pollution. The results include policy recommendations. To achieve this objective, research activities on selected subjects, that may include monitoring methods, modelling, ambient air quality standards, emission sources and inventory, air quality management, as well as linkages between air quality and climate change, can be promoted.

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<sup>1</sup> Following the recommendation of the Participating Country at the WG Meetings, Objective 5. Promotion of concrete air pollution measures in draft 1 of the MTP (2021-2025) has been merged with Objective 2.

**Objective 3: Promotion of capacity building-** Strengthen the capacity of the Participating Countries through various activities, including training, workshops, technical supports to Participating Countries, and fostering mutual capacity building cooperation.

**Objective 4: Enhancement of outreach activities** – Enhance outreach to the stakeholders in order to raise their awareness, to encourage them to take appropriate actions and develop collaborative joint activities with EANET.

**Objective 5: Enhancement of cooperation and collaboration** – Enhance collaborative and/or joint activities with relevant entities including international and/or regional organizations, air pollution-related regional frameworks, financial institutions, research institutes, and interested governments in none Participating Countries, to tackle with the air pollution issues.

### **3.2. Activities**

Objectives of MTP for the EANET (2021-2025) will be achieved through activities implemented solely by the EANET bodies, including the Secretariat, the NC, the SAC, and other relevant bodies, as well as activities implemented jointly by the EANET bodies and their partners that will be identified in the course of implementation of the MTP.

The Secretariat, the NC, the SAC, other relevant bodies of the EANET, and Participating Countries are expected to collaborate to achieve the objectives of the MTP by developing and implementing the activities. Expected outputs, measurable indicators, and implementation period for each activity shall be identified in the annual work programme and budget as well as individual documents specifically prepared for the activity.

Activities under the MTP are divided into the following two categories, namely, Core Activities and Project Activities.

#### **3.2.1. Core Activities**

Core activities consist of activities that all Participating Countries consider indispensable, priority, and essential for achieving EANET objectives, and beneficial for all Participating Countries directly and indirectly. Typical examples of core activities include monitoring, development of technical manuals and guidelines, implementation of quality assurance and quality control (QA/QC) activities.

They also include managing work of the EANET, such as organizing the meetings of the IG and the SAC, maintaining basic operations of the Secretariat and the NC, and conducting periodical reviews, as described in MTP and annual work programme and budget. Core activities are to be financed by the core budget provided by a voluntarily financial contribution from the Participating Countries.

Details of the Core Activities to be implemented basically in this MTP are shown in Annex 1.

### **3.2.2. Project Activities**

The term Project Activity<sup>2</sup> is newly introduced in this MTP to bring flexibility and possibility to engage new types of activities including (i) activities addressing certain air pollution issues other than acid deposition; (ii) activities identified or proposed and ready to implement after the annual work program and budget determined, such as activities offered or co-financed by partners; (iii) activities of which beneficiaries are limited to part of the Participating Countries but duly financed by additional voluntary contributions from some Participating Countries or external partners; (iv) and other activities to mobilize external finance to achieve the objectives of the MTP.

Project Activities consist of projects to be financed through the Project Fund, which is a new financial arrangement dedicated to Project Activity in this MTP and is described in the next section. Each project must be supported financially or through in-kind contributions by the interested Participating Countries and/or partner organizations through their ear-marked financial contributions and/or in-kind contributions.

A plan of each project is to be prepared by a project proponent, such as one or a group of Participating Countries, the EANET bodies, and other entities, and then proposed to the Participating Countries for their consideration and approval for implementation. The proponent may propose each project, to be then approved by Participating Countries, taking into account scientific and technical advice of SAC members if appropriate, at an appropriate time, not waiting for annual IG Session, to accelerate and energize the EANET activities and to attract potential stakeholders and financiers.

Each approved project will be implemented by either the Secretariat, the NC, one or a group of Participating Country, or other entities as defined in the proposal approved by the IG.

Certain non-Participating Countries or their organization could be beneficiaries of the project, if IG approved to do so.

### **3.3. Operational Principles for activities in the expanded scope of the EANET**

Certain activities defined in this MTP that are not considered in the scope of the EANET activities implemented under the previous MTP will be planned, adopted, and implemented along with the principles described below:

- Taking into account that the EANET is a regional framework for promoting cooperation

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<sup>2</sup> Project Activity was proposed in the preparation of MTP with a name of Project Fund.

among the Participating Countries, and the activities are implemented with the financial contribution of each country, it should meet the needs and priorities of each Participating Country and for their benefit.

- Review and approval of the IG for the activities related to scientific and technical agenda will be done by taking into account considerations made by the SAC from a scientific point of view.
- Considering the fact that the EANET was established to contribute to address acid deposition issues that are deemed regional and transboundary air pollution issues, activities under the MTP are expected to deal with regional scale or transboundary air pollution issues, in general. However, this may not necessarily be applied to a certain type of project or activities that are conducted jointly with partners that provide their financial contribution to such projects and activities to address local issues with the technical capacity of the EANET.
- The EANET will continuously promote cooperation and collaboration with various frameworks for air pollution control in the Asian region or global scale, such as Asia and the Pacific Clean Air Partnership (APCAP), Clean Air Asia (CAA), Climate Change Air Coalition (CCAC), Convention Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution (CLRTAP). The new activities and projects could be identified, developed, and implemented jointly with such frameworks in various forms, including joint seminars and joint research/surveys.
- Since the duration of this MTP is a trial period in which the project fund is introduced as a new mechanism promoting the expansion of activities, it is necessary to give due consideration to the intentions of external funders and the beneficiary countries and to plan and implement the scope and contents of activities as flexibly as possible so as not to miss opportunities to expand activities. In doing so, it is also necessary to give due consideration to the fairness of the beneficiary countries through the utilization of project funds.
- Prioritization or selection of the project proposals would be needed when the resources prepared by the EANET are not sufficient for implementing all project proposals. In such a case, priority would be given to the projects that are ready to be implemented with additional funding (including both financial and in-kind) provided by partners and/or Participating Countries after receiving approval of the IG.

### **3.4. Financial Arrangement**

To date, the EANET has been operating by utilizing the voluntary contributions of financial and human resources from Participating Countries and contributions from other entities. In the implementation of MTP (2021-2025), the EANET strongly encourages potential partners to

contribute to strengthening the EANET activities through joint project collaboration or financial contribution. The efforts and contributions of the Participating Countries to the EANET monitoring activities at the national level are remarkable. The contributions have been communicated continuously to the Participating Countries through the Sessions of the IG and other means of communication.

In the MTP (2021-2025), the EANET will have two financial means, namely the Core Budget and the Project Fund.

### **3.4.1. Core Budget**

The core Budget will be utilized for the implementation of core activities. The source of the Core Budget would come from the annual voluntary financial contribution from the Participating Countries. The amount of financial contribution from each Participating Country to the Core Budget will be based on the calculation of the latest UN scale voluntary assessment.

A Participating country may voluntarily provide its additional contribution to the Core Budget at any time. The partner organization may also provide its financial contribution to the Core Budget or financial and/or in-kind contribution to selected core projects. Detailed stipulations are shown in the Revision of the Guidelines on the Administrative and Financial Management for the Secretariat and the Network Center (2020) (EANET/WG 2/4/3).

The estimated total amount and details of Core Budget necessary for the proposed set of core activities over five years of the MTP (2021-2025) are presented in Annex 2. Please note that each amount of each activity's budget is not fixed figure and will be revised in each work programme as mentioned in "3.3.3. Cost effectiveness".

### **3.4.2. Project Fund**

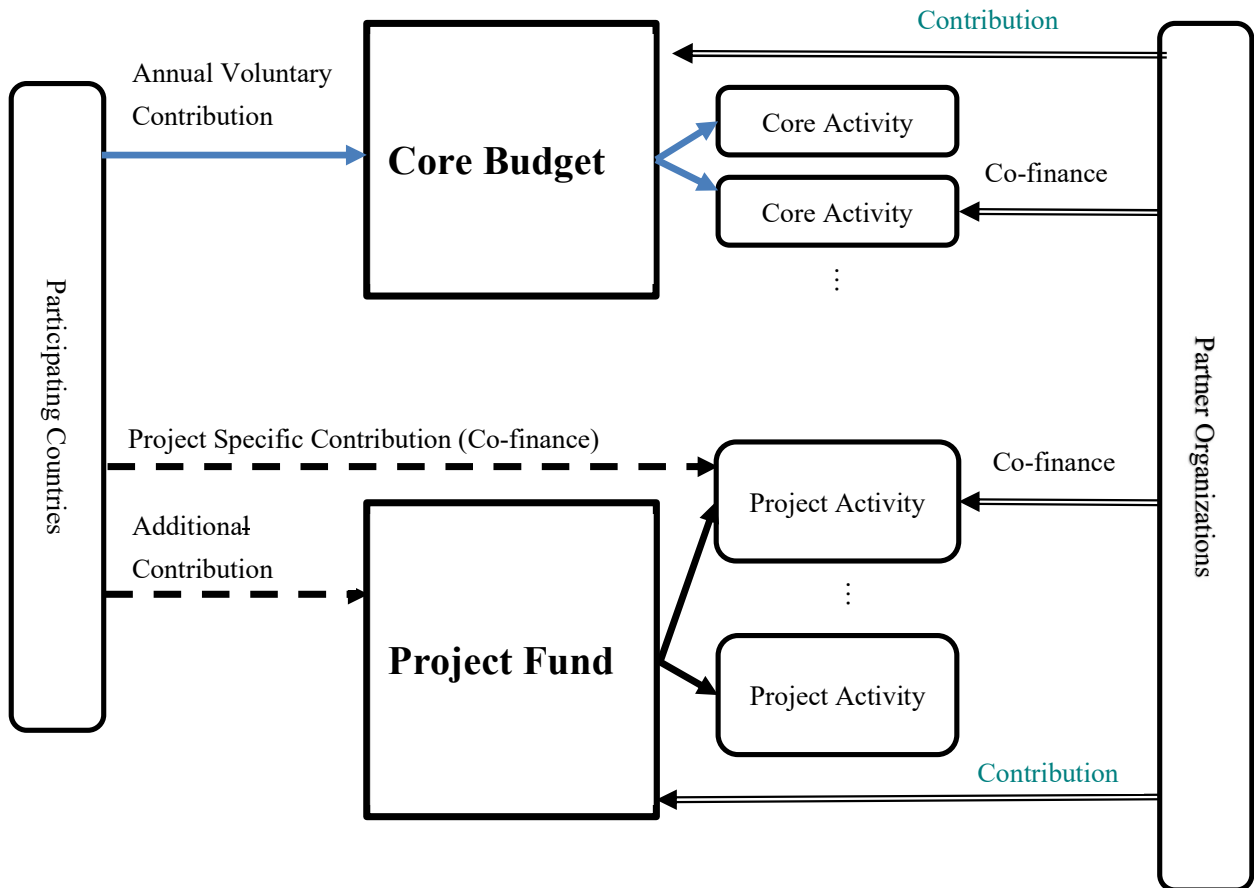
The Project Fund is the fund dedicated to implementing individual projects categorized as Project Activities. The source of the Project Fund would come from the additional financial contributions of the Participating Countries, such as additional voluntary contributions, in-kind contributions of the Participating Countries and other entities, allowing activities to be linked to the Project fund.

Activities marked as Project Fund are subject to be implemented to available funds from non-core budget unless otherwise decided differently by the IG. Any partner organization (including an individual Participating Country) could provide their financial or in-kind contributions to a specified project, which is called a co-finance. If no co-finance is available for a certain project, such a project will not be approved nor implemented.

The implementation of an activity under the Project Fund will be assessed annually by the IG to determine whether that activity could be implemented in the following year. Detailed stipulations are shown in the Revision of the Guidelines on the Administrative and Financial Management for the Secretariat and the Network Center (2020) (EANET/WG 2/4/3).

The below Figure illustrates several types of contributions from the Participating Countries to the Core Budget and as well as several pathways of co-finance from partner organizations.

Fig. 1 Contributions from the Participating Countries and Co-finance



### 3.4.3. Management of the fund

By introducing the Project Fund as a new mechanism in this MTP, the management of the funds will become more complex. Since it is expected that matters to be improved for the management method of the Project Fund will be clarified through the actual preparation and implementation process of activities financed by the Project Fund, preparation and implementation of activities will be started with preliminary or tentative management methods. In contrast, such management methods will be reviewed continuously based on such initial activities, revised as appropriate, and reflected by the actual management.

### 3.4.4. Cost-effectiveness

As the resources to implement activities consist of contributions from the Participating Countries and partner organizations, the cost-effectiveness of the project design and implementation is essential.



Each amount of each activity's budget will be reviewed and revised in each work programme to 1) improve cost-efficient design and implementation, and 2) secure financial room for additional activities to be implemented.

#### **3.4.5. Participating Countries**

The cost necessary for Participating Countries to operate and manage the existing monitoring sites and to establish and manage new monitoring sites should, in principle, be borne by the countries using their national funds. Participating Countries shall be committed to provide support to their monitoring program and provide high-quality measurement data for the success of the Network. However, recognizing that some countries lack financial resources to establish new sites, in order to acquire the necessary sampling equipment and to conduct chemical analyses, the Secretariat and the NC will make efforts to secure additional funds to assist those countries.

#### **3.4.6. Future strategies to obtain additional funds**

The Secretariat, the NC, and the Participating Countries shall continue to make efforts to explore financial support from all available sources. In line with the financial arrangement set in the previous section, actions taken by the Secretariat, the NC, and the Participating Countries to fulfil the resource demand of the activities to be implemented shall include:

- Diversification of financial sources;
- Clarification of categories/activities/projects to be supported;
- Strengthened partnerships with international and regional donor agencies and other environmental initiatives;
- Additional voluntary financial contributions and in-kind contributions by the Participating Countries;
- Support and funds from research foundations and regional-scale projects.

### **3.5. Strategic Outreach**

The output from the EANET, such as monitoring data and assessment results, is beneficial for policymakers on air pollution abatement not only in the East Asian region but also in the whole of Asia or even in the world. Moreover, they are also beneficial for various stakeholders, including the academia, the private sector, other relevant organizations, etc., and therefore, outreach activities for these stakeholders are important. Thus, strategic and systematic outreach activities will be strengthened, and a system for those purposes will be established.

Examples of outreach activities could be as follows:

- On-time/rapid preparation/disclosure of concise and impactful reports based on scientific assessments for policymakers and private stakeholders
- Active presentations on and dissemination of the prepared reports at international and/or regional meetings in the region (BAQ, meetings of Environment Ministers, APCAP/JF, etc.) (It is possible to hold seminars using the Project Fund mechanism.)
- Contribution to the preparation process of Global Environmental Outlook by UNEP and active involvement and provision of inputs to UN and WHO considering the contribution to the evaluation of achievements on SDGs targets relevant to the atmosphere.
- Renewal/improvement of the website and news.

In the case that a non-participating country is interested in the EANET activities due to the expansion of activities and cooperation with other institutions, if the country/fund provider bears the burden and IG approves it, such non-participating country will be allowed to join either core activities and/or project activities.

In the case that a non-participating country is interested in participating in the EANET, the Secretariat and the NC would conduct the consultation with the country, according to Item 17 of the Instrument, “Countries in East Asia, which includes Northeast Asia and Southeast Asia, not participating in the EANET, may subsequently submit to the Secretariat an application for participation, which is subject to approval by the IG.” If appropriate, by effective outreach activities to recommend participation in the EANET, awareness of the EANET in the international community will be increased to promote cooperation among stakeholders, expansion of the activities, and utilization of results.

## **4. Monitoring and Evaluation**

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### **4.1. Monitoring Plan**

The Secretariat and the NC will prepare annual progress reports of activities and financial reports on the EANET operations. These reports will be submitted and reviewed at the Sessions of the SAC and the IG as appropriate. The “Monitoring plan for the MTP for the EANET (2021-2025)” is attached as Annex 3.

#### **4.1.1. Review method and schedule of the Project Fund**

The Project Fund will begin in 2021 after the decision on (interim) activities at the IG22. The system design related to the Project Fund will be reviewed as appropriate.

### **4.2. Evaluation Plan**

The MTP for the EANET (2021-2025) will be reviewed twice by the IG in 2023 and 2026. There will be a mid-term review, “Mid-Term Report on the Implementation of the MTP for the EANET (2021-2025)” in 2023 and a final review, “Final Report on the Implementation of the MTP for the EANET (2021-2025)” in the first half of 2026.

Detailed reports on the activities shall be presented for the reviews identifying the achievements, candidates of streamlining activities and/or cost, challenges encountered during the implementation of the activities, and necessary corrective actions to overcome the challenges. Revisions of the MTP for the EANET (2021-2025) may be proposed for the consideration of the IG, if necessary. The evaluation will be conducted in light of the objectives and expected outputs of the activities identified in the MTP and annual work programme and budget, as well as individual project documents.

## **5. Other Important Issues**

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### **5.1. Strengthening the Secretariat and the NC**

With the expansion of the scope of activities in the MTP (2021-2025), it is necessary to actively develop cooperation with non-Participating Countries and related organizations to seek opportunities, foster, and prepare various activities that could be financed through the Project Fund. Therefore, flexible and active responses by the Secretariat and the NC is required. The Secretariat and the NC shall be supported and strengthened to vitalize the EANET as a major regional framework working together actively against air pollution agenda in the region.

**Annex 1: Core Activities of the MTP for the EANET (2021-2025)** (by referring to 1<sup>st</sup> Draft MTP for the EANET (2021-2025) and results of matrix Survey of Categorization of Activities for Future Development of the MTP (2021-2025) for the EANET - combined current scope and possible future scope)

**Below table includes wide range of candidate actives which may include core and potential project activities. The participating countries and SAC members are invited to discuss to identify core activities to be included in the annex of final MTP.**

**Objective 1: Monitoring of air quality and acid deposition including related chemical substances such as ozone and PM with quality assurance and quality control (QA/QC)** - Assist Participating Countries to conduct qualified monitoring of air quality and acid deposition through providing technical guidance, maintenance of the monitoring instrument, improvements of the methods, guidelines, conducting quality assurance and quality control (QA/QC) activities.

	<p>a. New proposed activities are highlighted in yellow</p> <p>b. Additional activities proposed by the Participating Countries in their Matrix submissions are highlighted in green.</p> <p>c. Based on recommendation of the Participating Country at the WG Meetings, Objective 5 in draft 1 of the MTP (2021-2025) has been merged with Objective 2 and it is reflected in this table (including activities 39, 40, 40A, 40B, 41)</p>
1	Monitoring of acid deposition (acidifying species and related chemical substances such as ozone and PM) including an increase of EANET monitoring sites, improvement in monitoring methodologies and better instrument maintenance
2	Monitoring of air pollution (except acid deposition such as VOCs and POPs), including an increase of EANET monitoring sites, improvement in monitoring methodologies and better instrument maintenance
3	Development/ revision of (technical) guidelines, technical manuals and documents, as necessary
4	Development/ update of strategy papers for guidance on the future direction of the monitoring, as necessary
5	Implementation of quality assurance and quality control (QA/QC) activities on acid deposition
6	Implementation of quality assurance and quality control (QA/QC) activities on air pollution (such as VOCs and POPs)
7	Routine compilation, verification, evaluation, storage and provision of data and maintenance of database
8	Expansion of data collection from national monitoring sites on acid deposition (acidifying species and related chemical substances such as ozone and PM) and data evaluation with agreed countries
9	Expansion of data collection from national monitoring sites on air pollutants such as POPs and data evaluation with agreed countries
10	Development of real time air quality (such as PM <sub>2.5</sub> ) monitoring network
11	Promotion of information exchange - regional impact assessment on ecosystems and human health through workshops, seminars, etc.
12	Promotion of studies on estimation of the source of air pollution of PM <sub>2.5</sub>

13	Research on analysis on the relation of air pollution and acid deposition including related chemical substances
14	Promotion of studies on analysis in terms of climate change (e.g. EC/ OC, SLCPs)
15	Promotion of studies on the effects of acid deposition including other priority chemical species on plants and ecosystems, especially on biogeochemical cycles on a catchment scale as well as regional impact assessment
16	Promotion of studies on the effects of air pollution (except acid deposition) on plants and ecosystems, especially on biogeochemical cycles on a catchment scale as well as regional impact assessment
17	Promotion of studies of acid deposition on human health and other social aspects, including the viewpoint of the socio-economics
18	Promotion of studies on the effects of air pollution (except acid deposition) on human health and other social aspects, including the viewpoint of the socio-economics
19	Conduct annual assessment of the state of acid deposition using trend analysis, numerical models
20	Conduct annual assessment of the state of air pollution (except acid deposition) using trend analysis, numerical models
21	Promotion of studies on air pollution analysis by using remote sensing technique
22	Development of Periodic Report on the State of Acid Deposition in East Asia (PRSAD, regional assessment report published every 5 years), including the impact on plants and ecosystems.
23	Development of periodic assessment reports on the state of air pollution (except acid deposition) in East Asia including impact on plants and ecosystems

**Objective 2: Promotion of data dissemination and utilization** - Collect, analyze and evaluate data of monitoring of air quality and acid deposition as well as relevant and share the results to relevant stakeholders to encourage them to utilize the results to tackle the air pollution. The results include policy recommendations. To achieve this objective, research activities on selected subjects, that may include monitoring methods, modelling, ambient air quality standards, emission sources and inventory, air quality management, as well as linkages between air quality and climate change, can be promoted.

24	Regular updating of the website
25	Upgrading of the data management system in the NC to enable easy access by approved users
26	Development and submission of emission inventories of air pollutants to support and enhance joint efforts among the participating countries of the EANET for reducing air pollutant emissions
39 <sup>c</sup>	Promotion of information exchange - Information exchange on clean air technologies through workshops, seminars, etc.
40 <sup>bc</sup>	Promotion of research on clean air technology and policy dialogue, a technical demonstration project to share member countries' outstanding prevention technologies, etc.
40A <sup>bc</sup>	Promotion of a technical demonstration projects to share member countries' outstanding prevention technologies, etc.

40B <sup>bs</sup>	Promoting of policy dialogue on sharing policies, laws and regulations, monitoring programs, action plans and measures, etc.
41 <sup>c</sup>	Implementation of 25 solutions for clean air measures for the Asia Pacific region including development of a synergy between air quality and climate change.

**Objective 3: Promotion of capacity building** - Strengthen the capacity of the Participating Countries through various activities, including training, workshops, technical supports to Participating Countries, and fostering mutual capacity building cooperation.

27	Promotion of capacity building for personnel of the participating countries including training courses, capacity building workshops, etc. for monitoring
28	Promotion of capacity building for personnel of the participating countries for control emission including control transboundary air pollution from mobile sources, etc.
29	Promotion of technical support to participating countries by provision of advice, technical information and equipment
30	Technical support for the air quality management (including revision of ambient air quality standards and emission source control, and moving towards low-Sulphur fuels for PM, nitrogen oxide, ground level ozone, etc. with development of policy, strategy, regulation)
31	Promotion of research and technical cooperation on emission inventory to support the capacity building
32	Promotion of studies on atmospheric simulation models to assess the trend of national and regional acid deposition including other related air pollutants in East Asia through workshops, training courses, etc.
33	Promotion of studies on atmospheric simulation models to assess the trend of national and regional air pollution (except acid deposition) in East Asia through workshops, training courses, etc.
34	Conduct fellowship research program
35	Training on policy development on air pollution and acid deposition targeting the policymakers of participating countries on policy development based on scientific monitoring data in collaboration with partners.

**Objective 4: Enhancement of outreach activities** - Enhance outreach to the stakeholders in order to raise their awareness, to encourage them to take appropriate actions and develop collaborative joint activities with EANET.

36	Publication of EANET Science Bulletin
37	Promotion of public awareness on acid deposition including other priority chemical species, etc.
38	Promotion of public awareness on air pollution (except acid deposition), e.g., control transboundary air pollution from mobile sources, etc.

**Objective 5: Enhancement of cooperation and collaboration** - Enhance collaborative and/or joint activities with relevant entities including international and/or regional organizations, air pollution-related regional frameworks, financial institutions, research institutes, and interested governments in none Participating Countries, to tackle with the air pollution issues.

42	Arrangements for the EANET Sessions agreed to by the IG
43	Consideration on future development of the EANET
44	Review of the arrangements of the EANET Secretariat and the NC
45	Revision of Guidelines on Administrative and Financial Management for the Secretariat and NC taking account of the new decisions of the IG
46	Review of the MTP (2016-2020), revision of the MTP (2021-2025) if necessary, and development of the next MTP for the EANET (2026-2030)
47	Promotion of communication, collaboration and cooperation with other relevant international organizations, initiatives and programs
48	Sharing a common understanding on atmospheric environment issues among the scientific community such as the APCAP Science Panel
49	Providing information and policy recommendations to policy makers based on sound science and assessment (Expected outputs: Report for Policy Makers, Science and policy dialogue)
50	Administrative works
51 <sup>b</sup>	Consideration on additional entities to support the new activities
52 <sup>b</sup>	FS for project based finance component
53 <sup>b</sup>	Development/ improvement of guidelines for PBFC

**Others: Administrative works**

**Annex 2: Estimated Workload and Cost Necessary of the Core Activities for the Secretariat and the Network Center (Draft)** <<Annex 2 will be prepared as part of 2<sup>nd</sup> Draft of MTP for the EANET and will be developed for consideration of the Working Group Meeting- Session 2 (20-22 October 2020)>>



### Annex 3: Schedule of Monitoring on the Implementation

Year	Month	Event/Activity	Deliverables
2021	January	Distribution of the MTP document to NFPs, SAC members.	Start implementation of the activities according to the plan
2021	October	Twenty-first Session of the Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC21)	Review of the draft of the Report on Implementation of the MTP for the EANET (2016-2020) from scientific and technical viewpoints. Discussion on the progress of implementation of the scientific activities
2021	November	Twenty-third Session of the Intergovernmental Meeting (IG23)	Review of draft Report on Implementation of the MTP for the EANET (2016-2020) for possible adoption. Updates on the activities will be given in the Report on the Progress of EANET by the Secretariat and NC for adoption as appropriate
2022	October	Twenty-second Session of the Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC22)	Discussion on the progress of implementation of the scientific activities
2022	November	Twenty-fourth Session of the Intergovernmental Meeting (IG24)	Updates on the activities will be given in the Report on the Progress of EANET by the Secretariat and NC
2023	October	Twenty-third Session of the Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC23)	Discussion on the draft Mid-Term Review Report on Implementation of the MTP for the EANET (2021-2025)
2023	November	Twenty-fifth Session of the Intergovernmental Meeting (IG25)	Adoption of the revised draft of the Mid-Term Review Report of Implementation of the MTP for the EANET (2021-2025)
2024	October	Twenty-fourth Session of the Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC24)	Discussion on the progress of implementation of the scientific activities Discussion on the next MTP from scientific and technical viewpoints
2024	November	Twenty-sixth Session of the Intergovernmental Meeting (IG26)	Updates on the activities will be given in the Report on the Progress of EANET by the Secretariat and NC Discussion on the next MTP
2025	October	Twenty-fifth Session of the Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC25)	Discussion on the next MTP from scientific and technical viewpoints
2025	November	Twenty-seventh Session of the Intergovernmental Meeting (IG27)	Discussion on the next MTP to be adopted by the IG