

EANET AWARENESS  
WORKSHOP IN 2021

# Event Report

SEPT. 2021



Acid Deposition Monitoring  
Network in East Asia (EANET)

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# Overview

The Acid Deposition Monitoring Network in East Asia (EANET) was established in 2001 as a regional intergovernmental network to promote cooperation among countries in East Asia to address acid deposition problems. In the last 20 years, the EANET has made excellent progress in acid deposition monitoring cooperation. The Network has fostered a regional acid deposition monitoring methodology and scientific exchange platform 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 new strategic role by engaging their efforts in fighting air quality issues in the region. Therefore, at the 22nd Session of the Intergovernmental Meeting (IG22) of EANET in November 2020, Participating Countries agreed to expand the scope of the EANET to include cooperation related to wider air pollution matters in the future.

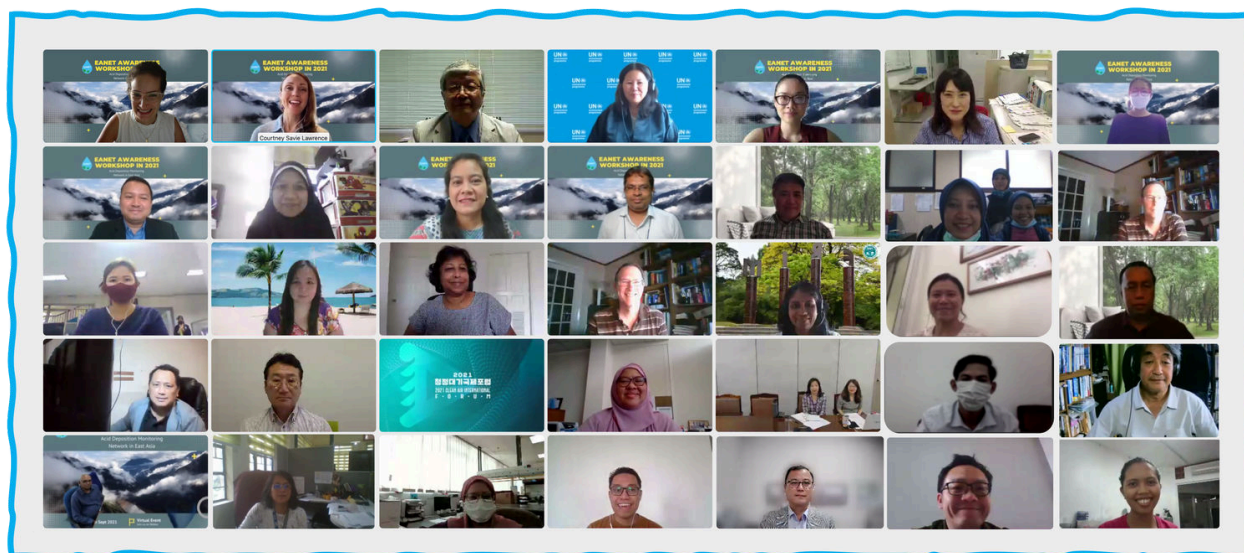
Furthermore, at the IG22, the Republic of Korea expressed its intention to support EANET in organizing an awareness event in 2021. Therefore, the EANET Awareness Workshop in 2021's sessions have been prepared while working closely with the Republic of Korea, according to the objectives of the EANET's awareness activities.

In 2019, the United Nations General Assembly adopted the Resolution at its 74th session to hold an International Day of Clean Air for blue skies on 7 September to urge the need to raise public awareness and promote and facilitate actions to improve air quality. The EANET Awareness Workshop commemorated this important day.

The EANET Awareness Workshop in 2021 was organized virtually on Monday, 6 September, 13:00–16:15 Indochina Time (ICT).



*All Workshop's videos are available online on the EANET's Secretariat [YouTube channel](#).*



# Objective & Participants

## Objective

The general objective of the Workshop was to share ideas regarding the current international cooperation among countries on acid deposition and air pollution. It also focused on the strategic role the EANET would play in the future in strengthening cooperation in the Region and included a case study on cutting-edge practices from the Republic of Korea. Furthermore, the EANET Awareness Workshop in 2021 aimed at increasing public understanding of regional acid deposition and air pollution issues while reflecting the work achieved by the EANET in the last 20 years.

In addition to representatives from the EANET participating countries, participants from Iran, India, and the USA also joined the event.

In the Republic of Korea, the Workshop was broadcasted live as part of the 2021 Clean Air International Forum on the Suwon Convention Center's YouTube channel and gathered around 90 live participants.

In total, over 200 persons participated in the virtual EANET Awareness Workshop in 2021.

## Participants

The EANET Awareness Workshop in 2021 was attended by the EANET National Focal Points, EANET Scientific Advisory Committee members, policymakers and national researchers, and scientists of the Network's 13 Participating Countries, as well as representatives of partner organizations working on acid deposition and air pollution-related issues. 114 participants joined the virtual event's online platform by registering directly to the event.

204  
participants

16  
countries

# EANET Awareness Workshop Highlights

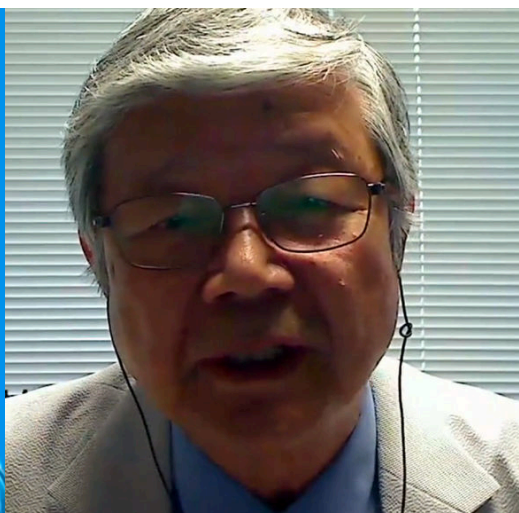
## 1

### Opening Session

Dr. Dechen Tsering, Regional Director and Representative, UN Environment Asia, and the Pacific Office opened the EANET Awareness Workshop in 2021 by delivering the welcome remarks, followed by Opening Remarks from Dr. Shiro Hatakeyama, Director-General, Asia Center for Air Pollution Research (ACAP) and by Mr. Yongchul Lee, Vice-Governor 1 for Administrative Affairs, Gyeonggi Province.

Key messages conveyed in the remarks emphasized a collective call to action to strengthen the commitment to continued robust data and opportunities for connecting science and policy.

The Awareness Workshop in 2021 was facilitated by Ms. Courtney Savie Lawrence, cofounder of The Circular Design Lab based in Bangkok, Thailand, fellow with the Royal Society of the Arts (RSA), and recently Head of Exploration at UNDP Asia Pacific Regional Innovation Centre.



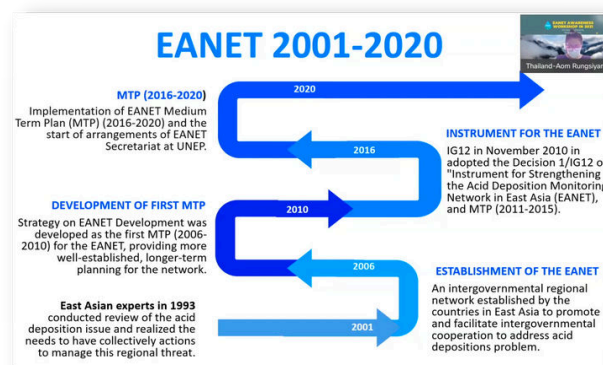
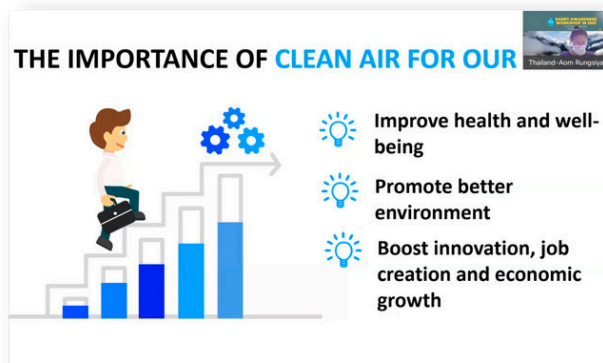
# 2

## General Lecture

Ms. Siwaporn Rungsiyanon, Director of Transboundary Air Pollution Subdivision Air Quality and Noise Management Division, Pollution Control Department, Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment, Thailand, and EANET National Focal Point of Thailand, delivered the General Lecture on "International Day of Clean Air for blue skies and EANET's potential role to achieve this goal".

In the Lecture, she presented an overview of the growing threats linked to air pollution in the Asia and Pacific region, including their effects on health and ecosystems and the exacerbated risks in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic. She also highlighted the history and purpose of the International Day of Clean Air for blue skies as part of global international actions and forums, including the United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA), to fight against air pollution.

In the second part of the Lecture, Ms. Rungsiyanon highlighted the EANET's 20 years of efforts in acid deposition monitoring, capacity building, awareness-raising, knowledge building and sharing, policy support, and continuous engagement among Participating Countries and partners. The importance of establishing a synergy to build partnerships was stressed at the end of the Lecture, inviting the Awareness Workshop's participants to discuss this topic in the Panel Discussion.





# 3

## Panel Discussion

The Panel Discussion focused on "International cooperation to fight against acid deposition and air pollution: What can we learn from the EANET's experience, and what role could the EANET play as a regional role model in the near future?".

Mr. Zhou Jun, Director of the Division of Asian, African and Latin American Affairs, Department of International Cooperation, Ministry of Ecology and Environment, China and EANET National Focal Point of China; Mr. Mohan Kumar Sammathuria, Principal Assistant Director, Atmospheric Sciences and Cloud Seeding Division, Malaysian Meteorological Department Ministry of Environment and Water, Malaysia and EANET Scientific Advisory Committee Member; Mr. Jundy T. Del Socorro, Supervising Environmental Management Specialist, Air Quality Management Section, Environmental Quality Management Division, Department of Environment and Natural Resources, Environmental Management Bureau, the Philippines and EANET Scientific Advisory Committee Member; Dr. Sangmin Nam, Deputy Head, ESCAP East and North-East Asia Office and Ms. Maria Katharina Patdu, Coordinator, Asia Pacific Clean Air Partnership, shared their views as Panelists during this session.

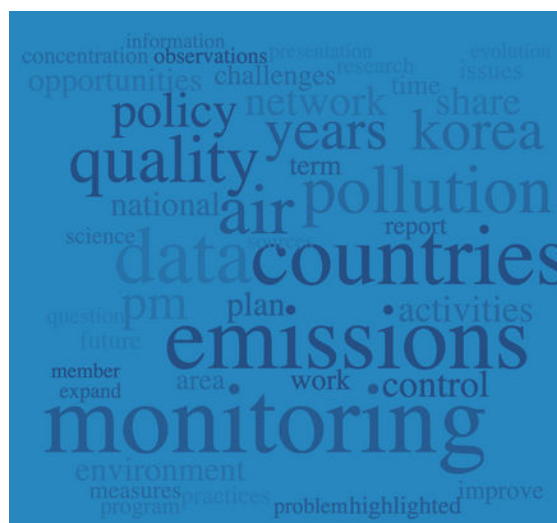
Mr. Tomi Haryadi, Coordinator of EANET Secretariat, and Dr. Ken Yamashita from EANET Network Center participated in the panel discussion as commentators.

The panel discussed EANET's highlights of success, challenges, opportunities, and best practices and explored the following key aspects:

## EANET's successful activities in the past 20 years

Over the last 20 years, the EANET has successfully established a network of monitoring sites in its 13 participating countries. This deployment allows the collection of valuable monitoring data on acid deposition, which has helped the EANET participating countries develop policies to reduce atmospheric acid precursors such as SO<sub>2</sub>. In fact, the reduction of emissions of SO<sub>2</sub> in many EANET participating countries could be attributed to national efforts supported by the EANET's intergovernmental cooperation.

Panelists agreed that EANET is an excellent platform for knowledge and experience – sharing on acid deposition monitoring, national capacity building, technical assistance, data storage, emission inventory, identifying and mapping air pollution sources, modeling, etc. The new MTP (2021–2025) of EANET has been considered a valuable tool to continue successful activities while strengthening intergovernmental cooperation.



Word cloud showing the most used expressions during the Workshop's discussions

## EANET's role in the future

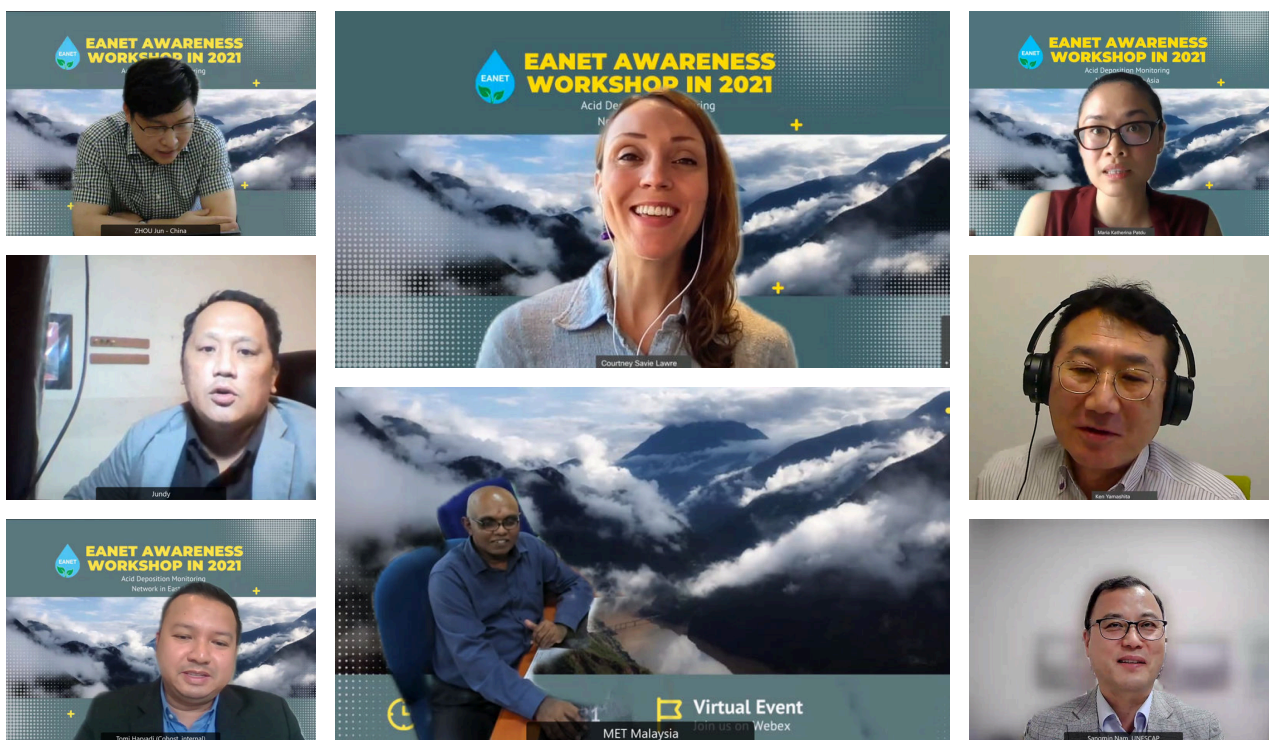
Panelists from the EANET participating countries considered that besides continuing working on the acid deposition issue, the Network's future work could also focus on other relevant air pollution issues, given the improvement of the acid deposition problem in the Region.

As policy-making tools, panelists stressed the importance of the high quality of EANET monitoring data. They suggested further improving it by incorporating the use of satellite data and the wider usage of low-cost sensors.

## International cooperation on acid deposition and air pollution

Panelists suggested strengthening EANET's intergovernmental cooperation and regional engagement with other initiatives through various modes of collaboration in line with the direction of the ongoing process of EANET expansion scope.

The champions created by the EANET in the participating countries could play a pivotal role in the EANET and take forward the EANET to a new level, including establishing synergy in partnerships and addressing SDGs in EANET's scope.



## Best practices and ways forward

Panelists valued the EANET's many best practices, including providing accurate high-quality acid deposition-related data to support research and policy-making. The importance of continuous capacity building and technical assistance was highlighted, including the EANET Fellowship program for young scientists.





# 4

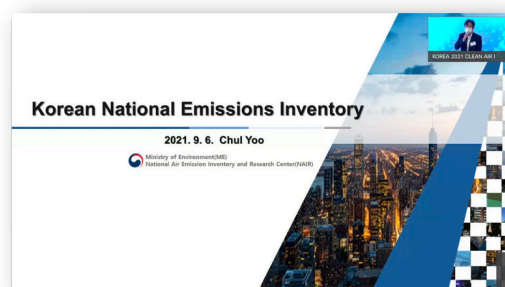
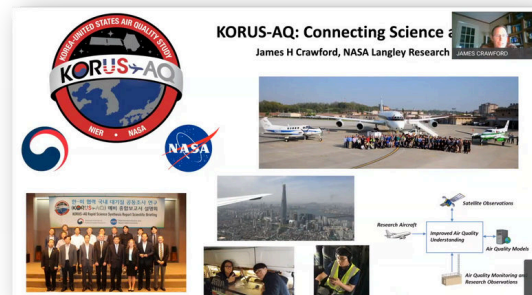
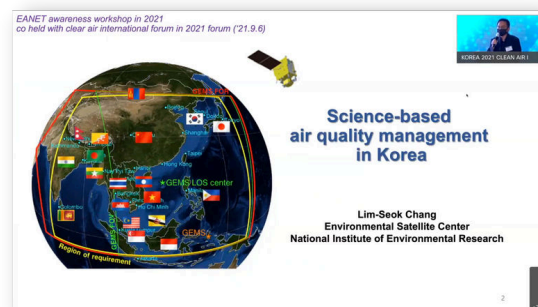
## Special Session – in partnership with the Republic of Korea

The Special Session focused on "sharing experience from the Republic of Korea in acid deposition and air quality management," and was co-facilitated by Dr. Imseok Chang, Senior Researcher, National Institute of Environmental Research (NIER), Republic of Korea. It included presentations from Dr. James Crawford, Senior Scientist for Atmospheric Chemistry at NASA, Langley Research Center, USA; Dr. Chang-Sub Shim, Chief Research Fellow, Korea Environment Institute (KEI), Republic of Korea, and Dr. Chul Yoo, Director, National Air Emission Inventory and Research Center, Republic of Korea.

Dr. James Crawford initiated the session by presenting the KORUS-AQ initiative with a special focus on the program's recent publications and achievements, showcasing its success in bridging science and policy-making.

Dr. Chang-Sub Shim presented the Korean government's efforts to control particulate matter (PM) pollutions and to improve domestic air quality in the country, based on the enforcement of robust national policies since 2019 and key scientific findings.

Dr. Chul Yoo presented the Republic of Korea's Inventory System and Improvement Efforts focusing on the Korean Clean Air Policy Support System (CAPSS) based on emission inventories using national, regional, and local levels of statistical data, compiled by approximately 150 organizations since 1990, and monitoring 9 pollutants (SOx, NOx, TSP, PM10, PM2.5, CO, VOC, NH3, and BC), calculated according to 13 major classifications.



# Conclusion & Closing Remarks

During the Awareness Workshop in 2021 various discussions, three key conclusion points were raised:

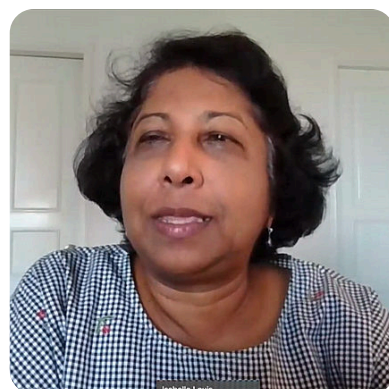
1. The EANET was recognized as a role model initiative, providing robust regional monitoring data, technical assistance, and analysis, disseminating its knowledge to key organizations across the region. Its efforts to invest in human capital capacity and development were also appreciated.

2. The importance of capacity-building activities, through different modalities such as training, exchange programs, and through the EANET fellowship, was highlighted. Many countries witnessed the importance of EANET capacity building in the last 20 years.

3. As a way forward, the EANET will strive at enhancing stronger and more extensive partnerships to create synergy, strengthen programs and magnify the impact on beneficiaries.

## Closing Remarks

The Workshop's Closing Remarks were provided by Dr. Isabelle Louis, Deputy Regional Director, United Nations Environment Programme for Asia & the Pacific, who thanked all speakers, experts, and participants for joining the Workshop and for contributing to a rich information-sharing event, raising awareness on the clear air urgency. She also invited participants to connect further with the experts who joined the Awareness Workshop in 2021 to discuss after the event.



# Survey Results

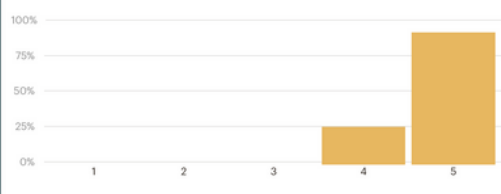
"1- Is this the first EANET event that you attend?"



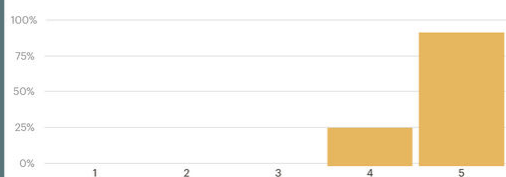
"2- How did you find out about the EANET Awareness Workshop?"



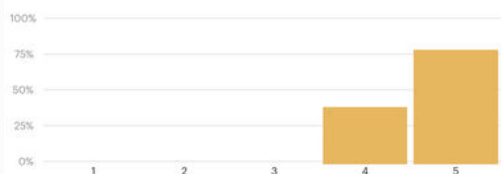
"3- Overall how satisfied were you with the Awareness Workshop?"



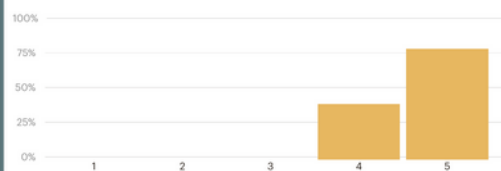
"4- How relevant did you find the content of the Awareness Workshop to your work?"



"5- How informative did you find the Awareness Workshop?"



"6- Would you say that the Awareness Workshop was interactive?"



"7- Were there any technical issues that prevented you from seeing or hearing the Awareness Workshop? If so, what were they?"

Unknown contact said:

"No."

Unknown contact said:

"No"

"8- Are there any topics you'd like to see covered in future EANET Awareness events?"

Unknown contact said:

"Linking science with policy"

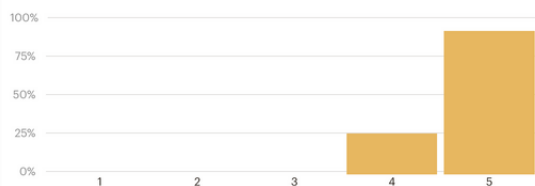
Unknown contact said:

"NO"

Unknown contact said:

"I would like to See about SPACE STATION."

"9- How likely would you recommend this Awareness Workshop to a friend or colleague?"



"10- Do you have any other comments or feedback?"

Unknown contact said:

"Overall excellent program"

Unknown contact said:

"good program"

Unknown contact said:

"GOOD INITIATIVE"

Unknown contact said:

"Looking for better future"

Unknown contact said:

"I would like to commend the organizers. I hope to hear more of such initiatives on air pollution."

## 4.8

Average satisfaction rating on a scale of 5

## 4.8

Average relevance rating on a scale of 5

## 4.7

Average informative rating on a scale of 5



# We thank you for your ongoing support

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Network in East Asia (EANET)