

The Working Group Meeting in 2024 (WG2024) on the
Acid Deposition Monitoring Network in East Asia (EANET)
20-21 August 2024, Virtual Meeting

CONSIDERATION OF THE ANNOTATED OUTLINE OF THE DRAFT MEDIUM-TERM PLAN FOR THE EANET (2026-2030) AND OF THE DRAFTING PROCESS

I. INTRODUCTION

1. The Twenty-fifth Session of the Intergovernmental Meeting (IG25) on the Acid Deposition Monitoring Network in East Asia (EANET), held on 29-30 November 2023, in Hanoi, Viet Nam, “*tasked the Secretariat and the Network Center to organize the Working Group Meeting in 2024 to review the 2025 Project Plans, among others.*” as stated in the Report of the Session (EANET/IG25/13, para 50).
2. At the IG25, the Mid-Term Review of the Medium-Term Plan (MTP) of the EANET (2021-2025) (EANET/IG25/7) was also presented and the findings and recommendations of the Evaluator were discussed. As stated in the Report of the Session of IG25, “*The Session considered and took note of the Draft Mid-Term Review of the EANET MTP (2021-2025) and to explore the possibility to include the findings and recommendations, which can be accepted by all PCs for future EANET activities*” (para 28).
3. In the Work Programme and Budget for Core Activities in 2024 (EANET/IG25/9), approved at the IG25, “*Activity 15: 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)*”; Table 15.1 “*Development of the MTP (2026-2030)*” (page 22), it is stated that the Secretariat will “*Initiate preparations for the development of the MTP (2026-2030) including organizing a Focus Discussion Group possibly in conjunction with the EANET Regional Awareness Workshop in 2024 (hybrid or face-to-face)*”.
4. As such, the Secretariat organized a hybrid “*Informal Meeting on the Initial Preparation of the Draft Medium Term Plan (2026-2030) for the EANET*” (IM2024) on 29 May 2024 to initiate the preparations for the development of the MTP (2026-2030) in conjunction with the EANET Regional Awareness Workshop in 2024.
5. Following the Informal Meeting on the Initial Preparation of the Draft MTP for the EANET (2026-2030) on 29 May 2024 and its discussions summarized in the Report of the IM24 (EANET/IM2024/6) and considering the discussions at the IG25 on the Mid-Term Review of the MTP 2021-2025, the Secretariat and the Network Center prepared the Annotated Outline of the draft MTP (2026-2030) as shown in Attachment 1, for the WG2024’s consideration and to be further submitted to SAC24 and IG26.

6. Furthermore, the Secretariat proposes, for the consideration of the IG26, the following drafting process of the MTP (2026-2030).
 - a. Task the Secretariat, in collaboration with the Network Center, to prepare the first full draft of the MTP (2026-2030), based on the Annotated Outline approved by the IG26, considering the discussions at IG25 including the Mid-Term Review of the MTP 2021-2025, Informal Meeting on the Initial Preparation of the Draft MTP for the EANET (2026-2030), recommendations from the WG2024 and SAC24.
 - b. Task the Secretariat to organize an Online Meeting to discuss the MTP (2026-2030) in March 2025.
 - c. Task the Secretariat, in collaboration with the Network Center, to revise the full draft and to submit it for discussion at the Working Group Meeting in 2025.
 - d. Task the Secretariat, in collaboration with the Network Center, to prepare the next draft considering the discussions at the Working Group Meeting in 2025 and to submit it for consideration of the SAC25 in Oct 2025.
 - e. Task the Secretariat, in collaboration with the Network Center, to submit the final Draft for consideration and approval to the IG27 in November 2025.
7. Attachment 1 shows the Annotated Outline of the draft MTP for the EANET (2026-2030).

II. ACTIONS REQUIRED

8. The WG2024 is invited to review the document “Consideration of the Annotated Outline of the draft MTP for the EANET (2026-2030) and of the Drafting Process” and may wish to discuss, consider, and provide guidance for further action to the 26th Intergovernmental Meeting (IG26) to be held in November 2024, as appropriate.

Attachment 1. Annotated Outline of the draft MTP for the EANET (2026-2030)

ANNOTATED OUTLINE OF THE DRAFT MEDIUM-TERM PLAN (MTP) FOR THE EANET (2026-2030)

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Contents

1. Introduction

This section provides the background, objectives, and descriptions of the main sections of the MTP 2026-2030, including general guidance and principles of the MTP.

This section can also include a brief reference to the previous MTP and its activities and implementation successes and challenges.

2. General Guidance

2.1 Objectives

This section will summarize the experience of the long-term monitoring and impact analysis of the atmospheric environment of EANET in East Asia. The section will highlight the objective of EANET monitoring activities for air pollution and acid deposition to identify the long-term trend, regional characteristics and impacts, and scientific assessment.

This section will also present the new challenges, demands and opportunities of air quality management and acid deposition control in the EANET region, such as the exacerbation of air quality due to related factors, and present the objectives of the EANET activities.

The enhancement of air quality monitoring will also be referenced including an explanation of the important chemical components and new methodologies so that improved scientific assessment can be implemented in the region. Reference to data utilization and dissemination, and capacity building, enhancement of outreach activities, and cooperation and collaboration with relevant entities will also be referenced.

The section will then outline the new direction and focus for the EANET in this MTP, referring to the Annex of the EANET Instrument which identifies the atmospheric pollutants that EANET is working on.

2.2 Principle of management of the activities of the EANET

The principle of management of the EANET activities will be discussed such as using the Results-Based Management (RBM) to improve EANET operations. RBM is a management strategy by which all actors contribute directly or indirectly to achieving a set of results, ensure that their processes, products and services contribute to the desired results (outputs, outcomes and higher-level goals or impact) and use information and evidence on actual results to inform decision making on the design, resourcing and delivery of programmes and projects as well as for accountability and reporting (UNEP, 2021).

Core and Project Fund activities of the EANET, providing a linkage towards achieving the overall objective/impact of the EANET with outcomes and outputs of activities, should be based on the RBM framework.

2.3 Monitoring and evaluation of the MTP

This section will include a reference to the monitoring of outcomes, outputs and activities, including the mid-term and terminal review of the MTP.

3. Framework of activities

3.1 EANET Core Activities

This will include the Core Activities of the MTP (2026-2030) and the accompanying estimated workload and costs necessary for the Secretariat and the Network Center to implement the Core Activities.

Many discussions have been conducted on the Core activities of the EANET at the IG25 particularly in November 2023 and the Informal Meeting on the Initial Preparation of the Draft Medium Term Plan (2026-2030) in May 2023. The detailed discussion points from the Reports of the Session will be considered in the development of this section.

3.2 EANET Project Fund activities

This section will provide guidance on the Project Fund activities and how these activities relate to the principal of management framework of the EANET activity.

4. Partnership and Resource Mobilization to support the implementation of the Activities

4.1 Funding for MTP

This section will also describe how the MTP (2026-2030) will be funded, considering an updated calculation of the voluntary financial contribution of the Participating Countries based on the latest UN Scale Voluntary Assessment for EANET Core Budget and EANET Project Fund based on the Project Fund mechanism.

4.2 Partnership and Resource Mobilization

This section will be based on the Partnership and Resource Mobilization Strategy for the EANET being developed by the Secretariat for consideration of the IG26. The section will include a discussion on the various initiatives and projects working on the atmospheric environment focusing on the atmospheric environment-related substances identified in the Annex of the EANET Instrument, and where cooperation can be sought to support the implementation of the MTP. In addition to strengthening the roles of the Participating Countries in the implementation of the MTP, discussions on the possible roles of bilateral and multilateral development agencies, philanthropic organizations and foundations, international research institutions, non-governmental organizations, and the private sector will be discussed. Discussions and proposals from previous EANET meetings related to partnerships and resource mobilization will also be considered in this section.

4.3 Outreach and communications

This section will also include strategic outreach and communications within and outside the EANET network to support the implementation of the MTP.

5. Long-term Strategy of the EANET

This section will discuss EANET's future strategy considering the whole atmospheric environment problems such as air pollution and its sources.