

EANET VOCs Project Annual Meeting 2025 Successfully Held in Gwangju, Republic of Korea



October 2025 – Gwangju, R. of Korea

The EANET Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs) Project Annual Meeting 2025 was successfully held from October 15 to 17 at the Kim Daejung Convention Center in Gwangju City, Republic of Korea. 25 participants from Japan, Korea, China, Mongolia, the Philippines, Cambodia, Vietnam, Thailand and USA joined the meeting in person or online. The event was organized by the Network Center (NC) in collaboration with the Korean Society for Atmospheric Environment (KOSAE).

- **EANET VOC Annual Meeting 2025: Advancing Regional Collaboration on VOCs (15th to 16th October)**



The VOC annual meeting brought together experts and stakeholders from participating countries to review project implementation, promote EANET's VOC initiatives, and exchange insights on emerging trends and scientific knowledge related to VOC emissions. The opening session featured remarks from Dr. Toshimasa Ohara, Director General of the Asia Center for Air Pollution Research (ACAP), and Prof. Gang-Woong Lee of Hankuk University of Foreign Studies. Both speakers emphasized the urgent need for enhanced VOC monitoring across

East Asia and highlighted the project's vital role in supporting regional air quality management and environmental sustainability.

The representative from participating countries, namely Mongolia, the Philippines, Cambodia, and Vietnam presented the project progress in 2025 and implementation plan in 2026. All the members of the project discussed progress and plan together.

The network center for EANET also introduced the outline of technical training guidance for VOC monitoring. The drafting committee for this guidance has been established, and schedule of preparation is discussed.

- **KOSAE-ACAP Joint International Symposium I and II (15th October)**



KOSAE-ACAP Joint International Symposium I began with opening remarks from Prof. Gang-Woong Lee and Dr. Toshimasa Ohara, setting the stage for discussions on VOC monitoring in East Asia. Dr. Mingqun Huo (ACAP) introduced the EANET VOCs Project focused on regional capacity building activities and primary results of data analysis, including characteristic of VOC concentration observed in multiple representative Asian cities, contribution to O₃ and PM_{2.5} formation and the results of source appointments. Prof. Joo-Ae Kim (Korea University) presented comparative results from online VOC measurement techniques used during the ASIA-AQ campaign. Dr. Yujiro Ichikawa (Center for Environmental Science in Saitama) showcased integrated tower and drone observations for BVOC flux analysis. Dr. Kyung-Hwan Kim (Korea Institute of Science and Technology) examined the secondary formation potential of anthropogenic and biogenic VOCs in Korea.

Second session addressed diverse strategies and technologies for managing atmospheric VOCs and related pollutants. Dr. Seong-Joon Kim (Ulsan National Institute of Science and Technology) emphasized the importance of emission profiles, source apportionment, and toxicity in shaping VOC management approaches. Prof. Hong Li (Chinese Research Academy of Environmental Sciences, CRAES) presented China's progress in smog chamber research. Dr. Kessinee Unapumnak (Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment (MNRE), Thailand) shared Thailand's VOC monitoring and policy efforts. Mr. Massimo Santoro introduced automated systems for tracking organic greenhouse gases and ozone-depleting substances.

- **KOSAE Conference Plenary Session (16th October)**



The plenary session offered a broader view of VOC emissions and air quality challenges. Dr. Toshimasa Ohara (ACAP) discussed trends and future projections of anthropogenic VOC emissions in East Asia and Japan. Prof. Jeffrey L. Collett, Jr. (Colorado State University) addressed the difficulties in achieving ozone standards in the western United States. Prof. Jung-Hun Woo (Seoul National University) highlighted Korea's recent progress in air quality improvement and outlined the challenges that lie ahead.

- **EANET VOC Seminar 1 and 2 (16th to 17th October)**



In the Seminar 1, speakers presented three key aspects of VOC research in Japan and East Asia. Dr. Junya Hoshi (Tokyo Metropolitan Research Institute) introduced advanced monitoring techniques using canisters and passive samplers deployed in Tokyo, Japan. Dr. Junichi Kurokawa (ACAP) shared insights on VOC emission inventories across East Asia, emphasizing regional data harmonization. Dr. Yusuke Kiriya (ACAP) presented simulation results of VOC data, showcasing analytical methods for interpreting emission patterns.

Seminar 2 explored advanced approaches to VOC monitoring and environmental impact assessment. Prof. Andrey Khlystov (Desert Research Institute) presented methods suitable for network-based VOC monitoring. Prof. Christopher D. Cappa (University of California-Davis) highlighted the role of VOCs in forming secondary organic aerosols and their broader environmental implications. Prof. Hong Li (CRAES) introduced a new collaborative project



between China and Japan aimed at developing systematic analytical methodologies for ambient air VOCs.

- **Closing Remark**

Dr. Meng, Deputy Director-General of the Asia Center for Air Pollution Research (ACAP) and the Network Center for the EANET, expressed his sincere appreciation to the Korean Society for Atmospheric Environment (KOSAE) for its invaluable cooperation in co-organizing the 2025 EANET VOCs Annual Meeting in Gwangju. Dr. Meng also extended heartfelt gratitude to the participating countries, experts, and partner institutions for their active engagement and continuous contributions to the advancement of VOC monitoring, analysis, and collaborative research under the EANET framework.