



Second Informal Expert Meeting on Nitrogen

Hybrid: Nairobi, Kenya, and online, 29 September 2023

The Meeting will be held at the United Nations Complex in **Conference Room number 9**.

UNEP Working Group on Nitrogen in collaboration with the Global Partnership on Nutrient Management (GPNM)

BACKGROUND

As an outcome of the third meeting of the UNEP Working Group on Nitrogen, held in Bucharest, Romania on 27 April 2023 followed by an informal expert meeting on 28 April 2023, it was decided that the GPNM support the process by providing technical support to the focal points.

It was decided that during the inter-sessional period the GPNM would organize information-sharing, technical webinars on specific topics.

It was also decided that the GPNM would convene an informal expert meeting back-to-back to the meetings of the Working Group to allow focal point discussions in an informal setting.

DRAFT AGENDA

29 September 2023

Session 1: 10:00 to 11:30 hrs

1. Opening of the meeting

- Welcome by UNEP
- Introduction by participants

2. Purpose of the informal expert meeting on nitrogen and the role of the Global Partnership on Nutrient Management (GPNM)

- Remarks from the Co-Chairs of the UNEP Working Group on Nitrogen
- Introduction to the GPNM and how it can support the UNEP Working Group on Nitrogen by the Chair of the GPNM (Ramesh Ramachandran)
- Overview of the GPNM Webinar Series

Coffee/Tea break: 11:30 to 11:45 hrs

Session 2: 11:45 to 13:00 hrs

3. Feedback and questions from focal points of the UNEP Working Group on Nitrogen on sustainable nitrogen management, including on gaps in knowledge and information needs.

- Informal exchange between focal points and experts moderated by Co-Chairs of the Working Group on Nitrogen

Guiding Questions:

1. What are the key achievements and challenges in sustainable nitrogen management at the national levels that the focal points have encountered in their respective areas, and how can these experiences inform global strategies?

2. What specific gaps in knowledge and data are hindering effective nitrogen management, and how can these gaps be addressed to support evidence-based decision-making and policy development?
3. Are there successful case studies (Best Practices) or innovative approaches to nitrogen management that have shown promise? How can these experiences be shared and replicated across different countries/ regions or sectors?

Lunch break: 13:00 to 14:00 hrs

Session 3: 14:00 to 15:30 hrs

4. Knowledge sharing roundtables on national action plans: exchange on administrative challenges and scientific evidence that can serve the preparation of action plans.

— Moderated by Ramesh Ramachandran and Mark Sutton

Guiding Questions:

1. What are the most common administrative hurdles or challenges that countries encounter when developing and implementing national action plans for sustainable nitrogen management, and what strategies or best practices have been effective in overcoming these obstacles?
2. What specific types of scientific evidence, data, or research are essential for the development of robust national action plans for nitrogen management? How can countries improve access to and utilization of this scientific knowledge?
3. How can countries effectively engage stakeholders from various sectors, including agriculture, industry, transportation, and environmental agencies, in the development and implementation of nitrogen management plans? What strategies have been successful in fostering collaboration and consensus?

Coffee/Tea break: 15:30 to 15:45 hrs

Session 4: 15:45 to 17:00 hrs

5. Coordinated Policy Actions: Connecting National, Regional, and Global Initiatives

- Regional Approaches to Combat Nutrient Pollution: Insights from the Coordinating Body on the Seas of East Asia (Mahesh Pradhan, Coordinator, COBSEA) and the Caribbean Environment Programme (Marlen Perez, RAC CIMAB Regional Activity Centre of the Land-based Sources of Marine Pollution, Cuba)
- DRAFT: Regional Roadmap for Sustainable Nitrogen Management in South Asia (Dr. Tariq Aziz, University of Agriculture, Faisalabad-Pakistan)
- Exploring Synergies: Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (Monica Kobayashi, Convention on Biological Diversity Secretariat, Canada)
- Nitro-Finance: Mobilizing investment for sustainable nitrogen management (Mark Sutton, Centre for Ecology and Hydrology, UK)

- Moderated by Ramesh Ramachandran and Mark Sutton

Guiding Questions:

1. How can national actions, such as those in Jamaica and Barbados, be effectively integrated into broader regional and global initiatives for sustainable nitrogen management, ensuring a cohesive and coordinated approach?
2. What lessons and best practices can be shared from regional initiatives like COBSEA, UNEP CEP, SACEP to encourage collaborative efforts across regions for addressing nutrient pollution and sustainable nitrogen management?
3. How can the goals and principles of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework be aligned with and complement the national and regional efforts discussed in this session, promoting synergies for a more holistic approach to biodiversity and nitrogen management?
 - Reflections from SC Members, focal points and stakeholders

Discussion and next steps

- Chair of the GPNM (Ramesh Ramachandran)

4. Closure of the meeting

- UNEP and Co-Chairs of the Working Group on Nitrogen