# WORK PLAN OF THE AMAZONIAN NETWORK OF WATER AUTHORITIES - ANWA (2026 - 2028)

## PREPARED BY: PRESIDENCY OF ANWA (ANA, BRAZIL)

**Document consolidated by the Specialized Technical Panel (STP) of ANWA at its XII meeting**

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## I. BACKGROUND

The Amazonian Network of Water Authorities (ANWA) of the Member Countries of the Amazon Cooperation Treaty Organization (ACTO) - ANWA/ACTO - was established within the framework of the Amazon Summit, held in Belem (Para, Brazil) in August 2023, with the objective of promoting cooperation in the sustainable management of water resources in the Amazon region. The creation of the Network was confirmed by the XIV Meeting of Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the ACTO Member Countries, which determined the convening of the first ANWA meeting for the approval of its Rules of Procedure, the preparation of a work plan and the definition of an indicative timetable for the implementation of its objectives.

ANWA is established as a permanent space for participation, technical coordination and institutional articulation among the national authorities responsible for water resources management in the ACTO Member Countries. Its action is aimed at strengthening Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) in the Amazon Basin, including the planning and cooperative management of surface and groundwater, including transboundary waters, the progressive strengthening of technical, technological and institutional capacities, technological innovation, intercultural dialogue and cooperation for the monitoring, conservation and protection of water sources.

The ANWA Rules of Procedure establish that its Work Plans shall be prepared and approved every two years, taking into account ongoing projects and other ACTO planning instruments. They also define that the Presidency of the Network shall be exercised on a rotating basis among the Member Countries, with a two-year mandate, with Brazil holding the Presidency for the 2026-2028 period.

The first ANWA Work Plan, corresponding to the 2024-2026 period, focused on the initial structuring of the Network, the definition of priorities, the strengthening of the technical capacities of the countries, the development of regional monitoring protocols and the construction of foundations for the consolidation of regional water governance. The Plan adopted a methodology based on four technical criteria: advancing the objectives of the ANWA Rules of Procedure; establishing a focused strategy; prioritizing catalytic activities; and concluding and strengthening ongoing regional actions within the framework of ACTO and the implementation of the SAP.

For the 2026-2028 period, the Work Plan seeks to consolidate the progress achieved in the first cycle and to focus efforts on the institutional strengthening of ACTO. Under the Presidency of Brazil, the proposed priorities are: the implementation of the Amazon Training Plan; support for the preparation and formalization of an agreement for the exchange of hydrometeorological data; support for the update of the SAP; the structuring of national and regional project pipelines for water security and climate resilience; and the finalization, validation and publication of the ANWA White Paper.

## II. IMPLEMENTATION OF THE FIRST WORK PLAN

The first operating cycle of ANWA made it possible to lay the institutional, technical and operational foundations of the Network. Among the main advances of the 2024-2026 period, the following stand out:

I. the establishment of ANWA and the approval of its Rules of Procedure;
II. preparation and approval of the first Work Plan of the Network;
III. the creation of the Specialized Technical Panel (STP);
IV. the development of the Amazon Training Plan for Integrated Water Resources Management;
V. preparation and approval of the Regional Protocols of the Amazon Hydrological Network (RHA) and the Water Quality Network (RQA);
VI. creation or strengthening of technical support bodies for regional monitoring;
VII. exchanges on experiences in integrated water resources management and financing strategies;
VIII. progress in the preparation and consolidation of a White Paper proposal for ANWA) as a Permanent Regional Coordination Mechanism for IWRM;

The Regional Protocols of the RHA and the RCA addressed essential issues for regional monitoring, including the adaptation, installation and operation of monitoring stations; field procedures and sample collection; data processing, availability and publication; centralization platforms; information security; access management; institutional flows; and responsibilities of the Member Countries and ACTO/ORA.

Despite the progress made, the full implementation of the regional monitoring networks and the strategic use of the information generated continue to depend on strengthening trust among the Member Countries and on defining more detailed rules for the effective exchange of hydrometeorological data. This issue will be a priority in the 2026-2028 period.

## III. GENERAL GUIDELINES OF THE 2026-2028 WORK PLAN

The 2026-2028 Work Plan aims to consolidate ANWA as a permanent regional mechanism for technical and institutional cooperation for integrated water resources management in the Amazon Basin.

To this end, the plan focuses on strategic actions, with special attention to concrete results, institutional strengthening, the generation and use of quality information, the building of trust among the Member Countries, support for the update of the SAP and the structuring of projects aimed at water security and climate resilience.

ANWA action during this period shall respect the following guiding principles:

I. respect for the sovereignty of the Member Countries and their respective national legislation;

II. recognition of the different institutional, technical, operational and financial capacities of the countries;
III. gradual strengthening of regional cooperation;
IV. results-based management, with verifiable deliverables;
V. pursuit of financial sustainability for the implementation of priority actions;
VI. valorization of hydrometeorological information as a basis for water security, climate resilience and the prevention of extreme events.
VII. Promotion of the technological sovereignty of the Amazon region in hydrometeorological and hydrochemical equipment and instruments.

## IV. ADAPTED METHODOLOGY FOR THE WORK PLAN

Taking into account that the 17 objectives established in the ANWA Rules of Procedure, in the Belem Declaration and in the Brasilia Declaration remain valid, it is proposed to maintain the initial methodology for structuring the new Work Plan, in order to consolidate the actions carried out and to advance in the implementation of new objectives within the framework of the SAP. The methodology adopts 5 technical criteria and 6 logical steps. The methodology adopted for the 2026-2028 Work Plan maintains the logic of the previous Plan, with adjustments to give it greater focus, objectivity and implementation feasibility.

**Criterion 1 - Institutional continuity**

The Plan gives continuity to the objectives defined in the ANWA Rules of Procedure and to the mandates established by the Belem Declaration and by the XIV Meeting of Ministers of Foreign Affairs of ACTO.

**Criterion 2 - Focus**

The Plan gives priority to a reduced number of strategic results, avoiding the dispersion of efforts and allowing more effective monitoring of results.

**Criterion 3 - Catalytic activities**

The activities were selected for their potential to generate institutional, technical and financial repercussions in regional cooperation on water resources.

**Criterion 4 - Consolidation of ongoing actions**

The Plan seeks to conclude, launch or strengthen initiatives already started within the framework of ANWA and ACTO, especially those related to training, regional protocols, the SAP, the White Paper and project financing.

**Criterion 5 - Technical and institutional feasibility**

The proposed actions take into account existing capacities, the need for a gradual agreement among the Member Countries and the importance of producing viable results within a two-year period.

**Logical steps:**

Step 1 - Prioritization of objectives: it has been verified that the four objectives identified in the first period remain valid and current for the second period of ANWA.

Step 2 - Identification of products with impact and regional interest by prioritized objective.

Steps 3 and 4: development of activities and designation of those responsible for the fulfilment of each product.

Step 5 - Preparation of the work schedule.

Step 6 - ANWA approves and adopts the document, and instructs the Secretariat to communicate progress to the ACTO Member Countries.

Within the framework of Step 1, the same four priority objectives from the first period were identified, to which a specific focus on transboundary data governance was added, a topic that emerged as a central bottleneck in the implementation of the regional monitoring protocols:

Objective I: Promote regional cooperation for Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) in the countries of the Amazon Region/Basin, including South-South Cooperation, for capacity-building, technology transfer, professional training and the exchange of experiences, including at community and scientific levels, while respecting the national legislation of the Member Countries.

Objective II: Encourage the search for and mobilization of non-reimbursable financial resources to support the sustainability of water management initiatives and institutions, including ACTO.

Objective III: Support the fulfilment of ACTO objectives in the implementation of the Strategic Action Programme (SAP), including its institutional sustainability.

Objective X: Establish regional protocols for hydrological and water quality monitoring.

## V. THE WORK PLAN FOR THE 2026-2028 BIENNIUM

### Strategic Action 1 - Support ACTO in the implementation of the Amazon Training Plan for Integrated Water Resources Management

The implementation of the Amazon Training Plan is a priority for strengthening the technical and institutional capacities of the ACTO Member Countries. Training should support the implementation of the SAP, the regional protocols of the RHA and the RCA, data exchange, the management of critical events, water security and climate resilience.

| Product | Main activities | Suggested responsible parties | Indicative timeframe |
|---|---|---|---|
| Implementation of training activities | Organize courses and workshops on integrated water resources management, monitoring, data, extreme events, water security, groundwater, hydrodiplomacy and financing. | Member Countries, ACTO, technical partners | 2026-2028 |
| Results report | Systematize participants, institutions involved, topics addressed, gaps and recommendations. | PS/ACTO and STP | Annual |

## Strategic Action 2 - Prepare and gradually implement the Regional Agreement for the Exchange of Hydrometeorological Data

The exchange of hydrometeorological data is an essential condition to strengthen integrated water resources management, improve regional monitoring and, prevent and respond to critical events, ensure water security and adapt to climate change in the Amazon basin.

The Regional Protocols of the Amazon Hydrological Network (RHA) and the Water Quality Network (RCA) already establish relevant guidance on the processing, availability, publication, centralization, security, access management, institutional flows and responsibilities related to data produced within the scope of the regional monitoring networks. However, the full implementation of these instruments and the strategic use of the information generated continue to depend on the creation of a clearer, more stable and consensual institutional framework among the Member Countries for the exchange of hydrometeorological data.

In this context, ANWA should support the preparation and formalization of specific agreements for the exchange of hydrometeorological data between the ACTO Member Countries and ORA. PS/ACTO/ANWA The agreements should establish rules, purposes, responsibilities, safeguards, access levels, governance mechanisms, conditions of use and operating procedures capable of increasing trust among the countries and enabling the regular exchange of essential information for the integrated management of Amazonian water resources.

The agreement should respect national sovereignty, domestic legislation, the competencies of the institutions responsible for data production and management, and the technical and operational capacities of each country. Its objective will not be to promote unrestricted opening of databases, but to create a safe, predictable, transparent and mutually agreed institutional environment for the gradual exchange of data and information of regional interest.

Finally, considering the conclusions of the IV Ordinary Meeting of ANWA, the Presidency of ANWA and the STP, together with the ANWA Secretariat, will identify, within the scope of the Integrated Water Resources Management Platform of ANWA, the mechanisms for incorporating the Regional Hydrometric Monitoring Group, established within the framework of the implementation of the SAP, with a view to avoiding duplication of actions and efforts.

| Product | Main activities | Proposed responsible parties | Indicative timeframe |
|---|---|---|---|
| Proposal for minimum content of the agreement | Prepare a technical proposal with principles, scope, purposes, responsibilities, safeguards, access levels, information security, traceability, use of data, review mechanisms and gradual implementation. | ACTO Permanent Secretariat, ANWA, STP, technical consultancy when appropriate, ORA | First semester of 2027 |
| Technical and institutional discussion | Conduct rounds of discussion with the STP, foreign ministries, national institutions responsible for data, legal areas and other competent bodies designated by the Member Countries. | Member Countries, ACTO Permanent Secretariat, ANWA, STP, ORA | Second semester of 2027 |
| Draft agreement for review by the countries | Consolidate the draft agreement or equivalent instrument, taking into account the technical, institutional and legal contributions of the Member Countries. | Member Countries, ACTO Permanent Secretariat, ANWA | Second semester of 2027 |

| Product | Main activities | Proposed responsible parties | Indicative timeframe |
|---|---|---|---|
| Gradual implementation plan | Define stages, responsibilities, priority data, platforms, tests and monitoring mechanisms. | STP, ANWA, ACTO/ORA, Regional Monitoring Group | 2027 |
| Pilot data exchange experience | Implement a pilot project with a restricted set of priority data and a defined purpose. | Volunteer countries, ACTO/ORA, ANWA, STP, Regional Monitoring Group | 2027 |
| Integrated IWRM Platform | Consolidation and approval of the Concept of the Integrated IWRM Platform | Volunteer countries, ACTO/ORA, ANWA, STP, Regional Monitoring Group | 2027-2028 |

## Strategic Action 3 - Support ACTO in the update of the Strategic Action Programme (SAP)

The update of the SAP represents an opportunity to incorporate the technical and institutional advances of ANWA and to harmonize national and regional priorities related to the management of Amazonian water resources.

The activities required for the update of the SAP will be carried out within the framework of the project Implementation of the Strategic Action Programme to ensure Integrated and Sustainable Management of the Transboundary Water Resources of the Amazon River Basin Considering Climate Variability and Change, with the support of ANWA and the STP.

The contribution of ANWA should focus on issues directly related to its mission: regional water governance, hydrological and water quality monitoring, data exchange, water security, climate resilience, surface water and groundwater, extreme events, training and financing.

| Product | Main activities | Suggested responsible parties | Indicative timeframe |
|---|---|---|---|
| Matrix of ANWA contributions to the SAP | Identify the priority themes, gaps and technical proposals of the Network. | STP, Member Countries, Secretariat | 2026-2027 |
| Updated SAP | Consolidate the ANWA document to support the SAP update process. | ACTO, Secretariat and Presidency | 2027 |

## Strategic Action 4 - Support ACTO in the structuring of national and regional project pipelines for water security and climate resilience

The structuring of project pipelines aims to transform technical and institutional priorities into qualified proposals for the mobilization of national, regional and international resources within the framework of the implementation of the SAP.

The ANWA Rules of Procedure provide that the Meeting of Water Authorities shall support the ACTO Permanent Secretariat in mobilizing non-reimbursable resources and contribute technically to the formulation, implementation and evaluation of projects within the framework of ACTO.

The project pipelines should include national and regional initiatives related to the implementation of the SAP, including the strengthening of IWRM in the Amazon, water security, climate resilience, monitoring, network modernization, management of extreme events, protection of water sources, groundwater, institutional strengthening, training and nature-based solutions. The structuring of the project pipeline aims to facilitate the process of mobilizing new resources for the implementation of the identified initiatives.

| Product | Main activities | Suggested responsible parties | Indicative timeframe |
|---|---|---|---|
| Common methodology for project identification and classification | Define a standard form, eligibility criteria, thematic | ACTO Permanent Secretariat, ANWA, STP | Second semester of 2026 |

| Product | Main activities | Suggested responsible parties | Indicative timeframe |
|---|---|---|---|
| | categories and prioritization criteria. | | |
| Preliminary project pipeline | Request priority national or regional proposals from the countries. Identify proposals of common or transboundary interest. | ACTO Permanent Secretariat, Member Countries, STP | 2027 |
| Prioritization criteria | Classify projects by impact, maturity, feasibility, alignment with the SAP, water security and climate resilience. | ACTO Permanent Secretariat, STP and Secretariat | 2027 |
| Mapping of financing sources | Identify climate funds, international cooperation, multilateral banks and technical partners. | ACTO Permanent Secretariat, Secretariat, Presidency, partners | 2027-2028 |
| Technical roundtable with financiers | Present the preliminary portfolio and discuss pathways for preparing proposals. | ACTO Permanent Secretariat, Presidency, Member Countries | 2028 |

### Strategic Action 5 - Support ACTO in the finalization, validation and publication of the White Paper

The White Paper should consolidate and make explicit the role of ACTO in the regional governance of Amazonian water resources and present guidelines for strengthening a permanent coordination mechanism within the framework of ANWA.

The document should reflect the advances of the first cycle of the Network, the challenges identified by the Member Countries, the results of the regional protocols, the prospects for implementation of the SAP and the recommendations to strengthen cooperation in water resources management in the Amazon Basin.

| Product | Main activities | Proposed responsible parties | Indicative timeframe |
|---|---|---|---|
| Revised draft of the White Paper | Review the existing proposal in detail, section by section, according to the agreed methodology (Phase 2) | ACTO, Presidency, Secretariat, STP | 2026 |
| Consolidated version | Incorporate the contributions and prepare the version for validation. | ACTO, STP and Secretariat | 2027 |
| Validation by ANWA | Present the document to the Meeting of Water Authorities. | Presidency and Secretariat | 2027 |
| Publication | Carry out editing, translation, layout and dissemination. | ACTO, Presidency, partners | 2027 |

## VI. Governance of implementation

The implementation of the 2026-2028 Work Plan will be carried out in a coordinated manner among the Presidency of ANWA, the ACTO Secretariat, the Specialized Technical Panel (STP) and the Member Countries.

The Presidency shall be responsible for politically guiding the implementation of the Plan, proposing priorities, coordinating the work agenda and representing ANWA in the relevant institutional spaces, including possible engagement with the ACTO Institutional Strengthening working group for the institutionalization of ANWA within the Organization.

In accordance with the ANWA Rules of Procedure, the Secretariat shall be responsible for organizing and convening meetings, in coordination with the Presidency, facilitating communication and coordination among the Member Countries, safeguarding the documentation prepared,

coordinating resource mobilization and supporting the dissemination of the technical knowledge generated with the support of the Network.

The Specialized Technical Panel (STP) shall be responsible for supporting the technical preparation of meetings, collaborating in the formulation and implementation of the Work Plan, proposing technical contributions, monitoring products and supporting the consolidation of contributions from the Member Countries.

The Member Countries shall be responsible for designating technical focal points, submitting national contributions, validating products, participating in training activities, contributing to the development of the protocols and identifying priority projects to comprise national and regional project pipelines.

# Activity Schedule

| Key Activities | Indicative Deadline | 2026 | | | | | | 2027 | | | | | | | | | | | | 2028 | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | Jul | Aug | Sep | Oct | Nov | Dec | Jan | Feb | Mar | Apr | May | Jun | Jul | Aug | Sept | Oct | Nov | Dec | Jan | Feb | March | April | May | June |
| **Strategic Action 1 — Support ACTO in implementing the Amazon Training Plan for Integrated Water Resources Management** | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Organize courses and workshops on integrated water resources management, monitoring, data, extreme events, water security, groundwater, hydrodiplomacy, and financing. | 2026–2028 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Compile information on participants, involved institutions, topics addressed, gaps, and recommendations. | Annual | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| **Strategic Action 2 — Develop and gradually implement the Regional Agreement on the Exchange of Hydrometeorological Data** | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Develop a technical proposal outlining principles, scope, objectives, responsibilities, safeguards, access levels, information security, traceability, data usage, review mechanisms, and phased implementation. | First half of 2027 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Conduct rounds of discussions with the Technical Panel, foreign ministries, national institutions responsible for data, legal departments, and other competent bodies designated by Member Countries. | Second half of 2027 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Finalize the draft agreement or equivalent instrument, taking into account the technical, institutional, and legal contributions of Member Countries. | Second half of 2027 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Define phases, responsibilities, priority data, platforms, testing, and monitoring mechanisms. | [2028 7] | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Implement a pilot project with a limited set of priority data and a defined purpose. | [2028 7] | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| [Consolidation and Approval of the Concept for the GIRG Integrated Platform] | [2027 – 2028] | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| **Strategic Action 3 — Support ACTO in updating the Strategic Action Program (PAE)** | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Identify the Network's priority issues, gaps, and technical proposals. | 2026–2027 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Consolidate the RADA document to support the PAE update process. | 2027 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| **Strategic Action 4 — Support ACTO in structuring national and regional project pipelines for water security and climate resilience** | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Define a standard form, eligibility criteria, thematic categories, and prioritization criteria. | Second half of 2026 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Request priority national or regional proposals from countries. Identify proposals of common or cross-border interest. | 2027 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Rank projects by impact, maturity, feasibility, alignment with the PAE, water security, and climate resilience. | 2027 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Identify climate funds, international cooperation, multilateral banks, and technical partners. | 2027–2028 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Present the preliminary portfolio and discuss approaches for preparing proposals. | 2028 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| **Strategic Action 5 — Support OTCA in finalizing, validating, and publishing the White Paper** | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Review the existing proposal in detail, section by section, according to the agreed-upon methodology (Phase 2) | 2026 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Incorporate feedback and prepare the version for validation. | 2027 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Present the document to the Water Authorities Meeting. | 2027 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Carry out editing, translation, layout, and dissemination. | 2027 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |