

Global Alliance to Eliminate Lead Paint Newsletter September 2018

Lead paint is an important source of lead exposure globally, posing serious risks to human health and the environment. In order to protect children and workers from exposure to lead from paints, the Global Alliance to Eliminate Lead Paint (Lead Paint Alliance) is working to achieve the goal that by 2020 all countries establish legislation to address lead paint. In this newsletter, the Lead Paint Alliance is proud to highlight actions by our partners as well as opportunities for industry, academia, government, and non-governmental organizations to achieve this goal.

To support that goal, the Lead Paint Alliance has developed a [Model Law and Guidance for Regulating Lead Paint](#), which is currently available in English, Spanish, French and Russian.

The Lead Paint Alliance was created in 2011 and is led by the United Nations Environment Programme (UN Environment) and the World Health Organization (WHO), and chaired by the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

In this edition:



Success Story: Manny Calonzo, EcoWaste Coalition

Read about the inspiring work of Manny Calonzo, the 2018 winner of the Goldman Environmental Prize.



What can you do? Take Action!

Learn how you can get involved during the International Lead Poisoning Prevention Week, 21-27 October 2018.



Advisory Council Update

UN Environment update about the upcoming SAICM GEF project.



Industry Update

The International Paint and Printing Ink Council (IPPIC) continues their support for the Lead Paint Alliance in 2018.



Recent Events and Country Updates

Jamaica hosted a Caribbean Workshop on the Establishment of Legal Limits on Lead in Paint in December 2017.



Progress Toward Laws

Exciting progress in establishing lead paint laws this year.



Partner Corner

Civil society, government, industry and academia all play a crucial role in work of the Lead Paint Alliance.

Success Story: Manny Calonzo, EcoWaste Coalition

The Goldman Environmental Prize is considered by many to be the “environmental Nobel Prize.” The [2018 prize](#) was awarded to Manny Calonzo for his efforts to eliminate lead paint in the Philippines and bring attention to the ongoing threat of lead paint exposure to children in the developing world.

[Manny accepted the prize](#) on behalf of stakeholders who promoted safeguards against lead paint for nearly 12 million young children. Together with the non-governmental organization, Ecological Waste Coalition of the Philippines, Inc. (EcoWaste Coalition), he engaged civil society, policy makers and paint manufacturers to build momentum in the Philippines for the adoption of a law banning lead paint production, use and sale. The support from key

stakeholders, especially local paint manufacturers, laid the groundwork for the adoption of the national law.

The Philippines' success story, where 85% of the paint market is now free from lead additives, highlights the important role non-governmental organizations play in making lead paint a thing of the past. EcoWaste Coalition is a partner organization in the [International POPs Elimination Network \(IPEN\)](#). IPEN's approach to generate country data on lead paint often provides the first step towards a regulation by making lead levels visible. The studies provide a platform for IPEN's partners to engage with policy makers and paint manufacturers, who in many cases respond by becoming lead paint elimination champions.

Initiated in 2008 following a paint study conducted by the Indian non-governmental organization, Toxics Link, IPEN's global campaign to eliminate lead paint has supported partners to conduct paint studies across Africa, Asia, Latin America, Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia. IPEN's most recent [global lead paint report](#) revealed that, of studies undertaken in 54 countries, solvent-based lead paints sold over the counter for home use were available on the market in 50 countries ([see map](#)).

The collaborative approach developed in the Philippines has proven effective in campaigns in other Asian countries and elsewhere in the world. Today, similar multi-stakeholder campaigns are ongoing in many countries to paint a brighter future.

What Can You Do? Take Action!

International Lead Poisoning Prevention Week – ILPPW 2018

International Lead Poisoning Prevention Week (ILPPW) provides an opportunity for organizations and institutions around the world to focus attention on lead. ILPPW takes place every year in the last full week in October. The theme of this year's ILPPW is the need for individuals, civil society organizations, industry and governments to work together to ban lead paint. This year's dates are 21–27 October, 2018.

Starting in 2013, government institutions, health service providers, civil society organizations and international organizations have carried out a wide range of activities and events to inform the public, health professionals and policy makers about the health hazards of lead, and to urge action to prevent lead exposure. Last year, 67 events in 44 countries from regions across the globe were registered on the WHO website. You can read about some of the activities that took place in the [2017 report](#).

In past years, campaign organizers have shown great creativity in spreading their messages during ILPPW. Examples have included:

- **School Activities:** dramas, dances, art or slogan competitions; school teaching sessions on lead;
- **Industry Involvement:** donations of lead–safe paint; the launch of reports on the lead content of paint in local shops;
- **Policy Engagement:** marches demanding action on lead paint; meetings with policy makers; blood lead testing for children; scientific meetings; and
- **Awareness Raising:** television broadcasts; newspaper articles; information stands in public areas such as shopping centres, and social media campaigns.

Every year the Lead Paint Alliance provides resources to help campaigners plan events during ILPPW, including a campaign resource package, customizable posters, a fact–sheet, infographics, campaign icons, video messages, and sample social media messages.

[All materials are available](#) in English, and most are also available in [Arabic](#), [Chinese](#), [French](#), [Russian](#) and [Spanish](#).

You can find and use materials for your own events through the [WHO campaign webpage](#).

If you are planning a campaign, please share information by registering your event on the [WHO webpage](#).

Advisory Council Updates

SACIM GEF Project

At a recent meeting of the Lead Paint Alliance Advisory Council on 19 April 2018, UN Environment provided an overview of the proposed Lead Paint Component of the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management (SAICM) Global Environment Facility (GEF) Project. The project aims to increase the number of countries with laws banning lead paint and the number of companies switching to lead–free paint manufacturing. Tackling lead paint is one of SAICM's success stories under its programme to address emerging policy issues. The strategic goal is to have 40 additional countries adopt legislation on lead paint limits by 2020.

On 7 August 2018, the GEF CEO officially endorsed the SAICM GEF project that signals start of implementation. The project will kick off with a letter from WHO and UN Environment inviting countries to join the project. Once countries have signed on, WHO, UN Environment, IPEN or the American Bar Association (ABA) Rule of Law Initiative (ROLI) will facilitate action towards lead paint laws in a country (depending on needs). More information about the project is available [here](#).

The Advisory Council includes representatives from UN Environment, WHO, EPA, IPEN, IPPIC, UNIDO, HEAL and the Governments of Colombia, Kenya, Moldova and Thailand.

Featured Work: Industry Update

The International Paint and Printing Ink Council (IPPIC) has shown longstanding support for government restrictions, first described in 2008 in an on-line IPPIC Policy Statement. This [statement on lead paint restrictions](#) was recently expanded to affirm global industry commitment to the [Model Law and Guidance for Regulating Lead Paint](#). To support industry outreach plans, IPPIC is also committed to updating and translating technical presentation information used for industry workshops, and in particular will update the information currently contained in the [Toolkit for establishing laws to eliminate lead paint](#).

IPPIC has issued a “letter for support” for the approved project with the Global Environment Facility which will engage governments (currently not regulating lead in paint) to establish lead paint restrictions. IPPIC is also working to establish regional association/industry leaders in Southeast Asia, the Middle East and Africa, and South America to advance current industry support of lead paint restrictions.

Recent Events and Country Updates: Jamaica Workshop

Jamaica Workshop

Jamaica recently initiated action to establish laws addressing lead in paint. Alongside UN Environment, EPA, and the Norman Manley Law School, Jamaica hosted the Caribbean Workshop on the Establishment of Legal Limits on Lead in Paint in Kingston in December 2017. The workshop convened stakeholders from Jamaica and the region to learn about laws, introduce a model law, and develop next steps.

Following the [workshop](#), Jamaica hosted a national stakeholder meeting with government, NGOs, and industry to discuss a process to establish mandatory legal limits on lead in paint.

Progress Toward Laws

Only a third of the countries in the world have lead paint laws. Since the Global Status of Legal Limits on Lead Paint in September 2017, the Lead Paint Alliance is aware of progress on drafting or improving their legislation on lead paint in the following countries:

- Brazil (draft law under review)
- Colombia (Ministry of Environment conducted an inventory of household paint production, imports and domestic sales, sampling 200 paints; this will form the basis for regulations expected to come into force in 2018)
- Ethiopia (a new law was approved on 7th July, 2018 limiting the total concentration of lead in paint to 90 ppm)

- Jamaica (planning to test paints and release data during the 2018 International Lead Poisoning Prevention Week)
- Kenya (passed two standards on paints, coatings, and varnishes in January 2018)
- Moldova (draft law under review)
- Ukraine (draft law under review)

WHO keeps track of countries with legally binding controls on lead paint through the [WHO Global Health Observatory](#). The database is updated on an annual basis.

The latest update on the Global Status of Legal Limits on Lead Paint will be available soon.

Partner Corner

As of June 2018, 16 governments, 35 non-government organizations, 5 academic organizations or institutions, and 19 industry or trade associations have joined as partners of the Lead Paint Alliance. A warm welcome and congratulations are extended to the new partners who have joined in 2017 and 2018! New members include:

- **Civil society:** Association des Familles Victimes du Saturnisme (AFVS), the LivingScience Foundation of Nigeria and the American Bar Association.
- **Government:** Ministério do Meio Ambiente, Brazil (the Ministry of the Environment of Brazil).
- **Industry:** Asociación Española de Fabricantes de Pinturay Tinta de Imprimir (ASEFAPI) (Spanish Association of Paint and Printing Ink Manufacturers) , Boya Sanayicileri Derneği (BOSAD) (the Association of Turkish Paint Industry) the Philippine Association of Paint Manufacturers (PAPM), Nano Science and Electronic Communication (NASEC), and the Malaysian Paint Manufacturers' Association (MPMA) of Malaysia.

New Graphics for the Lead Paint Alliance

UN Environment and WHO have adopted a new identifier for the Lead Paint Alliance documentation. With some exceptions, this red identifier is for exclusive use by UN Environment and WHO and the Chair of the Advisory Council on official presentations.



Global Alliance to
Eliminate Lead Paint



**BAN LEAD
PAINT**

The 'Ban Lead Paint' graphic is intended for wider use in materials promoting the elimination of lead paint, for example during the International Lead Poisoning Prevention Week, to promote public awareness and outreach.

More information can be found in the [brand identity guidelines](#) on the Lead Paint Alliance website.

The Global Alliance to Eliminate Lead in Paint

Contact us: lead-cadmium.chemicals@unep.org and/or noleadinpaint@who.int

Since 2017, UN Environment has had significant changes to their web design. Visit the new webpage to see more about lead in paint at <https://www.unenvironment.org/explore-topics/chemicals-waste/what-we-do/emerging-issues/global-alliance-eliminate-lead-paint>