

Global Alliance to Eliminate Lead Paint
ACTION PLAN for 2017-2018
(Final, 12 June 2017)

PREAMBLE:

This two-year Action Plan facilitates implementation of the long-term Business Plan of the Global Alliance to Eliminate Lead Paint (Lead Paint Alliance) by providing near-term priorities for key action areas. The Action Plan is intended to encourage and support priority activities in 2017 and 2018 by Alliance partners and other stakeholders that will help move toward the goal and objectives of the Alliance.

The primary goal of the Alliance is to prevent children's exposure to paints containing lead and to minimize occupational exposures to lead paint. Its broad objective is to achieve the phase-out of the manufacture and sale of paints containing lead and to eventually eliminate the risks that such paints pose. The Alliance is committed to efforts that support primary prevention, seeking to reduce or eliminate the conditions that give rise to environmental lead exposure before such exposures can occur.

The Business Plan of the Lead Paint Alliance was developed in response to resolution II/4/B adopted by the second session of the International Conference on Chemicals Management (ICCM) in 2009. It provides a road map describing the strategies, milestones and means of achieving the goal and overall objective of the Global Alliance to Eliminate Lead Paint, including targets for accomplishments by the year 2020. It is addressed to all persons and organizations interested in contributing to the work of the Alliance.

The Action Plan for 2017-18 builds on the previous two-year Action Plan for 2015-2016. It reconfirms priorities identified in the previous Action Plan and highlights the need for near-term efforts, in particular by national governments around the world to achieve the phase-out of the manufacture and sale of paints containing lead. New laws and regulations should establish legal limits on the lead content of these paints, by either banning lead additives or severely limiting the total amount of lead content. In countries where legal limits are not currently in place, such actions will help prevent new exposures to lead from paint, especially for children in homes and schools.

The Action Plan for 2017-2018 was developed for the Lead Paint Alliance by the UN Environment and the World Health Organization (WHO), in consultation with the Advisory Group for the Alliance. It is envisioned that a similar action plan will be developed for 2019-2020.

ACTION AREAS FOR 2017-18:

During 2017 and 2018, the Alliance will focus on four key action areas:

1. Encourage governments in countries where legal limits are not currently in place to establish and enforce national legal limits on lead in paints to achieve the phase-out of the manufacture and sale of paints containing lead.
2. Encourage industry activities to voluntarily stop the manufacture and sale of lead paints in countries where legal limits are not currently in place.
3. Increase awareness of the health and environmental risks posed by lead paint, to help prompt actions by governments and manufacturers to stop the production and sale of lead paints.
4. Increase and diversify the number of Alliance partners, and increase opportunities for partners to engage.

ACTIVITIES IN 2017-2018:

The following pages include specific project information plus suggestions and ideas for potential activities. Partners in the Alliance are especially encouraged to inform UN Environment, WHO and/or the Advisory Group members of any activities planned for 2017 or 2018. Throughout the plan period, specific additional activities to be implemented by various stakeholders may continue to be identified and added to this 2-year plan. Activities under each Action Area are grouped by the following categories: UN Environment, WHO and Advisory Group Members; Governments; Inter-governmental, Non-profit environmental and health organizations; and industry. Unless specified in parentheses, activities are suggested for all groups in each category.

ACTION AREA 1: ACTIVITIES TO ESTABLISH LEGAL LIMITS ON LEAD IN PAINT

UN ENVIRONMENT, WHO AND ADVISORY GROUP MEMBERS

- **Engage in global tool development** to facilitate development of national and regional regulatory instruments and encourage their adoption.
 - **Guidance and Sample Law for Regulating Lead Paint:** Develop and disseminate guidance for regulating lead paint, for use by governments in establishing national and regional lead paint laws (US EPA, UN Environment, WHO). This guidance will provide background information and sample legal language for use by countries interested in drafting new lead paint laws, including legislation and regulations, as appropriate.
 - **Regulatory Toolkit:** Update as needed and disseminate toolkit for use by governments in establishing national legal limits on lead in paint. This web-based toolkit provides or links to key information needed by a government to establish and implement a national program to limit lead in paint, including guidance on legislation and regulation, health and environmental impacts from lead, how to measure lead in blood and paint, and alternatives to lead in paint. Key information from the toolkit will continue to be provided to governments and other stakeholders through training sessions at workshops and other appropriate venues.
 - **Alliance regulatory tools will be promoted in outreach activities and events,** including workshops for governments, industry and other stakeholders. Countries and regional organizations will be provided with regulatory guidance and will be encouraged to develop national or regional working groups to inform and facilitate the establishment of lead paint laws.
- **Work with individual governments to encourage or facilitate progress on establishing national legal limits**
 - Using the regulatory toolkit and the guidance for regulating lead paint, reach out to governments already working on legal limits to learn about their progress, identify any barriers, and provide assistance as appropriate. Use any lessons learned to improve the regulatory toolkit or guidance for regulating lead paint, or to develop other new assistance tools.
 - Use opportunities of bi-lateral and international meetings to reach out to governments that are not currently working on legal limits to encourage them to do so.
 - Encourage the formation of national alliances (whose participants might include:

government officials; health sector representatives; representatives of the private sector; public interest organizations; and/or others) to assist governments in establishing national limits on lead paint.

- UN Environment’s lawyers can help raise awareness of lead paint issues within countries. UN Environment has a legal officer in every regional office that can provide legal assistance to a national government that is drafting legal limits.

- Develop regional approaches to encourage governments to establish national regulations

Plan regional projects and activities to engage multiple governments, such as through regional or sub-regional workshops and activities. Develop regional project plans that will facilitate obtaining funds and other assistance and encourage participation of additional governments in a regional/sub-regional area. Government members of the Advisory Group will play a leading role regarding workshops and follow-up activities planned for their regions.

- Identify relevant regional/sub-regional collaborations where lead paint elimination can be included and develop plans for how to move forward within the framework of these collaborations.
- Conduct regional/sub-regional Workshops:
 - Hold at least one workshop for stakeholders in countries in specific regions or sub-regions identified as priorities for the Alliance in 2017 and 2018. Currently, UN Environment works on China-Africa south-south cooperation workshop. Other workshops will be planned subject to availability of resources. Less-cost alternatives such as webinars will also be undertaken.
 - During the workshops, use the regulatory toolkit and guidance for regulating lead paint to inform countries about the health and environmental risks of lead paint and how to establish and implement national legal limits. Use examples from other countries, as appropriate, to encourage harmonization of standards among countries.
 - Follow-up regional or sub-regional workshops with country-specific national outreach or assistance, such as facilitating and supporting national workshops to help governments and/or industry implement recommendations, tools and activities.
 - Develop plans and financing for additional workshops in other regions/sub-regions as resources allow.
- Include the phase-out of lead paint in activities to support implementation of WHO’s new *“Road map to enhance health sector engagement in the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management towards the 2020 goal and*

beyond.” This chemicals road map includes a call for countries (“member states”) to phase-out of paints containing lead by 2020, as per the objectives of the Lead Paint Alliance.

- Identify existing local organizations, national or regional centres, regional offices, or economic cooperation organizations, e.g. APEC Secretariat, that can facilitate regional, sub-regional or national workshops and other projects to assist national governments interested in developing, establishing and implementing legal limits on lead in paint.
- Encourage formation of sub-regional and regional alliances of a broad range of key stakeholders to support the work of national governments to establish legal limits on lead in paint.
- Share approaches and lessons learned from regional and sub-regional projects.
- Identify and work with government “champions” for regional efforts as another way to share the experiences of those governments that have already established national legal limits on lead in paints.

GOVERNMENTS

- Governments without legal limits on lead in paint should establish and implement such limits, building on the “Guidance and Sample Law for Regulating Lead Paint” developed by UN Environment in consultation with WHO, US EPA and other Alliance Partners.
- Governments in countries where existing regulations or legal limits on lead in paint exist but are not protective of public health are encouraged to strengthen these regulations.
- Governments with legal limits can serve as government “champions” to encourage other governments to take action, especially for regional efforts and activities.
- Governments with legal limits can share their experiences with passing legislation and implementing programs on lead paint, through case studies in the regulatory toolkit and in regional or national workshops.
- Governments with legal limits should take all necessary measures to ensure full compliance.
- Governments establishing legal limits should ensure that the regulatory framework includes not only standards but other policies, such as set timelines to comply with the legal limit.
- Governments establishing legal limits should seek to solicit a workable commitment from paint manufacturers and suppliers by establishing a timeline for phasing out lead in paint for ease of implementation and enforcement of the regulatory standards.

NON-GOVERNMENTAL ENVIRONMENTAL AND HEALTH ORGANIZATIONS (NGOs)

- Continue to conduct paint sampling studies in countries without legal limits in order to

raise awareness and support for action to develop legal limits and, in countries where legal limits have been established, to help evaluate their effectiveness.

- Engage with governments to support the development and implementation of legal limits on lead in paint.
- Engage with small and medium enterprises to encourage reformulation of lead paint.
- Health NGOs can provide information to policy makers, parents and others interested in child health on the dangers of lead paint and how to prevent lead poisoning.

INDUSTRY:

- Industry can engage with governments to support the development and implementation of legal limits on lead in paint.

ACTION AREA 2: ACTIVITIES TO VOLUNTARILY STOP MANUFACTURE AND SALE OF LEAD PAINT

UN ENVIRONMENT, WHO AND ADVISORY GROUP MEMBERS

- Engage with suppliers of paint raw materials to explore opportunities of supply chain interventions facilitating lead paint elimination nationally, regionally and globally. (IPPIC, EPA, UN Environment, WHO)
- Engage ISO Technical Committee 35 (Paints and Varnishes) to convey alternatives to lead use among their membership. (IPPIC)
- Encourage appropriate organizations and companies to provide information to consumers on paints that do not have added lead.
- Encourage the delivery of technical support for SMEs (small & medium enterprises) and the informal paint manufacturing sector and capacity building in testing of paints in the factories as well as on the market to verify commitment to comply.
- Work with paint manufacturers that have successfully removed lead from their paint production to develop case-studies to inspire additional paint manufacturers to reformulate their paint.
- Explore how to engage the major paint manufacturers and the lead pigment industry in a productive way to encourage them to voluntarily stop the manufacture and sale of lead paints, especially for residential and decorative paints containing lead additives in countries where legal limits are not currently in place.
- Involve more alternative raw material suppliers, potential lead “user groups” and “technical societies” (such as the National Association of Corrosion Engineers - NACE) as a way of spreading awareness. (IPPIC)

INDUSTRY

- Industry can voluntarily stop the manufacture and sale of lead paint in countries where legal limits are not yet in place, and show commitment to comply with legal limit where such limit exists or is being established.
- Industry can identify ways for regional paint associations and large multinational paint and pigment manufacturers to provide expertise or encouragement to other companies interested in stopping their use of lead additives, and to assist national governments interested in setting legal limits on lead paint.
- Industry can engage specifically with small and medium enterprises to encourage their reformulation of lead paint.
- Industry representatives can invite Alliance Partners to industry meetings to discuss the efforts of the Lead Paint Alliance and the health and environmental risks of lead paint.
- Companies that produce paints without added lead can participate in third-party certification of their paint products to help consumers recognize lead-safe paints.
- Engage ISO Technical Committee 35 (Paints and Varnishes) as a way of conveying alternatives to lead use among country participants and observers.

INTER-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

- Support projects and activities to help SME paint manufacturers address barriers to stopping their use of lead additives, such as the lack of knowledge of and access to lead-free alternatives. Currently planned UNIDO products include:
 - SME guidance on reformulation (using alternatives) to be developed jointly by UNIDO, IPEN and UN Environment.
 - Waste paint management guidance to be developed by UNIDO in consultation with UN Environment.
- Develop and demonstrate a model approach to phase out lead paint in public and private partnerships, involving paint manufactures and other industry sectors including small and medium sized enterprises. (UNIDO)
Project components include:
 - Validation of the scale of lead in paint production and use in four countries (Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador and Peru)
 - Best Available Technology (BAT)/Best Environmental Practice (BEP) demonstration for the phase-out of lead containing paint in these four countries
 - Establishing public and private partnership, strengthening institutional framework and capacity, and raising awareness in these four countries
 - Extending the public private partnership approach to other countries through the Resource Efficient and Cleaner Production network
- Explore a larger role for UNIDO in engaging industry, especially focusing on SMEs. (UNIDO)

NON-GOVERNMENT ENVIRONMENTAL AND HEALTH ORGANIZATIONS (NGOs)

- NGOs can encourage industry to phase out lead paint through consumer choice and awareness raising.
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ACTION AREA 3: ACTIVITIES TO INCREASE AWARENESS OF THE RISKS OF LEAD PAINT, TO HELP PROMPT ACTIONS BY GOVERNMENTS AND MANUFACTURERS TO STOP THE PRODUCTION AND SALE OF LEAD PAINTS

WHO, UN ENVIRONMENT & ADVISORY GROUP MEMBERS

- World Health Organization is developing “WHO Guidelines on the Prevention and Management of Lead Poisoning,” which will address lead paint.
- WHO will review and update as necessary awareness-raising materials on human health aimed at different audiences, and training materials for health-care providers.
- Continue to support and encourage participation in the International Lead Poisoning Prevention Week of Action, held annually in October.
- Use opportunities of bi-lateral and international meetings to increase awareness of governments and industry regarding the health and environmental risks of lead paint, and the need for governments to establish legal limits on lead paints.
 - Potential opportunities:
 - UN Environment Assembly (UNEA) side events
 - Global Network of Women Ministers of Environment (interested in children’s health issues)
 - World Health Assembly side events
 - WHO Regional Committee meetings (such as PAHO)
 - Engage with education ministers
 - UN Habitat
 - WHO guidelines on housing and health
 - Environmental Management Group of UN agencies, including IOMC Participating Organizations (POs)
 - UNESCO
- Subject to availability of resources, UN Environment and WHO will seek to develop a communication strategy, including the development of a suite of materials for specific audiences. Materials could include a short hand-out for decision makers by region and quarterly newsletters. Communication activities should include periodic outreach to Alliance partners and regular updating of the Alliance website.
- Promote and facilitate in-country stakeholder collaborations to increase awareness of the risks of lead paint, especially during the International Lead Poisoning Prevention Week of Action.
- Develop a broader awareness approach to informing the users of lead paint, purchasers and sellers of lead paint, e.g., targeting messages to companies that buy lead paint and those that sell lead paint.

GOVERNMENTS

- Continue to participate in the International Lead Poisoning Prevention Week of Action, held annually in October.

NON-GOVERNMENT ENVIRONMENTAL AND HEALTH ORGANIZATIONS (NGOs)

- Participate (or continue to participate) in the International Lead Poisoning Prevention Week of Action, held annually in October.
- IPEN and individual NGOs can identify additional ways for NGOs to help increase awareness of risks so as to promote the development of national legal limits on lead in priority countries or regions.
- Health NGOs can initiate outreach to the medical community and health care providers, both internationally and nationally.
 - To pediatricians
 - To other physicians such as psychologists?
- Provide outreach to schools or other organizations in countries without legal limits on lead paint, and in countries with existing high levels of lead in residential or decorative paints.

INDUSTRY

- Participate (or continue to participate) in the International Lead Poisoning Prevention Week of Action, held annually in October. (IPPIC)
- Continue to spread awareness of the risks of lead paint during national, regional and global industry events.

ACTION AREA 4: ACTIVITIES TO INCREASE & DIVERSIFY THE NUMBER OF ALLIANCE PARTNERS, AND INCREASE OPPORTUNITIES FOR PARTNERS TO ENGAGE

UN ENVIRONMENT, WHO & ADVISORY GROUP MEMBERS

- Recruit new partners, especially governments and industry, as an important way to further raise the profile of the partnership.
- Establish mechanisms during 2017 and 2018 that will enable and promote greater partner participation and engagement in activities aimed at achieving Alliance objectives.
 - Identify and reach out to new strategic partners of the Lead Paint Alliance.
 - Develop a one-pager with examples of ways that partners can engage in the Lead Paint Alliance.
 - Set-up a listserv for partners of the Lead Paint Alliance to share information and updates.
- Reach out to alternative raw material suppliers, potential lead “user groups” and technical societies to spread awareness and encourage them to join.
- Reach out to the International Maritime Organization about interest in the Lead Paint Alliance to potentially support their work with paint manufacturers in the arena of biofouling and global marine anti-fouling coatings.