

Update on the Global Status of Legal Limits on Lead in Paint September 2018



Global Perspective

NEW in the 2018 Global Update

NEW LAWS: Cameroon, Ethiopia, and Iraq have established new laws to address lead in paint.

NEW TOOL: UN Environment published the [Model Law and Guidance for Regulating Lead Paint](#), a resource for countries establishing new laws. Currently available in English, French, Russian and Spanish.

NEW POLICY STATEMENTS: The third meeting of UN Environment Assembly (UNEA 3) adopted a resolution calling for action to eliminate exposure to lead paint. In addition, the American Bar Association passed a resolution which has galvanized legal experts to support the development of lead paint laws globally.

Global Progress Toward Eliminating Lead Paint

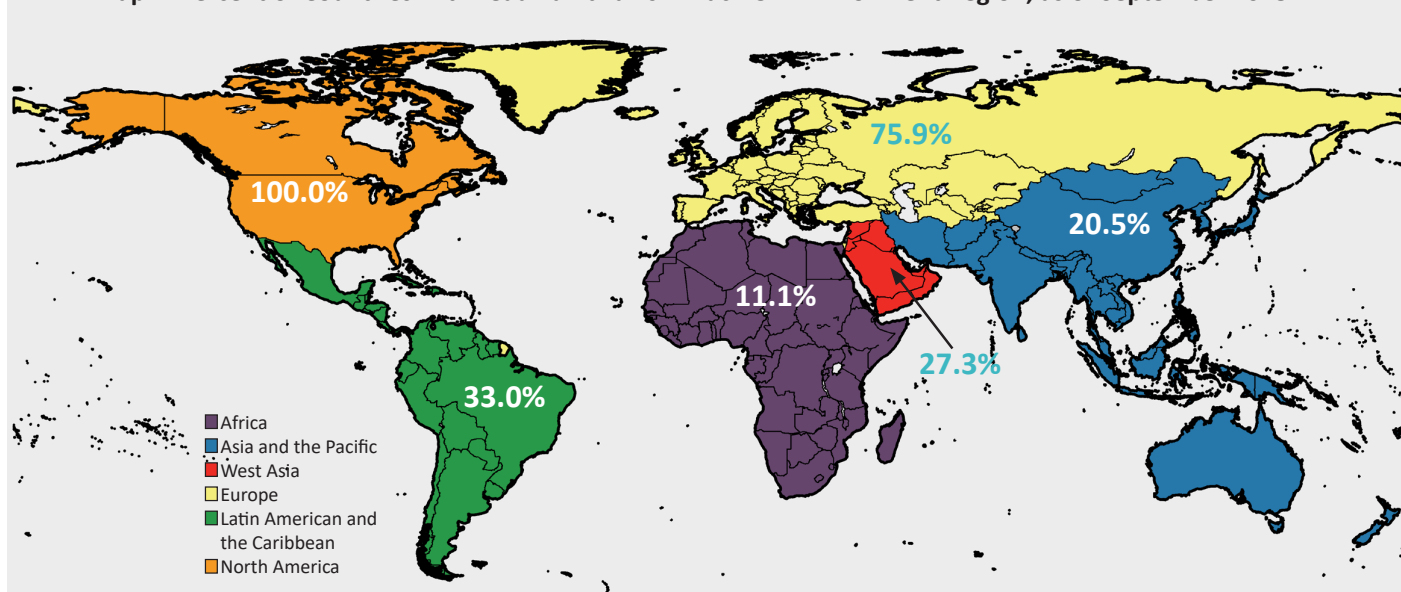
As of 30 September 2018, 71 countries have legally binding controls to limit the production, import and sale of lead paints, which is 36.8% of all countries. In many countries, using lead paint in homes and schools is not prohibited, creating a significant risk of children's exposure to lead. The most effective means of preventing lead exposure from paints is to establish national laws, including legislation, regulations and/or legally binding standards as appropriate, that ban the use of lead additives in paints. Countries that have not yet done so are urged to enact and enforce effective national legislation, regulations and/or standards to, at a minimum, stop the manufacture, import and sale of household decorative lead paints. Countries are also encouraged to consider limiting lead in all types of paints.

This update is provided annually by the United Nations Environment Programme (UN Environment) in support of the Global Alliance to Eliminate Lead Paint (Lead Paint Alliance). UN Environment and the World Health Organization (WHO) serve as the joint Secretariat for this international voluntary, collaborative initiative (see Endnote 1). The goal of the Lead Paint Alliance is for all countries to have lead paint laws in place by 2020.

Countries that have only put in place legally binding controls on lead coatings used on children's toys are not counted toward this Alliance goal. Eliminating lead paint on children's toys provides only partial protection, since it does not address household decorative paints. Likewise, countries that have only ratified the International Labour Organization (ILO) White Lead (Painting) Convention, 1921 (No. 13), which prohibits the use of lead carbonate and lead sulphate in paints, are also not included in this update. Since these lead compounds are no longer widely used in paints, the ILO Convention alone provides little benefit in protecting against lead exposure.

The map below shows the percentage of countries as of September 2018 with lead paint laws within each of the six UN Environment regions (see page 6 for a list of countries by UN Environment region). Table 1, on the following page, lists the specific countries with lead paint laws by region.

Map 1: Percent of Countries with Lead Paint Laws in Each UN Environment Region, as of September 2018



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Unless otherwise noted, all the data in the maps, tables and figures are from WHO: Regulations and controls on lead paint, 30 September 2018 (database) (see Endnote 2).

Table 1: Countries with Confirmed Lead Paint Laws in Each UN Environment Region

Africa	Asia and the Pacific	West Asia	Europe			Latin America and the Caribbean	North America
Algeria Cameroon* Ethiopia*^ Kenya South Africa United Republic of Tanzania	Australia China India Nepal New Zealand Philippines Sri Lanka Thailand	Jordan Iraq* Oman	Armenia Austria Belarus Belgium Bulgaria Croatia Cyprus Czech Republic Denmark Estonia Finland France Germany Greece Hungary Iceland Ireland Italy	Kazakhstan* Kyrgyzstan Latvia Liechtenstein Lithuania Luxembourg Malta Monaco Montenegro Netherlands Norway Poland Portugal Romania Russian Federation Serbia Slovakia	Slovenia Spain Sweden Switzerland The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia United Kingdom	Argentina Brazil Chile Costa Rica Cuba Dominica Guyana Mexico Panama Trinidad and Tobago Uruguay	Canada United States

*New since 1 October, 2017

^The law has been passed, but it has not been put into force

+Status change in WHO database

Lead Exposure from Paint

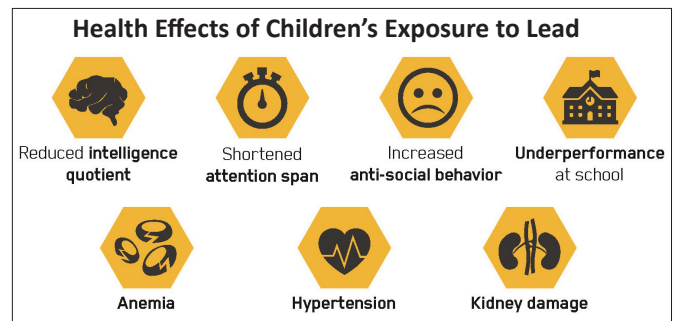
Historically, lead compounds have been added to oil-based decorative and industrial paints and other coatings to enhance colour, reduce corrosion on metal surfaces or shorten drying time. Today, non-lead pigments, driers and anti-corrosive ingredients are widely available for use in most oil-based paints.

After the application of lead paint, weathering, peeling or chipping of the paint releases lead particles into dust and soil in and around homes, schools, playgrounds and other locations. Decorative paint for household use has been identified as the main source of children's lead exposure from paints. Lead-containing dust can also be brought into the home on the clothes of those who work in industries where such dust is generated, including paint factories where lead additives continue to be used.

Lead-contaminated soil and dust are easily ingested and absorbed, particularly by young children when they play on the floor or outdoors and put their hands or other objects in their mouths. Children also ingest lead if they mouth and chew toys painted with lead paint. Both children and adults can be exposed to lead in paint chips and dust during the removal of old lead paint.

Negative Health Effects from Lead Exposure

There is no known level of lead exposure that is considered safe. Lead can cause permanent damage to the brain and nervous system, resulting in decreased IQ and increased behavioural problems. It can also cause anemia, increase the risk of kidney damage and hypertension, and impair reproductive function. Young children and pregnant women (whose developing fetus can be exposed) are especially vulnerable to the adverse effects of lead. Even relatively low levels of exposure can cause serious and irreversible neurological damage. The Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation has estimated that, based on 2016 data, lead exposure accounted for 540,000 deaths and 13.9 million years lost to disability and death due to long-term health effects (see Endnote 3).



Preventing Health Effects and Related Economic Costs

The negative impacts on children's developing brains resulting from exposure to lead has staggering economic costs that are borne by the affected children, their families and societies at large. These include health care costs, productivity losses and intellectual disability.

The largest economic burden of lead exposure is borne by low- and middle-income countries. Estimated annual costs (in international dollars) of lead exposure by global region, based on loss of IQ, include the following: Africa - \$134.7 billion; Latin America and the Caribbean - \$142.3 billion; and Asia - \$699.9 billion. For annual costs by country, visit the New York University map of Economic Costs of Lead Exposure (see Endnote 4).

The cost of removing existing decorative lead paint from surfaces in homes, schools and other buildings can be substantial. By contrast, the economic cost is low for eliminating the use of lead compounds in new decorative paints. In fact, many manufacturers have already successfully reformulated their paint products to avoid the intentional addition of lead. According to the paint industry, the reformulation of residential and decorative paints to eliminate lead additives is feasible, and the technical and cost impacts are manageable. Increasingly, paint producers are publicly stating that it is possible to eliminate lead additives in all types of paint.

Global Activity

Lead is a cumulative toxicant that poses serious risks to human health and development, with children being especially vulnerable. Lead-containing paint remains one of the major sources of lead exposure for children globally. The international community, governments, industry and non-governmental organizations are working together to promote the establishment of lead paint laws in all countries.

In 2009, the second International Conference on Chemicals Management under the Strategic Approach for International Chemicals Management (SAICM) policy framework endorsed a global partnership to promote the phasing out of lead paint and invited UN Environment and WHO to serve as the joint Secretariat for this partnership. Subsequently the Global Alliance to Eliminate Lead Paint (Lead Paint Alliance) was established with the goal of phasing out the manufacture, import and sale of paints containing lead and eventually to eliminate the risks from such paint. This timeline provides an overview of the Lead Paint Alliance's accomplishments, which have increased in recent years.

2011 – Lead Paint Alliance: UN Environment and WHO published the Lead Paint Alliance operational framework.

2012-2015 – SWITCH-Asia Lead Paint Elimination Project: The European Union (EU) funded work led by the International POPs Elimination Network (IPEN) in seven Asian countries to help phase out lead paint, five of which ended up passing lead paint laws.

2014-2017 – Global Environment Facility (GEF) UN Environment Lead Paint Elimination Project in Africa: IPEN worked directly with four countries and reached out to additional countries in Africa to promote lead paint phase out. Three countries ended up passing lead paint laws.

May 2017 - WHO Chemicals Management Roadmap: The Roadmap included an action item for WHO Member States to establish lead paint laws.

June 2017 - Two-Year Lead Paint Alliance Action Plan: The Two-Year Lead Paint Alliance Action Plan laid out concrete actions for partners to promote lead paint elimination.

August 2017 - American Bar Association (ABA) Resolution: The ABA encouraged their members to support lead paint laws worldwide.

September 2017 - 2017 Update on the Global Status of Legal Limits on Lead in Paint: UN Environment provided lead paint background information and an update on progress toward establishing laws.

November 2017 - Model Law & Guidance for Regulating Lead Paint: UN Environment provided lead paint background information and a model template for a lead paint law.

December 2017 - UNEA 3 Resolution on Lead Paint: Member States passed a resolution calling for the global elimination of lead paint through the establishment of lead paint laws.

2018 – 2021 - SAICM GEF Project: The project will assist governments to establish lead paint laws in at least 40 countries and provide guidance to industry to facilitate the shift to producing non-lead paints.

Global Alliance to Eliminate Lead Paint

2011 - Global Alliance to Eliminate Lead Paint formally launched



2012-2015 - SWITCH-Asia Lead Paint Elimination Project



2014-2017 - GEF Lead Paint Elimination Project in Africa



May 2017 - WHO Chemicals Management Roadmap



June 2017 - Two-Year Lead Paint Alliance Action Plan



August 2017 - ABA Resolution on Lead Paint



September 2017 - 2017 Global Status Update



November 2017 - Model Law & Guidance for Regulating Lead Paint



December 2017 - UNEA 3 Resolution on Lead Paint



2018-2021 - SAICM GEF Project

Global Status of Lead Paint Laws

The map below shows data on the status of countries' lead paint laws as provided by governments to UN Environment and WHO (see Endnote 2). As of 30 September, 2018, 71 countries had confirmed that they have legally binding controls on lead in paint, 78 stated that they do not, and information was unavailable for the remaining 44 countries.

Map 2: Countries with Lead Paint Laws, as of September 2018

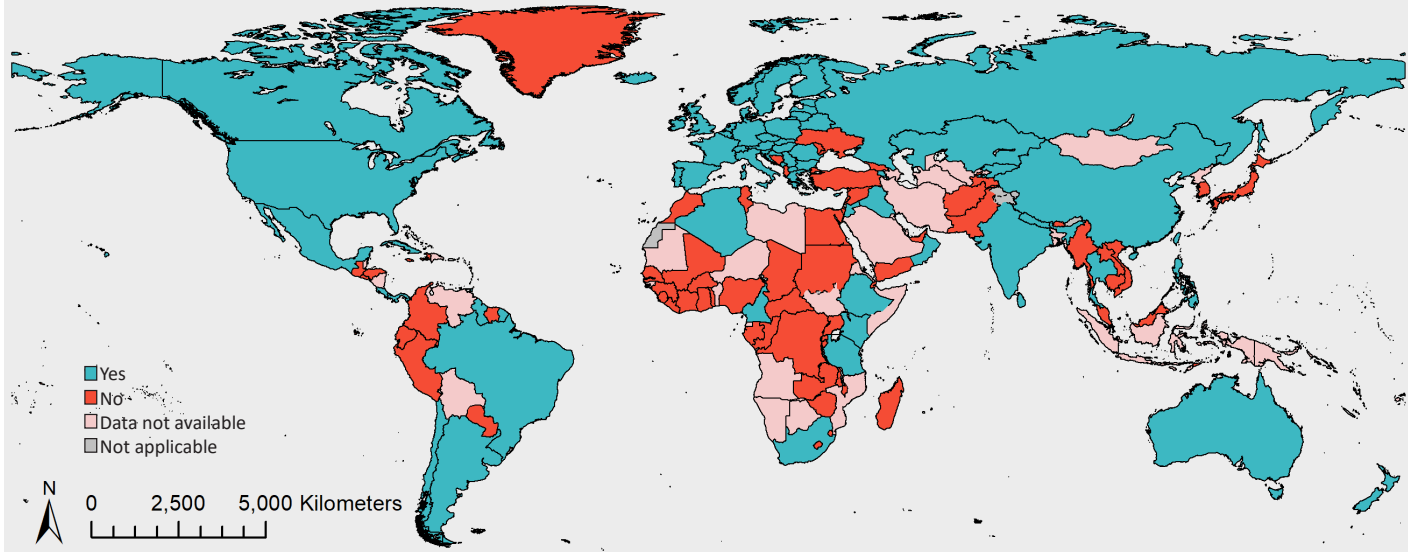
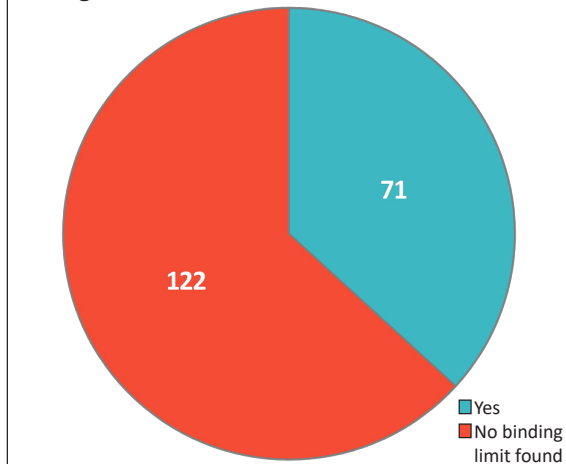


Figure 1: Countries with Lead Paint Laws



Currently **71** countries have lead paint laws and more countries are passing new laws every year.

Lead is Still Present in Paint in High Levels in Many Countries

Since 2009, more than 100 studies have shown that lead paints are still widely sold in low- and middle-income countries. Most of the paints tested for lead were found to exceed the 90 parts per million (ppm) or 600 ppm legal limit that has been set by many countries as an achievable limit. In addition, many of these paints contained very high levels of lead: above 10,000 ppm of the dry weight of the paint. To see paint testing results by country, go to the link for the IPEN map entitled "Lead Levels in Paint Around the World" (see Endnote 5). IPEN is a Lead Paint Alliance partner and is an international public interest, non-profit organization comprised of hundreds of participating environmental and public health organizations in over 100 countries, primarily in developing and transition countries.

The Importance of Lead Paint Laws

The elimination of lead exposure at its source is the single most effective action to protect people from the harmful effects of lead. Most industrialized countries adopted laws or regulations to control the lead content of residential and decorative paints in the 1970s and 1980s, based on clear findings that lead-containing household paint is a major source of lead exposure in children. However, the continued use of lead in paint in many parts of the world remains a significant environmental source of human exposure. To protect human health, laws, regulations or enforceable standards are needed in every country to stop the manufacture, sale and import of lead-containing paints.

Global Approaches to Lead Paint Laws

Countries that have enacted laws to limit the lead content in paint have generally used one of two approaches: (1) establish a single regulatory limit on the total concentration of lead in paint from all sources (currently used in 31 countries) or (2) establish a set of chemical-specific regulatory limits based on the management of risks of individual lead compounds that are used as additives in paint (currently used in the EU's Registration, Evaluation, Authorisation and Restriction of Chemical (REACH) regulation). Both approaches have been effective in limiting the lead content in paint.

The concentration limit recommended in UN Environment's "Model Law and Guidance for Regulating Lead Paint" is **90 ppm** total lead (see Endnote 6).

Legal Approach 1: Regulatory Limits on Total Lead Concentration

Of the 71 countries with lead paint laws, 33 countries have established a single regulatory limit on the total or soluble lead concentration in paint (in parts per million). These existing lead limits range from 90 ppm to 1,000 ppm or higher. Twenty-seven countries have a limit of 90, 100 or 600 ppm, which are all relatively low levels and indicate that lead compounds have probably not been added to the paint. Among countries with low limits, only one country uses a regulatory limit on soluble lead content, which is somewhat less protective than a limit on total lead content. There may be additional countries that also currently use a regulatory limit on soluble rather than total lead.

Table 2: Countries with Limits on Total Lead Concentration

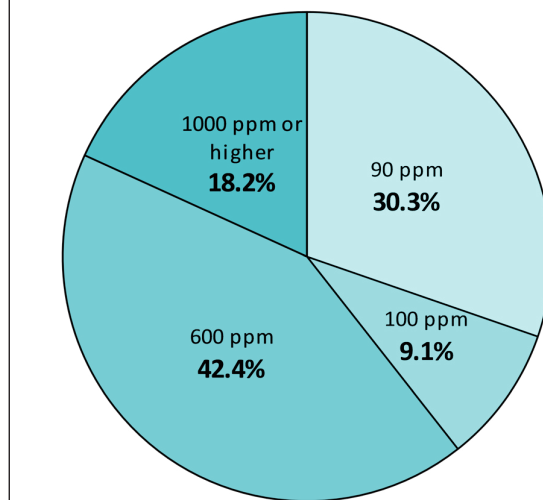
(s) - limit applies to soluble lead content only

90 ppm	100 ppm	600 ppm	1000 ppm or higher
Canada Cameroon* China (s) Ethiopia** India Iraq* Kenya Nepal Philippines United States	Switzerland Thailand United Republic of Tanzania	Argentina Brazil Chile Costa Rica Dominica Guyana Jordan Mexico Oman Panama South Africa Sri Lanka Trinidad and Tobago Uruguay	Algeria Armenia Australia Belarus Cuba New Zealand

*New since 1 October, 2017

**The law has been passed, but it has not been put into force

Figure 2: Percentage of Countries by Lead Concentration Limit



Legal Approach 2: Chemical-Specific Regulatory Limits

Chemical-specific regulatory limits are used by 38 countries, of which 31 have adopted the EU REACH regulation on lead compounds in paints. EU REACH restricts the addition of certain specific lead compounds to paints intended for supply to the general public, based on risk management assessments. Some specific lead compounds for use in paints are subject to an authorization procedure for manufacturers and importers that requires analyses of health and environmental risks and the availability of non-lead alternatives.

Table 3: Countries with Chemical-Specific Regulatory Limits

Austria [^]	Czech Republic [^]	Germany [^]	Italy [^]	Lithuania [^]	Netherlands [^]	Russian Federation	Sweden [^]
Belgium [^]	Denmark [^]	Greece [^]	Kazakhstan*	Luxembourg [^]	Norway [^]	Serbia	The Former Yugoslav Republic of
Bulgaria [^]	Estonia [^]	Hungary [^]	Kyrgyzstan	Malta [^]	Poland [^]	Slovakia [^]	Republic of
Croatia [^]	Finland [^]	Iceland [^]	Latvia [^]	Monaco	Portugal [^]	Slovenia [^]	Macedonia
Cyprus [^]	France [^]	Ireland [^]	Liechtenstein [^]	Montenegro	Romania [^]	Spain [^]	United Kingdom [^]

[^]Countries that have adopted the EU REACH regulation
*Status change in WHO database

UN Environment Regions

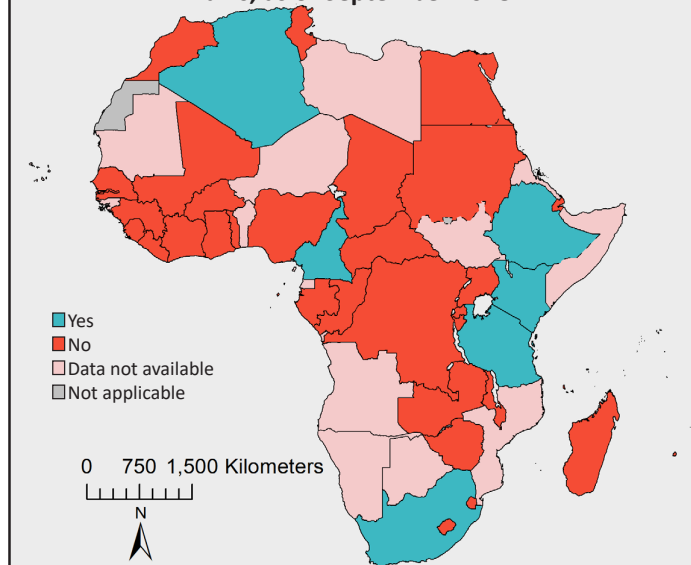
Table 4: Countries by UN Environment Region

(For the purposes of this report, countries are grouped into the six UN Environment regions.)

Africa		Asia and the Pacific		West Asia	Europe		Latin America and the Caribbean	North America
Algeria	Mauritius	Afghanistan	Papua New Guinea	Bahrain	Albania	Portugal	Antigua and Barbuda	Canada
Angola	Morocco	Australia	Guinea	Iraq	Andorra	Romania	Argentina	United States
Benin	Mozambique	Bangladesh	Philippines	Jordan	Armenia	Russian Federation	Bahamas	
Botswana	Namibia	Bhutan	Republic of Korea	Kuwait	Austria	San Marino	Barbados	
Burkina Faso	Niger	Brunei Darussalam	Samoa	Lebanon	Azerbaijan	Serbia	Belize	
Burundi	Nigeria	Cambodia	Singapore	Oman	Belarus	Slovakia	Bolivia	
Cameroon	Rwanda	China	Solomon Islands	Qatar	Belgium	Slovenia	Brazil	
Cape Verde	Sao Tome & Principe	Democratic Republic of Congo	Sri Lanka	Saudi Arabia	Bosnia and Herzegovina	Spain	Chile	
Central African Republic	Senegal	Iran	Thailand	Syrian Arab Republic	Bulgaria	Sweden	Colombia	
Chad	Seychelles	Japan	Timor-Leste	United Arab Emirates	Croatia	Switzerland	Costa Rica	
Comoros	Sierra Leone	Korea	Tonga	Yemen	Cyprus	Tajikistan	Cuba	
Congo	Somalia	Fiji	Tuvalu		Czech Republic	The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	Dominica	
Côte d'Ivoire	South Africa	India	Vanuatu		Denmark	Turkey	Dominican Republic	
Sudan	South Sudan	Indonesia	Vietnam		Estonia	Turkmenistan	Ecuador	
Democratic Republic of the Congo	Togo	Islamic Republic of Iran			Finland	Ukraine	El Salvador	
Uganda	Tunisia	Kiribati			France	United Kingdom	Grenada	
Djibouti	Uganda	Lao, People's Democratic Republic			Georgia	Uzbekistan	Guatemala	
Egypt	United Republic of Tanzania	Malaysia			Germany		Guyana	
Equatorial Guinea	Zambia	Maldives			Greece		Haiti	
Eritrea	Zimbabwe	Marshall Islands			Hungary		Honduras	
Eswatini		Micronesia (Federated States of)			Iceland		Jamaica	
Ethiopia		Mongolia			Ireland		Mexico	
Gabon		Myanmar			Israel		Nicaragua	
Gambia		Nauru			Italy		Panama	
Ghana		Nepal			Kazakhstan		Paraguay	
Guinea		New Zealand			Kyrgyzstan		Peru	
Guinea-Bissau		Pakistan			Latvia		Saint Kitts and Nevis	
Kenya		Palau			Liechtenstein		Saint Lucia	
Lesotho					Lithuania		Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	
Liberia					Luxembourg		Suriname	
Libya					Malta		Trinidad and Tobago	
Madagascar					Moldova		Venezuela	
Malawi					Monaco			
Mali					Montenegro			
Mauritania					Netherlands			
					Norway			
					Poland			

Source: UN Environment

Map 3: Countries in the Africa Region with Lead Paint Laws, as of September 2018



Regional Activities

- February 2018: Lead paint was discussed at the SAICM Africa Regional Meeting.
- June 2018: IPEN and the Association of Environmental Education for Future Generations, co-organized a meeting in Tunisia on the "Substitution of Lead in Industrial Paint in Tunisia".
- September 2018: A side event on lead paint took place at the African Conference of Environment Ministers.
- Cameroon passed new legislation on lead paint.
- 17 events were held in 15 countries in the region during the 2017 International Lead Poisoning Prevention Week of Action (ILPPWA).

Current Status

Six countries (11.1%) in the Africa Region have lead paint laws. In Ethiopia, the Council of Ministers has passed a lead paint law, but this has not yet entered into force. Côte d'Ivoire is drafting a law. In addition, two regional economic groups – the East African Community (EAC) and the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) – are considering adopting a regional 90 ppm concentration limit standard for lead in paint (lead limit).

Paint testing has been conducted in 21 countries in the African Region. Depending on the country study and the target level, levels of lead exceeding target levels of 90 or 600 ppm ranged from 6% to 86% of samples (see Endnote 5). The annual economic cost of childhood lead exposure in the Africa region is estimated to be \$134.7 billion, or 4.03% of regional GDP (see Endnote 4).

Figure 3: Number of Countries in the Africa Region with Lead Paint Laws

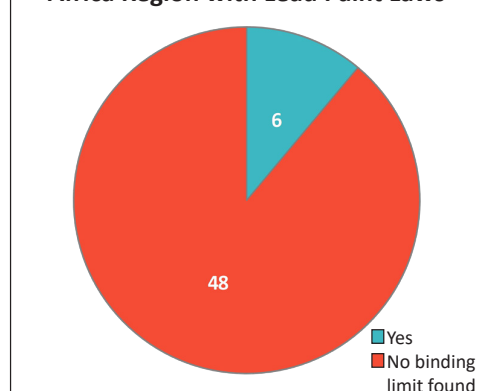


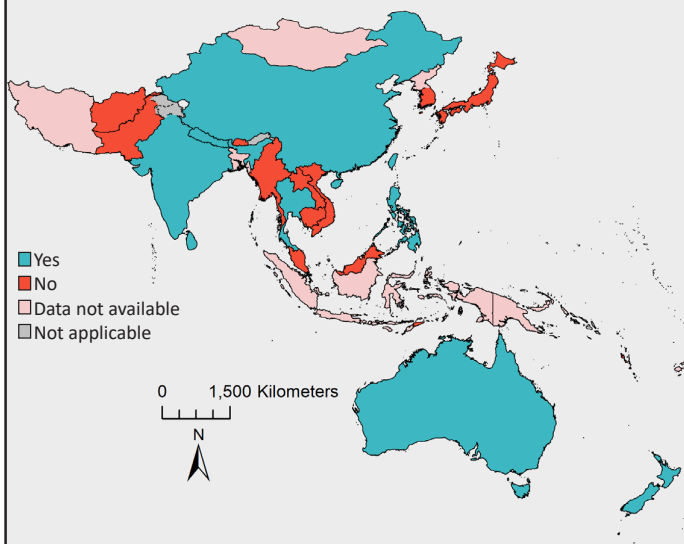
Table 5: 2018 Summary of Country-Specific Lead Paint laws in the Africa Region

Country	Lead Paint Laws
Algeria	5000 ppm lead limit for manufacture, import and sale of paint
Cameroon*	90 ppm lead limit and restricts specific lead additives
Ethiopia*^	90 ppm lead limit for manufacture, import, export, or sale of paint
Kenya	90 ppm lead limit for manufacture, import, and sale of all paint; sampling and testing requirements
United Republic of Tanzania	90 or 100 ppm lead limit, depending on the type of paint
South Africa	600 ppm lead limit for manufacture, import and sale of paint; no testing or certification requirements

*New since 1 October, 2017

^The law has been passed, but it has not been put into force

Map 4: Countries in the Asia and the Pacific Region with Lead Paint Laws, as of September 2018



Current Status

Eight countries (20.5%) in the Asia and Pacific Region have lead paint laws. In addition, several countries, such as Cambodia and Laos, are in the process of developing laws.

Paint testing has been conducted in 14 countries in this region. Depending on the country studied and the target level, levels of lead exceeding target levels of either 90 or 600 ppm were found in approximately 16% to 95% of samples (see Endnote 5). The annual economic cost of childhood lead exposure in Asia is \$699.9 billion, or 1.88% of regional GDP (see Endnote 4).

Regional Activities

- January 2018: Lead paint was highlighted as the most advanced in attaining its goals compared to other Emerging Policy Issues at the SAICM Asia Pacific Regional Meeting.
- May 2018: Manny Calonzo from the EcoWaste Coalition in the Philippines was awarded the 2018 Goldman Prize for his work on an advocacy campaign that persuaded the Philippine government to enact a national ban on lead paint and for the development of a paint certification program.
- June and July 2018: UN Environment, WHO and the Lead Paint Alliance Chair conducted discussions with the Government of Vietnam about establishing lead paint laws.
- 16 events were held in 11 countries in the region during the 2017 ILPPWA.

Figure 4: Number of Countries in the Asia and the Pacific Region with Lead Paint Laws

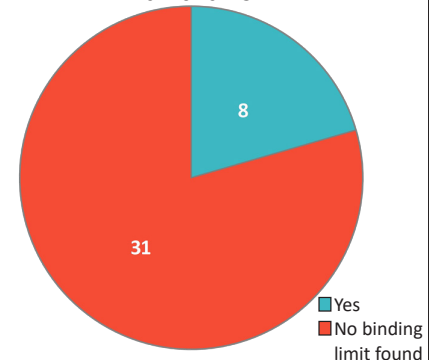
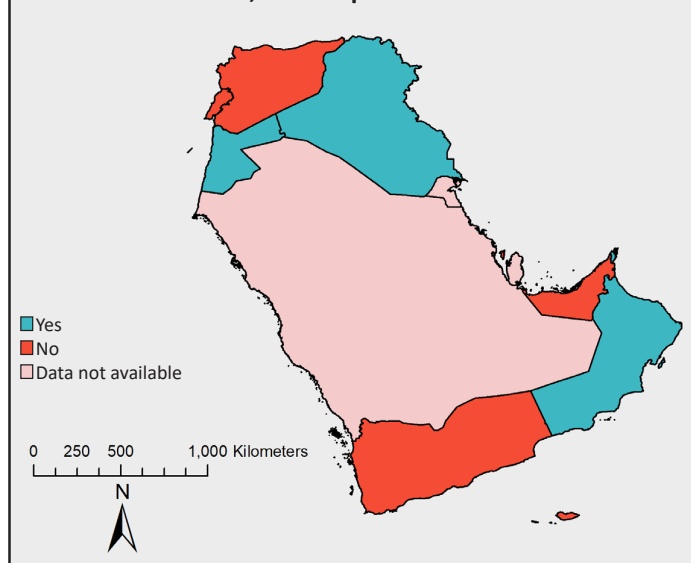


Table 6: 2018 Summary of Country-Specific Lead Paint laws in the Asia and the Pacific Region

Country	Lead Paint Laws
Australia	1000 ppm lead limit for the sale, manufacture, export and import of all paints
China	90 ppm soluble lead concentration limit for decorative, household and automotive paint; 1000 ppm soluble lead limit depending on the use of the paint
India	90 ppm lead limit for manufacture, trade, import and export of household and decorative paints
Nepal	90 ppm lead limit for any paint imported, produced, sold or used
New Zealand	1000 ppm lead limit for the sale, manufacture, export and import of all paints
Philippines	90 ppm lead limit for architectural, decorative, household and industrial paint
Sri Lanka	90 ppm lead limit for interior and exterior emulsion paint or 600 ppm lead limit for floor and enamel paint; paints used in the building industry that contain lead must be labelled as such, including the lead content
Thailand	100 ppm lead limit for all paint

West Asia

Map 5: Countries in the West Asia Region with Lead Paint Laws, as of September 2018



Regional Activities

- Iraq has recently reduced the permitted concentration of lead in paints from 600 ppm to 90 ppm.
- Jordan is working on revising an existing law.
- 3 events were held in 2 countries in the region during the 2017 ILPPWA.

Current Status

Three countries (27.3%) in the West Asia Region have lead paint laws.

Paint testing was conducted in two countries. In the country without laws (Lebanon), levels of lead exceeding target levels of 90 or 600 ppm were found in 73% to 80% of samples respectively. In the country with laws (Jordan), levels of lead exceeding target levels of 90 or 600 ppm were found in 12% to 18% of samples (see Endnote 5).

Figure 5: Number of Countries in the West Asia Region with Lead Paint Laws

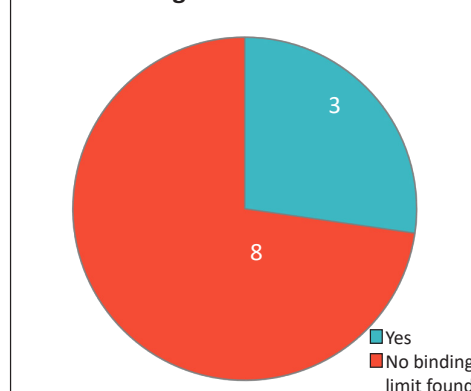
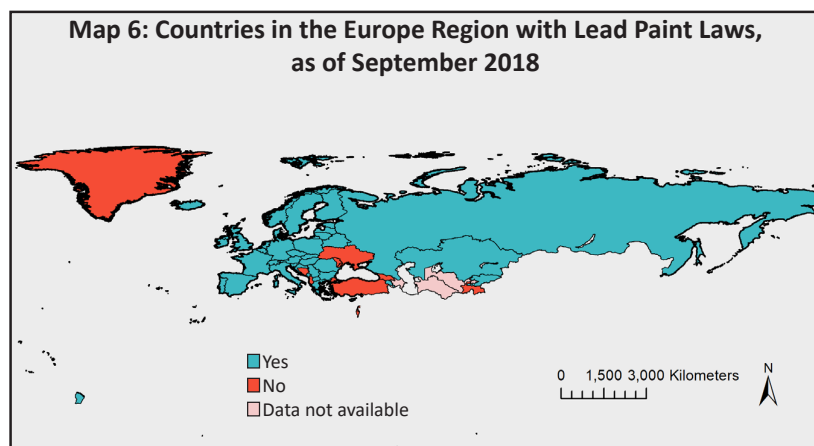


Table 7: 2018 Summary of Country-Specific Lead Paint laws in the Asia and the Pacific Region

Country	Lead Paint Laws
Iraq*	90 ppm lead limit
Jordan	600 ppm total lead concentration limit for the import and sale of household and decorative paint; exceptions for industrial paints, car paints, road paints and artist's paints
Oman	600 ppm total lead concentration limit for handling, use, import, or production of paints

*New since 1 October, 2017



Current Status

Forty-one countries (74.1%) in the Europe Region have lead paint laws. Technical regulations under the Eurasian Economic Commission are in the process of developing a regional lead paint standard, which will replace current requirements in Belarus, Russian Federation and Kazakhstan.

Paint testing has been conducted in 10 countries in this region, some of which had existing laws. Depending on the country studied and the target level, levels of lead exceeding target levels of either 90 or 600 ppm were found in 26% to 94% of samples (see Endnote 5).

Regional Activities

- February 2018: Lead paint was discussed at both the SAICM EU-JUSSCANNZ; and Central and Eastern Europe Regional Meetings.
- Ukraine is working on a lead paint law.
- Israel is developing a technical standard for lead in paint.
- Moldova is working on a lead paint law.
- Georgia is working with UNICEF to measure blood lead in children.
- 18 events were held in 12 countries in the region during the 2017 ILPPWA.

Figure 6: Number of Countries in the Europe Region with Lead Paint Laws

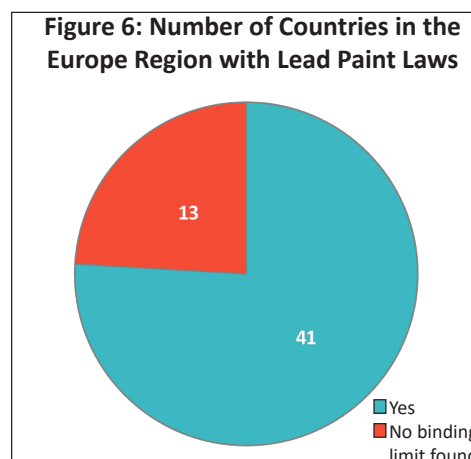


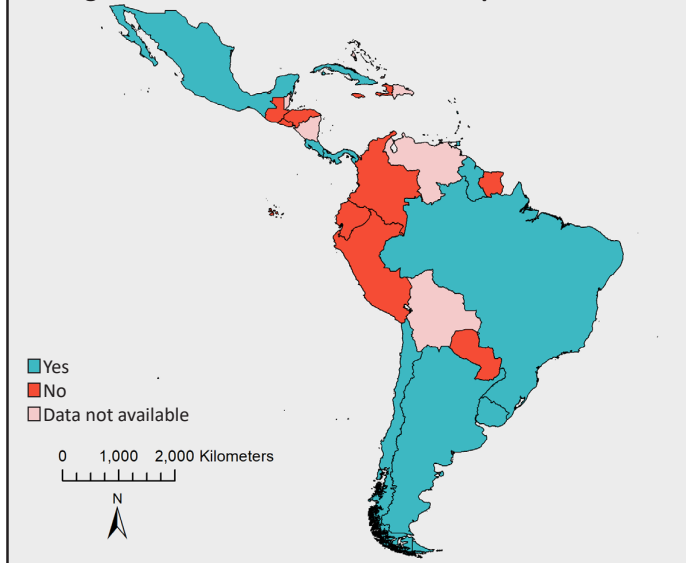
Table 8: 2018 Summary of Country-Specific Lead Paint laws in the Europe Region

Country	Lead Paint Laws
Armenia	5,000 ppm limit for lead in driers in household paints and 150,000 ppm limit for lead in pigments in paints
Belarus	5,000 ppm limit for lead in driers in household paints and 150,000 ppm limit for lead in pigments in all paints
31 countries in Europe Region	EU REACH restricts the addition of certain specific lead compounds to paints intended for use by the general public
The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	Restricts use of certain lead compounds in paint
Kazakhstan⁺	Restricts use of all lead compounds in paint intended for building interiors
Kyrgyzstan	Restricts use of all lead compounds in paint intended for building interiors
Monaco	Restricts use of certain lead compounds in paint
Montenegro	Restricts use of certain lead compounds in paint
Russian Federation	Restricts the use of lead and lead compounds in paints used for building interiors
Serbia	Restricts use of certain lead compounds in paint; for industrial paints containing lead, precautionary labelling is required
Switzerland	100 ppm lead limit for all paints offered for sale by manufacturers

⁺Status change in WHO database

Latin American and the Caribbean

Map 7: Countries in the Latin American and the Caribbean Region with Lead Paint Laws, as of September 2018



Current Status

Eleven countries (33%) in the Latin America and Caribbean Region have lead paint laws. Having passed laws much earlier than much of the rest of the world, most countries in this region have chosen to establish a 600 ppm total lead concentration limit, which was the US standard prior to 2009.

Where paint testing was conducted in countries without lead paint laws (4 countries), levels of lead exceeding 90 or 600 ppm were found in 27% to 90% of samples, depending on the country study and the target level. In countries with laws (5 countries), levels of lead in paint exceeded target levels of 90 or 600 ppm in 0% to 100% of samples, depending on the country and the target limit (see Endnote 5). The annual economic cost of childhood lead exposure in Latin America and the Caribbean is \$142.3 billion, or 2.04% of regional GDP (see Endnote 4).

Regional Activities

- December 2017: The Lead Paint Alliance held a Caribbean Regional Workshop in Jamaica.
- January 2018: Lead paint was discussed at the SAICM Latin America and Caribbean Regional Meeting
- June 2018: Jamaica held a follow-up stakeholder meeting to discuss next steps toward developing a lead paint law.
- June 2018: Lead paint was discussed at the Central American Commission for Environment and Development meeting
- July 2018: Lead paint was discussed at a meeting of the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States
- Argentina, Brazil, and Mexico are working on updating existing laws and standards.
- 5 events were held in 3 countries in the region during the 2017 ILPPWA.

Figure 7: Number of Countries in the Latin American and the Caribbean Region with Lead Paint Laws

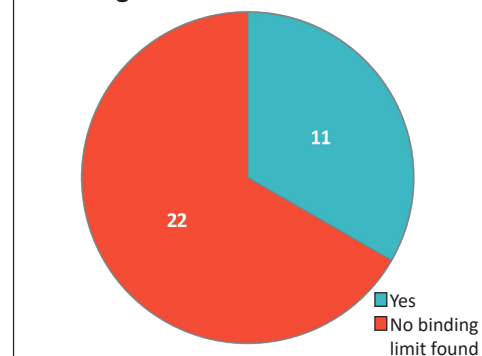
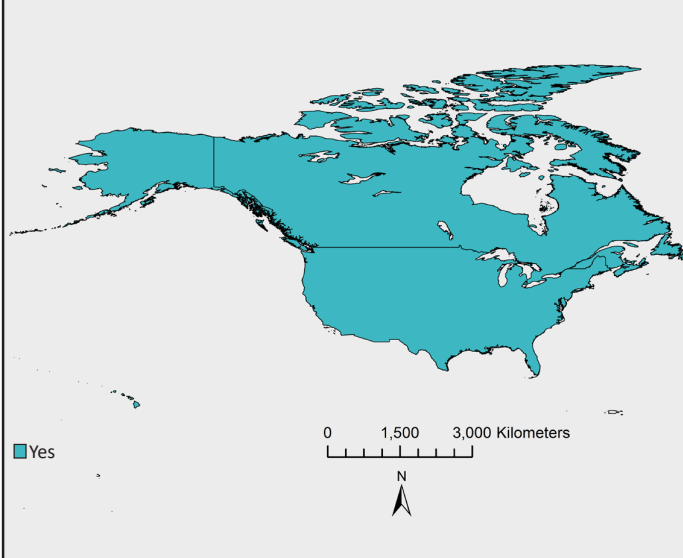


Table 9: 2018 Summary of Country-Specific Lead Paint laws in the Latin America and the Caribbean Region

Country	Lead Paint Laws
Argentina	600 ppm lead limit for the manufacture, import, distribution and marketing of paints; prohibits use of lead carbonate and lead sulphate and any other products containing these pigments
Brazil	600 ppm lead limit for the manufacture, import, export and use of household paints
Chile	600 ppm lead limit for import, export, and sale of paint; exemptions include agricultural and industrial equipment, bridges, road markings, artists' materials and other applications
Costa Rica	600 ppm lead limit for the manufacture, import, export, and sale of paints
Cuba	20,000 ppm lead limit for paint; some exceptions including artists paint and outdoor paint
Dominica	600 ppm lead limit for household paint
Guyana	600 ppm lead limit for the import and manufacture of paints
Mexico	600 ppm lead limit for paint; some exceptions including coatings for automotive vehicles and industrial or agricultural and gardening equipment
Panama	600 ppm lead limit for the manufacture, import, sale, and use of paint
Trinidad and Tobago	600 ppm lead limit for the export, import, and manufacture of paint
Uruguay	600 ppm lead limit for the production, import and sale of household and decorative paint; exemptions include paint for agricultural and industrial equipment, bridges, and road markings

Map 8: Countries in the North America Region with Lead Paint Laws, as of September 2018

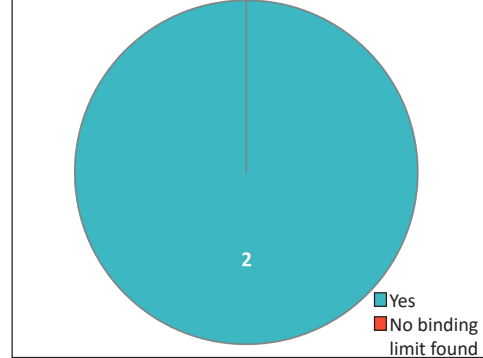


Current Status

Two countries (100%) in the North America Region have lead paint laws.

Paint testing was not conducted in this region.

Figure 8: Number of Countries in the North America Region with Lead Paint Laws



Regional Activities

- The United States is the Chair of the Lead Paint Alliance and works closely with UN Environment, WHO, Lead Paint Alliance partners and others to promote lead paint laws.
- December 2017: The UN Environment Regional Office for North America helped ensure the participation of legal experts at the Caribbean Regional Workshop in Jamaica.
- 8 events were held in the region during the 2017 ILPPWA.

Table 10: 2018 Summary of Country-Specific Lead Paint laws in the North America Region

Country	Lead Paint Laws
Canada	90 ppm lead limit for paints and certain other surface coating materials that are manufactured, imported, advertised or sold in Canada
United States	90 ppm lead limit for paints for the manufacture, import and sale of household and decorative paints

Lead Paint Alliance Advisory Council

Governments



Colombia



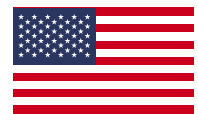
Kenya



Republic of Moldova



Thailand



United States of America

NGOs



Industry



Endnotes - Sources of information referenced in this document

1. Lead Paint Alliance: <https://www.unenvironment.org/noleadinpaint>
2. WHO: Regulations and controls on lead paint (map and database): http://www.who.int/gho/phe/chemical_safety/lead_paint_regulations/en/
3. Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation GBD Compare: <https://vizhub.healthdata.org/gbd-compare/>
4. NYU Economic Costs of Lead Exposure: <https://med.nyu.edu/pediatrics/research/environmentalpediatrics/leadexposure>
5. IPEN Lead Paint Map: <http://ipen.org/projects/eliminating-lead-paint/lead-levels-paint-around-world>
6. Model Law and Guidance for Regulating Lead Paint - provides countries with background and model language for developing lead paint laws: <https://www.unenvironment.org/resources/publication/model-law-and-guidance-regulating-lead-paint>

Lead Paint Alliance

The Lead Paint Alliance is a voluntary, collaborative initiative co-led by UN Environment and WHO. The Lead Paint Alliance was formally launched in 2011 to help achieve international goals to prevent children's exposure to lead from paints containing lead, and to minimize occupational exposure to lead paint. The current goal of the Lead Paint Alliance is to eliminate lead paint through the establishment of lead paint laws globally.

The Lead Paint Alliance promotes and coordinates the efforts of diverse stakeholders, including governments, industries, non-governmental organizations and intergovernmental organizations, to protect people around the world from exposure to lead from paint. The top priority of the Alliance is the establishment of appropriate national regulatory frameworks to stop the manufacture, import, and sale of lead paint. The goal is that lead is phased out of ALL paints.

ACTION TOWARD LEAD PAINT ELIMINATION

INFORM: Conduct awareness raising and consumer education about the hazards of lead paint to promote its elimination.
insert link to WHO Resource package

ESTABLISH LAWS: Establish and implement protective legal limits on lead in paint using the *Model Law and Guidance for Regulating Lead Paint* (see Endnote 5).

Acknowledgements

This is a publication developed by UN Environment in partnership with WHO and US EPA, the Chair of the Lead Paint Alliance.

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