Introduction

The primary goal of the Global Alliance to Eliminate Lead Paint (Lead Paint 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 Lead Paint Alliance is committed to efforts that support primary prevention, seeking to reduce or eliminate the conditions that give rise to lead paint exposure before such exposures can occur.

This report provides information about the activities and accomplishments of the Lead Paint Alliance to support the key Action Areas identified in the 2017–2018 Lead Paint Alliance Action Plan. The two-year Action Plan facilitates implementation of the long-term Business Plan of the Lead Paint Alliance by providing near-term priorities for four key action areas. The 2017–2018 Action Plan was intended to encourage and support priority activities in 2017 and 2018 by Alliance partners and other stakeholders to help move toward the goal of lead paint elimination.

Activities and Accomplishments

Action Area 1: Encourage governments in countries where legal limits are not currently in place to establish and enforce national legal limits on lead in paint, with special attention to the elimination of lead decorative paints and lead paints for other applications most likely to contribute to childhood lead exposure.

Global

- New lead paint laws Established in 2017 and 2018:
  - As of 31 August 2017, 67 countries had legally binding controls to limit the production, import and sale of lead paints, which is 34.7 percent of UN Environment Member States. See the [UN Environment 2017 Global Status Update](https://www.unenvironment.org/news-insights/global-status-update-2017) for the list of countries
  - As of 30 September 2018, 71 countries had legally binding controls to limit the production, import and sale of lead paints, which is 36.8% of UN Environment Member States.
  - Since August 2017, three additional countries (Cameroon, Ethiopia, and Iraq) established new laws to address lead in paint and one country (Kazakhstan) confirmed that it had existing lead paint laws. See also the 2018 Global Status Update and the [WHO Map and Database of Regulations and Controls on Lead Paint](https://www.who.int/lead).
• May 2017 - **WHO Chemicals Management Roadmap** was approved by the World Health Assembly. The Roadmap includes 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 legal professionals around the world to support development of 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. Information was also provided through the WHO Map and Database.

• October 2017: IPEN released the **Global Report on Lead in Solvent-based Paint for Home Use** that includes data on lead paint from more than 50 countries that can be used to justify adopting laws on lead paint. In October 2018, IPEN also updated its map of **Lead Paint Levels Around the World**, which now includes data from 58 countries.

• November 2017 - **Model Law and 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.

• 2019–2022 – Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management (SAICM) Global Environment Facility (GEF) Lead Paint 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.

• In 2018 an IPPIC statement noting the effectiveness of lead paint restrictions posted on its website was expanded to affirm global industry commitment to the Model Law and Guidance for Regulating Lead Paint

• June 2018: UN Environment provided a formal briefing and an informal lunch session on the Lead Paint Alliance for Permanent Missions in Geneva as part of a Chemicals and Waste Briefing sponsored by the Geneva Environment Network. The briefing was to convince countries to pass laws. It consisted of a panel of representatives from the Lead Paint Alliance Advisory Council from UN Environment, the World Health Organization, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (LPA Chair) and IPEN and the International Paint and Printing Ink Council (IPPIC).

**UNEP African Region**

• UN Environment/IPEN Global Environment Facility (GEF) project 2014–2017: Four countries (Cameroon, Cote d’Ivoire, Ethiopia and United Republic of Tanzania) participated in a project to work toward national legal limits to eliminate lead paint. Three of the four countries passed lead paint laws (Cameroon, Ethiopia and United Republic of Tanzania). The project was implemented by UNEP and executed by IPEN together with its NGO partners Centre de Recherche et d’Education pour le Developpement (CREPD) in Cameroon; Jeunes Volontaires pour l’Environnement (JVE) in Côte d’Ivoire; Pesticide Action Nexus Association (PAN) in Ethiopia; AGENDA for Environment and
Responsible Development (AGENDA) in Tanzania.

- October 2017: IPEN released a report on Lead in Solvent-Based Paints for Home Use in Africa that includes data on lead in paint from 15 African countries that can be used to justify adopting laws on lead paint.

- 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 ministerial declaration of the African Ministerial Conference on the Environment (AMCEN) in Nairobi, Kenya, included a statement calling on all leaders to consider developing and ensuring implementation of lead paint laws and establishing the lowest and most protective regulatory limit, such as 90 parts per million (90 ppm) total lead content.

- October 2018: The East African Community (EAC) held a meeting in Dar-es-Salaam, United Republic of Tanzania, to finalize draft regional lead paint standards for public comment.

- November 2018: A lead paint side event was held at the Third Inter-Ministerial Conference on Health and Environment in Africa in Libreville, Gabon. Ministers signed a declaration to promote lead paint laws. The strategic action plan for 2019–2029 includes support for the work of the Lead Paint Alliance, in particular by enacting national legislation to ban lead in paint.

**UNEP Asia and the Pacific Region**

- March 2017: A lead paint workshop was conducted in China for a UN Environment project on “Promoting elimination of the use of lead in paints in China and Africa.”

- In 2017 the Government of Cambodia worked in partnership with the US EPA to draft an implementing decree to phase out lead paint in a new environmental code.

- In 2017 the People’s Republic of Laos began working with the World Bank to draft a lead paint law.

- 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.

- April 2018: Manny Calonzo from the EcoWaste Coalition in the Philippines (a Lead Paint Alliance partner and IPEN Adviser) 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 (US EPA) conducted discussions with the Vietnam Chemicals Agency and Health Ministry about establishing lead paint laws.

- September 2018: US EPA officials travelled to Vietnam to attend a meeting on lead paint laws with representatives from the Ministries of Industry and Trade, Health and Environment, the paint industry and IPEN’s NGO partner, Research Centre for Gender, Family and Environment in Development (CGFED) in Vietnam.
UNEP West Asia Region

• In 2018, Iraq reduced the permitted concentration of lead in paints from 600 ppm to 90 ppm.

• In 2018, Jordan worked on revising an existing law to reduce the permitted concentration of lead in paints from 600 ppm to 90 ppm.

UNEP Europe Region

• February 2018: Lead paint was discussed at both the SAICM EU-JUSSCANNZ; and Central and Eastern Europe Regional Meetings.

• In 2018 Ukraine worked on a lead paint law.

• In 2018 Israel began developing a technical standard for lead in paint.

• In 2018 Moldova was working on a lead paint law.

• In 2018 Georgia was working with UNICEF to measure blood lead concentrations in children.

UNEP Latin American and the Caribbean Region

• 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

• In 2018 Argentina, Brazil, and Mexico worked on updating existing laws and standards.

• October 2018: The XXI Forum of Ministers of Environment of LAC countries was held in Buenos Aires, Argentina, where a chemicals and waste regional workplan was approved, which includes a milestone for establishment of lead paint laws.

• October 2018: The UN Environment Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean hosted a webinar featuring the Government of Brazil’s efforts to develop a lead paint law. US EPA provided an overview of global lead paint activities.

UNEP North American Region

• October 2018: The UN Environment Regional Office for North America and the Pan American Health Organization co-sponsored a Lead Paint Alliance Briefing for Embassies in Washington DC, which was hosted by the American Bar Association.
**Action Area 2:** Encourage industry activities to voluntarily stop the manufacture and sale of lead paint, focusing on residential and decorative paints containing lead additives in countries where legal limits are not currently in place.


- IPEN together with NGO Partner l’Association de l’éducation environnementale pour les futures générations (AEEFG), developed and presented the Technical Guidelines on replacing lead in anticorrosive paint to industry representatives, who welcomed the report and expressed support to ban lead paint in Tunisia.

- IPEN representatives participated in regional Coatings Congresses in East Africa and Asia to spread awareness of the hazards of lead paint and the case for switching to lead-free paint production.

**Action Area 3:** Increase awareness of the health and environmental risks posed by lead in paint, to help prompt actions by governments and manufacturers to stop the production and sale of lead paints.

**Global**

- In 2018 the Lead Paint Alliance raised its visibility to help encourage lead paint elimination through adding additional outreach tools, such as a newsletter (September) and brand identity guidelines regulating the use of identifiers and logos.

- IPEN supported NGO partners in more than 30 countries in 2017–2018 to actively spread awareness of the hazard of lead paint with governments, paint industry and civil society and to advocate for strong lead paint laws.

- During the 2018 International Lead Poisoning Prevention Week 82 campaigns held by 73 organizations from 50 countries were registered with WHO.

The 82 campaigns were held by the following types of organization (see also Figure 1):

- 3 Academic institutions
- 11 Governments (local/national)
- 3 Healthcare institutions
- 56 Non-Government Organizations
- 8 ‘Other’
Figure 1. The types of organizations¹ that held ILPPW events in 2017 and 2018

The WHO regions for the Americas and Europe had the most events in 2018 (Figure 2).

Figure 2. Number of ILPPW events in each WHO region² in 2017 and 2018

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¹ IGO – intergovernmental organization; NGO – non-governmental organization; Local/natl gov – local or national government institution
² AFR = Africa; AMR = Americas; EMR = Eastern Mediterranean; EUR = Europe; SEAR = South East Asia; WPR = Western Pacific
**Action Area 4: Increase and diversity the number of Alliance partners and increase opportunities for partners to engage.**

- In 2017, five new partners joined the Alliance, as follows:
  
  *Governments: 0*
  
  *Non-governmental organizations: 1*
  
  - Association des Familles Victimes du Saturnisme (AFVS)

  *Industry associations and manufacturers: 4*
  
  - Asociación Española de Fabricantes de Pintura y Tinta de Imprimir (ASEFAPI)
  - Association of Turkish Paint Industry (BOSAD)
  - Philippine Association of Paint Manufacturers (PAPM)
  - Nano Science and Electronic Communication (NASEC)

- In 2018, seven new partners joined the Alliance, as follows:
  
  *Governments: 2*
  
  - Ministry of the Environment of Brazil
  - Vietnam Chemicals Agency (VINACHEMIA)

  *Non-governmental organizations: 2*
  
  - Living Science Foundation of Nigeria
  - The LEAD Group (NGO Australia)

  *Industry associations and manufacturers: 1*
  
  - Malaysian Paint Manufactures’ Association (MPMA)

  *Academics: 1*
  
  - New York University Langone Health’s Department of Pediatrics – Division of Environmental Pediatrics

  *Law community organizations: 1*
  
  - American Bar Association Rule of Law Initiative (ABA ROLI)