

Not displaying correctly? [View it in a web browser](#)



World Health Organization

Global Alliance to Eliminate Lead Paint

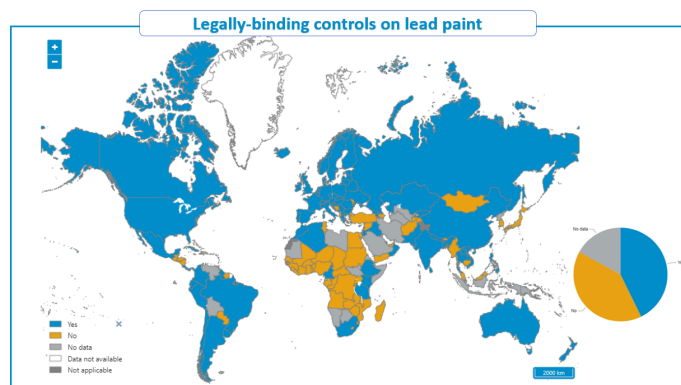
Eliminating lead paint matters! | June 2022



## Introduction

The Global Alliance to Eliminate Lead Paint (the Alliance) has made significant progress to work with countries and other stakeholders toward the phase-out of the manufacture, sale and import of paints containing lead through the establishment of

laws. As of today, according to the [Global Health Observatory on legally-binding controls on lead paint](#), a total of 88 countries have laws banning lead paint. (Click on the map to enlarge it for more information.)



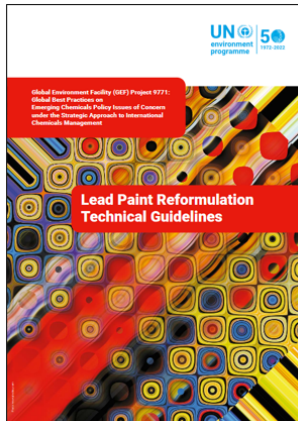
The work in the lead paint component of the UNEP Global Environment Facility (GEF) Project (from January 2019–June 2022), "[Global best practices on emerging chemical policy issues of concern under SAICM](#)," has resulted in 21 countries adopting lead paint laws (to date in 2022 alone, four countries reported that they had lead paint laws: Madagascar, Malawi, Saudi Arabia and United Arab Emirates). In addition, 19 countries are in the final stages of drafting lead paint laws. Twenty-three paint producers in seven countries have completed paint reformulation pilots and are able to produce paint without added lead compounds. The United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) also [published Lead Paint Reformulation Technical Guidelines](#) (see New Tools below), supporting small- and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) in undertaking paint reformulation.

A new story on the UNEP website, [inside the push to eliminate lead from paint](#),

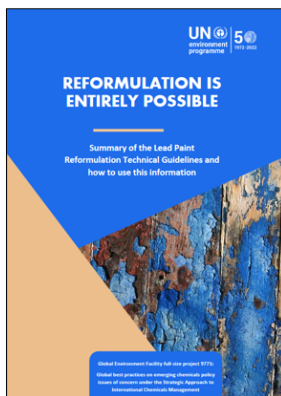
highlights the important work of the Lead Paint Alliance. We hope you will use the information in this newsletter to plan or promote effective programs to work towards eliminating lead paint. Wishing you all a safe and healthy continuation of the year, without added lead!

---

## New Tools



UNEP, and the National Cleaner Production Centre from Serbia (NCPC Serbia) have jointly developed [Lead Paint Reformulation Technical Guidelines](#) to address both logistical and economic capacity constraints and technical barriers to the substitution of lead compounds in paint, focusing on the needs of SMEs. The guidelines were tested for more than two years in lead paint reformulation pilot demonstrations in selected SMEs in seven countries: China, Colombia, Ecuador, Indonesia, Jordan, Nigeria and Peru. The guidelines incorporate the SMEs' experiences and feedback received from stakeholders, and are now available in all UN languages.



A summary of the technical guidelines entitled [Reformulation is Entirely Possible: Summary of the Lead Paint Reformulation Technical Guidelines and How to Use this Information](#), is also available in all UN languages. The summary highlights key messages from the guidelines that are targeted at policymakers, industry and civil society organisations. The guidelines and the summary provide a helpful starting point for all stakeholders wishing to learn more about best practices in lead paint reformulation.

## Coming soon:

- Under the Global Alliance to Eliminate Lead Paint, the United Nations Environment Programme is finalizing Lead Paint Law Compliance and Enforcement Guidance in collaboration with a working group comprised of government, industry, and civil society partners of the Global Alliance to Eliminate Lead Paint. UNEP provided the Guidance for public consultation and will take into account feedback from interested stakeholders. When ready, the final Guidance will be made available in all UN languages.
- The Report on Activities during the Ninth International Lead Poisoning Prevention Week, 24–30 October 2021, will offer lessons learned and examples of success from the 2021 campaign, based on feedback received from event organizers, with specific analysis of web and social media

activities.

## Recent Event



The Lead in Paint Community of Practice brings together global practitioners from different sectors in a learning network about the elimination of lead paint.

The most recent session, [\*"Transitioning to paints without added lead: guidance and experience in reformulation,"\*](#) took place on 25 May 2022 with 76 participants. Presenters included representatives from NCPC Serbia, Rajawali Hiyoto (an Indonesian paint producer), NCPC Peru, and NCPC Jordan. The discussion presented guidance and best practices regarding paint reformulation, including key elements for a successful reformulation, suggestions for collaboration for lead paint reformulation between government and industry, and ideas for increasing production of lead paint reformulation. A summary of the discussion with important takeaways will be available in English and French.

## Upcoming Events

The following [upcoming LiP CoP sessions](#) are available to the public. [Join the LiP CoP](#) to be notified of all events and receive additional materials.

- July 13: "Preparing for the 10th International Lead Poisoning Prevention Week," at 14h00–15h30 GMT +2.
- November 16: "Compliance with Lead Paint Laws," at 14h00–15h30 GMT +2

Regional Webinars in Latin America and the Caribbean and Africa on Standard Methods for Testing for Lead in Paint, sponsored by the [American Society for Testing and Materials International \(ASTM International\)](#), will help countries developing or implementing a lead paint law understand which sample preparation and test methods are appropriate for their situation, and provide the opportunity to ask questions of technical experts about specific methods. These webinars are scheduled for 21 September 2022 in Africa and 29 September in Latin America and the Caribbean. Details will be shared when available.



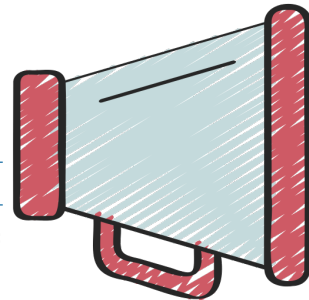
In October 2022, WHO will host the 10th annual International Lead Poisoning Prevention Week. All are invited to participate in this week of action by organizing events and sharing information about the importance of eliminating lead paint. Editable



campaign graphics in Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian, and Spanish will be made available on the [campaign website](#). You are invited to register your event to be part of the global campaign and ever-growing community!

## What can you do?

- International Lead Poisoning Prevention Week will take place this year during the week of 23–29 October 2022. You can join the action by organizing events and sharing information about the importance of eliminating lead paint. Looking for ideas and guidance for planning an event? WHO's [Guidance on organizing an advocacy or awareness-raising campaign on lead paint](#) can help! Additional materials will be posted in the upcoming months on the [2022 campaign website](#).
- Wherever you are in the process of eliminating lead paint, the Lead in Paint Community of Practice (LiP CoP) can help you learn the essentials and connect with like-minded colleagues! [Join the conversation](#) and [register now for the July LiP CoP discussion](#).
- Helpful guidance on awareness raising, establishment of laws, lead exposure, reformulation, testing, and much more have been created through the SAICM GEF project. [Explore all the materials](#) and please share them with your contacts!



## Progress Towards Laws



### *New Laws and Amendments*

Jordan:

As of April 2022, the Jordan Standards and Metrology Organization (JSMO) has announced the amendment of the following existing standards: *JS 989:2012: Paints and varnishes – Textured paint (synthetic resin*



### *Meetings and Workshops for Law Development and Progress Being Made Towards Laws*

Azerbaijan:

Following a multistakeholder meeting held in Spring 2022, the draft legislation on limiting lead in paints

*emulsion type*); JS 1035:2010 *Paint and varnish – Flat alkyd based paints for interior and exterior use*; JS 1139:2010 *Paint and varnish – Air drying semi-gloss paints for general purposes*, JS1036:2010 *Paint and varnish – Alkyd based undercoating paints for general purposes*; and JS244:2010 *Paint and varnish – Air drying gloss paints for general purposes*, lowering the lead content in these paints to 90 ppm.

Madagascar:

A new standard NMG 421-1/2022, entitled *Paint Products. Permissible limit of lead content and specifications to reduce the lead content in paint* has been adopted in Madagascar in March 2022. The standard applies to all lead compounds and the lead paint limit is 90 ppm.

Malawi:

Malawi reported that it enacted standards in 2013 and 2014 requiring that paints contain no lead, including roadmarking, emulsion and decorative paints.

Saudi Arabia:

Saudi Arabia reported that the *Technical Regulation for Paints (Dyes) and Varnishes* was published officially in 2020. This Regulation applies to paints and varnishes used in the residential and commercial buildings and public utilities and limits the concentration of lead in paint to not exceed 0.009% (90 ppm).

United Arab Emirates:

The United Arab Emirates reported that in 2014 they established a legally binding control on lead in paint of volatile organic compounds and heavy metals in paint and varnish products.

was developed and shared with the Alliance for comments. The final draft legislation was to be discussed in mid-June.

Malaysia:

On 31 May 2022, the Department of Standards (DoS) Malaysia published the draft *Malaysian Standard (MS) for Architectural Coatings (21B009N)* for public comments until 31 July 2022. The draft MS sets a 90 ppm, dry weight limit on lead in solvent-based and water-based paints, varnishes, and stains, including paints sold in aerosol dispensers for architectural coatings for interior and exterior applications. In addition, the DoS is still reviewing public comments it received last September 2021 for the draft *MS for Undercoating Paint for Gloss Enamel*.

Mongolia:

WHO is working with Mongolia's Ministry of Health on a draft law. WHO sent the official Alliance lead paint law status questionnaire to Mongolia along with the lead paint reformulation technical guidelines and link to the Alliance regulatory toolkit. MoH presented a proposed draft law to WHO prohibiting the import of lead paint for review by the Alliance Legal Team. They also provided a list of paints that were found to have high lead concentrations (>90). This paint testing data supports the development of a proposed regulatory framework and the need to address the current inventory of lead paints. These documents will be presented to officials in the MOH and Ministry of Environment and Technology. WHO Mongolia will assist in connecting the appropriate government ministries with key stakeholders.

The law bans the following heavy metals in paints used for residential buildings: mercury, lead, chromium, cadmium, arsenic, and antimony. There is no numerical limit mentioned in the standard.



#### Draft Laws Reviewed

##### Jamaica:

In April 2022, the Bureau of Standards Jamaica (BSJ) released the revised version of the draft *Jamaican Standard Specification for the Limit of Lead Content in Paints* (mandatory 90 ppm total lead limit in paints and varnishes) for public comments until 30 May 2022. The Lead Paint Alliance legal team provided comments.

##### Moldova:

In April 2022, the Lead Paint Alliance legal team provided a second round of comments during the public comment phase for the draft Government Decision for the approval of the *Sanitary Regulation on the limitation of lead in paints, Information Note and Regulatory Impact Assessment*.

##### Ecuador:

Ecuador is in the process of revising the technical regulation of the *Ecuadorian Standardization Service (INEN) 061 "Paints"*, which limits the lead content in certain paints. Public comments, including from the legal team of the Alliance, are being reviewed and incorporated by the Ecuadorian Standardization Service (INEN). The final technical regulation will be approved and published by the Ministry of Production, Foreign Trade, Investment and Fisheries.

##### Indonesia:

Nexus3 held a meeting with the Ministry of Environment and Forestry (MoEF) to discuss the drafting of a lead paint regulation. On 30 May 2022, BSN (the National Standardization Agency of Indonesia) enacted *SNI 8011:2022* which sets a 90 ppm maximum voluntary limit for lead in decorative paint, aerosol paint, automotive paint, and reflective paint.

##### Uzbekistan:

In April 2022, a meeting was organized in Uzbekistan by WHO to discuss how to address the global context of chemicals management, health, economics and environmental impacts of lead, lead in paints as a source of exposure, existing initiatives and progress in neighboring countries, and recommendations on prohibiting lead in paints.

## Partner Corner

As of June 2022, 20 governments, 51 non-government organizations, 5 inter-governmental organizations, 7 academic organizations or institutions, and 23 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 lately! New members are the [Cleaner Production Unit of the Royal Scientific Society of Jordan](#) and [Vital Strategies](#), both civil society organizations.

## Lead Paint in the News

*These articles do not necessarily reflect the views or work of the Global Alliance to Eliminate Lead Paint.*

- [Tunisia: Lead-based paint industry ‘does not care about its consumers’ health’ \(AEEFG\)](#) (*AllAfrica*, 9 April 2022)
- [Burnham’s Park damaged and lead-painted kids’ play equipment refurbished, replaced](#) (*Daily Guardian*, 30 March 2022)
- [The responsible industry could protect 33 million Indonesian children](#) (*Yahoo! Finance/Cision*, 22 March 2022)



---

*Copyright © 2022 Global Alliance to Eliminate Lead Paint, All rights reserved.*

Not yet subscribed to the Lead Paint Alliance newsletter? [SUBSCRIBE](#)

Please send comments or questions to  
[lead-cadmium.chemicals@unep.org](mailto:lead-cadmium.chemicals@unep.org) and/or [noleadinpaint@who.int](mailto:noleadinpaint@who.int)

Read more about the Lead Paint Alliance on [www.unep.org/noleadinpaint](http://www.unep.org/noleadinpaint)

Want to change how you receive these emails?  
[Update your preferences](#) or [Unsubscribe from this list](#)

Our postal address is:  
Global Alliance to Eliminate Lead Paint  
International Environment House  
(MIE 1) Palais des Nations  
1211 Geneva 10  
Switzerland

[Add us to your address book](#)

