

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



World Health
Organization

Global Alliance to
Eliminate Lead Paint

Eliminating lead paint matters! | September 2024



Introduction

The Global Alliance to Eliminate Lead Paint is pleased to present its September newsletter, highlighting the 12th International Lead Poisoning Prevention Week (ILPPW or “Week of Action”), which will take place this year on 20–26 October 2024. The theme for this year is “Bright Futures Begin Lead-Free” as Alliance efforts to eliminate lead paint are essential for ensuring a lead-free future, especially for children. An updated [campaign website](#) for the 2024 Week of Action is available.

We encourage you to be creative in your efforts to advance the work to eliminate lead paint, so all children may have bright, lead-free futures. To help you organize activities for ILPPW, this newsletter provides information about tools and materials available for the 2024 Week of Action, as well as examples of successes from the 2023 Week of Action. This newsletter also contains recent and upcoming events as well as Lead Paint in the News. Wishing you all the success in your lead paint elimination and Week of Action campaign activities this fall!



What Can You Do?

Organize events for the 2024 International Lead Poisoning Prevention Week of Action!



International Lead Poisoning Prevention Week (ILPPW or “Week of Action”) is an annual event that takes place during the last week of October. This year’s theme is "Bright Futures. Begin Lead-Free," highlighting the need for immediate action to protect children’s health from toxic lead and ensure bright, lead-free futures for all.

The aim of the Week of Action is to raise awareness about the health effects of lead exposure, to highlight the efforts of countries and partners to prevent lead exposure, and to urge further action to eliminate lead paint through regulatory action at a country level. If you are planning an event, don’t forget to [register here](#). Additional guidance on organizing an advocacy or awareness raising campaign on lead paint can be found [here](#).

Organize your own event. As with previous years, the Lead Paint Alliance has developed customizable and multilingual materials that can be used to support members planning activities and events. The ILPPW website includes the following graphics (note that additional languages for some of the materials may be added):

- Campaign poster
- Customizable poster with the space to add your logo or event
- Ban Lead Paint graphic (6 UN languages)
- Flyer
- Infographics
- Social media card

Looking for an event in your area? You can visit the [List of Registered Events](#) to see what others are doing.

Organize on social media. Promote ILPPW communication and outreach by sharing key messages via social media and other media channels about the impacts of lead exposure and the steps that can be taken to ban lead paint. You can see key

messages in the social media toolkit that will be available [here](#) and utilize the ILPPW social media post builder.

You can also join the conversation using the hashtags #ILPPW2024 #BanLeadPaint #LeadPoisoning

New and Existing Tools



U.S. EPA, in cooperation with the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), is developing an educational webinar to supplement the [Model Law and Guidance for Regulating Lead Paint](#) available in all UN Languages. The webinar explores lead paint laws compliance and enforcement. It's anticipated launch is on 22 October 2024.



Published in March 2023, the [Lead Paint Law Compliance and Enforcement Guidance](#) provides information on the development and implementation of compliance and enforcement strategies. The report also contains examples from countries that have enacted lead paint laws and discusses actions that paint manufacturers and importers can take to demonstrate compliance.



As a reminder, the [UNEP Toolkit for Establishing Laws to Eliminate Lead Paint](#) is an available resource with material that may be useful during ILPPW.



WHO's [Guidance on organizing an advocacy or awareness-raising campaign on lead paint](#) is an available resource that may be useful in supporting advocacy and awareness-raising activities during ILPPW.



Recent Events

ILPPW 2024 Grants Program

Lead Exposure Elimination Project (LEEP) recently received applications for its ILPPW 2024 Grants program. As part of ILPPW 2024, Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs), government institutions, and other organizations were encouraged to apply for grants of up to \$4,000. The primary objective of these grants is to support activities that can lead to the introduction or implementation of regulations and reformulations targeting the elimination of lead paint. Activities supported by the grants may include meetings, workshops, testing of lead in consumer products, and more.

UNEP Africa Consultation

On 10 July 2024, UNEP and U.S. EPA organized an online webinar as the first of two consultations on lead sources and management in African countries. The aim

of the consultation was to explore the current opportunities for and barriers to a coordinated, multi-sectoral approach by governments in low- and middle-income countries to manage sources of lead exposure. The recording and consultation report titled “Towards a coordinated, multi-sectoral lead management approach in low- and middle-income countries: Consultations in Africa region (Part I)” can be accessed [here](#).

Lead in Paint Community of Practice (LiPCoP) 2024

On 22 August 2024, the LiPCoP session “Preparing for International Lead Poisoning Prevention Week (ILPPW)” provided an introduction to the ILPPW. Participants discussed past experiences and future plans of government, NGO, and industry stakeholders for ILPPW. This session included case studies of previous ILPPW events and their effectiveness in raising awareness. Additionally, discussions included the development and implementation of lead paint laws, with presentations from stakeholders in Tanzania, Mexico, Vietnam. LEEP also introduced their ILPPW 2024 Grants Program during the session. More information available [here](#).

The 23 May 2024 session “Lead Paint Regulation Success Stories” featured presentations from stakeholders in Angola, Nigeria, Peru, and Benin, demonstrating the growing movement towards the elimination of lead paint. More information available [here](#).

U.S. EPA and U.S. Agency for International Development Sign MOU to Collaborate in Reducing Pollution

EPA and USAID signed a [memorandum of understanding](#) to cooperate on reducing pollution, including providing support to LMICs to enact and enforce binding regulations to curtail lead in consumer goods like paint, spices and cosmetics, and sharing best practices.



Upcoming Events



Second Africa Consultation

UNEP, in coordination with U.S. EPA, will conduct the second of two online consultations on lead sources and management in African countries on 20 November 2024. This event will be held in French and English. The aim of the consultation is to exchange information on existing lead management activities and needs in the region. There will also be discussions about current barriers and opportunities for lead exposure reduction action, including a coordinated and multi-sectoral lead management approach.



New Information

IPEN's Campaign to List Lead Chromates Under the Rotterdam Convention

In April 2024, the Government of Cameroon, with the assistance from IPEN and its Yaoundé-based partner NGO, *Centre de Recherche et d'Education pour le Dveloppement* (CREPD), submitted a [notification to list lead chromate, lead sulfochromate yellow, and lead chromate molybdate sulfate red as hazardous chemicals](#) under Annex III of the Rotterdam Convention.

Subsequently, in June 2024, Cameroon's Lead Chromate Notification was included in the Rotterdam Convention [Prior Informed Consent \(PIC\) Circular No. 59](#). Other countries may file similar notifications. IPEN, together with its NGO colleagues in Jamaica, Kenya, Morocco, Nepal, and the Philippines, is working with the Rotterdam Convention Designated National Authorities in these countries to institute national policies to control lead chromates, the pigments widely used in lead paint. Subsequently, these countries may choose to file lead chromate Notifications. Parties may choose to add lead chromates to the Convention's PIC Procedure, under which shipments of lead chromate are prohibited to countries that have not consented to receive them. This will help governments with existing lead chromate controls to enforce them, and this will, in turn, help eliminate lead paint.

IPEN and Nexus3 Foundation's Health Risk Analysis of Lead Exposure in Selected Paint Industry Workers in Indonesia

[A Study from May 2024](#) finds that workers in factories where lead paint is made are at increased risk for health problems, including cancer, when compared to workers where

lead-safe paints are made. Using blood lead level testing, the study finds that workers in the lead paint making facilities had blood lead levels linked to a significant increase in their lifetime cancer risk, four times higher than for workers in a facility that eliminated lead nearly 20 years ago, and 2.5 times higher than for workers in a facility that eliminated lead recently. Dust lead levels in the lead paint making facilities are 5 times to 410 times higher than the CDC dust lead clearance level of 10 µg/ft². Evidence shows that there is no safe level of exposure to lead. The International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC) identified lead as a human carcinogen. Countless studies over decades of research have linked high levels of lead in blood to an increased incidence of cancer—especially lung and brain cancers—and several other non-cancer health conditions.



Lead Paint Studies and Workshops

Cameroon, A **January 2024 report** found that one-third of 38 analyzed paints contained high levels of lead above the regulatory limit of 90 ppm, and are still being sold for consumer use. This included a yellow spray paint imported from UAE, with the highest level of lead at 90,000 ppm. Four paints were falsely marked as “lead concentration less than 90 ppm,” or “without lead” despite containing lead levels ranging from 200 ppm to as high as 3,500 ppm. Study results provide a strong justification to strengthen compliance monitoring and enforcement of lead paint regulatory controls in Cameroon and the report proposes action steps by different stakeholders to protect children and others from lead paint.

Ghana, The Ghana Environmental Protection Agency, Ghana Standards Authority, Environmental Youth Action Network and LEEP **conducted a study to determine the lead content of paints in Ghana**. The results showed that six out of 59 (10%) samples of paints for home use contained hazardous levels of lead (greater than 90 ppm), demonstrating that Ghana is one of the leaders in its region on lead paint reduction.

Nigeria, Following an inception workshop held last October during ILPPW, which was organized by **Sustainable Research and Action for Environmental Development (SRADev) Nigeria** and facilitated by LEEP’s support, lead paint regulation was gazetted in March 2024. In June, the lead paint standard was also reviewed and updated to include mandatory labeling. Since April 2024, SRADev Nigeria has been organizing workshops, with LEEP’s support, to raise awareness amongst industry stakeholders regarding lead paint regulation and the mandatory standard on lead paint, and to encourage SMEs to reformulate to lead-free paint. Workshops have covered three of the six geo-political zones in Nigeria – the North Central, Southwest, and Southeast zones.

Zimbabwe, In 2023, the Environmental Management Agency of Zimbabwe (EMA) and LEEP **jointly conducted a paint study to determine the lead content of paints available to purchase in Zimbabwe**. Results showed that 35% of the samples, representing 34 brands, contained hazardous levels of lead. The study followed on from a multi-stakeholder workshop held in Harare and organized by EMA and LEEP, during which

a roadmap to eliminate lead paint in Zimbabwe was discussed.



In the News: Lead Paint and Other Sources of Lead Exposure

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

AFRICA

Video: [Substandard Paint: CPA warns of hazardous lead paints hit the market](#)

14 June 2024 (Ghana)

Video: [Experts Raise Awareness on Harmful Lead in Paints](#)

26 June 2024 (Nigeria)

[SRADev, SON sensitise stakeholders on essence of lead-free paint production](#)

June 16, 2024 (Nigeria)

Video: [AIT Kakaaki news coverage of lead paint regulation progress](#)

27 June 2024 (Nigeria)

Video: [Lead in Paint Legislation which was Gazetted on the 17th of May 2024](#)

8 June 2024 (South Africa)

ASIA

[China plans to revise national standards that set limits on hazardous substance content in coating materials for buildings](#)

17 May 2024 (China)

[Assessment of Prevalence of Elevated Blood Levels and Risk Factors Among Children and Pregnant Women in Bihar, India](#)

15 October 2024 (India)

[Penelitian Ini Bandingkan Risiko Kanker Para Pekerja di 3 Pabrik Cat Berbeda](#)

[This Research Compares the Cancer Risk of Workers in 3 Different Paint Factories]

15 June 2024 (Indonesia)

[Determinant Factors of Children's Blood lead Levels in Java, Indonesia](#)

22 July 2024 (Indonesia)

[EcoWaste Coalition Uncovers Rampant Sale of Leaded Paint Products Banned by the Government since 2020](#)

25 August 2024 (Philippines)

[EcoWaste Coalition Bares List of Certified Lead Safe® Paints ahead of the Brigada Eskwela](#)

15 July 2024 (Philippines)

[EcoWaste Coalition Seeks Stricter Rules to Prevent Lead Paint Imports](#)

2 July 2024 (Philippines)

NORTH AMERICA

[El plomo de las artesanías, pinturas y plásticos causa estragos en los niños mexicanos](#)

[Lead from crafts, paints and plastics wreaks havoc on Mexican children]

17 July 2024 (Mexico)

[McDonald's collector's cups attract attention; older glasses may be toxic. What to know](#) _

22 August 2024 (USA)

[Lead paint is just the beginning: Poisoning danger lurks in pantry, toys](#) _

25 July 2024 (USA)

[Lead Poisoning in a Mother and Her Four Children Using Traditional Eye Cosmetic – NYC](#) _

[2013–2023](#)

1 August 2024 (USA)

[A Snapshot of Lead in Consumer Products Across Four US Jurisdictions](#) _

16 July 2024 (USA)

SOUTH AMERICA

[MINSA/DIGESA firmó memorando de entendimiento para la ejecución del proyecto "Estudio y colaboración en la implementación de normas sobre el plomo en la pintura en Perú"](#) _

[MINSA/DIGESA signed a memorandum of understanding for the execution of the project "Study and collaboration in the implementation of standards on lead in paint in Peru"]

30 July 2024 (Peru)

Information and Action to Address Health Effects of Lead Exposure

[Latest Research: Consumer Products, Lead Exposure, and Prioritizing Solutions in the U.S. and Abroad](#) (25 July 2024)

[Why Afghans are being slowly poisoned by their evening meal](#) _ (24 August 2024)

Video: [EPA announces \\$26 million to remove lead in drinking water](#) _ (23 August 2024)

[How lead poisoning is threatening children worldwide](#) _ (21 August 2024)

[Lead found in tap water of Los Angeles community after residents raised alarm for years](#) _ (21 August 2024)

[The Dangers of Lead in Food: Understanding the Risks and Protecting Your Health](#) _ (20 August 2024)

[Experts Convene to Address Lead Poisoning Crisis in South Asia](#) _ (1 July 2024)

[EPA has lowered the screening level for lead in soil – here's what that could mean for households across the US](#) (18 June 2024)

[How a little brown bird could sound the alarm on lead poisoning in Australian children](#) _ (12 June 2024)

[The unseen dangers of lead contamination in the UK](#) _ (6 June 2024)

[Effects of Lead Poisoning on Children in Low-Income Countries](#) _ (10 May 2024)

Copyright © 2024 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 and/or noleadinpaint@who.int

Read more about the Lead Paint Alliance on 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](#)

