



Global Alliance to
Eliminate Lead Paint

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ACTION PLAN for 2019–2020

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 2019 and 2020 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, import 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.

In 2009, the second International Conference on Chemicals Management (ICCM2) 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 Lead Paint Alliance was established in 2011, with a strategic goal that all countries will have lead paint laws in place by 2020 in line with the SAICM 2020 goal.

The Action Plan for 2019–20 builds on the previous two-year Action Plan for 2017–2018. It reconfirms priorities identified in the previous Action Plan and highlights the need for near-term efforts by national governments around the world to achieve the phase-out of the manufacture, import and sale of paints containing lead. New laws and regulations should establish legally binding and enforceable 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 2019–2020 was developed for the Lead Paint Alliance by the UN Environment and the World Health Organization (WHO), in consultation with the Advisory Council for the Alliance. It is envisioned that a similar action plan will be developed for 2021–2022.

ACTION AREAS FOR 2019–2020

During 2019 and 2020, 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, import and sale of paints containing lead.
2. Encourage industry activities to voluntarily stop the manufacture, import 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, import and sale of lead paints.
4. Increase and diversify the number of Alliance partners and increase opportunities for partners to engage.

ACTIVITIES IN 2019–2020

The following pages include specific project information plus suggestions and ideas for potential activities.

Activities under each Action Area are grouped by the following categories, as relevant:

- UN Environment, WHO and Advisory Council Members;
- Governments;
- Inter-governmental organizations,
- Non-governmental environmental and health organizations (NGOs);
- Legal community; and
- Industry.

Partners in the Alliance are encouraged to inform UN Environment, WHO and/or the Advisory Council members of any activities planned for 2019 or 2020. Throughout the plan period, specific additional activities to be implemented by various stakeholders may continue to be identified and added to this two-year plan.

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

UN ENVIRONMENT, WHO AND ADVISORY COUNCIL MEMBERS

- Engage in global tool development and dissemination to facilitate development of national regulatory instruments and encourage their adoption.
 - Model Law and Guidance for Regulating Lead Paint: Disseminate and promote the Lead Paint Alliance “Model Law and Guidance for Regulating Lead Paint” or “*Model Law*,” which is available in all UN languages for use by governments in establishing national lead paint laws.¹ This guidance provides background information and model legal language for use by countries interested in drafting new lead paint laws and countries interested in strengthening their existing laws.
 - Regulatory Toolkit: Update as needed and disseminate the 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 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 national lead paint laws.
- Work with individual governments to encourage or facilitate progress on establishing national legal limits
 - Using the regulatory toolkit and the *Model Law*, 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 Model Law or develop other new assistance tools.
 - In countries with voluntary or less-protective standards to encourage reduction of the legal limit to 90 ppm total lead, changing soluble lead standards to total lead

¹ As used herein, the term “laws” means legal mechanisms that establish a binding, enforceable limit on lead in paint with penalties for non-compliance. For example, “laws” can include legislation, regulations, ordinances or mandatory standards, depending on a country’s legal framework.

standards, making voluntary standards mandatory, and increasing the scope of the law to include all types of paints, including industrial paints.

- Use opportunities of bi-lateral, regional and international meetings and events 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, environment, industry, standards, trade, and other relevant sector representatives; representatives of the private sector; public interest organizations; worker organizations, trade unions; the legal community 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 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. Additional legal expertise, particularly national legal expertise in the relevant countries, should be mobilized where feasible to help countries in considering any adaptations of the Model Law provisions to their circumstances and legal systems, as needed.
- 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 Council 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 2019 and 2020. For example, UN Environment has held a 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 Model Law 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, and helping countries draft laws, using the Model Law as a resource.

- 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 Roadmap 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 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. Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC), Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), East African Community Secretariat, Mercado Comun del Cono Sur (Southern Cone Common Market or MERCOSUR) 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.
- UN Environment GEF Project "Global best practices on emerging chemical issues of concern under SAICM;" Component 1: Promoting regulatory and voluntary action by government and industry to phase out lead in paint
 - Through a globally coordinated approach with governments and regional standard setting organizations, the project will accelerate the adoption of legal limits to lead in paint in at least 40 countries by December 2020 by providing legal and awareness raising support.
 - UN Environment will work with Project Executing Partners, WHO, the US Environmental Protection Agency (US EPA), the International Paint and Printing Ink Council (IPPIC), the International POPs Elimination Network (IPEN), the American Bar Association Rule of Law Initiative (ABA-ROLI), the Secretariat of the ECOWAS, and

National Cleaner Production Centres (NCPCs) to carry out the project.

GOVERNMENTS

- Governments without legal limits on lead in paint should establish and implement such limits, building on the Model Law 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 regional or national workshops or other means.
- Governments with legal limits should take all necessary measures to ensure full compliance.
- Encourage governments with lead paint laws to ensure development of relevant supplementary regulations to support implementation of the lead paint law, which could include occupational exposure, monitoring and enforcement of industry compliance, government procurement practices that promote paint without added lead, etc., as appropriate.
- 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.
- Governments that have established national legal limits on lead in paints and intergovernmental agencies that supported those processes, should seek to share and publish inputs, information and methodologies, such as through the Regulatory Toolkit, to help support the development of Regulatory Impact Assessments in countries that are seeking to become members of OECD.

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 national industry, including small and medium enterprises to encourage reformulation of lead paint and support for lead paint laws.
- Provide information to policy makers, parents and others interested in child health on the dangers of lead paint and how to prevent lead poisoning and engage with other stakeholders as relevant, including health professionals, consumer safety organizations, workers organizations, trade unions and others.

LEGAL COMMUNITY

- The legal community, which includes legal professional organizations and law schools, can join efforts of the international community, governments, industry, and non-governmental organizations to promote the phase-out of lead paint.
- The legal community can urge lawyers, law firms, bar associations, and other professional and non-profit organizations to support adoption and implementation of laws to phase out and eliminate lead paint through pro bono support, educational initiatives, and other appropriate means.
- The legal community can build an international network of legal experts to help with development and implementation of lead paint laws.

INDUSTRY

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

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

UN ENVIRONMENT, WHO AND ADVISORY COUNCIL 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- and medium-sized 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)
- Work through the UN Environment SAICM GEF Project Lead Paint Component to address technical barriers faced by SMEs. This project focuses on seven countries with SMEs producing lead paint: Jordan, Ecuador, Indonesia, Peru, Colombia, China, and Nigeria. In Ecuador, Peru, Colombia, China and Jordan the project will work through National Cleaner Production Centres (NCPCs) to help SMEs phase out lead in paint. In Nigeria and Indonesia, the project will work through IPEN partner organizations, SraDev and Balifokus, respectively. An eighth project covered entirely through co-finance in Tunisia will follow a similar approach focusing on industrial anti-corrosive paints, including tailored technical guidelines and dissemination, and a Small-Scale Trade Fair Event for suppliers and SMEs. Planned activities include:
 - SME guidance on reformulation (using alternatives) to be developed by NCPCs based on existing guidance from IPEN and the UN Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO).
 - Trade fairs with lead-free additive suppliers for SMEs.
- Collaborate with the labour sector, including the International Labour Organization (ILO),

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