

ASIAN LEAD PAINT ELIMINATION PROJECT PARTNERS NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 2, ISSUE 1

FEBRUARY, 2013

NEW PROMISING DEVELOPMENTS IN LEAD PAINT ELIMINATION *COUNTRY BY COUNTRY LEAD TESTING REPORTS DUE LATER THIS YEAR*

A number of promising new developments in lead paint elimination have taken place since our last newsletter. Highlights include:

Final draft copy for a **Chemical Control Order in the Philippines** prohibits "the addition of lead in all paints as a pigment, a drying agent or for some other intentional use beyond the allowable limit of 90 ppm." The order, if adopted, would take effect in 3 years.

A new mandatory lead paint standard prohibiting the manufacture, sale or import of paint containing lead exceeding 90 ppm went into effect in Sri Lanka on January 1, 2013.

The **Bangladesh Paint**

Manufacturer Association has said it is willing to formulate standard regulatory measures on the use of lead in decorative paints and make its compliance mandatory in Bangladesh.

In response to a question in the **Indian Parliament** from Shri Sajjan Singh Verma about developing lead standards comparable to those in the developed world, the Minister of State in the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Abu Hasem Khan Choudhury, replied that Bureau of Indian Standards has constituted a Technical Committee to identify specification of Indian standards.

For additional project highlights, please turn to the stories inside this newsletter.

Latest News Shorts

Toxics Link is sharing information, education and communication materials about the hazards of lead paints and how to prevent exposure in **Indian schools and kindergartens**.

CEPHED, along with the Nepalese Private and Boarding Schools' Organisation, has organized a public awareness campaign about the hazards of lead paint in **Nepalese schools**.

CEJ is raising awareness among paint retailers of new Sri Lankan legislation banning use of lead in paint and putting up **posters in ministries, schools, institutions and hospitals** about the problem of lead in paint.

ESDO hosted a very successful **SME consultation in Bangladesh**, with representatives from four paint companies participating and widespread news coverage.

EcoWaste Coalition held a successful Information and Education Campaign (IEC) drive in two **elementary schools** in Navotas City in January.

Photos and more information from every country are located in country discussion folders on basecamp.com

The Asian Lead Paint Elimination Project is a project of IPEN and funded by the European Union.



ASIAN LEAD PAINT ELIMINATION PROJECT PARTNERS

COUNTRY PAINT SURVEYS NEARLY COMPLETE

Partners in all seven countries have nearly completed surveys to determine the primary brands of paints being sold in their market, how they are labeled and the paints' origin. Paint testing will now follow to determine lead levels in the primary brands sold.

Environment and Social Development Organization (ESDO) visited 100 paint retailers in Bangladesh and identified more than 25 paint manufacturers selling decorative paints in Bangladesh, with most originating in Bangladesh.

None of the paint can labels gave a list of ingredients or mentioned lead, though one brand stated "no added lead." A total of 100 paints from Bangladesh will be analysed for lead content.

Toxics Link collected 71 samples from Delhi, Uttar Pradesh, Haryana and some

parts of Maharashtra region and a total of 48 paint samples were collected from Kolkata. An estimated 300 Indian paints will be analysed for lead content.

BaliFokus has identified 49 different Indonesian manufacturers, producing at least 69 brands of enamel paint. A total of 150 paints will be analysed for lead content.

In Nepal, **Center for Public Health and Environmental Development (CEPHED)** has teamed up with LEADERS to test paints. During the paint brand survey, 39 manufacturers were identified producing around 42 enamel paint brands.

EcoWaste Coalition visited more than 60 paint retailers in Metro Manila, Cebu City (Visayas), and Davao City (Mindanao). In all, 29 paint manufacturers were identified, producing 32 brands of enamel paint.

After a pre-screening with an x-ray fluorescence XRF device to identify high lead samples, 125 paints from the Philippines will be analysed for lead content.

Centre for Environmental Justice (CEJ) identified 48 paint manufacturers registered in Sri Lanka and the brands that they produce.

Based on this list, 100 paints will be analysed for lead content. In addition, CEJ has initiated a campaign especially aimed at paint retailers to increase awareness about lead in paints.

EARTH conducted a paint survey in more than 10 provinces across Thailand in collaboration with the Foundation for Consumers. A total of 30 manufacturers were found, producing 88 different brands of enamel paint. 125 of these paints will be analysed for lead content.



Taking paint samples.

Some Stores Resist Paint Surveyors

Paint retailers in a number of countries store their paints behind the counter or in shelves located close to the counter.

In some cases requests to access the paint have been met with suspicion, resistance and sometimes outright refusal by the store staff.

Female project staff at CEJ have encountered additional resistance because it is very unusual for women in Sri Lanka to inquire about paints



Surveying paint brands in a local store in Bangladesh

COUNTERFEIT PAINTS

Some paints found in street markets carry the label of a well-known paint brand, but are, in fact, cheap imitations produced by unreliable, backyard manufacturers.

To ensure the proper paints are tested for lead, some manufacturers have offered to supply the Project with paints directly from the manufacturing site.

However, the public still could be misled into thinking they are buying a brand name product when they aren't. Therefore, the project will test all paints available in local paint stores.

If lead is detected in suspected counterfeit paints, Project partners will obtain the same brand paints from the manufacturer for testing.

NATIONAL ALLIANCES BEGIN TO TAKE SHAPE

A key goal of the IPEN Lead Paint Elimination Project is to develop strong national alliances for the elimination of lead in paint.

The Project has elicited support in all countries from many different groups with an interest in eliminating lead paint.

In **Bangladesh**, groups expressing an interest include the Bangladesh Paint Manufacturer Association, Bangladesh Paediatric Association and Bangladesh Council of Science and Industrial Research.

In **Indonesia**, BaliFokus has met with the Ministry of Environment, Green Building Council Indonesia, Indonesian Consumers Association, ICEL (Indonesian Centre for Environmental Law) and Plan International to start a discussion on building a national alliance.

In **Nepal** many members of an existing alliance organized by CEPHED on issues regarding chemical safety and heavy metals are also important stakeholders for the lead paint elimination campaign.

The alliance includes government officials, other non-governmental organizations, representatives from the municipality, medical committee and media.

In the **Philippines**, EcoWaste has secured the active support for a national alliance from the Philippine Association of Paint Manufacturers

(PAPM), the Philippine Medical Association (PMA) and the Philippine Institute of Architects (PIA).

PAPM has invited EcoWaste to both board meetings and technical working group meetings. EcoWaste and PMA have started discussing a joint awareness-raising campaign about the hazards of lead in paint, and the PIA has pledged its support for the campaign and even extended their help by advocating the use of lead-free paints to their customers and clients.

In **Thailand**, Channarong Waiyapoj, president of Safety Engineering Committee under the Engineers Institute of Thailand (EIT), has agreed to set up and serve as president of a national working group on lead paint elimination.

Active support for the Project is also provided by lead abatement champion, Dr. Adisak Plitponkarnpim, Director of Child Safety Promotion and Injury Prevention Research Center (CSIP), who is working with community childcare centres on the issue of lead poisoning.

The Disease Control Department under the Ministry of Public Health also has welcomed the campaign, and plans to join the national working group



Workers in a Sri Lankan paint factory work with out any personal protection.

NEW MANDATORY LEAD PAINT STANDARD IN SRI LANKA

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The Gazette of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka
EXTRAORDINARY

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No. 1725/30 - FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 30, 2011

(Published by Authority)

PART I : SECTION (I) — GENERAL
Government Notifications

Direction No. 36

CONSUMER AFFAIRS AUTHORITY ACT, No. 09 OF 2003

Direction under Section 12(2)

ACTING under the powers vested in it by Section 12(2) of the Consumer Affairs Authority Act, No. 09 of 2003, the Consumer Affairs Authority directs that no Manufacturer, Importer, Packer, Distributor or Trader shall manufacture, import and use or distribute, pack, store or sell or display for sale, expose for sale or offer for sale, wholesale or retail any paints unless such paints shall conform to the corresponding Total Lead Content given hereunder as specified by the Sri Lanka Standard Institution for such paints.

	Permissible Maximum Lead Content
Paints for Toys and Accessories for Children (soluble in HCl acid)	90 mg/kg
Enamel Paints	600 mg/kg
Emulsion Paints for Exterior use	90 mg/kg
Emulsion Paints for Interior use	90 mg/kg
Floor Paints	600 mg/kg

This Direction shall come into effect from 01st January, 2013.

By order of the Consumer Affairs Authority.

RANY MARDOCK,
Chairman.

Colombo,
28th September, 2011.
10-379

PRINTED AT THE DEPARTMENT OF GOVERNMENT PRINTING, SRI LANKA.

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Public notice of the new Sri Lankan mandatory lead paint standard prohibiting the manufacture, sale or import of paint containing lead exceeding 90 ppm .

ASIAN LEAD PAINT ELIMINATION PROJECT PARTNERS NEWSLETTER

LEAD FREE COMMUNICATIONS

As the examples on this page show, Project partners are developing innovative ways of communicating with audiences about the importance of eliminating lead in paint.



Lead-based paints pose high health risk in country

News Report

The European Union (EU) funded IPEN Asian Lead Paint Elimination Project has been formally launched in Bangladesh.

Mostafizur Rahman, state minister for land, was present at the launching ceremony held at the National Press Club on Sunday. Also present was Jorge Nieto Rey, first secretary of the European Union Delegation in Bangladesh.

The project aims at raising widespread awareness among business entrepreneurs, consumers and policy makers about the adverse human health effects of lead-based decorative paints, particularly on the health of children under the age of six.

The project is being implemented in seven different countries (Bangladesh, India, Indonesia, Nepal, Philippines, Sri Lanka, and Thailand).



Paint Manufacturers participated in consultation organized by Environment and Social Development Organization



DIALOGUES WITH PAINT MANUFACTURERS

Several project partners have initiated discussions with paint manufacturers on lead in paint and paint certification.

Kausai Nerolac paints Ltd, Mumbai has shown an interest in the idea of eco-labelling and third party certification. The company has assigned a person for future reference and communications.

Shalimar Paint, Nepal which has [merged](#) with Nerolac India and started producing lead free paints under the

Kansia Paint brand name, has met with CEPHEd.

The **Philippine Association of Paint Manufacturers** has expressed interest working with EcoWaste Coalition on a certification program.



Variety of paints for sale in India

What's an SME?

European Union definition of small and medium sized enterprise:

	Employees	Turnover	or Balance Sheet total
Medium	<250	< € 50 m	< € 43 m
Small	< 50	< € 10 m	< € 10 m
Micro	< 10	< € 2 m	< € 2 m

Burlux Paint (Pvt) Ltd in Sri Lanka has expressed an interest in developing a label with a standard set of guidelines monitored by the Consumer Affairs Authority, as a market opportunity for SME

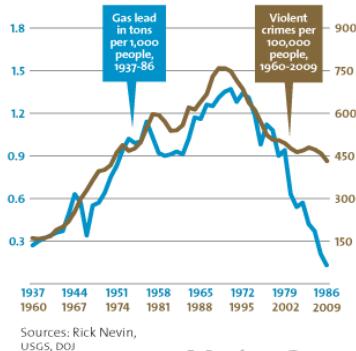
paint manufacturers.

The Vice President of the **Thai Paint Manufacturers Association** attended EARTH's Inception Event.

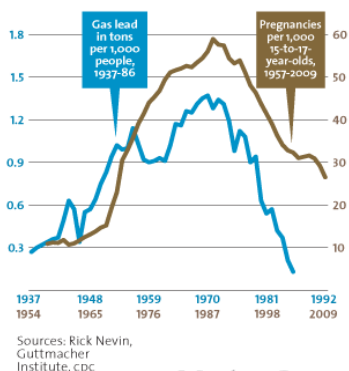
NEW RESEARCH LINKS LEAD AND VIOLENCE

THE PB EFFECT

What happens when you expose a generation of kids to high lead levels? Crime and teen pregnancy data two decades later tell a startling story.



Mother Jones



Mother Jones

A recent [article](#) in the American publication, *Mother Jones*, reports on new research showing a direct link between lead exposure and violence.

In "America's Real Criminal Element: Lead," author Kevin Drum reports on research that maps increases and decreases in atmosphere lead against crime data at the city, state and national level in the United States

Lead emissions from gasoline in the U.S. rose steadily from the early '40s through the early '70s, nearly quadrupling over that period. After the '70s emissions plummeted.

Now researchers have found that the pattern in violent crime rates is nearly identical to the pattern of lead

emissions, although they are offset by 20 years.

In other words, toddlers who ingested high levels of lead in the '40s and '50s were more likely to become violent criminals in the '60s, '70's and '80s.

One scientist, Rick Nevin, has mapped lead and crime data for Australia, Canada, Great Britain, Finland, France, Italy, New Zealand, and West Germany. In every case, the pattern is the same. When use of lead in gasoline dropped, so did crime.

The research also helps to explain why crime has been higher in cities. With lots of cars in a small area, atmospheric lead densities are also greater. But as lead levels have dropped the differ-

ences in crime rates between big and small cities has decreased. Today homicide rates are similar in all sizes of cities.

"Gasoline lead is responsible for a good share of the rise and fall of violent crime over the past half century."

Kevin Drum, "America's Real Criminal Element: Lead," Mother Jones, January/February, 2013

IPEN Asian Lead Paint Elimination

Project Partners

Bangladesh

[Environment and Social Development Organization](#)



India

[Toxics Link](#)



Indonesia

[Balifokus](#)



Nepal

[Center for Public Health and Environmental Development \(CEPHED\)](#)



Philippines

[EcoWaste Coalition](#)

Sri Lanka

[Center for Environmental Justice \(CEJ\)](#)



Thailand

Ecological Alert and Recovery
Thailand — EARTH



IPEN Asian Lead Paint Elimination Project

The Asian Lead Paint Elimination Project has been established to eliminate lead in paint and raise widespread awareness among business entrepreneurs and consumers about the adverse human health impacts of lead-based decorative paints, particularly on the health of children under six years old.

The project is being implemented by IPEN over a period of three years in seven countries (Bangladesh, India, Indonesia, Nepal, Philippines, Sri Lanka, and Thailand) with a total EU funding of EUR 1.4 million .

The project includes

- Periodic testing of lead in paints
- Information and technical support to small and medium paint manufacturer, dealers, and retailers to help them to shift from lead-based to no-added lead paints
- Third party certification and labeling that includes information on lead
- Help to government institutions to enact a lead paint standard
- Awareness raising programs about lead paint and its impact, especially on children's health and the environment.



The Asia Lead Paint Elimination Project is a project of IPEN. IPEN is an international organization promoting safe chemical policies and practices that protect human health and the environment.

This project is funded by the European Union

Delegation of the European Union to the Philippines
30/F Tower 2 RCBC Plaza
6819 Ayala Avenue
Makati City, Philippines

The European Commission is the EU's executive body.

"The European Union is made up of 27 Member States who have decided to gradually link together their know-how, resources and destinies. Together, during a period of enlargement of 50 years, they have built a zone of stability, democracy and sustainable development while maintaining cultural diversity, tolerance and individual freedom. The European Union is committed to sharing its achievements and its values with countries and people beyond its borders."