

# ASIAN LEAD PAINT ELIMINATION PROJECT PARTNERS NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 1

NOVEMBER, 2012

## PARTNERS HOLD SUCCESSFUL INCEPTION PROJECTS *PAINT SURVEY AND TESTING UNDERWAY*

Six of seven partner organizations have held successful Inception Events, with the last one in Indonesia to take place in Spring, 2013.

All of the events drew an impressive set of participants that included government officials; European Union representation; paint industry and association representatives; health officials and experts; advocates and many others.

The events also attracted a great deal of media attention. More than 30 articles and broadcast stories appeared following the events. Most accurately described the Asian Lead Paint Elimination Project and the issues related to lead in paint, in-

cluding the health hazard to very young children. Details from these events appear on the following pages of this newsletter.

In addition, paint surveys and sampling are well underway. For example:

- In Bangladesh, ESDO has visited 60 paint retailers in Dhaka City
- CEPHED in Nepal has surveyed 84 types of paint from 24 paint brands.
- EcoWaste Coalition in Philippines has inventoried more than 70 paint stores finding at least 30 manufacturers and more than 50 brands.
- CEJ in Sri Lanka has sampled 18 types of paints.

### Latest News Shorts

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

Nepalese paint companies have come up with a "**NO LEAD, Safe for the Earth,**" product for pashupati paints.

**A new draft Chemical Control Order** for lead and lead compounds in the Philippines now explicitly prohibits the addition of lead in decorative paint formulations, and sets a shorter phase out period of two years.

ESDO took its "**Lead free paints & save our children**" awareness campaign to an eco-village in Natore District in the northern part of Bangladesh.

**Dr. Walter Weber**, a chemist with more than 30 years experience in the paint industry, has been hired by the Project to develop a manual to help SMEs switch production from lead pigments to organic pigments.

*Photos and coverage from every country are located in country discussion folders on [basecamp.com](http://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 NEWSLETTER

### BANGLADESH — ENVIRONMENT AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION (ESDO)

**ESDO's** Inception Event was held 01 September at the National Press Club, Dhaka. Nine major and 12 SME paint manufacturers participated.

At the event, Mr. Mostafizur Rahman, Advocate, MP, Honorable State Minister of Land, Government of the People's Republic of Bangla-

desh said that the government has been trying to put into place certain policy measures that would make it mandatory for all to comply with standard regulatory measures on the use of lead in decorative paints.

Distinguished guests and speakers included: State minister Mr. Mostafizur Rah-

man, Advocate, MP, Ministry of Land, Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh; Mr. Jorge Nieto Rey, First Secretary of the European Union Delegation in Bangladesh; Prof. Nazmul Ahsan Kalimullah, Professor, Department of Public Administration, University of Dhaka; Dr. Shahriar Hossain, Secretary General, ESDO;



*This poster was developed by ESDO in Bangladesh.*

Siddika Sultana, Executive Director, ESDO; Mr. Abu Jafor Mahmood, Professor, Department of Chemistry; University of Dhaka; Dr. S.M. Imamul Haq, Department of Soil, Water and Environment, University of Dhaka; Mr. Aroop Nath Chatterjee, General Manager & Country Director, Asian Paints; Dr. A. M. Shafiqul Alam, Professor,

Department of Chemistry, University of Dhaka; and Prof. Syed Khairul Amin, Ex-Professor, Bangladesh Institute of Child Health (BICH) Dhaka Shishu Hospital.

Approximately 2 million people were informed about the issue of lead paint through published news reports in 11 newspapers and 2 mobile broadcasters.

ra, President, Indian Paint and Coating Association; Dr. Habibullah Saiyed, Temporary International Professional – Chemical Safety, WHO, South-East Asia Regional Office; Dr. Ashok Mittal, CEO, Occupational Health and Safety Management Consultancy Services; Ashim Sanyal, COO & Secretary, Consumer VOICE;

### INDIA — TOXICS LINK

**Toxics Link's** Inception Event was held on 04 October 2012 at the India International Center in New Delhi. Representatives from non-government organizations, consumer forums, government bodies, schools, Indian Paint and Coating association and the press attended and participants were unani-

mous in agreeing that lead should be eliminated from paints.

Distinguished guests and speakers included: Sarojini Kaul, European Union Delegate; Vani Bhambri Arora, Assistant Director, National Accreditation Board for Certification Bodies, Quality Council of India; Amit Mish-

dations from the meeting included:

- Greater consumer awareness
- Dialogue with paint industry
- Consideration of cost constraints

The Deccan Herald carried a major story on the campaign on October 16, 2012



Tuesday 16 October 2012  
News updated at 3:15 PM IST

Home News New Delhi Business Supplements Sports CL -120

Breaking News smriti tourism in core areas of Tiger reserves, vacates interim sta

You are here: Home » Metro » Limit lead content in paints to prevent health issues among

**Limit lead content in paints to prevent health issues among kids**

New Delhi: Oct 5, 2012 CH News Service  
The government should limit lead in paints to 300 parts per million (ppm) by making it mandatory with the introduction of stringent rules, said experts at the discussion held on Asia's Lead Paint Elimination project by Toxics Link, an NGO in Delhi.

The lead concentration in paints shoot up to even 1,000 ppm which is a health hazard, especially to children.

"According to the Bureau of Indian Standards, there is a voluntary provision for paint manufacturers to adopt this good practice of ensuring that lead in paints do not exceed more than 330 ppm. But this has to become mandatory like it is in the US, Canada and China with 90 ppm. Since the paint industry is a fairly new but on the market is growing, we need to maintain safety standards in paints as well," said Ravi Agarwal, director, Toxics Link, an environmental NGO.

Most inhaled lead go downstream towards the bones which lead to adverse effects. "Exposure of lead in paints is a major concern as it reduces IQ among children," said Dr Habibullah Saiyed, member World Health Organisation Southeast Asia Regional Office (WHO SEARO).

## INDONESIA — BALIFOKUS

**BALIFOKUS** will hold its inception event in the Spring of 2013 in Jakarta.

BALIFOKUS hopes for the meeting to be co-sponsored by the Ministry of the Environment, Ministry of Health and/or the Ministry of Education.

Meanwhile, work is underway to survey paint manufacturers and to identify potential national and local allies for the lead paint elimination campaign.

So far, BALIFOKUS has visited 25 retail outlets in 4 provinces (DKI Jakarta, Banten, West Java and Bali) and

identified approximately 31 enamel paints and 135 decorative paints from 31 companies.

The program in Indonesia will be implemented through a partnership with other existing programs targeting children under five years old in kindergarden,

daycare and children toys.

BALIFOKUS is working now to identify potential partners to be part of its Inception Workshop in Spring 2012

### Nepal — Latest News!

The Nepal Bureau of Standard and Meteorology's Director General has contacted CEPHED seeking technical support to forward a lead in paint standard issue to their Technical Review Committee for Standard Formulation.

## NEPAL — CENTER FOR PUBLIC HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENTAL DEVELOPMENT (CEPHED)

**CEPHED** held its Inception Event 23 July 2012 at the Hotel Himalaya, Kupandol, Lalitpur, Nepal.

At the event, the Environment Minister Mr. Keshav Man Shakya and Mr. Ram Adhar Sah, Director General of the Nepal Bureau of

Standard and Meteorology (NBSM), made commitments to formulate and regulate a lead paint standard.

Approximately 55 people attended, including stakeholders from government, private, academia, doctors, paint manufacturing companies, media, painters associ-

ation, grill entrepreneurs, construction entrepreneurs, consumer forums, waste management office, research institutes, and NGO representatives.

The event included a technical session during which four papers on the technical,

health and environmental impacts of setting a lead in paint standard were presented and discussed.

Ms. Juna Giri, CEPHED Communication and Policy Officer served as Master of Ceremonies; Er. Rishi Shah, of the Nepal Academy of Science and Technology served as chairman for the event. The Event's chief guest was the honorable minister Dr. Keshav Man

Shakya, Ministry of Environment Science and Technology. Special guests included Mr. Lluís Navarro, Charge d'affaires, EU Delegation for Nepal; and Mr. Terrence Thompson, Senior Technical Advisor Environmental Health, WHO Nepal. Other guests included: Mr. Lakshya Br. KC, Sr. Vice Presidents, Private Boarding School's Organization, Nepal (PABSON); Mr. Jay Ram Lamichhane, President, Fed-

eration of Contractors' Association of Nepal; Mr. Mohan Katuwal, President, Federation of Nepal Grill and Steel Fabricators; and Mr. Ram Charitra Sah, Executive Director, CEPHED.

Media coverage of the event was widespread and included articles in the Himalayan Times, Republic Daily, The Rising Nepal, Transparency News Weekly.

ECO-FRIENDLY  
**Dashain**



*CEPHED persuaded the Himalayan Times to highlight the hazards of lead in a story about eco-friendly ways to celebrate Dashain, a national festival.*

## ASIAN LEAD PAINT ELIMINATION PROJECT PARTNERS NEWSLETTER

### PHILIPPINES — ECOWASTE COALITION

**EcoWaste's** Inception event was held 12 October 2012 at the Occupational Safety and Health Center in Quezon City, Philippines.

At the meeting, Mr. Johnson Ongking, President of the Philippine Association of Paint Manufacturers (PAPM) publicly expressed support for the global and local push to eliminate leaded paint.

Over 85 participants took part in the event, including representatives from national and local government agencies (Department of Environment and Natural Resources, Department of Health, Department of Labor, Office of Rep. Anthony del Rosario, League of Cities of the Philippines, League of Municipalities of the Philippines, Metro Manila Development Authority); paint industry (Philippine Association of Paint Manufacturers, Pacific Paint (Boysen), Philippines, Inc., Brenntag Ingredients, Inc., SPIK Chemical Industries Association of the Philippines); healthcare sector (Manila City Health Department, National Institutes of Health, Philippine Pediatric Society); architects' groups (Green Archi-

ture Advocacy Philippines, Philippine Institute of Architects); academe (Environmental Studies Institute-Miriam College, National Institutes of Health-UP Manila); development agencies and funders (European Union, UNIDO, MDM Doctors of the World); and a host of NGOs/CSOs active on zero waste and environmental health issues.



*EcoWaste put this sticker on paint cans at its Inception media event*



*EcoWaste "Photo Op"*

Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago, Senator Pia Cayetano, Rep. Anthony del Rosario, Rep. Walden Bello, Quezon City Councilor Gian Sotto and Calocan Bishop Deogracias Iñiguez, Jr. also provided support messages.

Five TV channels covered the event, along with many photographers from broadsheets and tabloids.

#### Philippines —

#### Latest News!

A new draft Chemical Control Order for lead and lead compounds explicitly 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 within a period of 2 years from the issuance of this CCO."

### SRI LANKA — CENTRE FOR ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE (CEJ)

**Centre for Environmental Justice** held its Inception Event 02 October, 2012 at the Gall Face Hotel, Colombo, Sri Lanka.

Speakers and distinguished guests included: Dr. Ananda Jayalal, Director Environmental Health and Occupation of the Ministry of Health; Wathsala Mudalige,

Assistant Director, Sri Lanka Standards Institution; Raja Hewabowala, President, Paint Manufacturers' Association of Sri Lanka; Gerald De Saram, Managing Director, Akzo Nobel Paints Lanka (Pvt) Ltd; and Dr. Champika Amarasinghe, Medical Officer, National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health.

Aso attending were Mr. Ali Sabry, Attorney-of-Law and Mr. S.M. Werahara, Assistant Director/ Air Resource management & International Relations, Ministry of Environment.

***(Please continue this story on the next page)***



# SRI LANKA (CONTINUED)

The event received wide-spread news coverage, including articles in Business Times, Daily News, Ceylon Today and Elankanews.

CEJ also sponsored a SME workshop on 30 October that drew more than 20 companies.

Participants at the meeting expressed concern about

unsold stocks once mandatory lead paint standards take effect, January 1, 2013.

Permissible maximum lead content for paints under the new standard are as follows:

- Emulsion paints for exterior use: 90 mg/kg;
- Emulsion paints for interior use: 90 mg/kg;
- Floor paints: 600 mg/kg
- Paints for toys and accessories for children:

90 mg/kg.

- Enamel paints: 600 mg/kg

Paint companies now are working to finish their lead paint before the deadline. One strategy is to offer consumers various rewards for buying paint now.

For example, ads for one company offer consumers money back if they buy paint

by November 15. Another company is offering consumers a Bangkok trip if they buy before the end of the year.



*Inception Event in Sri Lanka*

Saetang, Director of EARTH; Adisak Plitponkarnpim, Director of Child Safety Promotion and Injury Prevention Research Center (CSIP); Petcharat Eksangkul, Vice President of the Thai Paint Manufacturers Association; Channarong Waiyapoj, President of the Subcommittee for Safety Engineering of EIT;

Wachiraporn Meesingh, Bangkok Metropolitan Authority (BMA), Department of Environment; Penwadee Saengchan, Manager, Duangprateep Foundation and Duangprateep school; Chantana Sirithammasakul, Ladkrabang District Government Office, Bangkok; Tongchai Pannasawat, Coun-

cil of Thai Engineers; Roongganda Pongtarakulpanich, BMA, Department of Social Development; and Amornrat Leenanitikul, Food and Drug Administration.

At the meeting Eksangkul said members of the paint manufacturers will not oppose a ban on lead in decorative paint.

# THAILAND — EARTH

**EARTH's** Inception was held 15 October 2012 at the Engineering Institute of Thailand. A total of 35 people attended including Bangkok government and government-funded childcare centers; national government agencies (Department of Disease Control, Pollution Control Department, Nation-

al Housing Authority, etc.); press (national television and newspapers); citizen organizations (consumer and labor groups); paint manufacturer (Beger); and health academics.

Speakers and distinguished guests included: Kannikar Kittiwetchakul, radio host and moderator; Penchom

### สารคดีในสีทาอาคาร



เมื่อ ๓.๑. 2552 ได้มีการประชุมรับฟังความคิดเห็นจากภาคประชาสังคมเกี่ยวกับโครงการรณรงค์ลดการใช้สีทาอาคารที่มีสารตะกั่วในประเทศไทย... (The text continues with details about the project and public consultation.)

*This article appeared in the Bangkok Daily News on 20 October, 2012*

## 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](#)

[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."