

Asian Lead Paint Elimination Project Partner Newsletter



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CHEMICAL CONTROL ORDER IN PHILIPPINES BANS LEAD IN PAINT

The EcoWaste Coalition lauded the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) for promulgating a Chemical Control Order (CCO) prohibiting lead in decorative paint above 90 parts per million (ppm), the protective goal for lead in paint recommended worldwide by IPEN.

In a statement reported in the *Manila Times*, Environment Secretary Ramon Paje said that the government is strengthening its control on the use of lead and its compounds in the local production of consumer products, as well as its importation, sale, distribution and disposal following the issuance of a Chemical Control Order

(CCO) for lead and lead compounds. “The reason for setting the implementation phase for paints is to enable our paint industry to shift to lead-free production. There is now a global action for the elimination of lead in paints, and certainly this CCO is our way of showing our oneness with this advocacy,” Paje said.

According to EcoWaste Coalition, the DAO details requirements for labeling, manufacturing and training, storage, transport, treatment and disposal of lead and lead-containing materials.

EcoWaste will partner with other government agencies and the Philippine Association of Manufacturers to help implement the new regulation.

Latest News

A new report on heavy metals in toys from ESDO in Bangladesh finds that 97% of toys tested were significantly above European Union and United States standards for lead, cadmium, bromine and chromium. Plastic toys most frequently contained toxic metals, and more than 60 % of samples contained high levels of lead.

A California judge issued a final ruling ordering three paint companies to pay the state \$1.15 billion to remove lead paint from interior surfaces of pre-1978 homes in 10 California cities. The judge said the companies, Sherwin-Williams, ConAgra and NL Industries, had sold and promoted lead paint for decades while knowing it was dangerous to children.

United States companies are sending spent lead batteries to recycling plants in Mexico that do not meet American environmental standards, the New York Times reports. Project partner **Occupational Knowledge International** was a major source for this story published in February.

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

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European Union



a toxics-free future



ASIAN LEAD PAINT ELIMINATION PROJECT PARTNER NEWSLETTER

PARTNER PROGRESS IN DEVELOPING LEAD REGULATION

In December 2013, the Philippines established a Chemical Control Order limiting lead in paint to 90 ppm, and all partners in the Asian Lead Paint Elimination Project have made progress in their work to establish regulatory regimes to eliminate lead in paint. What follows is a country by country report on their activities and progress.

Bangladesh

The Bangladesh Paint Manufacturer Association (BPMA), in conversations with Environment and Social Development Organization (ESDO), has agreed to assist in formulating a mandatory regulatory standard for the use of lead in decorative paints.

In addition, BPMA president B.B. Saha Roy told ESDO in November that member companies have stopped importing or using lead pigment in their paint since June, 2013.

ESDO has also had positive progress working with the Bangladeshi government on this issue. When ESDO released its paint report in October, 2013, Dr Narul

Quadir Joint Secretary, Ministry of Environment and Forests (MoEF) expressed the governments concern about the regulations and said "the government has taken initiatives and will work together with ESDO to formulate regulation on lead free paint."

Finally, two multinational manufacturers have recently begun advertising lead free paint in Bangladesh, a reflection of the growing consumer demand for lead free paint and the success of ESDO's awareness campaign and advocacy with manufacturers.

India

The Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) has issued a voluntary standard for lead in paint, lowering the maximum allowed to 90 ppm.

In addition, Toxics Link has been working with the Quality Council of India (QCI) to convene a technical committee to discuss certification criteria and a voluntary certification scheme for lead safe paints that could be used in India and serve as a model for other countries.

The committee is composed of representatives of paint industry, testing labs, research institutes and NGOs. The committee has had three meetings so far and discussions are progressing.

Indonesia

Following the release of Bali-Fokus' lead paint testing report this past fall, Benny Wahyudi, Director General of Agricultural and Chemical Industries in the Ministry of Industry, said in an *Al Jazeera* interview that "by 2015, lead in paint will be banned in Indonesia."

A stakeholders meeting held last summer and attended by industry representatives and relevant government agencies agreed to set a 90 ppm standard for lead in paint produced in Indonesia.

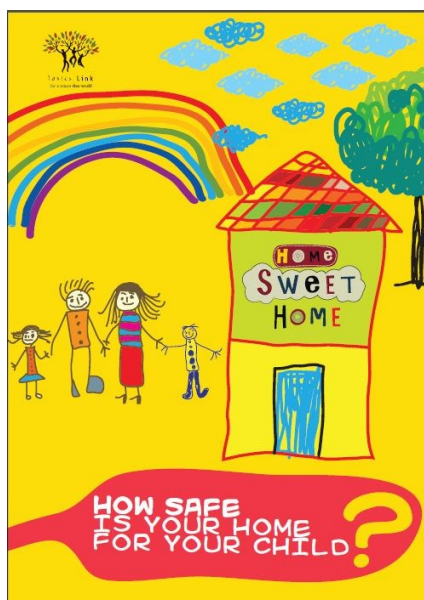
The activities will be integrated within Indonesia's 10 Year Framework Program on Sustainable Consumption and Production under the Green Building quick wins program. A National Standard will be developed to be adopted as voluntary standard in paint production and eventually will be mandatory for several procurements.

Clariant, a major organic pigment manufacture, opened their factory in Indonesia to provide safer alternatives for Indonesia paint manufacturers and is planning to hold a series of seminar in several paint industrial areas in 2014.

Nepal

Advocacy by Center for Public Health and Environmental Development (CEPHED) has resulted in the formation of a technical committee by Nepal Bureau of Standard and Metrology (NBSM), Ministry of Industry, and the Government of Nepal to formulate a lead paint standard and policy framework. CEPHED will also be part of the committee.

A first meeting, held on 29th October 2013, concluded with agreement to enforce and enact a 90 ppm standard with a one year transition period to give paint



A NEW
BROCHURE
FROM TOXICS
LINK ON LEAD
IN PAINT



MANY CHILD CARE CENTERS ARE PAINTED IN BRIGHT COLORS, WHICH ARE MORE LIKELY TO HAVE HIGH LEAD CONTENT

companies time to improve their product.

This technical committee recommendation has been further proposed and discussed in Nepal Standard Council meeting headed by the Ministry of Industry on 26 December 2011. However the standard did not pass due to protest from paint industries despite their agreement in the earlier technical committee meeting.

On other hand, the Ministry of Science, Technology and Environment (MOSTE) has told CEPHEP in a letter dated December 27, 2013 that it is still in the process of making mandatory standard for lead in paint.

Thailand

Ecological Alert and Recovery (EARTH), has urged government agencies to adopt a mandatory lead standard. The release of EARTH's lead testing study showed that many paints contain dangerously high levels of lead, even paints claiming to meet the voluntary standard of 100 ppm.

As a result, in October the Thai Industrial Standards Institute (TISI) Executive Board approved the development of a mandatory standard, although no clear deadline was set.

The Office of the Consumer Protection Board has also expressed a willingness to prepare regulations on lead content labeling require, again with no clear deadline.

In the meantime, other relevant Ministries – Ministry of Interior, Ministry of Health and Ministry of Education – issued orders in December 2012 requiring all of their subordinate agencies to use lead-free paint in publicly-funded procurement contracts, in particular in child-care centers.

Beginning in 2014, EARTH is working with Thailand's Department of Disease Control to conduct field surveys and develop guidelines for monitoring and prevention of child lead poisoning from paint sources.

Sri Lanka

The Sri Lankan Consumer Affairs Authority established

mandatory lead in paint standards on 30th September 2011, largely due to ongoing advocacy by Centre Environmental Justice (CEJ). The standard took effect on January 1, 2013.

The maximum permissible levels of total lead are 600 ppm in enamel and floor paints and 90 ppm in paints for toys and accessories for children (soluble in HCl acid), emulsion paints for exterior use and Interior use.

However CEJ's lead in paint study showed that many paints sold in Nepal exceeded the standard.

Late in 2013, CEJ received unofficial communications

that the Consumer Affairs Authority and the Central Environmental Authority will be required to add paints, varnishes, driers and pigments, as suggested by CEJ, to the controlled items list of the Department of Customs.

Limiting imports of paint ingredients with high lead content is an important step in assisting small and medium sized paint manufacturers in the elimination of lead in paint.

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“Lead in paints is highly toxic to human, especially to children below 8 years. It has impact on over 40 million children worldwide, over 97 percent of them live in developing countries.”

(Press Release - Center for Environmental Justice - 12.10.2011)

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ONE WEEK AFTER CENTRE FOR ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE (CEJ) RELEASED ITS REPORT ON LEAD IN PAINT IN SRI LANKA IN LATE SEPTEMBER, ROBBIALAC RAN THIS ADVERTISEMENT WITH A QUOTE FROM CEJ'S PRESS RELEASE.

IPEN Asian Lead Paint Elimination

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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 analyses of lead content in household paints
- Information for 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
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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."