

Asian Lead Paint Elimination Project

Partner Newsletter



VOLUME 3, ISSUE 3

NOVEMBER, 2014

NEW STUDIES DEMONSTRATE DANGEROUS LEVELS OF LEAD DUST IN SOME ASIAN SCHOOLS

New lead dust studies in three countries — Nepal, Philippines, and Sri Lanka — showed problems with high levels of lead in dust in schools.

In the Philippines, lead dust levels at 4 out of 5 day care centers and 3 out of 4 preparatory schools were at or above levels that research has demonstrated can cause harm to the developing brain (10 µg/ft²).

In Nepal, 4 of the 5 samples with the highest levels (greater than 40 g/ft²) were found at 2 schools. Twelve of the 18 samples with levels between 10 -39 g/ft² were also from schools.

In Sri Lanka, the highest dust lead level recorded (600 µg/ft²), was

from a school where paint had spilled on the floor.

In all, one or more dust samples tested high at 8 out of 18 schools and pre-schools where dust samples were analyzed.

Scientific studies performed over the last decades show that dust lead loadings as low as 10 g/ft² can contribute to blood lead levels harmful to the developing brain (see e.g. Lanphear, et al., 1998; Dixon, et al., 2009).



Taking dust samples at a Sri Lankan school.

Latest News

Global Alliance Holds Regional Meeting in Dehli. September 2014

The Third meeting of the Global Alliance to Eliminate Lead Paint (GAELP) was held on Wednesday 24 September 2014 to review progress in lead paint elimination and to catalyse new activities to implement the GAELP Business Plan priorities.

Deutsche Welle, a prestigious German news agency, ran “How lead paint is poisoning Asia’s children,” in October 2014. The article drew heavily on the work of the Asian Lead Paint Elimination Project, quoting Dr. Sara Brosché, and Mr. Jack Weinberg, Johnson Ong-king, vice-president, Boysen Paint also commented for the story.

In concert with the Philippine Manufacturers Association, IPEN has developed a “Lead Safe” logo to be used as part of a third party certification scheme.



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

INSIDE

Lead Poisoning Prevention Week Activities, Pages 2 & 3



European Union



a toxics-free future



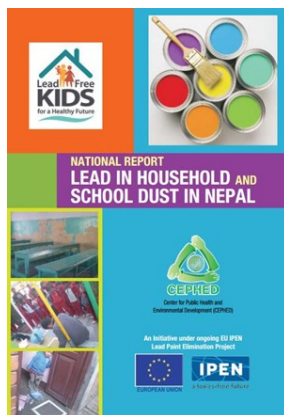
ASIAN LEAD PAINT ELIMINATION PROJECT PARTNER NEWSLETTER

LEAD POISONING PREVENTION WEEK OF ACTION OCT 19-25, 2015

Partners were active in hosting activities during the 2nd Annual Lead Poisoning Prevention Week of Action

Nepal: New Report on Lead Dust

Center for Public Health and Environmental Development (CEPHED) kicked off the week of action with an awareness meeting with the Paint Dealers Association, Federation of Grill and Steel Fabricators, and Nepalese trade unions. Later in the week, CEPHED released a new report, *National Report:*



Lead in Household and School Dust in Nepal, (see page 1 story) More than 250 parents, students and teachers participated in a school rally organized by CEPHED. New stickers, posters, banners and other materials explaining the issue of lead and paint were also released during the week.



Philippines: Dept. of Health Supports Effort to Reduce Lead Exposure

More than 100 kids and parents fathered at the country's premier national park – Rizal Park – to launch a weeklong global movement to protect children from lead. Parents and kids paraded through the park accompanied by youth drummers and a new banner that said "Get the Lead Out of Our Children's Health."

To mark the event, EcoWaste Coalition also released a new report on lead in dust from 21 locations in five cities in Metro

Manila.

In a message to EcoWaste Coalition, Secretary Enrique Ona stated that "the Department of Health fully supports the global and local efforts to prevent and reduce maternal, fetal and childhood exposure to lead."



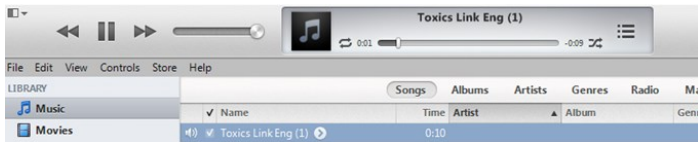
Bangladesh: Human Chain for Lead Free Paint

Students from various educational institutions, organized by Environment and Social development Organization (ESDO), formed a human chain and marched in front of the National Press Club to urge government to ban the production and import of lead paints. ESDO also organized an art competition for school children at Lal-matia Girls High School.



India: New Video; Radio Jingles on Lead Poisoning

Toxics Link created a short video, which focuses on lead and its hazards on human health (especially on children). And it released two radio jingles warning parents about the hazards of lead paint.



Sri Lanka: Pre-School Re-Painted with Lead Safe Paints

The Centre for Environmental Justice (CEJ) provided lead safe paints and oversaw the re-painting of Dear Kids pre-school in Kottawa. This is the first pre-school in Sri Lanka to be repainted and, it is hoped it will become a model for other schools in the country. The re-painting was a follow-up to CEJ's release of a lead dust report earlier in the year that showed high lead levels in dust in some schools.



CEJ provides lead safe paints for pre-school

The Centre for Environmental Justice (CEJ) has provided Lead safe paints to repaint Dear Kids pre-school in Kottawa to commemorate the International Lead Poisoning Prevention Week from October 19-25, 2014.

This will be Sri Lanka's first pre-school to have been repainted by lead safe paints. The CEJ stated that work will be completed on November 1 and the pre-school will be re-opened on the said day. The program is sponsored by the World Health Organization (WHO).

Accordingly, lead safe paints (paints with less than 600 ppm and 50 ppm lead content, depending on the type of paint) will be used in a classroom within the pre-school, including walls, floors and children's play equipment.

International Lead Poisoning Prevention Week is held annually by WHO to raise awareness of the health action to prevent childhood lead poisoning.



A recent study by the Centre for Environmental Justice (CEJ) reveals that lead in household dust can be found in up to 60% of homes in Sri Lanka. The study also revealed that 20 micrograms per square foot could adversely affect the brain. She said that they are in the process of promoting non-lead based paint applications.



Thailand: Stakeholders Meet to Discuss Lead Paint Poisoning

Nearly 200 policy makers, pediatricians toxicologists, childcare center teachers, paint manufacturers, journalists, academics, and others participated in EARTH's event entitled "Protect Thai Children's IQ from Lead Poisoning." The event included roundtable discussions and exhibitions held at the National Children's Hospital. EARTH also released new data

from a national survey of 129 Thai paint SMES. The study, by National Institute of Development Administration (NIDA), found 95% of Thai paint SMEs are willing remove lead from paint but call on the government to issue a clear-cut policy, such as a mandatory standard, and implement strict enforcement measures to ensure compliance by all paint manufacturers.



World Health Organization representative in Thailand Dr. Liviu Vedrasco (left), Advisor to the Ministry of Public Health Siriwat Tiptaradol, MD (center), Vice Minister of Industry Pramote Wittayasuk (right) receive lead-safe paint buckets from children at the opening ceremony of Lead Poisoning Prevention Day of Action at the National Children's Hospital on October 22.

Indonesia: Activities in Five Cities

Five cities were targeted in Week of Action activities. In Depok, Balifokus distributed flyers to promote the issue in paint seller shops and kindergartens. In Solo, Balifokus hosted a public discussion on lead with participation from the Industrial department of Solo, Department of Trade, health experts, and school officials.

Activities also included school visits and a puppet show, radio talk shows and news coverage in Bali's large regional newspapers.



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 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
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."