WORKING TOGETHER FOR A TOXICS-FREE FUTURE

IPEN

a toxics-free future

EVERY BABY EVERYWHERE IN THE WORLD ENTERS LIFE WITH HUNDREDS OF TOXIC, MAN-MADE CHEMICALS IN THEIR BODIES.

Since World War II, approximately 80,000 new synthetic chemicals have been manufactured and released in the environment, with approximately 1,500 new chemicals being introduced each year. One US study found an average of 200 synthetic chemicals in the umbilical cord blood of newborn infants.

Many of these chemicals are known to cause birth defects, cancers, learning and neurological disorders, and other human diseases. Some—like DDT, PCBs, endosulfan and others—have been banned in many countries. On a global scale, however, the production and use of toxic chemicals is growing, especially in the developing world. And most countries still lack adequate laws and enforcement mechanisms to protect people from exposure. In many countries of Africa, Central Asia and elsewhere, abandoned and unsecured stocks of toxic pesticides and other harmful chemicals are littered across the countryside.

THE PRODUCTION AND USE OF TOXIC CHEMICALS IS GROWING, ESPECIALLY IN THE DEVELOPING WORLD

LEADING INTERNATIONAL VOICE FOR CHEMICAL SAFETY

International recognition that all countries need effective chemical safety laws and proper enforcement mechanisms is growing as a result of increased medical understanding of the harms caused by toxic chemicals and the global expansion of chemical production and use.

IPEN has emerged as the leading global organization promoting policies and controls on the production, use and disposal of toxic substances to protect human health and the environment.

Public health and environmental organizations in most of the countries of the world that work on chemical safety issues enhance and coordinate their work through IPEN.

IPEN's on-the-ground experience in all regions of the world and its technical expertise has won it the respect of governments, international agencies and industry leaders, and has led to new approaches to chemical safety that benefit people and the environment everywhere.

IPEN MISSION: A TOXICS-FREE FUTURE FOR ALL

IPEN IMPACT: SUCCESS IN ELEVATING LOCAL CONCERNS IN GLOBAL POLICY ARENAS

IPEN has established 8 Regional Hubs with more than 500 Participating Organizations in 117 countries. Activities by member organizations are building an international leadership that is changing approaches to chemical safety internationally and within member countries.

LINKING CHEMICAL SAFETY TO SUSTAINABLE LIVELIHOODS

IPEN holds the public interest, non-governmental organization (NGO) seat as a participant in meetings of *Strategic Approach to International Chemical Management*'s (SAICM) governing bureau and has substantially influenced SAICM's policies on numerous issues including hazardous chemicals in electronic products, nanotechnology, lead in paint, and chemicals in products.

PREVENTING POORER COUNTRIES FROM BECOMING WASTE DUMPING GROUNDS

SAICM is the only international process where government delegates and stakeholders from developing countries, emerging economies, and the industrial world regularly meet to identify issues and develop chemical policies and programs.

On a parallel track, IPEN organizes its own international NGO working groups on chemical issues, which intervene in the international policy debate and support IPEN member initiatives at the country and local level.

NEGOTIATING INTERNATIONALLY FOR SAFE CHEMICAL POLICIES

IPEN played a critical role in the negotiation, adoption and national ratifications of the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs), the first global, legally binding treaty that controls a number of the world's most dangerous toxic chemicals and mandates their phase-out and elimination.

IPEN was instrumental in ensuring:

- The treaty focused on *eliminating* rather than managing the risks of chemical substances.
- That new chemicals, beyond the original list of twelve banned substances, could be added, including endosulfan, brominated flame retardants, lindane and several other dangerous chemicals.
- Identification and inventorying of contaminated sites for clean-up.
- Policies that ban or greatly restrict the international movement of wastes containing toxic substances.

IPEN CAPACITY BUILDING: ADVANCING A GLOBAL TOXICS-FREE FUTURE MOVEMENT

MOBILIZING RESOURCES FOR ON-THE-GROUND CHEMICAL SAFETY ACTIVITIES

Because of IPEN's extensive global network, local knowledge and experience, and solid reputation, international agencies and some donor governments provide funds to IPEN to support on-the-ground NGO chemical safety programs and projects in developing countries.

Since 2004, IPEN has initiated and implemented several multi-million US dollar projects, including providing direct support to over 400 project activities in 80 countries.

LINKING COMMUNITIES TO SCIENTIFIC AND POLICY ARENAS

- IPEN plays an important role in intergovernmental expert groups that provide guidance on a wide variety of toxic chemical issues, including minimizing unintentional releases; the impact of climate change; defining hazardous waste; defining best available techniques; issues related to DDT production and use; and others.
- IPEN's senior science advisor was the lead author on the San Antonio Statement—a statement published in Environmental Health Perspectives and signed by more than 200 chemists and other scientists from 30 countries that makes the scientific case for regulating brominated flame retardants as a class, rather than chemical by chemical (as is currently done).
- A Chinese chemical safety network was established after IPEN convened and introduced organizations from 23 of the 32 Chinese provinces to international and Chinese experts on chemical safety from the health, environment, academic and government sectors. The network continues to grow.

INTRODUCING NEW INFORMATION AND DATA ON CHEMICAL SAFETY ISSUES

- **Dioxin Emissions** IPEN's egg-monitoring report on dioxins, PCBs, DDT and other chemicals in backyard-raised eggs in 17 countries in the global south helped re-shape the Stockholm Convention's debate on controlling dioxin emissions and produced the first POPs data in many of the countries where eggs were tested.
- **Lead Paint in Homes** IPEN research, which revealed that lead paints for home use are still widely produced and sold in many developing countries, led the World Health Organization and United Nations Environment Programme to establish a program to promote the global elimination of lead paints. The research findings have led to proposed revisions of national lead paint standards and discontinued production of lead paint in some countries.

- **Hazardous Foam Carpet Padding** In the first study of its kind, IPEN demonstrated that a type of foam carpet pad commonly sold in the USA and other developed countries contains dangerous levels of flame retardant chemicals hazardous to human health. The work helped trigger recommendations at a global Stockholm Convention meeting to ensure that these types of materials are not exported to developing countries as wastes.
- **Toxic Chemicals and Metals in Consumer Products** Tests conducted by IPEN demonstrating the presence of hazardous chemicals in children's toys have led to widespread media coverage in China and the Philippines. An advisory from the Philippines Foods and Drug Administration endorsed the research and enjoined the industry to "exercise extraordinary diligence" in the manufacture and distribution of these products. A subsequent study of mercury in skin lightening creams resulted in a Philippine Senate hearing and government bans of 50 products.
- **Biomonitoring of Human Hair for Mercury** During the first negotiating meeting on the mercury treaty, IPEN tested 45 government delegates from 40 countries to measure the levels of mercury in their bodies. Mercury was detected in every sample, noting 30% of the samples were above the level of concern.
- **Information for Non-Technical Readers** IPEN's readable education series, which covers topics such as pesticides and mercury, swiftly orients non-technical readers to chemical issues and helps them understand how to take action on chemical issues. They have been translated from English into Arabic, Chinese, French, Russian, Spanish and other languages.

CHEMICALS HAZARDOUS TO HUMAN HEALTH

Many toxic chemicals are unmanageable. Some travel across the world via the food chain, international trade, and/or wind currents and are deposited without respect to national borders. Once deposited they bio-accumulate and remain in the environment for a long time.

Others are just too hazardous to safely produce and use. Growing chemical production means greater problems everywhere in the world.

Some examples of hazardous chemicals:

- Pesticides, such as DDT and Endosulfan
- Toxic metals, such as mercury and lead
- Flame retardants
- Chemicals used in industrial processes and the unintended by-products of those processes (dioxin, for example)
- E-waste from computers and other electronic products

SUPPORT FOR ON-THE-GROUND NGO CHEMICAL SAFETY PROGRAMS AND PROJECTS

IPEN PROJECTS: FROM POLICY TO PRACTICE

Since 1998, IPEN has ensured NGO participation in international and national chemical safety policy forums. In addition, IPEN projects and campaigns put policy into practice through on-the-ground activities. Some examples are shown below.

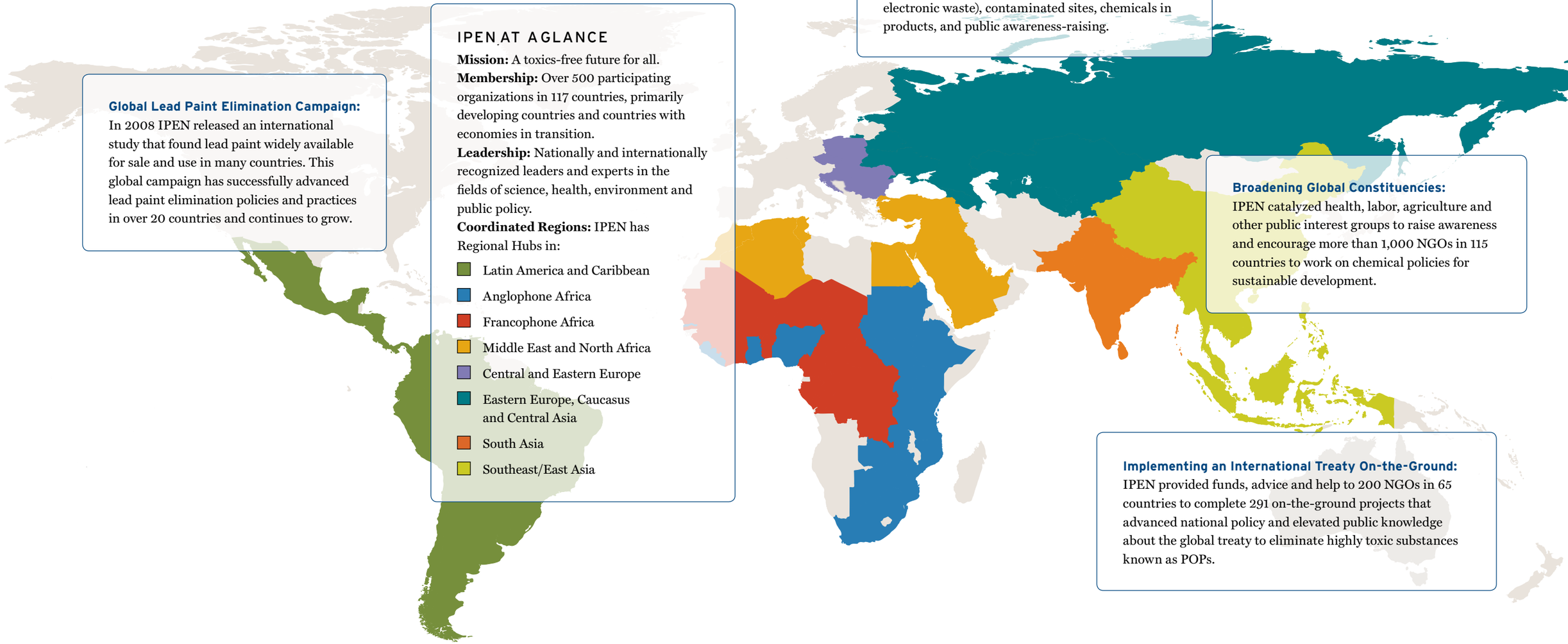
Global Lead Paint Elimination Campaign: In 2008 IPEN released an international study that found lead paint widely available for sale and use in many countries. This global campaign has successfully advanced lead paint elimination policies and practices in over 20 countries and continues to grow.

IPEN AT AGLANCE

Mission: A toxics-free future for all.
Membership: Over 500 participating organizations in 117 countries, primarily developing countries and countries with economies in transition.
Leadership: Nationally and internationally recognized leaders and experts in the fields of science, health, environment and public policy.
Coordinated Regions: IPEN has Regional Hubs in:

- Latin America and Caribbean
- Anglophone Africa
- Francophone Africa
- Middle East and North Africa
- Central and Eastern Europe
- Eastern Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia
- South Asia
- Southeast/East Asia

Small-Scale Strategic Projects: IPEN has provided funds for approximately 100 on-the-ground NGO projects in 50 countries, including activities related to toxic heavy metals, pesticides, waste (including electronic waste), contaminated sites, chemicals in products, and public awareness-raising.

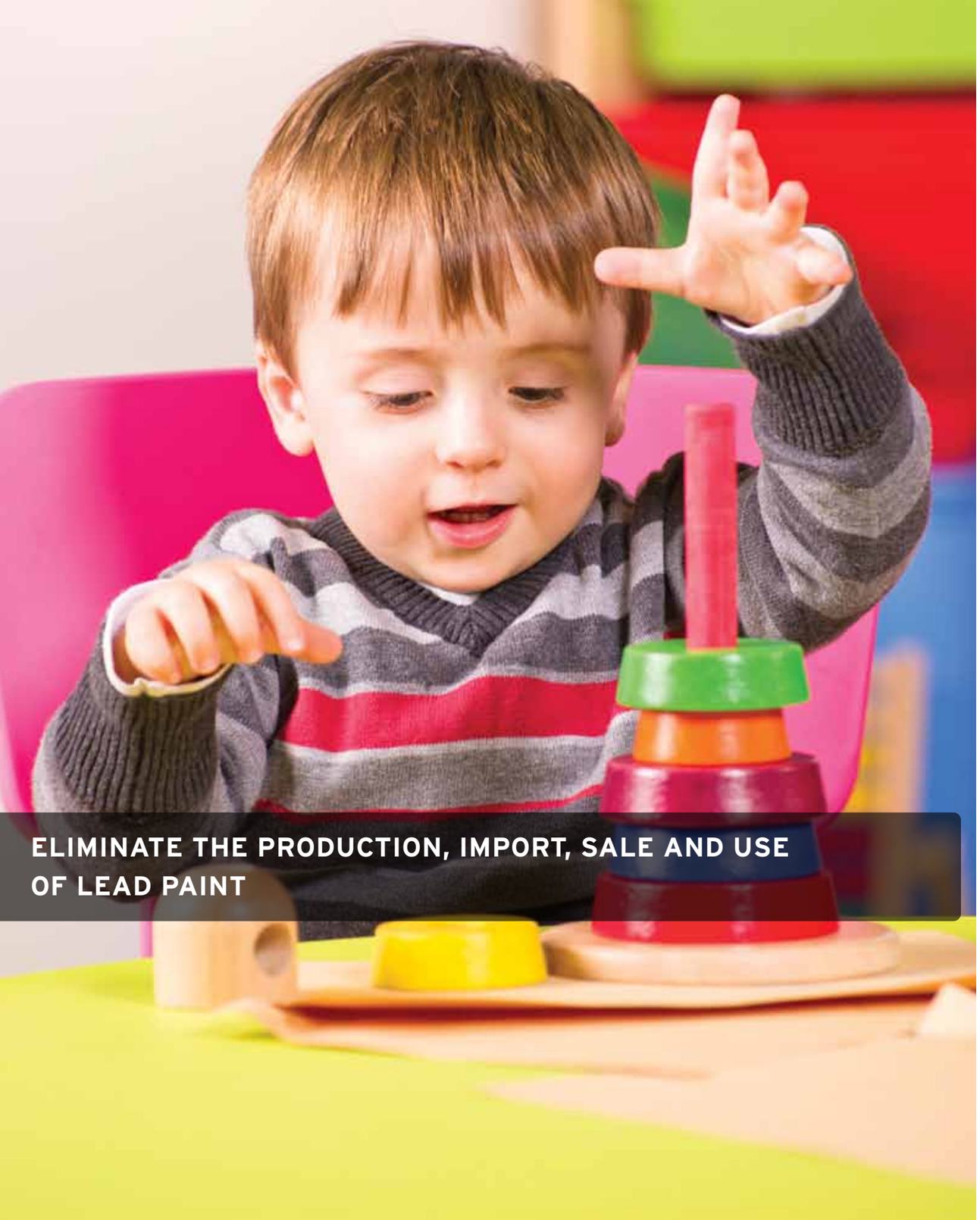


Broadening Global Constituencies: IPEN catalyzed health, labor, agriculture and other public interest groups to raise awareness and encourage more than 1,000 NGOs in 115 countries to work on chemical policies for sustainable development.

Implementing an International Treaty On-the-Ground: IPEN provided funds, advice and help to 200 NGOs in 65 countries to complete 291 on-the-ground projects that advanced national policy and elevated public knowledge about the global treaty to eliminate highly toxic substances known as POPs.

IPEN has Participation Organizations in the following 117 countries:

Albania • Algeria • Argentina • Armenia • Australia • Austria • Azerbaijan • Bahrain • Bangladesh • Belarus • Belgium • Benin • Bhutan • Botswana Brazil • Bulgaria • Burkina Faso • Burundi • Cambodia • Cameroon • Canada • Chile • China • Colombia • Congo • Cook Islands • Costa Rica • Croatia Cuba • Czech Republic • Denmark • Dominican Republic • DRC • Ecuador • Egypt • Estonia • Ethiopia • France • Gambia • Georgia Germany • Ghana Guinea • Guinea Bissau • Hungary • India • Indonesia • Iraq • Ireland • Italy • Ivory Coast • Jamaica • Japan • Jordan • Kazakhstan • Kenya Kyrgyzstan • Lebanon • Lesotho • Liberia • Macedonia • Malawi • Malaysia • Mali • Mauritania • Mauritius • Mexico • Moldova • Morocco Mozambique • Nepal • Netherlands • New Zealand • Nicaragua • Niger • Nigeria • Pakistan • Palestine • Panama • Paraguay • Philippines • Romania Russia • Rwanda • Saudi Arabia • Senegal • Serbia • Seychelles • Sierra Leone • Slovakia • Slovenia • South Africa • Spain • South Korea • Sri Lanka Sudan • Swaziland • Sweden • Switzerland • Syria • Taiwan • Tajikistan • Tanzania • Thailand • Togo • Tunisia • Turkey • Uganda • United Kingdom Ukraine • United States • Uruguay • Uzbekistan • Venezuela • Vietnam • Yemen • Zambia



IPEN CAMPAIGNS: RAISING AWARENESS, REDUCING EXPOSURE, ELIMINATING SERIOUS THREATS

IPEN initiates campaigns that build and support a robust base of civil society and non-governmental organizations working to raise awareness and eliminate chemical threats.

KEEP THE PROMISE, ELIMINATE POPS

The Stockholm Convention established a science-based process for evaluating additional chemicals for elimination. IPEN's Keep the Promise campaign ensures that countries around the world continue to take the actions needed to protect the health of people and the global environment from injuries caused by persistent organic pollutants (POPs).

MERCURY-FREE CAMPAIGN

IPEN's Mercury-Free Campaign responds to the alarming scale of human and environmental health problems caused by global mercury pollution. It raises awareness about the harms of mercury pollution and exposure; conducts targeted campaigns aimed at eliminating or better controlling sources of mercury pollution and exposure; promotes mercury-free alternatives; advocates for national mercury control laws and policies; and advocates for a strong and comprehensive global mercury control treaty.

LEAD PAINT ELIMINATION CAMPAIGN

IPEN's 2008 global study revealed that paint containing lead is still sold on every continent. IPEN member organizations in many countries are actively campaigning to eliminate the production, import, sale and use of lead paints in their countries, especially for uses likely to contribute to childhood lead exposure.

IPEN's lead paint campaign educates the public about the serious harm caused by childhood lead exposure, calls attention to the fact that paints with high lead content are still widely available in many countries and works for their elimination.

TESTING FOR HAZARDOUS CHEMICALS IN CHILDREN'S TOYS AND OTHER CONSUMER PRODUCTS

TESTING FOR CHEMICALS IN PEOPLE, PRODUCTS AND THE ENVIRONMENT

IPEN believes the public has the right to know if there are toxic chemicals in their bodies, products or environment. IPEN empowers local groups world-wide with scientific information about toxics threats in their communities. It does this through international monitoring projects, which includes measuring POPs in human milk and chicken eggs as well as toxic metals in human hair and consumer products, such as decorative paint, cosmetics, and children's products.

IPEN CONTRIBUTION: LEVERAGING LOCAL EXPERTISE AND KNOWLEDGE TO ACHIEVE SUSTAINABLE CHANGE

IPEN brings together public interest groups working on environmental and public health issues around the globe and helps them work collectively to achieve policy changes at the international level. It serves as a voice for chemical safety internationally, and it turns international policy into national practice by mobilizing expert and financial resources that build the capacity of local organizations to advance sustainable livelihoods.

IPEN LEADERS:
RECOGNIZED INTERNATIONAL EXPERTS

IPEN CO-CHAIRS

Pamela Miller IPEN Executive Director, Alaska Community Action on Toxics (ACAT), USA.

Tadesse Amera IPEN Co-Chair. Director, Pesticide Action Nexus Ethiopia, Ethiopia.

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Fernando Bejarano Gonzalez Founder and Director, Red de Acción en Plaguicidas y sus Alternativas en México and the Centro de Análisis y Acción en Tóxicos y sus Alternativas, Mexico

Anne-Sofie Anderson Director, International Chemical Secretariat, Sweden.

Dr. Ken Geiser, PhD Professor of Work Environment, University of Massachusetts—Lowell. Co-Director, Lowell Center for Sustainable Production, USA.

Dr. Jamidu Katima, PHD Agenda for Environment & Responsible Development (AGENDA), Tanzania

FORMER IPEN CO-CHAIRS

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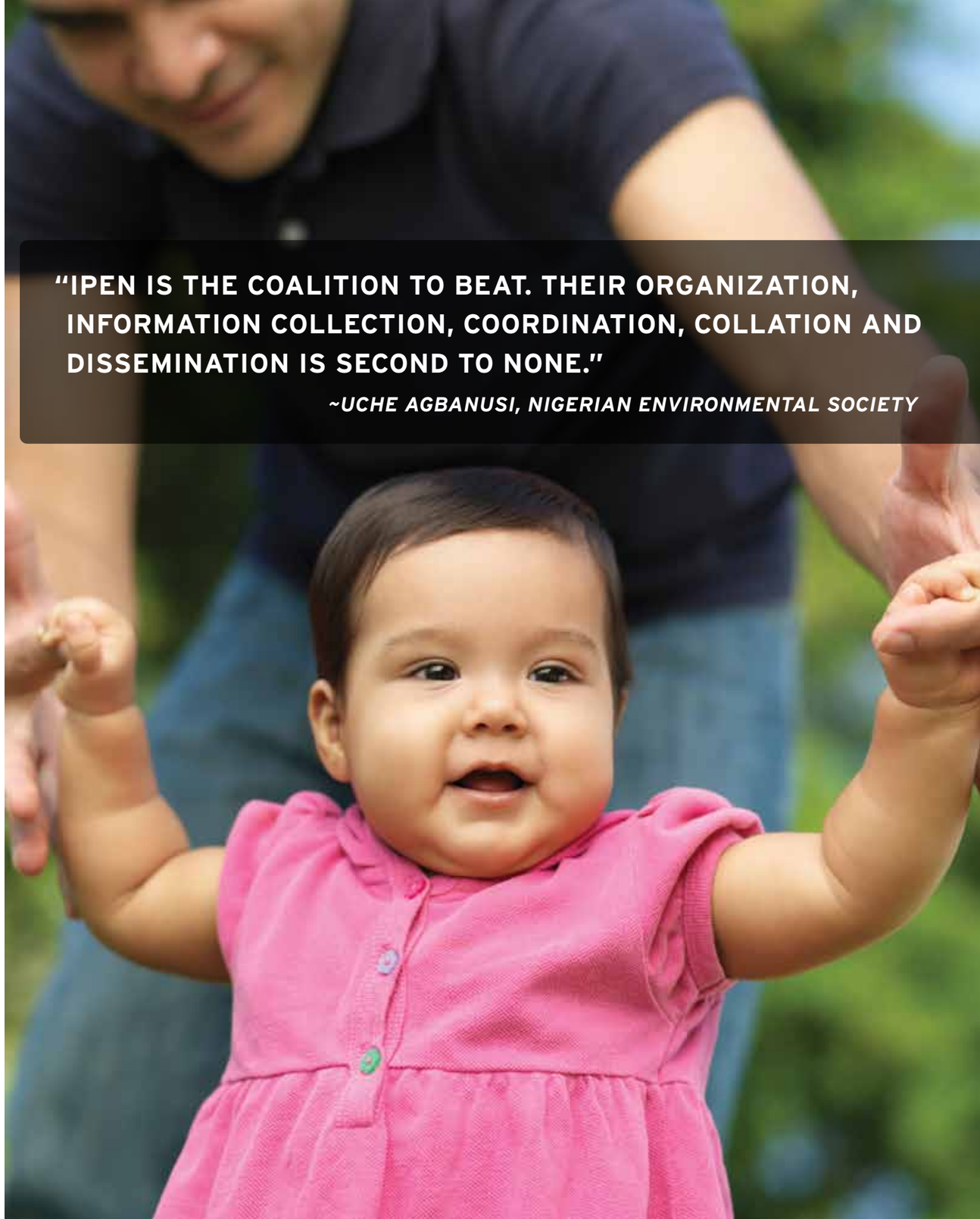
Jack Weinberg IPEN founder and senior policy advisor, USA

Counterclockwise from top: IPEN Global Meeting; IPEN Co-Chair Pamela Miller; IPEN Co-Chair Tadesse Amera



IPEN thanks the many individuals, NGOs and networks we collaborate with across the planet to create a toxics-free future.
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