

# Asian Lead Paint Elimination Project Partner Newsletter



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## NEPAL ESTABLISHES MANDATORY 90 PPM LEAD PAINT STANDARD

A new, mandatory 90 ppm standard was established in Nepal at the end of December, 2014.

The standard is a direct result of a 3- year campaign waged by Center for Public Health and Environmental Development (CEPHED) as a part of the Asian Lead Paint Elimination Campaign.

The new standard sets a mandatory standard of 90 parts per million (ppm) lead content for any paint imported, produced, sold or used in Nepal.

The standard is consistent with other lead paint standards around the world, including a 90 ppm limit that has been in place for decades in the United States.

The Nepalese standard will also require that paint can labels carry lead content in-

formation and information about protective measures to prevent exposure to lead.

“On behalf of the children of Nepal, we thank the Government of Nepal, the Prime Minister, and everyone else involved for working to achieve this international standard for lead in paint.

“Nepalese children now will be protected from lead exposure in their homes and in schools where brightly colored, heavily leaded paints are commonly used.” said Ram Charitra Sah, Executive Director and Environment Scientist, CEPHED.

## Latest News

### IPEN African Lead Paint Elimination Project Launched, January 2015

IPEN has expanded its global Lead Paint Elimination Campaign to Africa. The African Lead Paint Elimination Project will take place in four African countries – Cameroon, Cote d’Ivoire, Ethiopia and Tanzania. The Project is funded by the Global Environment Facility and implemented by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP).

The goal of the 2.5 year project is to eliminate lead in paint in these countries and raise awareness of the dangers of lead exposure. Partner organizations will conduct two different analytical studies of the lead content of paints easily available on the market. Partner organizations are Centre de Recherche et d’Education pour le Developpement (CREPD) in Cameroon; AGENDA for Environment and Responsible Development (AGENDA) in Tanzania; PAN Ethiopia in Ethiopia; and Volontaires pour l’Environnement (JVE) in Côte D’Ivoire.

The Asian Lead Paint Elimination Project is a project of [IPEN](#) and funded by the European Union.

### INSIDE

2014 Project Outcomes and Highlights, Pages 2 & 3



European Union



a toxics-free future



## ASIAN LEAD PAINT ELIMINATION PROJECT PARTNER NEWSLETTER

### 2014 PROJECT ACHIEVEMENTS

The Asian Lead Paint Elimination Project achieved several milestones in 2014

#### ***New lead paint regulation either drafted or in place in 5 countries***

By the end of 2014, 5 of the seven countries either had paint regulation in place or in draft form.

Sri Lanka instituted lead paint regulation as of Jan 1, 2013 and the Philippines issued new lead paint regulation in December 2013.

By the end of 2014, Nepal had instituted a mandatory 90 ppm lead paint regulation for imported paints and paints produced, sold, distributed and used in Nepal.

In Bangladesh, the Bangladesh Paint Manufacturers Association supports ESDO's call for a mandatory regulation limiting lead content to 50 ppm – which, if passed, would be the lowest in the world.

Draft legislation is also pending in Thailand, and the measure has received public support from high level officials at public events.

In 2014, India also lowered its voluntary standard from 1,000 ppm to 90 ppm, and in Sri Lanka, new legislation was passed in 2014 requires

that paint can labels carry the paint's lead content.

#### ***Increased visibility among consumers, schools, medical profession and other stakeholders***

As in 2013, partner organizations engaged other stakeholders in lead paint elimination activities. School children and their parents and teachers were the target group for many events this year and were turned out in large numbers.

Pediatric and other medical organizations; educators; university professionals; technical and scientific societies; and consumer and public health organizations also played a role in activities organized by partner organizations.

In addition, every organization generated substantial news reports in major media outlets. Altogether, partners generated 300 media reports on lead paint elimination in 2014.

#### ***Lead mostly eliminated in paint produced by market leaders in every country***

Paint analysis by partner organizations conducted in 2013 and reported on in 2014 showed that market leaders in all countries had mostly eliminated lead from their product lines.

Moreover, the paint industry in several countries took very positive additional steps to eliminate lead in paint. As mentioned above, the Bangladesh Paint Manufacturers joined with ESDO in advocating for a lead paint standard of 50 ppm. They also supported ESDO, in calling for an end to import duty on zirconium dyes (a non-lead-dryer).

The Philippine Manufacturers Association cooperated with EcoWaste Coalition to develop a Lead Safe Paint Certification Standard, and Boysen Paints is taking the lead in developing a third-party, voluntary paint certification program.

In Nepal, CEPHED is in dialogue with the Nepal Paint Manufacturers on the mandatory ban.

In Thailand, 95% of 129 small and medium paint manufacturers said they were willing to remove lead from paint according to a 2014 national survey conducted by EARTH.



#### ***Nepal***

- *Major paint manufacturers have eliminated intentional lead*
- *Enacted a mandatory 90 ppm lead paint standard at the end of 2014; the regulation covers both imported and domestically used paints & requires labelling*
- *New lead dust study showing high levels of lead in dust in some schools.*



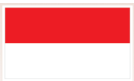
## Bangladesh

- Major paint manufacturers have phased out lead paint
- Paint Manufacturers Association advocates with ESDO for a mandatory 50 ppm standard
- Several local brands advertise their products as lead free — a claim that will be tested in 2015



## Sri Lanka

- New legislation requires that manufacturers put the lead content of paints on paint cans.
- New lead dust study shows high lead dust levels in some schools
- Continued outreach and awareness and advocacy for enforcement of mandatory 90 ppm standard which took effect January 1, 2013.



## Indonesia

- Despite initial reluctance, government officials proposed a 600 ppm lead paint standard
- Lead paint standard to be included in the country's Sustainable Consumption and Production Plan



## India

- Major paint manufacturers have eliminated intentional lead
- Working to make s voluntary 90 ppm standard mandatory
- Indian Railway now requires lead free paints



## Thailand

- Draft mandatory legislation setting maximum content for lead and 3 other heavy metals now in process
- Support for lead regulation from all key government agencies & EARTH literature on lead paint hazards widely distributed by government officials
- Developing SME awareness campaign in partnership with local health organizations



## Philippines

- Major paint manufacturers have phased out lead paint
- A mandatory 90 ppm limit for lead in paint with a 3 year phase in (2013-2016)
- Significant progress in establishing a 3rd party certification scheme with paint manufacturers association
- Public support for lead paint elimination from high ranking public officials, including the Department of Health

## 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

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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."