

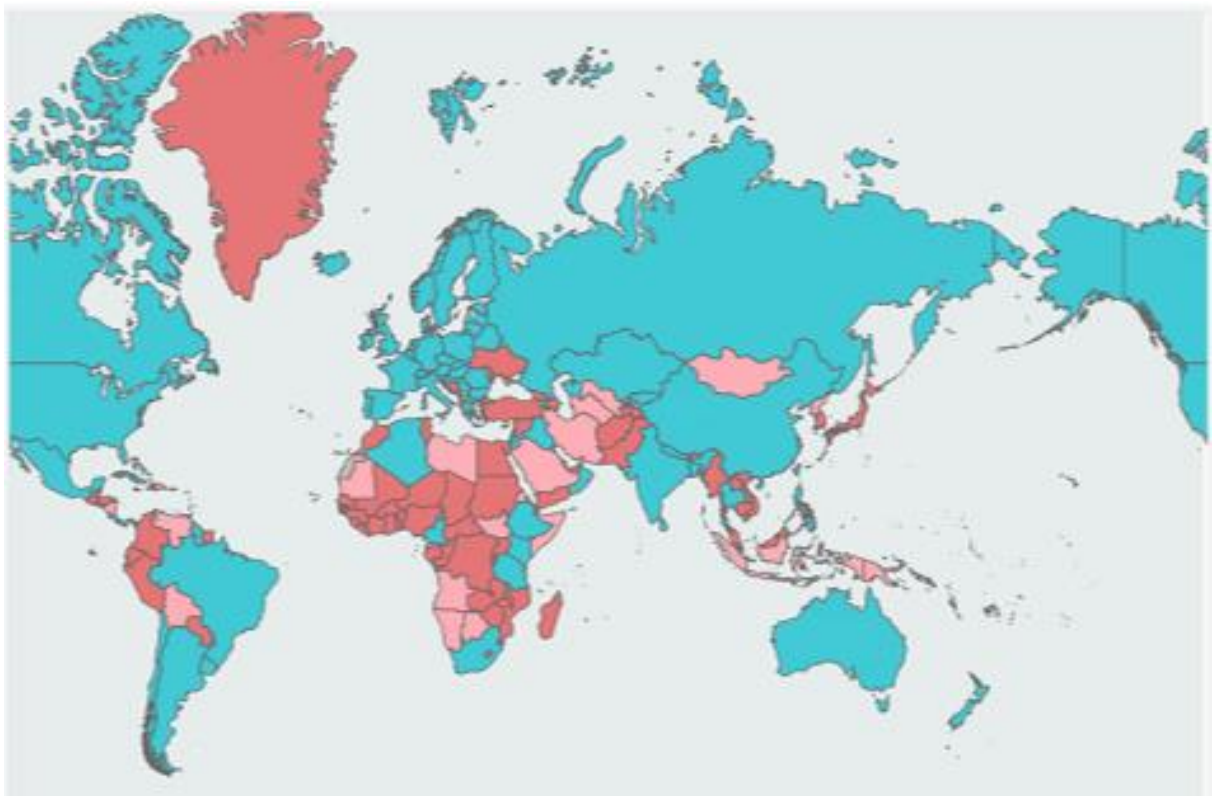


## Global Efforts to Address Lead Paint. WHO & UN Lead Paint Alliance newsletter, June 2020

[The June 2020 issue of the Lead Paint Alliance newsletter is online at

<https://chemicalswithoutconcern.org/library/eliminating-lead-paint-matters> ]

In our ongoing effort to support global actions to address lead paint, the Alliance has recently developed the following resources:



- The new Chemicals without Concern knowledge management platform aims to foster knowledge exchange on the SAICM emerging policy issues (EPIs) and their linkages with the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda. Lead in Paint is highlighted as an area of work, and many resources on the adoption of legal limits on lead paint and awareness-raising can be found here. One of the new tools featured on the website is a [new interactive map visualisation of the status of lead paint laws.](#)



- UNEP has posted an updated list of [Frequently Asked Questions \(FAQs\)](#) providing answers to common questions, including about the Lead Paint Alliance, why lead is used in paint, alternatives to lead in paint, costs of reformulation and paint testing. In order to ensure that we have answered your questions, UNEP welcomes feedback on the FAQs via the email provided on the FAQ page by 3 July.

## **Progress Towards Laws**

**Momentum toward lead paint laws continues. We are proud to share these updates:**

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- The Lead Paint Alliance provided comments on several draft lead paint laws since the last newsletter: **Ecuador's draft standards** during the public comment period in December 2019, **Peru's draft lead paint law** in February 2020, and **Mexico's draft labelling standard** during a public comment period from January to March 2020.
- In April 2020, **Colombia** organized a second multi-stakeholders meeting to discuss the way forward regarding the adoption of a lead paint law.
- In March and April 2020, **Peru's** Lead Paint Working Group met and finalized a draft lead paint law, which is ready to be presented to the Congress.
- **China** recently strengthened its national standards that reduce the lead limit for woodenware and architectural paints to 90 ppm total lead and lower the standard for vehicle and industrial protective coatings to 1000 ppm total lead as part of the SAICM GEF project lead in paint component, building on the work done by the Lead Paint Alliance.



In March 2020, WHO and UNEP jointly organized two regional webinars for the paint industry in the UNEP Central and Eastern European region to address industry questions about reformulating paint, including about the need to set a low limit for lead in paint. The draft technical guidelines on paint reformulation prepared by the National Cleaner Production Center (NCPC) Serbia were presented. The session was well attended by approximately 30 participants, including representatives from government ministries and chemical safety agencies, the Eurasian Economic Commission, and paint producers within the region. Presentations and information on the webinar can be found [here](#).

### **Lead Paint in the News**

Pittsburgh-based PPG says it has met its 2016 pledge to eliminate lead from all products by 2020, [reports](#) the local NPR news station.

### **Advisory Council**

The Alliance is pleased to share the following updates from our Advisory Council.

- In **Thailand**, several action plans for lead in paint elimination have been advanced through health surveillance, research, and legislative measures. Activities include (1) establishment of national health surveillance for blood lead levels (BLL) among children under 5 years old; (2) research and development on state-of-the-art analytical techniques for BLL measurement in workers and people in the community; (3) manuals for health surveillance, prevention, and control of occupational and environmental diseases among children and workers; and (4) establishment of an industrial standard for lead in paint (100 ppm) for risk reduction and further lead elimination.



- In November 2019, the **East African Community** (EAC, comprising Tanzania, Kenya, Uganda, Rwanda, Burundi and South Sudan) adopted revised East African Standards on certain paints, varnishes and related products, setting the legal limit on lead content to a maximum of 90 ppm total lead. These standards will be adopted across the EAC region.

## **Partners Corner**

As of June 2020, a total of 20 governments, 47 non-government organizations, 4 inter-governmental organizations, 7 academic organizations or institutions, and 22 industry or trade associations have joined as partners of the Lead Paint Alliance. A warm welcome and congratulations are extended to the new partners who have joined in the second half of 2020!

New members include:

- **Civil society:** Chemicals Safety Agency (Ukraine), Gamarjoba (Georgia), Peshaf (Tajikistan), and the Foundation to Support Civil Initiatives (Tajikistan);
- **Industry:** VES.SA (Romania);
- **Academia:** University of Pennsylvania, Center of Excellence in Environmental Toxicology (United States).

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