

The Global Alliance to Eliminate Lead Paint (Lead Paint Alliance)

Geneva Environment Network Briefing
Walker Smith, U.S. EPA
September 8, 2015



No Level of Lead Exposure Is Safe

- Lead is poisonous, especially harmful to children
 - Children are vulnerable because they absorb more lead
 - Malnutrition exacerbates the impact
- Can cause loss of IQ, learning and developmental disabilities, death
- With the successful removal of lead from gasoline through PCFV, lead paint is now a principal pathway for lead poisoning
 - Children's exposure is through paint particles, dust and soil



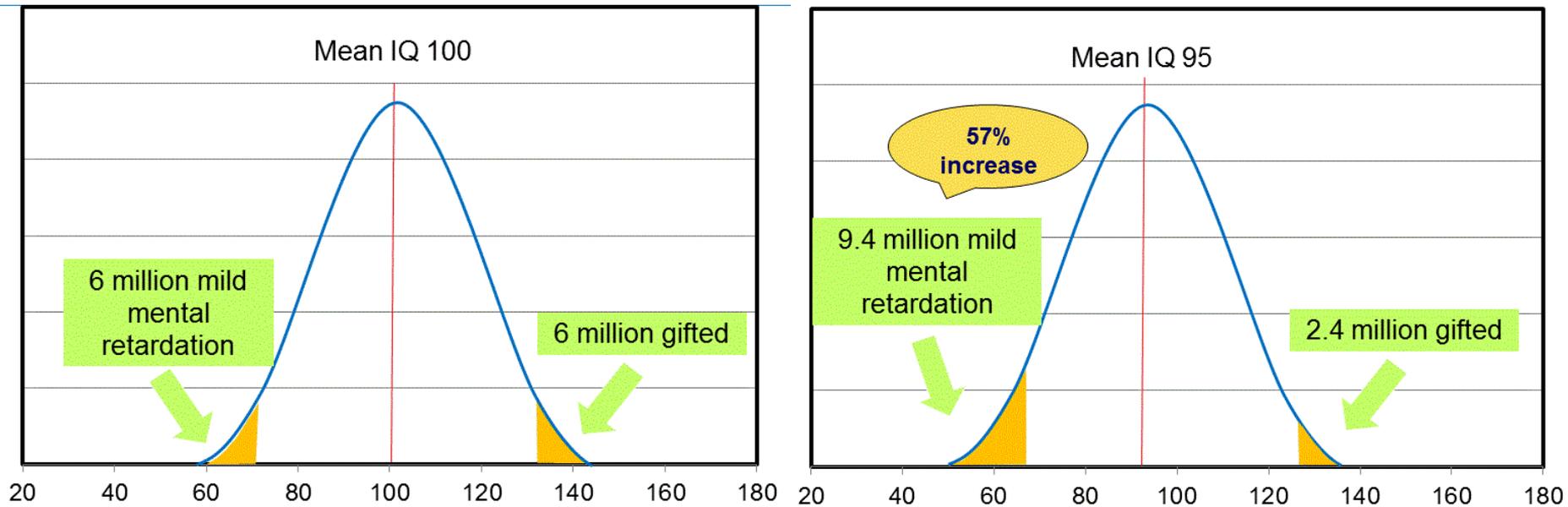


Lead Paint remains a global problem

- Most countries do not have laws limiting lead additives in paint
- Lead paint levels in the developing world up to 10,000 ppm, 20,000 ppm and more
 - Limit on lead in residential paint in the US is 90 ppm
- Paint with lower lead levels is often available at comparable costs to lead paint
- Compliance is a concern in some countries with lead paint laws



Lead can cause a loss in IQ



Significance of a 5 Point IQ Reduction in a population of 260 million

(Picture adapted from Gilbert, Weiss B. A rationale for lowering the blood lead action level from 10 to 2 ug/dL. *Neurotoxicology*. 2006 September; 27(5): 693–701 <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC2212280/pdf/nihms37310.pdf>)



World Health Organization



UNEP

Economic, health, environment, and societal impacts from lead exposure

- The annual economic costs of lead exposure in low and middle-income countries is \$977 billion
 - Africa - \$134 billion; Asia - \$699.9 billion; Latin America and the Caribbean - \$ 142 billion
 - Each IQ point lost costs a child an estimated 2% of his or her lifetime earning potential ¹
- Lead exposure causes costly health, cognitive, and behavioral disorders
 - Total cost per child from increasing blood lead by 1 mcg/dl \approx \$50,000 ²

1: Source: Trasande and Attina, (<http://ehp.niehs.nih.gov/122-a96/>)

2: Source: Jessica W. Reyes, "Social Cost of Lead," in "Lead: The Global Poison -- Humans, Animals, and the Environment," a Symposium at the Annual Meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science Conference in Boston, MA, February 2013.



About the Lead Paint Alliance

- Lead Paint Alliance is a voluntary partnership
- Jointly led by WHO and UNEP
- Supported by multi-sector UNEP/WHO Advisory Group
- Governments, NGOs, Industry, and Academia are Alliance partners
- GOAL – all countries enact lead paint laws by 2020

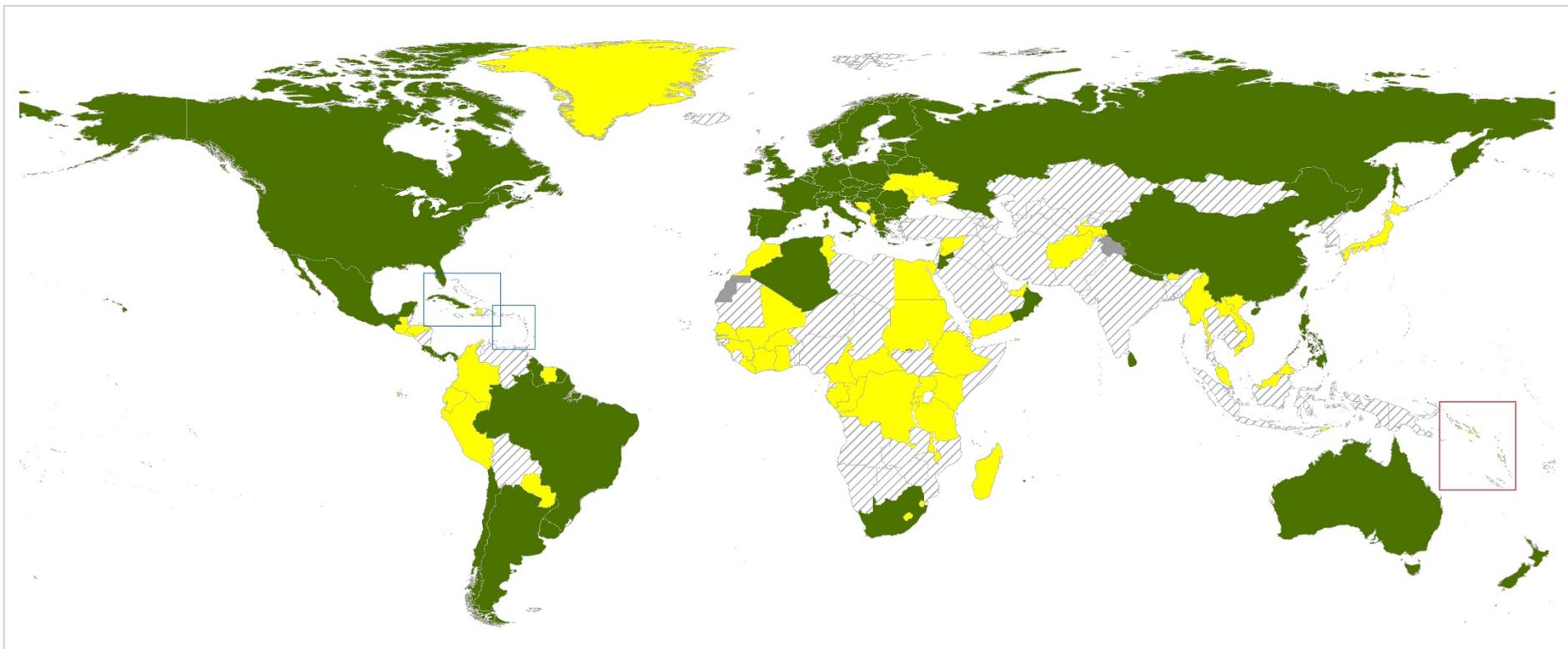


Lead Paint Alliance Advisory Group

- United States - EPA (Advisory Group Chair)
- Colombia – Ministry of Environment
- Kenya – Ministry of Industrialization and Enterprise Development
- Moldova – Ministry of Health
- Thailand – Ministry of Health
- AkzoNobel (paint manufacturer)
- International Paint and Printers Ink Council (IPPIC)
- Health and Environment Alliance (HEAL)
- IPEN (global network of NGOs)
- ❖ *(European Commission - consultant to Advisory Group)*



COUNTRIES WITH LEGALLY BINDING CONTROLS ON LEAD PAINT – BASED ON INFORMATION RECEIVED FROM GOVERNMENTS BY 31 JULY 2015

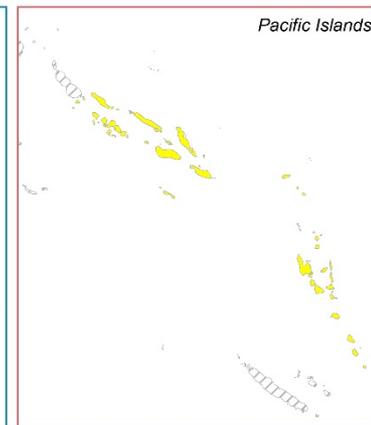
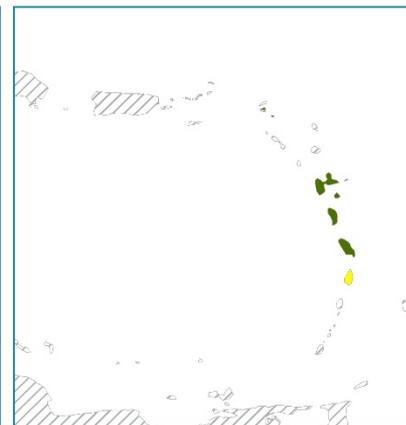


Countries with legally binding controls

- Legally binding controls
- No legally binding controls
- No data
- Not applicable

Data Source: Governments
 Admin. Boundaries: World Health Organization.
 Map Production: Public Health, Social and Environmental
 Determinants of Health, WHO

Disclaimer : The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of the World Health Organization concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area or of its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries. Dotted and dashed lines on maps represent approximate border lines for which there may not yet be full agreement.



Global Status of legal limits for lead in paint



Red – no legal limits or no data

Green – legal limits



Action Plan for 2015-2016

The primary goal of the Alliance is to prevent children's exposure to paints containing lead and to minimize occupational exposures to lead paint.

1. Encourage governments to enact lead paint laws
2. Encourage industry to voluntarily stop the manufacture and sale of lead paint
3. Increase awareness of the health and environmental risks posed by lead paint
4. Increase the number of Alliance partners





Lead Paint Alliance in 2015

- Nepal, Philippines recently passed laws; Thailand coming soon
- Germany and AkzoNobel became Alliance partners in 2015
- Colombia, Moldova, and Thailand in process of becoming partners
- Alliance Regulatory toolkit launching this month
- Sub-regional workshop in Africa planned for November/December
- International Lead Poisoning Prevention Week of Action - October 25-31, 2015





International Lead Poisoning Prevention Week of Action 2015

- In 2014, 37 countries conducted more than 80 events worldwide
- 2015 will see even more events, including high-level engagements from UNEP, WHO, and U.S. EPA
- For more information on the Week of Action, go to:
http://www.who.int/ipcs/lead_campaign/en/
- Participate at the Lead Paint side event during ICCM4 on Tuesday, September 29 at 1:00 PM



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Meetings and Events



2015 International Lead Poisoning Prevention Week of Action Eliminating Lead Paint, 25-31 October 2015

Global Citizens Earth Day, April 2015 -

The Lead Paint Alliance presented at the 2015 Global Poverty Project and the Earth Day Network Ambassador, Don Cheadle, announced the go in front of a crowd of thousands of people to celebrate the 45th anniversary of the First Earth Day in front of a crowd of thousands of people at the American Health Organization (PAHO), and the

GAELP menu

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WHO | International lead poisoning prevention week of action

25-31 October 2015

The issue

Lead poisoning is entirely preventable, yet lead exposure is estimated to account for 0.6% of the global burden of disease, with the highest burden in developing regions. Childhood lead exposure is estimated to contribute to about 600,000 new cases of children with intellectual disabilities every year.

Even though there is wide recognition of this problem and many countries have taken action, exposure to lead, particularly in childhood, remains of key concern to health care providers and public health officials worldwide.

Paints containing high levels of lead are still widely available and used in many countries for decorative purposes, although good substitutes without lead are available.

Theme: Eliminating lead paint



Initial briefing for event organizers pdf, 1.08Mb

Register your event to share your plans

List of events

Campaign materials in Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish

More about the campaign





Lead Paint Alliance – What you can do

- Convince governments without existing legislation to enact lead paint laws
- Input/advice/advocacy to get lead paint on relevant meeting and conference agendas
- Understand the status of regulations and enforcement challenges in countries with existing lead paint laws
- Encourage governments, NGOs, and industry to become partners in the Lead Paint Alliance

For further information, including how to become a partner, go to:
www.unep.org/noleadinpaint





Thank you

