Overview of Global Efforts to Eliminate Lead Paint

Africa Regional Workshop
Promoting Regulatory Action by Governments to Phase out Lead in Paint

29-30 May 2019, Abidjan, Cote d’Ivoire

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Outline

- Lead Hazards / Paint Major Source of Lead Exposure
- Goal of the Global Alliance to Eliminate Lead Paint
- Status of Lead Paint Laws
- Growing Momentum
- Solving the Problem – Key Steps Countries Can Take
- Websites for further information
Lead is Poisonous

- Lead’s lifelong consequences are borne by the affected children, their families, and society at large.
- There is NO safe level of exposure to lead!
- Globally, lead in paint is a major source of childhood lead exposure.
Global Alliance to Eliminate Lead Paint (Lead Paint Alliance)

- Voluntary global public/private partnership
  - Hosted by UN Environment and WHO, Chaired by US EPA
  - Advisory Council: Governments, Industry, Civil Society
- Goal: Establish lead paint laws in every country
  - Only 34.7% of all countries in the world have lead paint laws
  - Voluntary national standards not effective
- Promote proven successful approach in countries
  - Governments work with relevant ministries and stakeholders
  - They develop legal limit on lead in paint using Model Law
Lead Paint Alliance Partners in Africa

Governments
- Kenya
- Niger
- Republic of Cameroon
- Tanzania
- Uganda

Industry: Trade Associations and Companies
- Nigeria - Fendwall Paints and Chemical Products

Academia
- Kenya - University of Nairobi

Non-Governmental Organizations
- Cameroon - Centre de Recherche et d'Education pour le Développement (CREPD)
- Côte d'Ivoire - Jeunes volontaires pour l'Environnement (JVE) Côte d’Ivoire
- Ghana - Inclusion Ghana
- Kenya
  - Architectural Association of Kenya (AAK)
  - Eco Ethics Kenya (EEK)
- Liberia - Pollution Control Association of Liberia (POCAL)

- Nigeria - Living Science Foundation
- Tanzania - AGENDA for Environment and Responsible Development (AGENDA)
- Uganda
  - Uganda Network on Toxic Free Malaria Control (UNETMAC)
  - Africa Foundation for Community Development (AFCOD-Uganda)
- Zambia - Children’s Environmental Health Foundation (CEHF)
Model Law

- Requested by governments; developed by the Alliance
- Supported by Industry and NGOs
- Provides best available and practical approach to a lead paint law
- Recommends a 90 ppm total lead limit in paint
- Adaptable to each country’s regulatory framework

Lead Paint Laws
Legal mechanisms that establish a binding, enforceable limit on lead in paint with penalties for non-compliance.

Examples: legislation, regulations, ordinances or mandatory standards
Growing Momentum

- **Global**
  - Resolutions at SAICM, Third UN Environment Assembly
  - World Health Assembly Chemicals Roadmap
  - GEF SAICM project: Aim 40 or more countries pass lead paint new laws or improve existing laws

- **Africa Regional**
  - Third Inter-Ministerial Conference on Health and Environment in Africa
  - AMCEN Nairobi Declaration September 2018
  - East Africa Community Standard

- **Africa National**
  - Countries adopted or developing legal limits for lead in all paint, e.g. Cameroon, Ethiopia, Kenya, Tanzania, Zambia, South Africa
Solving the problem together

- The goal is to establish lead paint laws in every country
- Lead paint elimination is gaining momentum globally
- This problem can be solved in the foreseeable future
- Key steps countries can take:
  - Identify and obtain support from main government ministries and stakeholders for the development of lead paint laws
  - Convene drafting committee to draft a law
  - Conduct public review of draft law
  - Promulgate the law
Further Information

- Economic Impact of Childhood Lead Poisoning: [http://www.med.nyu.edu/pediatrics/research/environmentalpediatrics/leadexposure](http://www.med.nyu.edu/pediatrics/research/environmentalpediatrics/leadexposure)
- WHO Database of Lead Paint Law Status: [http://apps.who.int/gho/data/node.main.LEADCONTROLLEG?lang=en](http://apps.who.int/gho/data/node.main.LEADCONTROLLEG?lang=en)
- ICCM4 Resolution
- American Bar Association Resolution on Lead Paint: [https://www.americanbar.org/content/dam/aba/images/abanews/2017%20Annual%20Resolutions/109B.pdf](https://www.americanbar.org/content/dam/aba/images/abanews/2017%20Annual%20Resolutions/109B.pdf)
Thank you!