
**Strategic Approach for International Chemicals Management (SAICM) Global
Environment
Facility (GEF) Project Lead in Paint Component
WHO Headquarters, Geneva
28 September 2018**

**Draft Report of the First Planning Meeting of
Executing Partners of the SAICM GEF Project
Lead in Paint Component**

1. Opening of the meeting

1. The first planning meeting of the SAICM GEF Project executing partners for the lead paint component took place at the WHO Headquarters in Geneva on 28 September 2018. The goal of this meeting was to bring project-executing partners of the Lead Paint Component of the GEF Project together to plan for the GEF Project inception meeting and to begin to discuss their roles and responsibilities in project implementation. Ms. Jacqueline Alvarez, team leader of the Knowledge and Risk Unit, Chemicals and Health Branch, UN Environment opened the meeting.
2. Ms. Alvarez thanked the project-executing partners for their participation at the meeting and contribution to the project preparation phase that led to the endorsement of the project by the GEF CEO in August 2018. The endorsement of the project signals the start of implementation and the meeting was aimed to plan for the project inception workshop.
3. Ms. Desiree Narvaez, lead coordinator for the SAICM GEF project lead paint component, chaired the meeting. She thanked Ms. Walker Smith, US Environment Protection Agency (USEPA), Chair of the Lead Paint Alliance, for her leadership in Alliance to deliver results that contributed to the approval of the SAICM GEF project. She acknowledged the participants both in person and on-line. She expressed appreciation for the participation of the project-executing partners and thanked WHO for hosting the meeting.

4. A list of tasks and activities to be undertaken by the project-executing partners as agreed during the meeting are underlined in this meeting report. The meeting agenda and list of participants are in Annexes I and II, respectively.

2. SAICM GEF FSP Overview – framework

5. Delfina Weise, representative of the SAICM secretariat, provided an overview of the SAICM GEF full sized project that has 3 components: lead paint, chemicals and products, and knowledge management. The project objective is to accelerate and measure the adoption of national activities, to control Emerging Policy Issues to achieve the 2020 implementation of SAICM goal and support early planning for chemical management in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Angela Bandemehr, USEPA, clarified on the mechanism of the interface between component 1 and 3. She noted that the Lead Paint Alliance has several resource materials that could be provided to the Knowledge Management component. The lead paint component needs to identify both existing and new resource materials to be developed that will be provided to the knowledge management component.
6. Ms. Weise described SAICM, with a secretariat hosted by the UN Environment as a policy framework promoting chemical safety around the world through convening, catalyzing and connecting stakeholders. Building capacity for sound management and addressing emerging issues such as lead paint, knowledge management, chemicals in products, hazardous electronics, per-fluorinated chemicals, pharmaceutical pollutants and nanotechnology. She gave a detailed overview of the work done by the SAICM secretariat, projects underway, components, and inception and execution strategies. She also expressed strong support for the work plan and the timeline proposed for carrying out the project components under SAICM GEF and was confident that the timetable is tight but achievable.
7. She went ahead to identify countries globally with proposed activities on component 1 and 2 of the GEF project. She presented a detailed project implementation structure, noting the UN Environment GEF unit as the implementing agency, the SAICM secretariat as executing agency and facilitating the project execution team and a project steering committee, which comprises all executing partners and will convene regularly to discuss key issues and take decisions as needed concerning the progress of the project.
8. SAICM described a knowledge management (KM) approach towards the project that will facilitate wide dissemination of knowledge held by diverse stakeholders, by providing a platform and specialized communication support/expertise for all actors to share resources and information. She advised on the overall timeline and next steps of the project from 2018 to final project closure in 2021.

9. Ms. Smith raised a question on fund availability for project kick-off and tentative date for the inception workshop. She was advised that funds are still in UNEP headquarters Nairobi and expected to arrive Geneva regional office in due time. It was also agreed that the inception workshop be postponed to first quarter of 2019 but that any further delay beyond that time would severely jeopardize the success of the project, due to the short project timeline.
10. Ms. Angela Bandemehr further stressed the need for executing partners to avoid the use of terms “lead paint legislation” and rather use “lead paint laws” as the overarching term. As the term “laws” is a more overarching term that includes legislation as one mechanism for putting in place legal limits on lead paint. Putting in place legislation is only one of many options available to policy makers and use of this term as the overarching term could mislead and undermine progress in countries by causing confusion.

3. Component 1: Lead Paint Overview

11. Ms. Narvaez presented the project summary, discussing the expected project outcome, key outputs and project executing partners. The Lead Paint component has a project outcome of having at least 40 additional countries develop and implement laws to restrict the use of lead in paint. The major obstacles to lead paint elimination include technical barriers and lack of regulations. Small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) are willing to eliminate lead paint but have limited technical capacity or resources to formulate lead-free paint and there is a lack of capacity in developing countries to introduce and enforce mandatory lead limits.
12. Given the technical and legal barriers in countries, the project has 2 outputs: 1. The development of guidelines and conduct of pilot demonstrations on lead-additive-free paint manufacturing in at least 50 SMEs and Should be Policy advocacy and policy awareness campaigns to generate support for local phase out of lead paint laws in at least 40 countries. Project executing partners are UN Environment, WHO, the Secretariat of the Economic Community of West Africa States (ECOWAS Secretariat), USEPA, American Bar Association Rule of Law Initiative (ABA-ROLI) International POPs Elimination Network (IPEN), National Cleaner Production Centre (NCPC) Serbia, NCPCs of China, Jordan, Peru, Colombia and Ecuador. Non-funded executing partners are the USEPA and the International Paint and Print Ink Council (IPPIC).
13. Ms Narvaez emphasized how the project builds on the theory of change and supports relevant sustainable developmental goals (SDGs): Namely, SDG goal 3.9 on deaths and illness, SDG goal 8.8 on occupational injuries and waste generation, SDG goal 6.3 on improved water quality and SDG 12 on sustainable consumption and production.

4. Output 1:1 BAT/BEP Technical guidelines development and dissemination to SMEs

14. Branko Dunjic, NCPC Serbia and lead coordinator for output 1.1 presented his execution plans to deliver on this output. He clarified that BAT/BEP for paint manufacturing does not exist; rather it is a case of paint reformulation that does not require lead additives. He expressed commitment to the project including the identification of alternative supplies of lead free additives and contacting representatives of all global paint, raw material and additive suppliers.
15. He elaborated on the workplan and timeline of NCPC activities to develop the technical guidelines of paint reformulation from the IAMC toolkit and IPEN guidelines by end of February 2019. Said guidelines will be pilot tested in SMEs by the NCPCs (China, Jordan, Peru, Colombia, Ecuador) and by IPEN local civil society partners (Indonesia, Nigeria). Lessons learned from the pilot testing will be discussed at a global workshop that NCPC Serbia will convene in May 2020. The finalized guidelines on paint reformulation will be a key output to be presented at the International Conference on Chemicals Management 5th session in October 2020.
16. Coordination activities of NCPC Serbia include NCPC awareness raising, policy advocacy for lead paint laws in the seven (7) countries, supplier events and pilot demonstration for the technical guidelines.
17. Li Zixiu of NCPC China posed a question on technological cost barriers. The industry experts Branko Dunjic and Johnson Ongking of Boysen Pacific paints responded saying there is no need for new technology for reformulation as same machinery for paint manufacturing can still serve same purpose. They further stated categorically that the only accrued cost would be that of new alternative ingredients for paint reformulation.
18. Johnson Ongking, Boysen Paints Philippines, said that paint reformulation will be in accordance with the use of lead in paint. He said that lead is usually used in paint for 3 functions: as lead driers for solvent based alkyd paints; as pigments for color such as yellow lead chromates and molybdate orange; and as anti-corrosive pigments. Lead based driers are relatively easy and quick to change with available alternatives such as zirconium and strontium, with very insignificant cost effects due to low dosage of driers. Many alternatives are also available to replace lead pigments used for color, although this will take more time as paint companies will want to try to match the exact color and opacity. The most challenging he said is the use of alternatives for the “anti-corrosive” property of lead in industrial paint; in these markets the paint has to perform to agreed specifications, and many tests

may be needed to ensure the new formulation is able to meet the performance requirements, so reformulation may take a year or more.

19. Mr. Ongking further said that country paint associations could be tapped in relation to the costs for actual paint reformulation for SMEs in the project. In the Philippine experience, the paint association organized technical workshops that put together companies providing lead free alternative raw materials and the paint companies. Paint associations can earn a small income from organizing such events, and supplier companies would be willing to pay to get access to the SMEs in the paint industry. It is important that all paint companies are required to shift to lead free paint to level the playing field– if everyone has to be lead free; it becomes irrelevant to compare cost of paint with lead free ingredients versus paint with lead. The skill of the chemists in the paint companies will determine the cost competitiveness of each company's products, but all of them will be formulating with lead free raw materials. He also added that China has a significant organic pigment industry, which could be favorable to the aims of the project.

5. GEF Monitoring and Reporting

20. Mr. Ludovic Bernaudat, UN Environment Chemicals and Health Branch GEF Unit presented background about the GEF, that it provides incremental funding for development projects as co-financing to provide global environmental benefits. It is a multi-donor funding mechanism with 18 implementing agencies, including UN Environment. Mr. Bernaudat added that project reporting by executing partners will be quarterly with a template to be provided by the executing agency. Co-financing contributions should be reported on an annual basis.

Ms. Walker Smith raised a question on how the Project Steering Committee will be informed on day-to-day activities of the project. Mr. Bernaudat responded that the Project Steering Committee meets face-to-face at least once a year and on-line (emails, web-ex) as the need arises. He added that the PSC has to approve changes to project activities or timelines and must agree the rules for responding to such requests. The USEPA is a member of the SAICM GEF overall PSC.

6. Regional Workshop Design and Agenda

21. Ms. Narvaez informed that UN Environment and WHO agreed to send separate letters to the Ministries of Environment and Health, respectively. Once the countries respond with interest and designate a focal point, they will be invited to the regional workshop. Ms Narvaez presented the proposed dates and venues of the project regional workshop. Dates and places are tentative, depending on availability of funds. Mijke Hertoghs from UN Environment Regional Office of Europe provided an overview on organizing regional workshops. Regional coordinators of both UN Environment and WHO will be consulted on the dates and venue of the workshops.

22. The draft regional workshop agenda was made available with consolidated comments from the executing partners. The workshop is divided into 4 sessions: Overview of the project, how to eliminate lead paint, successful elements of a phase -out and presentation of the country roadmap.
23. Ms. Smith proposed that Lead Paint be featured on the high level agenda at the fourth session of United Nations Environment Assembly that will take place in Nairobi, Kenya from the 11th – 15th of March 2019. UN Environment in Nairobi will be contacted to plan for UNEA 4 lead paint activities.

7. Guidance for a country approach towards elimination of lead paint

24. The country approach guidance is a tool meant to assist countries in drafting lead paint laws within the project and is not meant to be prescriptive. It provides a suggestion on step-by-step country approach towards the development of lead paint laws.
25. Participating countries will be requested to obtain country information that they will bring to the regional workshops where they will seek to complete the country approaches. It was agreed the country approach is intended to be customized for each country and would not be made a rigid deliverable to avoid countries becoming focused on finalizing it rather than on developing lead paint laws. The draft country approach will be further discussed at the next meeting of the project-executing partners.

8. Output 2.2: Policy Support and Awareness Raising – Scenario 1 countries: Role of Industry

26. Steve Sides from the secretariat of International Paint and Printing Ink Council (IPPIC) reiterated on IPPIC's commitment to the SAICM GEF project through in-kind contributions: to the GEF project: revision of the current industry toolkit, implementation support for the UN model law, identification of regional industry leads, hosting industry workshops and advising on technical compliance issues.
27. IPPIC will continue to raise industry awareness through increased web content, publications/communications and featuring LPA content especially during the International Lead Poisoning Prevention week 2018.
28. Steve Sides further went on to expand on how the IPPIC plans to continue to promote industry support for a 90 ppm total lead standard per the Lead Paint Alliance model law and conduct further testing to determine a possible residual lead concentration limit that affirms the “no lead use.”

9. Scenario 2 and 3 Countries: Role of IPEN, USEPA, WHO, ECOWAS, ABA-ROLI and UN Environment

29. Ms. Smith presented the role of the **USEPA** as a non-funded executing partner in the project. The USEPA is acting in the capacity as founding LPA partner and Chair of the advisory council, principal drafter of the Model Law and Guidance to Eliminate Lead Paint and other resource materials for the Lead Paint Alliance
30. The USEPA described their activities under policy engagement through hosting workshops and webinars, presentations to promote the Alliance at key fora and mobilizing US embassies to assist with awareness outreach. Furthermore, EPA provides input to the content on the LPA website.
31. The USEPA will also provide legal assistance through the review of draft laws, coordinate comments with other executing partners and assist with the building of a legal expert network. It will provide technical assistance through updating the regulatory toolkit and annual updates of the Global Updates on the Status of Legal Limits on Lead in Paint; developing ways to share technical information on the paint industry and laboratory testing.
32. Sara Brosche from **IPEN** presented its plans as executing partner. IPEN has participating organizations in almost all project countries and regional hubs in all project regions thus giving it the leverage of extended outreach across continents with extensive experience of successful lead paint elimination campaigns.
33. Ms Brosche further briefed on the presence of on-the-ground ongoing NGO campaigns in the regional hubs through public awareness activities and established relationships between manufacturers and policy makers. IPEN will work through its local partners with SMEs in Nigeria and Indonesia, elaborating on the focus on industry change through access to supplies, reformulation support and adoption of national laws.
34. She reiterated the need and importance of the civil society in achieving the objectives of the Alliance and the project as they possess the freedom to act and can interact informally with stakeholders, supporting and engaging manufacturers as they are elimination champions and also in public engagement.
35. Through lessons learned, IPEN cautioned the need for flexibility towards the legal approach, as most countries possess different regulatory structures that should be followed accordingly.
36. Jay Monteverde from **ABA ROLI** presented ABA-ROLI's role in the project: The American Bar Association is one of the world's largest voluntary professional organizations. The ABA's Rule of Law Initiative, which functions like an NGO and seeks independent funding for its international legal reform work it has some 500 diverse professional program staff spread across its DC headquarters and 30 field offices globally. ABA ROLI staff together with stakeholders design

programs that respond to local needs and prioritize solutions to pressing rule-of-law challenges.

In the GEF project, ABA-ROLI will provide legal support for countries drafting lead paint laws through raising awareness of the model law and guidance, conducting legal reviews of regulatory frameworks, and proposing and analyzing draft lead paint laws. It will build and maintain a Legal Support Network to be the resource base for providing this legal support; the network will include legal scholars, pro-bono lawyers, law clinics and law students. It will also manage an online platform to track legal support activities while coordinating with other executing partners and regional lead contacts.

37. In terms of staffing structure, ABA ROLI will have a global Legal Support Network Consultant to oversee and coordinate ABA ROLI's legal support efforts in the GEF project overall. This consultant will be supplemented by Regional Legal Support Officers in the four major project regions; Africa, Asia, Europe, Eurasia, Latin America and the Caribbean. The regional officers will be based in their respective regions and ABA ROLI will ensure they possess a deep understanding of local circumstances to facilitate efficient program execution.
38. Mr. Bernard Koffi from **ECOWAS** who participated in the meeting via web ex gave an overview of the work of ECOWAS in respect to the project across the 15-member West African states. However due to an unstable network connection during his presentation, Ms. Desiree Narvaez of the UNEP who had working knowledge of his presentation stepped in to continue in his stead.
39. The actions towards developing an ECOWAS regional standard on lead paint involved the Technical Harmonisation Committee (THC) and the Technical Management Committee (TMC). The THC will meet to register lead in paint in their programme and will review a draft law based on the UN model law.
40. Once a standard has been drafted, there is a 60-day public consultation period in each member state. The THC reviews submitted comments and the draft regional standard. The draft standard document is then voted on by national bodies and is accepted if there is support from 75% of national bodies. The TMC finalises the standard and it is submitted to the ECOWAS Commission for adoption as an ECOWAS standard.
41. Joanna Tempowski from **WHO** presented WHO activities in the project. The WHO's main argument remains the protection of human health. It has a strong country-level presence with six regional and 149 country offices, which enables a strong advocacy role with ministries of health.
42. As one of the founding partners, and as co-lead of the LPA secretariat, WHO remains committed to the Alliance. In the GEF project WHO's key activities include providing information and advocacy materials, presenting the argument

for regulation, and provision of direct technical support and coordinate ministries of health.

43. WHO will write to ministries of health about the project, as a complement to UN Environment's communication with ministries of Environment; contribute to planning workshops, and coordinate its activities with those of executing partners. Furthermore, WHO will facilitate access for ministries of health to project funds for advocacy, awareness and national stakeholder meetings.
44. WHO will develop and update technical and awareness materials and continue to host the international lead poisoning prevention week 2018.

10. . Institutional arrangements: Administrative agreements with executing partners

45. The group agreed to elaborate on the institutional arrangements at its next meeting that will take place on 12-13 November in Geneva
46. Noting no other matters to discuss, Ms. Narvaez thanked everyone for their active participation and WHO for hosting the meeting. The meeting was closed at 16.30.

Annex I:

SAICM GEF Project Lead in Paint Component Pre-inception Meeting

Agenda

Time	Topic	Responsible
9:30	Opening Self-introduction	Chemicals and Health Branch/ ALL
9:45	SAICM GEF FSP overview	SAICM secretariat
10:00	Component 1: Lead in Paint and links to Component 3: Knowledge management	Chemicals and Health Branch/SAICM secretariat
10:30	Output 1.1: BAT/BEP technical guidelines development and dissemination to SMEs	NCPC Serbia / All NCPCs
10:45	Coffee	
11:00	Letters of invitation to Ministries of Health, Ministries of Environment	Chemicals and Health Branch/WHO
11:30	Country roadmap towards elimination of lead paint	Chemicals and Health Branch/ ABA- ROLI
12:00	Regional Workshops design and agenda	Chemicals and Health Branch/ UN Environment Regional Office Europe
12:30	Lunch	
13:30	Output 2.2: Policy support and awareness raising Scenario 1 countries: Role of industry	USEPA, IPPIC, Pacific Paints
	Scenario 2 and 3 countries: Role of IPEN, WHO, UN Environment	USEPA, IPEN, WHO, UN Environment
15:00	Coffee	
15:15	Institutional arrangements; Administrative agreements with executing Partners	SAICM secretariat
15:30	GEF project reporting and monitoring	Chemicals and Health Branch GEF Unit
15:45	Plans for briefing of Geneva based permanent missions	WHO, UN Environment, USEPA
16:00	Closing	WHO, UN Environment

Annex II List of participants

Name	Organization/ Unit
Walker Smith	USEPA, Chair Advisory Council
Angela Bandemehr	USEPA
Jay Monteverde	ABA-ROLI
Sara Brosche	IPEN
Branko Dunjic	NCPC Serbia
Johnson Ongking	Boysen Pacific Paints
Carolyn Vickers	WHO - PHE
Joanna Tempowski	WHO - PHE
Evelyn Kortum	WHO - PHE
Jacqueline Alvarez	UN Environment- Chemicals and Health
Desiree Narvaez	UN Environment- Chemicals and Health
Jose De Mesa	SAICM secretariat
Delfina Wiese	SAICM secretariat
Ludovic Bernaudat	UN Environment- Chemicals and Health- GEF unit
Mijke Hertoghs	UN Environment- Regional Office Europe
Justice Tsaro-Igbara	UN Environment- Chemicals and Health

Via web-ex

Name	Organization/ Unit
Bernard Koffi	ECOWAS
Li Zixiu	NCPC China
Natalia	NCPC Colombia
Steve Sides	Advisory Council- IPPIC
Natalia	Advisory Council- Colombia
Husam Alkilany	

