

Case Studies on Lead Paint in Africa

NIGERIA

Outline

- Driving factors that led to action on lead paint
- Process that led to proposal/passage of lead paint law
- Elements of proposed/passed lead paint law
- Factors that contributed to success

Driving factors that led to action on lead paint

- List the 3-4 most important factors that resulted in the decision to take action on lead paint
 - The 2nd International Conference on Chemicals Management (ICCM2) in 2009 identified lead in paint as an emerging policy issue and the subsequent establishment of the Global Alliance to Eliminate Lead in Paint (GAELP), which Nigeria endorsed.
 - The lead poisoning incidence arising from artisanal gold mining and processing activities in Zamfara and Niger States in 2010 and 2015 respectively which claimed the lives of about 400-500 children is another factor that prompted the government to take action on lead paint in Nigeria.
 - The outcome of a study on the level of lead in home use paints in Nigeria conducted by Sustainable Research and Action for Environmental Development (SRADev Nigeria) a non-governmental organization in collaboration with the Federal Ministry of Environment in 2009 and 2016 which revealed lead concentrations within the range of 60ppm and 160,000ppm.

Process that led to proposal/passage of lead paint law

- **Briefly describe the process that was, or is being, undertaken to develop a lead paint law**
- Nigeria joined the Lead Paint Alliance in order to strengthen and develop national lead paint laws and prevent new lead exposure.
- Sensitization of members of Paints Manufacturers Association of Nigeria (PMAN) on the adverse effects of using lead in paint and the need to transit to safer alternatives to lead for use in paints.
- Stakeholders sensitization and awareness raising workshop to discuss the outcome of the lead in paint study where participants at the workshop agreed on the following:
 - i. Need to set a lead in paint limit of 90ppm as the 1st step in regulating lead in paint in Nigeria.
 - ii. Enactment of and enabling laws/regulations to enforce the 90ppm limit as a national standard for paint.
 - iii. Introduction to lead free alternatives in paint
- Setting of 90ppm as the limit for lead in paint by Standard Organisation of Nigeria (SON) which has been published as Nigerian Industrial Standards (NIS) however requires regulation to enforce implementation. These standards are:
 - NIS268:2017 specification for gloss paints for decorative purpose
 - NIS269:2017 specification for emulsion paints for decorative purpose
 - NIS575:2017 specification for textured paints for decorative purpose
- NGO (SRADev Nigeria) campaign and advocacy programmes leading to the establishment of a 10-man National Steering Committee (NSC) chaired by the Federal Ministry of Environment (FMENV).
- UN Model Law and Guidance for Regulating Lead in Paint proposed to the National Environmental Standards and Regulations Enforcement Agency (NESREA), to inform the development of the present draft regulation to be finalised.

Elements of proposed/passed lead paint law

- List the key elements of the planned or actual lead paint law, e.g.
 - **To which paints does it apply?**
 - The lead paint law will apply to all solvent –based paints
 - **What is the limit on the lead content?**
 - The current limit on the lead content in paint is 90ppm
 - **What legal mechanism is being used: a legally binding standard, a regulation ...?**
 - A legally binding standard of 90ppm is in place, however, the regulation that will enforce compliance with the standards is being developed.
 - The standard enforced by SON through the issuance of certificates to manufacturers.
 - **What is the compliance mechanism?**
 - Routine inspection of facilities to assess compliance with the 90ppm standard
 - Random survey from the open market and testing of paints at accredited labs.

Factors that contributed to success

- What were the factors that helped to get the law developed / passed?
 - Although Nigeria has not developed lead paint laws, the following are contributions to success so far:
 - i. Evidence of high levels of lead in Nigerian paints through the lead in paint study
 - ii. The paint industries are acknowledging the dangers lead in paint poses to human health and the environment and are willing to switch to lead free alternatives
 - iii. Support from the Global Lead Alliance
 - iv. NGO SRADev Nigeria campaigns/advocacy with government and industries since 2009(FMENV, NESREA, SON, Paint Manufactures Association of Nigeria (PMAN), schools etc)
 - v. Studies conducted from 2009 and 2016.