

# 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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*US EPA, Chair of the Lead Paint Alliance*

**Global Alliance to  
Eliminate Lead Paint**



# 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)

Global Alliance to  
Eliminate Lead Paint

- ▶ 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)

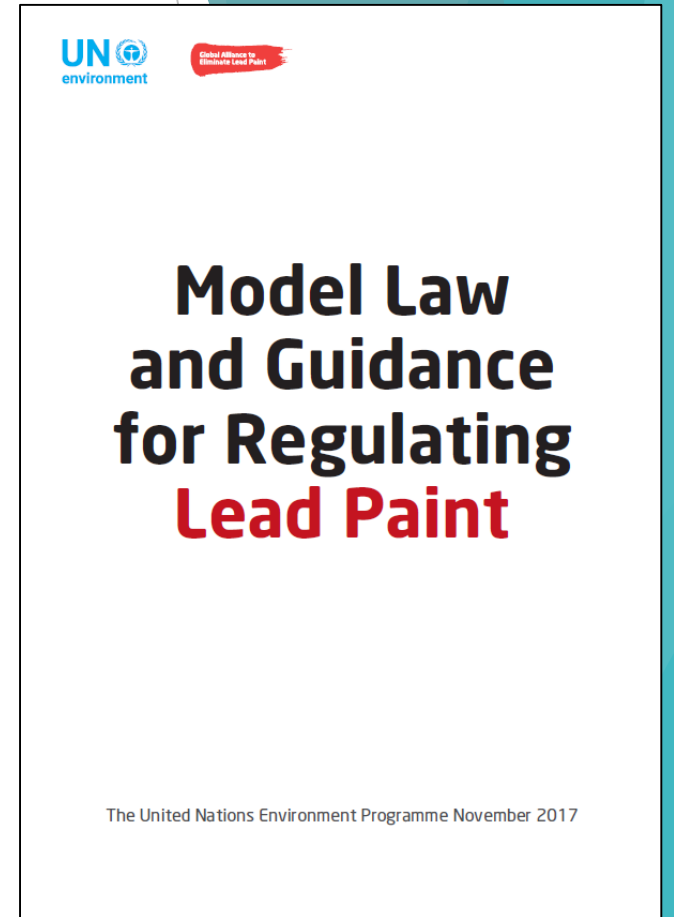
# Model Law

- ▶ 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

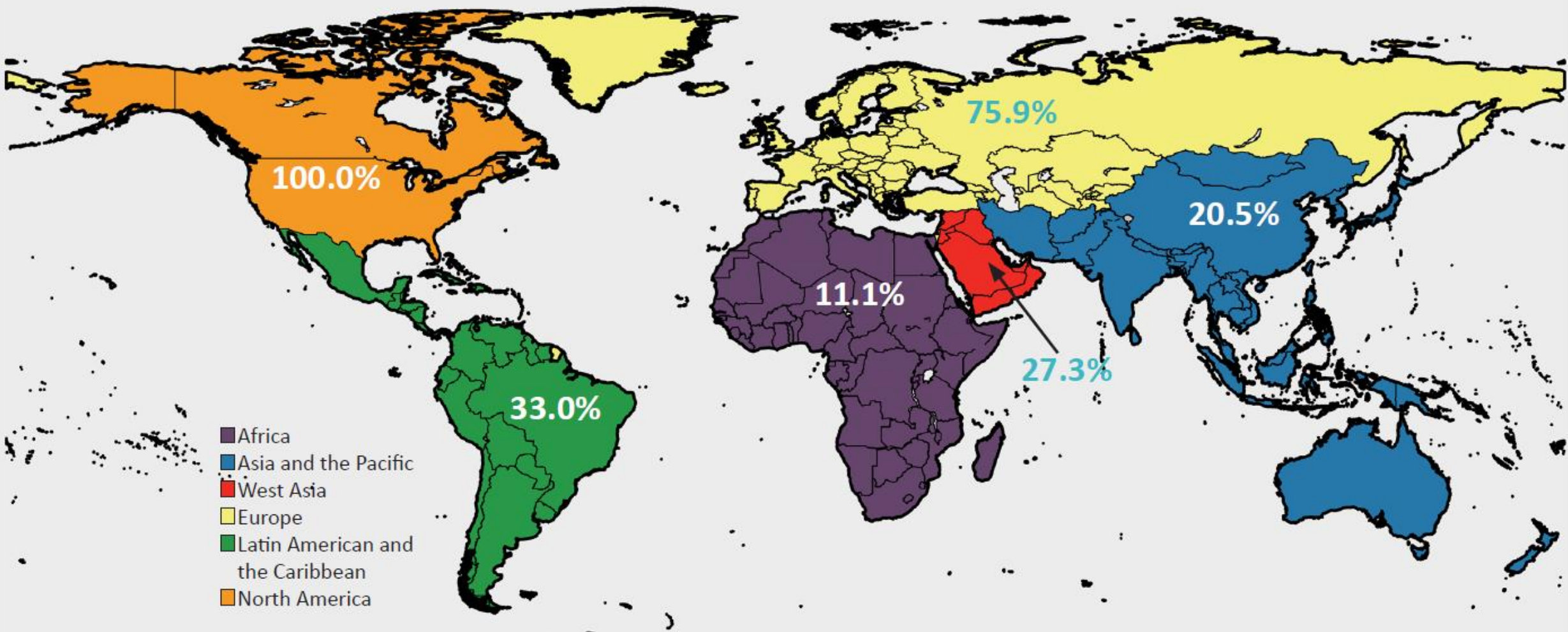
## Lead Paint Laws

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

Examples: legislation, regulations, ordinances or mandatory standards



Map 1: Percent of Countries with Lead Paint Laws in Each UN Environment Region, as of September 2018



# 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>
- ▶ WHO Map of Lead Paint Laws:  
[http://www.who.int/gho/phe/chemical\\_safety/lead\\_paint\\_regulations/en/](http://www.who.int/gho/phe/chemical_safety/lead_paint_regulations/en/)
- ▶ WHO Database of Lead Paint Law Status:  
<http://apps.who.int/gho/data/node.main.LEADCONTROLLEG?lang=en>
- ▶ Lead Paint Alliance (Model Law available here):  
<https://www.unenvironment.org/explore-topics/chemicals-waste/what-we-do/emerging-issues/global-alliance-eliminate-lead-paint>
- ▶ ICCM4 Resolution
- ▶ UNEA3 Resolution: <https://www.informea.org/en/decision/eliminating-exposure-lead-paint-and-promoting-environmentally-sound-management-waste-lead>
- ▶ World Health Assembly Chemicals Roadmap:  
<http://www.who.int/ipcs/saicm/roadmap/en/>
- ▶ American Bar Association Resolution on Lead Paint:  
<https://www.americanbar.org/content/dam/aba/images/abanews/2017%20Annual%20Resolutions/109B.pdf>



Thank  
you!