

## SAICM/UCT Lead in Paint (LiP) Community of Practice

### Discussion Forum

Title	“Reformulation is entirely possible”
Date	9 <sup>th</sup> June 2021
Time	16:00 – 17:30 (GMT+2)
Facilitator	Andrea Rother, Univ. of Cape Town
Presenter	Dr Branko Dunjic Vojislavka Satric Jeiel Guarino Monica Alcala Saavedra
WebEx Registration link	<b>Register for the discussion by clicking on this link:</b> <a href="https://unep.webex.com/unep/j.php%3FRGID=r16b0041597e4b57baba8ad07e1c24b3f">https://unep.webex.com/unep/j.php%3FRGID=r16b0041597e4b57baba8ad07e1c24b3f</a>

#### **NOTE:**

- ✓ Since this is a discussion, we encourage you to **prepare** or at least think about the questions prior to joining.
- ✓ **This guide** lays out the background to the questions, presents the questions and provides resources if you should wish to read further on the issue.



- **Details for joining this discussion are below.** To participate in this discussion you will need to have signed up in advance at: [www.saicmknowledge.org/community](http://www.saicmknowledge.org/community)
- For **technical assistance** on the day of the discussion go to the LiP CoP WhatsApp group: <https://chat.whatsapp.com/HOMtpqf5YG6EX53gJ6jsTR>
- **Connect** with laptops/PCs rather than phones since the discussion is about typing.
- Should you **NOT be able to join the discussion** but still wish to contribute please **click the link below** and fill out the Form with your **contributions:**  
<https://forms.office.com/r/XRbn9QC0PC>

## PRESENTER BIOSKETCH



**Dr Branko Dunjic** is managing Cleaner Production Centre in Serbia, established in the frame of a UNIDO-sponsored project since 2007. In 2017, he was elected as a President of the RECPNet, global network of Cleaner Production Centres supported by UNIDO and UN Environment.



**Vojislavka Šatrić** is Chemical Engineer and Key Technical Expert on the project. She was working in the paint industry as Technical Manager, Executive Manager, Research and Development Manager. She was working in the Cleaner Production Centre of Serbia as Chemical Leasing and Cleaner Production expert.



**Jeiel Guarino** works as a global campaigner of IPEN's Global Lead Paint Elimination Campaign, which aims to end the manufacture, import, export, sale, and use of lead-containing paints and similar surface coatings worldwide. IPEN is a global network of NGOs in over 125 countries working together for a world in which toxic chemicals are no longer produced or used in ways that harm human health and the environment.



**Monica Alcala Saavedra** has a Ph.D. in Chemistry from The University of Texas at Austin and a 20-year career in the paint and coatings industry including her present position as Director of Quality and Technical Services for PPG-Comex, one of the major paint manufacturer and distributor of paint based in Mexico. She also serves as President of the Mexican National Technical Standardization Committee for Paints and Coatings (COTENNAREC).

## DISCUSSION INTRODUCTION

As part of GEF PROJECT ID: 9771, Global Best Practices on Emerging Chemical Policy Issues of Concern Under SAICM (hereinafter referred to as the project), Output 1.1, pilot demonstration projects were conducted with paint manufacturers in small and medium sized enterprises (SMEs) in seven countries. The project began in January 2019 and continues through September 2022. Project partners are working so far with a total of 35 SMEs in seven countries (China, Jordan, Ecuador, Peru, Colombia, Indonesia and Nigeria). The project has concluded that if care is taken to source uncontaminated raw materials ingredients, the lead content in paint can be much lower than the recommended 90 ppm limit.

## QUESTION 1 (16h05 GMT+2)

### Background:

As companies work to reformulate lead paint, they will have to substitute other chemicals for lead compounds. The principle of chemical substitution states that hazardous chemicals should be systematically substituted by less hazardous alternatives or, preferably, alternatives for which no hazards have been identified. However, substitution usually leads to more than just the replacement of one chemical for another, as the difference in the properties of the two chemicals may create a need for other changes (technical, but possibly also organizational) as well.

The project has revealed details about the lead in paint situation in many SMEs. For example, lead driers are not in use in most SMEs working under the project. On the other hand, lead-based pigments are used in both solvent-based and water-borne paints. Another concern is that some small enterprises do not have all the necessary equipment to carry out paint performance testing and to scale up any changes to

full production. Technical support from suppliers and communication with international paint experts is very helpful.

**Question 1:**

Based on your knowledge, what is the **status of paint reformulation** in your company, community or country? What reformulation **successes** are you aware of?

**Resources/Information for the Discussion:**

- Draft UNEP Technical Guidelines on Paint Reformulation, available at [http://www.saicm.org/Portals/12/Documents/GEF-Project/Lead-Paint/Lead\\_Paint\\_TG\\_Draft\\_25032019.pdf](http://www.saicm.org/Portals/12/Documents/GEF-Project/Lead-Paint/Lead_Paint_TG_Draft_25032019.pdf). Note: When available, final guidelines will be posted at <https://saicmknowledge.org/program/lead-paint>.

**QUESTION 2 (16h30 GMT+2)**

**Background:** In working with SMEs producing lead paint, IPEN has learned that many companies do not know about the problem with lead in paint. They may lack capacity to reformulate and, in the absence of information about the importance and feasibility of phasing out lead, may have little incentive to change the formulation. They may be motivated by understanding the effects of lead on their workers, their workers' families, and on themselves. They may also be concerned about impacts on their customers, or having their brand be tarnished by a few paints that contain lead. Ultimately, market pressure and regulations are the strongest incentives to motivate companies to reformulate their paint to remove added lead.

**Question 2:**

In your experience, **what motivates companies to reformulate** their paint to remove added lead?

**Resources/Information for the Discussion:**

- Challenges for Small and Medium-Sized (SME) Paint Manufacturers (Module G. of the Toolkit for establishing laws to eliminate lead paint; note: the Toolkit will be updated in 2021) available at <https://wedocs.unep.org/bitstream/handle/20.500.11822/22857/Module%20G%20SME%20Challenges%20FINAL.pdf?sequence=1&isAllowed=y>

**QUESTION 3 (17h00 GMT+2)**

**Background:** Companies may face barriers when beginning to reformulate paint, but there are solutions to address these barriers. Some barriers may include supply chain issues (availability of lead-free raw materials), the need for a technical shift (formulation support, appropriate equipment, skill training), and both initial and ongoing costs from the change. These barriers may be overcome with standard business practices and assistance from suppliers, vendors and international networks. If ever forced to prioritize reformulation efforts, consumer product

formulations should be the priority. The UNEP Technical Guidelines on Paint Reformulation can be a good complementary resource, and can be especially helpful in providing information on alternatives to pigments and additives, cost/performance, and impact on safety and production processes.

**Question 3:**

What ways do you see to **overcome potential barriers** to paint reformulation in your company, community or country?

**Resources/Information for the Discussion:**

- UNEP Technical Guidelines on Paint Reformulation Validation Workshop Presentations available at <https://saicmknowledge.org/event/validation-workshop-paint-reformulation-guidelines>

## **Instructions for joining this discussion on the set date:**

This discussion will be held in **Cisco WebEx**.

- Please register for this discussion by clicking on the following link:  
<https://unep.webex.com/unep/j.php%3FRGID=r16b0041597e4b57baba8ad07e1c24b3f>
  - a. Once you have clicked on the link, you will be asked to provide some details for registration purposes.
  - b. Fill out your details and click "Register".
- You will receive an email in the inbox of the email address you provided during registration with a calendar invite and a link to this discussion with the meeting ID and passcode.
- On the day of the discussion, click on the link in this email or on the button that says "Join now".
- You will be redirected to the discussion.

If you have not received any communications for this discussion, make sure you are signed up for the Lead in Paint Community of Practice or send an email to: [uctcops@outlook.com](mailto:uctcops@outlook.com)

## **Format of how the discussion will operate:**

- To participate in this discussion, sign up at: [www.saicmknowledge.org/community](http://www.saicmknowledge.org/community)
- Should you require assistance or have questions, contact: [uctcops@outlook.com](mailto:uctcops@outlook.com)
- ✓ This live discussion will be run in Cisco WebEx in the chat section on the set day. Members will introduce themselves upon arrival into the chat room.
- ✓ The discussion presenter will briefly present a verbal introduction.
- ✓ Three questions will be posted during the 1 ½ hour discussion for 25 minutes discussion. The presenter/s will address comments in the chat section of WebEx and all are encouraged to engage.
- ✓ All are welcome to join the discussion which will be held in English. Feel free to write in another language if you are struggling with English and members will assist where possible.

This activity is supported by the Global Environment Facility (GEF) project ID: 9771 on *Global Best Practices on Emerging Chemical Policy Issues of Concern under the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management (SAICM)*.