

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

<b>Title</b>	<b>Making the case: raising awareness about importance of lead paint laws</b>
<b>Date</b>	<b>14<sup>th</sup> September 2021</b>
<b>Time</b>	<b>14:00 – 15:30 (GMT+2)</b>
<b>Facilitator</b>	<b>Andrea Rother, Univ. of Cape Town</b>
<b>Presenters</b>	<b>Lesley Onyon (WHO) Siddika Sultana (Bangladesh) Nana Gabriadze (Georgia) Hassan El-Abid (Morocco) Milagros Cotrina (Peru)</b>
<b>WebEx Registration link</b>	<b>Register for this discussion by clicking on this link:</b> <a href="https://unep.webex.com/unep/j.php%3FRGID=r32de88116a6b3a5e54b76c0deb882580">https://unep.webex.com/unep/j.php%3FRGID=r32de88116a6b3a5e54b76c0deb882580</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 discussion questions, provides the poll questions that will be asked and 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/N6xEQQ5zND>

## PRESENTER BIOSKETCH



### **Lesley Onyon (WHO)**

Lesley Onyon is a senior member of the Chemicals Safety and Health Team at the World Health Organization (WHO) based in Geneva, Switzerland. She has more than 25 years experience in fields relating to chemicals management, poisons information and occupational and environmental health at both governmental (UK and Australia) and intergovernmental levels (OECD, UNEP and WHO). She has recently moved back to HQ following her assignment at the WHO Regional Office for South-East Asia, in New Delhi, India. Her current role supports WHO activities relating to poison centres, chemicals-related aspects of emergency preparedness and response and normative work on the prevention and management of human exposure to heavy metals, particularly lead and mercury.



**Siddika Sultana (Bangladesh)**, Executive Director, Environmental and Social Development Organization (ESDO) is recognized as a leading personality in the development sector working on environmental health issues in Asia and the Pacific Region. She is the first director of the Asian Center for Environmental Health which has its headquarters in Dhaka, and has also been elected Vice President for Asia for the World Alliance for Mercury-free Dentistry. Being an NGO activist and social issue advocate for more than 20 years, her ideas and contribution marked as milestone to make a great change in the

field of environmental health and education, as well as in environmental protection and nature conservation.



**Hassan El-Abid (Morocco)**, PhD in Cell Biology and Biochemistry, MSc in Biotechnology. Administrator and the national focal point for chemical safety & Non-Ionizing Radiation Safety {Directorate of Epidemiology and Diseases Control (DELM), Ministry of Health, Morocco}. Temporary Assistant Professor {University of Moulay Ismail} and the former head of the molecular biology department in LBPS SARL (Private sector).



**Nana Gabriadze (Georgia)**, MD, PhD, Head of the Department of Environmental Health at the National Center for Disease Control & Public Health of Georgia. She has vast experience of working on Environmental Health issues, good knowledge of Environmental Health legislation and codes of practice, participates in the elaboration of Hygienic Rules, Technical Regulations, awareness raising campaigns, other state projects and programs. Her broad experience includes investigation of impact of the environmental risk factors on human health. Furthermore,

she is currently employed an associated professor at the University of Georgia.



**Milagros Cotrina** (Peru) works as a specialist in chemical substances in the General Directorate of Environmental Health and Food Safety of the Ministry of Health. She graduated from the Cayetano Heredia University with a degree in biology in 2010. After graduating, she participated as part of the team of the Bioinformatics and Molecular Biology Unit of the Research and Development Laboratories of the Cayetano Heredia University publishing “A New Approach for pyrazinamide susceptibility testing in Mycobacterium tuberculosis”. Likewise, she has worked as a specialist in the Ministry of the Environment and the Ministry of Production.

## DISCUSSION INTRODUCTION

Awareness raising is one of the steps that many countries may take in the process of developing lead paint laws (e.g., legally binding controls on the manufacture, import, and sale of lead paint) or to accelerate progress towards the establishment of lead paint laws. Awareness-raising activities might also support the implementation efforts of a newly adopted lead paint law.

The ninth International Lead Poisoning Prevention Week (24-30 October) is an opportunity to draw attention to the need for action on lead paint and other sources of lead exposure. Governments, civil society organizations, health partners, industry and others are encouraged to organize campaigns during the week of action. The 2021 theme is ***Working together for a world without lead paint***. Many types of information and materials are available, and organizers can register their campaigns at [www.who.int/ILPPW/2021](http://www.who.int/ILPPW/2021).

This discussion will introduce materials available for the campaign and showcase leaders in countries where awareness raising has led to meaningful action to address lead paint, aiming to inspire many stakeholders to join the effort during this year’s week of action.

We encourage you to think about the poll questions before the discussion so you can contribute your responses:

**Introductory poll:** *What type of organization do you represent?*

- National Government
- Local Government/authority
- Academic institution
- Health care institution
- Poison centre
- Professional association
- Civil society non-profit organization
- Intergovernmental organization (IGO)
- Industry
- Laboratory
- Other (please specify in chat)

**QUESTION 1 (14:05 GMT+2) – Lesley Onyon**

**Background:**

Over the last eight years the ILPPW has resulted in a wide range of awareness-raising events in many countries. Successful events have included workshops, webinars and round-table discussions; presentation at a paint industry trade association congress; setting up an information stand in a public location; and creative activities such as painting a school, school competitions, drama or dance, marches or demonstrations. The global ILPPW campaign has provided a common platform for national level campaigns which have included development of policy briefs; promotion of best practice through dissemination of case studies; distribution of short leaflets or brochures; and garnering media attention such as through newspaper or magazine articles, radio or television broadcasts, and social media posts.

WHO published guidance material on organizing an advocacy or awareness-raising campaign on lead paint as part of preparations for the eight ILPPW in 2020. It advises event organizers to focus on a single organization campaign objective (SOCO) for the audience, and the change they want to see as a result of their campaign. The following table summarizes the key steps in formulating a campaign SOCO.

**Table. An example of an approach for determining a single overarching communication outcome on lead paint.**

Step	Key question	Examples of a possible response
Step 1	What is your issue?	The country does not have a legally binding control on lead paint. OR The finalization of a draft law has been delayed for a long time
Step 2	Why do you want to focus on this issue and why do you want to focus on it now?	There is evidence or concern in your country that lead paint is a significant source of lead exposure especially for children.
Step 3	Who needs to change their behaviour? (audience)	<u>Option 1</u> : Regulators and policy makers <u>Option 2</u> : Paint manufacturers and retailers <u>Option 3</u> : Public (consumers)
Step 4	What is the change that you want to see in your audience as a result of your communication?  What is the purpose of your communication?  (step 4 complements step 3)	<u>Option 1a</u> : Regulators will initiate the process of eliminating lead in paint by drafting a law. Policy makers will support the development of the new law or the revision of an existing law.  <u>Option 1b</u> : Regulators will ensure that the draft law is finalized and implemented effectively.

		<p><u>Option 2:</u> Paint manufacturers are encouraged to phase out the addition of lead to paint voluntarily or in preparation for a lead paint law.</p> <p><u>Option 3a:</u> Public will apply pressure to manufacturers to stop producing lead paint.</p> <p><u>Option 3b.</u> Importers and distributors are prepared to comply with the planned lead paint laws.</p>
--	--	---

Following the identification of the SOCO, campaigners are advised to partner with stakeholders to identify their community’s specific needs. This will help determine which materials should be developed and what can be adapted and customized from other sources such as the Lead Paint Alliance. Lead paint efforts are rarely addressed in a single campaign, so, as part of the campaign planning, it is helpful to develop a long-term approach to continue to address lead in paint.

The International Lead Poisoning Prevention Week campaign website ([www.who.int/ILPPW/2021](http://www.who.int/ILPPW/2021)) contains many customizable materials that can adapted in campaigns as well as providing ready access to the latest technical reports from WHO and UNEP on the issue. All campaigners are encouraged to go to the ILPPW website to register their events to be part of the global movement and campaign to eliminate lead paint.

**Question 1:** What is being planned in your country or region for the ILPPW? If nothing is planned yet, what activities could you organize?

**Resources/Information for the Discussion:**

- ILPPW campaign website [www.who.int/ILPPW/2021](http://www.who.int/ILPPW/2021)
- Guidance on organizing an advocacy or awareness-raising campaign on lead paint. World Health Organization (available in Amharic, Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Georgian, Russian, Spanish). <https://apps.who.int/iris/handle/10665/334339>.
- Report on activities during the eighth International Lead Poisoning Prevention Week, 25–31 October 2020  
**\*\*NOTE:** This report is in the process of being finalised and a link will be circulated as soon as it is available.
- Global elimination of lead paint: why and how countries should take action: technical brief. World Health Organization (available in Amharic, Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian, Spanish). <https://apps.who.int/iris/handle/10665/333840>.

We encourage you to think about the poll questions before the discussion so you can contribute your responses:

**Polls:**

- What is the title of your event if you are planning one?  
(open-ended)
- Where will you be planning your events?  
(pin on map)

**QUESTION 2 (14:30 GMT+2) – Siddika Sultana (Bangladesh)**

**Background:** In Bangladesh, awareness-raising over a period of several years led to the development of a statutory regulatory order (SRO) which went into force in September 2018. Increased awareness on lead paint issues drew multi-stakeholder support, especially from government, industry, civil society, academe, and media. Students and the youth were directly involved in raising awareness on lead paint issues via SMS/text messages to Parliamentary members, and via different social media platforms. Paint manufacturers started voluntary efforts to reformulate lead in paint production ahead of a regulation. Growing international support helped in elevating the lead paint issue at the national level. As consumers become more aware of the ill effects of lead, the demand for lead-safe paint increased and manufacturers begin voluntary reformulation efforts

ILPPW Activities in Bangladesh included roundtable meetings with various stakeholders from government, industry, civil society, academe, media; human chain/peaceful demonstration activities in front of notable places and key institutions to call on the government and industry to eliminate lead paint; Virtual workshops/webinars to raise awareness on lead paint issues; and creative art, poster-making and essay-writing competitions among students using the ILPPW theme.

**Question 2:** How have ILPPW activities made a meaningful difference in raising awareness and motivating action in your country or region?

**Resources/Information for the Discussion:**

- Bangladesh Statutory Regulatory Order (SRO) 220-2018  
[https://www.dpp.gov.bd/upload\\_file/gazettes/26670\\_89189.pdf](https://www.dpp.gov.bd/upload_file/gazettes/26670_89189.pdf)
- ESDO Awareness Raising Campaigns and ILPPW Activities  
<https://esdo.org/?s=international+lead+poisoning+prevention+week>
- IPEN ILPPW 2020 Report  
<https://ipen.org/ILPPW2020>
- 2020 Update on the global status of legal limits on lead in paint  
<https://www.unep.org/resources/report/2020-update-global-status-legal-limits-lead-paint>
- WHO Map and database of legally-binding controls on lead paint  
<https://www.who.int/data/gho/data/themes/topics/indicator-groups/legally-binding-controls-on-lead-paint>
- UNEP lead paint law status interactive map  
<https://saicmknowledge.org/content/lead-paint-law-map>

We encourage you to think about the poll questions before the discussion so you can contribute your responses:

**Polls:**

- What are your expected outcomes for this year's ILPPW? (select all that apply)

- Policymakers and regulators are convinced to start work on developing a law to eliminate lead paint
  - Implementation of a new lead paint law
  - Ensure draft lead paint law is supported by stakeholders
  - Strengthening or enforcement of an existing lead paint law
  - Increased consumer awareness about the health and environmental issues from lead paint exposure
  - Increased public awareness and support for eliminating lead paint
  - Increased industry support to phase out the addition of lead to paint.
  - Paint-industry stops using lead-based ingredients in their paints
  - Other
- Has awareness raising led to progress toward laws in your country? (yes/no)  
\*If no, enter your thoughts on what would help in the chat.
  - Have you encountered any challenges in planning ILPPW activities this year or in the past? (select all that apply)
    - Language barriers
    - Incapacities to organize an event because of country's pandemic restrictions
    - Internet connection
    - Need different kinds of materials
    - Lack of political support
    - Lack of public interest
    - Other (please specify in chat)
    - No challenges at all

**QUESTION 3 (15:00 GMT+2) – Hassan El-Abid (Morocco), Nana Gabriadze (Georgia), and Milagros Cotrina (Peru)**

**Background:** Morocco, Georgia and Peru have utilized the ILPPW to promote and realize action to address lead paint. Today, all have established lead paint laws.

In Morocco, the work to establish a standard proceeded in several phases. The initial phase (2016-2020) targeted paint manufacturers, retailers, and regulators and policymakers. A set of studies and scientific communications in many events such as 7th International Congress of Toxicology in Rabat were presented to show that lead poisoning remains a major public health problem in Morocco. This phase resulted in a voluntary lead limit (90 ppm) by the standard NM 03.3.318 (2020).

The following phase (2020-2021) focused on the public, regulators, and policymakers, and led to a mandatory lead limit by the Order of the Ministry of industry, n ° 959-21 of April 6th, 2021. Indeed, the ministry of health organized a 2020 awareness campaign, which was started by a videoconference in collaboration with WHO Centre for Environmental Health Action and the WHO Morocco Office. About 40 main stakeholders involved in this area of work were participated to improve the support for the paints industry to phase out the addition of lead to paint and to raise awareness about the importance to stop using lead-based ingredients in paints according to the new update of the national standard 03.3.318 and WHO guidelines.

Efforts in 2021 continue targeting paint manufacturers and retailers, and regulators and policymakers, with the goal of stronger monitoring and follow up to support the new standard and its application. Today, Morocco is working on the development of a standard for paint quality and safety, which will enable the use of an eco-label by compliant paint producers.

The Government of Georgia has identified the need to implement short and long-term response strategies and measures to reduce lead exposure and has taken the first practical steps in this direction, namely:

Under the umbrella of the Association Agreement between Georgia and the European Union, the National Environment and Health Action Plan of Georgia (NEHAP) for 2018-2022 was approved in December 2018 (Decree N680). It has four strategic objectives, one of which includes lead paint. According to the NEHAP 4th Strategic Objective: Prevention of morbidity caused by exposure to chemical substances Georgia should prohibit use of leads in paints. A national blood lead levels (BLL) study of two to seven-year-old children was conducted in 2018 in a collaboration of UNICEF and the governments of Georgia and Italy. They collected blood from 1600 children across Georgia providing nationally representative indicator of prevalence of lead exposure and established measures for toxic effects of lead in children. As a result, the Ministry of Health is authorized to create long term lead poisoning prevention program. In 2019 Georgian Government published an Order for “Early detection and management measures for toxic effects of lead in children” which underlines the competences of several agencies in implementing the relevant actions. Though paint is not manufactured in Georgia, lead paint was included in the NEHAP. To develop a plan for lead paint, the Ministry of health conducted a roundtable discussion with the Ministry of Environment and prepared a country approach, which was submitted to UNEP. The country approach included five areas of action: assessment of options for a lead paint law, facilitation of legal drafting, targeted awareness raising, information on alternatives, sharing good practices for phase out, and establishing a legal limit on total lead content in paint. As a result of these efforts, the Government of Georgia adopted a Resolution No. 148 Technical Regulation On “Approval of the Rules for the Regulation of Lead Content in Paints and Varnishes”. Legal limit (90ppm) has been established to restrict manufacture, sale and import of paint that contains higher lead concentration. Furthermore, a clear legal limit on total lead content in paint for construction purposes has been defined.

In Peru, efforts were built upon a foundation of laws and regulations from the late 1990s and early 2000s. The promulgation of the “Law that prohibits and penalizes the manufacture, import, distribution and marketing of toxic or dangerous toys and desk supplies” was the first step towards the regulation of lead in paints, because it established the concentrations of heavy metals that do not represent a risk to health, including lead whose maximum permissible limit is 90 mg / kg. Also, since 2009, the Ministry of Health has implemented a sustained and long-term policy to eliminate heavy metals and their health risks. For more than a decade it has been creating awareness, regulating and continuously controlling heavy metals in various products such as toys, office supplies, hygiene and beauty products, among others.

Another important factor that contributed to the adoption of the lead paint law was the participation of the Peruvian delegation in the “Regional Workshop in 2019 in Panama Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management (SAICM) Global Environment Facility (GEF) Project Lead Paint Component”, which encouraged the holding of the “International Lead Poisoning Prevention Week” in 2019 and 2020. This activity was open to all interested parties and included awareness-raising activities such as lead-free mural painting. Finally, the creation of the Technical Support Committee (CAT) and the

Multisectoral Working Committee allowed preparation of the draft of law of lead in paints, which in March 2021 was brought up for discussion in the full Congress. In May 2021, the Law that protects the health and physical integrity of people from the lead content in paints and other coating materials was published. Currently, its regulations are under review.

The National Cleaner Production Centres of Colombia, Ecuador and Peru jointly organized three webinars during ILPPW 2020: regulatory measures on lead paints; alternative pigments to lead in paints; and lead in times of COVID-19. A representative of the WHO Regional Office for the Americas delivered a presentation on the health effects of lead paint and considerations with regard to COVID-19. The UNEP Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean presented information about global measures to promote elimination of lead paint. This led to establishing a legally binding control on lead paint in Peru.

**Question 3:** What changes (establish law, improve existing law, behavior changes, industry support) do you want to see as a result of your lead paint activities for ILPPW this year?

**Resources/Information for the Discussion:**

- Order of the Ministry of industry Morocco, n ° 959-21 of 6 April 2021  
[http://www.sgg.gov.ma/Portals/0/BO/2021/BO\\_6988\\_Fr.pdf](http://www.sgg.gov.ma/Portals/0/BO/2021/BO_6988_Fr.pdf) (please see pages 803-804).
- Peru Law no 31182 from 2 May 2021 that protects the health and physical integrity of people from lead content in paints and other coating materials  
<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1px87p6mc8gBSU7l6l3z5eCL9Fvp9cKZ7/view?usp=sharing>
- The National Environment and Health Action Plan of Georgia 2018-2022  
<https://test.ncdc.ge/Handlers/GetFile.ashx?ID=951a795c-ab20-4bdd-8f32-57959e3e1728>
- Resolution No. 148 of the Government of Georgia 2021 Technical Regulation On “Approval of the Rules for the Regulation of Lead Content in Paints and Varnishes”  
<https://matsne.gov.ge/ka/document/view/5141998?publication=0>
- Case study on implementation of the Guidance on organizing an advocacy or awareness-raising campaign on lead paint in Georgia  
<https://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/handle/10665/344765/9789240028333-eng.pdf>
- WHO Guidance on awareness raising in Georgian  
<https://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/handle/10665/334339/9789240011496-geo.pdf?sequence=26&isAllowed=y>
- Global elimination of lead paint: why and how countries should take action: policy brief. World Health Organization (available in Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian, Amharic, Georgian).  
<https://apps.who.int/iris/handle/10665/333812>

We encourage you to think about the poll questions before the discussion so you can contribute your responses:

**Polls:**

- Which type of ILPPW materials will be most useful to you? (rank by order of preference)
  - Guidance on organizing an advocacy or awareness-raising campaign on lead paint

- Customizable flyers/posters
- Static flyers/posters
- Web banners
- "Ban Lead Paint" Graphics
- Infographics
- Videos
- Sample social media posts
- None of the above
- Other (please specify in chat)
- What type of activities will you plan this year? (select all that apply)
  - Advocacy to policy makers
  - Roundtable discussion
  - Webinar
  - Rally or march
  - Drama, dance or other expressive activity
  - Media engagement
  - Social media activity
  - Other (please specify)

## **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=r32de88116a6b3a5e54b76c0deb882580>
  - 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)*.