

Suggested Steps for Establishing a Lead Paint Law

When your country is ready to take action to eliminate lead paint, this fact sheet outlines steps which have been helpful in countries that have adopted laws. The steps are not necessarily sequential or needed in every country.

Global Alliance to Eliminate Lead Paint

UN environment

World Health Organization

Background information

Lead is a cumulative toxicant that poses serious risks to human health leading to staggering economic costs, with children being especially vulnerable. Lead-containing paint remains one of the major sources of lead exposure for children globally. The most effective means of preventing lead exposure from paints is to establish

national laws. Lead paint was identified as a global priority under the Strategic Approach for International Chemicals Management (SAICM), which established the Global Alliance to Eliminate Lead Paint (Lead Paint Alliance or Alliance) with the goal to promote the establishment of lead paint laws in all countries.



Stakeholder Engagement to gain support for a lead paint law

- i. **Identify the relevant government ministry or ministries** to obtain agreement to take action on lead paint laws; these ministries will be key to developing and enforcing a new or revised lead paint law;
- ii. **Conduct meetings** with key civil society and industry stakeholders.



Development of a Lead Paint Law

- i. **Assess options for the development of a lead paint law:** Review the current regulatory framework for existing or needed authorities for regulating lead paint and decide which ministry will provide leadership for developing a law;
- ii. **Designate the lead agency** for drafting legal limitations for lead paint;

- iii. **Facilitate legal drafting:** Establish a drafting coordinating group, including relevant government agencies and stakeholders as appropriate, and consider materials such as the UNEP [Model Law and Guidance for Regulating Lead Paint](#) as input to draft laws. Identify or establish mechanisms for input to this group from key knowledgeable stakeholders from outside government, including industry and civil society;
- iv. **Develop the draft law** to include accurate technical information, specific limits on lead in paint, authorities and responsibilities of government agencies, and effective enforcement provisions;
- v. **Conduct a public review process** as needed and appropriate based on your country's regulatory development framework;
- vi. **Promulgate the law.**



Awareness Raising to promote development of a lead paint law

- i. **Identify the appropriate target audience(s) for awareness raising:** Raise awareness of relevant government ministries, the public or industry to gain support for the development or implementation of lead paint laws;
- ii. **Conduct targeted awareness raising to promote the development or implementation of laws:** Awareness raising topics could include adverse health, societal and economic impacts of lead, lead paint as a major source of exposure, alternatives to lead ingredients in paint, impacts of control measures and the sustainable action to eliminate lead in paint.