



**a toxics-free future**

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## **International SAICM Implementation Project (ISIP)**

In 2010, in an effort to demonstrate SAICM implementation via IPEN Participating Organizations, IPEN launched an International SAICM Implementation Project, also known as ISIP. ISIP aims to mobilize resources for initial enabling activities pertaining to national priorities, in keeping with the work areas set out in the strategic objectives of section IV of the SAICM Overarching Policy Strategy.

In particular, the ISIP supports the Governance objective of SAICM's Overarching Policy Strategy paragraph 26, which calls for enhanced "cooperation on the sound management of chemicals between Governments, the private sector and civil society at the national, regional and global levels."

In addition, ISIP builds on the 2008-2009 Global SAICM Outreach Campaign to raise awareness about SAICM and strengthen collaboration among the public interest, health and labor sectors.

### **ISIP Objectives**

ISIP's four objectives include:

- Promoting the need for sound chemicals management
- Advancing National SAICM Implementation
- Promoting global SAICM implementation by global civil society
- Building capacity among NGOs developing countries and countries with economies in transition

**Title of activity:** Phasing out lead in paint through advocacy and awareness raising

**NGO:** Land and Human to Advocate Progress (LHAP)

**Country:** Jordan

**Date:** November, 2012

### **Elements of SAICM Covered:**

Participation in activities related to the Global Partnership to Eliminate Lead Paint including identifying potential lead exposure, raising awareness of toxicity to human health and the environment and alternatives, prevention programs to reduce exposure, and promotion of national regulatory frameworks; Follow up recommendations and options for the SAICM OEWG and ICCM3 (57, 157, ICCM2 decision II/4)

### **Description of the harms of lead exposure, including suspected harm:**

Lead is a toxic element. It is well known as a neurotoxic metal. Exposure to even small amounts of lead can reduce the child's intelligence and school performance; and can also cause increased violent behavior, so high levels of lead in paint are a cause for serious

concern. Painted surfaces deteriorate with time or when disturbed, and lead from the paint then contaminates household dust and soils surrounding the home. Children ingest lead from dusts and soils during normal hand to mouth behavior. Damage to children's intelligence and mental development occurs, even when there are no obvious or clinical signs of lead poisoning. This damage is lifelong and irreversible.

Evidence of reduced intelligence caused by childhood exposure to lead has led the World Health Organization to list "lead caused mental retardation" as a recognized disease. WHO also lists it as one of the top ten diseases whose health burden among children is due to modifiable environmental factors.

In recent years, medical researchers have been documenting significant health impacts on children from lower and lower lead exposures. In response, the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and other authorities have concluded that there is no known acceptable lead exposure level for children.

### **Description of the Global Partnership and decision taken at ICCM2, including any national initiatives to advance this decision:**

In 2009, an International Conference on Chemicals Management – in which the Government of Jordan was a participant – agreed by consensus to identify lead in paint as an international priority issue of concern. In response to this, in 2010, the United Nations Environmental Programme (UNEP) and the World Health Organization (WHO) jointly initiated a global partnership to eliminate the use of lead compounds in paints in order to protect public health and the environment. This partnership is called the Global Alliance to Eliminate Lead Paint (GAELP). LHAP of Jordan participated in the ICCM3 during which lead in paint was a focused emerging issues and where a declaration in this direction is adopted. Prior to ICCM3 LHAP has joined the GAELP campaign through a small fund received from IPEN to initiate this matter.

### **Description of any existing national laws or policies about lead in paint:**

Jordan has no legislations to govern lead in paint. However, the Minister of Health issued three decisions over the past 7 years: 2005, 2008 and 2012. The latest decision is of 19 June 2012 by which he allows the use of lead compounds in the manufacturing of car, roads and other industrial paints till the end of 2012, provided alternatives are secured in the international market in a commercial basis.

Jordan moreover has 4 specifications. The four specifications were issued in the year 2010. They are as follows:

1. Specification number 31/2010 deals with the varnish and paint which are water based paints (emulsions).
2. Specification number 244/201 that deals with paint and varnish which are twinkling alkyd that gets dried by air for general uses.
3. Specification 1139/2010 that deals with paint and varnish which are partially twinkling that gets dried by air for general uses.
4. Specification number 1035/2010 that deals with paint and varnish which are matte paints, oil- based, for internal and external uses.

Therefore, Jordan has started, but without having a real action that concludes with national legislation to govern paints production, import and export.


### **Description of types of paints available on the market, including paints that do not contain lead:**

The Jordanian market has both the water and oil- based paints of both Jordanian made as well as of import type. The internet browsing revealed the presence of 71 paint industries in Jordan. The study conducted by the Ministry of Health in 2008 resulted in taking samples from 78 paint industry and 41 importing company paints. Therefore, the Jordanian market is rich in the

different types of paint companies and industries and where all types of paints are available whether they are water or oil- based. The paint market sounds to be disorganized and thus legislation is needed to manage.

### Description of the concentrations of lead in the paints tested:

LHAP collected randomly 17 different samples representing 16 Jordanian industries and importing companies. The results can be seen in the following table as revealed by the Jordanian Scientific Society (RSS), which did the analysis:



الجمعية العلمية الملكية  
Royal Scientific Society

### Test Report

Sector: RSS Testing  
 Division: Industrial Laboratories      Sample Designation No.: 03/2012/18301/1-17  
 Laboratory: Spectroscopy      Lab Report No.: 1127-1143

<b>Client Address</b>	<b>Land and Human to advocate progress</b>
	Amman

Our Reference No.: (0307) 164/55/1/26449      Type of sample: paints  
 Date: / / 2012      Method of sampling: Sent by the client  
 Your Reference No.: 12 فب 39      Date of Receipt: 5/9/2012  
 Date: 3/9/2012      Date of Test: 12/9/2012

Sample No.	Lab Report No.	Test	Result	Unit	Test method
1	1127	Lead (Pb)	238.7	ppm	SOP No. 3/07/01-006
2	1128	Lead (Pb)	<1	ppm	SOP No. 3/07/01-006
3	1129	Lead (Pb)	<1	ppm	SOP No. 3/07/01-006
4	1130	Lead (Pb)	<1	ppm	SOP No. 3/07/01-006
5	1131	Lead (Pb)	<1	ppm	SOP No. 3/07/01-006
6	1132	Lead (Pb)	827.8	ppm	SOP No. 3/07/01-006
7	1133	Lead (Pb)	<1	ppm	SOP No. 3/07/01-006
8	1134	Lead (Pb)	<1	ppm	SOP No. 3/07/01-006
9	1135	Lead (Pb)	<1	ppm	SOP No. 3/07/01-006
10	1136	Lead (Pb)	<1	ppm	SOP No. 3/07/01-006
11	1137	Lead (Pb)	4386.6	ppm	SOP No. 3/07/01-006
12	1138	Lead (Pb)	<1	ppm	SOP No. 3/07/01-006
13	1139	Lead (Pb)	<1	ppm	SOP No. 3/07/01-006
14	1140	Lead (Pb)	<1	ppm	SOP No. 3/07/01-006
15	1141	Lead (Pb)	<1	ppm	SOP No. 3/07/01-006
16	1142	Lead (Pb)	<1	ppm	SOP No. 3/07/01-006
17	1143	Lead (Pb)	<1	ppm	SOP No. 3/07/01-006

**Notes:**  
 - Tests were conducted upon your requests  
 - Sample was received in a good condition  
 - Jordanian specification limits for Pb is (600ppm)

تقرير الفحص غير رسمي مالم يحمل التوقيع المعتمد و ختم القسم  
لا ينسخ التقرير بشكل مجزأ إلا بأخذ موافقة خطية من الجهة المصدرة للشهادة

نتائج الفحص تمثل العينة المفحوصة فقط

أي كشط أو تعديل يلغي هذا التقرير

Test report is only valid with devisions-stamp and signature

Test report shall not be reproduced other than in full, except with the written approval of the issuing party

The test results relate only to the items tested

Any erasure or attrition in the report will invalidate it

Lab Supervisor : Eng. Mohammed Obeidat      Head: Ahmad Ismail Nasser

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FORM NO. RSSP/MP/      REV. (1)

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 Tel: +962 6 5344701 Fax: +962 6 5344806 P.O.Box 1438 Amman 11941 Jordan



The two samples that exceed the Jordanian specification of 600 mg/kg are both enamel (oil-based paint). Sample number 6 contains anti rust element and oil resins matte. The sample

number 11 is super gloss enamel. One should note that the consultation service provided by the Department of Specification is an added value; one through which LHAP sought the advice on the current present specifications related to lead in paint. A formal request was made and a formal answer was provided to LHAP on the specification and other government policies such as the decisions of the Minister of Health.

Moreover, it is also worth saying that the Ministry of Environment constructed a new electronic HSMS system in both languages (English and Arabic), through which normal people can access and inquire about all chemicals among which are the compounds of lead used in the manufacturing of paint to find out their status and whether they are toxic or not. For instance, inquiries were done on Lead Chromate. The answer was something written under the Ministry of Health responsibility to use with restrictions. The website can be accessed through the following address: [www.hsms.jo](http://www.hsms.jo)

### **Project Outcomes:**

#### **Description of the activity conducted to advance the Global Partnership to Eliminate Lead in Paint:**

According to the project document, the following actions were done:

1. Two consultants were identified to examine and analyse the current situation of lead in paint both at the production, import and national legislations. The two consultants worked together to conclude the next move after realizing the current situation.
2. 17 samples were collected from the market in Amman, the capital, and delivered to the Royal Scientific Society (RSS) formally (written letter) attaching to it the samples and requesting the analysis and interpretation of the results.
3. Simultaneously, a consultation request was delivered to the Department of Specifications looking for any lead in paint specifications which revealed the finding of 4 recent specifications (all 2010).
4. A brochure was designed and printed. The brochure (attached) contains basic information on lead, why it is used, and some historical background, "What are the sources of lead?", "Why it is used?", "Health, social and economic impacts." Then Jordan lead in paint status with all the MoH decisions and the specifications, the results of the paints samples and then the recommendations. 1000 copies were printed to be used in the national awareness raising campaign.
5. 3 public hearings (community consultations) were organized for the purpose of conveying the results and making the community aware of the impacts of lead in paint, specifically on kids less than 6 years. The community consultations took place in Amman in LHAP premises (Middle Region), Tafileh in Youth Sport and Social Club (South Region) and the last in Deer Abi Saeed in Irbid governorate in the Pioneer Center of Talented Students (North Region). The following pictures demonstrate the community consultations presentations and discussions.

Amman community consultation in LHAP premises on Nov 3<sup>rd</sup> 2012



Tafileh community consultation, Tafileh Sport Club on Nov 5<sup>th</sup> 2012



Deer Abi Saeed/Irbid community consultation on Nov 6<sup>th</sup> 2012



6. The topic received high attention of media coverage, being related to people's daily life and due to the fact that things such as lead in paint are invisible and may impact the health of kids over time peacefully and saliently without realizing the danger moving in darkness. More than 10 articles were written in three days in the daily newspapers, electronic media sites and in the Jordanian Radio.
7. 2 formal letters were sent, one to the Minister of Health and the second to the Ministry of Environment. The two letters reminded them of Jordan's efforts in the field of phasing out lead from paint, but also seeking their cooperation to phase out completely lead from paint and change the Jordanian specification from 600mg/kg to less than 1 mg.kg. Copies of the sampling results and the Department of Specification answer to LHAP's formal request on lead in paint specifications were attached to the letters. The brochure of Lead in Paint and the one of LHAP were also attached. At the end of the two letters, LHAP offered to work with them closely to come up with a legislation to manage the Jordanian paint market.
8. The face book and the network of about 300 CSOs were used to circulate the invitations and the information of lead in paint. Moreover, all the media coverage could be also found on the face book address: [www.facebook.com/ziyadalawneh](http://www.facebook.com/ziyadalawneh)

**Impact on target groups:**

The targeted communities of all ages were informed about lead in paint through different means: public hearings and community consultations, media, radio, face book and through the network of CSOs. Additional discussions took place by the people who have come across the topic and which to many people looks and sounds something very dangerous and worth attention.

The government of Jordan, represented by the Ministry of Health, is being reminded of its mandate to protect people's health, and on the top of that is specifically the health of our kids. The message was delivered formally and through the media coverage.

More information on lead was left in the hands of people through the brochure designed and printed, which we will continue to disseminate.

**Impact on target policies:**

Jordan, as shown, produced ministerial decisions and has four specifications. LHAP will follow up this matter until a new legislation is drafted and endorsed.

**Outreach to stakeholders:**

The stakeholders include CSOs, teachers, government employers, lawyers, private sector, governors, media and students. This means that the four sectors got engaged: the public, private, media, and CSOs sectors. LHAP works with them in other disciplines and will continue on this topic.

**Deliverables, outputs and/or products:**

The deliverables include:

1. Design and print of 1000 copies of a brochure on lead in paint.
2. Organize 3 community consultations.
3. More than 10 media reports.
4. Reaching more people through the face book and CSOs network.

**Communication efforts:**

The communication efforts could be described as follows:

1. More than 10 media reports. Written below are some of the articles in different newspapers and electronic news sites:  
[http://www.petra.gov.jo/Public\\_News/Nws\\_NewsDetails.aspx?Site\\_Id=2&lang=1&NewsID=89795&CatID=15&Type=Home&GType=1#.UJuFd6-M7bg](http://www.petra.gov.jo/Public_News/Nws_NewsDetails.aspx?Site_Id=2&lang=1&NewsID=89795&CatID=15&Type=Home&GType=1#.UJuFd6-M7bg).  
[http://www.addustour.com/ViewTopic.aspx?ac=%5CLocalAndGover%5C2012%5C11%5CLocalAndGover\\_issue1841\\_day06\\_id447600.htm#](http://www.addustour.com/ViewTopic.aspx?ac=%5CLocalAndGover%5C2012%5C11%5CLocalAndGover_issue1841_day06_id447600.htm#).  
<http://www.talabanews.net/node/27569#.UJYV-J1FTks>.  
[http://www.petra.gov.jo/Public\\_News/Nws\\_NewsDetails.aspx?Site\\_Id=2&lang=1&NewsID=89432&CatID=14&Type=Home&GType=1#.UJUzoduZO64](http://www.petra.gov.jo/Public_News/Nws_NewsDetails.aspx?Site_Id=2&lang=1&NewsID=89432&CatID=14&Type=Home&GType=1#.UJUzoduZO64).  
[http://www.ain.jo/node/206272?fb\\_action\\_ids=488853421147769&fb\\_action\\_types=og.likes&fb\\_source=aggregation&fb\\_aggregation\\_id=288381481237582](http://www.ain.jo/node/206272?fb_action_ids=488853421147769&fb_action_types=og.likes&fb_source=aggregation&fb_aggregation_id=288381481237582)  
[http://www.addustour.com/ViewTopic.aspx?ac=%5CLocalAndGover%5C2012%5C11%5CLocalAndGover\\_issue1839\\_day04\\_id447178.htm#](http://www.addustour.com/ViewTopic.aspx?ac=%5CLocalAndGover%5C2012%5C11%5CLocalAndGover_issue1839_day04_id447178.htm#).
2. The sampling results are pasted in this report.
3. A couple of pictures for the community consultations are also pasted in this report. Further pictures could be provided if needed.

**SAICM National Focal Point: .**

Mr. Ziyad Alawneh

Land and Human to Advocate Progress (LHAP)

**NGO Recommendations for next steps:**

1. Carry out a wider sampling campaign to include all companies, industries and their different types of paints. The study should also discuss alternatives and the constraints facing industry to produce lead free paint.
2. Form a national committee to draft a national legislation to manage paint market.
3. Carry out a wider awareness raising campaign with focus on schools, teachers, media and women specifically, in addition to decision makers.
4. Develop a black list of companies using lead in paint and communicate this to public.

5. Form a sort of a reference institution (could be the SAICM focal point) to issue " Paint Lead Free" certificate ( such as the ISO) so that people can safely buy the product which is lead free.