



## Children's Playgrounds Around the World Pose Lead Paint Danger

### - Summary of study results

#### Background

IPEN Participating Organizations (POs) in Indonesia, Malaysia, Mexico, the Philippines and Thailand visited children's playgrounds and measured lead content of the paint used on a total of 166 pieces of equipment using a portable x-ray fluorescence spectrometer. This screening was conducted to investigate if lead paint was used at these playgrounds and to raise awareness around the prevalence of playgrounds with dangerously high levels of lead.

#### Results and conclusions

- The majority of 66 screened playgrounds had equipment coated with paint containing total lead levels above 90 parts per million — the maximum limit [recommended](#) by the UN Environment Programme.
  - In Malaysia, Mexico, the Philippines, and Thailand, several playground items were painted with lead paint containing dangerously high levels of lead above 10,000 ppm.
  - In Malaysia, Mexico, and the Philippines, several playground items had extremely high lead levels above 100,000 ppm (i.e. above 10%).
- ⇒ All countries must act now to adopt regulations banning manufacture, import, sale, use, and export of all types of lead paint
- ⇒ Countries should inventory playgrounds to detect lead paint hazards and conduct safe removal or remediation of lead paint coated equipment

#### Summary of Results of Analysis for Lead in Playground Equipment.

Country	Number of playground items	Items with lead levels above 90 ppm	Items with lead levels above 10,000 ppm	Items with lead levels above 100,000 ppm
Indonesia	74	78%	0%	0%
Malaysia	10	80%	70%	10%
Mexico	16	88%	44%	25%
Philippines	55	91%	75%	31%
Thailand	11	100%	82%	0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>166</b>	<b>85%</b>	<b>39%</b>	<b>13%</b>

The study in [Indonesia](#), conducted by [Nexus3 Foundation](#)

The study in [Malaysia](#), conducted by [Consumers Association of Penang](#) (CAP)

The study in [Mexico](#), conducted by [Casa Cem](#)

The study in [Philippines](#), conducted by the [EcoWaste Coalition](#)

The study in [Thailand](#), conducted by [Ecological Alert and Recovery - Thailand](#) (EARTH)

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