

# Overview of Lead Paint Alliance & Health and Economic Impacts of Lead Exposure

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Global Alliance to  
Eliminate Lead Paint



# Lead is Poisonous

- Lead is harmful especially for children
- Life-long consequences in children including cognitive and behavioral deficits
- Globally lead paint is a major remaining source of childhood exposure
- There is no known level of lead exposure that is considered safe
- Damage from lead exposure is irreversible



# Lead Poisoning's Health and Economic Costs

- ▶ Exposure to lead has permanent negative impacts to children's developing brains.
- ▶ Lifelong consequences are borne by the affected children, their families, and societies at large.
- ▶ One key impact: reduction in intelligence quotient (IQ), which can be correlated with decreases in lifetime earning potential.



# Individual Children -> Global Costs

- ▶ Children's exposure to lead from all sources has staggering economic costs for countries
- ▶ \$977 billion in cost for low and middle-income countries from children's lost IQ
  - ▶ \$ 135 billion in Africa
  - ▶ \$ 142 billion in Latin America
  - ▶ \$ 700 billion in Asia



# Economic Impact - CARICOM

CARICOM Country	Annual Cost (\$ in millions)	% of GDP lost
Belize	51.5	2.15
Grenada	33.8	2.88
Guyana	72.3	2.78
Haiti	439.9	3.68
Jamaica	387.4	1.77
Saint Lucia	53.4	3.24
Saint Vincent + the Grenadines	32.7	2.77
Suriname	123.3	2.98

# About the Lead Paint Alliance

- ▶ Lead Paint Alliance is a voluntary global public/private partnership
- ▶ Secretariat: UNEP and WHO
- ▶ Chair of Advisory Group: United States
- ▶ Partners: Governments, NGOs and Industry
- ▶ Alliance is modeled on successful Partnership for Clean Fuels and Vehicles

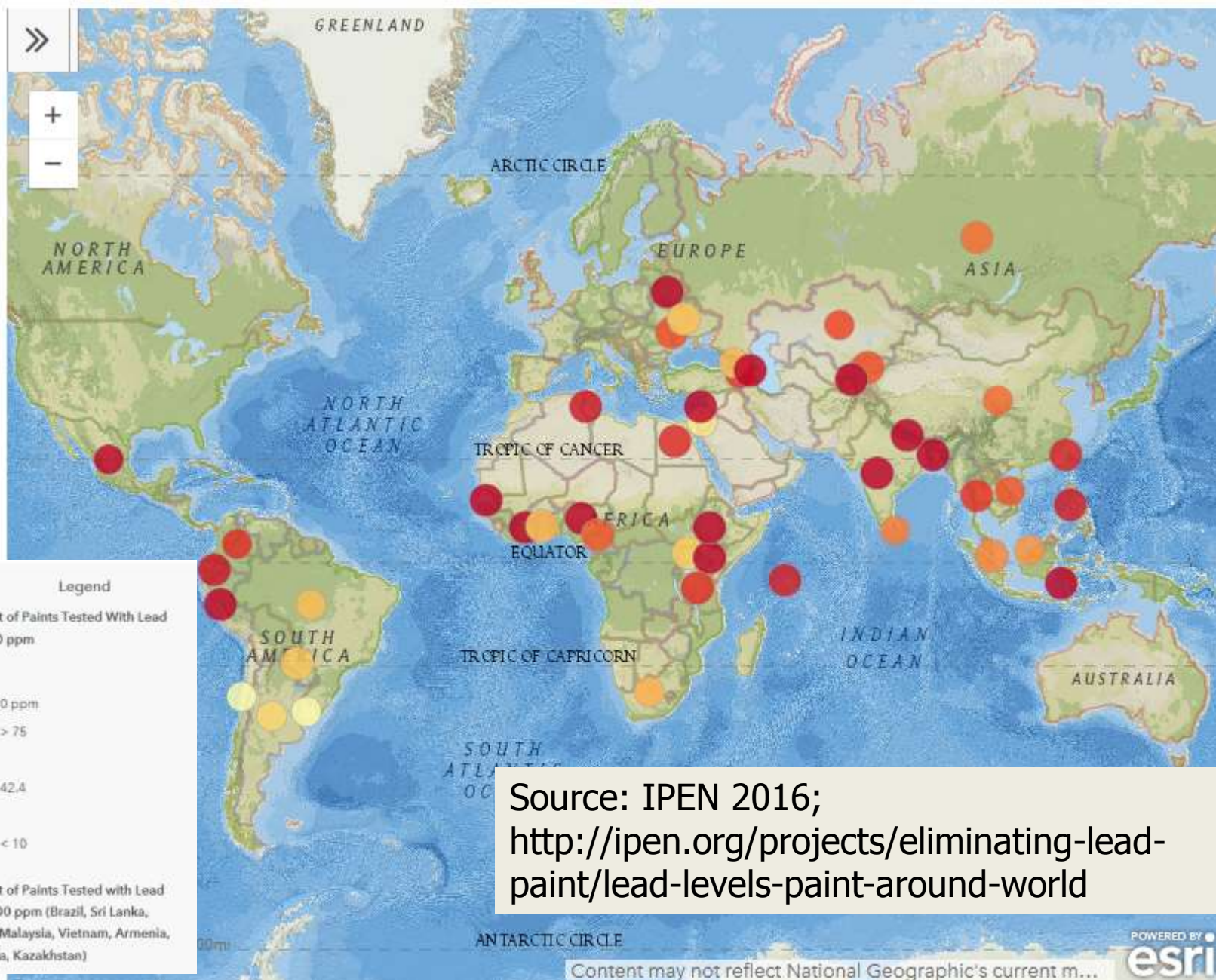
Global Citizens  
Earth Day 2015



**Goal: Lead Paint  
Laws globally by  
2020**



# Lead Paint Levels Around the World



# Key Activities of Lead Paint Alliance

- ▶ Developing a Guide and Sample Lead Paint Law
- ▶ Encouraging countries and regions to join the Lead Paint Alliance
- ▶ Supporting the *global effort to ban Lead in Paint by 2020*
- ▶ Providing information and tools. See those currently available at:

[www.unep.org/noleadinpaint](http://www.unep.org/noleadinpaint)



# THANK YOU

## For more information

- ▶ Lead Paint Alliance: [www.unep.org/noleadinpaint](http://www.unep.org/noleadinpaint)
- ▶ Lead Paint Alliance Toolkit:  
[www.unep.org/noleadpaint/toolkit](http://www.unep.org/noleadpaint/toolkit)
- ▶ Economic Impact of Childhood Lead Poisoning:  
<http://www.med.nyu.edu/pediatrics/research/environmentalpediatrics/leadexposure>