



## Agenda for Research Roundtable on Lead Poisoning

<b>Date and time</b>	Friday, 6 September, <b>10:30 AM – 1:00 PM</b> (Indian Standard Time)
<b>Objective</b>	The Advanced Study Institute of Asia, is organising a roundtable on lead poisoning with experts from South and Southeast Asia to address a pressing public health issue that significantly affects vulnerable populations, particularly children. The event aims to facilitate open dialogue and collaboration among experts in public health, environmental science, and policy-making, providing a platform for sharing insights on the current landscape of lead poisoning in their respective countries, discussing the effectiveness of existing initiatives, identifying best practices, and generating actionable strategies aimed at mitigating lead exposure, which is crucial for protecting public health.
<b>Speakers</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Siddika Sultana, Executive Director, Environment and Social Development Organization (ESDO), Bangladesh</li> <li>2. Dr. Suneel Pandey, Director, Circular Economy, and Waste Management, The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI), India</li> <li>3. Ram Charitra Sah, Executive Director, Centre for Public Health, and Environmental Development (CEPHED), Nepal</li> <li>4. Dr. Mahfuzar Rahman, Country Director, Pure Earth, Bangladesh</li> <li>5. Jeiel Guarino, Licensed chemist and Global Lead Paint Elimination Campaigner, International Pollutants Elimination Network (IPEN), Philippines</li> <li>6. Raja Ram Pote Shrestha, National Professional Officer, WHO, Nepal</li> <li>7. Abhishek Venkatesh, Chief Operating Officer, Foundation quality of India</li> </ol>
<b>Link to Join</b>	<a href="https://streamyard.com/x2n2pwvm42">https://streamyard.com/x2n2pwvm42</a>

### Session flow

<b>10:30 AM – 10:40 AM</b>		<b>Opening Remarks</b> (Ms. Neeti Goutam, Senior Manager: Research Communications, ASIA)
	<i>5 minutes</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Welcoming remarks to Speakers and Introduction</li> </ul>
	<i>5 minutes</i>	<b>(Moderator)</b> Ms. Shipra Agarwal, Senior Analyst: Health Disparities and Meta Evidence, ASIA
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Brief overview of the roundtable's purpose and objectives. <i>For all speakers- Setting a tone for the roundtable</i></li> </ul>
<b>35 minutes</b>		<b>First Round of questions and answers</b>
	<b>10:40 AM – 11:15 AM</b>	<i>General question for all</i>
	<i>5 minutes per speaker to answer</i>	In your opinion, what is the current status of lead poisoning in your country, and what are the primary challenges hindering progress in addressing this issue? Based on your experience, could you share some initiatives that have been implemented by your organization to combat lead poisoning?

50 minutes	Second Round of questions and answers
11:15 AM – 12:05 AM (7 min per speaker)	<i>Tackling Lead Exposure: Various Approaches</i>
<p>Advocacy Strategies for Stricter Lead Regulations: ESDO's Approach and Successes"</p> <p>Focus on waste management, providing an opportunity for him to share insights on practical solutions to a pressing public health issue.</p> <p>Challenges of implementing environmental regulations.</p> <p>Addressing Lead Pollution Challenges: Pure Earth's Collaborative Strategies in Bangladesh"</p> <p>IPEN's Advocacy for Eliminating Lead Chromates: Actions and Challenges</p> <p>Enhancing International Collaboration to Combat Lead Poisoning in Nepal.</p> <p>Discuss your strategies for awareness and the evaluation of their effectiveness.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u><i>Siddika Sultana, Executive Director, Environment and Social Development Organization (ESDO), Bangladesh</i></u></li> </ul> <p>What specific strategies has ESDO employed to effectively engage government agencies and stakeholders in advocating for stricter regulations on lead in paints, toys, and food containers? Can you share some examples of successful policy changes that ESDO has influenced to reduce lead pollution and safeguard public health in Bangladesh?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u><i>Dr. Suneel Pandey, Director, Circular Economy, and Waste Management, The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI), India</i></u></li> </ul> <p>What key strategies does TERI employ to influence policy changes regarding lead poisoning, and how do you prioritize actions to ensure effective waste management and public health outcomes in India?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u><i>Ram Charitra Sah, Executive Director, Centre for Public Health, and Environmental Development (CEPHED), Nepal</i></u></li> </ul> <p>What strategies has CEPHED implemented to ensure compliance with lead paint standards in Nepal, and what specific challenges have you encountered in holding paint companies accountable? Additionally, how do you plan to address these challenges to better protect public health, particularly for vulnerable groups like children?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u><i>Dr. Mahfuzar Rahman, Country Director, Pure Earth, Bangladesh</i></u></li> </ul> <p>What are the most significant challenges you face in addressing lead pollution in Bangladesh, particularly in informal sectors like battery recycling, and how does Pure Earth plan to tackle these challenges through collaboration with local communities and government agencies?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u><i>Jeiel Guarino, Licensed chemist and Global Lead Paint Elimination Campaigner, International Pollutants Elimination Network (IPEN), Philippines</i></u></li> </ul> <p>What specific actions is IPEN taking to advocate for the elimination of lead chromates in paint, and what key challenges does IPEN face in promoting the transition to lead-free paints?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u><i>Raja Ram Pote Shrestha, National Professional Officer, WHO, Nepal</i></u></li> </ul> <p>As a National Professional Officer at WHO, how do you envision the role of international collaboration in addressing lead poisoning in Nepal, and what initiatives is WHO currently supporting to enhance community awareness and prevention efforts?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u><i>Abhishek Venkatesh, Chief Operating Officer, Foundation quality of India</i></u></li> </ul> <p>What innovative strategies has the Foundation for Quality India implemented to effectively raise awareness about lead toxicity, and how do you evaluate the success of these initiatives in improving public health outcomes?</p>
12: 05 PM – 12:15 PM (10 minutes)	<u><b>BREAK</b></u>

35 minutes		Third round of forming a Working Group
	12: 15 PM – 12:50 PM (5 minutes per speaker)	<i>Strategic Actions for Eliminating Lead Poisoning: Organizational Commitments for the next 2-5 Years</i>
	The moderator asks each speaker to make one last 2-minute intervention to close the round with a recommendation or priority area.	<p><u>Dr. Mahfuzar Rahman, Country Director, Pure Earth, Bangladesh</u></p> <p>What future research and interventions do you believe are needed to effectively address this issue going forward?</p> <p><u>Ram Charitra Sah, Executive Director, Centre for Public Health, and Environmental Development (CEPHED), Nepal</u></p> <p>What policy changes do you recommend to reduce lead exposure and improve public health responses?</p> <p><u>Raja Ram Pote Shrestha, National Professional Officer, WHO, Nepal</u></p> <p>Given your expertise in environmental health and chemical safety, what specific strategies do you believe are most effective in reducing lead exposure among vulnerable populations in Nepal, specifically children and people in occupational settings?"</p> <p><u>Jeiel Guarino, Licensed chemist and Global Lead Paint Elimination Campaigner, International Pollutants Elimination Network (IPEN), Philippines</u></p> <p>In your experience, what are the most effective methods for raising public awareness about the dangers of lead chromates in paint, and how can communities be empowered to take action?</p> <p><u>Dr. Suneel Pandey, Director, Circular Economy, and Waste Management, The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI), India</u></p> <p>What strategies would you recommend for effectively reducing lead contamination in urban environments, particularly in areas with high exposure risks?</p> <p><u>Abhishek Venkatesh, Chief Operating Officer, Foundation quality of India</u></p> <p>What steps can we take to ensure that consumer products in India are safe by enhancing quality control, enforcing regulations on lead content, and increasing community awareness about the dangers of lead poisoning?</p>
	5 minutes	Questions from the participants
		<i>The moderator takes two questions from the audience and allows for two different speakers to respond one each.</i>
	12: 50 PM – 1:00 PM (10 minutes)	Conclusion and Closing remarks