



**Urban Planning,
Environment
and Health Initiative**

Urban Planning, Environment and Health Initiative

More information:
www.isglobal.org/urban-planning

ISGlobal **Barcelona
Institute for
Global Health**

**The Urban Planning, Environment and
Health Initiative transfers scientific
evidence and tools to promote healthy
and sustainable urban development.**

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Quick facts

- **Cities can avoid 20% of premature deaths with better urban and transport planning.**
- **Recent study shows that traffic pollution alters brain development in school children.**
- **Policies that stimulate active and public transportation (walking and bicycling) have been shown to produce significant health benefits.**
- **People who live in cities with sufficient green space have a 20% lower risk of mental health problems. Well designed urban spaces are cost effective ways to boost mental health.**

Air pollution causes 7 million deaths per year - one in eight of total global deaths

Goals

- **Translate** scientific evidence to make it accessible and relevant for policy and decision making.
- **Create** a community of practice among urban and transport planners, health professionals, and economic and environmental specialists to create common language and criteria across sectors.
- **Foster** innovative tools and approaches to address health challenges posed by urbanisation.
- **Engage** with the public and other key stakeholders inform priorities and ensure uptake of our work.
- **Build** capacity through education and training programs to train current practitioners and future leaders.

Overview

By 2050 nearly 70% of the world's population will live in urban areas, representing the largest urban growth in human history. **Health is an indicator of and a prerequisite** to sustainable development. Natural disasters, epidemics and climate change highlight the intertwined existence of humans and their environment, nowhere more so than in cities.

Cities can be **leaders** in tackling problems such as high air pollution and noise, heat island effects, lack of green space and sedentary behaviour.

ISGlobal has created the **Urban Planning, Environment and Health Initiative**. The initiative brings together experts, practitioners and decision-makers across sectors to address the challenges posed by urbanisation, putting health and well being at the centre of urban development.

Through research, advocacy, policy and capacity building the **Urban Planning, Environment and Health Initiative** engages with key stakeholders and the public for **transformative action and impact in society**.

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