

# Infographic. ISPAH's Eight Investments That Work for Physical Activity: infographic, animation and call to action

The International Society for Physical Activity and Health



Figure 1 Infographic.

Physical activity is an encompassing term for all human movement, in homes, schools, organisations and communities. Physical activity benefits individuals and societies, contributing to many of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals, as outlined in International Society for Physical Activity and Health (ISPAH)'s Bangkok Declaration.<sup>1</sup> The health benefits of physical activity are established and multifaceted and include reduced risk of a wide range of non-communicable diseases as well as improved mental health, sleep and cognitive function.<sup>2</sup>

Globally, around one in four adults and four in five adolescents are insufficiently active,<sup>3,4</sup> and inequities in participation exist by geography, sex and socioeconomic status. In response, two targets have been endorsed by the World Health Assembly, for a global reduction in physical inactivity by 10% by 2025 and 15% by 2030.<sup>5</sup> In order to achieve these targets, advocacy and delivery efforts will need to be accelerated.<sup>3,4</sup> A key tenet of successful public health advocacy is gaining consensus on 'what works'. ISPAH's Eight Investments That Work for Physical Activity<sup>6</sup> provides eight areas for action, supporting the WHO Global Action Plan on Physical Activity 2018–2030.<sup>5</sup>

### WHAT ARE THE EIGHT INVESTMENTS THAT WORK?

ISPAH's Eight Investments That Work for Physical Activity<sup>6</sup> provides a summary of eight areas for action that are supported by scientific evidence and have worldwide applicability. It is a 'call to action for everyone, everywhere, including professionals, academics, civil society and decision makers, to embed physical activity in national and subnational policies'.<sup>6</sup> The document updates and builds upon the 2010 Toronto Charter for Physical Activity<sup>7</sup> and accompanying 2011 Investments that Work for Physical Activity.<sup>8</sup>

Central to ISPAH's Eight Investments That Work for Physical Activity<sup>6</sup> is a system-based approach. Recognising there is no single solution to increase physical activity, this document acknowledges that investments should not be expected to work in isolation; instead they should be combined to work together in a coherent and complementary way. It recognises that multiple stakeholders from diverse contexts can, and should, be united to tackle physical inactivity. Some

stakeholders will be new to our physical activity agenda. By engaging in a system-based approach, these stakeholders can not only connect how their work contributes to physical activity promotion but also how their agenda is influenced by promoting physical activity. As an example, transport planners who want to build a bicycle network will understand that cycle paths are a highly efficient use of space for transport, but through a system-based approach, they will also recognise the co-benefits to local businesses and population levels of physical activity.

ISPAH has adapted the content of ISPAH's Eight Investments That Work for Physical Activity<sup>6</sup> into an infographic (figure 1) and an animation (<https://youtu.be/CMjizuPU9tQ>) to increase awareness of the initiative, distill key information for a wide range of stakeholders and re-emphasise the 'call to action'. Our ambition is that this document will be used by physical activity advocates around the world to make the case for investment and action as well as to mobilise communities globally to create a more physically active world. Readers can find further advocacy tools on the ISPAH website in the advocacy toolkit: [www.ispah.org/resources](http://www.ispah.org/resources).

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