

Recommendations: The Right to Physical and Mental Health

TRIPLE BENEFITS FOR GOVERNMENTS, INVESTORS, AND CITIZENS

The actions below will reduce outdoor and indoor air pollution and improve residents' short and long-term physical and mental health, as well as address health disparities between neighbourhoods. This will lead to lower health care costs and increased worker productivity, generate an attractive environment for further investment, and strengthen users' and communities' approval of buildings, places and their local representatives.



GOVERNMENT

- **Align** built environment decarbonisation strategies with physical and mental health strategies, and ensure effective coordination between departments of urban development, climate and environment, and health
- **Channel finance** to building retrofits of hospitals, medical centres and care centres for the elderly
- **Expand access** to green public spaces in the city, which advances decarbonisation and health goals – ensure free and unconditional access for all citizens



FINANCE

- **Invest** in companies that are developing **clean and circular approaches** to construction materials, minimising pollution and the resulting impacts on health
- **Invest** in companies that are developing **nature-based approaches** to climate mitigation and adaptation; ensure these companies have adequate human rights due diligence processes in place
- **Require** that portfolio companies engaging in housing development adhere to the WHO Housing and Health Guidelines



PROJECT

- **Assess and address** physical and mental health risks and opportunities through all stages of the project, monitor outcomes and address concerns as they arise
- Incorporate **evidence-based design** to develop physically and mentally healthy projects