BACKGROUND AND MISSION
The Institute of Social and Preventive Medicine (ISPM) at the University of Bern provides undergraduate and postgraduate education and carries out interdisciplinary research in the fields of social and behavioural health, clinical epidemiology and biostatistics, and international and environmental health. The mission of the ISPM is to contribute to the promotion of health and prevention of disease through research, teaching and services at home and internationally; advance and disseminate knowledge of health and disease in populations through rigorous and interdisciplinary academic research; educate students at graduate and postgraduate level and equip individuals to serve as public health practitioners; discover and evaluate opportunities to improve health and to apply this knowledge to help formulate cantonal, national and international policy.

AREAS OF INTEREST
- Teaching (undergraduate and postgraduate) in medicine and global health
- Social and behavioural health
- Clinical epidemiology and biostatistics
- International and environmental health

HEALTH-RELATED ACTIVITIES
The Institute of Social and Preventative Medicine contributes to study programmes in Human Medicine (Bachelor's and Master's) and Biomedical Sciences (Master's) at the University of Bern. The ISPM also organises a number of research groups to act as networks for people with similar research interests, helping to encourage communication and generate new ideas. To this end the ISPM hosts lunchtime research seminars for the presentation and discussion of ongoing research work. Finally, the ISPM develops international projects and collaborations, including Esther Switzerland (Network for the Promotion of Institutional Health Partnerships), and IeDEA-SA (International epidemiologic Databases to Evaluate AIDS).

GOVERNANCE AND STAFF
The ISPM is headed by a Director, Deputy-Director, and 14-person Management Board. There are 13 Heads of Research Groups. Overall, the ISPM team comprises 136 people, including PhD students and research fellows.

FUNDING SOURCES AND BUDGET
A Swiss public university, the University of Bern is mainly funded by the Canton of Bern.
PUBLICATIONS
For news, see: http://www.ispm.unibe.ch/about_us/news/index_eng.html
For publications ordered by year, see:
http://www.ispm.unibe.ch/research/publications/index_eng.html

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