



ITU STRATEGY 2022-2025



INTRODUCTION

Over the last decades, society has undergone a massive digital transformation – a transformation that will continue in the coming decades. With the Internet, information can now be distributed and shared with amazing speed and efficiency. But the distribution of information is only one part of the equation. The other part is the revolution in computation and data processing as signified by the rise of big data and artificial intelligence.



The use of data and computation has both enormous potential and major implications for all people and all areas of society, ranging from education and business to health, transportation, and energy. Foundational institutions of Danish society, such as welfare and democracy, are no exception. As an international front-runner on digitalisation, Denmark has a particular need for knowledge and competences related to the digitalisation of society.



GUIDING PURPOSE OF ITU

“The mission of the IT University of Copenhagen (ITU) is to deliver internationally leading teaching and research that enable Denmark to become exceptionally good at creating value with IT.”

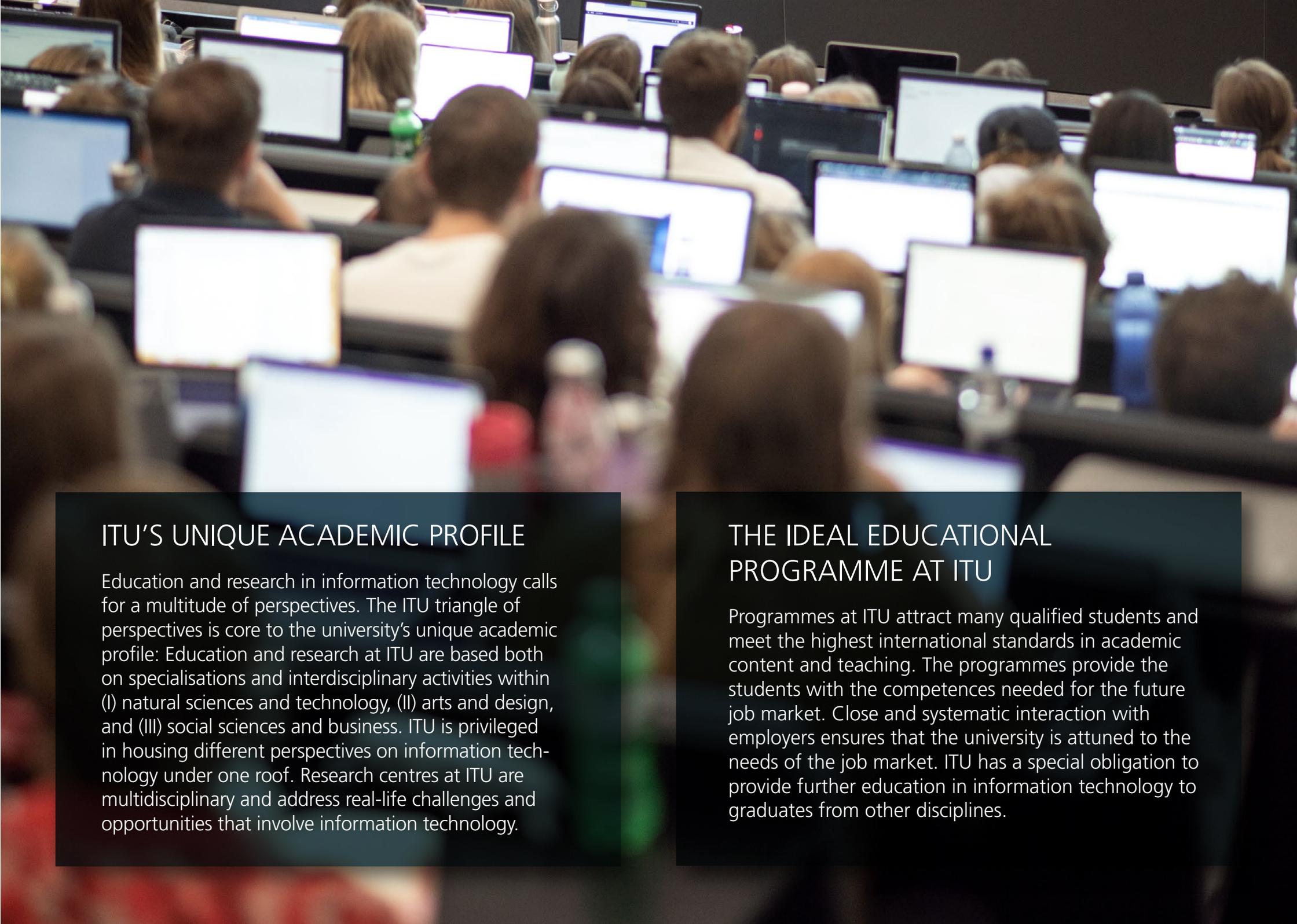
Internationally leading teaching and research

ITU is an international research university that offers research-based education in IT. Teaching and research activities meet the highest international standards, and faculty consists of researchers internationally renowned within their fields.

Enable Denmark to become exceptionally good at creating value with IT

ITU is a publicly funded Danish university. The university therefore has a special obligation towards Danish society. As an international research university, ITU collaborates with research universities across the world and attracts international talent to Denmark.

ITU enables Denmark to create value with IT by (I) educating IT professionals at university level, (II) providing further education and lifelong learning in IT, (III) creating and sharing knowledge within IT that is both profound and useful for society, (IV) training IT researchers at PhD, postdoctoral and higher levels, and (V) collaborating with external stakeholders on challenges and opportunities that involve IT in the public and private sectors.



ITU'S UNIQUE ACADEMIC PROFILE

Education and research in information technology calls for a multitude of perspectives. The ITU triangle of perspectives is core to the university's unique academic profile: Education and research at ITU are based both on specialisations and interdisciplinary activities within (I) natural sciences and technology, (II) arts and design, and (III) social sciences and business. ITU is privileged in housing different perspectives on information technology under one roof. Research centres at ITU are multidisciplinary and address real-life challenges and opportunities that involve information technology.

THE IDEAL EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMME AT ITU

Programmes at ITU attract many qualified students and meet the highest international standards in academic content and teaching. The programmes provide the students with the competences needed for the future job market. Close and systematic interaction with employers ensures that the university is attuned to the needs of the job market. ITU has a special obligation to provide further education in information technology to graduates from other disciplines.

A young man and woman are standing on a balcony, looking at a smartphone together. The man is on the left, wearing a dark blue patterned shirt, and the woman is on the right, wearing a black floral dress. They are both smiling and looking at the phone. The background shows a modern building with large windows and a metal railing.

STRATEGIC GOALS FOR ITU

In Denmark, the demand for people who can create value with IT is significant and will only increase in the years to come. The unique profile of ITU makes us particularly well-positioned in meeting this demand. Provided that we obtain strong political and financial support, our ambition is to *double our activities before 2030*, covering full-time education of university level IT professionals, production of excellent research with a societal impact, education of IT researchers, further education, and lifelong learning. We will strive for the highest quality in all our activities while maintaining our focus on an attractive study and work environment.



① EDUCATE MORE IT PROFESSIONALS AND IT RESEARCHERS

Research-based education of university level IT professionals and training of IT researchers is the main contribution of ITU to society. In addition to increasing the volume of students and graduates in general, we will focus on gender diversity in all educational programmes, including the PhD programme. High employability of graduates is considered one of the strongest indicators of quality of education.

Increase the volume of students and graduates

There is a great demand for more IT professionals to create value with IT. Full-time education of university level IT professionals will always be a core activity at ITU, but we will increase our presence in multiple education segments including further education and lifelong learning. We will continue to develop ITU's pedagogical principles and our teaching methods for the supportive potential of new learning technologies.

Increase the volume of PhD graduates

Our PhD programme is an important element of our pledge and responsibility to provide research capacity building within IT and research-based education. The success of the programme is a key factor to our success as an actor within the university sector.

Strive for gender diversity among graduates

At present, only approx. 30% of employees in the Danish IT sector are women. Gender diversity is a national focus area and ITU is committed to supporting this objective on all levels – from bachelor to PhD graduates – and in all educational programmes.

High employability of graduates

We will educate and train competent and skilled graduates to the benefit of the market. An ongoing and systematic dialogue with employers will ensure that the right match is made between graduates and employers.



② ENGAGE IN RESEARCH AND EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES THAT HELP SHAPE A SUSTAINABLE DIGITAL FUTURE

As a hub of knowledge and talent, ITU will help shape a digital future supporting a sustainable development of society. We will pursue both research excellence and societal impact, and we will collaborate with external partners on challenges and opportunities that involve IT – and by providing relevant further education and lifelong learning.

Connect digital technologies and services to the green transition

ITU has the potential to contribute significantly to the all-important green transition in society. Digital technologies are key elements in many green technologies; efficient and proper use of digital technologies plays an important role for the widespread adoption of green technologies. Data and software are key components in solving the climate challenge. We will educate graduates and we will contribute with research, innovation, and entrepreneurship activities that will help to address challenges posed by the green transition.

Become a preferred research partner for relevant private and public organisations

There is a great need for universities to collaborate with the Danish private and public sectors as they undertake digital transformations and employ new technologies to grow and improve business. We have a lot to offer with our profound understanding of IT. ITU must become more visible among potential research collaborators and ideally become a preferred partner for private and public organisations working on challenges and opportunities that involve IT.

Contribute to primary and secondary education and enable lifelong learning in IT

As a research university specialising in IT, we have an obligation to contribute to developing further education and lifelong learning in IT, for instance, through partnerships. We will strive to contribute to development projects on IT education, as well as offer relevant training courses to a wide audience (including scalable online courses/modules).

Document the impact and visibility of our research

Documenting and illustrating the impact of ITU's contribution to research globally will bolster ITU's image as a research university. International visibility will help attract highly qualified researchers and educators as well as international and national research partners outside the university.

③ ENABLE ALL STUDENTS AND STAFF TO THRIVE AND EXCEL TOGETHER

The most valuable asset of any organisation – and in particular a knowledge institution such as a university – is its people. An attractive study and work environment is a prerequisite for students and staff to thrive and excel together – and thereby fulfil the strategic goals of ITU.

An attractive and inclusive study environment

An attractive and inclusive study environment is necessary to attract motivated and qualified students and ensure the desired volume of applicants. It will also help students thrive socially and academically – and motivate them to finish their degrees on time.

An attractive and inclusive workplace

ITU can only fulfil its mission if we have highly competent people on all vital posts – education, research, and administration – and we will only be able to attract and retain the right people if we are able to provide our employees with an attractive and inclusive workplace – this entails a clear focus on diversity across all parts of the organisation.

