SDG 10 Reduced Inequalities

ITS SDG Report 2025



ITS contributes to SDG 10 by working to reduce barriers to education, strengthen inclusion, and widen access to opportunities. Scholarships can help students from financially disadvantaged backgrounds participate in higher education. Inclusive education initiatives address the barriers experienced by students with disabilities, including challenges related to digital learning and access to science and technology programmes. Community literacy activities extend educational resources beyond the university campus. Institutional mechanisms that support student welfare and prevent violence are also important to ensuring equitable participation. Together, these efforts connect access to education with a broader commitment to dignity, safety, and social inclusion. Reporting participation and outcomes for different groups would help demonstrate whether these initiatives are reducing inequalities in practice.

61
publications

1,276
number of int'l students from developing countries

30%
proportion of first generation students

2,055
number of first generation students starting a degree

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Research

Students from the Department of Statistics showcased SignBridge, an inclusive application designed to facilitate communication for people with disabilities in June 2025. SignBridge features include sign-language translation, voice-based object and text recognition, and educational games, using machine learning and natural language processing to support accessible communication and social participation. ITS also advanced inclusive education through research led by Siti Nurlaela, Ph.D., improving higher education access for students with disabilities which included initiatives as Braille learning materials, 3D-printed tactile teaching aids, and audio-based resources to make learning more accessible to students with visual impairments.

Teaching

ITS embeds inclusion and equitable development in our teaching through courses such as Gender and Development, Sociology of Development, and Community Development and Advocacy, included in the Development Studies curriculum for 2023–2028. These subjects provide an academic foundation for examining social inequalities, community participation, and development policy. Classroom learning is complemented by engagement with policymakers, when ITS hosted a guest lecture with the Minister of Transmigration exploring equitable access to opportunities, regional disparities, and community-based development.

Stewardship

ITS promotes equal opportunities through non-discriminatory admissions, financial assistance, accessible facilities, and support for students with disabilities. In 2025, ITS recorded 18,543 recipients of assistance and incentives, encompassing ministry-funded and ITS scholarships, living-cost support and other schemes. ITS also provides facilities such as ramps, guiding blocks and accessible toilets, complemented by staff sign-language training and the development of inclusive academic support. Together, these measures address financial, physical and communication barriers, helping students from diverse backgrounds participate in university life.

Outreach

ITS collaborates with communities and government partners to address inequalities in regional development, housing and education. In 2025, its Patriot Expedition deployed 228 students across 57 teams to 33 transmigration areas in 17 provinces, assessing infrastructure gaps, socioeconomic conditions, and local economic potential to inform development recommendations tailored to community needs. Furthermore, YMI and IKA ITS supported the renovation of an unsafe home for a low-income resident, partnering with Surabaya City Government to provide safer living conditions. Educational outreach complemented these efforts through JMMI Mengajar on 29 June–4 July 2025, where student volunteers delivered science, technology, numeracy, and creative learning activities to school-age learners in Sidoarjo.