



ITEM

amU Mediterranean institute for
environmental transition
Aix Marseille Université



Forming a community

Training through and for research

Connecting disciplines

Strengthening partnerships

Acting internationally

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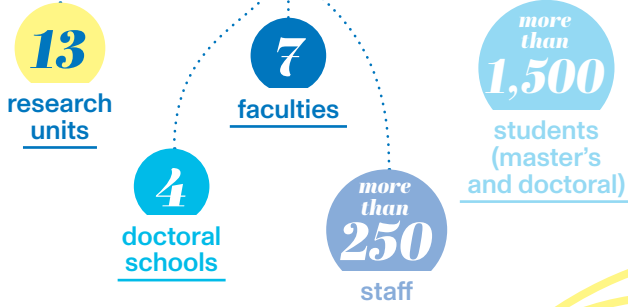


ITEM

Our DNA: to embody a more responsible and sustainable society, and train all the players involved

ITEM, created in 2020, aims to generate and disseminate new knowledge, shape talent and combine teaching and top-level research to drive the environmental transition, embodying a more responsible and sustainable society. Our actions are focused on 3 major challenges: analysing social and environmental changes, rationalising resources to limit contamination and optimise their use, and ensuring the resilience of societies in the face of environmental risks. The institute's strength lies in its ability to tackle these crucial issues using a resolutely cross-disciplinary approach that overcomes the fragmentation of knowledge and paves the way for developing solutions and changes in practices and usages that can respond to global change.

Forming a community



- Environmental transition
- Sustainability sciences
- Interdisciplinarity
- Research-action
- Global changes
- Solutions



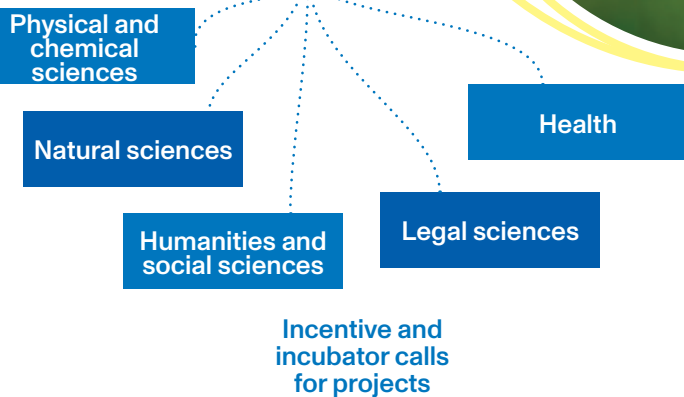
Training through and for research

- Professionalisation of training courses through the annual organisation of numerous schools and field studies
- 60 months of master's internships per year funded by ITEM
- Funding for theses and postdoctorates

Acting internationally

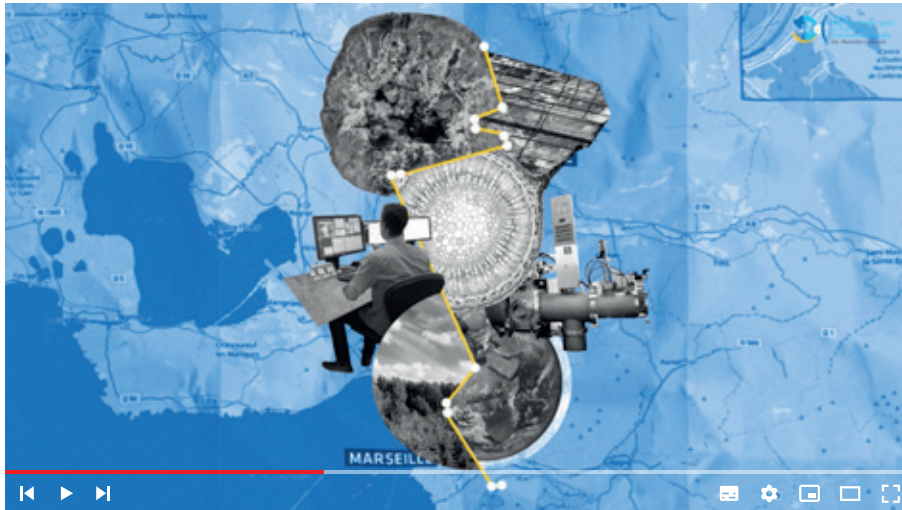
- Doctoral mobility grants
- International field schools
- Theses under joint supervision and co-direction

Connecting disciplines



Strengthening partnerships

- GREC-Sud: PACA climate experts group
- CISAM+: Innovation and knowledge hubs on university campuses
- Marseille public university hospital system (AP-HM)
- CNRS Mission for cross-disciplinary and interdisciplinary initiatives (CNRS-MITI)



Watch the institute's animated film



Meet our executive office



Deputy research director:
Patricia Bonin



Director:
Henri Wortham



Deputy training director:
Franck Torre



Project manager:
Sophie Pekar

Associate members:

Carole Barthelemy, Pierre Fournier, Samuel Robert

Discover the entire governance team:
<http://url.univ-amu.fr/institut-item-gouvernance>

Focus on our calls for projects

The institute has set out ambitious action plans, based on annual calls for projects to achieve its objectives:

- **Transition in Action call for projects:** the aim is to encourage the emergence of 2 to 3 integrated and innovative research projects that are deliberately cross-disciplinary, cross-sectoral and large-scale. Each project is awarded 2 research grants (PhD and Postdoc)
- **Incubator call for projects:** the goal is to encourage innovation and scientific daring by supporting what might seem to be "risky" projects, designed to test innovative themes or concepts that break with standard practice.

These call for projects also help create innovative training courses, focusing on interdisciplinarity and professionalisation through field schools, and offering opportunities meet socio-economic players as well as providing work placements for Master 2 students: **Field Schools call for projects** and **Flash Internships call for projects**.

Contact

Director: Henri Wortham
Project manager: Sophie Pekar

item-contact@univ-amu.fr

www.univ-amu.fr/item





Training at ITEM

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*Training for, through and in research,
with continuity from master's to doctorate level*

Training for, through and in research,
with continuity from master's to doctorate level

Our ecosystem

more than
1300

master's
students¹

7

partner
faculties

► Observatory for the sciences of the Universe (OSU Pythéas)

► Faculty of arts, letters, languages and humanities (ALLSH)

► Faculty of law and political science (FDSP)

► Faculty of sciences (FS)

► Institute for public management and territorial governance (IMPGT)

► Mediterranean centre for social sciences and humanities (MMSH)

► Faculty of medical and paramedical sciences (SMPM)

200

PhD
students²

4

partner
doctoral
schools

► Legal and political sciences (ED 67)

► Environmental sciences (ED 251)

► Spaces, cultures, societies (ED 355)

► Economic and management sciences (ED 372)

24

master's specialisations

► Biodiversity, ecology and evolution

► Biology-health

► Environmental management

► Law, urban planning

► Geography, planning, environment and development

► History, civilisations, heritage

► Public management

► Marine, earth and planetary sciences

► Sociology

► ...

1

interdisciplinary
doctoral
programme

Consult all master's degree specialisations:



¹ students enrolled on master's specialisations attached to the institute

² doctoral students enrolled in our partner doctoral schools

Our key actions (2020-2023)

► Field schools (professionalisation of training through hands-on experience): 4 editions per year on average.

16

field schools

394

students

► Funded immersion placements in ITEM member laboratories or in a "duo" with a socio-economic structure

247

months of
internships

► **7** theses funded to date (Transition in Action call for projects)

► **5** doctoral mobility grants per year

► **10** state-of-the-art platforms and observatories available to students

► Annual support scheme for funded interns: interdisciplinary approach, climate mural training...

► Incorporating the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) into training

"Along with providing high-quality theoretical training, the MAEVA Master's degree offered by ITEM includes many professional experiences. I was specifically able to take part in a field school on pollution (POLEMIL) and a summer school in Indonesia in partnership with UMRH, which dealt with practical issues. All this enabled me to move on to doing a thesis at LCE, the Laboratory of environmental chemistry."



Mathieu Dumas
Doctoral student, Laboratory of environmental chemistry

Our international training initiatives

2 international field schools

(partnership in Sicily, international cooperation agreement with Indonesia)

CIVIS alliance

European civic university

Theses under joint supervision or co-direction

with other countries (Spain, Morocco)

51 nationalities among our students

5 awards doctoral mobility per year

Contact

Deputy training director: Franck Torre

item-contact@univ-amu.fr

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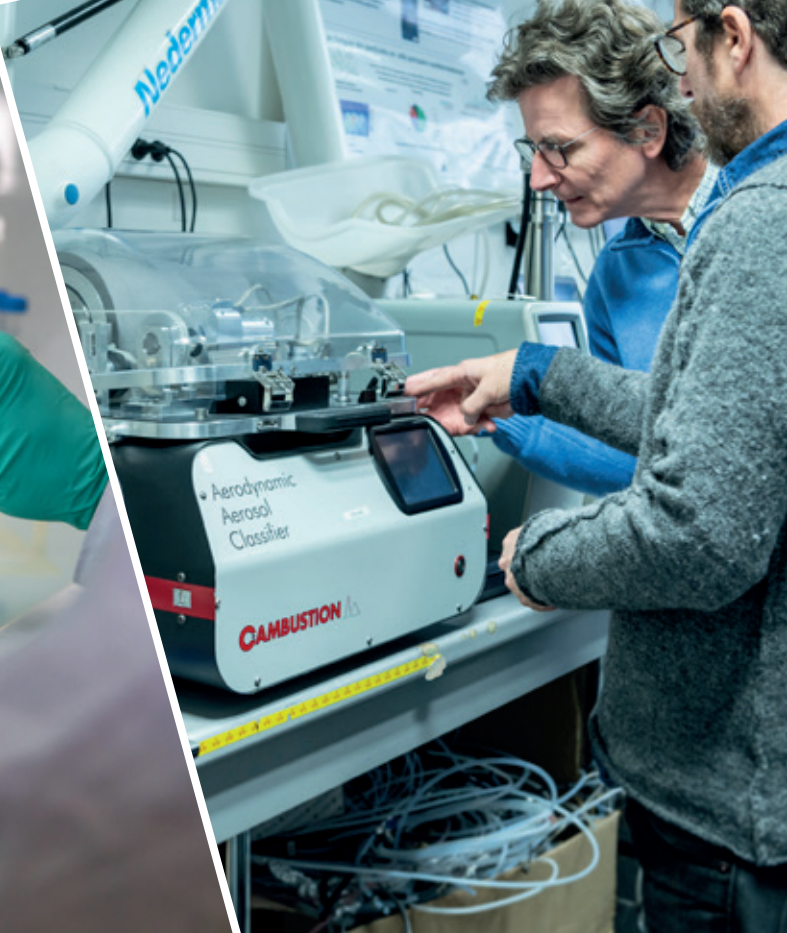
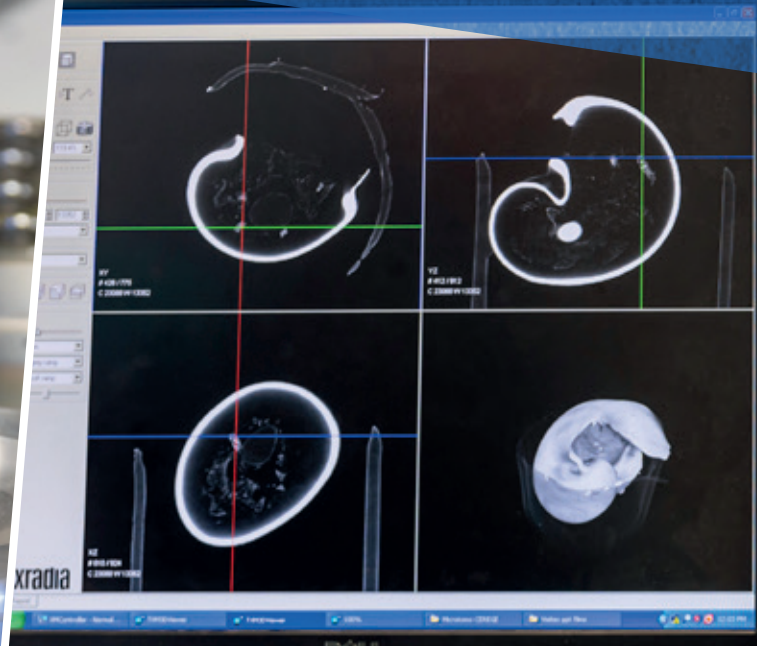




Research at ITEM

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*Joining forces to become a key
environmental transition stakeholder*



Joining forces to become a key environmental transition stakeholder

Research ecosystem

13
research
units

Environment

- ▶ European research and teaching centre in environmental geosciences (CEREGE)
- ▶ Comparative and European international law (DICE)
- ▶ Study of structures, adaptation processes and changes in space (ESPACE)
- ▶ Mediterranean institute of marine and terrestrial biodiversity and ecology (IMBE)
- ▶ Laboratory of environmental chemistry? filed under environment (LCE)
- ▶ Interdisciplinary laboratory for urban planning (LIEU)
- ▶ Population environment development laboratory (LPED)
- ▶ Mediterranean institute of oceanography (MIO)
- ▶ Risks, ecosystems, vulnerability, environment, resilience (RECOVER)

Energy

- ▶ Aix-Marseille biosciences and biotechnologies (BIAM)

Humanities

- ▶ Aix-Marseille centre for management studies and research (CERGAM)
- ▶ Mediterranean centre for sociology, political science and history (MESOPOLHIS)
- ▶ Time, space, language in southern Europe and the Mediterranean (TELEMME)

"Funding from ITEM enabled me to head up the ALCOVE project, providing significant progress in our understanding of the impact of sustainable wine-making practices on the soil-vine continuum. Its success is based on genuine synergy between environmental sciences (biotechnologies, chemistry, ecology and genotoxicology) and humanities (psychosociology, geography). This project is perfectly anchored in the socio-professional sphere, helping to get new paradigms and practices adopted to meet the challenges of environmental transition."



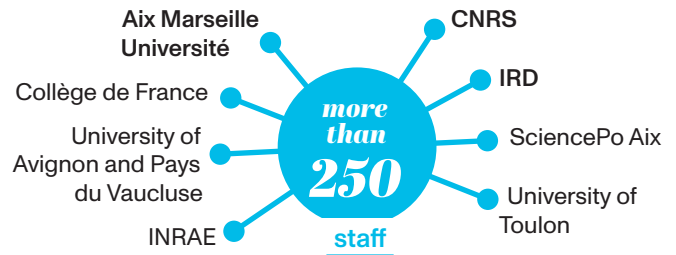
Anne Marie Farnet Da Silva
Senior Lecturer HC, HDR, IMBE
PI of the ALCOVE project (AgricuLture
bioContrôle biOfertilisant VIticoLEs)

Contact

Deputy research director: Patricia Bonin

item-contact@univ-amu.fr

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Our main areas of research

The institute's research stands out for its commitment to tackling the fundamental issues linked to changes in societal practices and customs that are essential if we are to move towards a more responsible and sustainable society. The holistic approach, which is both cross-disciplinary and cross-sectoral, can be broken down into the following 3 areas:

- ▶ Analysis of socio-environmental changes for a transition strategy
- ▶ Resource management for environmental transition
- ▶ Resilience of companies to risks within a context of transition

Our key actions (2020-2023)

- ▶ Support for key themes: energy transition, sustainable water and waste management, sustainable land use, biodiversity dynamics, green cities, multiple risks.
- ▶ 9 integrated and innovative interdisciplinary and cross-functional research projects
- ▶ An annual call for interdisciplinary, integrated and innovative projects, each with 2 grants (PhD and/or PostDoc) and an operating budget
- ▶ Recruitment of 7 PhD students, 9 postdoctoral students and 4 PhDs funded by partners in ITEM projects
- ▶ 1 CIFRE thesis with an economic partner, 1 inter-doctoral school thesis, 1 joint supervision thesis, 1 co-direction thesis
- ▶ One "Incubator" call for projects per year to test innovative research themes or concepts
- ▶ 10 state-of-the-art platforms and observatories



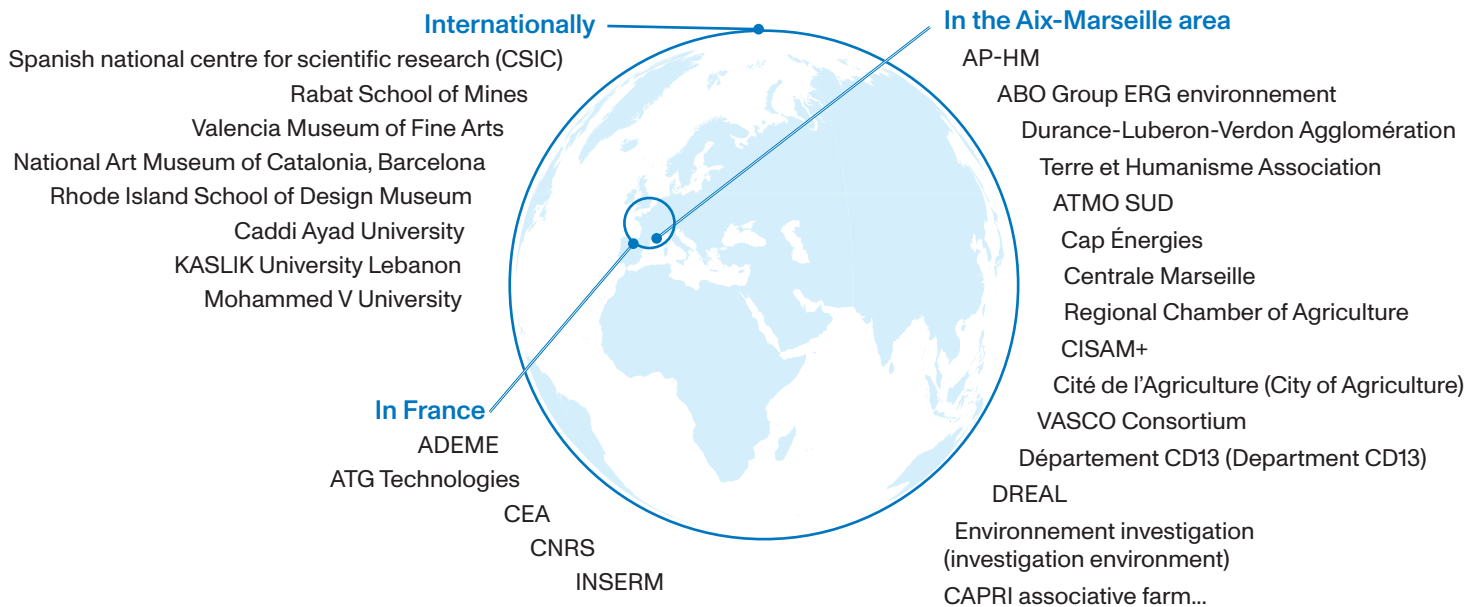
Strengthening and developing special links with academic and institutional players and the socio-economic and cultural world

"ITEM has supported the RapMed automatic plankton recognition project, combining the expertise of CEREGE in geosciences and AI, and MIO in oceanography. This collaboration has generated new methods, which will be used in the Amidex Transfer "MicroTree" project with the ATG Technologie robotics SME to create an automated microparticle sorting platform."



Thibault de Garide
CNRS researcher at CEREGE,
RapMed project initiator

Our key partners include



Our key actions

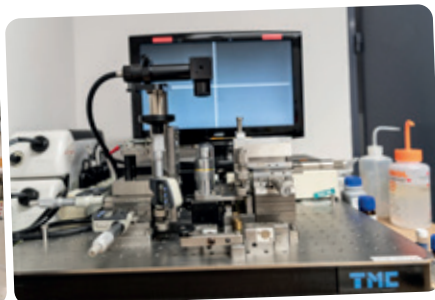
Participation in calls for projects to transfer research to industry

Involvement of our partners in master's development boards

Involving our partners in field schools (pollution, urban wasteland, energy transition, etc.)

Organisation of meetings between academic and socio-economic players (themes: urban wasteland, nature in the city, sobriety, etc.)

Funding of "duo internships" (lab + socio-economic structure) to strengthen a cross-sectoral perspective



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Contact

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