



Developing a Responsible Technology Policy

Technological change and the digital world are being hailed as the “fourth industrial revolution”. As with any disruption, this will herald change that may be good or bad - unless we take proactive steps to ensure it delivers ethical, social and environmental outcomes as well as economic development.

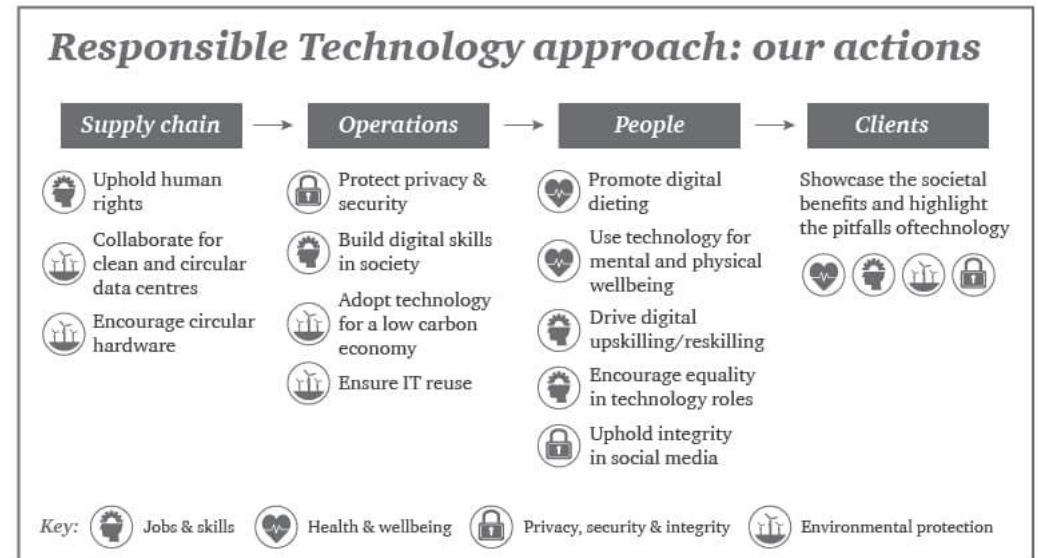
From blockchain to AI, and the internet of things to drones, our relationship with technology is changing faster than ever. Our decisions now will determine what our future will look like. We have the opportunity to address global issues such as climate change, inequality, and disease and deliver greater prosperity and wellbeing around the world, if we deploy technologies responsibly and with foresight.

Companies are starting to do precisely that: PwC, for example, is implementing a [Responsible Technology Policy](#) that identifies social and environmental impacts arising from the adoption of technology in its supply chain, operations, people agenda and client work (see diagram).

The policy establishes a series of commitments and actions that include showcasing the role of technology as a force for good, as well as highlighting potential, adverse social, ethical and environmental consequences, through the firm’s research and client work.

The firm is also implementing programs that will mitigate known pitfalls in its own business, in four areas: jobs and skills; enabling good health and wellbeing; ensuring privacy, security and integrity; and protecting the environment.

The policy has already driven innovations such as a new employee ‘digital dieting’ programme, and supports PwC’s work on equality in technology roles, as well as it’s firm-wide digital upskilling.



End-to-end responsibility: from supply chain to client services, PwC is aiming for technology to be a force for good.