

ESG Checklist for AI Startups



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Please check the box if your startup fulfills any of the statements.

Environmental

- ☐ Commits to recycling and minimizing electronic and operational waste.
- ☐ Leads its customers to follow more environment friendly (decarbonization, energy optimization, waste minimization, etc.) processes.
- ☐ Implements AI algorithms optimized for energy efficiency to minimize the carbon footprint of training and computing operations.
- ☐ Has a policy for responsible data center usage and choosing green hosting providers.
- ☐ Raises the environmental awareness of their customers.
- ☐ Uses energy-efficient cloud services optimized for AI.
- ☐ Uses AI to monitor wildlife and ecosystems, identifying threats to biodiversity, and aiding in the conservation efforts through predictive analytics.
- ☐ Actively seeks to quantify and communicate the environmental impact of its solutions.
- ☐ Adopts green practices in office environments.

Social

- ☐ Has established guidelines for ethical AI development, including bias prevention and fairness in algorithms.
- ☐ Adheres to strict data privacy regulations and employs robust data security measures.
- ☐ Transparent about data collection, use, and sharing practices.
- ☐ Having a policy to promote diversity in hiring, promotion, and team composition.
- ☐ Provides solutions in telemedicine and diagnostic tools can make healthcare more accessible and personalized, especially in underserved areas.
- ☐ Ensures products and services are accessible to people with disabilities and cater to diverse user needs.
- ☐ Engages in projects or partnerships that positively impact local or global communities.
- ☐ Offers fair labor practices, competitive benefits, and a healthy work environment.
- ☐ Provides customized learning experiences powered by AI that bridge educational gaps, making high-quality education accessible to a wider audience.
- ☐ Provides opportunities for employee growth and development.
- ☐ Has a multinational team.

- ☐ Helps in reskilling and upskilling the workforce, preparing individuals for future job markets and ensuring inclusivity in hiring processes.
- ☐ Engages with local communities and social causes.
- ☐ Contributes to digital literacy of its stakeholders.
- ☐ Ensures products are designed with user safety and well-being in mind, including mental health considerations.

Governance

- ☐ Regularly reviews and updates governance practices to reflect evolving standards and regulations.
- ☐ Engages with a broad set of stakeholders on AI-related issues and takes their feedback into account.
- ☐ Streamlines government operations, reduce corruption, and increase transparency in public services.
- ☐ Transparent about AI development processes and outcomes with stakeholders.
- ☐ Fully complies with all applicable laws and regulations related to AI, technology, and data use.
- ☐ Proactively follows new regulatory requirements and standards and adapts its processes accordingly.
- ☐ Manages intellectual property responsibly, fostering innovation while respecting the rights of others.
- ☐ Contributes to the broader AI and tech community through open-source projects or collaborative research.
- ☐ Having capability of assessing and reporting its ESG commitments when it is demanded.