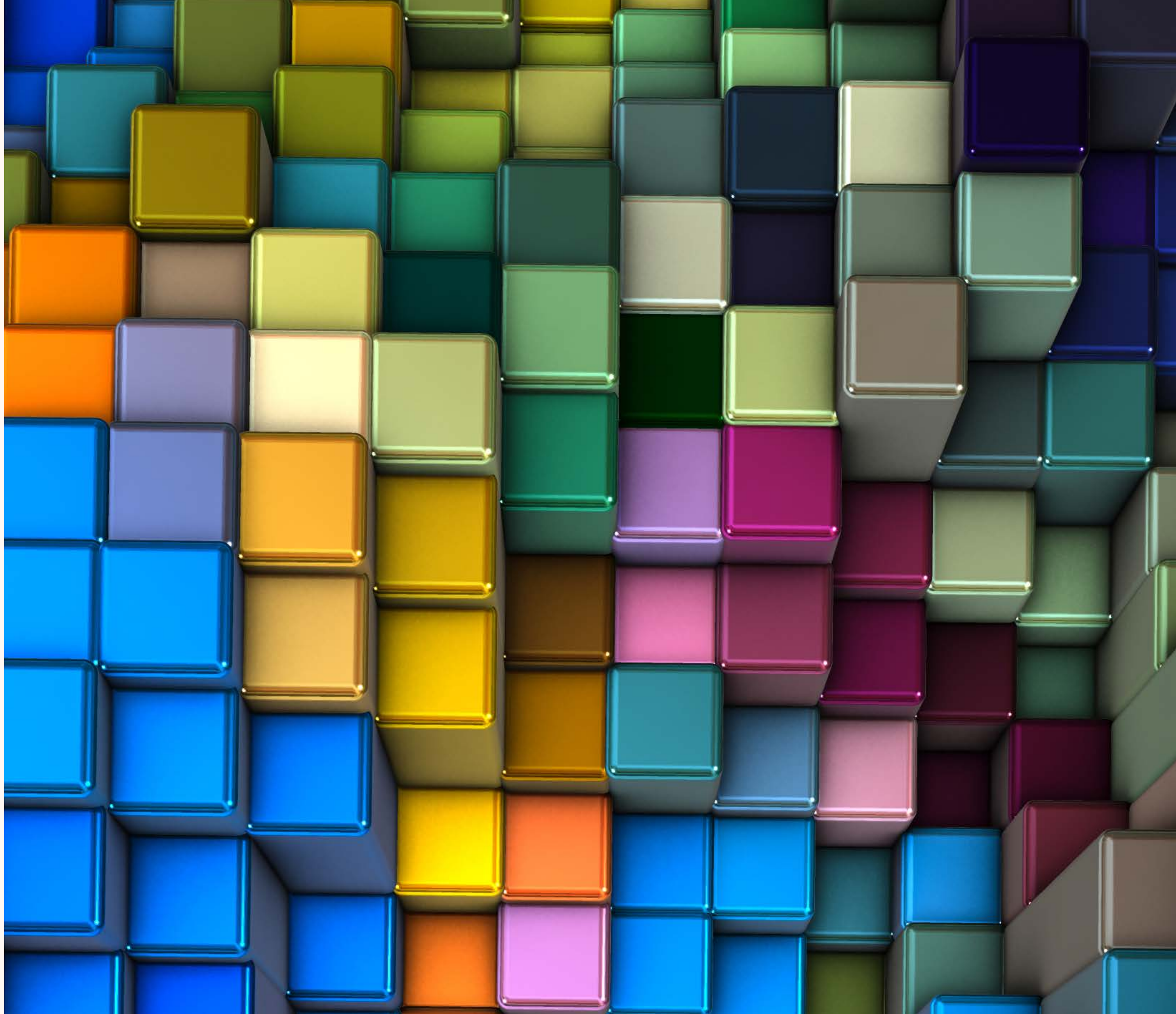




# The 2023 Impact Summary

**Building a responsible future**

October 2023





# Unlocking opportunity

We are living through a time of historic challenge and opportunity. The world faces ongoing economic, social, and geopolitical volatility. At the same time, we have entered a new age of AI that will fundamentally transform productivity for every individual, organization, and industry on earth, and help us address some of our most pressing challenges.

Amid this transformation, **our mission to empower every person and every organization on the planet to achieve more** remains constant. We believe we can be the democratizing force for this new generation of technology, helping unlock its opportunity while mitigating its risks.

To do this, we focus on four enduring commitments that are central to our mission. These commitments take on even greater importance in this new era, serving as a guide to help us make decisions as we design and develop products, shape business processes and policies, help our customers thrive, build partnerships, and more—always asking ourselves critical questions to ensure our actions align with our mission:

- How can we expand opportunity?
- How can we earn trust?
- How can we protect fundamental rights?
- How can we advance sustainability?

This is our moment to show up and responsibly build solutions that drive broad economic growth. If we do it well, the world will do well, and Microsoft will do well too. I've never been more confident that we will deliver on this promise, together.

[Read Satya's Annual Shareholder Letter](#) →



**Satya Nadella**

Chairman and CEO, Microsoft

# Responsible by design

In the past year, artificial intelligence emerged, seemingly overnight, to capture global attention and conversation. But at Microsoft, our embrace of new AI-based tools reflects years of thoughtful investment in responsible innovation guided by our mission.

In many ways, Microsoft's mission today translates to building a responsible future. We cannot succeed at empowering every person and organization on the planet without creating technology that is sustainable, inclusive, and safe by design.

That's why we remain focused on our commitments to people and planet—to not only help create opportunities and address challenges, but to do so in a way that seeks to understand, mitigate, and address risks along the way.

Whether through skilling courses that empower workers to thrive in a modern digital economy, blueprints to guide adoption and governance of AI, tools to detect threats and keep people and organizations safe, or a supply chain built to strengthen communities and protect the environment, our sense of responsibility to our commitments is embedded in all we do.

We know the opportunities and challenges ahead are bigger than any single company or industry can navigate alone. So as we look to build a responsible future, we are also committed to doing so within and alongside our network of employees, partners, and customers. Success will take all of us working and learning together, and it's clear we're well on our way.

[Visit our Reports Hub](#) →



**Brad Smith**

Vice Chair and President, Microsoft



# How we work

Our world is facing increasingly complex challenges. Challenges that no one company, industry, country, or region alone can solve. That's why Microsoft works across sectors and borders—to foster collective action, amplify impact, and drive progress faster and further.

## Empower our employees

Our mission to achieve more begins with our employees. Numbering in the hundreds of thousands—they are the driving force behind our impact. So we strive to create a culture where everyone can thrive.

- ✓ In their first six months, employees complete diversity and inclusion (“D&I”) courses on allyship, covering, privilege, and unconscious bias in the workplace. Additional personalized learning experiences enable them to take ownership of their ongoing D&I learning journey.
- ✓ More than 105,000 employees gave \$242 million (including company match) to over 35,000 nonprofits in 116 countries.
- ✓ Our employees volunteered over 930,000 hours to causes they care about, including more than 4,400 hours to support [Microsoft’s pro bono partners](#).

## Activate our ecosystem

With more than 400,000 partner organizations employing over 11 million people, thousands of suppliers, and customers of all sizes, in every industry around the world—Microsoft has a unique and enormous opportunity to effect change through our ecosystem.

- ✓ Microsoft spent more than \$9 billion with US diverse-owned businesses as part of our [Supplier Diversity Program](#), a 29% increase from last year.
- ✓ Continued to work with our supplier network to uphold our commitments to accessibility, human rights, worker health and safety, and the environment through our [supplier code of conduct](#), training, and capacity building.
- ✓ Since 2020, we’ve showcased the work of over 200 partners in support of the [United Nations Sustainable Development Goals](#), helping them innovate solutions that support gender equity, sustainability, accessibility, and communities as part of the [Microsoft #Buildfor2030 Initiative](#).

## Engage local communities

We understand that change happens locally. That’s why we work closely with communities around the globe to understand their specific needs, challenges, and strengths—so that we can best support them in their progress.

- ✓ Invested \$8.5 million with nonprofits in [33 communities](#) and 20 countries that host Microsoft datacenters. Our Community Tech Skilling initiatives have trained over 3,000 individuals and organizations, and over 700 students participated in our Datacenter Academy.
- ✓ [Microsoft TechSpark](#) helped catalyze more than \$72 million in funding from other organizations and upskilled more than 76,000 job seekers and employees across ten US regions.
- ✓ Since launching our affordable housing initiative in 2019, we’ve allocated over \$690 million of our \$750 million commitment, supporting the eventual creation or preservation of over 12,000 housing units in Washington state.

## Enable systemic change

We work to create lasting, systemic change that benefits all—including by advocating for [public policies](#) that help move the world toward a more inclusive, sustainable, and trusted future.

- ✓ We championed guardrails for the future of AI, including launching a [five-point blueprint for governing AI](#) to address current and emerging AI issues through public policy, law, and regulation.
- ✓ In partnership with Fortra and Health Information Sharing & Analysis Center, we helped to stop cybercriminals from abusing security tools to distribute malware, including ransomware.
- ✓ Our [Digital Equity Data Dashboard](#) empowers policymakers, like the state broadband office in Louisiana, to ground decisions about public broadband and digital equity investments in data.



# Our approach to responsible AI

Natasha Crampton, Vice President and Chief Responsible AI Officer

While Microsoft is consistently grounded by our mission and commitments, our approach includes responding to shifting needs and expectations being driven by broader societal changes. The current AI moment is no exception.

As AI becomes more prevalent in our daily lives, it's clear how it can impact the productivity of people, organizations, and industries. AI also has enormous potential to help us accelerate progress on society's most pressing challenges. To realize this potential, we must ensure that AI is developed responsibly and that its benefits reach everyone. We're committed to continued leadership in responsible AI.

## Building responsibly

Microsoft has been investigating AI's potential since 1991. Since 2017, we've worked to develop our responsible AI practice. We've approached our work with a humble recognition that trust is not given but earned through action, and a deep understanding of our responsibility not just to Microsoft but to the world. We focus on meeting our own commitments and helping our customers and partners do the same.

In 2017, we launched Microsoft's Aether Committee, comprised of working groups of top scientific and engineering talent who provide expertise on how to implement our responsible AI fundamentals. This led to the creation and adoption of our AI principles in 2018. We deepened our efforts in 2019 by establishing the Office of Responsible AI. And, in 2022, we made our Responsible AI Standard publicly available.

As the pace of AI adoption accelerates, Microsoft's Office of Responsible AI has further operationalized responsible AI through governance processes, policy requirements, and tools and practices that empower diverse teams across the company. Responsible AI roles are also embedded within product, engineering, and sales teams by the appointment of Responsible AI Champions. The Office of Responsible AI helps to coordinate these teams to develop a consistent approach to cultivating a culture of responsible innovation across the company.

But developing practices and building capacity internally is not enough. We've created a [Responsible AI dashboard](#) so our customers and partners may also implement AI. The dashboard is a customizable platform enabling companies to operationalize core parts of

responsible AI. It's available open source on GitHub and through Azure Machine Learning. The dashboard allows practitioners to assess and debug machine learning models and improve product quality. It also provides insight into these models so businesses can make more informed decisions.

## Working with government

Microsoft continues to advocate for guidelines and governance globally through policy initiatives. We are signatories to the eight voluntary commitments developed with the White House in July 2023, and are working to implement the important new AI safety initiative released by the US National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) across our company. We believe the new NIST AI Risk Management Framework provides a strong foundation that companies and governments alike can put into action to ensure the safer use of AI. While no single such effort can answer every question, the adoption of this framework will accelerate AI safety momentum around the world.

Our approach to responsible AI is designed to help us stay ahead of challenges and enact a deliberate

and principled approach. As we carefully balance the technology's potential to drive growth, create opportunities, and solve societal problems with an awareness of risks, we will continue to share what we learn and welcome opportunities to learn with others.

“We must ensure that AI is developed responsibly, and that its benefits reach everyone.”



*Natasha Crampton*

[Learn more about our work in responsible AI](#) >



# How can we expand opportunity?

We believe economic growth and opportunity must reach every person, organization, community, and country. This starts with ensuring everyone has the skills to thrive in a digital, AI-enabled economy, and extends to empowering nonprofits, entrepreneurs, and other organizations to digitally transform and address society's biggest challenges.

[Learn more about how we expand opportunity](#)





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## Grow access to digital skills

### Our goals:

Help train and certify 10 million people from underserved communities with in-demand digital skills for jobs and livelihood opportunities in the digital economy by 2025.

In progress 

### Our impact:

- ✓ Between July 2020 and June 2023, we have trained and certified 8.5 million people globally with in-demand skills for the digital economy.
- ✓ In June 2023, we launched the first [Professional Certificate on Generative AI](#) in partnership with LinkedIn Learning and kicked off a global [Generative AI Skills Grant Challenge](#) with data.org to award funding to skill communities in generative AI.
- ✓ Partnered with over 400 nonprofits globally to scale access to Skills for Jobs and Teacher Skills programs. Strengthened computer science teaching capacity in nearly 500 US high schools through our Technology Education and Learning Support program.

Help skill and recruit 250,000 people—especially from underrepresented groups—into the US cybersecurity workforce by 2025.

In progress 

- ✓ Expanded our cyber skilling programs to 28 countries, partnering with nonprofits and educational institutions to train the next generation of diverse cybersecurity professionals. Since July 2022, trained 106,000 individuals for cybersecurity jobs in the US, and nearly 500,000 individuals globally.
- ✓ Since October 2021, collaborated with 394 US community colleges (38% of all community colleges) across 49 states to advance cyber skilling.

## Equip changemakers

### Our goals:

Make technology, industry-specific solutions, and support affordable to nonprofits, entrepreneurs, and humanitarian organizations addressing our world's most pressing challenges, so they can achieve more.

### Our impact:

- ✓ Provided over \$3.8 billion in donated and discounted technology to nearly 325,000 nonprofits, [public libraries](#), and museums around the world—including 51,000 organizations reached for the first time.
- ✓ Through our Community Training platform, empowered organizations to deliver job, safety, and livelihood training to their communities, resulting in 16 million registered learners and 9.7 million completed courses.
- ✓ Helped 932 entrepreneurs in more than 69 countries make a positive impact on issues like climate change, inequality, and access to education.



## Protect public health

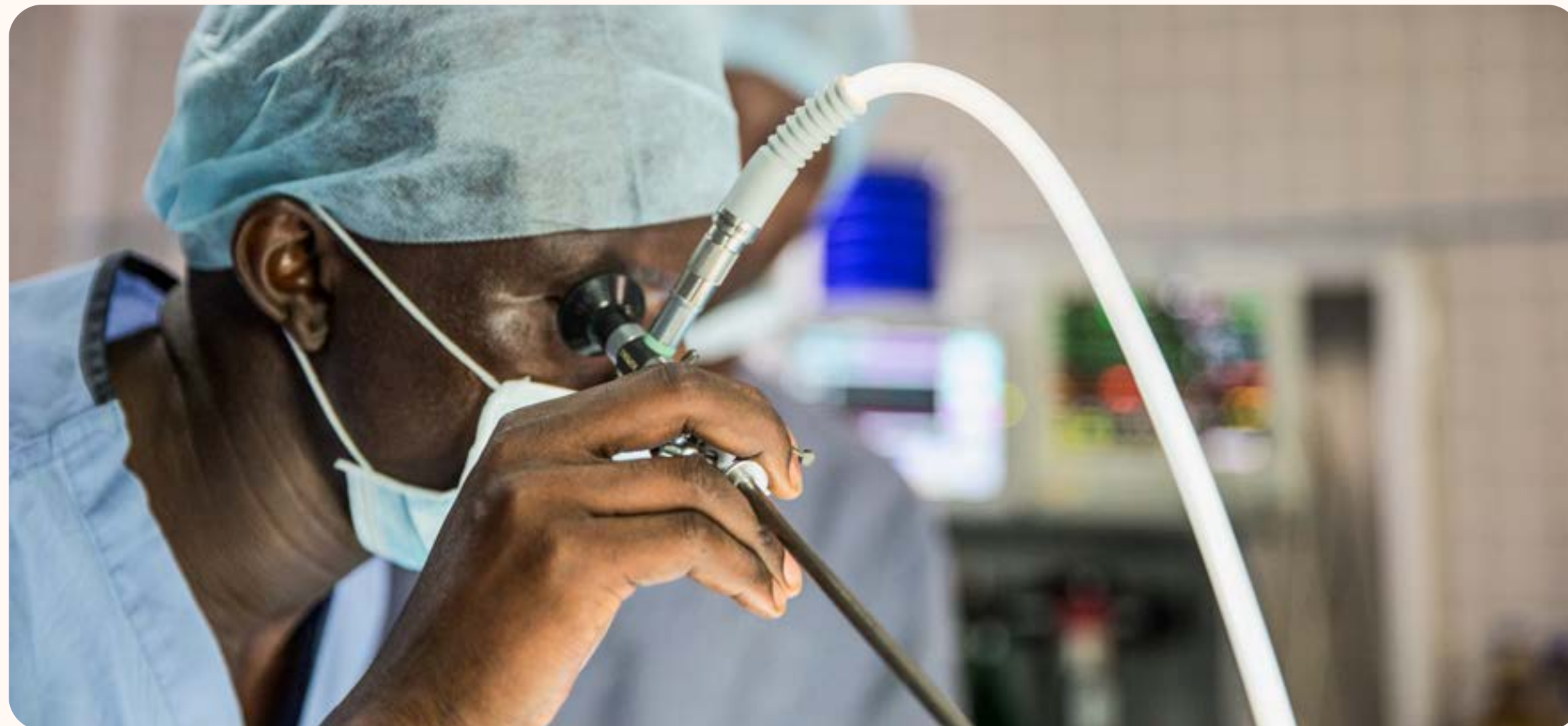
### Our goals:

Empower organizations with AI and data science to help them improve the health of people and communities worldwide through our five-year, \$60M investment in [AI for Health](#), launched in 2020.

In progress ↻

### Our impact:

- ✓ Partnered with research institutions to create novel data and AI-driven solutions for public health challenges such as diabetic retinopathy, sudden infant death syndrome, childhood blindness, and hearing loss.



## Close the data divide

### Our goals:

We have pledged to increase access to data, a key tool for addressing societal and business challenges.

### Our impact:

- ✓ In December 2022, we co-founded the [Industry Data for Society Partnership](#) alongside GitHub, Hewlett Packard Enterprise, LinkedIn, Northumbrian Water Group, R2 Factory, and UK Power Networks to advance more open and accessible private sector data to help address societal challenges.





# Helping everyone gain skills to succeed

Demand for cybersecurity skills has grown by an average of 35% over the past year alone. An estimated 3.5 million cybersecurity jobs are expected to go unfilled by 2025, leaving businesses, governments, and individuals around the world at risk from cybersecurity attacks. And while more cybersecurity professionals are needed across the board, the opportunity for women to work in the field is huge—they make up only 25% of the global cybersecurity workforce.

In addition, although AI skills are the third highest priority for companies' training strategies, women currently comprise only 4% of professionals in the field (according to OECD.AI 2023).

Statistics like these are why Microsoft supports programs around the world aimed at training women in tech skills.

One woman benefitting from Microsoft-supported training is Aimee Reyes. Facing homelessness in the US, Reyes could not see a clear path to working in tech. "When I would ask, 'How do you get into cyber?' [People] would be like, 'You have to join this exclusive channel, you have to prove yourself.' I would ask, 'What?

I don't have consistent internet access, I'm poor, are you crazy?'"

But Reyes was able to find training through one of the nonprofit organizations Microsoft supports, Last Mile Education Fund. Today, she works in cybersecurity, and is learning analytical and problem-solving skills that will help her unlock future opportunities.

"The team I'm on, we're working on problems nobody's ever seen before," Reyes says. "Part of the work you do is continuous learning."

Microsoft is now working in 28 countries around the world, partnering with nonprofits and other educational institutions to train the next generation of cybersecurity professionals. We hope to make sure that Aimee's story is one of many.

Reyes does, too. "I want more ladies in tech," she said. "There has not been a better time than now to poke your head into tech. Just be bold, ask a question. Oh my, be a lioness if you must! That's the attitude you have to have because you do belong, tech needs you."

“Be a lioness  
if you must!”

**Aimee Reyes**



[Learn more about Reyes' story](#)





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# Learning and looking ahead

**Kate Behncken, Corporate Vice President, Microsoft Philanthropies**

As a company whose mission is to empower every person and every organization to achieve more, we recognize the potential of AI to serve as a catalyst for a new era of opportunity and economic growth. But we must help democratize access to emerging technologies so everyone can benefit. Microsoft Philanthropies is focused on equipping nonprofits and communities with digital and AI capabilities to expand opportunities for everyone.

AI has the potential to transform nearly every aspect of the work that nonprofits and IGOs do on a day-to-day basis and to help them do more with less. Technology and solutions that can help nonprofits, IGOs, and humanitarian organizations build more capacity to address some of the world's greatest societal challenges must be tailored to their needs, be affordable, and be accessible. We remain committed to our goal to empower every nonprofit and international

development organization with Microsoft technology to accelerate social impact.

And while we help get technology into the hands of more nonprofits, we also need to help people learn how to use it. Last year, we trained and certified 2.7 million people from underserved communities around the world with the digital skills needed to secure in-demand jobs, and we're excited about launching a new AI Skills initiative to help people learn how to harness the power of these new capabilities. With the recent breakthroughs in generative AI, we are now in a place where every worker can use these tools to be more productive. AI will displace some jobs, but if integrated into the workforce in an inclusive manner, it will also create new opportunities and fuel economic growth. We need to help build the capacity of organizations like nonprofits, IGOs and education systems that are key drivers of expanding opportunity.

The past 12 months have once again highlighted the role technology can play to help address societal problems around the world and the essential role of nonprofits. We recognize the importance of strong and durable partnerships between the private sector, government, and nonprofits to address these issues in sustainable and scalable ways. Whether it was building capacity for nonprofits and IGOs to further their missions, or skilling millions of people around the world, our best work is done when we partner with the organizations that are closest to the people and communities we want to serve.

I am hugely optimistic about the opportunities for AI to help nonprofits, people, and communities around the world. I am mindful that this opportunity is equally flanked by tremendous challenges, and we are committed to working alongside our partners, customers, and community to help address them.

“We must help democratize access to emerging technologies so everyone can benefit.”



*Kate Behncken*



# How can we earn trust?

To create positive impact with technology, people need to be able to trust the technologies they use and the companies behind them. That's why we're committed to the responsible use of AI, protecting privacy, and advancing digital safety and cybersecurity.



[Learn more about how we earn trust](#)





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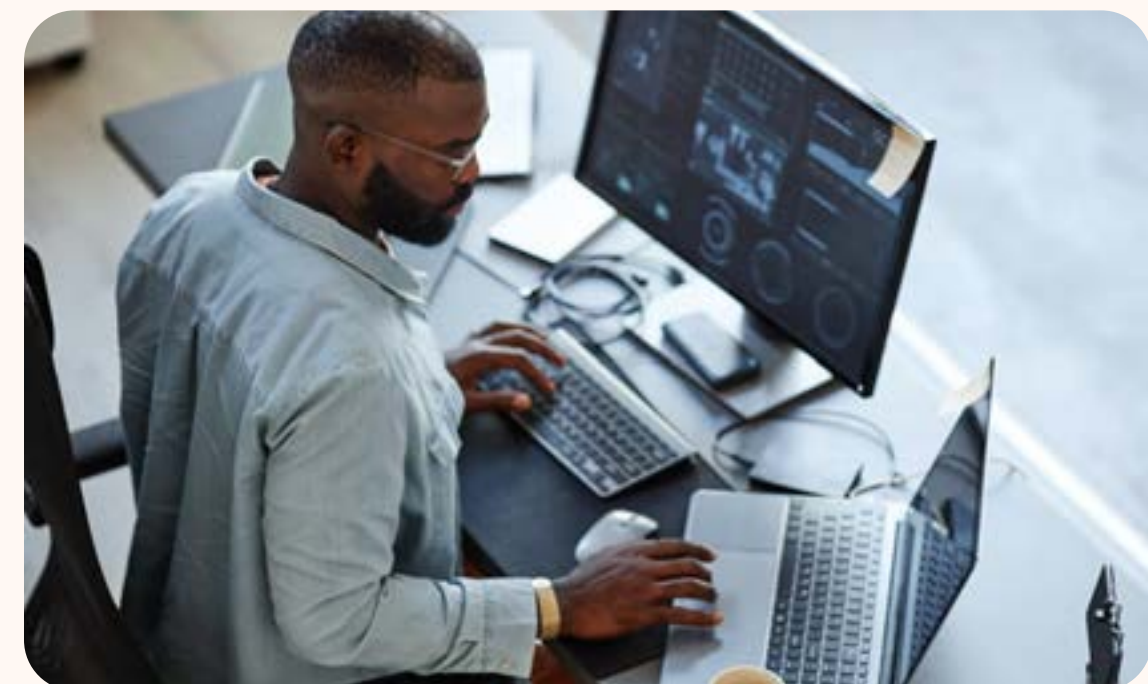
## Develop and use tech responsibly

### Our goals:

Put our principles for the responsible development and use of AI into practice, not only within our company, but by empowering our customers and partners to do the same and by advocating for global policy change and governance.

Implement the US NIST's (National Institute of Standards and Technology) AI Risk Management Framework.

Work with other industry leaders and governments to develop new and additional standards relating to highly capable foundation models.



### Our impact:

- ✓ Partnered with UNESCO to advance their Recommendations on AI Ethics, joined the Partnership on AI's Framework for Collective Action on Synthetic Media, and have been signatories to Vatican's Rome Call on AI Ethics since 2020.
- ✓ Developed and released a five-point blueprint for governing AI, creating a roadmap for advancing responsible AI internationally.
- ✓ Augmenting Microsoft's existing AI testing work with new steps to further strengthen our engineering practices for high-risk AI systems, and published AI customer commitments to assist customers on their own responsible AI journeys.
- ✓ Released Transparency Notes and documentation for our AI systems, including the Azure OpenAI Service and the new Bing, which communicate the intended uses, capabilities, and limitations of our AI systems to customers, enabling them to understand how to build upon and use our AI systems responsibly.
- ✓ Shared our insights and research and added new tools and features to Azure and the Responsible AI dashboard to help developers build AI technologies responsibly, so they can identify, diagnose, and mitigate issues before deployment.

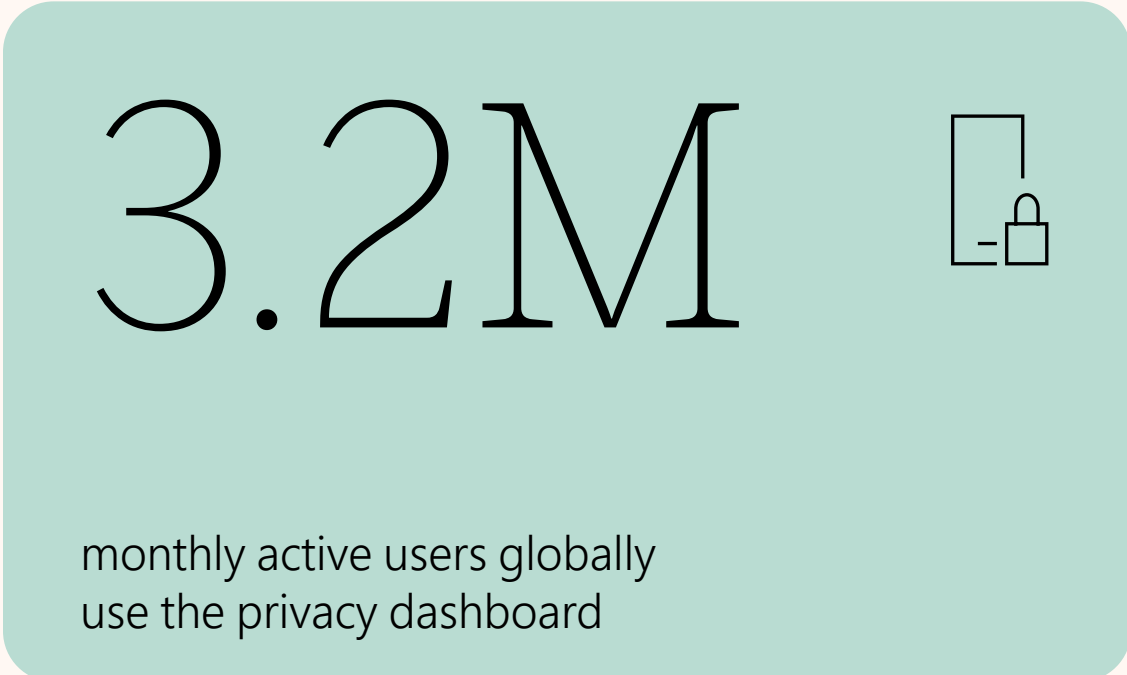
## Respect privacy

### Our goals:

Preserve customers' control over their data and their ability to make informed choices that protect their privacy, while advocating for strong global privacy and data protection laws requiring companies—including ours—to only collect and use personal data in responsible, accountable ways.

### Our impact:

- ✓ As of March 2023, the privacy dashboard—which enables users to control their data and make meaningful choices about how it's used—had 3.2 million monthly active users globally.
- ✓ Committed to the new EU-US Data Privacy Framework, an agreement protecting individuals' data from unlawful requests and supporting the redress process.
- ✓ Began a phased rollout of the EU Data Boundary for the Microsoft Cloud, enabling customers in the EU to have their data processed and stored within the region.





# Advance cybersecurity and digital safety

## Our goals:

Invest \$20 billion over five years, starting in 2021, to advance our security solutions, including \$150 million to help US government agencies upgrade protection. Provide global threat intelligence, expert guidance, and innovative solutions to help our customers, partners, and governments improve their cyber resiliency.

## Our impact:

- ✓ Globally, Microsoft processes 65 trillion security signals every day. This year, we blocked more than 230 billion authentication attacks, mitigated 619,000 distributed denial of service (DDoS) attacks, and used the resulting insights to inform increased protections.
- ✓ Sent 1,553 nation state-related threat notifications to customers, giving them actionable information to help them rapidly respond to and protect themselves from digital threats.
- ✓ To address increasingly complex cybersecurity threats, Microsoft worked with more than 15,000 partners with specialized security expertise to improve cyber resilience for our customers.
- ✓ The Microsoft Threat Analysis Center delivered more than 500 intelligence reports and briefings to US and international government partners to deepen understanding of the threat landscape.
- ✓ Microsoft Threat Intelligence now tracks more than 300 unique threat actors—including 160 nation-state actors, 50 ransomware groups, and hundreds of others—to help create a safer digital world.

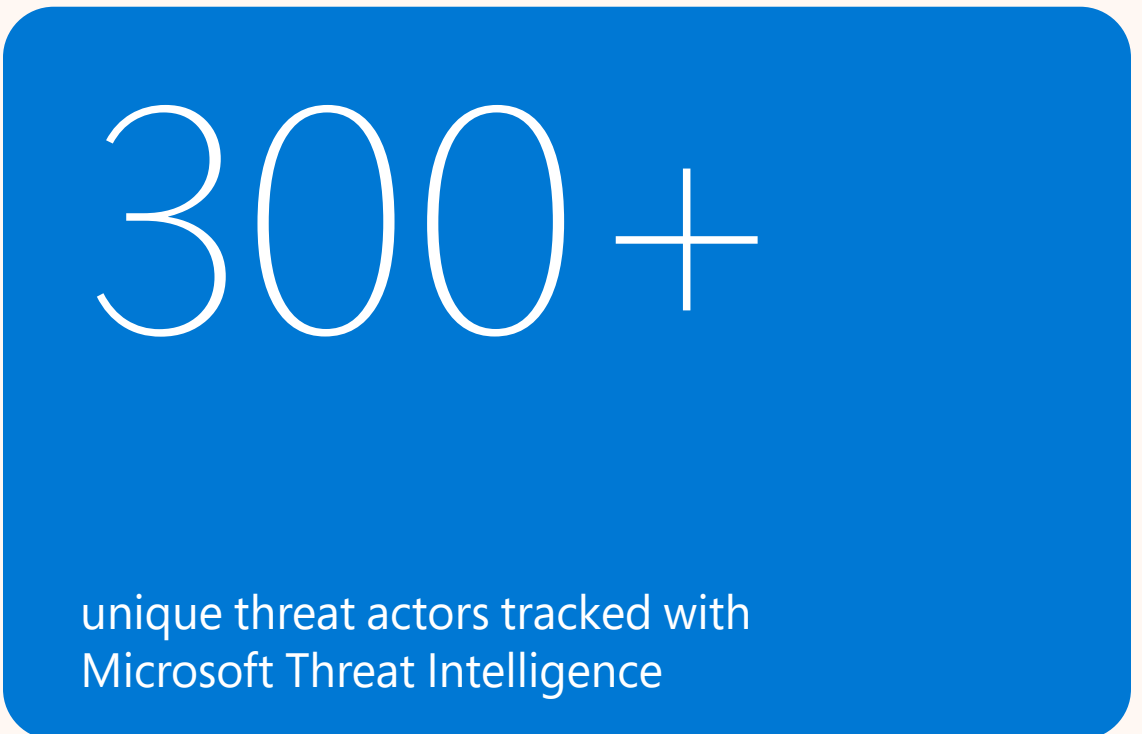
65 trillion	security signals processed globally by Microsoft every day
230 billion	authentication attacks blocked
619,000	distributed denial of service (DDoS) attacks mitigated
1,553	nation state-related threat notifications sent to customers

## Our goals:

Protect our users from illegal and harmful content and conduct, while respecting human rights. Continue to support multistakeholder approaches to address complex, whole-of-society digital safety challenges.

## Our impact:

- ✓ Through World Economic Forum’s Global Coalition for Digital Safety, Microsoft co-led the development of “Global Principles on Digital Safety” to advance digital safety while respecting human rights.
- ✓ Reiterated our commitment to addressing terrorist and violent extremist content online by investing in the Christchurch Call Initiative on Algorithmic Outcomes.





# Inside the fight against hackers

In 2021, after tricking an employee with a phishing email and a poisoned spreadsheet, hackers broke into Ireland's public health system and hijacked more than 80% of the IT system, forcing the organization of over 100,000 people offline and jeopardizing the lives of thousands of patients.

The attackers unleashed the assault with help from a "cracked," or abused and unauthorized, legacy version of Cobalt Strike. In the past two years alone, hackers have used cracked Cobalt Strike to try and infect roughly 1.5 million devices. Many victims have been health care organizations forced to cancel surgeries, divert ambulances, and delay treatment.

But Microsoft and Fortra, the tool's owner, are now armed with a [court order](#) authorizing them to seize and block infrastructure linked to cracked versions of the software. These efforts began in 2021, when Microsoft's [Digital Crimes Unit \(DCU\)](#)—an eclectic, global group of cybercrime fighters—wanted to make a bigger dent on the rise in ransomware attacks.

"It really was a very good match for the two of us," says Bob Erdman, associate vice president for Research &

Development at Fortra. "It's a great way to partner where everybody's stronger working together."

Together, Fortra and Microsoft analyzed approximately 50,000 unique copies of cracked Cobalt Strike. Since April, the number of infected IP addresses has plummeted. The number of cracked Cobalt Strike servers detected per day—nearly a thousand when the operation began—has declined by 25% globally and 50% in the US.

Microsoft seized and "sinkholed" 153 malicious US domains and diverted victim traffic away from criminal operators. And it sent notices to third parties to take down more than 1,900 global IP addresses.

As threat actors continually adapt and find new ways to create havoc, Microsoft is one of few companies with a broad array of experts solely dedicated to cybercrime disruption.

"We know this is going to be an ongoing fight, as criminals are always shifting their tactics," says Amy Hogan-Burney, who leads DCU. "But we're persistent and committed to doing this as long as it takes."

"This is an on-going fight... but we're persistent and committed to doing this as long as it takes."

**Amy Hogan-Burney,**  
GM, Cybersecurity  
Policy & Protection



[Read more about the fight against hackers](#)





# Learning and looking ahead

Tom Burt, Corporate Vice President, Customer Security & Trust

The digital domain confronted new and more threatening challenges over the past year. While AI is transforming cybersecurity, using it to stay ahead of threats requires massive amounts of diverse data. At Microsoft, we analyze more than 65 trillion signals per day with the help of AI and Microsoft security and threat intelligence teams, engineers, researchers, geopolitical analysts, and frontline responders.

Russia's use of cyberweapons as part of its hybrid war against Ukraine dominated the cybersecurity landscape, but our sustained collaboration with Ukrainian officials helped them successfully defend against most Russian cyberweapons. Russia was not alone in its use of destructive malware. We saw increased use of cyberweapons by other countries, too, increasingly sophisticated nation-state espionage attacks and successful criminal ransomware campaigns—all highlighting the urgent need for improved cyber defenses.

In response, we see vendors working to improve the cybersecurity of their products and services. We also see governments across the globe introducing new legal and regulatory requirements for cybersecurity. Creating, enforcing, and harmonizing these new requirements across geographies requires close collaboration between the public and private sectors. We also work internationally to lobby for rules and norms that would prohibit nation states from engaging in indiscriminate supply chain attacks that put millions of customers at risk.

AI technologies will become an increasing focus of regulators and industry. We will see attackers use AI as a weapon to refine phishing messages and develop malware and other abuses of the technology. But we will also see AI become a critical component of increasingly successful defense through tools such as our Security Copilot, which uses generative AI to help detect threats, manage incidents, and detect areas of an organization

that might be susceptible to exploits. This year, Microsoft Threat Intelligence successfully used AI-enabled tools to help detect and assess Russian propaganda efforts targeting Ukraine. Increasing innovation in AI-powered cyber-defense in the coming years will help reverse the tide of cyberattacks.

To advance the promise of digital peace, Microsoft remains committed to increasing public-private collaboration to ensure we bring the best technological and regulatory tools to combat cyber aggression. We will continue to work with our customers and partners to accelerate the move of critical computing workloads to the cloud where vendors' security innovations will be most impactful. Together, we must ensure that AI innovation provides defenders with a durable technological advantage against attackers.

“We will see attackers use AI as a weapon... but we will also see AI become a critical component of increasingly successful defense.”



*Thomas W Burt*



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# Learning and looking ahead

**Julie Brill, Corporate Vice President, Privacy, Safety & Regulatory Affairs**

Over the past year, the rapid adoption of new technologies, including those powered by AI, has raised significant questions about their effects on safety and privacy domains, including unique challenges for the most at-risk segments of society. Worldwide, there are hundreds of laws and regulations under discussion designed to address many of these concerns.

In this context, Microsoft continues to engage with regulators, policymakers, industry groups, and civil society around the world to advance practical and proportionate regulation that will help society benefit from new technologies while mitigating their risks.

In the year ahead, we will continue to accelerate the development of solutions that leverage AI and other technologies to address some of society's toughest problems. We will explore how we can use AI to help combat damaging scams, illegal robocalls, and other

harmful online content; to enable responsible access to data; and to minimize harm to society's most vulnerable communities.

We will also continue to advance solutions that strengthen the privacy rights of individuals and enterprises alike. We are continuing our phased rollout of the EU Data Boundary, enabling customers in the EU to have their data processed and stored within the region as well as having access to enhanced transparency documentation.

Microsoft will also continue to engage with multistakeholder communities to advance digital safety across our services and contribute to addressing complex, whole-of-society problems, such as online child sexual exploitation and abuse, while respecting human rights.

Finally, we will continue to ensure our products and technologies are built with trust at the center as we help our customers navigate this complex regulatory environment. By supporting compliance at scale for our commercial and public sector customers, we help facilitate responsible innovation by every person and every organization on the planet.

“We will continue to advance solutions that strengthen the privacy rights of individuals and enterprises alike.”



*Julie Brill*



# How can we protect fundamental rights?

In an increasingly digital world, we have a responsibility to protect people's fundamental rights, address the challenges technology creates, and help all communities succeed. For us, this means promoting responsible business practices, expanding accessibility and connectivity, advancing fair and inclusive societies, and empowering communities.



[Learn about how we protect fundamental rights](#) >



## Promote responsible business practices

### Our goals:

Aspire to leadership in business and human rights and to serve as a catalyst for action by others in the tech sector and beyond.

### Our impact:

- ✓ The Devices Workers' Voice Hotline resolved all 154 cases raised through our anonymous Workers' Voice Hotline for supply chain worker grievances related to wages and benefits, working hours, work arrangement, human treatment, sanitation, and other issues.
- ✓ Established new corporate supply chain integrity governance to identify requirements on human rights, environmental, worker health and safety, and ethics risk management practices across our global supply chain footprint.



## Expand accessibility and connectivity

### Our goals:


Bring affordable high-speed internet access to a quarter of a billion people around the world, including 100 million people in Africa by the end of 2025, while deepening our work in US cities and states with significant internet adoption gaps.

### In progress ↻

Empower people with disabilities through accessible technology, expanded skilling and hiring opportunities, and working with others to amplify our collective impact.

### Our impact:

- ✓ Since 2017, helped bring high-speed internet access to more than 63 million people in unserved communities around the world. Working with our global ecosystem of internet and energy access providers, government agencies, nonprofits, and other companies, we provided connectivity along with access to the digital skills training and technology solutions that enable people and communities to unlock the power of AI and other technologies.
- ✓ Continued to help close the accessibility knowledge gap through partnerships with LinkedIn Learning, TeachAccess, and the global Microsoft disability community, reaching over 750,000 learners in FY23.
- ✓ Launched Microsoft Adaptive Accessories, allowing users to configure, 3D print, and customize accessories for their mouse to fit their specific needs.
- ✓ Launched partnership with Google, Amazon, Apple, Meta, and the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign to improve voice recognition technology for people with speech disabilities.

63M 

people in unserved communities around the world provided with access to high-speed internet



## Advance fair and inclusive societies

### Our goals:

Preserve, protect, and advance democracy by promoting a healthy information ecosystem, safeguarding electoral processes, and advocating for corporate civic responsibility.

Advocate for fair and humane immigration policies as an integral part of our society's growth and development.

### Our impact:

- ✓ Provided our [AccountGuard](#) nation-state threat notification service in 33 countries, protecting more than 5.2 million accounts of election officials, human rights organizations, journalists, political parties, and other organizations essential to a healthy democracy.
- ✓ Announced that new [content provenance](#) technologies will be used in all Microsoft generative AI image creation services—enabling users to verify if an image or video was generated by AI—a major step in combatting online disinformation.
- ✓ Launched the [Microsoft Journalism Hub](#) to help journalists rebuild capacity, restore trust, and reduce risk through access to data visualization services, Microsoft 365 for journalists, pro bono legal support, AccountGuard for journalists, and more.
- ✓ Continued to advocate for immigration reform and the protection and strengthening of the US Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program, including offering pro bono legal services to 75 DACA recipients.

## Empower communities

### Our goals:

Empower humanitarian organizations and crisis-affected communities to prepare for, respond to, and recover from emergencies, including through our AI for Humanitarian Action initiative.

# \$6.1M

committed to disaster relief



### Our impact:

- ✓ Committed over \$6.1M in relief in response to eight disasters across four countries, including the earthquake in Turkey and Syria; flooding in Pakistan; hurricanes, storms, and the water crisis in the United States; and wildfires in Canada.
- ✓ Our [AI for Humanitarian Action](#) program completed nine projects, increasing our partners' capabilities to identify at-risk communities in India, to estimate seasonal hunger in Malawi, and to assist in sepsis identification in Ugandan children. Launched three new projects that will aid in child malnutrition prediction, use AI to automatically tag humanitarian data sets, and enable emergency response organizations [to rapidly negotiate matches between requests and offers for assistance](#).



# Empower communities

## Our goals:

Invest an additional \$150 million to strengthen our culture of inclusion and double the number of Black and African American, and Hispanic and Latinx people managers, senior individual contributors, and senior leaders in the US by 2025.

**In progress** ↻

Grow our investment activity with Black-owned financial institutions, double the number of Black and African American-owned approved suppliers and spend an incremental \$500 million with those and existing suppliers, and increase the number of Black and African American-owned partners in the US by 20%.

**Achieved by target date** ☑

## Our impact:

- As of May 2023, we are 93% of the way to our goal for Black and African American people managers (below director level), and 107.2% of the way for Black and African American directors+ (people managers and individual contributors). We are 27.8% of the way for Hispanic and Latinx people managers (below director level), and 74.2% of the way for Hispanic and Latinx directors+ (people managers and individual contributors).

- Exceeded our goal of doubling the percentage of transaction volumes through Black and African American-owned financial institutions.
- Achieved our goal to spend an incremental \$500 million with double the number of Black and African American-owned suppliers.
- The number of partners in our Black Partner Growth Initiative increased by over 250%, surpassing our initial growth goal of 20% by 2023.

## Our goals:

Use data, technology, and partnership to help improve the lives of Black and African American people, including our employees and their communities, in the areas of justice reform, skills and education, broadband connectivity, and nonprofit support.

400+	high schools supported with computer science education
2,000+	local organizations supported with technology and services
125+	distinct Justice Reform Initiative partnerships coordinated
\$10M	given to 18 historically Black colleges and universities and associations

## Our impact:

- Since 2020, worked to address the digital divide, particularly for Black and African American people in the American rural south. Our partnerships and projects drive adoption and digital literacy training across 11 cities and 3 states. To date, refurbished device partners have distributed over 50,000 affordable computing devices.
- Expanded our Technology Education and Learning Support Program in over 400 high schools across 21 US cities with large Black and African American communities, providing computer science education to high school students with help from 1,300 volunteers in the 2022–2023 school year.
- Gave \$10M to 18 historically Black colleges and universities and associations to support curriculum development, scholarships, and more.
- Supported more than 2,000 local organizations working across 1,700 Black and African American communities with technology and services through our Nonprofit Tech Acceleration program.
- Coordinated 125+ distinct Justice Reform Initiative partnerships with 103 organizations serving 165 cities and counties across the US, working to use data and technology to prevent unnecessary justice system involvement and eliminate racial disparities in policing and prosecution practices.
- Began our third year of support for 50 nonprofits led by and serving Black and African American communities—providing grants, capacity building, and tech services to help them serve 30,000+ people.



# Responding to the war in Ukraine

As the war in their country persists, we continue assisting the people and government of Ukraine. As of June 2023, Microsoft has committed \$520 million in employee giving, cash, technology grants, services, and business relief to support Ukraine—spanning governments, businesses, nonprofits, and humanitarian organizations.

## Using technology to defend infrastructure and heritage

- ✓ We continue to help defend key infrastructure, assist with the detection and disruption of cyberattacks and cyber influence operations, and help relocate data to the cloud to bolster resilience to cyberattacks.
- ✓ Since the start of the Russian invasion, we've provided Microsoft Cloud free of charge to the Ukrainian government and to support Ukraine's critical infrastructure, and we extended technology support free of charge for 2023.

- ✓ Microsoft and Truepic have partnered to develop and pilot Project Providence, the world's first interoperable system to document and protect evidence of the destruction of cultural heritage sites in Ukraine.

## Helping organizations on the ground

- ✓ Microsoft provided pilot funding to Report for the World (RFW) to place reporters in newsrooms in Ukraine and Hungary. The RFW program is building a network of prospective partnerships with leading Ukrainian newsrooms—including *The Kyiv Independent* and others—helping foster trustworthy and independent news sources.
- ✓ Microsoft helped *The Kyiv Independent* implement the Microsoft Start news platform, greatly increasing the reach of their stories. We have invested in the expansion of *The Kyiv Independent's* War Crimes Investigative Unit to allow for more in-depth reporting on the impact of the war.

- ✓ Microsoft employees raised over \$19 million (including corporate match) for 110 nonprofits aiding people and communities affected by the war.
- ✓ Microsoft Disaster Response team completed 221 missions supporting public sector, nonprofit, and commercial organizations in Ukraine and nearby countries. This included over \$62 million in software and 30,000 work hours.
- ✓ In support of the HP device donation, and in partnership with the Olena Zelenska Foundation, Microsoft Philanthropies provided 68,000 operating system donations through five nonprofits for teachers and students in Ukraine.
- ✓ Microsoft and UNHCR (UN Refugee Agency) collaborated on a portal to allow displaced people in Ukraine to register and request humanitarian assistance.
- ✓ In the last nine months, LinkedIn employees have provided individual and group coaching sessions to help over 6,000 refugees connect to jobs and knowledge as they navigate uncertain times.

- ✓ Microsoft Skills for Jobs curriculum is now available with Ukrainian captions. The new AI trainer toolkit will launch in Ukrainian before the end of 2023.

# \$19M

raised by Microsoft employees for nonprofits aiding people and communities affected by the war





# The future of work is neurodiverse

For 27 years, Vikram Kumar, a non-speaking autistic individual, silently observed the world, limited in his ability to communicate even his most basic needs. When intensive therapy finally offered him tools to communicate, one of the first things he typed was, “I want to get a job.”

Recognizing that Vikram had an internal life and insights to share, his sister Jhillika asked herself if neuro exceptionalism could be viewed as a strength rather than a hindrance—eventually leading her to start her company, [Mentra](#).

Neurodiversity refers to the variation in neurological function that affects how individuals interact and understand the world, including people with autism, ADHD, dyslexia, Tourette syndrome, and more.

When companies foster a neurodiverse team, *Harvard Business Review* and other studies indicate that teams can become up to 30% more productive. Yet 80% of the neurodiverse population is either unemployed or underemployed.

That’s where Mentra comes in.

Neurodivergent job-seekers encounter significant barriers—a lack of understanding among recruiters that filter out non-traditional educational backgrounds and employment histories—and are sometimes reluctant to reveal their true selves, fearing discrimination and missed opportunities.

With [Microsoft AI for Accessibility](#) support, Mentra’s AI evaluates over 76 data points, including skills, accommodations, sensitivities, and goals. Using a unique reverse job-fair approach, Mentra allows candidates to submit a single application to the “Mentraverse,” which then uses AI recommendations to connect them with potential employers.

With over 26,000 registered users, Mentra has maintained a 97% retention rate for pre-screened candidates. 79% of people Mentra recommends receive interview invitations.

At the age of 27, Vikram learned to communicate through typing on a letter-board. With each day of pointing at letters, his vast knowledge slowly came to light—from Indian philosophy to Greek mythology to quantum physics. He is working on publishing poetry and expanding his horizons in the hopes that one day he may find employment.

“I want to  
get a job.”

**Vikram Kumar**



[Read more about Mentra](#)





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# Learning and looking ahead

**Teresa Hutson, Corporate Vice President, Technology for Fundamental Rights**

Over the last 40 years, we've seen pivotal moments in technology change how we work, learn, access services, communicate, and connect people around the world. When we're intentional about how these changes impact people and communities, technology can enable positive change, close divides, and advance fundamental rights.

As we look back on our work this year and plan for the future, we see significant opportunities for AI to improve people's lives in key focus areas where we are already working. AI can help people who are neurodiverse summarize and process information more quickly. It can help organizations analyze vast amounts of data to help them better understand effective humanitarian interventions, identify potential war crimes, and learn from trends in policing engagements to increase access to justice. And at Microsoft, AI can help us recognize how we can make our own technology more inclusive and accessible to all.

But we also know that wherever technology can do good, it can also cause harm. As AI makes systems more powerful, we remain committed to anticipating harmful uses and putting guardrails on the use of technologies that affect people's lives or legal status, create risk of physical or psychological harm, or threaten human rights. We continue to engage early and often with stakeholders who help us understand potentially harmful uses so we can mitigate them through our processes and products.

Even as AI's potential grabs headlines, we must remember that many people around the world still lack internet connectivity. If we are building AI models based on the data on the internet, we need to continue to extend internet access so foundational AI models reflect the world we live in. When we expand meaningful internet access, we expand access to the possibilities and promise of technology.

To build responsible technology, we need to understand and then address the ways that AI systems can affect real people in the real world. That's why we continue to design with and for the communities most likely to be impacted by potential harms, and engage in public-private partnerships with organizations that share our values and approach around human-centered development, design, and deployment of AI technologies.

“To build responsible technology, we need to understand and then address the ways that AI systems can affect real people in the real world.”



*Teresa J. Hutson*



# How can we advance sustainability?

Climate change is the defining issue of our generation, and addressing it requires swift, collective action and technological innovation. We are committed to meeting our own goals while enabling others to do the same. That means taking responsibility for our operational footprint and accelerating progress through technology.



Due to required timelines to audit and assure our environmental sustainability data after the close of each fiscal year, except where noted, the data in this section covers the reporting period for our Fiscal Year 2022, from July 1, 2021 – June 30, 2022.

[Learn about how we advance sustainability](#)





## Become carbon negative

### Our goals:

We're driving robust programs in efforts to be carbon negative by 2030. By 2050, we expect to remove from the atmosphere an equivalent to all the carbon dioxide our company has emitted directly or by our electricity consumption since we were founded in 1975.

In progress ↻



### Our impact:

- ✓ Our Scope 1 and 2 emissions remained proportional with business growth. More than 95% of our Scope 2 emissions were reduced by renewable energy from power purchase agreements (PPAs), green tariff programs, and unbundled renewable energy certificates.
- ✓ Our value chain, or Scope 3, emissions increased slightly by 0.5 percent, despite a 25% increase in purchased goods and services due to business growth. This result was driven by improvements in our operations, telemetry-based measurement, renewable energy investments, sustainable aviation fuel purchases, and procurement of unbundled renewable energy certificates (RECs).
- ✓ Contracted 1,443,981 metric tons of carbon removal in FY22. We also made first-of-their kind multi-year forward offtake commitments to carbon removal, which we view as the model for scaling the industry.
- ✓ Signed new PPAs around the globe, bringing our total portfolio of carbon-free energy to over 13.5 GW, including more than 135 projects in 16 countries.
- ✓ Microsoft is investing in accelerating climate innovation through our \$1B Climate Innovation Fund, including technologies and business models that have the potential for meaningful, measurable climate impact by 2030. Since 2020, we've allocated more than \$700M into a global portfolio of more than 50 investments, including sustainable solutions in energy, industrial, and natural systems.

## Get to water positive

### Our goals:

By 2030, we expect to replenish more water than we consume across our global operations in water-stressed regions where we work and to provide 1.5 million people with access to clean water and sanitation services.

In progress ↻

### Our impact:

- ✓ Our water program is driving innovation and providing water access through first-of-its-kind programs around the world. We contracted for replenishment projects estimated to provide more than 15.6 million cubic meters in volumetric water benefit over their lifetime. Since the inception of this program, we have contracted for projects that are estimated to provide more than 35 million cubic meters in benefit over the projects' lifetimes.
- ✓ Provided more than 550,000 people with access to clean water and sanitation solutions in Brazil, India, Indonesia, and Mexico by the end of Fiscal Year 2022.



550,000

people provided with access to clean water and sanitation solutions



## Achieve zero waste

### Our goals:

By 2030, we expect to be zero waste across our direct waste footprint.

In progress ↻

29%

reduction in single-use plastics in our Microsoft product packaging

### Our impact:

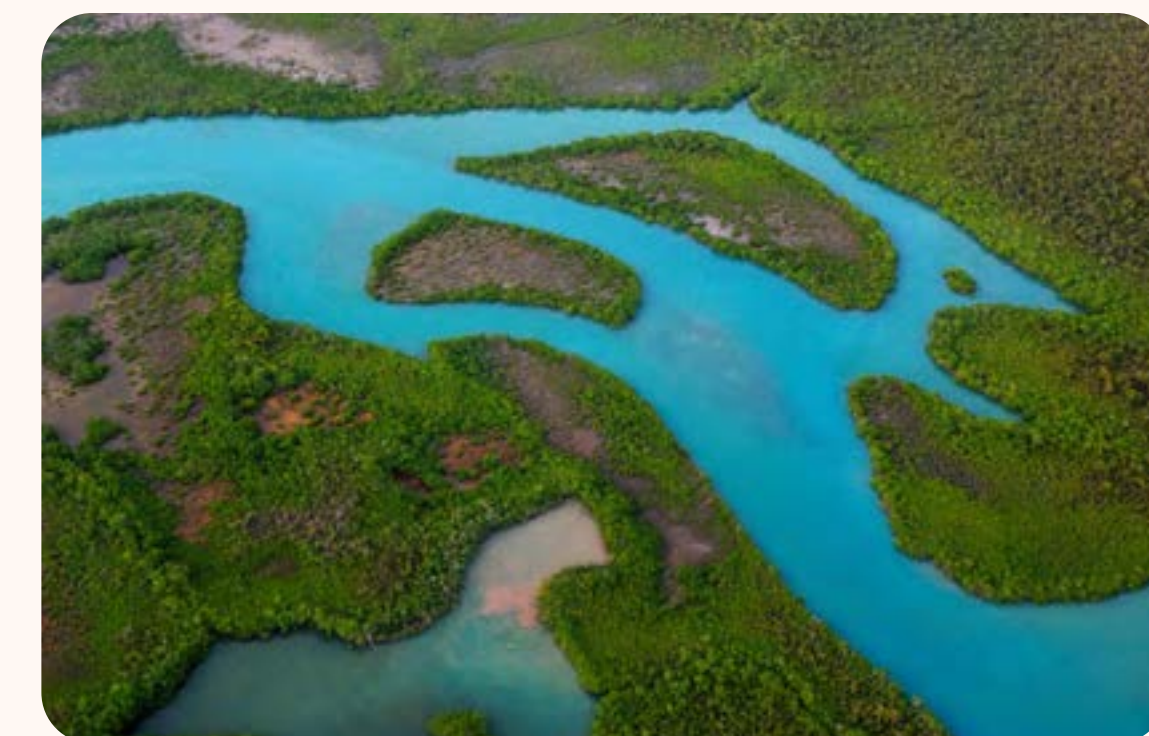
- ✓ We take a circular approach to materials management and waste reduction—beginning with design and material selection and extending to waste diversion across our value chain. We diverted 12,159 metric tons of solid waste from landfills and incinerators across our owned datacenters and campuses.
- ✓ Renewed Zero Waste certifications for our San Antonio, Texas; Quincy, Washington; Boydton, Virginia; and Dublin, Ireland datacenter locations.
- ✓ Our Redmond campus has achieved a Zero Waste Certification for six consecutive years.
- ✓ Our reuse and recycle rates of servers and components across all cloud hardware reached 82% in FY22. To increase reuse and reduce e-waste at our datacenters, we opened four new Circular Centers in FY22 in Boydton, Virginia; Chicago, Illinois; Dublin, Ireland; and Singapore. And in FY23, we launched Quincy, Washington bringing our total to 6 launched Circular Centers.
- ✓ Reduced single-use plastics in our Microsoft product packaging by more than 29%, a decrease from 4.7% to 3.3% by weight (on average) of plastic per package.

## Protect and preserve ecosystems

### Our goals:

We will take responsibility for the ecosystem impacts of our direct operations by protecting more land than we use by 2025.

Achieved by target date ☑



### Our impact:

- ✓ Contracted to protect 17,268 acres of land, which is over 50% more than the land we use to operate, and 12,270 acres were designated as permanently protected. We periodically evaluate our footprint and goals to protect more land than we use.
- ✓ The Planetary Computer contains over 50 petabytes (PB) of data in multiple cloud-optimized formats and based on open-source standards. With these rich datasets and the power of Azure, we have enabled analytics at scale, unlocking new insights and innovations to forecast the effects of changing climate—including land-use data that can detect changes in urbanization, demographic exposure data that shows where populations are most in need of climate adaptation, and biodiversity data that can help monitor the effectiveness of conservation efforts.
- ✓ Contributed to the TNC Belize Maya Forest Project (BMF) to protect 236,000 acres in a global biodiversity hotspot. In December 2021, these acres were placed under declaration of trust by the Belizean government, putting nine percent of Belize’s land under permanent protection. The Belize Maya Forest Trust was established as a local nonprofit, trustee, and steward to create a globally recognized, locally relevant model of healthy, biodiverse forest protected for and by all Belizeans and to be a global benchmark for effective and lasting conservation.



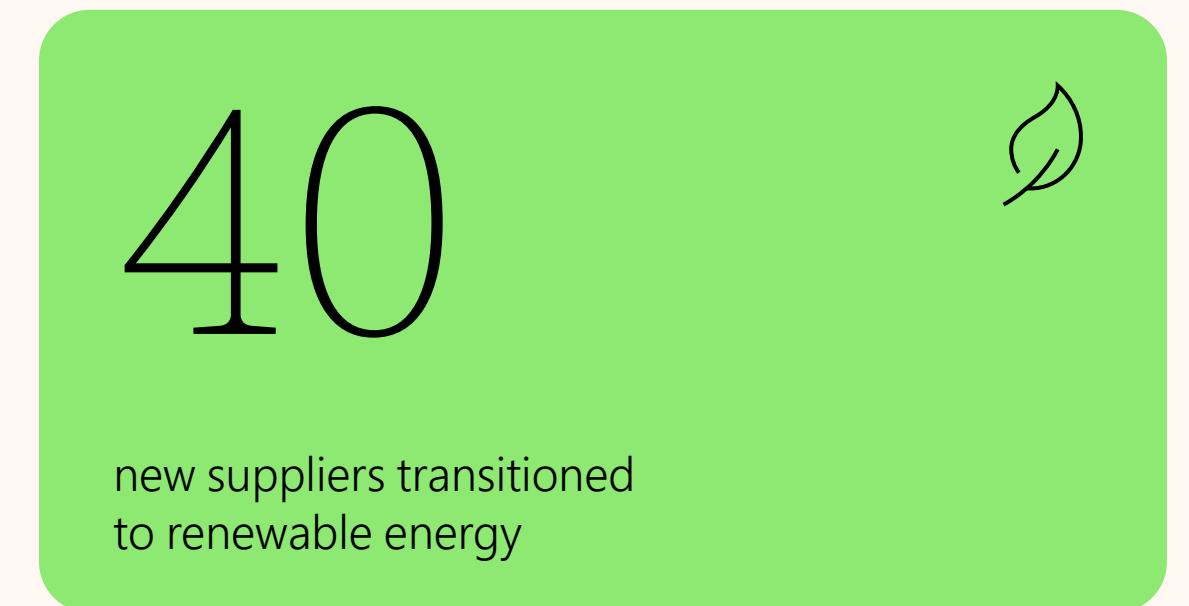
# Source responsibly

## Our goals:

We are committed to operating an industry-leading Responsible Sourcing Program—proactively managing issues related to human rights, environment, health and safety, and ethics—and deepening our engagement with suppliers to ensure our standards and commitments are met.

## Our impact:

- ✓ 94% of our in-scope suppliers reported their emissions to Climate Disclosure Project, up 7% from 2021.
- ✓ In FY23, 40 new suppliers transitioned to using renewable energy, with 12 of those transitioning to 100% renewable energy, avoiding 113,000 metric tons of carbon emissions.
- ✓ Updated our Supplier Code of Conduct sustainability requirements to include independent third-party assurance of emissions data and to deliver a minimum 55% greenhouse gas reduction by 2030.
- ✓ We are focused on engineering carbon out of our value chain via the equipment we use in the operation of our datacenters. Using lifecycle assessments and environmental product declarations, we partner with suppliers to assess carbon hotspots and carbon in the equipment we purchase, so we can better understand how we can help reduce emissions in our supply chain.
- ✓ In FY23, we expanded our minerals supply chain mapping beyond gold, tantalum, tin, and tungsten to encompass all our prioritized minerals—including aluminum, cobalt, copper, gallium, lithium, nickel, silicon, and rare earth elements—providing visibility into where and how these material inputs originate. We also worked with the industry to develop a roadmap for broader traceability of prioritized minerals, supporting initiatives that promise to improve and standardize traceability across global supply chains.





# Laying the foundation for tomorrow

A team of concrete finishers observe a mixture of crushed rock and sand as it tumbles down the mixer-truck's chute into one of three wooden frames. The mixture contains a limestone derived from marine algae and other additives that lower the overall embodied carbon in concrete. Embodied carbon is a measure of the carbon emitted during the manufacturing, installation, maintenance, and disposal of a product or material. For concrete, that's around 8% of global greenhouse gas emissions. Steel accounts for an estimated 7% of carbon emissions.

"Decarbonization of concrete and steel is critically important from a climate impact perspective," said Brandon Middaugh, the senior director of Microsoft's Climate Innovation Fund, a \$1 billion fund to accelerate the development and deployment of climate solutions.

Through the fund, Microsoft is investing in several companies that are trying to lower the carbon emissions associated with the production of building materials. The biogenic limestone in the Quincy project came from Minus Materials, which is commercializing a process pioneered at the University of Colorado.

One of the fund's earliest investments, CarbonCure, is injecting captured carbon dioxide into concrete to strengthen the material and reduce the amount of cement required. Another Microsoft investment,

Prometheus Materials, produces zero-carbon bio-cement and bio-concrete through a unique process that combines naturally occurring microalgae with other essential components.

Microsoft recently announced an investment in Boston Metal, which developed a patented technology to eliminate carbon dioxide emissions from steelmaking.

Microsoft is also shifting to an accounting methodology for major building materials featuring a label like the nutrition information on food packaging. The construction labeling, called an Environmental Product Declaration, contains third-party verified information about the global warming potential of a material.

The Quincy pilot projects, along with similar trials in Des Moines, Iowa, and San Antonio, Texas, will help Microsoft learn about challenges in the real world, says Sean James, senior director of datacenter research in Microsoft's datacenter research team.

"You need to get out of PowerPoints and get into the dirt and actually build it as soon as you can," James said. "Because then you're going to learn what those speed bumps are and you're going to have a lot more time to figure out how to deal with them."

"Decarbonization of concrete and steel is critically important from a climate impact perspective."

**Brandon Middaugh,**  
Senior Director of the Microsoft  
Climate Innovation Fund



[Read more about our pilot project](#)





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# Learning and looking ahead

Melanie Nakagawa, Corporate Vice President, Chief Sustainability Officer

At Microsoft, our sustainability journey is about much more than taking responsibility for our own environmental footprint. In addition to getting our own house in order, we also help deliver the solutions needed to address the remaining 99.97% of global emissions.

To that end, we are delivering technologies that support a net-zero economy, investing in innovation, fostering partnerships, and advocating for policies that enable meaningful climate action.

In 2023, we felt the impacts of climate change like never before, heightening the need for decisive action. Technology has played and will continue to play an important role in achieving the scale and pace of solutions needed to mitigate the most severe impacts of climate change.

Our investment in AI presents new opportunities to accelerate sustainability solutions for Microsoft, our customers, and the world. We are optimistic about our collective ability to decarbonize the global economy while also continuing to grow and prosper as a global community.

We will continue investing in three key areas that will enable the scale of sustainability solutions needed to address the climate crisis:

- ✓ Advancing AI solutions for greater positive climate impact
- ✓ Accelerating the development of sustainability markets through investment
- ✓ Creating tools that advance emissions measurement and compliance

Our sustainability progress would not be possible without the passion and commitment of our employees from across the company and around the world. From scientists that guide our approach to the teams selecting materials for new products to teams that participate in the company-wide sustainability community and Ecochallenge, everyone has a role to play in creating a more sustainable future for Microsoft and the world.

Through innovation, collaboration, and enduring commitment to create a more sustainable future, we believe that meaningful climate progress is possible.

“Our investment in AI presents new opportunities to accelerate sustainability solutions for Microsoft, our customers, and the world.”



*Melanie Nakagawa*



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# Our approach to reporting

## Our goal

Microsoft strives to conduct our business in ways that are principled, transparent, and accountable to our shareholders and other key stakeholders. We believe that doing so generates long-term value for our company, our customers, and our communities. As we work to help everyone achieve more, we are committed to improving our world and reporting our progress. We also share our learnings and practices to foster industry dialogue, inform public debate, and—ultimately—help advance greater progress.

## Working with our stakeholders

We know that the decisions we make affect our employees, customers, partners, shareholders, suppliers, and communities, and we take their voices into account. We bring outside perspectives into the company and inform our business decisions through a variety of feedback channels.

## Topic prioritization, materiality, and governance

Microsoft's prioritization across Environmental, Social, and Governance topics includes a wide range of strategic planning processes by our senior management and many others across the enterprise. It also includes stakeholder input and careful consideration of the impacts of our core businesses as they evolve. Our Board of Directors also provides insights, feedback, and oversight across a broad range of environmental and social matters, as detailed in our annual proxy statement.

- ✓ [Learn more about our approach to reporting](#)
- ✓ [View all of our reports on our Reports Hub](#)

## Our disclosures

We inform our disclosure strategies with careful consideration of commonly used global standards, including:

- ✓ [Sustainable Accounting Standards Board \(SASB\)](#)
- ✓ [UN Sustainable Development Goals \(SDGs\)](#)
- ✓ [Global Reporting Initiative \(GRI\) for our Responsible Sourcing Program](#)

The United Nations Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights Reporting Framework can be found in:

- ✓ [Annual Human Rights Report](#)

We also follow issue-specific standards including:

- ✓ [TCFD \(Task Force on Climate-related Financial Disclosures\) report](#)
- ✓ [Greenhouse Gas Protocol](#)
- ✓ [EEO-1 \(Equal Employment Opportunity\) diversity disclosure](#)
- ✓ [CDP disclosures](#)





# Supporting the UN Sustainable Development Goals

In 2015, the United Nations called on nations, non-governmental organizations, and private partners to commit to achieving 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by 2030. But at the halfway point, only 12% of the SDGs are on track, and progress on more than 30% of them has stalled or gone into reverse.

Seeking to unleash the power of digital technology to advance progress across the 17 goals, Microsoft supports the SDGs through our leadership and our investments in programs, partnerships, and initiatives. We are optimistic about the role of technology, including recent groundbreaking developments in AI, to make a positive impact in the lives of people around the world and to accelerate progress on the SDGs.

Microsoft has a 20-year history of working with the UN, and Microsoft Vice Chair and President, Brad Smith, has been one of the appointed SDG advocates since 2021. In this role, he aids UN Secretary-General António Guterres on critical issues at the intersection of technology and society, including bridging the digital skills gap and driving environmental sustainability.

In the last year, Microsoft has called for a multistakeholder approach to the responsible use of AI. As the international debate on global governance of AI has gained momentum, we have played an active role

in providing input for the UN's Global Digital Compact. Working together, we can help build a governance model that ensures AI is developed and deployed in ways that are safe, secure, and trustworthy.

Finally, while many Microsoft initiatives directly and indirectly contribute to progress on all 17 SDGs, to leverage our resources most strategically and amplify the impact of our work and that of our partners, we focus on four SDGs: Goal 4 – Quality Education; Goal 8 – Decent Work and Economic Growth; Goal 13 – Climate Action; and Goal 16 – Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions.

Our work on the SDGs aligns with and advances our commitments to expand opportunity, earn trust, protect fundamental rights, and advance sustainability. While the SDGs, like our commitments, are complex and span several issues, the table to the right helps show the alignment between our commitments and our contributions to the SDGs.

[Learn more about our work on the UN SDGs](#) >

## Our commitments

 **Expand opportunity**

 **Earn trust**

 **Advance sustainability**

 **Protect fundamental rights**

## Supported through our work on the SDGs

Goal 1	<b>No Poverty</b>
Goal 2	<b>Zero Hunger</b>
Goal 3	<b>Good Health and Well-Being</b>
Goal 4	<b>Quality Education</b>
Goal 8	<b>Decent Work and Economic Growth</b>
Goal 9	<b>Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure</b>
Goal 17	<b>Partnerships for the Goals</b>
Goal 6	<b>Clean Water and Sanitation</b>
Goal 7	<b>Affordable and Clean Energy</b>
Goal 12	<b>Responsible Consumption and Production</b>
Goal 13	<b>Climate Action</b>
Goal 14	<b>Life Below Water</b>
Goal 15	<b>Life on Land</b>
Goal 5	<b>Gender Equality</b>
Goal 10	<b>Reduced Inequalities</b>
Goal 11	<b>Sustainable Cities and Communities</b>
Goal 16	<b>Peace, Justice, and Strong Institution</b>




# Building a responsible future—together

> Discover more at [Microsoft.com/impact](https://Microsoft.com/impact)

> Follow [Microsoft on the Issues](#)

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