



New Zealand's Digital Future

2023 Manifesto





HANGARAU KIA ORA TĀTOU KATOĀ | TECH FOR GOOD

NZTech is a not-for-profit association with a mission to support a values-led, nationally and internationally-connected tech community that is collectively lifting equity, sustainability and prosperity for all New Zealanders. We do this by creating jobs, growing exports and ensuring tech has a positive impact throughout Aotearoa.

As the peak body for the tech sector, NZTech is the leading voice for the New Zealand technology ecosystem.

We represent 20 tech associations with over 2,000 members who collectively employ more than 100,000 New Zealanders.

NZTech is a lead partner in the Digital Technology Industry Transformation Plan (ITP), a collaboration between the New Zealand tech sector and the New Zealand Government, to help grow the sector.





ABOUT THIS MANIFESTO

NZTech believes there are specific areas the Government should focus on to enable and grow Aotearoa as a Digital Nation. While not an exclusive list, these actions are aligned with the Digital Tech ITP and should be considered by any incoming Government.

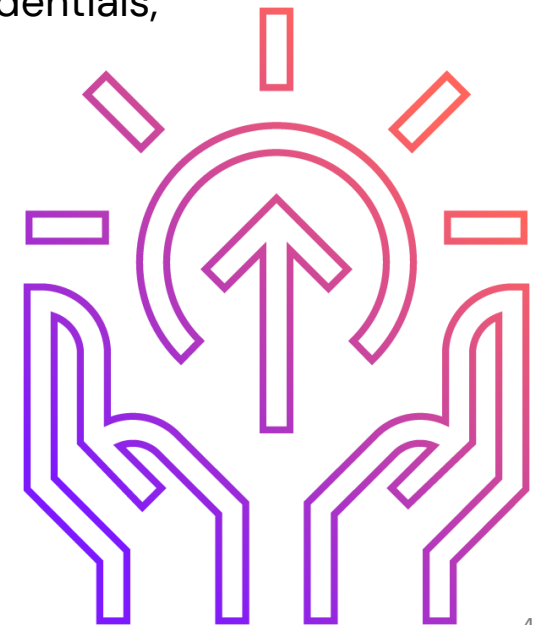
The manifesto outlines six key areas:

- **Education**
- **Digital Inclusion**
- **Sustainability**
- **Digital Safety**
- **Growing exports**
- **Lifting productivity**



Education

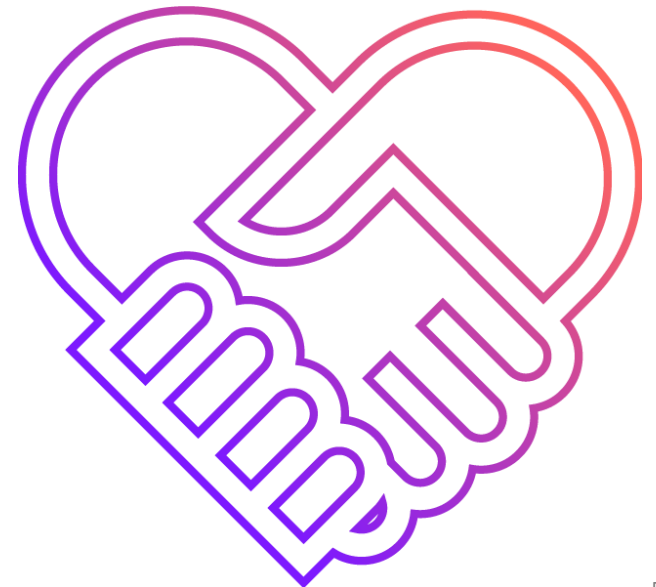
- Increase investment in upskilling teachers so they equip students with digital literacy skills.
- Actively encourage students of all ages into digital technology subjects and career pathways.
- Develop a national Digital Skills Strategy to coordinate public and private sector initiatives to lift digital skills.
- Support and invest in the introduction of digital apprenticeship programmes, and microcredentials, to build new career pathways.
- Ensure all students have access to digital equipment at school and at home.
- Lift the public service's digital skills to effectively advise on digital technology policy and regulations.





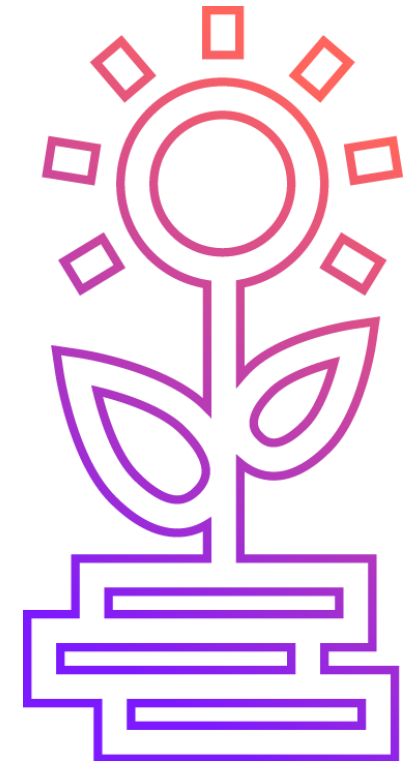
Digital Inclusion

- Provide affordable internet access to all New Zealanders, including free internet access in all public housing.
- Ensure all New Zealanders have access to affordable internet enabled devices.
- Support the development of accessible content including for those with disabilities.
- Utilise artificial intelligence so that technological solutions deliver for all New Zealanders.



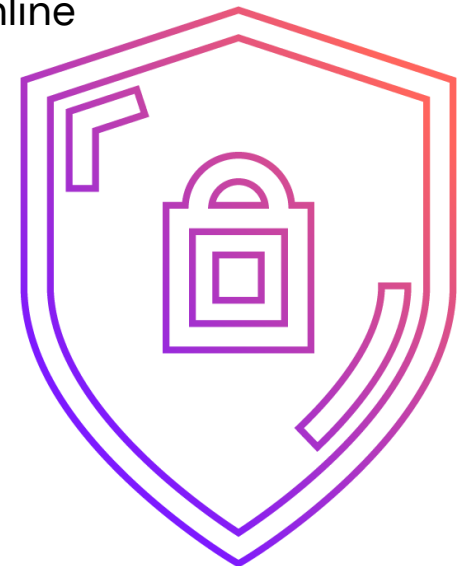
Sustainability

- Develop a climate technology roadmap for New Zealand's Emissions Reduction Plan.
- Enable biotechnology investment through modifying New Zealand's genetic modification laws.
- Invest in supporting uptake of agritech solutions to support emissions reduction in the agriculture sector.
- Utilise artificial intelligence to transform how New Zealand delivers on its climate and environmental objectives.
- Avoid greenwashing in delivering initiatives, e.g. through Climate-Related Disclosures provisions.



Digital Safety

- Increase investment in critical cyber security infrastructure and education for New Zealand businesses and the public.
- Create a clear regulatory regime for emerging technologies, such as blockchain, AI and digital identity, that protects New Zealanders' privacy and safety.
- Ensure alignment with international best practice privacy and security policies.
- Endorse the Industry Code of Practice for Online Safety to make the internet safer.
- Increase education and investment to help counter online fraud and cybercrime.



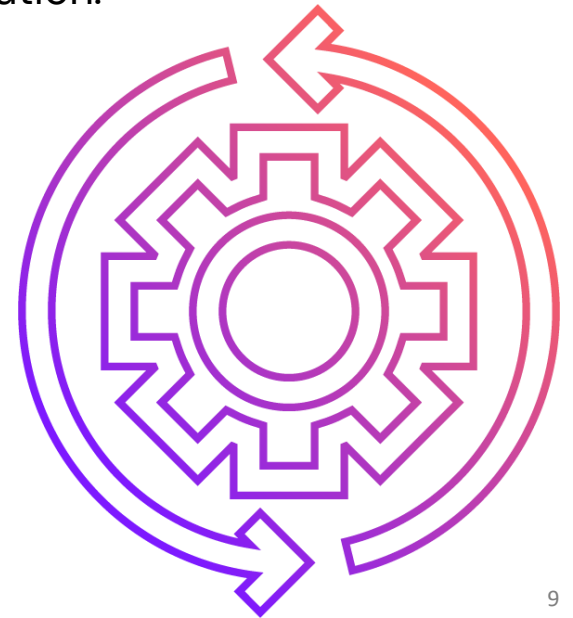
Growing exports

- Support companies to successfully export their digital and hi-tech services and solutions to the world.
- Create a clear regulatory regime for emerging technologies that enables innovation.
- Support internationally competitive sectors such as gaming, agritech, healthtech and fintech, through investment and incentives.
- Turn New Zealand into a hub of innovation to help lift tech sector exports.



Lifting productivity

- Support the use of digital technology to transform the economy, lift the performance of New Zealand industries and create high-value jobs.
- Ensure companies have access to the best talent in the world.
- Ensure government decisions are underpinned by sound and meaningful data.
- Provide clear regulatory guidelines, data definitions and standards to enable industry participation.
- Continue to support and invest in programmes and incentives that encourage digital uptake.
- Improve Government procurement bureaucracy and streamline processes.
- Continue investing in the science and research community.





Helping to create a safer,
more equitable, sustainable
and prosperous

Aotearoa New Zealand
underpinned by
good technology.



techweek

