Together we can create the future we want.

humanitech

Australian Red Cross
THE POWER OF HUMANITY

humanitech.org.au

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As the world around us changes we must look to develop a new framework for how we as communities, as a society and as global citizens look after our fellow humans.'
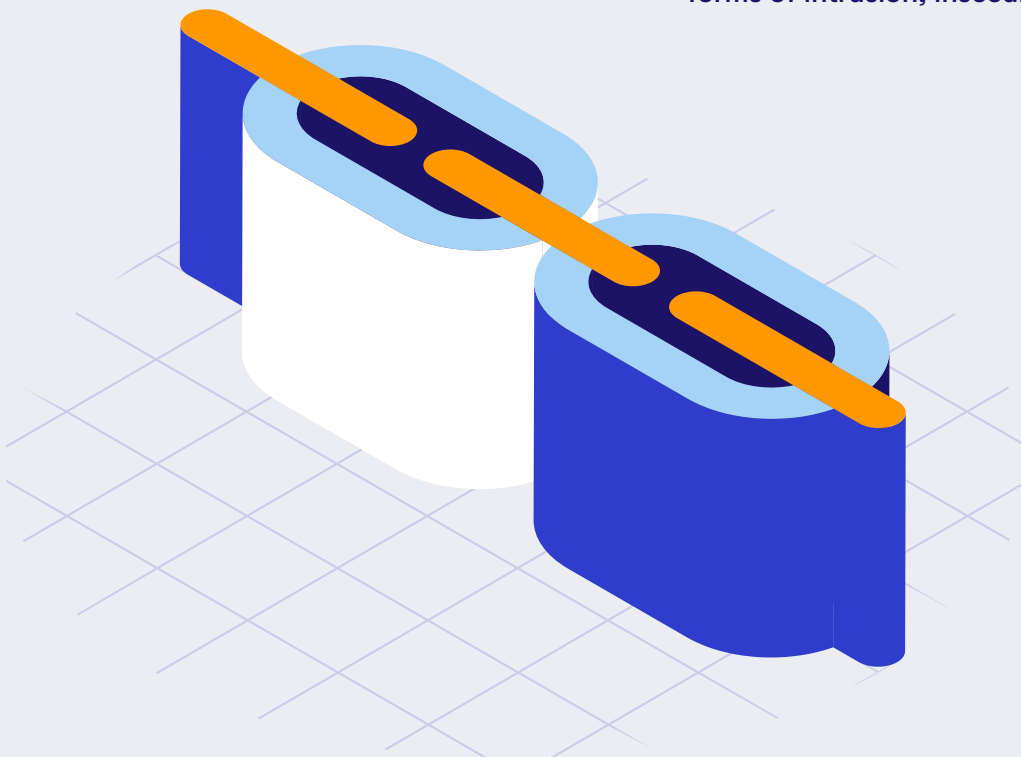
Judy Slatyer, CEO Australian Red Cross

Advancing fast & far

Artificial intelligence and machine learning, digital platforms and connectivity, distributed ledger technologies and data-driven solutions are changing how the world works — how we create products and services, how we relate to each other, and how we connect with people, places and things.

These frontier technologies are advancing fast and reaching far across the fabric of our society.

This technology presents us with an incredible opportunity to tackle some of the hardest social and humanitarian challenges. We could give better access to help when people need it, reimagine pathways to social, civic and economic participation or amplify the voices of marginalised communities.

However, the speed of innovation and the increasing pervasiveness of technology in our lives creates risk of misuse, mistake and malfunction, potentially exposing people to new forms of intrusion, insecurity and inequality.
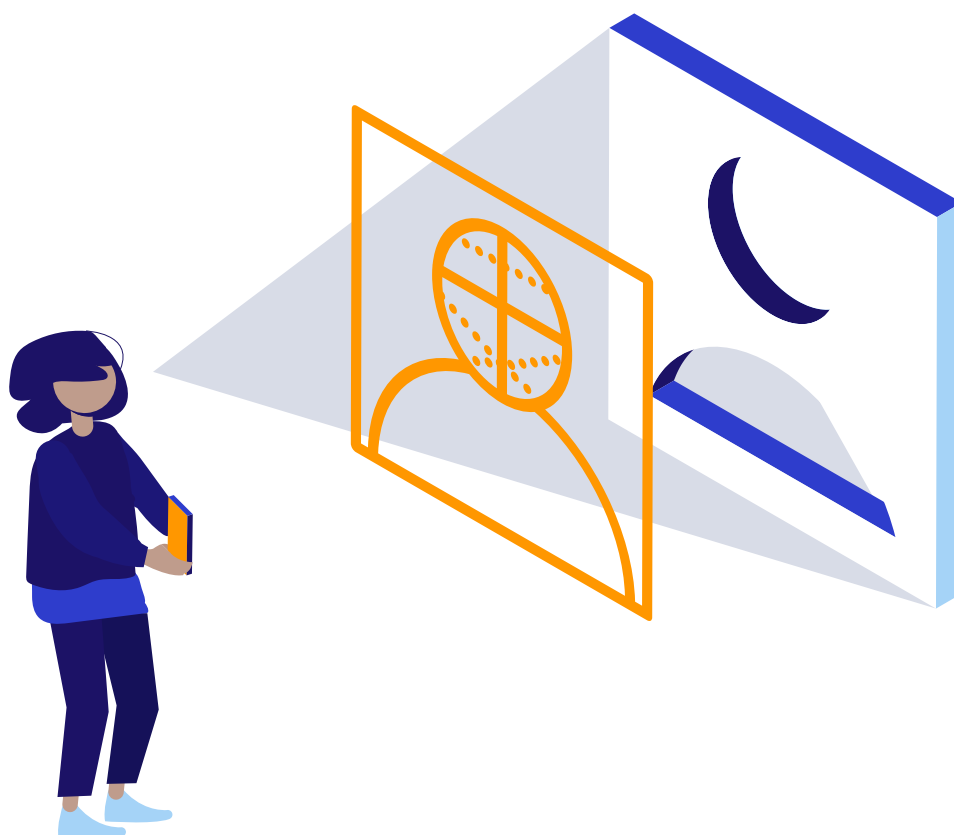
The future of vulnerability

Examples abound where biases in data and technology have further entrenched disadvantage, from incorrectly predicting the likelihood of re-offending to wrongly identifying the over-payment of social benefits.

This raises questions about the responsible, ethical and inclusive design and use of technology, and the implications this has on rights, consent, access and control.
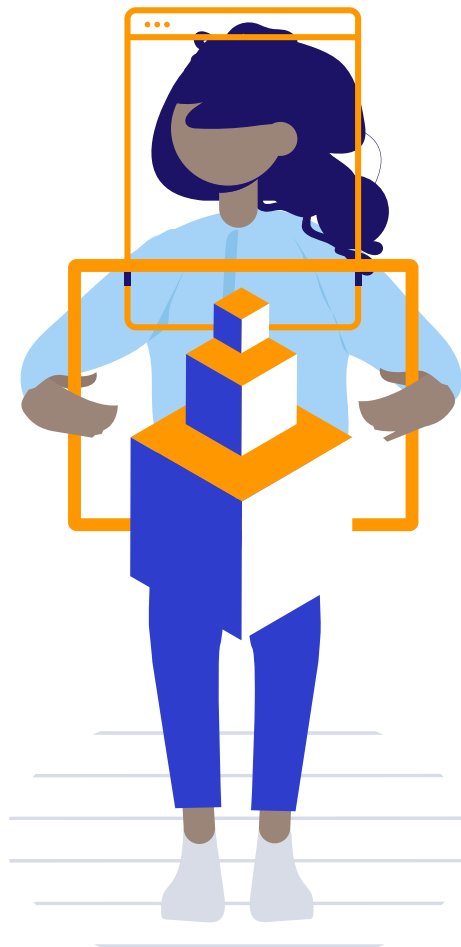
Australian Red Cross is inviting leading thinkers and institutions, both locally and globally, to come together to spotlight how to use technology for good, how to mitigate negative impacts and how to create the best outcomes for humanity.

Placing humanity at the centre of technology

Humanitech is a think+do tank which seeks to shape the future for all humanity by harnessing the power of technology for good.

We are creating an innovative and entrepreneurial environment in which to collaborate in order to develop unique *insights* into the social implications of frontier technologies, create or amplify *solutions* with the greatest potential for social impact, and *influence* so that technology serves humanity by putting the needs of people at the centre.

Our approach

CONVENE the best minds working at the intersection of technology and social innovation

EXPLORE the role of emerging technology in better meeting humanitarian needs

CREATE evidence through sharing, collaboration, research and experimentation

AMPLIFY ideas and solutions with the greatest potential for scale and impact

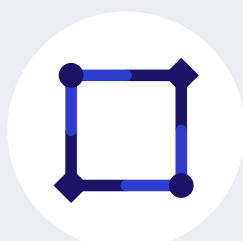**INFLUENCE** so that emerging technology serves humanity by putting people at the centre

Our focus areas:

We want to help shape the future of humanity so that technological advancements:

Safeguard the *DIGNITY* of all people — and especially the most vulnerable — by creating opportunities for new forms of social, civic and economic participation

Promote human *SAFETY* by enabling communities to better prepare for and respond to risks and crises

Build *TRUST* in society through increased opportunities for meaningful engagement with each other and with institutions.

Our principles:
→ Humanity first
→ Collective impact
→ Diverse perspectives
→ Open innovation
→ Advancing Global Goals

What we do

Progressing humanitarian outcomes across three work streams:

1

Research & Insights

Developing our own insights and evidence on the opportunities and risks new technologies present. We'll join with other institutions such as the Australian Research Council *Centre of Excellence in Automated Decision-Making and Society* as a key humanitarian industry partner.

2

The Lab

Developing solutions from concept through launch, working with a network of collaborators across sectors.

Our flagship initiative, The Identity Project is a decentralised digital credentialing platform which will give people ownership over their own identity and make it easier for them to volunteer, get a job, open a bank account or drive a car.

3

Advocacy & Influence

Contributing to research, policy and practice on the humanitarian implications of technology through policy advocacy and stakeholder engagement. Since late 2018, we have been participating in ongoing consultations on the Australian Human Rights Commission *Human Rights and Technology Project* bringing our unique humanitarian perspective to this topic, with an emphasis on ensuring technology serves humanity, especially people experiencing vulnerability.

Strategic plan

The incredible opportunities and challenges at the intersection of technology and humanity compelled Australian Red Cross to establish Humanitech in 2018. Our five-year strategy will work toward welcoming more partners to join this important initiative.

In the first year, we aim to sign up a range of cross-sectoral partners, securing funding for core activities, and co-designing our Do Lab and research agendas to ensure we're focusing on the most pressing issues.

By year five, we aim to empower an engaged and inspired cross-sector community of humanitarians, technologists and leaders who promote and apply a 'humanity first' lens to the development, analysis, use and regulation of emerging technology.

Coming up

November 2019	February 2020
→ Humanitech soft launch	→ Humanitech Lab Design Workshops

March 2020

→ **Future of Vulnerability Report**

April 2020

→ **Humanitech Summit and official launch**

→ **'The Identity Project' market launch**

June 2020

→ **Humanitech Lab Established**

Management team

Amanda Robinson

Amanda Robinson is the Head of Humanitech and is responsible for driving strategy, development and engagement. A social innovation leader with a keen interest in how frontier technology might help to solve complex social problems, Amanda has spent the last 20 years developing and managing digital products and services for SEEK, Yahoo, Lonely Planet and Sensis.

Amanda holds a Bachelor of Arts from the University of Melbourne, a Masters of Marketing from Monash University and a Graduate Certificate of Social Impact from the Centre for Social Impact.

Ivana Jurko

Ivana Jurko is the research and policy lead at Humanitech and a PhD scholar at RMIT University, where she is focusing on the social implications of blockchain. Ivana has over 15 years' experience in the social sector, and has previously worked at Oxfam Australia, Headspace, and Beyondblue. Her areas of practice include social policy and research, humanitarian futures and foresight, and design and delivery of complex social initiatives. She is also a Partner Investigator in the ARC Centre for Automated Decision-Making and Society, linking research with humanitarian practice and the communities we serve.

Advisory Board

Penny Harrison

Penny Harrison is Director, Volunteering at Red Cross and has over 20 years' experience in leadership and operational roles in the humanitarian sector. Penny leads a social impact team building partnerships and collaborations to remove barriers to volunteering and taking action for good, harness the transformational power of frontier technologies, and build collaboration with people and their networks to solve complex social issues.

Prior to Red Cross Penny held senior strategic leadership roles with Oxfam Australia, leading their work across Africa, South Asia, East Asia and the Pacific, and with Médecins Sans Frontières, where she held a variety of positions including Country Directorships in Tajikistan, Afghanistan and Pakistan.

Penny holds a Master of Arts (Development Studies) and Bachelor of Arts (Hons) both from Monash University.

Jackie Coates

Jackie Coates is the Head of Telstra Foundation and is a corporate sustainability leader, passionate about the intersection of social innovation and digital technology. As Head of Telstra Foundation and a Board Trustee of the Telstra Foundation Philippines, Jackie leads Telstra's philanthropic investment fund with a focus on technology for humanity. Strategic and entrepreneurial, her work supports digital change makers in the non-profit sector, as well as young digital makers in remote and regional Australia. An advocate for the responsible and inclusive development of new and emerging technologies Jackie believes that as technology moves forward, the lives of those in need must move forward with it. She also encourages young people to create with, not just consume, tech. Feminist, mother, tech optimist, and grant-maker, Jackie juggles many balls and tries hard not to drop the glass ones.

Professor Julian Thomas

Julian Thomas is Director of the ARC Centre of Excellence for Automated Decision-Making and Society, and a Professor in the School of Media and Communications at RMIT University. He leads the team producing the *Australian Digital Inclusion Index* (Telstra, 2016-) and publishes widely on the social aspects of internet technologies. Thomas's books include *Internet on the Outstation: The Digital Divide and Remote Aboriginal Communities* (INC, 2016), and *The Informal Media Economy* (Polity, 2015). In 2017, Thomas was elected to the Fellowship of the Australian Academy of the Humanities for his contribution to communications and media studies.

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Today

ID2020

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Be our partners

Through our collective efforts, we will put the spotlight on how we use technology for good to ensure that the benefits of new technologies are widely shared and to imagine and chase the possibilities for all.

As technology changes our world, let's make sure everybody's along for the ride.

humanitech.org.au

To have a conversation about how you can get involved please email us at **humanitech@redcross.org.au**

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