

THE AI PRECIPICE

An Executive Guide to Balancing AI Innovation and Safety

Board Director and Executive Discovery Toolkit

Toolkit #1

Book Discovery

Reflection Questions



INSTRUCTIONS

Toolkit Value

- To equip senior leaders from diverse industries and backgrounds, for-profit or not-for-profit, and all industries to advance their strategy, governance, and risk/compliance measurement systems to achieve value realization from their investments in AI.
- Toolkit #1 provides a detailed set of questions for each book section and chapter.
- The risks are high with AI investments: With over 85% of organizations struggling to sustain AI in their organizations, the AI Precipice book offers executives precision guidance to achieve the value from AI and successfully balance AI innovation and safety.

Starting Gate

Read: ***The AI Precipice: An Executive Guide to Balancing AI Innovation and Safety.***

Toolkit Audience

- Senior Executives (Board Directors, CEOs, and Leadership Teams)
- Diverse Industries are explored in this book (i.e., Education, FSI, Government, HealthCare, HighTech, Manufacturing, Pharma, Telecom, etc).
- Small businesses to Large Enterprises, as AI is crucial for all businesses to advance with strong AI foundations for competitive advantage and business survival.
- Content is particularly relevant to private or public organizations, but still has relevance to the not-for-profit sector, especially for government organizations, as covered in this book

Toolkit Overview

- This toolkit provides 65 AI leadership discovery and review questions that can be used either for self-reflection or with executive stakeholders in a working

session, after reading ***The AI Precipice: An Executive Guide to Balancing AI Innovation and Safety.***

- There are three major sections in the book and 16 chapters.
- Each major book section has relevant questions for board directors and senior executives to engage in.

Get in Touch

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Table 1.0 – AI Leadership Review Question Structure by Chapter and Section

Chapter	Title	Key leadership questions
Section I – The Courage Needed for Balanced AI		
1	Redefining our Relationship with Machines	~ 6 Questions~
2	Establishing Responsible AI from Day One	~ 3 Questions ~
3	Demystifying the Magic of AI	~ 4 Questions~
4	Iterating AI from Concept to Reality	~ 4 Questions~
5	AI Is More than Just Models	~ 4 Questions~
6	Battling AI Breaches and Adversarial Attacks	~ 5 Questions~
Section II – Roadmap to Achieving Responsible AI		
7	The Tug-of-War between AI Innovation and Safety	~ 5 Questions~
8	Aligning Corporate Profit and Purpose	~ 4 Questions~
9	Targeting the Risks that Truly Matter	~ 4 Questions~
10	Cost-Efficient Controls with Maximum Impact	~ 4 Questions~
11	Maintaining Stakeholder Trust and Confidence	~ 4 Questions~
12	The Art of Data-Driven AI Monitoring	~ 4 Questions~
13	Future-Proofing AI with Scenario Planning	~ 4 Questions~
Section III – Utopia or Dystopia? The Future of AI		
14	Building Utopia	~ 5 Questions~
15	Avoiding Dystopia	~ 4 Questions~
16	Leading with a Thriving Mindset	~ 5 Questions~

Table 2.0 – Book Section and Chapter – AI Leadership Review Questions

Chapter	Title	Key Leadership Questions
Section I – The courage needed for balanced AI		
1	Redefining our Relationship with Machines	1. What can we learn from our past business transformations and innovations? 2. How is your organization defining AI? 3. How will AI impact your overall business strategy and operational capabilities? 4. How can AI enhance your business processes and customer experiences? 5. How will AI impact your workforce and talent needs? 6. What strategies ensure your AI adoption remains competitive?
2	Establishing Responsible AI from Day One	1. In your AI projects, have you integrated AI principles into your complete AI lifecycle, particularly during the problem identification and design stages? 2. Are accountability and responsibility clearly defined for upholding the achievement of your AI principles? 3. How are diverse perspectives incorporated in your AI projects to broaden ethical and societal considerations?
3	Demystifying the Magic of AI	1. Is your AI investment strategy fully leveraging the range of available AI technologies and models? 2. Do you have the right AI talent and skills to execute your AI investment strategy? 3. Does your AI design process involve thorough comparison and optimal selection of AI models and algorithms? 4. Is your team equipped with enough knowledge of AI's technical aspects to make informed strategic decisions?
4	Iterating AI from Concept to Reality	1. How is your organization aligning the AI Development Lifecycle with your strategic goals and ethical requirements? 2. Is there a balanced investment in both AI functionalities and the maturation of the AI Development Lifecycle? 3. How are responsible AI considerations being integrated into each stage of your AI Development Lifecycle? 4. How do you ensure third-party vendors deliver AI systems that meet your organization's corporate policies and regulatory requirements?

5	AI Is More than Just Models	1. Have you built into your AI design all the different components it will need to operate? 2. Is your AI infrastructure future-proof in that it can interoperate with new IoT devices, data sources, and computer processors as they emerge? 3. What factors are key in deciding between open-source, third-party, or in-house solutions for your AI applications? 4. How are you leveraging technological advances, and what is the roadmap to get there from your current infrastructure?
6	Battling AI Breaches and Adversarial Attacks	1. Are your cybersecurity strategies incorporating AI to enhance your threat detection, response, and predictive capabilities? 2. Do your AI systems have safeguards against adversarial attacks, deepfakes, and other risks posed by AI? 3. Have you implemented Privacy by Design principles and integrated security considerations into all phases of your AI lifecycle? 4. Are you conducting regular integrity checks on your AI systems, especially those overseeing other AI models, to ensure their resistance to manipulation? 5. Have you done an external third-party AI cybersecurity risk review of all of our AI practices?
Section II – Roadmap to Achieving Responsible AI		
7	The Tug-of-War between AI Innovation and Safety	1. How is your organization adapting to the global AI regulatory landscape? 2. How does your organization track public policy and regulatory developments? 3. What compliance strategies are in place for your state and local AI regulations? 4. How will your organization align industry-specific AI guidelines with broader regulations? 5. How is your AI strategy integrating voluntary guidelines for risk management and governance?
8	Aligning Corporate Profit and Purpose	1. How effectively does your AI policy align with your organization's values, stakeholder expectations, and strategic objectives? 2. How complete is your inventory of AI assets? 3. How well-defined and understood are the roles and responsibilities for AI governance?

		How robust are your efforts in building both technical and ethical AI capabilities?
9	Targeting the Risks that Truly Matter	- Have you embedded risk management throughout your AI project lifecycle? - Have you established clear accountability for AI risk management decisions? - What measures are in place to foster and reinforce an AI risk-aware culture? - Do you have comprehensive AI incidents and crisis management strategies?
10	Cost-Efficient Controls with Maximum Impact	- Do you understand the impact and likelihood of AI systems' risks? - Are you leveraging a cost-benefit analysis in the selection of your controls? - Is there a clear understanding of the governance and control responsibilities among developers, deployers, and users of your AI systems? - Is your AI control framework up-to-date for new AI developments, regulatory changes, and feedback from system performance evaluations?
11	Maintaining Stakeholder Trust and Confidence	- How are you leveraging assurance to build trust and confidence in your AI governance framework? - How are you ensuring that your model documentation and transparency reports accurately reflect the performance and compliance of your AI systems? - How are you building the capabilities in your risk and control functions so that they can act as effective challengers of your AI governance practices and AI model design? - As regulatory landscapes evolve, how are you preparing your AI systems for potential third-party assurance requirements?
12	The Art of Data-Driven AI Monitoring	- Do you have a comprehensive metrics toolkit that covers the diversity of your AI use cases and impacts, and is leveraged throughout the full AI development lifecycle? - Do you have the right MLOps environment to conduct your AI model measurements? - Are you participating in formal measurement, peer, or benchmarking groups to measure your AI performance?

		Do you have third-party reviewers on your AI measurement systems in an annual review process?
13	Future-Proofing AI with Scenario Planning	- How do your AI scenario planning efforts address both short-term gains and long-term sustainability? - Are diverse stakeholder perspectives incorporated into your AI scenario planning process? - What mechanisms are in place to adapt AI strategies based on evolving scenarios? - How do you evaluate the ethical implications of each AI scenario against your business risks?
Section III – Utopia or Dystopia? The Future of AI		
14	Building Utopia	- Does your corporate strategy clearly position responsible AI in your Corporate Purpose? - How is your organization balancing AI to foster innovation and ensure safe, sustainable practices? - How are you conducting AI best practices benchmarking to learn rapidly from your customers, competitors, or other key ecosystem stakeholders? - Are you collaborating with partners to integrate AI across your customer interactions and operations? - How are you preparing your workforce to adapt to the evolving demands of an AI-driven economy, while promoting continuous learning and development?
15	Avoiding Dystopia	- How is your organization actively addressing the potential risks of AI technologies to prevent the emergence of a dystopian society? - In what ways are you ensuring that AI systems in your organization promote transparency and accountability to build trust with stakeholders? - What strategies are you implementing to safeguard against the misuse of AI, particularly in areas such as surveillance, deepfakes, and cybercrime? - How are you fostering a culture of innovation that prioritizes ethical considerations and human-centric design in the development of all of your AI technologies?
16	Leading with a Thriving Mindset	How are you personally upgrading your knowledge and helping others in your organization build their AI literacy muscle?

		2. How are you prioritizing immediate and long-term AI investments to align with your strategic goals and ethical considerations? 3. Are your AI initiatives designed to balance short-term gains with sustainable, long-term societal impact? 4. Do you have a clear roadmap for AI governance that addresses both current needs and future challenges? 5. Which path - Surviving, Stability, or Thriving - best aligns with your organizational vision and leadership capabilities?
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