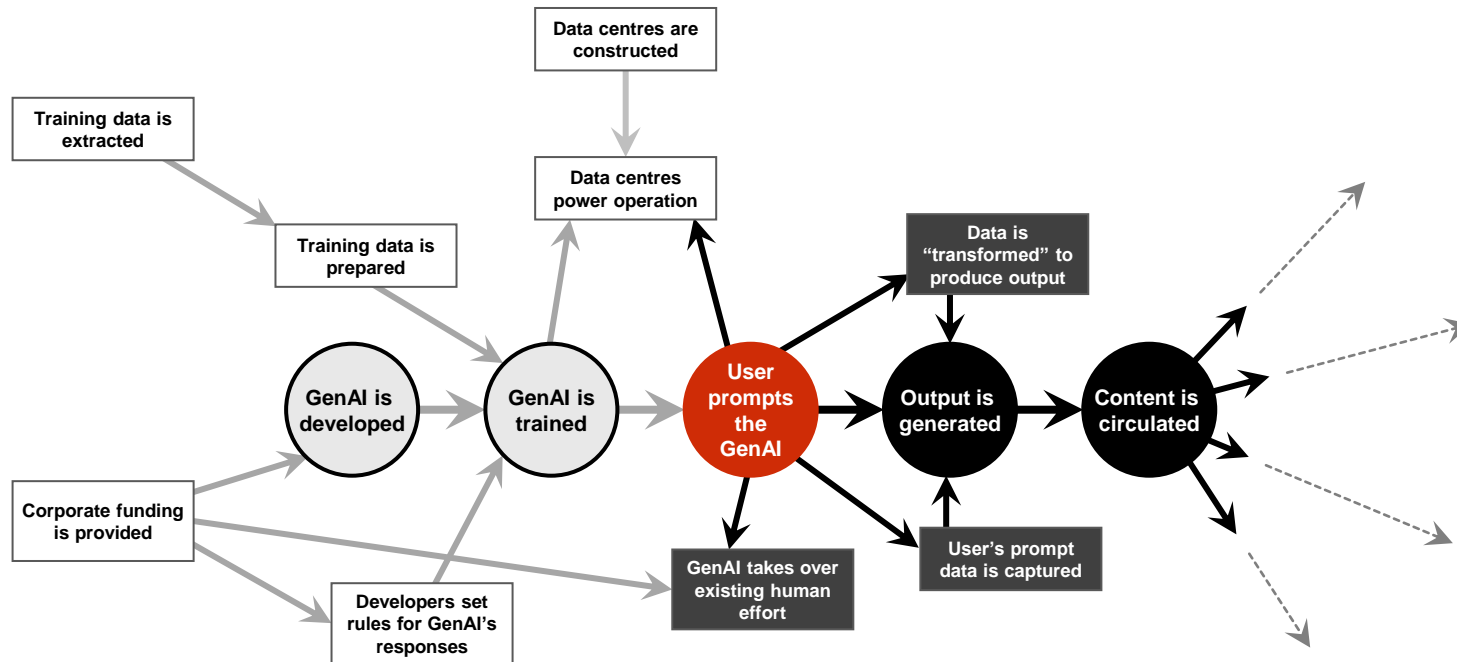


# Ethics violations along the GenAI value chain



Created by  
Miriam Reynoldson  
May 2025



This is a simplified diagram of the value chain of a generative artificial intelligence (GenAI) model. GenAI models like LLMs and GANs are trained on huge datasets and can generate human-like outputs.

A value chain is a sequence of **upstream** activities that go into developing a product or service, and then a sequence of **downstream** activities that result from the use of product or service.

At each stage of the GenAI value chain, certain activities are performed that have significant harmful effects on societies, economies, political stability, legal rights, human safety, and the natural environment.

***The next page lists some of the most significant harms that occur upstream of GenAI use.***

## Categories of harm



Social



Economic



Political



Legal



Safety

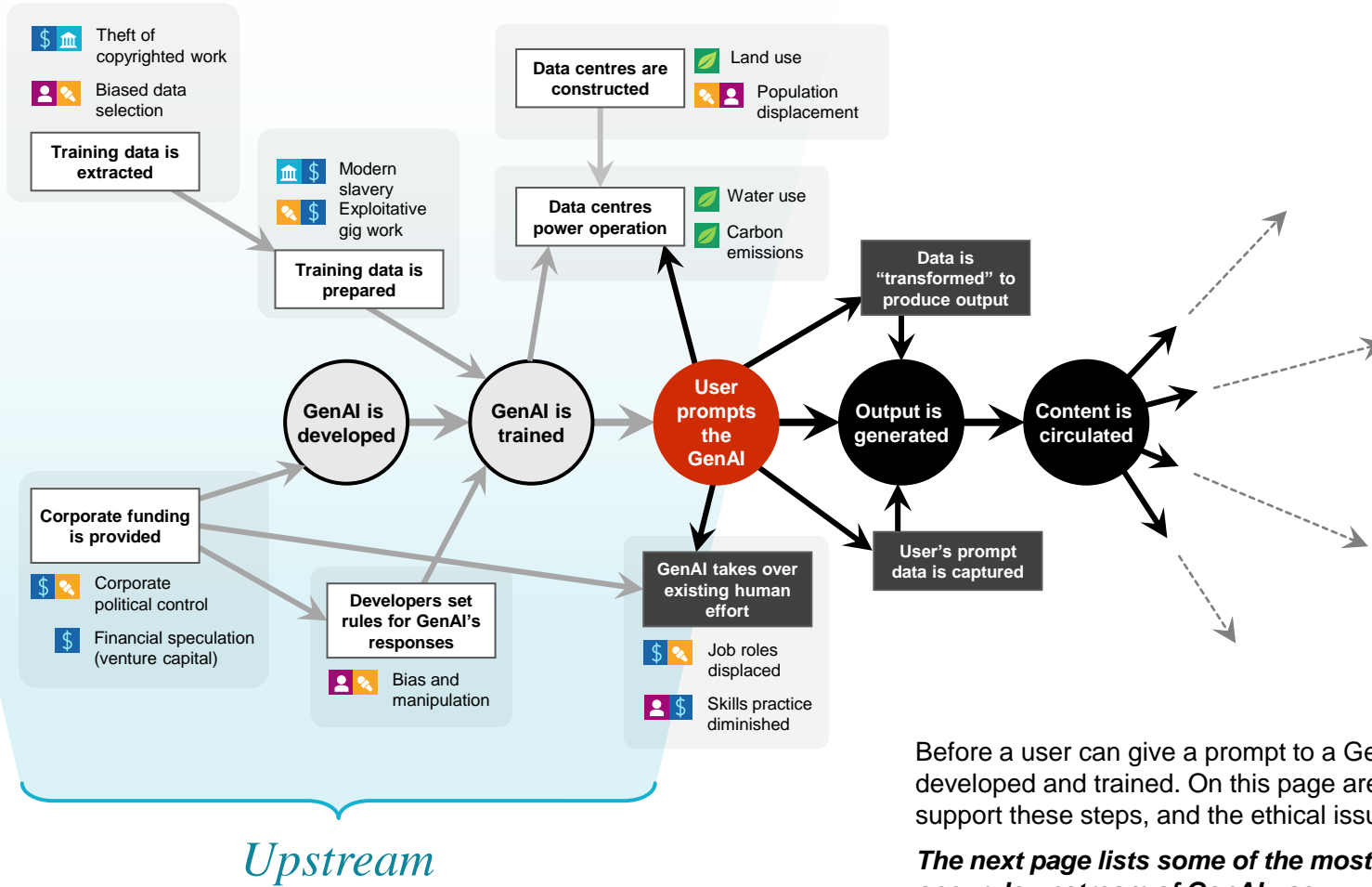


Environmental

# Ethics violations along the GenAI value chain: *Upstream*



Created by  
Miriam Reynoldson  
May 2025



Before a user can give a prompt to a GenAI model, the model must be developed and trained. On this page are some of the key activities to support these steps, and the ethical issues they create.

**The next page lists some of the most significant harms that occur downstream of GenAI use.**

## Categories of harm



Social



Economic



Political



Legal



Safety

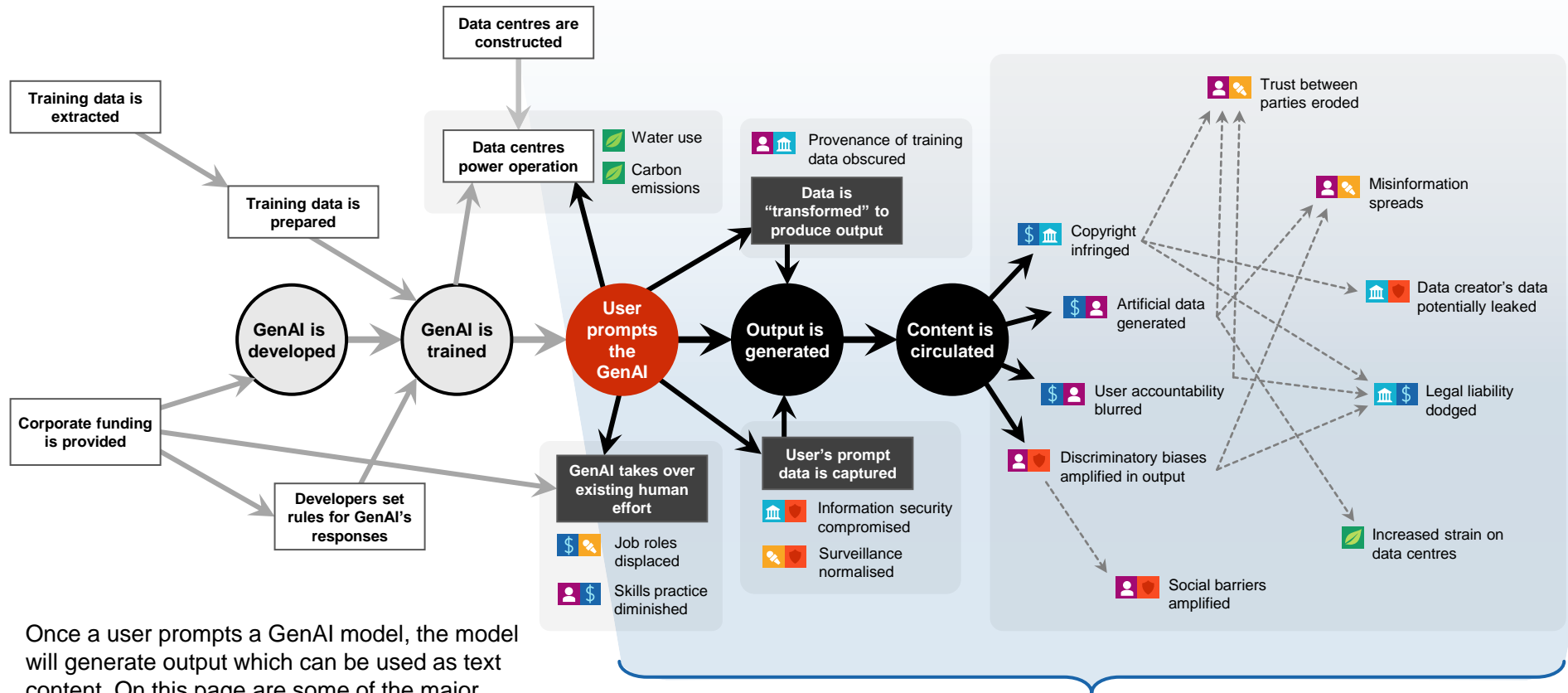


Environmental

# Ethics violations along the GenAI value chain: *Downstream*



Created by  
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May 2025



Once a user prompts a GenAI model, the model will generate output which can be used as text content. On this page are some of the major ethical issues that arise from these activities.

**The next page illustrates significant harms that occur all along the GenAI value chain.**

*Downstream*

## Categories of harm



Social



Economic



Political



Legal



Safety

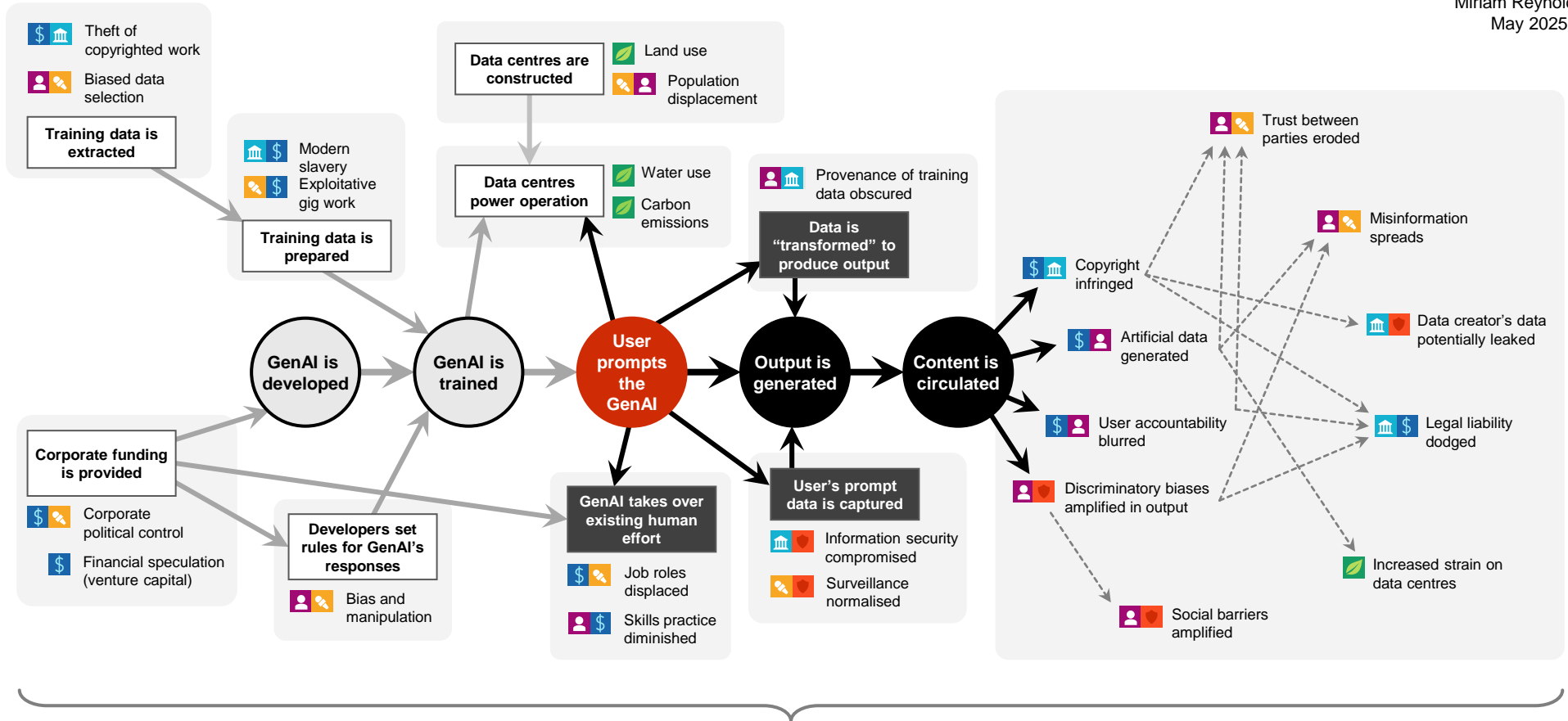


Environmental

# Ethics violations along the GenAI value chain: *Total value chain*



Created by  
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May 2025



## *Total value chain*

Note that this is a simplified value chain and does not include all activities or ethics violations.

### Categories of harm



Social



Economic



Political



Legal



Safety



Environmental