

## **ABSTRACT - ENGLISH**

Responsible Research and Innovation (RRI) is an emerging concept that yet has to be discussed among industry stakeholders in greater detail. The research questions of this thesis are: 1) what is the role of RRI in industry, and 2) how one can promote and manage responsibilities within industrial stakeholders' Research and Development (R&D) initiatives to improve their ability to engage in responsible, sustainable, and inclusive growth. To answer these questions, this thesis will evaluate the potential for industrial stakeholders to partake in RRI, through which socially and ethically acceptable products and services can be developed and offered to consumers.

This thesis contributes to the literature on RRI by stressing its importance for industry and highlighting the benefits companies can receive by implementing RRI principles. More specifically, this thesis shows that RRI can promote engagement in responsible and sustainable activities along the entire value chain, as well as buttress relationships between multiple stakeholders, including customers, employees, and investors. Moreover, the author also claims that RRI provides industry stakeholders with different kinds of assessment protocols, including risk assessment, impact assessment, and technology assessment. These assessment tools are useful for mitigating risks and strengthening strategic planning. Although many components of RRI are well-known among industry stakeholders, the author contends that the concept of RRI is rarely reflected in industrial practices. To redress this practical shortcoming, this thesis features a model that can assist industry stakeholders in becoming more engaged with RRI principles.

This thesis will demonstrate the importance of “bottom-up” qualitative research approaches when management of RRI within industry is investigated, and provide an RRI framework based on established responsible innovation practices with reference to the Information and Communication Technology (ICT) industry. Taken together, these complementary emphases will facilitate the development of an integrated model for RRI. The author populated a research sample and test-bed with established companies. After doing so, the author will discuss whether and how the RRI integrated model could be brought to industry.

This thesis is structured such that its chapters are five respective research papers. These individual papers have been published in (or submitted to) scientific journals or conference proceedings and/or presented at international conferences.