Green Information Technology Contributes to Environmental Conservation

Hassan Algizani, Abdullah Alnaim

Abstract:- Information technology (IT) is a major consumer of energy and resources. The environmental impact of IT is growing rapidly as the IT industry expands and the use of IT becomes more pervasive in all aspects of our lives. Green Information Technology (IT) has emerged as a critical enabler in the pursuit of environmental sustainability. It is the practice of designing, building, using, and disposing of IT in a way that minimizes its environmental impact. Green IT can help to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, conserve energy, and conserve resources. Overall, Green IT is a promising practice that can help to reduce the environmental impact of information technology. By adopting Green IT practices, organizations can help to protect the environment and promote sustainable development.

I. INTRODUCTION

Green IT is a strategic approach to technology usage that minimizes its negative impact on the environment. It focuses on resource efficiency, lowered energy consumption, and minimized waste generation. This concept encompasses various aspects of IT, including energy efficient hardware, virtualization, software development, and electronic waste management. The goal is to counteract the ecological consequences associated with conventional IT practices. The core principle of Green IT lies in optimizing the use of technology to minimize its environmental impact while maximizing its benefits. This research paper aims to delve into the multifaceted world of Green IT, shading light on both its achievements and the challenges it faces. it will discuss how Green IT can be catalyst for sustainable change by reducing the environmental impact of IT operations and promoting economic efficiency.

II. HOW GREEN IT CAN REDUCE THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT OF IT OPERATIONS?

IT operations, such as data centers, servers, networks, and devices, consume a significant amount of energy and generate a large amount of greenhouse gas emissions and electronic waste. These environmental impacts can have negative consequences for the climate, biodiversity, and human health. Green IT is a term that refers to the use of information and communication technologies (ICTs) in a way that minimizes their environmental impact and maximizes their efficiency and sustainability. Green IT can reduce the environmental impact of IT operations by implementing various practices, such as:

 Using energy-efficient chips and systems that can perform more tasks with less power. For example, IBM and Samsung have designed a chip that can be stacked vertically, which reduces the distance that signals have to

- travel and saves energy. IBM has also developed a 2nm chip that can improve performance by 45% and reduce energy usage by 75% compared to current 7nm chips.
- Optimizing the energy efficiency of data centers and cloud computing services by using virtualization, automation, cooling systems, renewable energy sources, and artificial intelligence. For example, AiMOS is a computer developed by IBM and NY CREATEs that is one of the most energyefficient computers in existence and is used to develop more advanced and efficient computing chips.

III. GREEN IT APPROACH TO SUSTAINABLE AND COST-EFFECTIVE OPERATIONS

IT is essential for the functioning of modern society, but it also poses significant environmental challenges. Current IT infrastructure consumes a large amount of energy, generates greenhouse gas emissions, and produces electronic waste that can harm the environment and human health. To address these challenges, green IT is a term that refers to the use of IT technology in a way that minimizes their environmental impact and maximizes their efficiency and sustainability. Green IT is not only a matter of environmental responsibility, but also a matter of economic opportunity. By adopting green IT practices, current IT operations can achieve sustainable and cost-effective outcomes, such as:

- Reducing operational costs by saving energy and resources.
 Green IT practices can help IT technology operations optimize their energy consumption and use renewable or alternative sources of energy. For example, Google has achieved 100% renewable energy for its global operations since 2017, which has reduced its carbon footprint and saved money on electricity bills.
- Enhancing performance and reliability by using advanced and efficient technologies. Green IT practices can help current IT operations improve their productivity and quality by using innovative and energy-efficient technologies, such as cloud computing, artificial intelligence, and nanotechnology. For example, Microsoft has developed Project Natick, which is an underwater data center that uses seawater for cooling and renewable energy for power, which has increased its speed and reliability

IV. CONCLUSION

As society continues to grapple with environmental challenges, Green IT emerges as a compelling solution to reduce the environmental impact of IT operations. The adoption of Green IT practices can help organizations to reduce their energy consumption, greenhouse gas emissions, and waste production. This can lead to cost savings, improved brand reputation, and regulatory compliance. Additionally, Green IT can help organizations to attract and retain top talent, as many employees are increasingly interested in working for companies that are committed to sustainability.

Overall, Green IT is a win-win for organizations and the environment. By adopting Green IT practices, organizations can reduce their environmental impact, save money, and improve their bottom line.

REFERENCES

- [1.] Dastbaz, M. (2015). Green Information Technology: A Sustainable Approach.
- [2.] OECD (2019), "Green ICTs: An Overview of Government and Industry Initiatives", OECD Digital Economy Papers, No. 287, OECD Publishing, Paris, https://doi.org/10.1787/5f4c8c0a-en.
- [3.] IBM (2021), "IBM Research: Green IT", https://www.research.ibm.com/artificial-intelligence/green-it/.
- [4.] Google (2021), "Environmental Report 2020", https://services.google.com/fh/files/misc/google_202 0-environmental-report.pdf.
- [5.] Microsoft (2021), "Project Natick", https://natick.research.microsoft.com/.
- [6.] Dell (2021), "Plant a Tree for Me", https://www.dell.com/learn/us/en/uscorp1/corpcomm/plant-a-tree-for-me.