A World Health Organization study reveals:

3.6 billion people live in areas highly vulnerable to climate change.

250,000 additional deaths per year are expected to be caused by climate change.

The period of impact is from 2030 to 2050.

Saving the Planet with AWS: What you can do as a Cloud Architect

Indika Wimalasuriya

AWS Community Builder



APJ Community Builders Open Mic

Agenda

- What is climate change and why you should care
- How we in tech contribute to climate change
- What AWS is doing to slow down climate change
- Things you can do as an AWS cloud architect

Quick Intro about myself



- Solar Power: We have a solar system at home, making us net zero in terms of national grid usage.
- **Hybrid Vehicle:** We drive a hybrid car to reduce our oil consumption.
- Water Borehole: We have drilled a borehole to eventually have our own water supply, reducing energy usage at national level.
- **Vegetarian Diet**: 50% of our household is vegetarian, contributing to lower greenhouse gas emissions and reduced resource consumption.
- Remote Work: Working from home minimizes our travelrelated carbon footprint.

Defining moments: My bond with the planet

The picture that was never taken





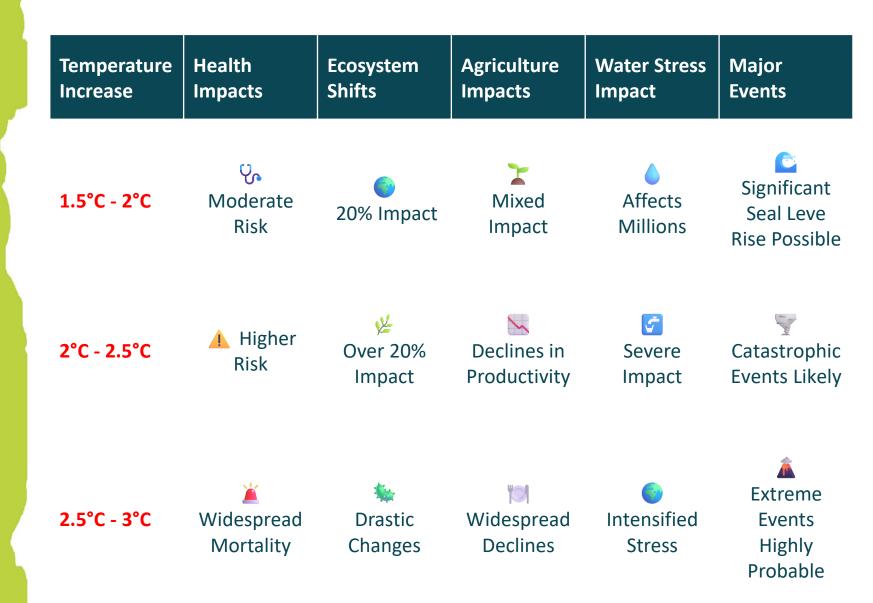
What is Climate Change?

- Climate change refers to long-term shifts in temperatures and weather patterns.
- These shifts can occur naturally due to:
 - Changes in the sun's activity
 - Large volcanic eruptions
- Since the 1800s, human activities have become the main drivers of climate change.
 - Primarily the burning of fossil fuels (coal, oil, gas)

Why you should care?

- The Earth's average surface temperature is now 1.2°C warmer (compared to 1800s).
- Scientists believe:
 - 1.5°C is the maximum temperature increase we can tolerate without significantly impacting current livable conditions.
- By the end of this century, a projected increase of 3.0°C could have lasting impacts on the way we live.

Okay, but why should you really, really care?



"Four decades ago:

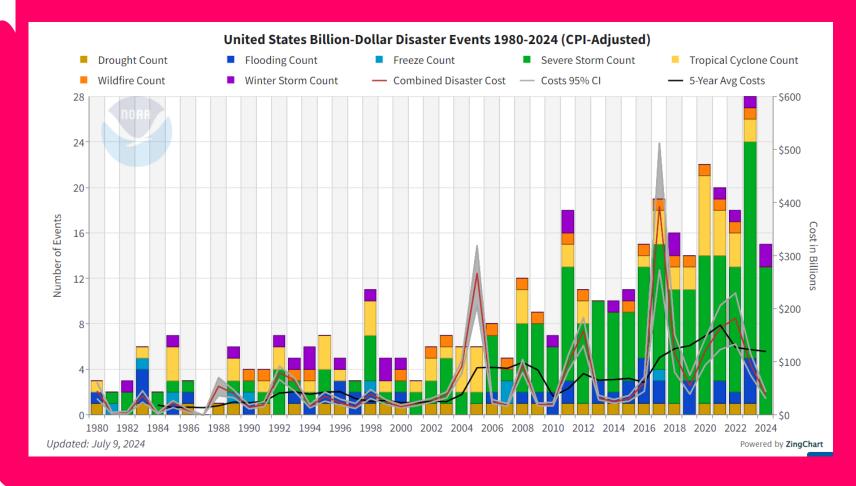
3 climate events

average per year.

13 climate

Last 5 years:

events average per year."



www.ncei.noaa.gov

How we in tech contribute to climate change

6% of global energy demand comes from Information and Communication Technology (ICT), including:

Data centersCommunication networksUser devices

3% of global energy demand is accounted for by data centers, which power our tech industry.

What AWS is doing to slow down climate change

4.1x

AWS infrastructure is up to 4.1 times more energy efficient than on-premises and can reduce workloads' carbon footprint by up to 99%

3.9 Billion

Liters of water are returned to communities each year from replenishment projects completed or underway

100%

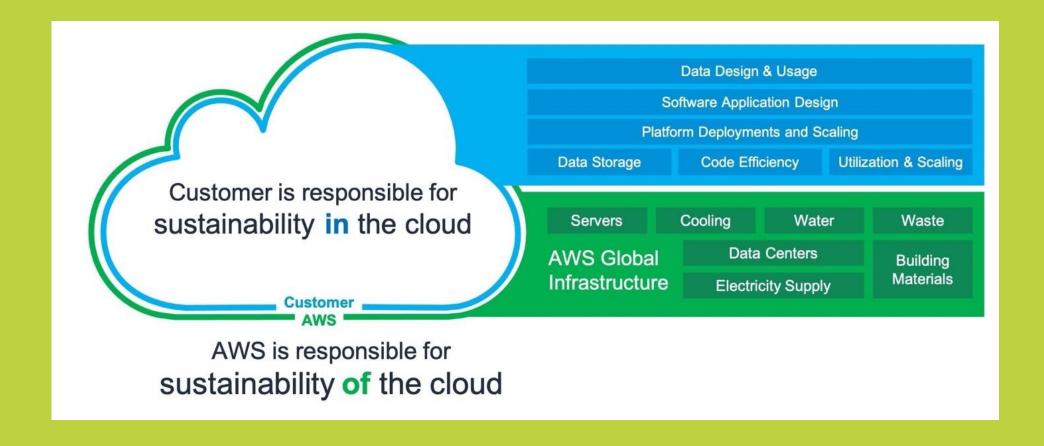
Of electricity consumed by Amazon was matched with renewable energy sources in 2023

Net-zero - AWS aims to achieve net-zero carbon emissions across its operations by 2040 through investments in carbon-free energy and scaling solutions.

Net-zero refers to the balance achieved when the amount of greenhouse gases emitted into the atmosphere is equal to the amount removed, resulting in no net increase in atmospheric greenhouse gas levels.



AWS Well-Architected Framework - Sustainability pillar



Things you can do as an AWS Cloud Architect

- Infrastructure Optimization
- Data Management
- **Application Design**

- Renewable Energy and Offsets
- Operational Practices

Infrastructure Optimization

- Right-Sizing Instances: Regularly review and adjust the size of your instances to match the actual workload needs.
- Instance Scheduling: Turn off non-essential instances during offpeak hours.
- Spot Instances: Utilize spot instances for non-critical workloads to reduce costs and energy consumption.

Implement containerization with AWS Fargate: Run containers without managing servers, optimizing resource use and reducing energy consumption

- Auto Scaling: Implement autoscaling to ensure resources are used only when necessary.
- Serverless Architectures: Use AWS Lambda and other serverless services to eliminate the need for always-on infrastructure.
- ₩ Use Graviton-based EC2 instances: Save up to 60% more energy with AWS Graviton-based instances, offering superior efficiency and the best priceperformance ratio.

Data Management

Data Lifecycle Policies:
Implement policies to automatically move data to cheaper and less energy-intensive storage classes.

Q Data Compression: Compress data to reduce storage space and energy usage.

Database Optimization:
Optimize database queries and indexes to reduce compute cycles

and energy consumption.

** Data Archiving: Archive infrequently accessed data to Glacier or other cold storage options.

Efficient Data Transfer: Use AWS DataSync or Transfer Acceleration to optimize data transfer processes.

Deploy managed databases:
Implement managed databases like
Aurora to adjust capacity based on
demand, optimizing resource usage.

Application Design

Optimize Code: Write efficient, optimized code to reduce the compute power required.

Use Efficient Algorithms: Choose algorithms and data structures that are known for their efficiency.

Implement Caching: Use caching solutions like Amazon ElastiCache to reduce the load on your compute resources.

Microservices Architecture:
Break down applications into
microservices to ensure they can
scale independently and more
efficiently.

Renewable Energy and Offsets

Leverage AWS Regions with Renewable Energy: Prefer regions powered by renewable energy.

Use tools like Customer Carbon Footprint Tool to monitor and manage your carbon footprint.

Purchase Carbon Offsets: Invest in carbon offset programs to neutralize your energy consumption.

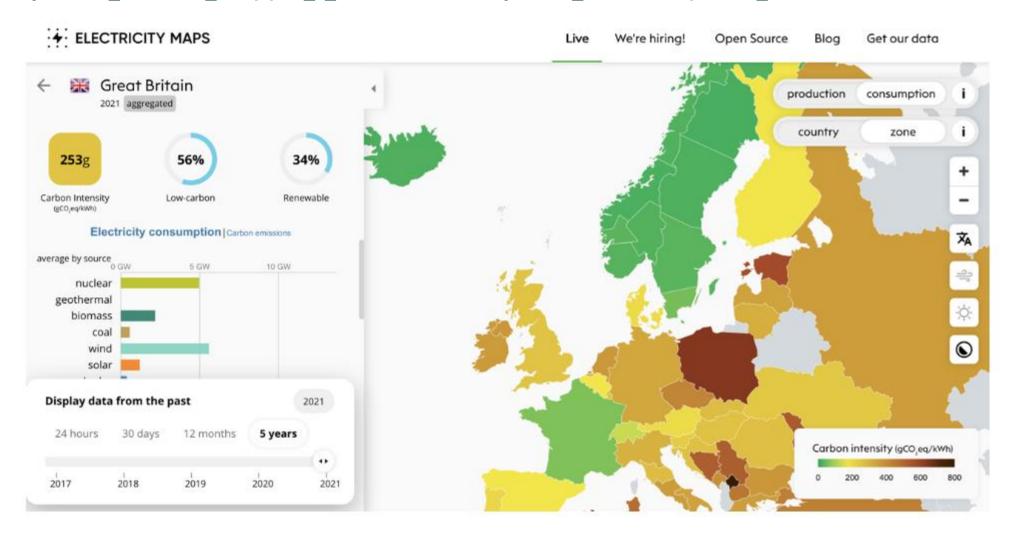
Operational Practices

Q Continuous Monitoring and Optimization: Continuously monitor and optimize resource utilization using AWS tools.

Green Coding Practices: Adopt green coding practices such as minimizing resource-intensive operations and optimizing memory usage.

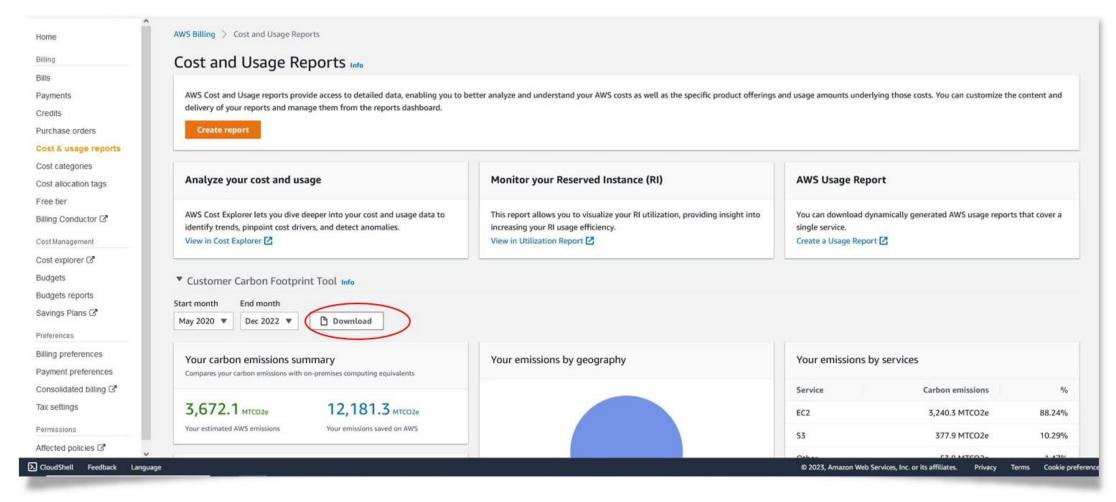
Employee Awareness and Training: Educate and train employees on energy-efficient practices and the importance of sustainability.

Electricity Map - https://app.electricitymaps.com/map



Example - Europe (Stockholm) Region has a lower carbon intensity of electricity consumed compared to the Europe (London) Region.

Customer Carbon Footprint Tool



MTCO2e, or metric tons of carbon dioxide equivalent, is an industry-standard unit for measuring greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. It allows comparison of different GHGs by quantifying their impact on the environment and global warming.

Energy Saving Tips : At the office or at home:

- Turn off unnecessary lights
- Unplug electronics
- Malk instead of taking the elevator

- Print less
- Use energy-saving settings
- Use natural light

Thank you!

