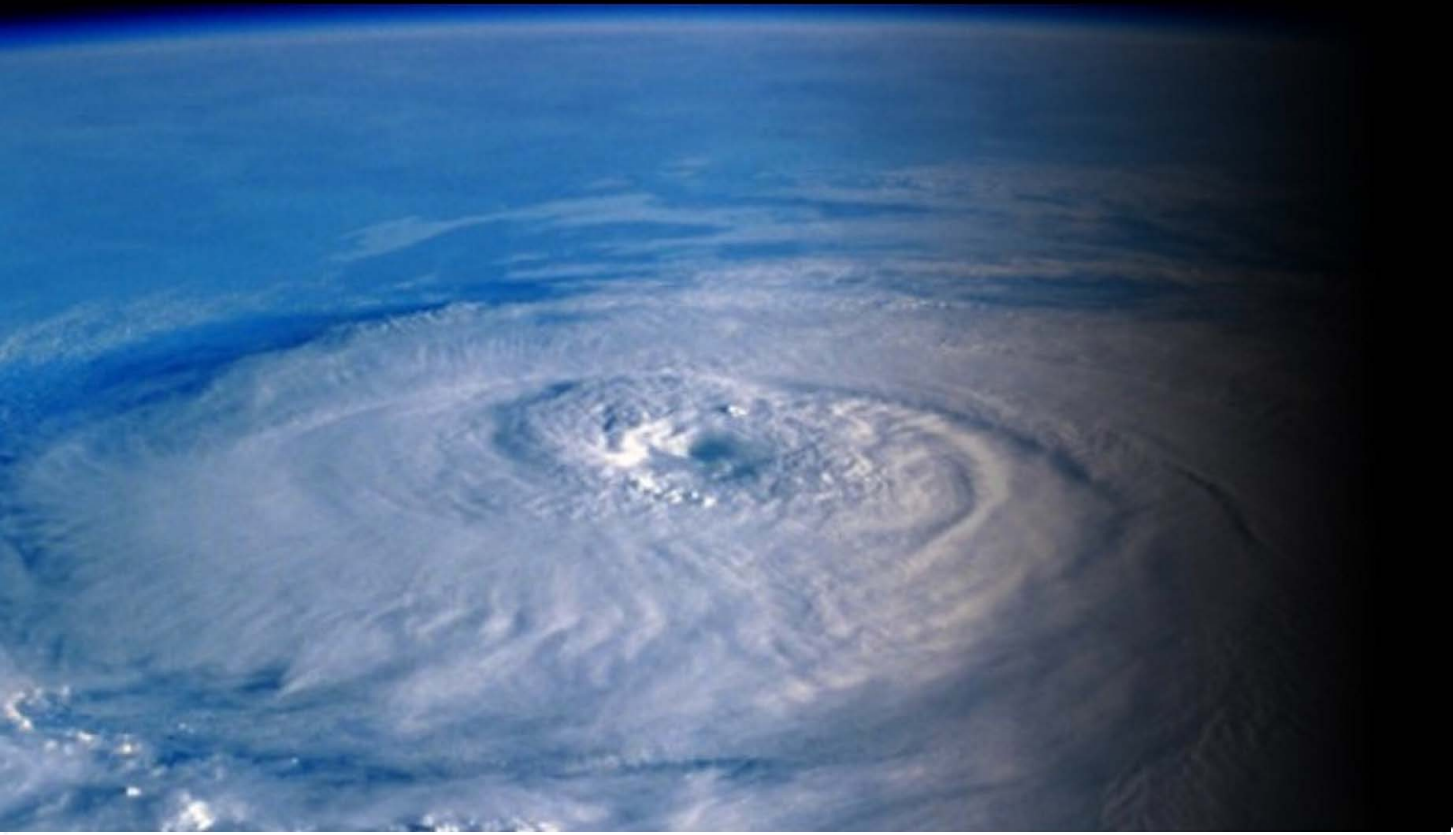




# Microsoft's commitment to sustainability

**ACCESSIBILITY**

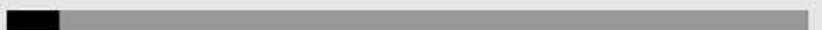
**START >**



# We must act now

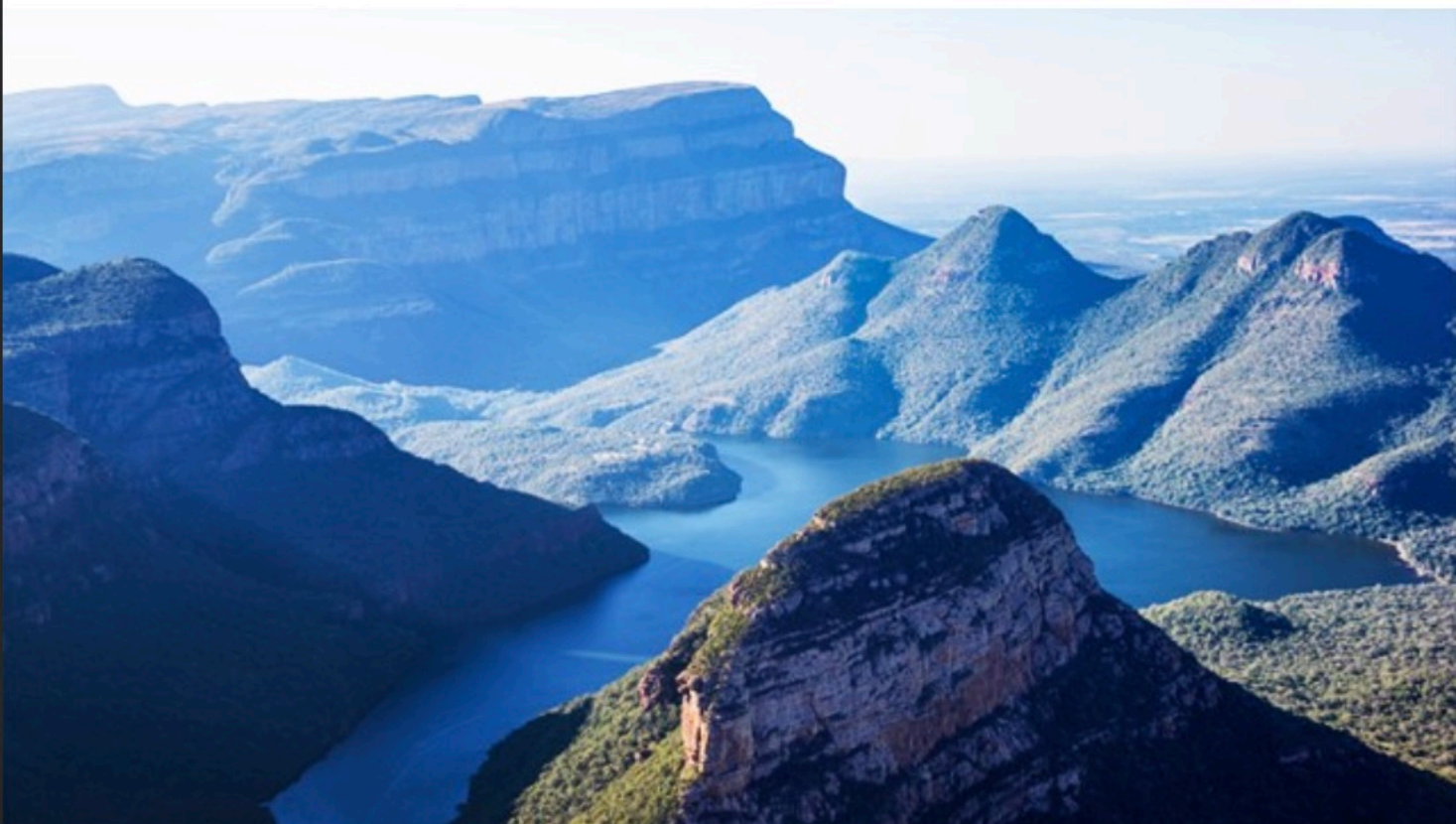
The scientific consensus is clear—human activity is negatively impacting the world’s ecosystems, atmosphere, climate, water, and more. **It is imperative that we act now to reduce our environmental footprint** for the benefit of future generations.

In this story, we’ll be discussing how Microsoft is **accelerating progress toward a more sustainable future**—reducing our own environmental impact while helping others build solutions.





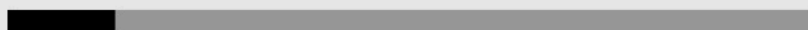
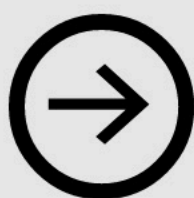
# Our commitment



To do our part, **Microsoft is focusing on key areas where we can have the greatest impact**—across all the work we do. These include:

- Carbon
- Ecosystems
- Waste
- Water

***Let's look at how we're tackling each of these.***



# Reducing what we generate



Explainer: Understanding the Math Be...



Watch later



Share

Climate change • Climate change refers to long-term...



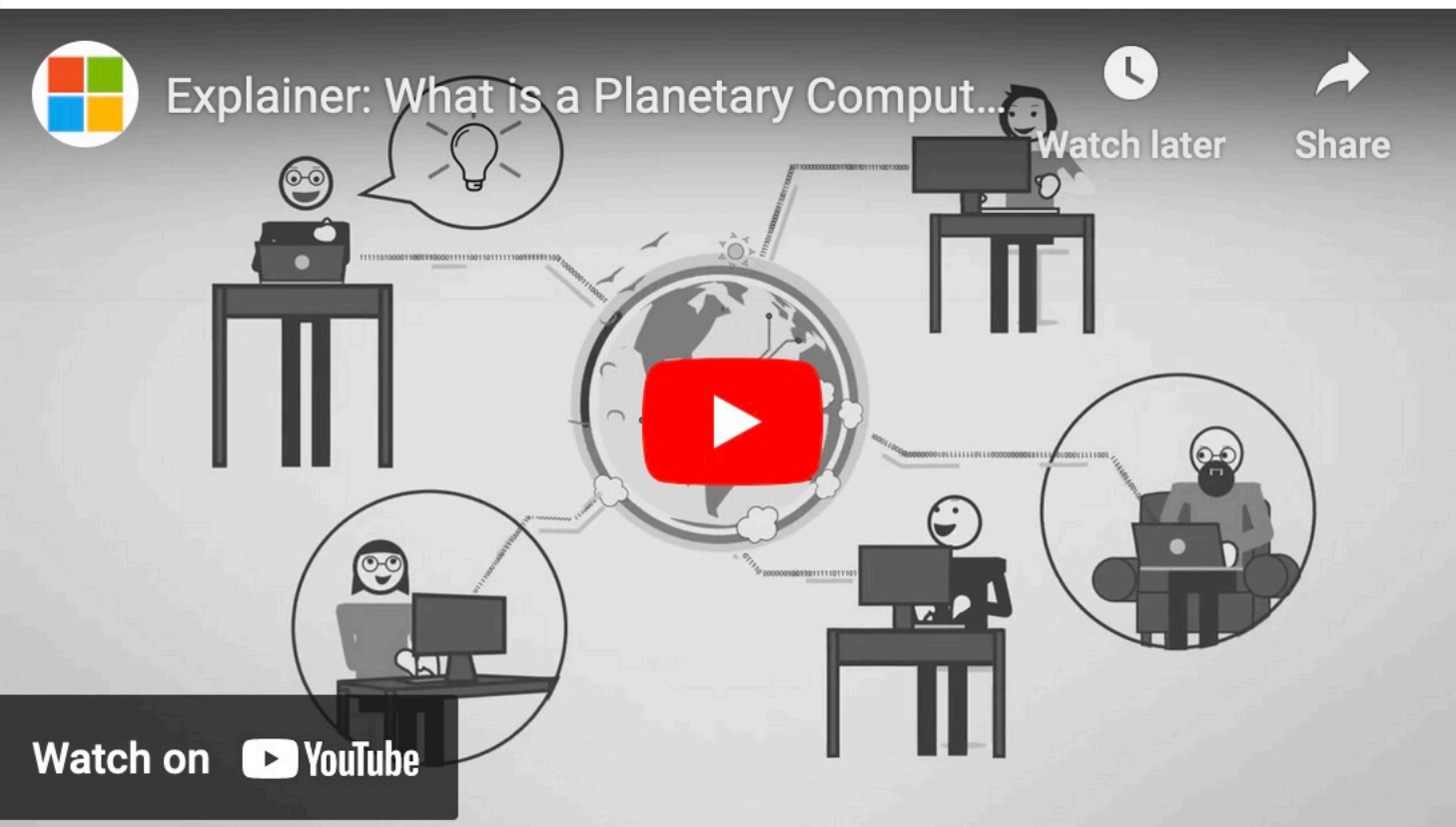
Watch on  YouTube

**Carbon in our atmosphere is changing the world's climate.** If we don't curb emissions and temperatures continue to climb, science tells us the results will be catastrophic.

**Microsoft pledges to cut the company's carbon emissions by more than half by 2030,** both for our direct emissions and for our entire supply and value chain. And by 2050, we pledge to **remove all the carbon we have emitted** since we were founded in 1975.



# Promoting a healthy planet



A quarter of the planet's **species are threatened with extinction**. Coral reefs that provide aquatic habitats, food, and more have declined by 50%.

To help do our part, Microsoft is **putting data and technology to work** with a **new Planetary Computer** designed to help our partners and customers with environmental decision-making.

We're also **taking responsibility for our own ecosystem impact** by protecting more land than we use by 2025.



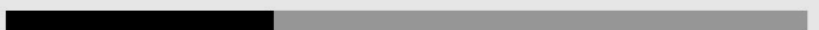


# Replenishing and protecting

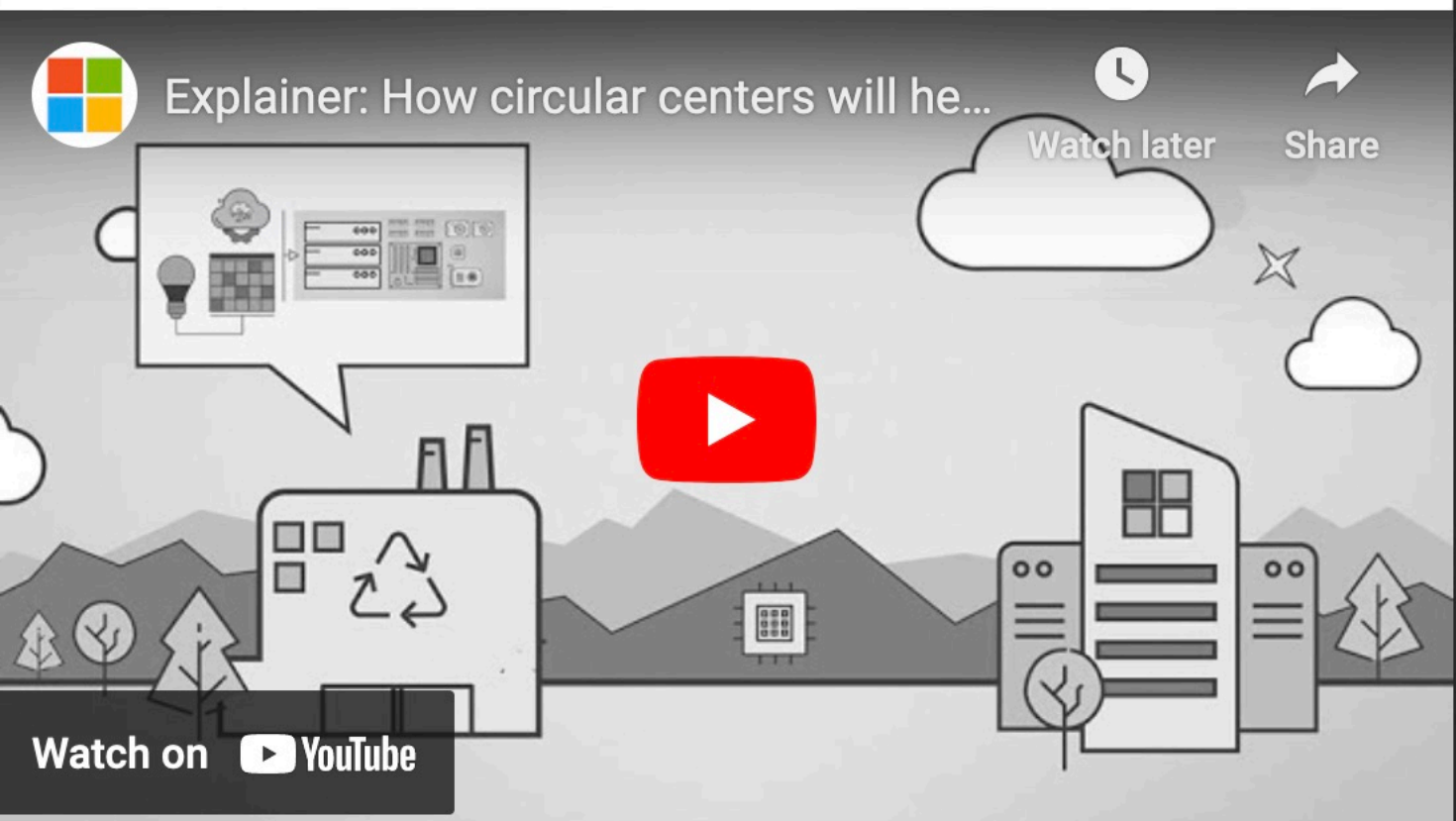


**Water is a necessity** for every person and organization on this planet, but for many people in many places, it's becoming harder to get clean, fresh water. Commercial activities also add to the strain with water-intensive agriculture and factories.

Microsoft is tackling this by creating tools to help address challenges like scarcity, pollution, and ocean health. Not only that, but **we've pledged to replenish more water than we consume by 2030.**



# Achieving zero waste



Every year, more than **11 billion tons of waste are produced worldwide**. The trash we discard pollutes our land, clogs our waterways, depletes our natural resources, and contaminates the very air we breathe.

This is why **Microsoft will reduce nearly as much waste as we generate** for Microsoft's direct operations, products, and packaging—**achieving zero waste by 2030**.





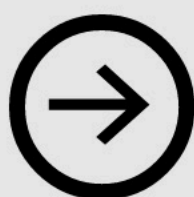
# Evolving how we operate



Microsoft has been carbon neutral since 2012, and our Puget Sound campus has been zero waste certified since 2016. We are also **one of the largest purchasers of renewable energy.**

By evolving the way we operate, we're actively reducing our footprint.

***The goal is to minimize our impact and maximize a positive return for the planet.***





# Eco-friendly materials



***The investments Microsoft makes in sustainability carry through to our products, services, and devices.***

We design our devices—from Surface to Xbox, with an emphasis on eco-friendly materials and **responsible sourcing**.

And, by 2025 we will **eliminate all single-use plastics** in our packaging. This includes plastic film, primary product packaging, and our IT asset packaging in our datacenters.



# Using AI to empower



New research shows that **greater adoption of Artificial Intelligence (AI)** across even a few sectors has the potential to **reduce global greenhouse gas emissions** by as much as 4 percent.

Through technology like AI and the Internet of Things (IoT), we are **helping businesses** cut energy consumption, **reduce physical footprints**, and design sustainable products themselves.





# Accelerating innovation



In 2017, Microsoft launched AI for Earth, a program that puts **Microsoft cloud and AI tools** in the hands of those working to accelerate innovation and solve environmental challenges.

So far, we've helped **empower over 700 grantees in over 100 countries around the world** working on game-changing environmental innovations.



# Policy advocacy



Microsoft is **actively pushing for greater environmental action** in the U.S. and **across the world**.

**We advocate for policies** that reduce humanity's carbon impact, effectively manage Earth's ecosystems, advance zero-carbon energy—and increase water access, availability, and quality.





# Climate Innovation Fund



As part of Microsoft's commitment to sustainability, we are **investing \$1 billion** over the next four years to **help accelerate existing climate solutions and create new technologies.**

Investments will be prioritized if they ensure **developing economies and underserved communities will benefit** from the climate solution.



# Enlisting our employees



**Microsoft employees play an important role in the company's environmental footprint.**

To show them the impact of their actions and how much waste they generate, Microsoft is developing an internal Power BI waste data dashboard.

Microsoft employees also recently completed the company's first waste reduction challenge—a month-long, online challenge **connecting individual action to collective impact.**





# Our progress



## Progressing toward carbon reduction goals

We've reduced company emissions by **15.6 million tons** of carbon dioxide equivalent.

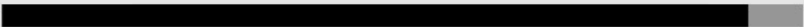


# Our progress



## Emissions reductions

We cut our energy consumption by **10 percent** across the **125 buildings** on Microsoft’s main campus and our direct emissions by **9.5 million tons**.





# Our progress



## Internal carbon fee

We've made our business divisions, supply and value chains responsible for the cost of offsetting their own carbon emissions with an **internal carbon fee**. The goal is to incentivize the reduction of carbon emissions through efficiency measures and increased use of renewable energy.



# Our progress



## Green energy purchases

The United States Environmental Protection Agency recognized Microsoft as the nation’s third-largest buyer of green power in 2012.



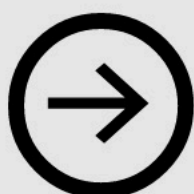


# Our progress



## Zero waste certification

The United States Zero Waste Business Council awarded Zero Waste Certification at the Gold Level to Microsoft headquarters. Sustainable activities include recycling and composting, reuse, sustainable dining, and more.





# Accelerating global progress

Microsoft is actively accelerating global progress toward a more sustainable future—helping to **ensure our economies and societies around the world thrive for generations to come.**

This is why we're working every day with our customers, partners, and others around the world to address the climate crisis—**reducing our own environmental impact while helping others build solutions.**



Select 'X' to close.