IT has revolutionized our possibilities for productivity, efficiency and communication – but has environmental consequences. One telling statistic about the need for Green ICT is that the global information and communications technology industry accounts for approximately 2% of global $CO_2$ emissions – a figure equivalent to the aviation industry. In a typical organisation PCs and Monitors account for 10% of the organization's power consumption.

## The Question

How can ICT contribute to a general reduction of energy use?

## The Solution

Green ICT is a new approach to reduce the energy consumption of ICT systems, a reduction in e-waste and aims to improve the environmental sustainability of organizations.

## What you can do to support 'Green ICT'?

You can support this campaign by changing your working practices and setting a good example to everyone around you. Here are a few best practices.

- Turn off your PC overnight, at weekends and during holiday periods;

- Ensure printers and other peripheral equipment is switched off overnight;

- When printing make use of the automatic duplexing functionality or default to duplex and grey scale to reduce the amount of maintenance and transport required and electricity, paper and toner used;

- Refrain from printing emails whenever possible;

- Remove active screen savers.

# What has the ICT Unit done/doing towards Green ICT?

- Moving to blade servers that use less power and require much less cooling;

- Physically consolidating application servers, rather than having a server per unit / application (virtualization);

- Configuring power management settings on new computers to reduce power consumption e.g.
  - put PCs into low power modes after specified periods of inactivity;

- Standardizing on energy star compliant computer equipment.

- More Reading: http://www.greenercomputing.com

For any assistance with the above please contact the respective ICT Helpdesks as follows:

ILRI Kenya: ilrikehelpdesk@cgiar.org or ext 3253
ICRAF:  icrafhelpdesk@cgiar.org or ext 4207
ILRI Addis: ilri-eth-ict-helpdesk@cgiar.org or ext 2180

For any comments, a topic that you'd like us to feature or an ICT question you'd like addressed through this forum, send an email to icrafilriictawareness@cgiar.org or simply reply to this email.


Have a Good Weekend!
The ICT Customer Services Team