Computing for Human Services

Chief Editor

Shihab Ahmed Hameed

Electrical and Computer Engineering-IIUM University

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Chapter 19

Strategy for Green ICT: An Islamic View

Shihab A. Hameed
Faculty of Engineering, International Islamic University Malaysia-IIUM
E-mail: shihab@iium.edu.my

19.1. Introduction

Global environmental problems are affecting many countries' energy and industrial policies. Rapid increasing of ICT usage means more energy consumption and environmental problems. Estimated ICT consumption of energy will be about 15% of the total consumption worldwide in 2020. Therefore, many countries are establishing Green ICT policies which increase energy efficiency due to correspondence climate change. Governments especially in developing and Islamic countries need to adopt new strategic policies for efficient energy use in ICT. This study presents the current environmental problems related to green ICT and the efforts to solve it. Several studies have warning from the current energy consumption paradigm, based on newly changed ICT practices. This study provides guidelines for decision makers and ICT professionals to enhance their work toward green ICT and eliminating environmental problems. There are more than one and half billions of Muslims in the world; so Islamic viewpoint on environment and its protection is considered. It offers comprehensive, stable, and fair viewpoint that is based on main Islamic sources; Quran and Sunnah. Hundreds of Quranic verses and prophet Hadiths clarify (directly or indirectly) the right manner in dealing and protection of environment resources. This paper proposes a framework for strategy and policy statements of green ICT based on Islamic perspective to serve the world especially developing and Islamic countries.

19.2. The Concept of Environment from Islamic Viewpoint

Islam is the last religion revealed by Allah (God) the Almighty; He mentioned in Qur'an [1] "This day, I have perfected your religion for you, completed my favor upon you, and have chosen for you Islam as religion" [Quran 5:3]. Islam is basically based on two sources: The Holy Qur'an and the Sunnah of Prophet Mohammed (SAAW). Sunnah is mainly defined by Muslim scholars as: "all what prophet Mohammed (SAAW) says, acts, or agreed on". People