

Transcript

Microsoft Cloud for Sustainability

Technical Summit

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Session 01: Keynote

Hi everyone, my name is Brandon Potter, Senior Director and Head of Microsoft Cloud for Sustainability. I'm excited to be here today to kick off this amazing week of learning. We truly hope that you enjoy these sessions as much as we've enjoyed preparing them for you. We are excited to see how each of you will leverage the learnings to advance your progress and improve your Cloud for Sustainability knowledge.

I want to kick off this conference with a dream. A dream demo, to be precise. As you watch this video, I hope you, too, are excited about the future. Excited to see what data and AI can do for you. The capabilities you will see on this video can be made real through the power found throughout the Microsoft Cloud for Sustainability. And from across Microsoft, you'll see your sustainability journey in a way only Microsoft can deliver.

Now, Microsoft is not new to the topic of sustainability and we've grounded our work in science and data. We've steadily built our commitment to innovation and investment in technologies to address environmental sustainability ever since we first set our carbon emissions reduction goal back in 2009. In 2020, we set ambitious targets to become a carbon negative, water positive, and zero waste company by 2030 and take steps to address the biodiversity needed of the planet. From 2030 to 2050, we'll continue not just zeroing out our annual emissions, but go back in time and remove from the atmosphere an equivalent amount of carbon that the company has emitted either directly or by our electricity consumption since we were first founded in 1975. We solidified our long term commitment to drive inclusion and empower people with the launch of Microsoft Philanthropies in 2015. Through our own initiatives and global partnerships, we've made substantial progress towards our objectives to improve access to technology, broadband Internet and digital skilling in unserved and underserved communities to expand accessibility efforts.

We have been and will continue to work closely with customers and partners and translate our experiences into delivering new solutions and tools that advance our collective progress. Because we've discovered that for organizations of all kinds, in every industry, moving from pledges to progress starts with reliably measuring our impact. It's accelerated by digital technologies. But another important take away here is that through our work, we've learned that progress requires more than deputizing a sustainability team to deliver results. It has required shifting our organization's culture to center

sustainability as a priority and transform the business. We're committed to helping accelerate global progress to reach our collective goals and create new value for organizations.

We approach this work on three fronts: taking care of our own sustainability footprint, delivering sustainability solutions to customers, and using our voice to help enable a more sustainable world. Through Microsoft's own sustainability journey and through our many customer and industry conversations, we know that sustainability provides businesses multiple opportunities to transform. The question is often, "Where do we start?" Sustainability is such a broad subject. We are able to empower organizations to accelerate sustainability, progress, and business growth by bringing together a growing set of ESG capabilities for Microsoft and our partners. So we're committed to helping organizations improve their ESG performance, unlock sustainable growth, meet regulatory and compliance goals, and build more sustainable IT systems.

The starting point is always enabling ESG intelligence so that organizations can establish a true baseline and develop more effective strategies to address sustainability. Accurate, reliable data intelligence is critical to drive impact reduction efforts, reporting, and business transformation. You may already be using Microsoft technologies like IoT, digital twins and AI, collaboration tools, data insights, and analytic solutions to help drive your efficiencies, abate emissions, conserve water, and address other targeted sustainability scenarios. Now, through Microsoft Cloud for Sustainability, Fabric, and AI, we're rolling out new sustainability solutions and services to help generate more accurate, reliable intelligence so you can holistically understand where your ESG performance is today and where you can direct resources to achieve even more.

Microsoft Cloud for Sustainability contains a growing collection of products and capabilities. Cloud for Sustainability solutions are built on the Microsoft Cloud and Intelligent Data platform delivering a foundation of security, trust, and compliance. We deliver a set of data models consisting of both transaction-oriented data models and robust analytical data models. In February, we launched the public preview of Sustainability Data Solutions in Fabric. Building on the powerful foundation of Fabric, we have delivered a set of scenario based packages ready that accelerate your progress in establishing and leveraging your ESG data state alongside the rest of your business critical data in Fabric. This exciting new capability will streamline your ability to unlock your data to gain rich insights into progress and opportunity while simplifying the process of gathering the critical data needed to comply with regulatory reporting.

Cloud for Sustainability delivers capabilities for various audiences for IT professionals. Our Emissions Impact Dashboard for Azure and Microsoft 365, along with our newly introduced Azure Carbon Optimization within the Azure portal, enables IT professionals to understand the emissions generated by the use of Azure and Microsoft 365. These insights help IT professionals manage their cloud infrastructure in a more sustainable way. And as an added bonus, this data is made available through these solutions for customers to use as part of their own scope 3 calculations and reporting. For sustainability and finance practitioners, the Microsoft Sustainability Manager is the core business solution designed to streamline the day-to-day operations of recording, reporting, and tracking environmental sustainability progress. Practitioners can streamline connecting and gathering critical business data, create complex, create complex calculations with ease, gain the right insights using numerous prebuilt reports and dashboards, and organizations can set and track their sustainability goals with automated goal tracking tied directly to the data. ESG value chain capabilities in Sustainability

Manager enable customers to easily request critical data from their value chains from across their value chain. Suppliers can simply log into the portal and enter and submit their responses and corresponding data directly to Sustainability Manager for review and inclusion in Scope 3 calculations.

Now, that isn't all. With our most recent release of the new Copilot and AI capabilities help streamline complex tasks and unlock data like never before. Now, in addition to Sustainability Manager, sustainability and finance practitioners can use the established compliance capabilities of Microsoft Purview Compliance Manager to work with their auditors to prepare and audit their Corporate Sustainability Reporting Directive, or CSRD report, using the prebuilt CSRD template, now with a direct integration to Sustainability Data Solutions in Fabric for automating the quantitative report preparation. And finally, for ISV developers, Environmental Credit Service is a preview capability aimed to help customers and ISVs who work in the environmental credit supply markets to track and trace environmental credits in a trustworthy way to establish traceability to the provenance of the credits.

Cloud for Sustainability will help organizations transform disparate data found throughout your company and entire value chain, report, and disclose progress to voluntary and regulatory agencies with auditable and traceability in mind. Unlock ESG data intelligence to gain new insights into your company's most impactful opportunities for reduction and improvement. And finally, help you begin turning insights into action through our growing ecosystem of partner solutions. And this journey is just getting started. In only two years, we have developed and shipped all of the amazing products and capabilities I just mentioned. But our momentum continues to accelerate. We deliver new updates each and every month.

These updates come packed with exciting new capabilities, enhancements to existing capabilities, and of course continued improvements of foundational elements to ensure we keep your data and privacy secure. Be sure to keep watch on our sustainability industry blog at aka.ms/CloudForSustainabilityBlog. And to know what is coming in the future releases, keep watch on our release plans found in Microsoft Learn site. Now, as the product leader, I am incredibly proud of the work our team is doing and the amazing innovative capabilities they're working on. With so many new capabilities coming each month, it's hard to tell you about each and every one of them in this session. But hey, that is what you're joining us for in this inaugural Technical Summit, to learn directly from our amazing team that's designed and built these offerings. So don't miss a single session.

While I can't go into each and every detail and feature, I want to take a step back and talk about something that's foundationally important, data and AI. We are building Cloud for Sustainability solutions with data and AI at the core. What does that mean, you might ask? It means that every feature is built with purpose to simplify gathering and reviewing key data and to identify ways to unlock that data for use beyond reporting. We leverage powerful analytics and ground breaking AI, such as generative AI features found in capabilities of Copilot in Sustainability Manager.

Addressing the scale and breadth of your sustainability priorities requires a data first approach. Only with data-driven solutions and digital technologies can you efficiently report your sustainability impact and drive meaningful progress. And here's why. When you build a comprehensive ESG data estate in Fabric using Sustainability Data Solutions in Fabric, you can aggregate and standardize environmental, social, governance, biodiversity, financial, and operational data from disparate data sources across business units and your value chain, preparing IT for advanced analytics and reporting. Standardized data provided to solutions like Microsoft's Sustainability Manager allow you to capture, calculate, and

report your environmental sustainability performance and identify opportunities to reduce your impact and sustainability Reporting and capabilities like our new CSRD template...evidence for reporting and compliance initiatives and with Cloud for Sustainability solutions offered by Microsoft and our global ecosystem of partners. Employing advanced analytics, machine learning and virtual models, you can take more effective actions to reduce emissions, water, and waste and advance your progress towards ESG goals and transform your business into a more sustainable business.

Now let's dive just a little deeper on a few of our newer capabilities. For those that don't know about Microsoft Fabric, let me take just a few moments to catch you up. Fabric combines the best of Microsoft Power BI, Azure Synapse, Analytics, and Azure Data Factory to create a single unified software as a service platform, each purpose built for specific personas and specific tasks.

Now let's explore how all of these experiences empower business professionals alike to unlock the potential of their data and lay the foundation for the era of AI. Fabric empowers every team in the analytics process with role specific experiences they need. Sustainability business users, data engineers, data scientists, and data analysts feel right at home. Fabric comes with seven core workloads. Data integration with Data Factory provides more than 150 connectors to cloud and on premise data sources, and a drag and drop experience for data transformation and the ability to orchestrate data pipelines. Data engineering enables great authoring experiences for Spark, instant start with live pools, and the ability to collaborate. Data science provides an end to end workflow for data scientists to build sophisticated AI models, collaborate easily and train, deploy, and manage machine learning models. Data warehousing provides a converged lake house and data warehouse experience with industry leading SQL performance and open data formats. Real time analytics enables developers to work with data streaming in from the Internet of Things or IoT devices, telemetry, logs, and more and analyze massive volumes of semi structured data with high performance and low latency. Business Intelligence via Power BI in Fabric provides industry leading visualization and AI driven analytics that enable business analysts and business users to gain insights from data. The Power BI experience is also deeply integrated into Microsoft 365, providing relevant insights where business users already work. And finally, applied observability via Data Activator provides real time detection and monitoring of data and can trigger notifications and actions when it finds specific patterns in data, all in a no code experience.

And of course Copilot in Microsoft Fabric uses Azure Open AI service to make jobs easier. With Copilot in Power BI, we are infusing the power of large language models in Power BI at every layer to help users get more done and create more value with their data. Using Copilot you can simply describe the visuals and insights you're looking for, and Copilot will do the rest. Users can create and tailor reports in seconds, generate and edit DAX calculations, create narrative summaries, and ask questions about their data, all in conversational language with the ability to easily tailor the tone, scope, and style of narratives and add them seamlessly within reports. Power BI can also deliver data insights even more impactfully through easy to understand text summaries.

And now that you have a better understanding of the core capabilities in Fabric, let's talk more about Sustainability data solutions in Fabric, which is currently in preview. Sustainability data solutions in Fabric delivers environmental, social, and governance, or ESG, data analytics in one place within Microsoft Fabric. With Fabric solutions, you can gather, store, analyze, visualize and collaborate on all your ESG data regardless of format or source to drive better, more data informed decisions all on a governed platform. Sustainability data solutions in Fabric provide a highly integrated and easy to use

suite of solutions including four key sustainability scenarios that enable you to centralized and transform disparate data to a standard ESG data estate. You can create custom reports metrics with analytics for carbon, water, and waste connected to Sustainability Manager with environmental metrics and analytics. Compute and analyze social and governance metrics by transforming disparate social and governance data into standardized lakes. And finally analyze Microsoft Azure emissions data based on your subscription and resource level you use in a data lake.

As much as I'm loving what the power of Fabric will bring to the world of sustainability, it is more about the capability it unlocks. Now let's talk about what everyone is talking about, generative AI. Or in our case, Copilot. Copilot in Sustainability Manager is currently in preview. It is a powerful generative AI assistant to help you speed up analytics from supplier analysis to reduction planning and report preparation through querying long form ESG documents using natural language. Use Copilot to chat with the data to extract key details, simplify calculation modelling quickly analyze one or more documents at a time and generate preparatory reports across the emissions, water and waste defined by scope, business unit, and reporting period. Now why should you use Copilot? Copilot can expedite progress by empowering faster, more data informed decisions. It can help to remove ambiguity and complexities from calculation, model creation, and tailor models specifically to your needs. Finally, you can get more out of Sustainability Manager using Copilot as your in house assistant every step of the way. For example, a sustainability practitioner analyzing their organization's emissions footprint for an upcoming stakeholder meeting can ask Copilot where are gaps in my company's progress towards our 2023 emissions reduction goal. Using Copilot's answer, they can plan their presentation, including data-driven visualizations and detailed proposals for fine tuning the company's reduction strategy.

Now I opened this session with a dream. I've shared a lot of information with you and given you a general understanding of the capabilities found throughout the solutions in Cloud for Sustainability. Now it's your turn. Go dream and imagine what the Cloud for Sustainability can do for you.

And of course, like any good session from Microsoft, we want your feedback. Please submit your feedback and be sure to watch our blog, join our community, and continue to learn through our powerful learning resource collection. Thank you all so much for joining us and I hope you enjoy the Summit. Have a great day.