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Building Communities in Green Computing

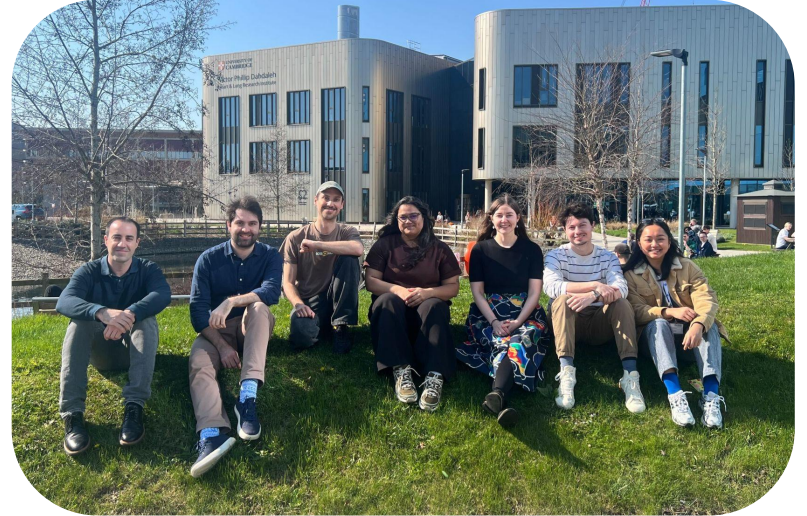
About Me

Anica Araneta

Community Manager & Project Coordinator
University of Cambridge



-  Green Algorithms Initiative
-  Green DiSC
-  SC4RC



Community building is critical for accelerating green computing adoption

Challenges:

- **Getting started:** People don't know where/how to start on green computing
- **Isolated and fragmented:** it's easy but counterproductive to work in silos
- **Don't know what you don't know:** hard to find what topics we need to learn about

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Structured community building is part of the solution:

- Adoption: Lower barriers to entry
- Knowledge exchange: Learn new tools and best practices
- Synergies: Collaborate and foster innovation
- Conducive for accountability, commitment, and transparency

But sustaining community is hard!

Tools and software

Promoting green computing through tools, research, and best practices

- Tools (i.e. calculator, dashboard) to help researchers measure the carbon footprint of their work
- Workshops and studies on user feedback to understand the impact of carbon footprint calculators
- Collaborations with researchers across universities and research institutions to test and improve tools



Best practices and knowledge sharing

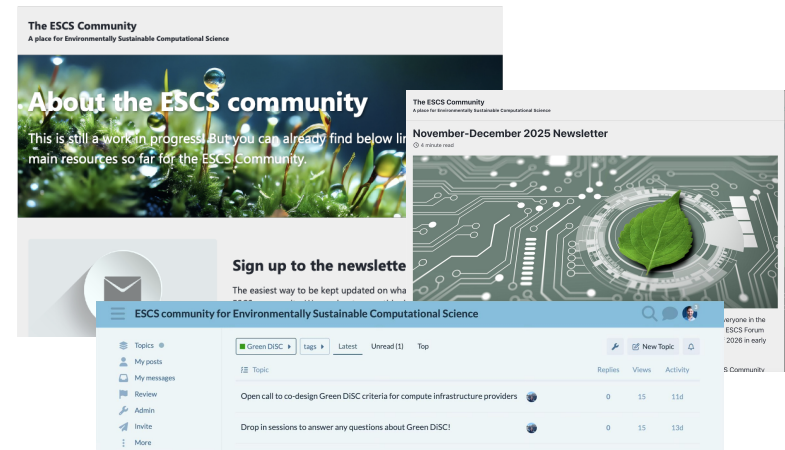
Environmentally Sustainable Computational Science

ESCS online forum - space to connect, share resources, opportunities, ask questions about sustainable computing

- 180+ members

Monthly newsletter - round up of the latest news, resources, events, posts on the ESCS forum

- Started in June 2025
- 430+ subscribers



Scan the QR code to join the forum and sign up to the newsletter →



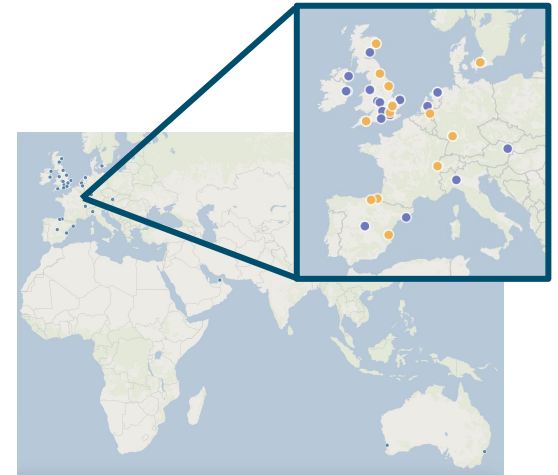
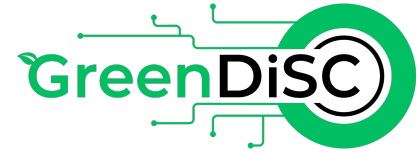
Action-oriented

Green DiSC: a digital sustainability certification

- Roadmap to embed sustainability for **research groups, central teams, and research computing infrastructure teams**
- 150+ applicants → 25 Bronze awardees from 16 institutions
- Monthly drop-in sessions, newsletters, social media
- Collaborative working group co-developed new criteria for RCI teams



Scan the QR code
to learn more





What's working?

Start with the basics

People often just need a beginner-friendly intro to get started



What's working?



Start with the basics

Go for variety

Explore ways of engaging with your community
(e.g. mailing lists, training materials, drop-in sessions)



What's working?

👉 Start with the basics

👉 Go for variety

Repetition

Promoting adoption means talking about the same thing, a lot.

Talks, social media, sharing updates keeps people connected and spread the word.



What's working?

- 👉 Start with the basics
- 👉 Go for variety
- 👉 Repetition

Responsiveness and consistency

Being highly responsive, doing talks, and posting on social media works.



Reflections on community building



Reflections on community building




Tools & software

focused communities

It's easy to be lazy

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 Knowledge exchange
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Regular engagement is
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 **Action-oriented
community**

Easily fall into an echo
chamber

What's next?

Green Algorithms Initiative:

- Public release of the dashboard to help HPC users track and visualise the energy and carbon usage of their computing tasks

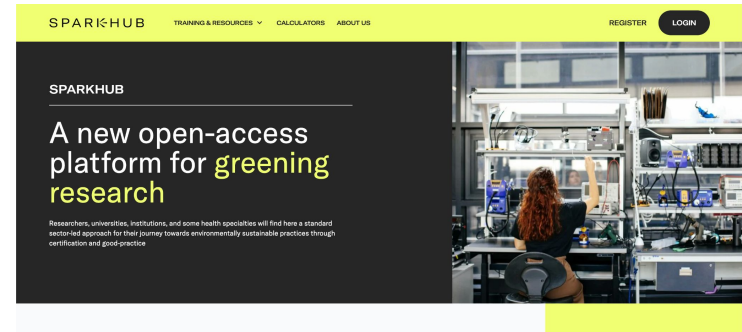
▶▶ What's next?

Green Algorithms Initiative:

- Public release of the dashboard to help HPC users track and visualise the energy and carbon usage of their computing tasks

Green DiSC:

- Launch of Silver criteria
- Integration with SPARKHub for a new web platform



What's next?

Environmentally Sustainable Computational Science (ESCS):

- Explore more mediums of engagement
- Hopefully welcome you all in this space!

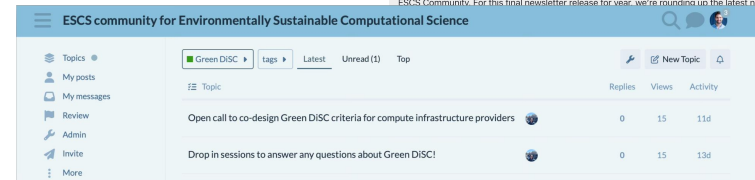
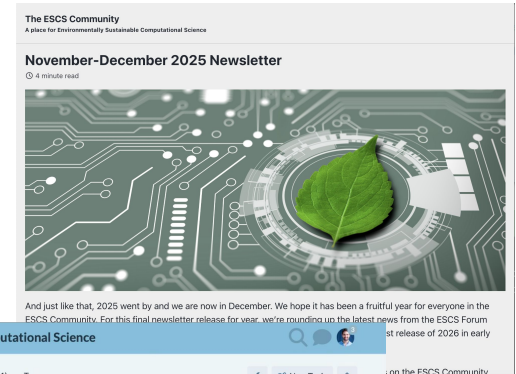
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Looking to find a community in this space?

Let's have a chat! 🙌



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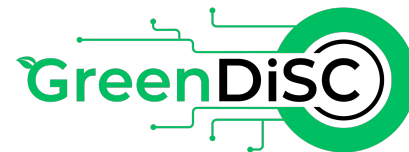
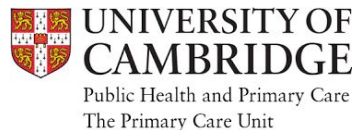
Acknowledgements

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Any questions?