

COP28 MEDIA ADVISORY

About LINGO:

LINGO is a non-profit organisation dedicated to work against further extraction of fossil fuels – oil, gas, and coal. LINGO aims to inspire, educate and empower progressive minds with solutions in times of climate emergency.

Dugongs against Fossil Fuels - Leave it in the Ground at COP28

We focus on the UAE's commitment to international agreements, and existing or perceived conflicts of interest. Right offshore of Abu Dhabi, industry is expanding fossil gas extraction by encroaching massively into the UAE's largest marine protected area, Marawah. It is home to the world's second largest DUGONG population.

We are appealing for support from the President of the World Conservation Union (IUCN), Ms Razan Al-Mubarak, the most eminent conservationist in this country.

The Dugong and its habitat

Marawah is an UAE Protected Area and UNESCO Biosphere Reserve that is habitat to a number of endangered species, including sea turtles, coral reefs, dolphins, and seagrass meadows. The latter are the main feeding grounds of the Dugong (also mermaid or sea cow), a large marine mammal classified by IUCN as vulnerable.

The Dugong lives in the warm waters of Asia and East Africa. Its second largest and most densely populated habitat is in the Arabian (Persian) Gulf. The acceleration of oil and gas exploitation inside Marawah threatens the survival of the Dugongs and these rich and diverse habitats and is in direct contradiction to the leadership role to which the UAE is aspiring in conservation and climate change mitigation.

Dugong Special Envoy & Daily Dugong

Dugong Special Envoy – You can spot the Dugong Special Envoy daily (from 03 Dec) at COP28 delivering the **Daily Dugong** - messages from the Dugong Envoy. Scan the QR Code to find out more.



Fossil Free Zones in the MENA Region

LINGO also offers expertise in other thematics. At COP28, we will present FOSSIL FREE places, in particular in the MENA region, including schools mosques etc. Refer to our website and the contacts below for more.

DATES AT COP28

30 Nov-12 Dec

Daily Dugong, updated daily

<https://www.leave-it-in-the-ground.org/daily-dugong>

Daily, starting 3 Dec, Plenary 2 Entrance

Dugong Special Envoy.

Saturday 2 Dec, 16:30h, Press Conf. Room 2

Press conference Dugongs against fossil fuels - a conflict of interest.

Room 2, Zone B6, Building 77.

Sunday 3 Dec, 16:30h, Press Conf. Room 2

Fossil Fuels in Protected Areas - Report launch.

9 Dec, Press Conf. Room

Press briefing on ADNOC and its carbon profile.

Materials

- LINGO Background Briefing on the conflict of interest regarding the Marawah Biosphere Reserve and ADNOC's Sour Gas project. Download from [HERE](#) (embargoed Sat 02 Dec, 16:30h Dubai timezone).
- Oil and Gas in the Marawah Biosphere Reserve. LINGO Case Study, May 2023. Download from [HERE](#).

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