



Lead up to COP28
Strategic
Intelligence
Brief





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METHODOLOGICAL NOTE

- The time frame is 01-15 November 2023 for all media coverage related to:
 - Emerging debates and highlights.
 - Heatmaps (Fossil Fuels vs. Renewables).
 - Media content per topic (pie chart).
- The time frame is 15 October-15 November 2023 for all media coverage related to:
 - Most mentioned stakeholders (people and organisations).
- The time frame is 01 September-15 November 2023 for all media coverage related to:
 - Media content per topic Timeline comparison (bar graph).
- The insights' data reflect the total volume of media content (mentions and posts) related to the topic and do not indicate the regional stand towards a specific topic.





1. WHAT SIGNIFICANT OUTCOMES ARE FORESEEN FROM COP28?

- The Energy Trilemma and Climate Goals: COP28, convened in Dubai, is a crucial juncture where world leaders officially review global progress toward the Paris Agreement goals. Faced with extreme weather events, nations must address the "energy trilemma" balancing reliability, affordability, and sustainability of energy, while reducing emissions to limit global warming to 1.5° Celsius.
- Global Dynamics and Renewable Energy Initiatives: COP28 emerges against a backdrop of heightened global dynamics, including rising exploitation of natural resources and unmet commitments from previous COP meetings by Global North countries. The United Arab Emirates, as a significant oil exporter, is using COP28 to encourage major oil-producing countries to hasten emissions reduction efforts. An anticipated outcome is the unveiling of the Global Decarbonisation Alliance to reduce greenhouse-gas emissions of major state oil companies.
- The Role of Big Finance and Big Oil: COP28 presents an opportunity to engage with a broad array of stakeholders, including financial heavyweights and oil giants, to address the energy trilemma. Despite optimistic projections about the decline of fossil fuel demand, realities suggest a more complex scenario where demand may plateau at high levels for a prolonged period, posing challenges in meeting these demands with renewables alone.
- Economic and Climate Crises: The global cost-of-living crisis, exacerbated by inflation and high fossil fuel costs, is stretching household budgets to the brink, emphasizing the need for a stable, economically sustainable future with energy security and disaster resilience. This crisis coincides with worsening climate disasters globally, urging action beyond rhetoric.
- Optimism and Cooperative Solutions: COP28 provides a platform for cooperative and focused solutions. Key goals include tripling the world's renewable energy capacity, doubling energy efficiency, and enhancing finance for countries to adapt to climate impacts. These actions aim to foster climate justice and address the financial and technological needs of vulnerable nations, aligning with the principles of the UNFCCC and the Paris Agreement.





2. HOW ARE FOSSIL FUELS VS. RENEWABLES BEING COVERED IN THE LEAD UP TO COP28?

What are the key emerging debates and highlights?

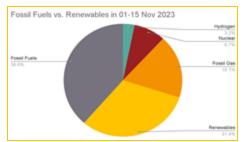
Atium platform digest, 01-15 November 2023

- The COP28 Presidency, with the International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA) and the Global Renewables Alliance (GRA), introduced a report titled "Tripling Renewable Power and Doubling Energy Efficiency by 2030: Crucial Steps Towards 1.5 °C." The report aims to provide actionable policy recommendations for increasing worldwide renewable energy capacity to a minimum of 11,000 GW while doubling annual energy efficiency improvements.
- COP28, aimed at reducing fossil fuel use and increasing renewable energy, is
 facing controversy as its president, who is also the CEO of Abu Dhabi National Oil
 Company, plans substantial expansion in oil and gas production, conflicting with
 the summit's environmental objectives.
- 3. Over 60 countries, including major emerging and developed economies, support a pledge led by the European Union, the United States, and the United Arab Emirates to triple renewable energy this decade and shift away from coal. This is part of the preparations for the UN's COP28 climate negotiations in Dubai.
- 4. <u>Despite pledges to cut fossil fuel production, global policies are on track to double fossil fuel production by 2030, as per a UN Environment Programme (UNEP) report.</u> This rise in fuel extraction occurs even as 151 national governments have pledged to achieve net-zero emissions.
- 5. The United States plans to lead a push at COP28 to triple the amount of installed nuclear power capacity globally by 2050. This marks a significant shift in the role of nuclear energy in climate negotiations. Countries like the UK, France, Sweden, Finland, and South Korea are expected to join this pledge.

Renewables



Fossil Fuels vs. Renewables coverage





Fossil Fuels



Most mentioned people on these issues in the past 30 days

- 1. Roger Smith, Japan Director at Mighty Earth
- Warren Buffett, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer at Berkshire Hathaway
- 3. Joe Biden, US President
- Sergio Massa, Minister of Economy, Production, Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries of Argentina
- 5. Rishi Sunak, PM of United Kingdom
- 6. António Guterres, Secretary General at United Nations
- Warren Buffett, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer at Berkshire Hathaway

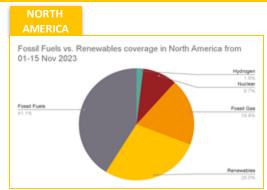
Most mentioned organisations on these issues in the past 30 days

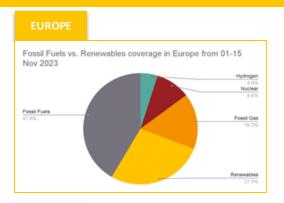
- 1. Amnesty International
- 2. Human Rights Watch
- 3. Greenpeace International
- 4. Social And Environmental Entrepreneurs
- 5. Green Cities California

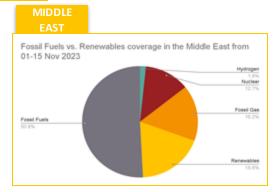


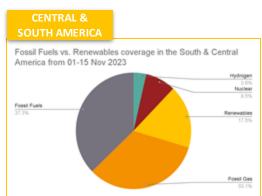


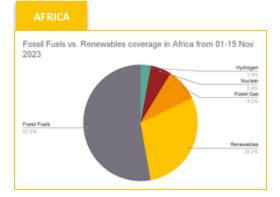
GLOBAL COMPARISON OF FOSSIL FUELS VS. RENEWABLES MENTIONS IN NOV2023

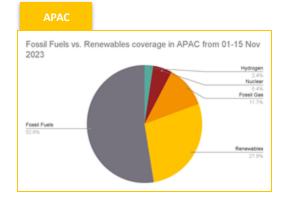














KEY TAKEAWAYS:

- Africa and APAC are at the forefront of dialogues about Fossil Fuels such as oil, coal, and biomass. Middle East follows closely.
- Central and South American nations are spearheading discussions on fossil gas.
- **Hydrogen** has gamered attention in energy discussions within Europe, more so than in other regions.
- Discussions on renewable energy sources have been predominantly in Africa, North America and the Asia-Pacific region.





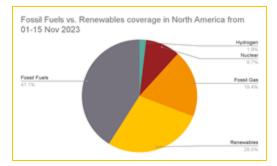
HOW ARE FOSSIL FUELS VS. RENEWABLES BEING COVERED IN NORTH AMERICA?

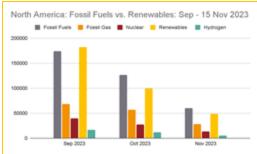
What are the key emerging debates and highlights?

Atium platform digest, 01-15 November 2023

- In United States, a breakdown of energy production from major sources across states was provided, focusing on the contribution of various energy sources, although petroleum, geothermal, biomass, or other power sources made up minimal percentages in most states.
- The transition to renewable energy in US is expected to lead to a \$100 billion reduction in consumer energy costs. by the end of the decade and avoid over \$1 trillion in economic damages caused by natural disasters by 2050.
- Renewable energy accounted for approximately 25% of electricity generation in the United States in the first half of 2023, demonstrating the growing importance of renewables in the country's energy mix.
- 4. Canada was evaluated in the Green Future Index 2023 for its progress in developing a sustainable, low-carbon future, indicating efforts in transitioning from conventional energy sources towards greener alternatives.
- 5. Canada's energy storage market is poised for exponential growth, driven by increasing electricity demand for charging electric vehicles, industrial electrification, and hydrogen production, indicating a shift towards more renewable energy sources.

Fossil Fuels vs. Renewables coverage





In North America discussions mainly focused on traditional energy sources like oil, coal, and biomass, with hydrogen receiving the least attention recently.

November 2023: Where are the emerging discussions around Fossil Fuels and Renewables?



- 1. Joe Biden, President of United States
- 2. Andrés Manuel López Obrador, President of Mexico
- 3. Elon Musk, Co-Founder, CEO and Product Architect at Tesla
- Claudia Sheinbaum Pardo, Member at Movimiento Regeneración Nacional
- Mike Johnson, Congressman, Louisiana, District 4 at U.S. House of Representatives
- 6. Satya Nadella, CEO and Executive Chairman at Microsoft
- Bill Gates, Founder and Co-chair at Bill and Melinda Gates
 Foundation
- Jeff Bezos, Executive Chairman and Majority Shareholder at Amazon







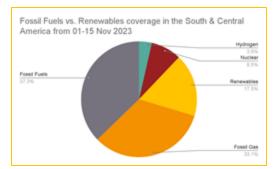
HOW ARE FOSSIL FUELS VS. RENEWABLES BEING COVERED IN CENTRAL & SOUTH AMERICA?

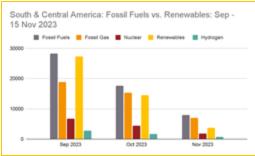
What are the key emerging debates and highlights?

Atium platform digest, 01-15 November 2023

- Petrobras, Brazil's state-run oil company, increased its forecast for oil and gas production in 2023. The company now expects to produce 2.8 million barrels of oil equivalent per day (boed), up from the previous estimate of 2.6 million boed. This increase takes into account the ramp-up of platforms and new wells expected to go online in the fourth guarter of the year.
- 2. Brazil's Eletrobras is exploring further opportunities for green hydrogen projects at other hydroelectric plants. As part of its new energy trading division, which grew following the company's privatization, Eletrobras is focusing more on decarbonization projects and has more than 10 GW of energy to sell in the market over the coming years.
- ExxonMobil commenced production at Payara, Guyana's third offshore oil development on the Stabroek Block, on November 14. This development increased Guyana's total production capacity to approximately 620,000 barrels per day (bpd).
- 4. Brazilian power company Eletrobras is utilizing its extensive portfolio of hydroelectric power plants to provide renewable energy for the production of green hydrogen and e-fuels. This initiative aims to supply large customers with stable renewable energy at competitive costs, enabling them to undertake decarbonization projects.
- 5. Argentina has been recognized for its substantial progress in developing a sustainable, low-carbon future. The country climbed the rankings in the Green Future Index 2023, reflecting the success of its sustainable policy actions. This achievement is part of the broader efforts by the World Economic Forum's Mobilizing Investments for Clean Energy in Emerging Economies initiative.

Fossil Fuels vs. Renewables coverage





In Central & South America discussions mainly focused on traditional energy sources and fossil gas, with hydrogen receiving the least attention recently.

November 2023: Where are the emerging discussions around Fossil Fuels and Renewables?



- Sergio Massa Minister of Economy, Production, Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries of Argentina
- 2. Javier Gerardo Milei President Elect of Argentina
- 3. Patricia Bullrich Presidential Candidate for Argentina
- 4. Gustavo Petro President of Colombia
- Alberto Fernández, Immediate former President of Argentina
- 6. <u>Luis Suarez</u>, Executive Director at Conservation International Ecuador
- Michelle Bachelet, High Commissioner at Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
- 8. Marcos Galperin, Regional CEO at Mercado Libre





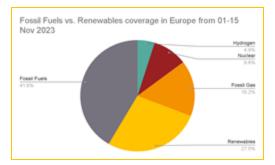
HOW ARE FOSSIL FUELS VS. RENEWABLES BEING COVERED IN EUROPE?

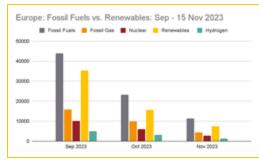
What are the key emerging debates and highlights?

Atium platform digest, 01-15 November 2023

- Sweden's New Nuclear Reactors by 2035: The Swedish government plans to build the equivalent of two new conventional nuclear reactors by 2035 to meet the surging demand for clean power. This move represents a significant investment in nuclear energy, highlighting its role in Sweden's energy mix alongside renewables.
- 2. In November 2023, Bulgaria launched its first renewable energy auction to allocate 1,425 MW of renewable power and 350 MW of storage, as part of its comprehensive sustainability plan that includes market liberalization, a decarbonization fund, and an energy efficiency program, while also committing to phase out coal by 2038.
- 3. <u>Israel is nearing a decision on a natural gas export route to Europe</u>, with options including a Cyprus-based liquefaction terminal or the U.S.-supported Eastern Mediterranean pipeline, as discussed by Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu with Greek and Cypriot leaders.
- 4. The UK has softened its stance on fossil fuels ahead of COP28, with Energy and Climate Minister Graham Stuart indicating a willingness to compromise on whether countries should "phase down" or "phase out" fossil fuels in the COP agreement, in contrast to the EU's tougher position on the matter.
- 5. The European Parliament's Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Food Safety adopted a resolution urging all countries to enhance their climate commitments at COP28, focusing on meeting the \$100 billion annual climate finance goal and operationalizing the loss and damage fund, with significant contributions from major emitters, including EU nations.

Fossil Fuels vs. Renewables coverage





In Europe, discussions mainly focused on traditional energy sources like oil, coal, and biomass, with hydrogen receiving the least attention recently.

November 2023: Where are the emerging discussions around Fossil Fuels and Renewables?



- 1. Rishi Sunak, Prime Minister of United Kingdom
- 2. <u>Ursula Von Der Leyen</u>, President at European Commission
- 3. <u>Bill Gates</u>, Founder and Co-chair at Bill and Melinda Gates
- Greta Thunberg, International Representative at Fridays for Future
- 5. Christine Lagarde, President at European Central Bank
- Kristalina Georgieva, Managing Director and Chair of the Executive Board at International Monetary Fund
- Inger Andersen, Executive Director at United Nations Environment Programme
- 8. Charles Michel, President at European Council







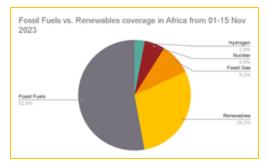
HOW ARE FOSSIL FUELS VS. RENEWABLES BEING COVERED IN AFRICA?

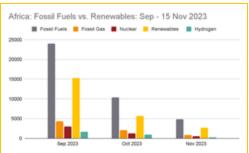
What are the key emerging debates and highlights?

Atium platform digest, 01-15 November 2023

- In Algeria, Wintershall Dea and Sonatrach have formed a partnership focusing on natural gas and energy transition, including hydrogen and CCS, leveraging Algeria's status as Africa's leading natural gas producer and a key energy exporter to Europe, to expand into areas like hydrogen, solar, and wind power.
- South Africa, pivotal in the energy transition, holds a key role as the leading producer of platinum, platinum-group metals, and chromium, essential for hydrogen production, lithium-ion batteries, and solar panels, with their demand projected to surge by 2040.
- 3. In November 2023, the West Africa Power Pool's Information and Coordination Centre, an EU-funded initiative with a €30 million investment, was inaugurated to enhance energy sufficiency in West Africa, serving as a trading platform for various electricity sources, including renewables, and fostering cross-border electricity trade connections within ECOWAS and with regions like North Africa and Europe.
- 4. The Central Africa Business Energy Forum in N'Djamena, Chad, highlighted the urgent need for adopting renewable energy in Central Africa, focusing on the 6,500-km Central African Pipeline System to enhance energy security, industrialization, and social progress.

Fossil Fuels vs. Renewables coverage





In Africa, discussions mainly focused on traditional energy sources like oil, coal, and biomass, with hydrogen receiving the least attention recently.

November 2023: Where are the emerging discussions around Fossil Fuels and Renewables?



- 1. Cyril Ramaphosa, President of South Africa
- 2. William Ruto, President of Kenya
- 3. Yoweri Museveni, President of Uganda
- Enoch Godongwana, Finance Minister at National Treasury of South Africa
- Inger Andersen, Executive Director at United Nations Environment Programme
- 6. <u>Muhammadu Buhari</u>, President at African Union Advisory Board on Corruption
- Moussa Faki Mahamat, Chair, African Union Commission at African Union
- 8. André de Ruyter, Former Chief Executive Officer at Eskom





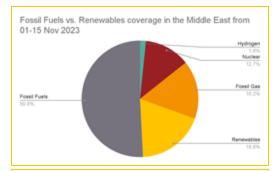


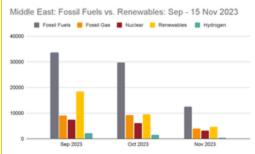
How are Fossil Fuels vs. renewables being covered in the Middle East?

What are the key emerging debates and highlights? Atium platform digest, 01-15 November 2023

- 1. The Iranian government has approved the construction of new wind power plants with a capacity of 3,000 megawatts (MW) across the country.
- As of 2023, Iran had the highest installed capacity of renewable energy among Middle East and North Africa (MENA) countries at above 12 thousand megawatts.
- 3. The Abu Dhabi National Oil Company (ADNOC) has pledged to invest at least \$15 billion in reducing greenhouse gas emissions and expanding low-carbon and renewable energy projects. However, the document underscores the ongoing central role of oil and natural gas in the global energy supply, despite calls from environmental groups and vulnerable nations for rapidly ending fossil fuel use.
- 4. The Yemeni government has blamed Houthi attacks on government-controlled oil ports for their inability to export fuel, which is critical for revenue and also for the electricity supply. However, issues such as government corruption and inefficiency in the Electricity Ministry have also contributed to the challenges in the energy sector.
- At a meeting in Brussels, COP28 President Sultan bin Ahmed Al-Jaber and EU Climate Commissioner Wopke Hoekstra emphasized the need for accelerated action on climate change and praised the progress on operationalizing the Loss and Damage Fund, which aims to support vulnerable communities impacted by climate change.

Fossil Fuels vs. Renewables coverage





In the Middle East discussions mainly focused on traditional energy sources like oil, coal, and biomass, with hydrogen receiving the least attention recently.

November 2023: Where are the emerging discussions around Fossil Fuels and Renewables?



- Mohammad bin Salman Al Saud, Minister of Defense of Saudi Arabia
- Sultan Bin Ahmed Al Jaber, Minister of Industry and Advanced Technology of UAE
- 3. Larry Fink, CEO and Chairman at BlackRock
- Mukesh D. Ambani, Chairman and MD at Reliance Industries
- Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Prime Minister; Vice President; Emir of Dubai at Government of UAE
- 6. Mohamed Jameel Al Ramahi, CEO at Masdar
- 7. Amin H. Nasser, CEO and President at Saudi Aramco
- 8. Francesco La Camera, Director-General at International Renewable Energy Agency







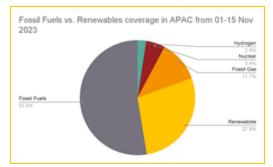
HOW ARE FOSSIL FUELS VS. RENEWABLES BEING COVERED IN APAC?

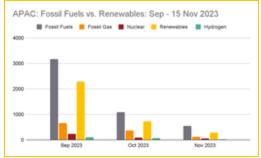
What are the key emerging debates and highlights?

Atium platform digest, 01-15 November 2023

- In Laos, Minister of Energy and Mines Phoxay Sayasone emphasized the importance of accurate assessment and sustainable management of rare mineral resources, noting challenges in project management and a focus on sustainable development within the energy sector.
- Despite Chinese President Xi Jinping's pledge in April 2021 to "strictly control coal-fired power generation projects," there has been a continuation of government permits for new coal projects in China.
- China faces a significant challenge in reducing methane emissions, particularly from its massive coal sector, as the country is the world's largest source of methane from coal mines.
- 4. In November 2023, the Philippines and the United States signed a landmark "123 Agreement" at the APEC Summit, enabling the export of U.S. nuclear technology and materials to the Philippines, which is exploring the use of nuclear power to decarbonise and boost energy independence.
- Thailand has unveiled plans to reduce carbon emissions and implement renewable energy sources to achieve net-zero emissions by 2065.
- South Korea and Japan are establishing a joint supply network for carbonneutral fuels such as hydrogen and ammonia.
- The Philippines' Board of Investments approved a significant increase in renewable energy and power projects in 2023, indicating a strong focus on renewable energy development.

Fossil Fuels vs. Renewables coverage





In APAC, discussions mainly focused on traditional energy sources like oil, coal, and biomass, with hydrogen receiving the least attention recently.

November 2023: Where are the emerging discussions around Fossil Fuels and Renewables?



- 1. Xi Jinping, President of the People's Republic of China
- 2. Narendra Modi, Prime Minister of India
- 3. Joko Widodo, President of Indonesia
- 4. Fumio Kishida, Prime Minister of Japan
- 5. Yoon Suk-yeol, President of South Korea
- Mukesh D. Ambani, Chairman and Managing Director at Reliance Industries
- 7. Gautam Adani, Chairman and Founder at Adani
- Harjeet Singh, Head, Global Political Strategy at Climate Action Network International







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