



**Submission of Views on the
Roadmap for Global Climate Action
of the Global Climate Champions**

Radebeul, July 25th, 2016

Dear Minister El Haite, dear Ambassador Tubiana,

we appreciate the invitation to submit our recommendations on your work agenda and invite you to consider them carefully.

Let us start with a rhetorical question: Can the Paris Agreement be successfully implemented without a phase-out of coal, oil and gas extraction over the next few decades? We believe it cannot and we are concerned about the lack of adjustments in coal, oil and gas extraction policies by many of the same governments who have subscribed to the Paris Agreement.

After Paris, at least 84% of proven fossil fuel reserves must stay in the ground (Kühne 2016), but no government has pledged to forego any extraction of their coal, oil and gas reserves so far. In terms of commitments of non-extraction, we effectively stand at zero and must get to a combined 84% of global reserves, equivalent to about 2400 Gt CO₂ that needs to be left unextracted, if the ambitious Paris goals shall hold.

We suggest adding this element to your analysis of the current situation. The pre-2020 period can well be used to explore options for “supply side mitigation” which can complement the demand side mitigation actions that have already been committed to under the Paris Agreement.

Climate agreements have already been translated by scientists into guidelines for fossil fuel extraction (see for example McGlade and Ekins 2015 or Collier and Venables 2013). This is a first step.

We would like to suggest the next determined step forward: an **intergovernmental dialogue about fossil fuel extraction & climate change** with the explicit goal to harmonize fossil fuel extraction policies with the climate targets of the Paris Agreement. We understand your role as a privileged one in its flexibility and believe your mandate provides a great opportunity to address this urgent, yet unresolved issue.



A number of proposals have been put forward which would lead to significant amounts of fossil fuels to stay in the ground:

1. No New Coal Mines

President Tong of Kiribati has launched this call which has already been echoed by a number of countries in the Suva Declaration and Nobel Laureates.

More information: <http://www.nonewcoalmines.org.au/> and <http://pacificidf.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/06/PACIFIC-ISLAND-DEVELOPMENT-FORUM-SUVA-DECLARATION-ON-CLIMATE-CHANGE.v2.pdf>

2. Global Ban on Hydraulic Fracturing

More than 1000 organizations support this call.

More information: <http://www.globalfrackdown.org/>

3. No fossil fuel extraction in protected areas and indigenous territories

This proposal has been put forward by Oilwatch and EJOLT in 2013 and corresponds in part to a resolution of the World Conservation Congress 2000 in Amman where extractive activities in protected areas were banned.

More information: <http://www.oilwatch.org/en/home/130-several/campaigns/585-unburnable-fuels-how-to-keep-the-oil-in-the-soil>

4. Arctic Drilling Ban

8 million people support setting the Arctic Ocean aside as a sanctuary and forego fossil fuel extraction there.

More information: <https://www.savethearctic.org/>

5. Keep it in the Ground for Peace

Children and youth have put forward the proposal to focus on keeping fossil fuel reserves untouched in places where there is conflict between states.

More information: <http://www.climatestrike.net/keep-it-in-the-ground-for-peace/>

6. Exploration Moratorium

Exploration is currently under way in many corners of the planet and actively identifying new fossil fuel deposits, while 84% of already identified ones need to stay in the ground. This makes no sense. LINGO calls for a moratorium on all fossil fuel exploration.

More information: <http://leave-it-in-the-ground.org/exploration-moratorium/>

7. Annex Zero

This initiative lists commitments by communities and subnational governments that commit to keeping fossil fuels under their lands in the ground. They call on governments to respect and support these commitments instead of criminalizing their proponents.

More information:

https://gallery.mailchimp.com/f91b651f7fecdf835b57dc11d/files/ANNEX_ZERO_OILWATC_H_Ingles_1.pdf



Our key recommendation for your work agenda is therefore: work towards an **intergovernmental dialogue on fossil fuel extraction and climate change**. The above proposals constitute excellent starting points for such a dialogue and deserve mindful consideration.

On the issue of transparency and tracking we suggest that you monitor non-extraction commitments, such as mentioned in the Annex Zero proposal or of states where applicable, to keep fossil reserves untouched, to monitor progress towards the 84% mark.

We would like to thank you once more for the opportunity to contribute to shaping a more powerful roadmap.

With kind regards,

Kjell Kühne

Founder

Leave it in the Ground Initiative (LINGO)

References:

- McGlade, Christophe & Ekins, Paul (2015), The geographical distribution of fossil fuels unused when limiting global warming to 2 °C, Nature 517, 187–190. <http://www.nature.com/nature/journal/v517/n7533/full/nature14016.html>
- Collier, Paul & Venables, Anthony J. (2014) Closing coal: economic and moral incentives. Oxf Rev Econ Policy (2014) 30 (3): 492-512.
- Kühne, Kjell (2016), The global Carbon Budget after the Paris Agreement, Leave it in the Ground Initiative (LINGO). <http://leave-it-in-the-ground.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/02/Post-Paris-Carbon-Budget-LINGO.pdf>