# [***Adnoc to Use Drones to Plant 2.5 Million Mangrove Seedlings in Abu Dhabi***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:67J6-20F1-F11P-X03V-00000-00&context=1516831)

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**Body**

Adnoc will use drone technology to plant 2.5 million ***mangrove*** seedlings in Abu Dhabi over the next three years as part of a contract signed with Distant Imagery, a UAE environmental technology company.

The contract, announced at Abu Dhabi Sustainability Week, is part of the Abu Dhabi ***Mangrove*** Initiative and Adnoc's existing partnership with the Environment Agency Abu Dhabi, the state energy company said in a statement on Wednesday.

Adnoc will use drones that can disperse more than 2,000 ***mangrove*** seeds in about eight minutes, as the company targets planting up to 10 million ***mangrove*** trees in Abu Dhabi by 2030.

***Mangroves*** can provide a living defence against the impact of climate change, by preventing erosion, stabilising Abu Dhabis coastlines and enhancing biodiversity, as well as significantly contributing to the quality of life in the area for future generations," said Ibrahim Al Zubi, senior vice president of sustainability and climate at Adnoc.

Last week, the agency said drones had dispersed one million ***mangrove*** seeds in Abu Dhabi as a part of the first phase of the emirate's drone ***mangrove*** plantation project.

The dispersal was carried out over several days at locations around Al Mirfa in Al Dhafra region.

The planting programme is part of the UAEs initiative to add 100 million ***mangrove*** trees by 2030 a pledge made at the Cop26 climate change conference in November 2021.

The UAE is home to more than a dozen ***mangrove*** sites and plans to expand and develop their presence across the country.

Abu Dhabi aims to establish the emirate as a hub for research and innovation to support the conservation of ***mangroves***, and focus on their importance for carbon sequestration to combat climate change.

According to the agency's estimates, ***mangrove*** seeds dropped by drones will have a 48 per cent success rate which means 48 per cent of the seeds are expected to take root and grow into trees.

As part of the first phase of Adnoc's programme, custom-built drones and rigging equipment built by Distant Imagery and supported by the agency were used to plant more than 200,000 ***mangrove*** seeds in Abu Dhabis Mirfa coastal lagoon.

The germination and growth of the ***mangroves*** will be monitored for the next year, the company said.

Adnoc's initiative to aerially plant 2.5 million ***mangroves*** will include a volunteer programme, with opportunities to participate in each stage of the planting process, from picking seeds to helping monitor the growth of the ***mangroves***.

"We are looking forward to working with Adnoc on this ***mangrove*** project to ensure that we all achieve our objectives of combating climate change through nature-based solutions as ***mangroves*** are very resilient and are hugely important thanks to their qualities as effective carbon sinks," said Ahmed Alhashmi, executive director of terrestrial and marine biodiversity at the agency.

Adnoc said this month that it would invest $15 billion in decarbonisation projects by 2030, including clean power, carbon capture and storage, further electrification of operations, energy efficiency and new measures to build on its policy of zero routine gas flaring.

The company has been restoring ***mangrove*** ecosystems for more than a decade and has planted approximately two million ***mangrove*** seedlings at its operational sites and across Abu Dhabi, it said.

Adnoc is "committed to leveraging nature-based solutions as integral, ready and cost-effective offsets in support of climate change adaptation, mitigation and resilience, balancing energy systems and ***blue carbon*** ecosystems", the statement added.

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