



Sustainable Development
Working Group



ARCTIC COUNCIL



Nordic Council
of Ministers

WORKSHOP INVITATION

Tomorrow's Arctic EIA: Nordic possibilities and perspectives to Environmental Impact Assessments in the Arctic

11-12 December 2017 at Santa's Hotel Santa Claus, Korkalonkatu 29, Rovaniemi, Finland

The Arctic is facing a number of interrelated challenges, e.g. how escalating climate change and increased economic activity create multiple and cumulative pressures on land use and mounting conflicts between different interests. Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) comprises one of the essential regulatory tools to address these issues and to ensure that planning is sustainable in the long term. However, are the specific features of the Arctic taken sufficiently into consideration in EIAs? Could methods to assess cumulative impacts be improved? Is there enough attention to social and cultural implications and rights of indigenous communities in new projects?

Such questions will be addressed in the workshop *Tomorrow's Arctic EIA: Nordic possibilities and perspectives to Environmental Impact Assessments in the Arctic*, which will be held in Rovaniemi, Finland 11-12 December 2017. The workshop is convened by Arctic Council's project: *Good Practice Recommendations for Environmental Impact Assessment and Public Participation in the Arctic* (Arctic EIA). Arctic EIA is an endorsed project of the Sustainable Development Working Group of the Arctic Council and it is led by the Ministry of the Environment of Finland.

We would like to warmly invite you to participate in the workshop *Tomorrow's Arctic EIA: Nordic possibilities and perspectives to Environmental Impact Assessments in the Arctic*. The aim of the workshop is to create dialogue and facilitate learning among different actors of EIA – authorities, developers, consultants, indigenous and local communities, NGOs, academics and other stakeholders. The workshop will look for and share good practices from the Nordic countries and contribute to the process of formulating good practice recommendations for EIA and public participation in the Arctic. It will also contribute to the creation of a network of Arctic EIA actors.

The workshop is sponsored by the Nordic Council of Ministers. It is organized by the Arctic EIA project¹ / Finnish Ministry of the Environment in cooperation with three research projects: *Resource Extraction and Sustainable Arctic Communities*²; *Contested landscapes: navigating competing claims and cumulative impacts in Northern Sweden (CO-LAND)*³ and *Indigenous Rights and the Global Politics of Resource Extraction: The Case of Mining in Sápmi*⁴. In cooperation there are also the Swedish Environmental Protection Agency, the Norwegian Ministry of Climate and Environment and institutions in Greenland and Iceland. On the behalf of the organizers:

A warm welcome!

¹ <http://www.sdwg.org/project/current-projects/>

² funded by Nordforsk - www.rexsac.org

³ funded by Swedish Environmental Protection Agency - <https://www.sei-international.org/projects?prid=2221>

⁴ funded by Formas - <http://www.slu.se/en/departments/urban-rural-development/research/environmental-communication/projects/mining-in-sapmi/>

Tomorrow's Arctic EIA: Nordic possibilities and perspectives to Environmental Impact Assessments in the Arctic

Workshop venue: Santa's Hotel Santa Claus, Korkalonkatu 29, Rovaniemi, Finland

Programme

Monday, December 11, 2017

- 9.30 Morning coffee available

10.00	Welcome & the Arctic EIA project in a nutshell – Seija Rantakallio, Ministerial Advisor, Ministry of the Environment, Finland
10.20	This is where we are with Arctic EIA – Pamela Lesser, Researcher, Arctic Center, University of Lapland, Finland
10.40	Future of EIA in the Arctic; climate change and multiple pressures – Gunhild Ninis Rosqvist, Professor, Stockholm University and Niila Inga, Reindeer Herder & Chair of the Laevas Saami Community, Sweden
11.05	Minibreak
11.15	Saami vision for EIA in 2025? – Gunn-Britt Retter, Head of the Arctic and Environment Unit, Saami Council and Anni-Helena Ruotsala, Environment Secretary, Saami Parliament of Finland
11.40	Good Greenlandic EIA practices of today and tomorrow – Parnuna Egede, PhD Student, The Danish Center for Environmental Assessment at Aalborg University & the University of Greenland & Inuit Circumpolar Council (ICC) Greenland

12.00 Lunch

13.00	Cumulative impacts, indigenous rights and new visions for EIA: Lessons from critical dialogues with Swedish permit authorities, companies and Sámi communities – Rasmus Kløcker Larsen, Research Fellow, Stockholm Environment Institute and Kaisa Raitio, Associate Professor, Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences
13.20	Working group session I: What are the criteria for how EIA can meet the present and future challenges of the Arctic region in the Nordic countries?

15.00 Coffee

15.30	Overview to the answers of the Good EIA Practice questionnaire – Aino Voutilainen, M.Sc. Student in EIA, University of Jyväskylä, Finland
15.50	Working group session II: Good practice cases – how do they look like, where do we find them?
17.30	Closing of the day I and invite to the poster sessions and dinner

18.45 - 19.30 Poster sessions (tbc)

19.30 Workshop dinner

Tuesday, December 12, 2017

8.30	Recap and reflections from day 1
8.45	Good Alaskan practices – reflections from the Arctic EIA workshop in Utqiagvik/Barrow, Alaska 27.-29.11.2017 – Vernae Angnaboogok, Cultural Sustainability Advisor, Inuit Circumpolar Council Alaska and Edward A. Boling, Associate Director for the National Environmental Policy Act, Council on Environmental Quality
9.15	The role and development of Social Impact Assessment in Icelandic EIA – Hjalti Jóhannesson, Deputy Director, University of Akureyri Research Centre, Iceland
9.40	Involvement of indigenous and local stakeholders: the Norwegian EIA approach – Cathrine Henaug, Research Director, Norwegian Institute for Nature Research

10.05 Coffee

10.30	Working group session III: How to reach out to good practices? How to get to new voluntary approaches? What are the knowledge gaps?
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12.00 Lunch

13.00	Understanding the Cultural Impacts and Issues of Lapland Mining: Long-term Perspective on Sustainable Mining Policies in the North – Teresa Komu, PhD Student, Cultural Anthropology, University of Oulu
13.20	Strengthening participatory rights of Sámi communities through Akwé: Kon Guidelines in Finland – Leena Heinämäki, Senior Researcher and Assi Harkoma, Researcher, Arctic Center, University of Lapland
13.45	Visual tools in public participation, in particular in decision making processes inclusive of indigenous peoples – Ana Roque de Oliveira, PhD student, University of Lisbon
14.05	Panel closing discussion

15.00 Closing coffee

Changes in the details of the programme are possible.

A flight to catch from Rovaniemi to Helsinki on Tuesday December 12 at 18.10

Hyvää kotimatkaa – safe travels!



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LOGISTICS AND PRACTICALITIES

Rovaniemi

Is the administrative capital and commercial centre of Finland's northernmost province, Lapland. It is situated about six kilometres south of the Arctic Circle. Rovaniemi Airport is located about 10 kilometres north from the city centre.

Transportation

If you need to take a flight to Rovaniemi, please be quick because December is a high tourist season in Lapland. If you do not manage to get a flight between Helsinki and Rovaniemi, please contact Päivi Karvinen. She can help you with a special backup quota between Helsinki and Rovaniemi for two flights on Sunday. The backup departures are at 16:20 and 20:45 from Helsinki and you need to reserve time for checking out and in, including the luggage, from your connecting flight. You will get detailed instructions on backup flights between Rovaniemi and Helsinki by sending an email to Päivi:

paivi.karvinen@ym.fi

Accommodation

Your need for accommodation is asked in the registration. There is a quota reserved for the participants at Cumulus Resort Polar Hotel which is a two minute walk away from the venue. The prices are 125 EUR / standard single room / night and 145 EUR / standard double room / night. Päivi takes care of the reservations after you have registered. The hotel will charge you directly in Rovaniemi.

Workshop charge

Workshop is free of charge, but registration is compulsory because of a limited number of seats and other practicalities.

Workshop registration

Please register before November 8th using the following link:

https://www.lyyti.in/Tomorrows_Arctic_EIA_Nordic_Workshop_OT_7846

The registration is an early bird one, because of the high tourist season. There are many people who want to see the Santa in Rovaniemi! That is why we need to confirm the hotel and flights by November 8th and that is why we need to hurry you up.

So please, be quick and register! And be very welcome to Rovaniemi!

For the background information on the Arctic EIA project, please visit:

<http://www.sdwg.org/activities/current-projects/>