



Arctic EIA

– Good Practice Recommendations for Environmental Impact Assessment and Public Participation in the Arctic

The Arctic Council is committed to sustainable development in the Arctic region, including economic and social development, and to the protection of the Arctic environment. Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) is an important tool for putting this commitment into action, and public participation is an integral part of this process.

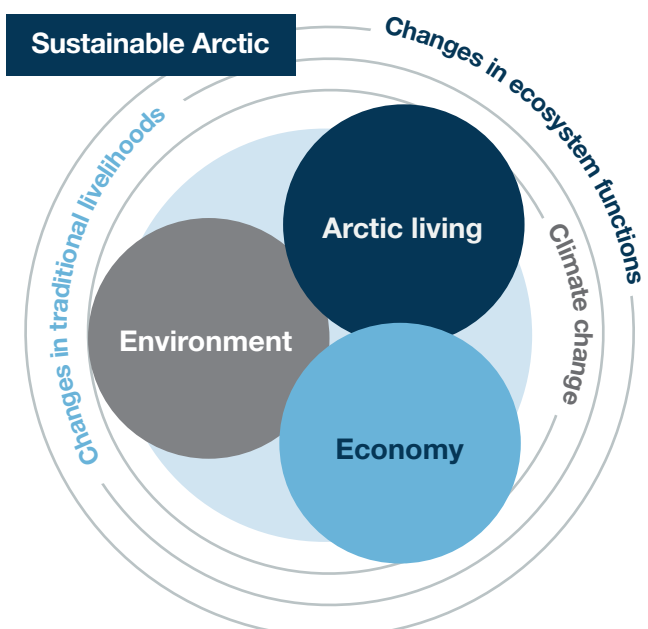
EIA is a procedure for assessing beforehand the impacts of large-scale economic projects on the environment and the people potentially affected by the projects. It is aimed at preventing and mitigating adverse impacts by identifying these impacts already in the early stages of planning and decision-making. EIA is in use in all of the Arctic countries. However, what works in the south, does not necessarily work in the north.

Arctic EIA intends to provide an Arctic-specific EIA tool that can be applied in the vulnerable and changing Arctic environment, taking into account the indigenous peoples and other inhabitants living there. It aims to make the Arctic matter in project planning. Mapping good practices, sharing experiences, learning from each other and creating solutions together form the core of the project. Finland is the lead country and the Kingdom of Denmark and Canada co-leads of the Arctic EIA project (2017-2019) under the Sustainable Development Working Group of the Arctic Council.

Outcomes:

- / Good Practice Recommendations for EIA and Public Participation in the Arctic
 - // Identifying good practices
 - // Sharing experiences
 - // Learning from each other
 - // Incorporating indigenous, traditional and local knowledge
- / Strong network of national and regional EIA authorities and other actors in the Arctic

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