

**Arctic Mining: Environmental issues,  
mitigation and pollution control for  
marine and coastal mining-  
Workshop March 21, 22, 23, 2023**



<b>Title:</b> The Importance of integrating biodiversity values in mining during the earlier stages of decision-making cycle
<b>Speaker:</b> Elena Tracy, WWF Arctic Programme
<b>Biography:</b> <i>Dr. Tracy 's research and teaching interests include the domestic and international politics of environmental protection, institutional design and environmental policies, the politics of GMOs, and other topics related to environmental governance.</i>
<b>What is the Purpose of your Talk?</b> Mining is identified among key drivers of biodiversity loss in the Arctic region. Therefore, integrating biodiversity values during the decision-making process throughout the entire mining cycle, from pre-planning/ planning, to production and decommissioning, is essential.
<b>Abstract:</b> The presentation focuses on the importance of integrating biodiversity values during the earliest stages of project planning, when biodiversity-related impacts, including cumulated and wide-ranged, can be appropriately addressed and prevented. The inclusion of civil society stakeholders and Indigenous rights holders also happens at earlier phases of project planning. WWF offers criteria for mainstreaming biodiversity into mining activities particularly useful during the earliest stages of planning that allow to prevent or significantly reduce negative impacts on biodiversity from mining as well as from associated shipping activities. These criteria include the consideration for protected areas (eg. ArcNet), ecological corridors connecting the protected areas, as well as establishing clear processes for engaging Indigenous peoples and local communities while utilizing traditional knowledge.