

## B09-O09

### UNDERSTANDING THE VALUES OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IN THE ARCTIC: A CASE STUDY OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IN ICELAND

Knox Hayes Janelle (*Georgia Institute of Technology, United States*)

Grahame Alyssa Maraj S (*University of Massachusetts Amherst, United States*)

jk.knox@gmail.com

**Abstract.** As climate change extends the scope and duration of ice melt in the Arctic Ocean, the region will experience intense pressure to develop various industries ranging from mineral and resource extraction, to fishing and shipping. The dramatic changes development will bring to communities and to the broader ecosystem of the Arctic raises considerable questions of governance. In particular which goals and strategies, and held by which actors, will shape the development Arctic in coming decades? In order to understand and affect policy practice and implementation, it is important to understand the values of the actors who shape policy. We begin to analyze the values of sustainable development in the Arctic through a case study of various industries in Iceland. Through semi-structured interviews, we question the values various stakeholders hold, identify the opportunities and challenges development presents and assess the ways stakeholder values shape strategies of sustainable development. We analyze the responses to understand not only the regional dynamics and traditions, but to begin to develop a broader conception of the relationship between various metrics of sustainability and the association of these metrics and values with various socio-demographic groups. Understanding the values that stakeholders identify as well as the ways in which they conceptualize these values in the activities and strategies of their organizations is critical to understanding how open, consultative, multi-stakeholder governance can shape sustainable development in the Arctic region.