



# CONSIDERATIONS FOR EQUITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT IN DEVELOPMENT

Dr. Gerald Singh, University of Victoria, Canada

**NEDIA**



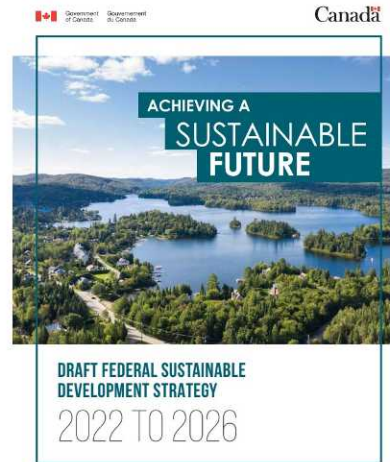


# Impact Assessment and Sustainable Development in Canada

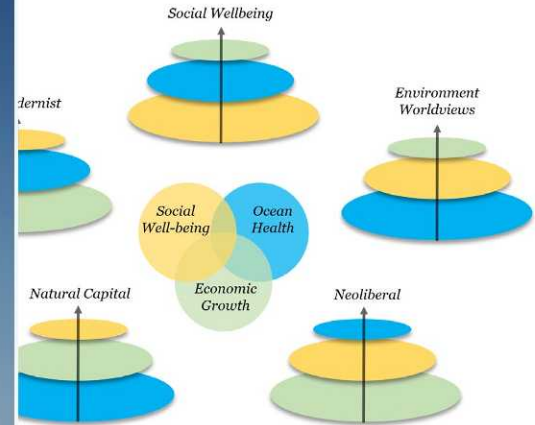
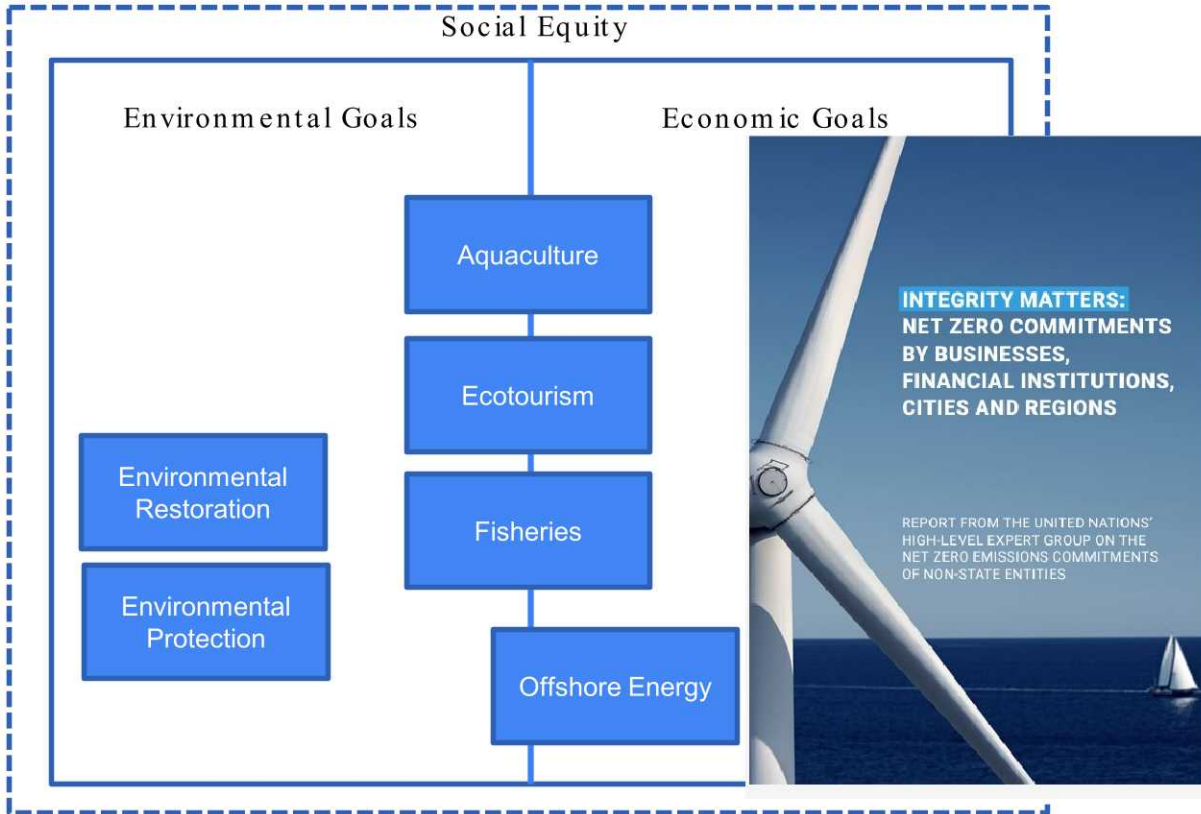
Global  
Strategic

National  
Tactical

Regional and Site  
Operational



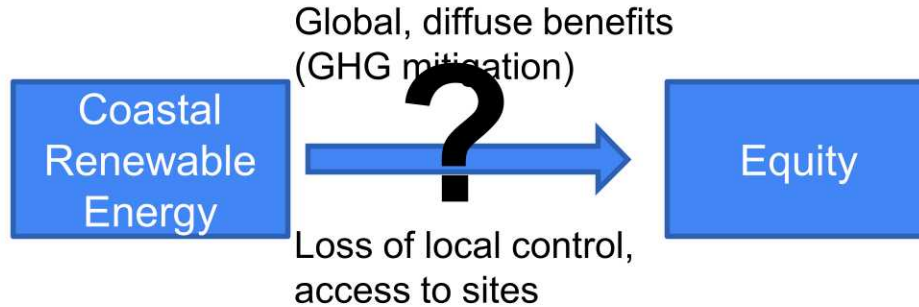
# Development and Conservation Interventions and Social Equity



Ota et al. 2022

# The Need for Robust Equity Tools

Interventions not designed for equity



## **Many indicators and tools for addressing equity not reliable**

- Neglects process or outcomes
- Neglect social-cultural context
- Lack of transparency
- Conflicts of interest
- Vague definitions
- Accountability gaps between proponents and affected communities



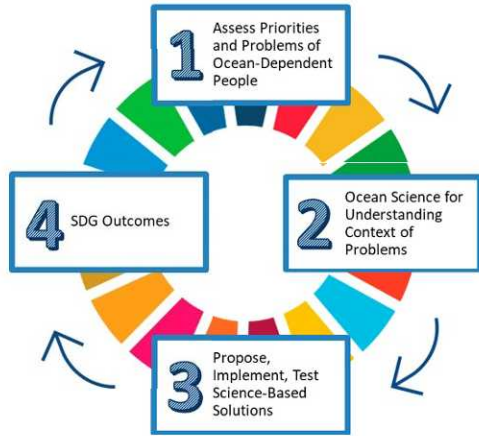
# “Anti-inequity” Assessment

Diagnose, anticipate, evaluate adverse effects to plan against them

**NEDIA**



# Anti - Inequity Intervention Assessment Structure

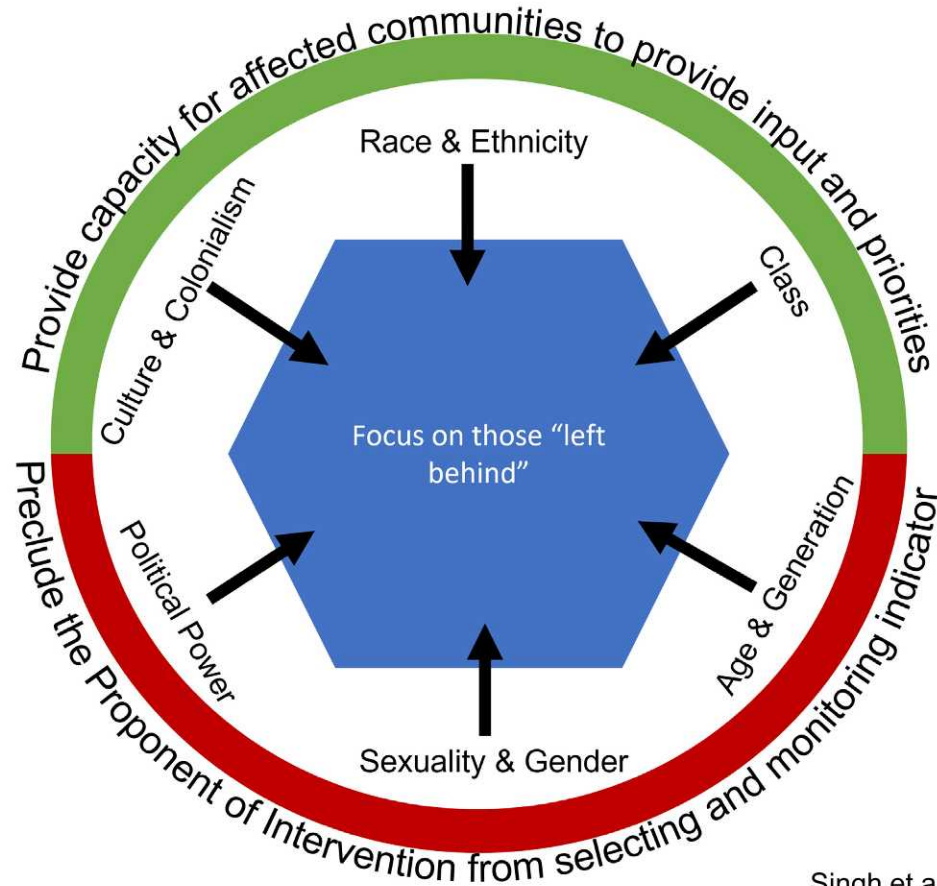


Context  
Systemic issues that lead to people being “left behind”

Singh et al. 2021  
PNAS



# Anti - Inequity Intervention Assessment Governance and Focus

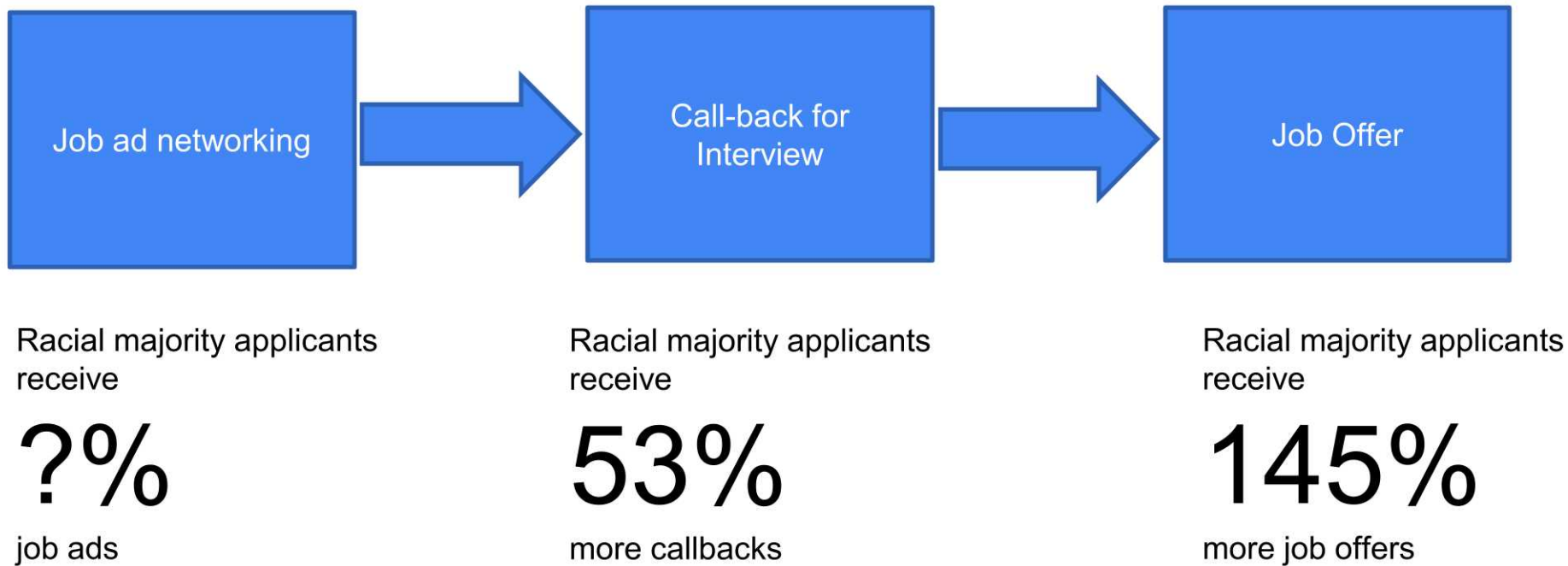


**NEDIA**



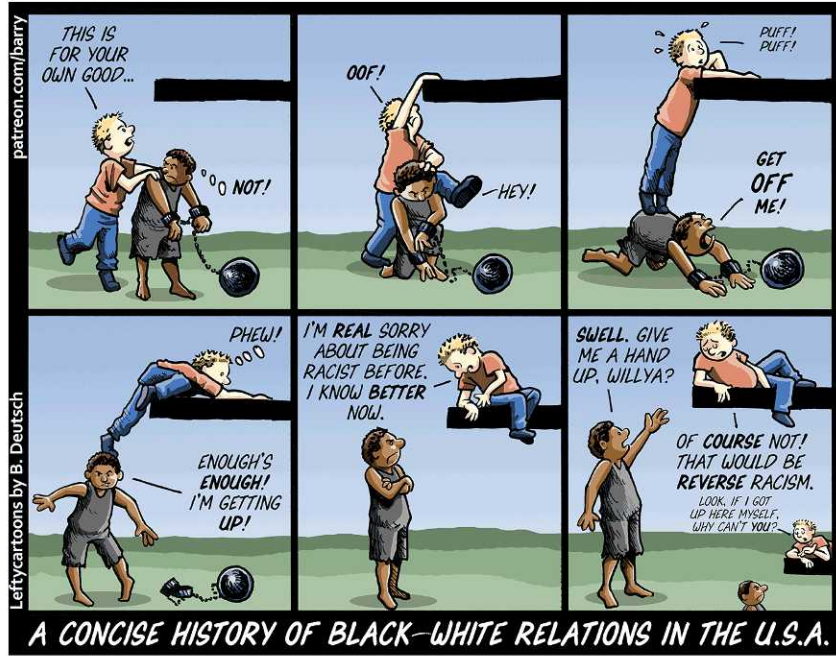


# Cumulative (Dis)Advantage



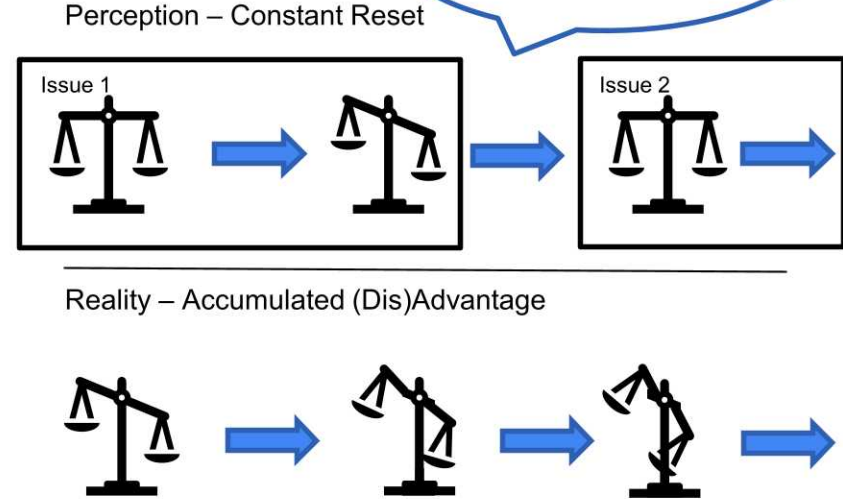


# Cumulative (Dis)Advantage Undermines Equal Treatment



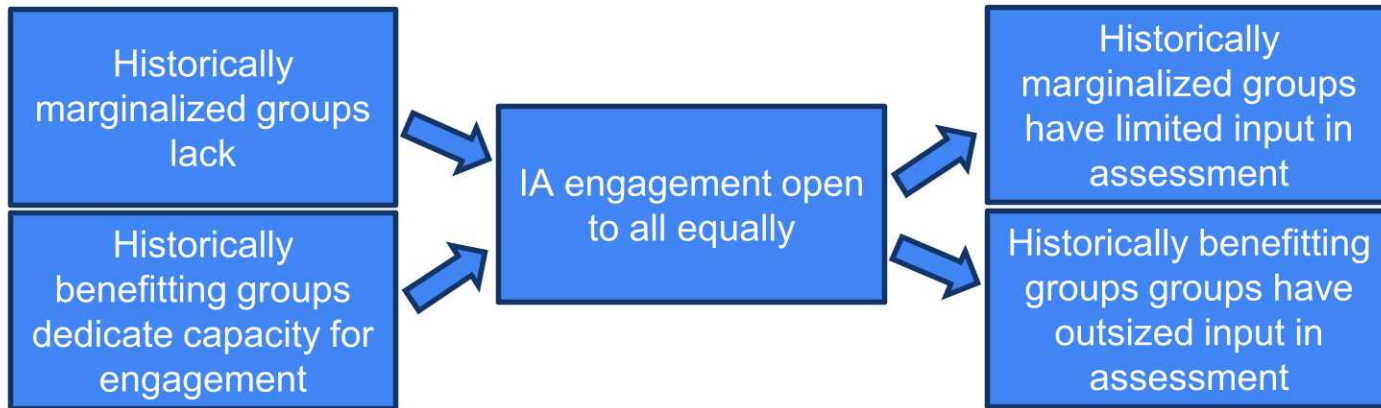
PLEASE SUPPORT THESE CARTOONS AT [WWW.PATREON.COM/BARRY](http://WWW.PATREON.COM/BARRY)

Of course systemic racism exists, but...



# Cumulative (Dis)Advantage – IA Affected by History

- Development and IA doesn't occur ahistorically
  - Limiting impacts may not limit as much as we think
  - IA processes inherit historic inequities

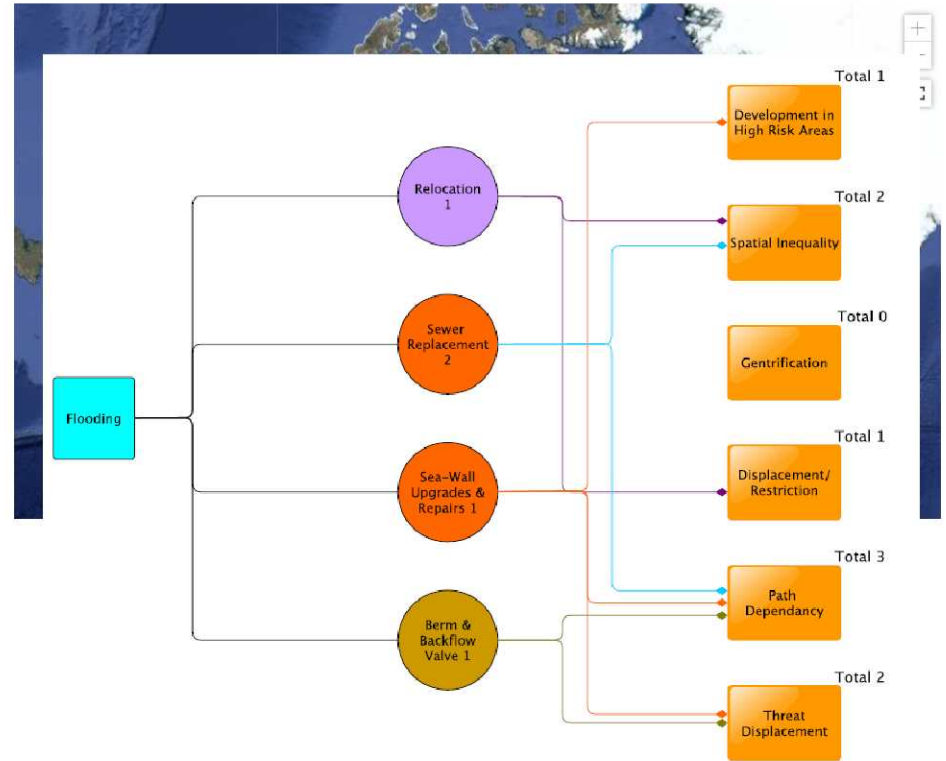


# Case Study: Cumulative (Dis)Advantage and Well-Meaning Development

Protect against unintended but plausible impacts (with precedent, perceived risk)



Singh et al. 2023



Potier and Singh. in prep

# Case Study: Cumulative (Dis)Advantage and Self-Interest

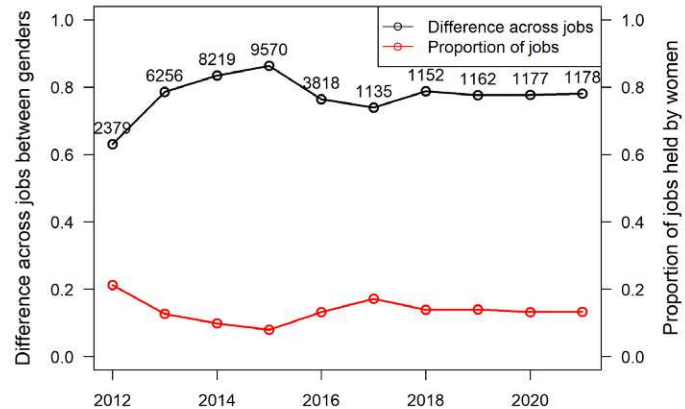
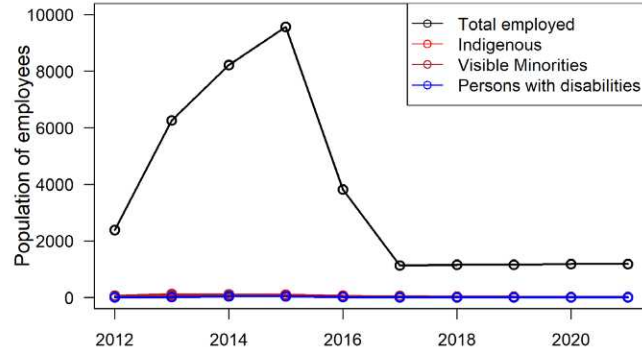
- Who gets to scopes assessment influences how reality is recorded
- Self-monitoring is often self-congratulatory (equity washing)



## Table of Contents

1.0 Introduction.....	2
2.0 Canadian-NL Content Estimates.....	3
3.0 Employment.....	3
4.0 Procurement and Contracting.....	5
5.0 Supplier Development.....	6
6.0 Research and Development.....	7
7.0 Hebron Photos.....	8
8.0 Inclusion & Diversity.....	11

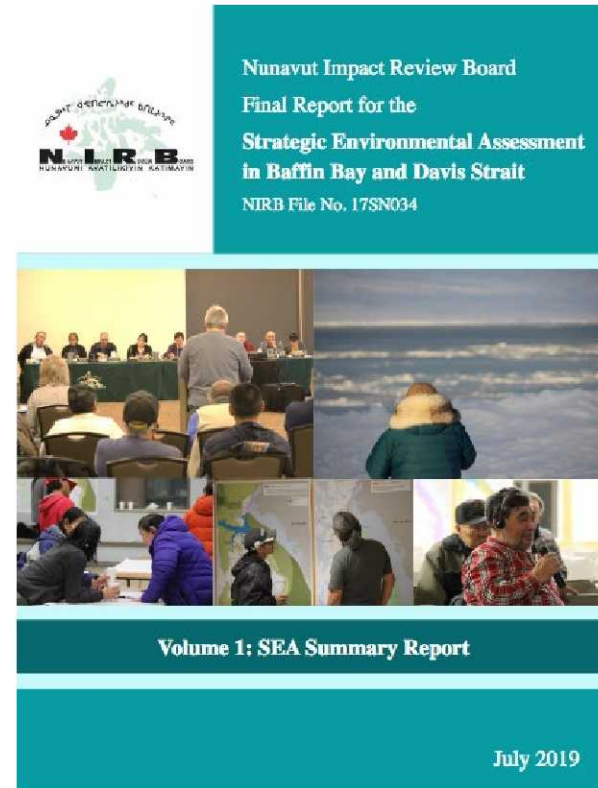
Emphasizes efforts towards inclusion and diversity







# Case Study: SEA scoping by impacted communities





# Case Study: SEA scoping by impacted communities



# Equity, Sustainable Development, and IA

Equity is the focus of sustainable development, but most ocean interventions not designed for equity

Many proponents and advocates try to make the case that meeting their self-interests are good for the world

Assessment and evaluation:

- Recognizing cumulative (dis)advantage
- Protect against conflict of interest and misaligned indicators
- Forecast harms to plan against them

singhg@uvic.ca

**NEDIA**

