

# Impacts of Renewable Energy on the Rights of the Sámi Past, Present and Future

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Is renewable energy sustainable for all?



# Outline

Past : Conflicting interests

Present: On-going tensions

Future: Protection and accommodation of Sámi rights



# Past: Confliticing interests

## The Alta hydraulic station project

- 1970s: Beginning of the Alta project
- 1979: Lawsuit against the project
- 1980-1987: Opposition to the project
- 1982 Supreme court case
  
- 1989 Establishment of the Sámi Parliament
- 2005 Finnmark Act



# Present: On-going tensions

## The Markbygden wind farm project

### Swedish policy objectives

- 40% reduction of GHGs by 2020
- 50% renewable energy by 2020
- 30 TW of electricity



### Markbygden

- 1,101 wind power plants
- 12 TW of electricity
- 450 km<sup>2</sup>
- 35% on Reindeer pastures



# The impacts of wind power projects on reindeer herding activities

- Loss of pastures
- Disturbance of migration routes
- Disturbance of calving areas
- Heavier workload and increasing cost to feed





## Future: Protection and accommodation of Sámi rights

### The Sjisjka wind farm project

- Built in 2012
- 30 wind turbines
- 200 GWh electricity
- Local support of Sámi reindeer herders
- Establishment of a community fund

Success story ?



# Conclusion

Making renewable energy sustainable is a challenge



EIA must adequately incorporate the rights of indigenous peoples



i.e. Right to Land and Free Prior And Informed Consent





How can we make renewable energy sustainable for all ?



Thank you for your attention !

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