Role of Strategic IA in Community Energy Security

Bram Noble

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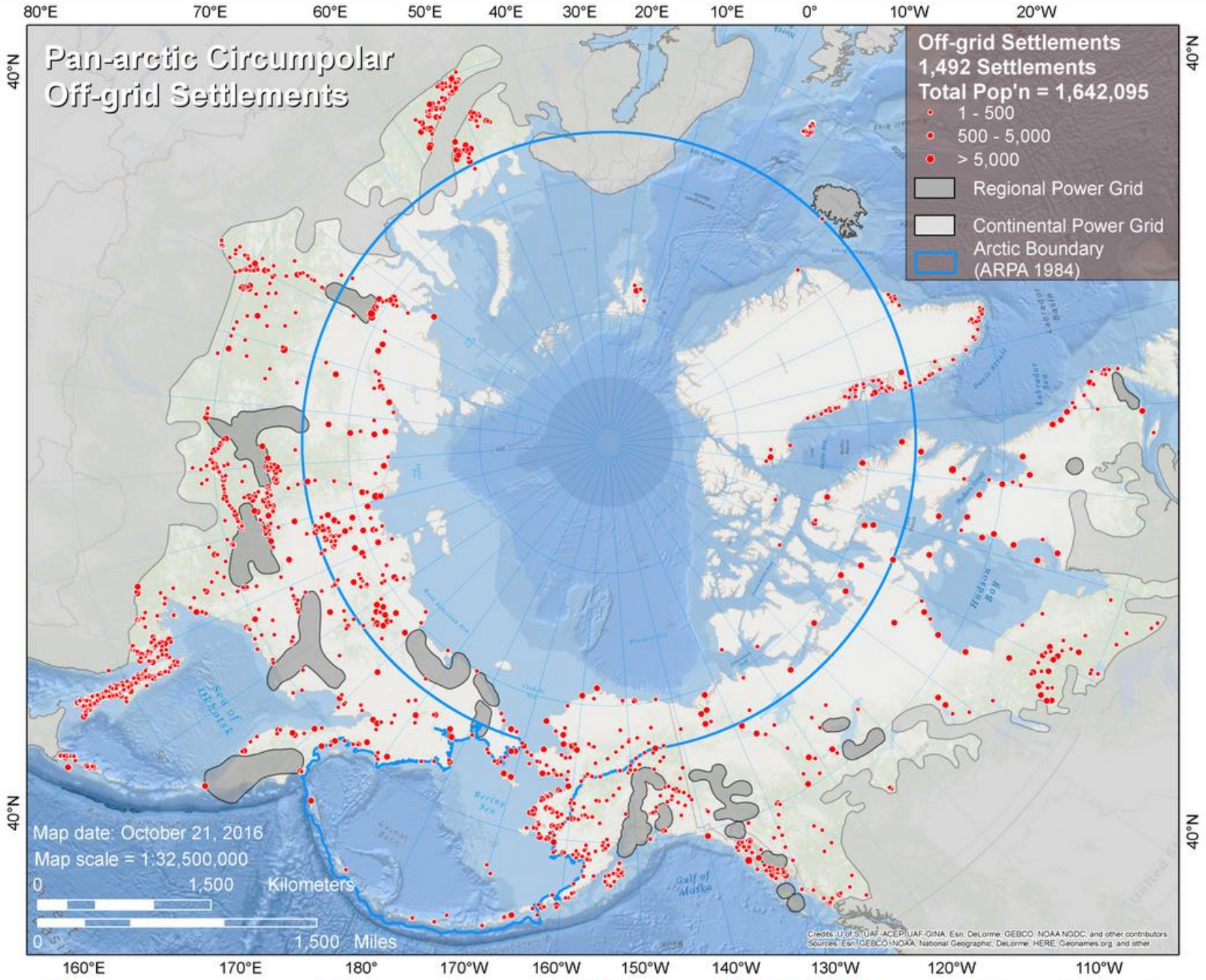


International Centre for Northern Governance and Development

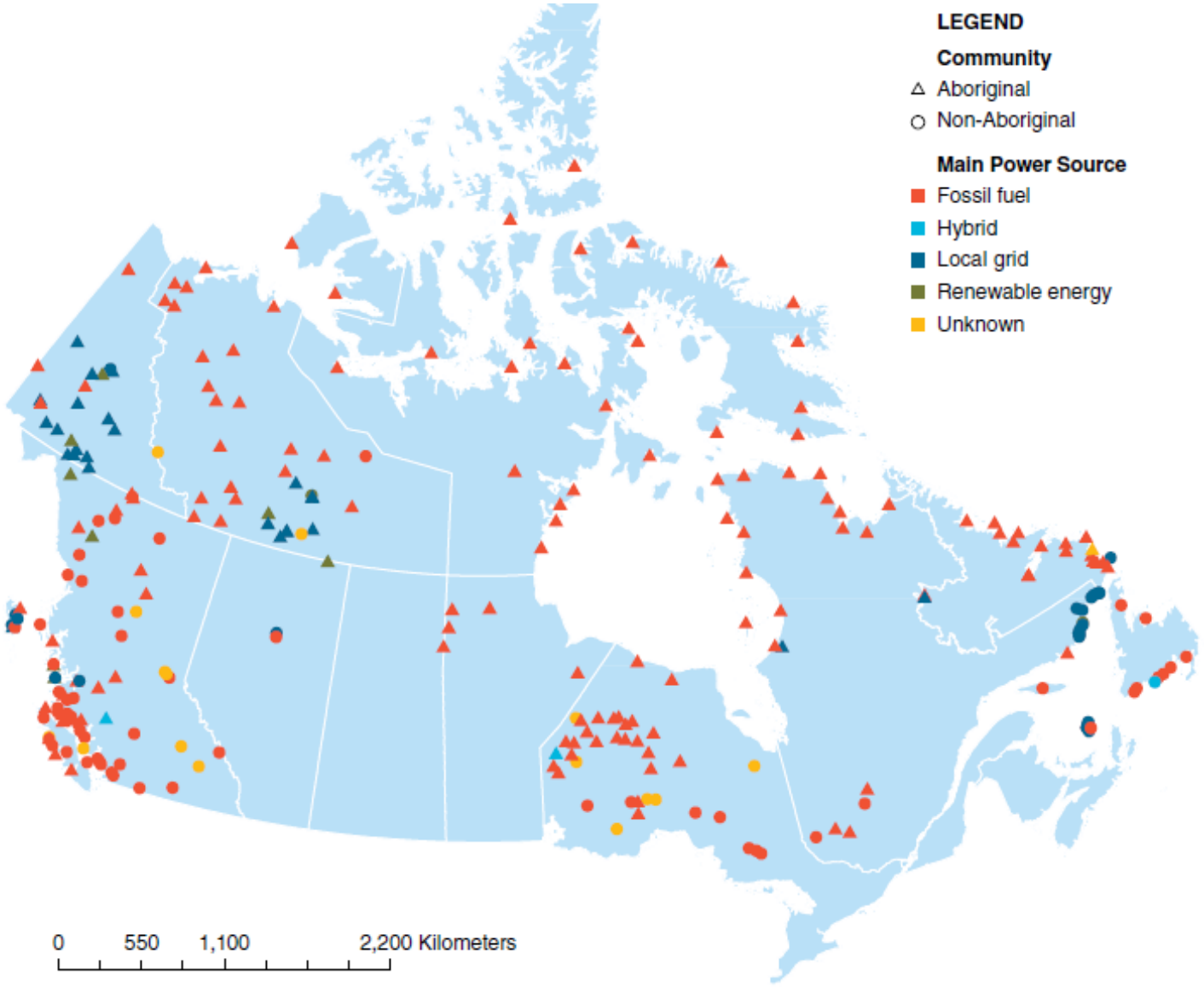
University of Saskatchewan

UAF University of Alaska Fairbanks

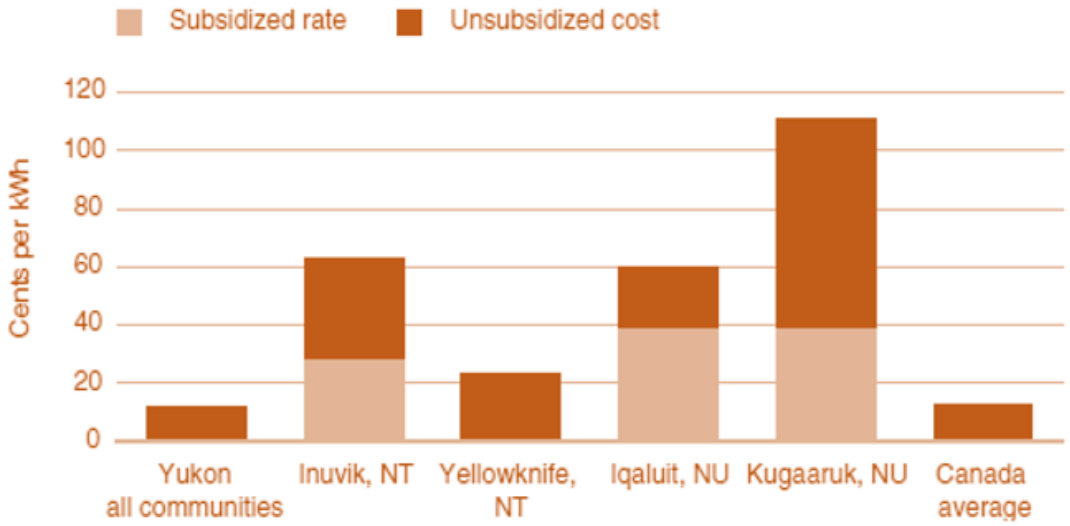
ACEP Alaska Center for Energy and Power

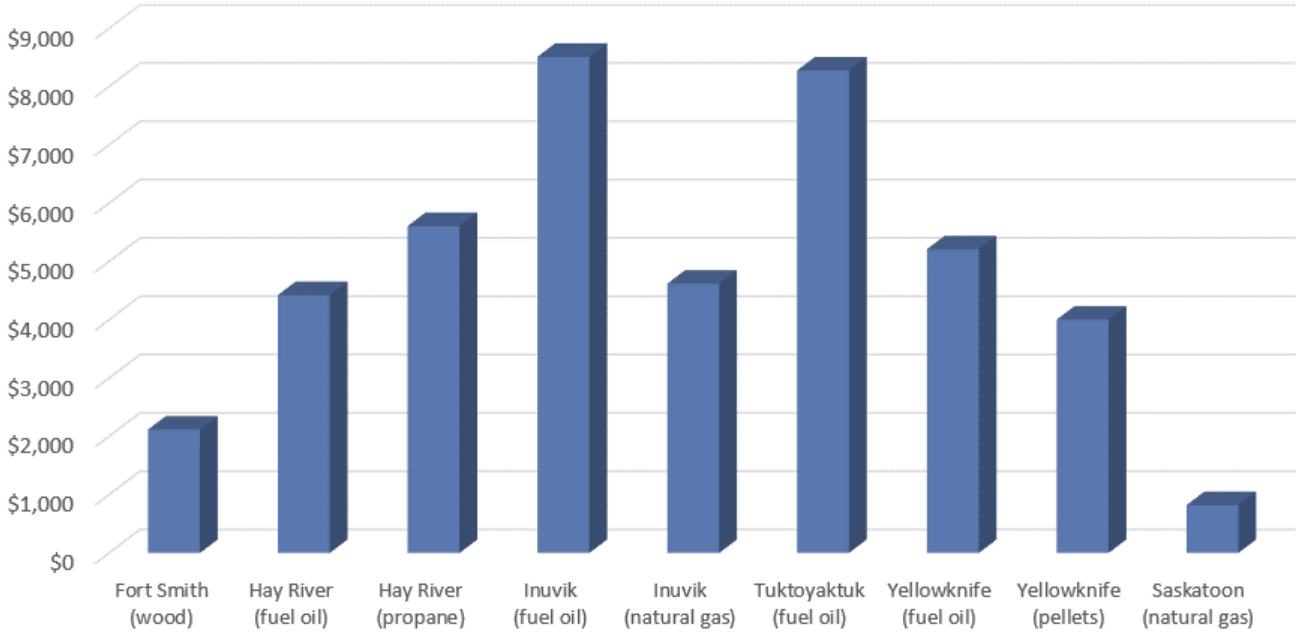
Geographic Information Network of Alaska
www.gina.alaska.edu

Cite: Holdmann, Gwen and Greg Poelzer. Pan-arctic Circumpolar Off-grid Settlements 2016. renewableenergy.usask.ca/resources.php and. acep.uaf.edu/outreach-education-publications.aspx

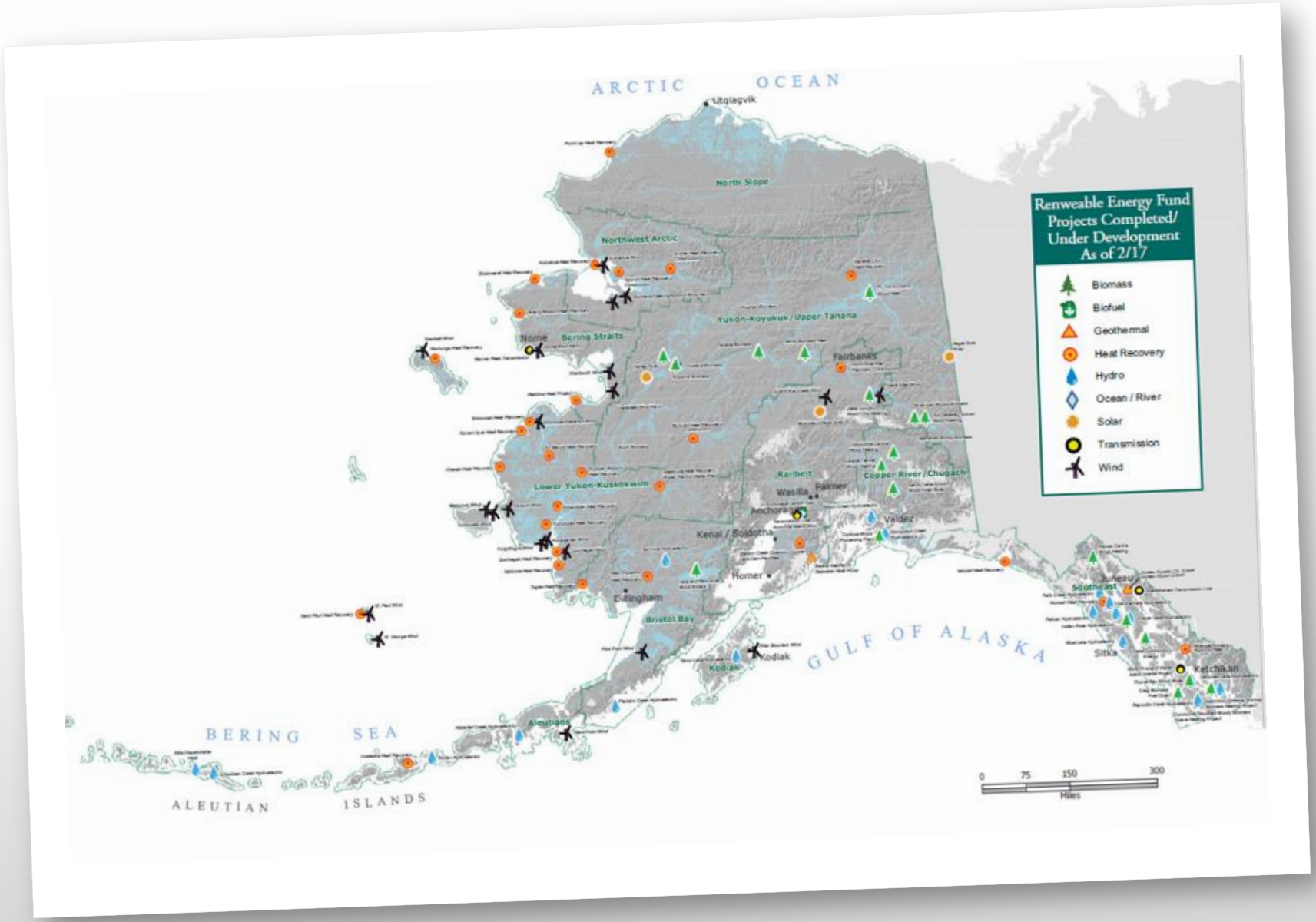


Source: Conf Board of Canada





Source: NWT Energy Report (2011); AEA Energy Profile data; SaskPower rate structure; Conf Board of Canada, Yukon Energy, NTPC, Northland Utilities, Qulliq Energy Corp, Hydro Quebec



Source: Renewable Energy Atlas of Alaska

Energy transition is more than infrastructure and technology

- Any number of projects can be designed (and impacts mitigated) to meet energy demand
- Energy and social systems are tightly coupled

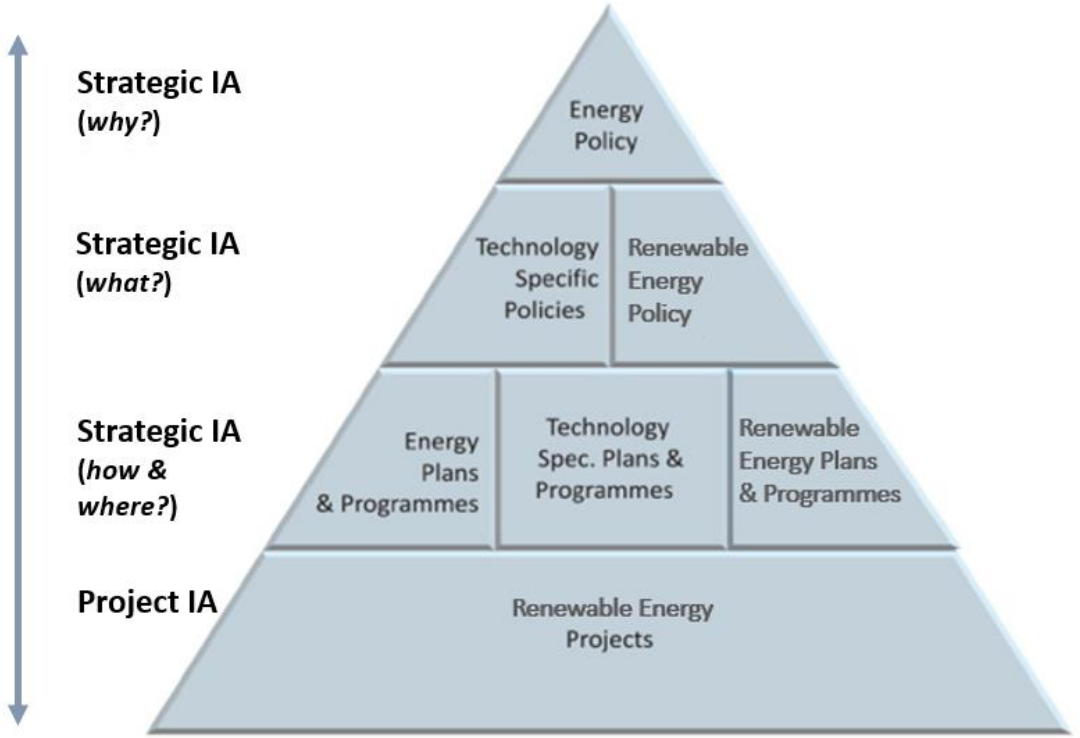
- Socio-technical arrangements for RE systems must enhance social & economic values in northern & Indigenous communities
- Institutional, governance, economic & human capacity conditions (not technological ones) pose the greatest opportunities & constraints to energy security in the North
- There are few tools to assist northern and Indigenous communities in RE opportunities assessments and transition

Gatekeeper or Facilitator?

What are the impacts of RE PPPs and projects?

vs.

How to facilitate and sustain RE energy transitions?

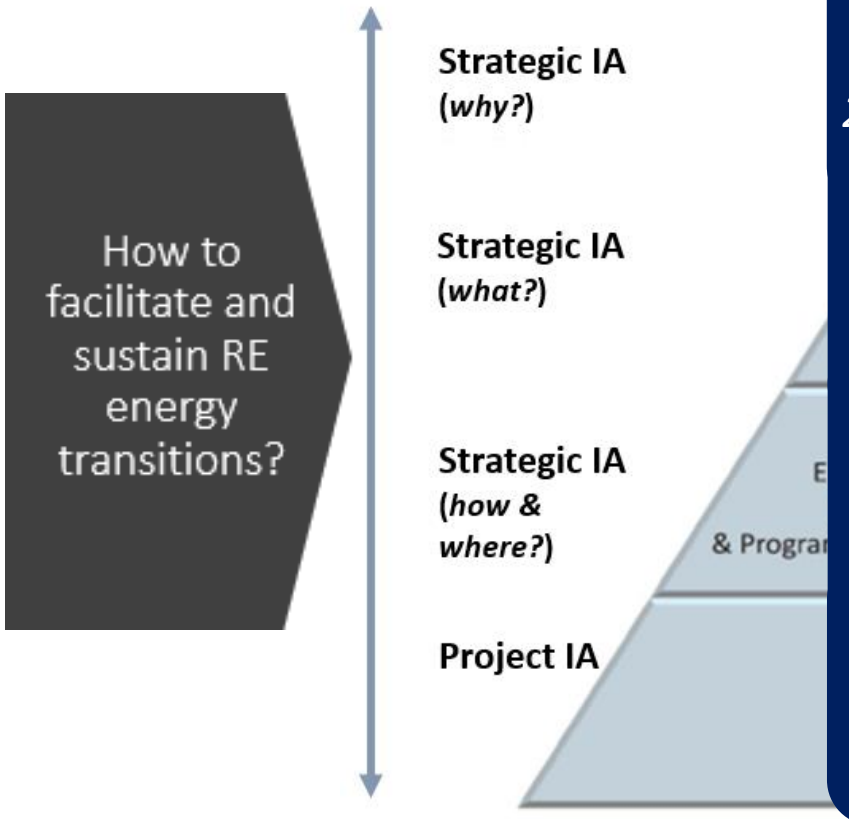


If we approach strategic IA with project IA-like questions, we get project IA-like results

Strategic IA for RE Transition

Identifying opportunities, shaping socio-technical initiatives appropriate to context, weighing the distribution of risks, and understanding the institutional and capacity needs and options that enable or constrain renewable energy success

Strategic IA for RE Energy Transition



1. *How to achieve energy security appropriate to the social, economic & environmental fabric of northern & Indigenous communities?*
2. *How do northern & Indigenous communities*
3. *What immediate and longer-term opportunities exist to meet energy needs?*
4. *What socio-technical values and opportunities*
5. *What are the risks, burdens & opportunities distributed across technologies & communities?*
6. *What ownership, capacity & governance*
7. *What energy projects / investment choices are community appropriate?*
8. *How can potentially adverse RE project impacts be mitigated & are they acceptable?*

Conclusion

Energy security is an urgent need for many remote northern and Indigenous communities

- Deployment must be sensitive to context and add value to communities

Few tools to assist RE opportunities assessment and transition in northern & Indigenous communities

Strategic IA presents an opportunity to enable community appropriate RE transition

- Requires different questions: gatekeeper to facilitator

Community Appropriate Sustainable Energy Security (CASES) Partnership

CASES

*"Our **goal** is to reimagine energy security in northern and Indigenous communities by co-creating and brokering the knowledge, understanding, and capacity to design, implement and manage renewable energy systems that support and enhance social and economic values"*

University of Saskatchewan

SSHRC CRSH

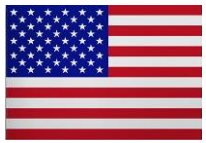
CASES

15 *northern & Indigenous communities*

15 *public & private sector partners*

30+ *researchers* **4** *countries*

Deschaumbault Lake, Pelican Narrows, Fort McPherson, Aklavik, Inuvik Tsiigehtchic, Churchill, York Factory First Nation



Fort Yukon, Kotzebue Galena

Gällivare, Jokkmokk

Kautokeino, Senja

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