



Deep Sea Mining

Seas at Risk Conference
26 April, 2016

- Does the current international ocean governance framework provide sufficient safeguards?
 - International Seabed Authority process does mean that activities in the Area may be more transparent and better governed than activities in national waters
 - clearly can be improved

- What are the key elements necessary for an environmentally appropriate set of deep-sea mining regulations in light of the current ISA process of drafting exploitation regulations?
 - monitoring
 - precaution
 - transparency
 - involvement of local community (for national waters)

- Can the impacts of deep sea mining be mitigated, and if so how?
 - minimisation of impact during mining is more promising than restoration afterwards

- Where should accountability and liability fall where damage is caused?
 - polluter pays principle

- How can we ensure a network of Marine Protected Areas is established before any form of exploitation takes place?
 - This has been done for Clarion-Clipperton Area
 - Commission looking at supporting efforts in other areas

- What role does the EU and its member states have within the ISA and which policy initiatives should the EU consider?
 - EU has no competence on seabed mining
 - EU can support its work:
 - underpinning research
 - support for definition of protected areas
 - setting good example for environmental standards

- How effective is stakeholder participation and transparency in the ISA, and how can it be improved?
 - need more feedback from ongoing exploration contracts

Any questions?

