|  |
| --- |
| **Edit the sections highlighted in yellow and pass the challenge forward!** |

**<Email Subject> We want you to join the Great Forest Dialogue Day – let’s discuss the meaning and future of forests in Finland!**

Hi [name],

We at [Your Organisation] are excited to participate in the **Great Forest Dialogue Day on April 2, 2025**, by hosting a dialogue session – and we’re challenging you to join us. Read more below and sign up!

**We invite you to host a dialogue on the meaning and Future of Forests in Finland as part of the Great Forest Dialogue Day, held on April 2, 2025.**

What do forests mean to you? To your community? To Finland? What does the future of forests look like?

The goal of the day is to highlight the diverse values and meanings of forests, enrich public discussion, and support new approaches to forest-related actions. It’s essential to bring together perspectives from different groups across Finland – and we want yours to be part of the conversation.

Forests play a crucial role in mitigating climate change and halting biodiversity loss. At the same time, they are an essential part of the economy and an important source of income for many people. Forests are also meaningful spaces for living, recreation, and relaxation – as well as irreplaceable ecosystems and an essential habitat for thousands of species. Right now, forests, their meaning, and their use in Finland are undergoing a major transformation. In the future, we must balance different values and interests while ensuring that forest use remains within the ecological carrying capacity.

**A public anonymized summary** will be compiled from all dialogues, along with alternative future scenarios for forests in Finland.

**Participating is simple** and doesn’t require a lot of preparation or resources – the most important thing is the willingness to be part of the Great Forest Dialogue Day!

### **How to join?**

1. Link the topic of forests and their future to something that matters to you, such as: *"The Meaning and Future of Forests for Forest Owners/Cabin Owners/Hikers?", "The Meaning and Future of Forests for People in Rovaniemi/Kainuu/Lahti?", "The Meaning and Future of Forests for Our Class/Workplace/Community Group?"*
2. Sign up as a dialogue organizer by 10 March using [this form](https://www.lyyti.fi/reg/Ilmoittuminen_Suureen_Metsadialogipaivaan_242025_0499).

**Support for organizing a discussion**

* We provide a [**comprehensive material package**](https://koneensaatio.fi/en/instructions-for-the-discussion-organiser/)that includes:
	+ A dialogue template with clear instructions for facilitation
	+ A template for invitations, suggested outreach methods, and timeline
	+ Introductory material to help participants dive deep into the topic
	+ Tips & tools for organizing and leading the dialogue
* Training for facilitators and note-takers
	+ Teams sessions available on
		- February 27 at 9 AM–12 PM or 1 PM–4 PM
		- March 3 at 1 PM–4 PM
		- March 20 at 9 AM–12 PM

### **What’s expected from organizers?**

* Define your specific discussion topic and [**register by 10 March**](https://www.lyyti.fi/reg/Ilmoittuminen_Suureen_Metsadialogipaivaan_242025_0499)
* Arrange a venue and, if possible, some refreshments
* Invite participants
* Facilitate the dialogue
* Assign someone to take notes
* Submit the **discussion summary** [using this form](https://www.lyyti.fi/reg/Suuri_Metsadialogipaiva__Kirjauksen_lahettamislomake_4718) immediately after the event

**The duration of the dialogue can be** 2, 3, or 4 hours.
All dialogue events across the country will be listed at the end of the [official event page](https://koneensaatio.fi/en/the-great-forest-dialogue-day/) . Please share the specific topic, as well as the time and registration link if the event is open for sign-ups.

The aim is to bring together a wide range of participants across Finland to hold meaningful, diverse discussions about forests. The dialogues offer a chance to hear different perspectives, share insights, and learn from each other. The goal is not to reach consensus but to build a richer, more multi-voiced understanding of the future of forests.

A summary and alternative future scenarios from all dialogues will be compiled and published on Kone Foundation’s website for everyone to access and use.

The Great Forest Dialogue Day is organized by Kone Foundation’s “Metsän puolella” initiative for forests and Dialogue Academy and builds upon the Confidential Forest Dialogues organised in autumn 2024. The event is created by Timo Lehesvirta, Mari Pantsar, Minka Virtanen, and Janne Kareinen.

Let’s do this together**! We need YOU – your organisation, your voice, your perspective!**