# From Forest Words into Forest Action / Metsäsanoista metsätekoihin SeedLING

Kone Foundation In the Woods / Metsän Puolella 2024 - 2027

Language use Ways of thinking / Knowledge Action

## What we study

- 1. Possible greenwashing in the online communication campaigns of the mainstream forestry related institutions of Finland (e.g. the Finnish Forest Foundation / Suomen Metsäsäätiö, the Finnish Forest Industries Federation / Metsäteollisuus Ry or the Finnish State-Owned Forestry Company / Metsähallitus)
- 2. The current public opinion on forest related issues in Finland; the effects of various forest related discourses on the public opinion

#### Main methods

- Ecolinguistic content analysis, ecocritical discourse analysis, systemic-functional multimodal discourse analysis (meanings across semiotic modes), Transitivity (verbal semantics) and Appraisal (evaluative language) analysis;
- corpus assisted discourse analysis, unassisted machine learning (topic modelling), quantitative and qualitative analyses of survey data

#### Some of our aims

- To understand and criticize the values / ideologies behind typical elements in the communication of mainstream Finnish forestry actors
- To investigate the attitudes Finnish people have towards the studied forestry actors
- To open up the discussion on Finnish forests and improve the critical literacy skills of the public in this respect
- To provide tools for decision makers for recognizing hidden agendas

### **Participants and collaborators**

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Prof. Veronika Laippala (Expert on digital discourse)



Dr Salla-Riikka Kuusalu (Postdoc. researcher) (Postdoc. researcher)



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