

## Preliminary invitation

### WELCOME TO THE INTERNATIONAL GREEN BELT OF FENNOSCANDIA DIALOGUE FORUM

#### Kuusamo 18–20 November 2014

The unique nature surrounding the three countries and its ecologically, socially and economically sustainable use are the focus points of the international Green Belt of Fennoscandia Dialogue Forum.

The Green Belt has become an international success story: in a little over 20 years, it has evolved from a joint research project into a process that seeks to protect natural diversity and the vitality of the region.

The Green Belt cooperation scheme has welcomed a number of new participants in 2014. The large group of participants is currently cooperating to draw up the future guidelines of the Green Belt.

The dialogue forum introduces the transboundary cooperation on sustainable development and discusses the next steps for achieving the Green Belt vision. Other aims of the dialogue forum include raising awareness of natural diversity and its inherent values and making them an integral part of society.

#### Tuesday 18 November 2014

The Green Belt of Fennoscandia Dialogue Forum starts with a presentation forum at the Rantasipi Rukahovi Hotel on Tuesday from 1 to 5 p.m. Discussion topics include the importance of transboundary cooperation in the protection of natural diversity, and the 2020 strategic guidelines of the Green Belt.

#### Wednesday 19 November 2014

Parallel thematic sessions will be held on Wednesday, comprising discussions on the next steps of the Green Belt cooperation from the point of view of the diversity, vitality and attractiveness of the Green Belt. A panel discussion on the future of the Green Belt concludes the day.

#### Thursday 20 November 2014

A project clinic is being organised on Thursday, the aims of which include promoting dialogue between sponsors and project participants, introducing the funding and project preparation criteria, and supporting the creation of partnerships.

#### Language

English (Russian interpretation is provided)

#### Location

The dialogue forum is organised at the Rantasipi Rukahovi Hotel. The hotel is located in the immediate vicinity of Ruka fell, some 25 kilometres north of the town of Kuusamo.

Hotel Rantasipi Rukahovi  
Rukankyläntie 15  
FI-93825 Rukatunturi  
Tel. +358 (0)8 85 910

#### Accommodation

Hotel accommodation has been reserved for forum participants. When making your reservation, please quote **Green Belt**. There are two types of room available:

- Standard single room, EUR 80/night
- Superior single room, EUR 90/night

More information on the forum and accommodation will be made available during July–August at [www.ym.fi/vihreavyohyke](http://www.ym.fi/vihreavyohyke).

**Advance registration** is open at: [www.lyyti.in/GBFForum2014](http://www.lyyti.in/GBFForum2014).

The official invitation and further instructions will be submitted in August.

**Welcome to Kuusamo, to the first Green Belt of Fennoscandia Dialogue Forum!**

More information:

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