

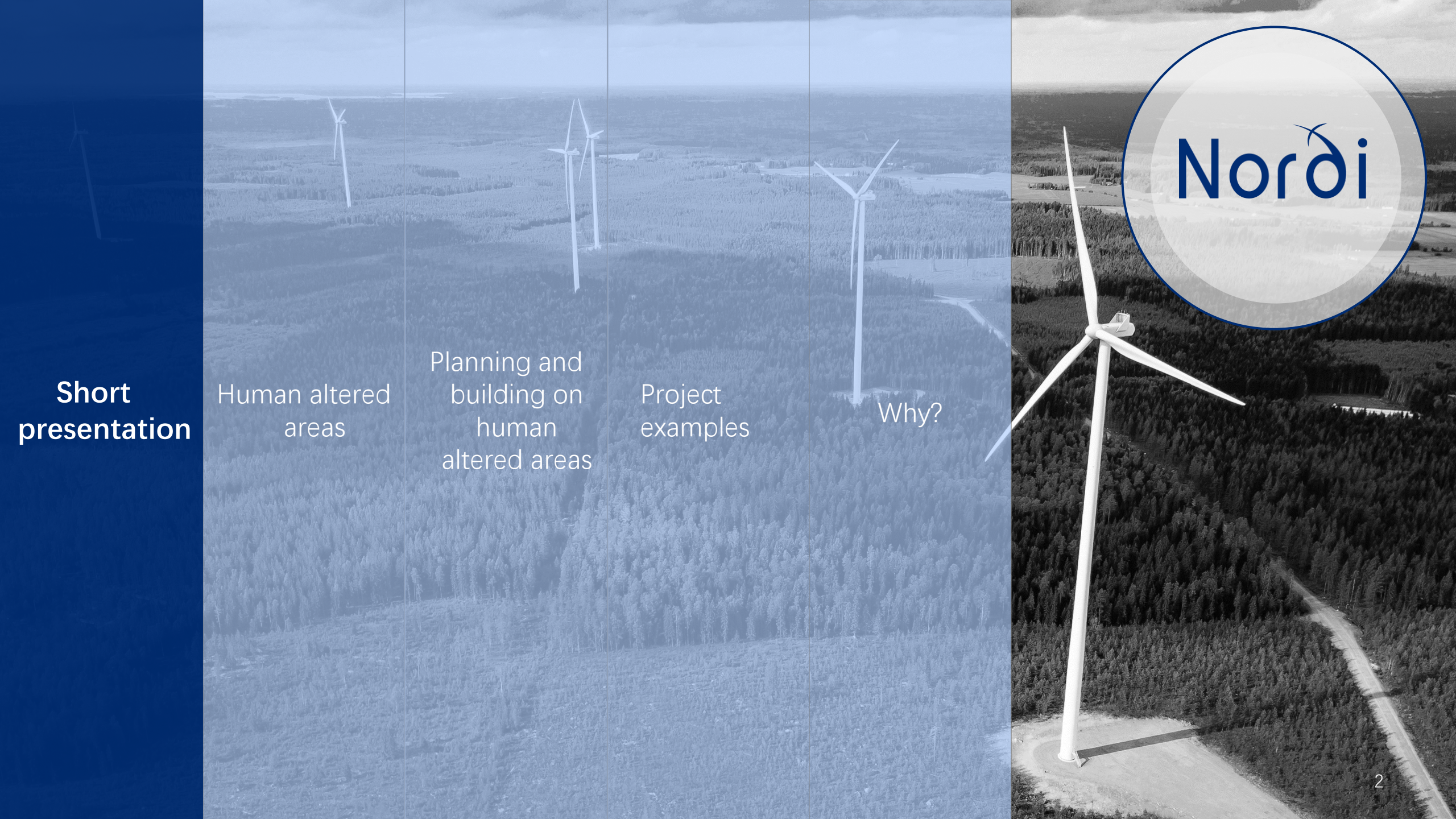


Repurposing human-altered
areas for solar power

Piia Heikkinen

10.9.2024





Short presentation

Human altered areas

Planning and building on human altered areas

Project examples

Why?

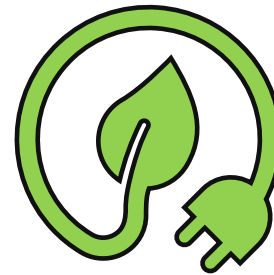


Short presentation

Piia Heikkinen

- Managing Director of Nordi
- Board member in Renewables Finland
- Chair of Solar Power Committee
- Background in wind power

Nordi



Wind, solar and
BESS projects



Domicile in
Taipalsaari



7 employees in
Finland



Short
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Why?



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What is meant by human altered areas?

- Areas that have earlier somehow been used by humans and that cannot easily be used for something more economically valuable than solar power



- For example: old deposits, old sand pits, landfills, could also include areas on former fields, empty peat production areas etc.



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Why?



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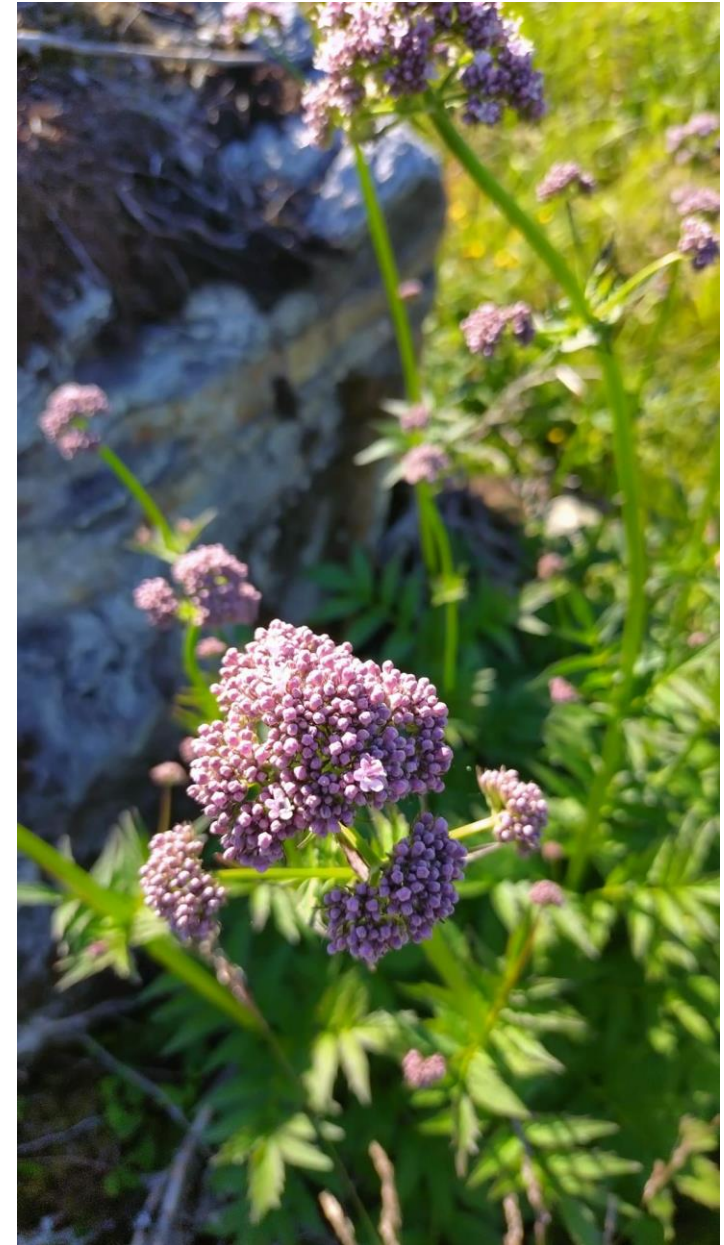
Planning and building on human altered areas

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- Areas are zoned and permitted for industrial purposes, which makes permitting process simpler and faster
- There is often infrastructure that can be utilized for the solar plant
- Ground conditions often well-known and terrain already flat
- Growing trees on the sealed areas is most often prohibited – this matches well with need of tree-free area for the solar plant
- Natural values and biodiversity in the areas are often low and can be maintained similar or even improved

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- Restrictions on foundation types on the sealed areas
- Existing infrastructure need sometimes to be preserved
- Terrain cannot always be reshaped -> smaller percentage of the area can be used for panels
- Size of the areas can be limited or even too small



Picture: Nordi Oy, Valerian at Lålby site



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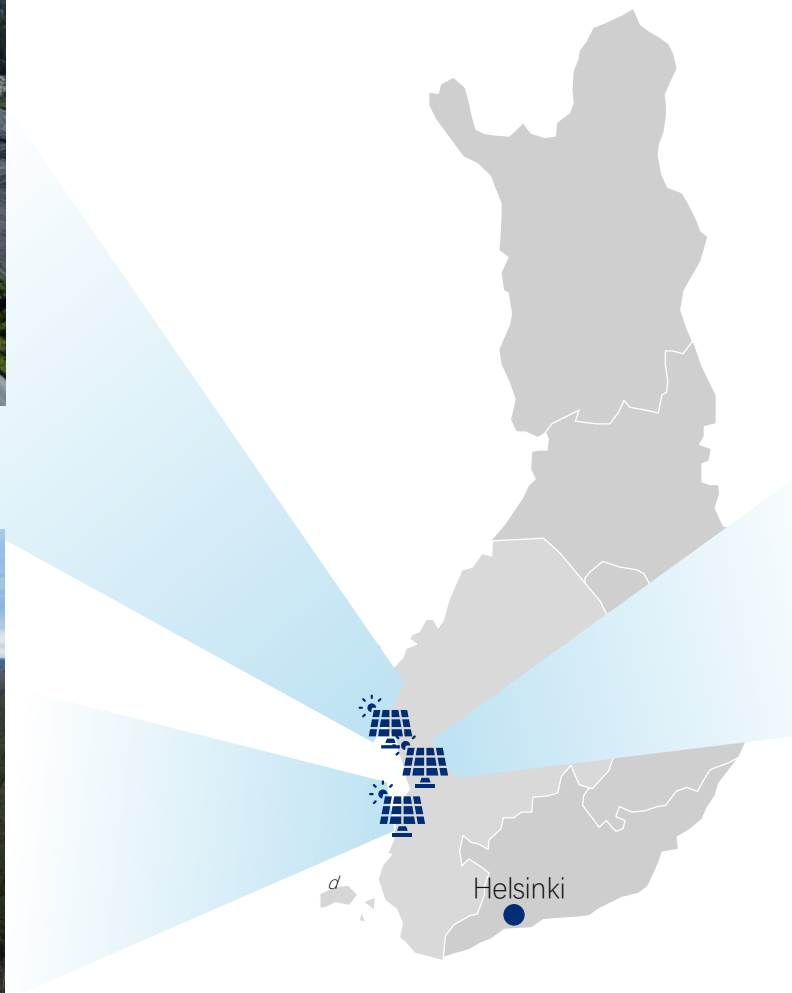
**Project
examples**

Why?



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Project examples



Lålby, Kristiinankaupunki



Ronkankangas, Kokemäki

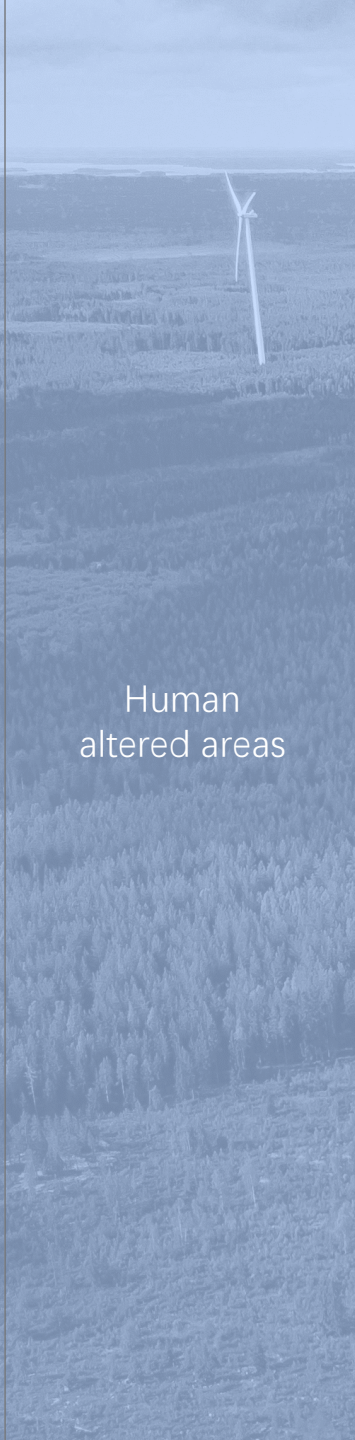


Seinäjäjoki





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Project
examples



Why?



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Why to repurpose human altered areas?

- Increases **acceptability** of solar power
- What comes to the climate goals Finland is doing well on the emissions trading but not in the effort sharing and land use sector. Decrease of the carbon sink is the challenge in land use sector.¹
 - Minimizing the carbon sink decrease should be one goal in project development and this can be done by developing projects on human altered areas.
- Biodiversity can be maintained and even increased
- The current governmental program is steering projects to human altered areas
- Areas have often limited development possibilities other than solar power
- There are plenty of areas available and land owners are often keen on finding new purpose for their areas



Thank you!

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