

# Information bottlenecks for local strategies to reduce greenhouse gas emissions

## Explorative study of informational needs

The total Swedish greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions seems to increase slightly. Many decisions and activities to decrease GHG emissions have to be performed at local and regional levels.

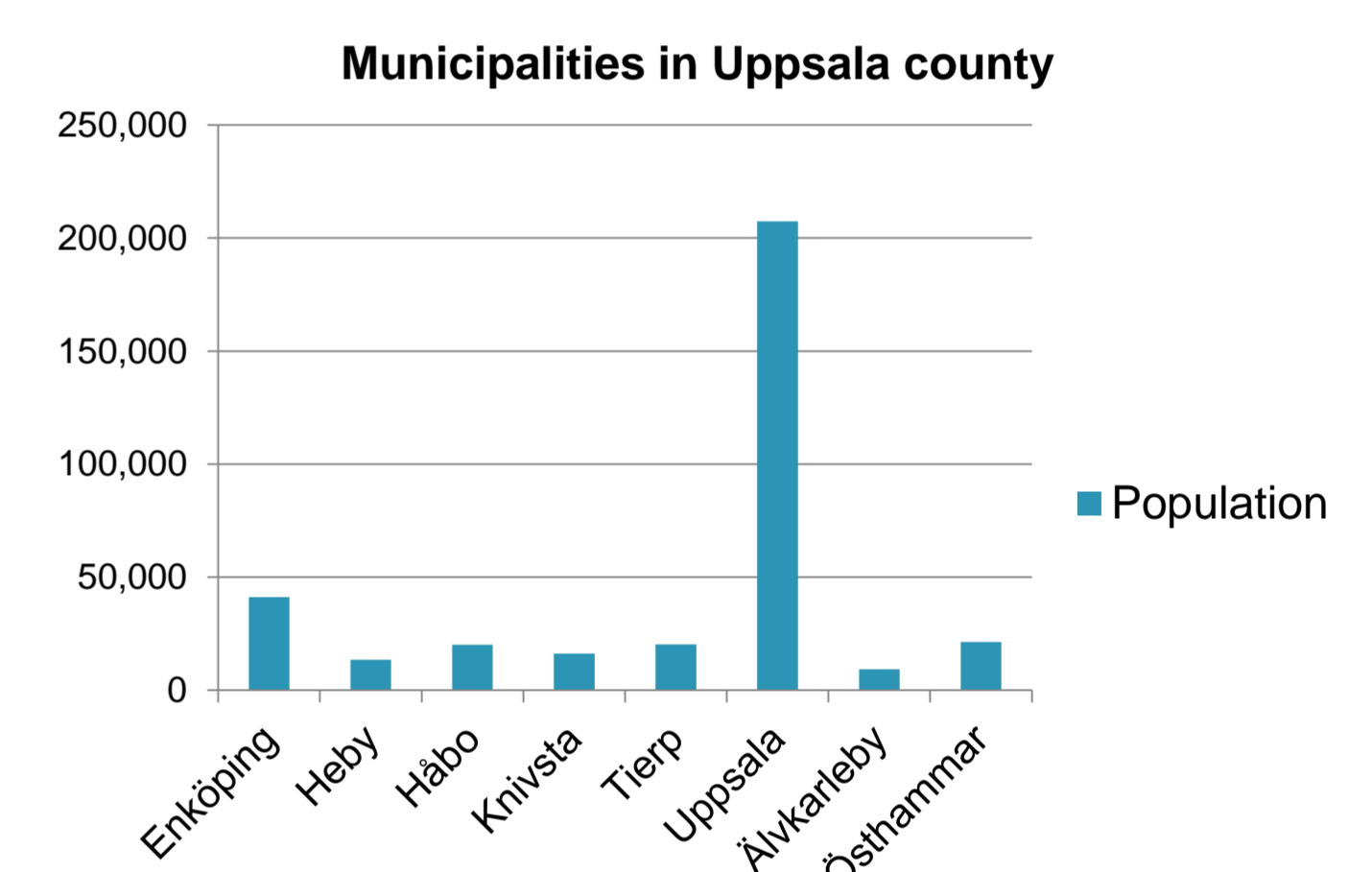
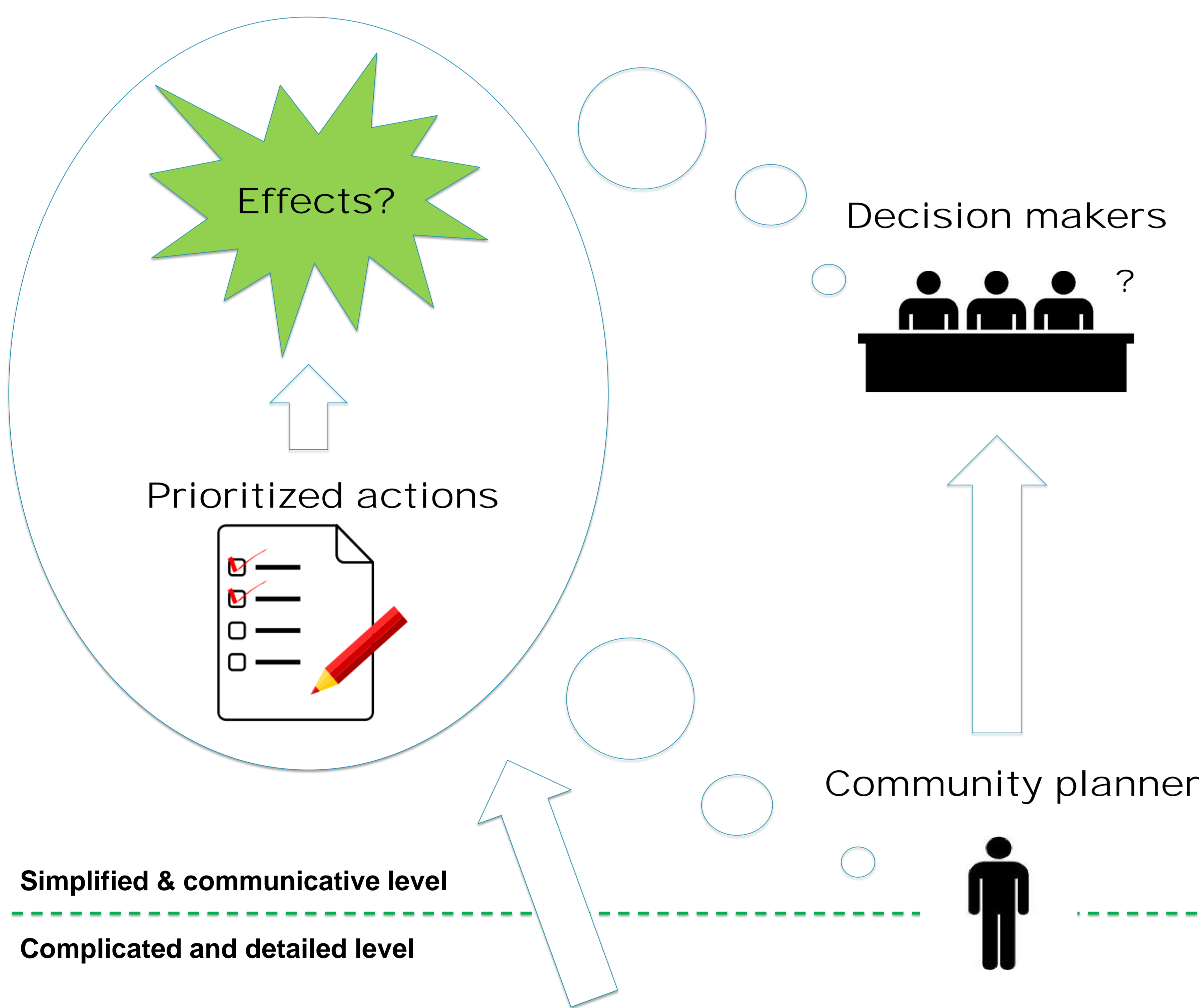
The **main purpose** of this explorative pilot study of municipalities in Uppsala county is to gain knowledge of **informational needs** and how information related to GHG emissions is used by community planners and decision makers.

Semi-structured interviews were held with community planners and regional planners. Interview transcripts were concentrated, inductively coded and categorized, using conventional content analysis.

## Research questions

1. What are the **largest problems/bottlenecks** regarding **climate related decisions**, perceived by community planners and regional planners?
2. What information basis do **decision makers need** to be able to make decisions involving GHG emissions?
3. What kind of information regarding emissions/climate do **community planners need** and in what form?

## Sweden



## Results

Results indicate problems acquiring **data of sufficient quality** to generate comparable emission statistics, but also that generating statistics in itself might not be the best method to tackle emissions for all municipalities. Many interviewees want to know which **reduction actions** to prioritize. Several have suggested **scenarios** as a way forward, also for facilitating communication with decision makers.

**Other perspectives** like saving money and being self sufficient in energy might be of more interest to decision makers than climate and GHG emissions, especially if they lack in knowledge and understanding of the climate issue.

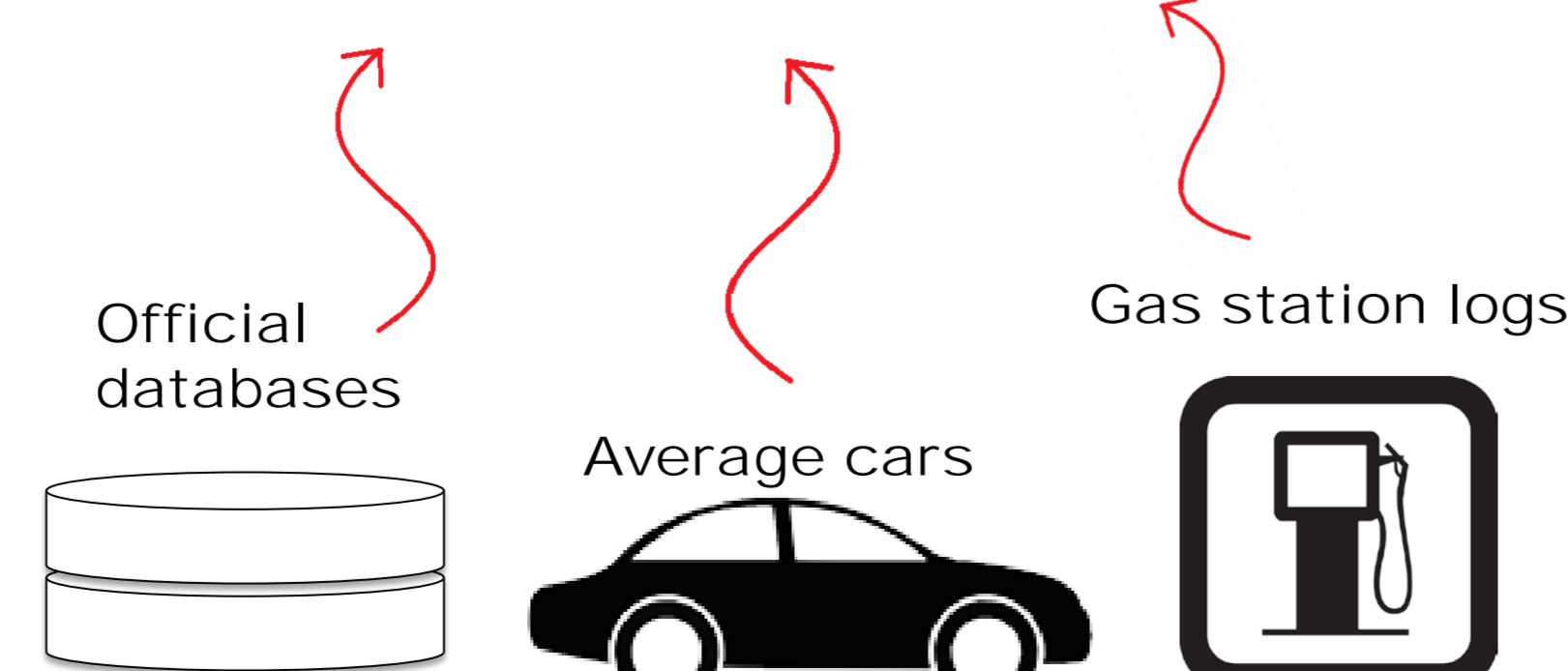
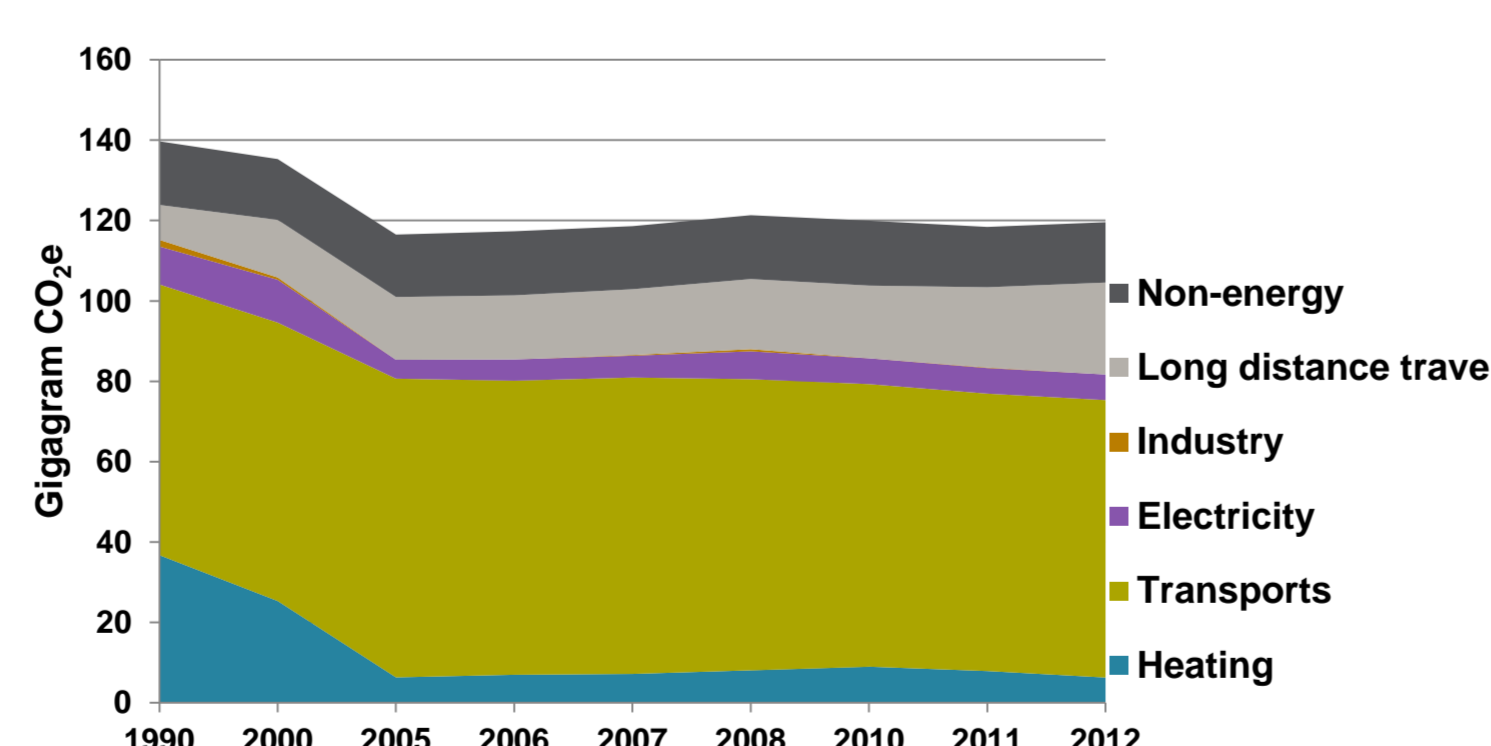


## Real data or proxies?

It's very cumbersome for individual community planners to collect data from the municipality organisation itself, to estimate its own emissions.

Proxies from other sources are also used, but they too lack in information quality.

## Emission statistics



## Needs expressed

- **More recent data**
- **Routines in reporting**
- **Good manuals**
- **Automation**
- **Administrative systems**
- **More exact figures**
- **Easy extracting**

## Information Quality

Lee et al. (2002)

- **Accessibility**
- **Appropriate amount**
- **Believability**
- **Completeness**
- **Concise representation**
- **Consistent representation**
- **Ease of operation**
- **Free of error**
- **Interpretability**
- **Objectivity**
- **Relevancy**
- **Reputation**
- **Security**
- **Timeliness**
- **Understandability**

**Future work, to compare**