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Life Cycle Center &  
arranged within the  
project Innovation  
cluster for the life cycle  
perspective in  
collaboration with KTH  
Sustainability Office

# Welcome to the webinar

# Applying life cycle thinking when assessing climate impact of the Swedish transport system

2021-03-10, 13.00-14.15

*Carolina Liljenström, KTH, Anna Björklund, KTH & Susanna Toller, Trafikverket*

# Information and guidelines



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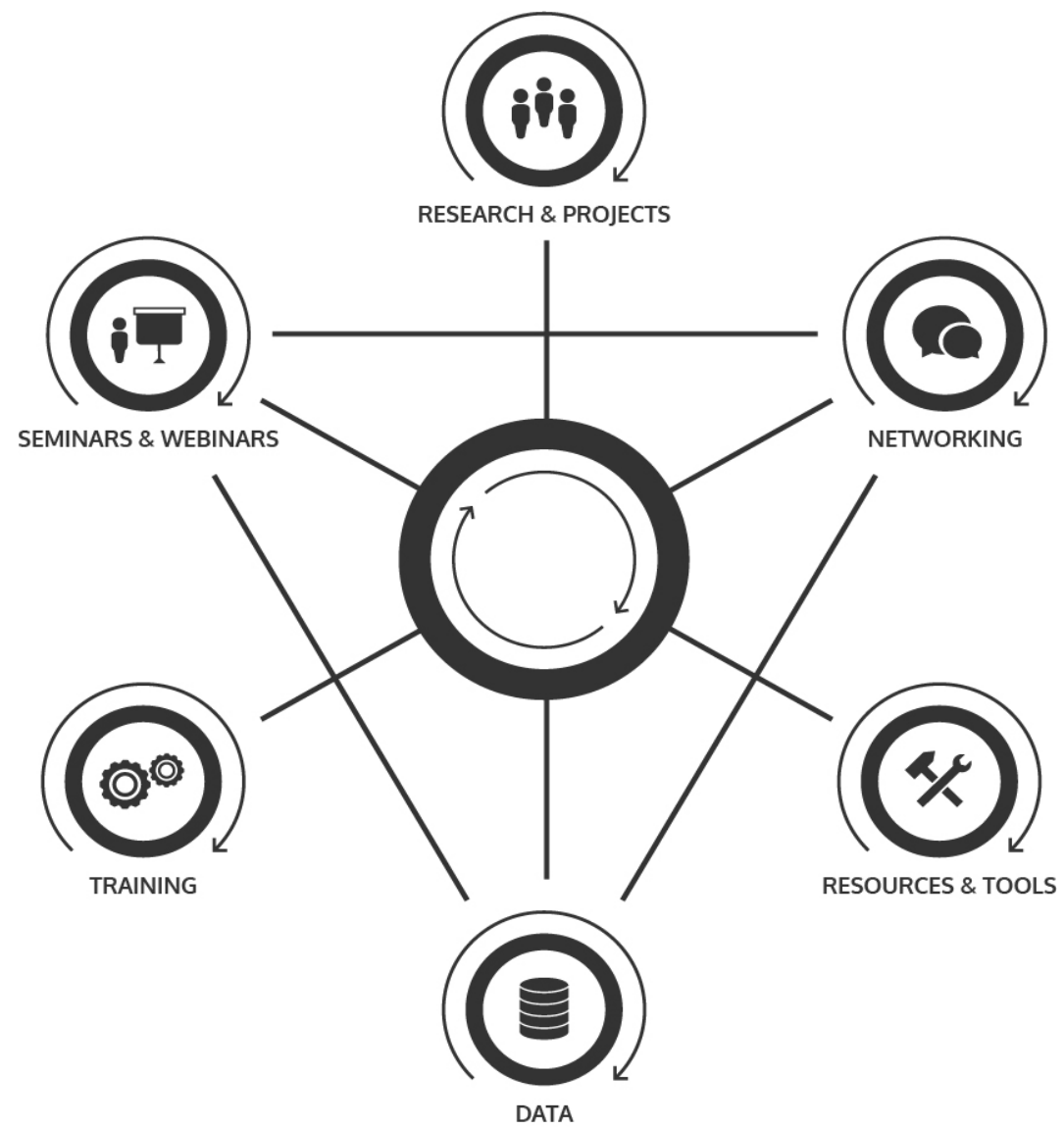
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VOLVO



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# Course in Applied Life Cycle Thinking

## 20-21 april, Online



9 out of 10  
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evaluation of  
previous  
course!

The life cycle perspective, understanding the environmental impacts of a product or service throughout the value chain, is gaining increased importance. In this popular two-day course, you will get a deeper understanding on how to apply life cycle thinking in your organization, through real cases and proven methods.

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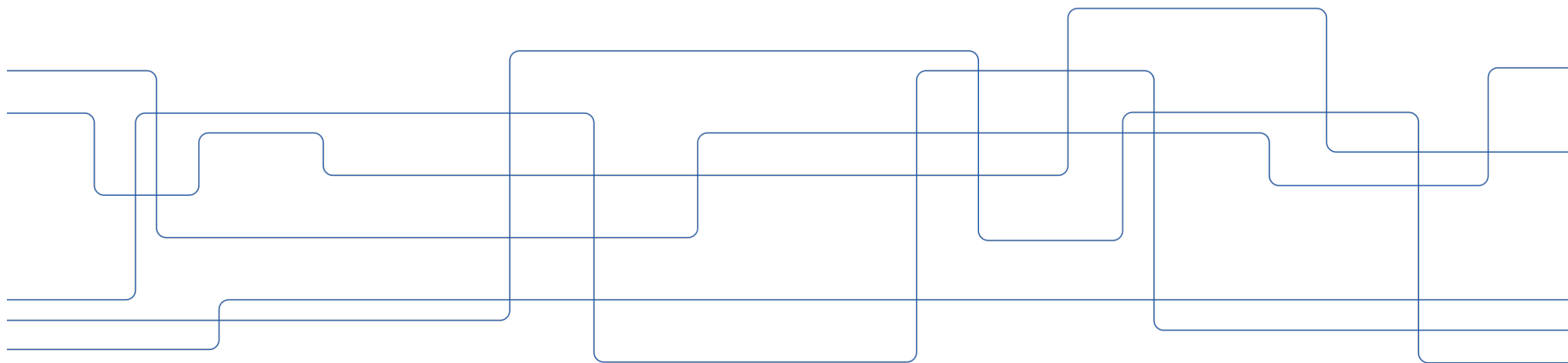
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# Applying life cycle thinking when assessing climate impact of the Swedish transport system

Collaboration between KTH and the Swedish Transport Administration







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Affiliated faculty, SEED, KTH



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PhD supervisor

Associate professor, SEED,  
KTH

Project funded by Swedish Energy Administration

Continuation on-going, funded by Mistra



# Aim of the research project

**Aim:** assess the current climate impact and primary energy use of the Swedish transport sector from a life cycle perspective

- What are the hotspots?
- Size of impacts?

## Two studies:

- Annual impacts of Swedish transport infrastructure (road, rail, air, sea)
- Annual impacts of the whole Swedish transport system (road, rail, air, sea)
  - Infrastructure, vehicles, fuel
  - Swedish transport needs worldwide



# Focus on transport systems at a network level

## **Transport system:**

- Enabling transport between two locations
- Infrastructure, vehicles, fuel

## **System boundaries at different levels:**

- Project level: a specific construction project
- Network level: several construction projects ← focus of the studies

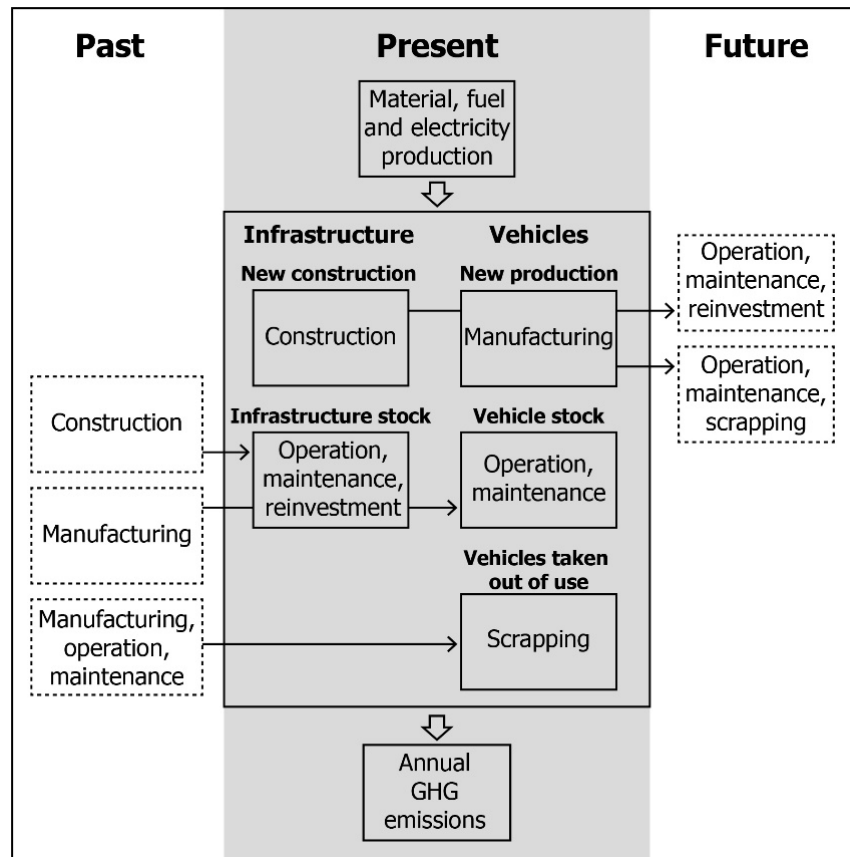


# Unique properties of transport systems

- Long durability
- No clear end-of-life
- Life cycle stages spread out in time
- Components have different life lengths

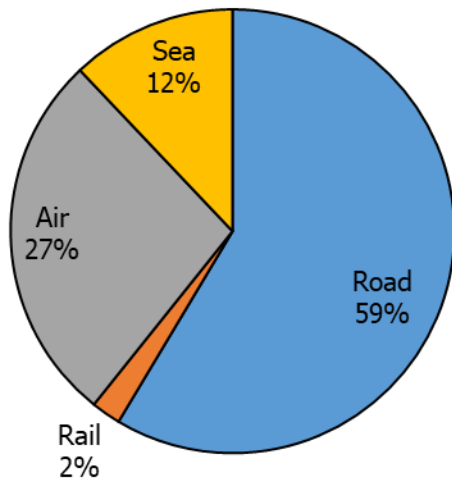
**How can annual impacts be calculated?**

# The approach that we used

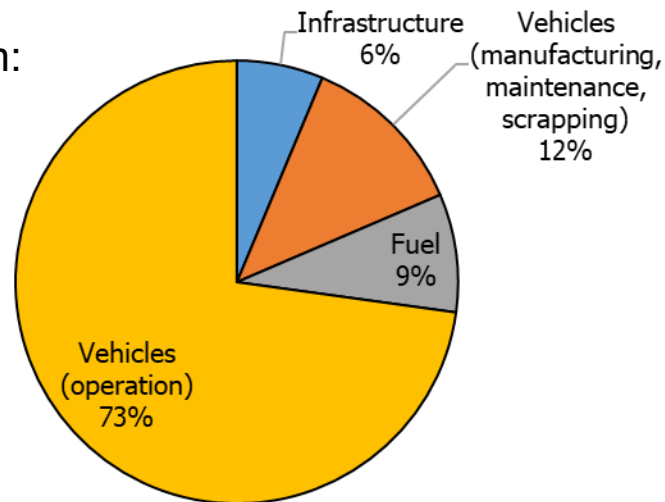


# Results of the research project

**Total impacts: 46 million tonne CO<sub>2</sub> equivalents**



The different transport modes

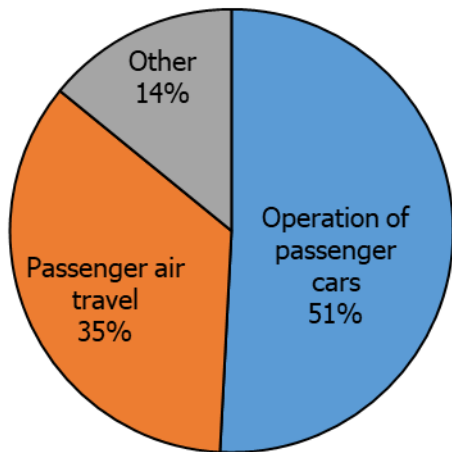


Direct and indirect aspects

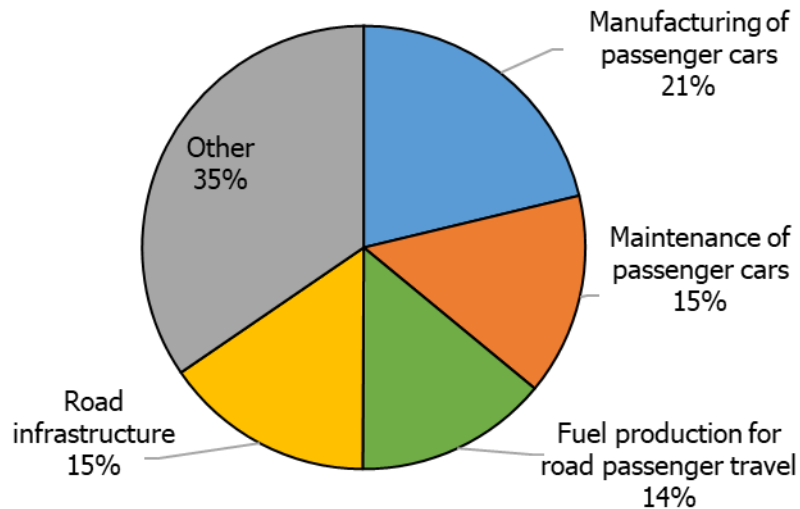


# Results of the research project

## Contribution to direct and indirect impacts



Direct impacts



Indirect impacts



# Collaboration with the Swedish Transport Administration

- Relevant research questions
- Motivation
- Data collection
  - Where should I start looking
  - Incentive for others to provide data

# **Applying life cycle thinking when assessing climate impact of the Swedish transport system - lessons learned from the cooperation with KTH**

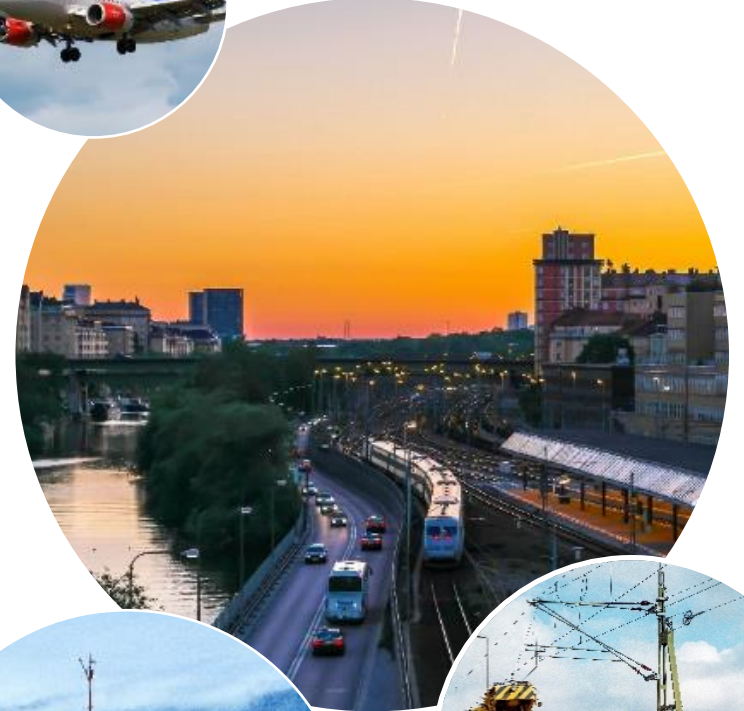
Susanna Toller

The Swedish Transport Administration, Trafikverket

# The Swedish Transport Administration (Trafikverket)

## Responsibility:

- Long-term planning of the traffic system (road and rail transport, shipping and aviation)
- The construction, operation and maintenance of State roads and railways





**Goal: A climate neutral  
transport infrastructure 2045**





# From goals to action

- Implementation of climate calculation model – Klimatkalkyl from 2015. Energy use and greenhouse gas emissions are calculated based on Use of resources and Background LCA data (default data available).
- Climate requirements in planning and procurement. There are requirements for whole project performance and for some selected materials.

Climate calculations

Climate declaration



Strategic planning



Planning phase



Design



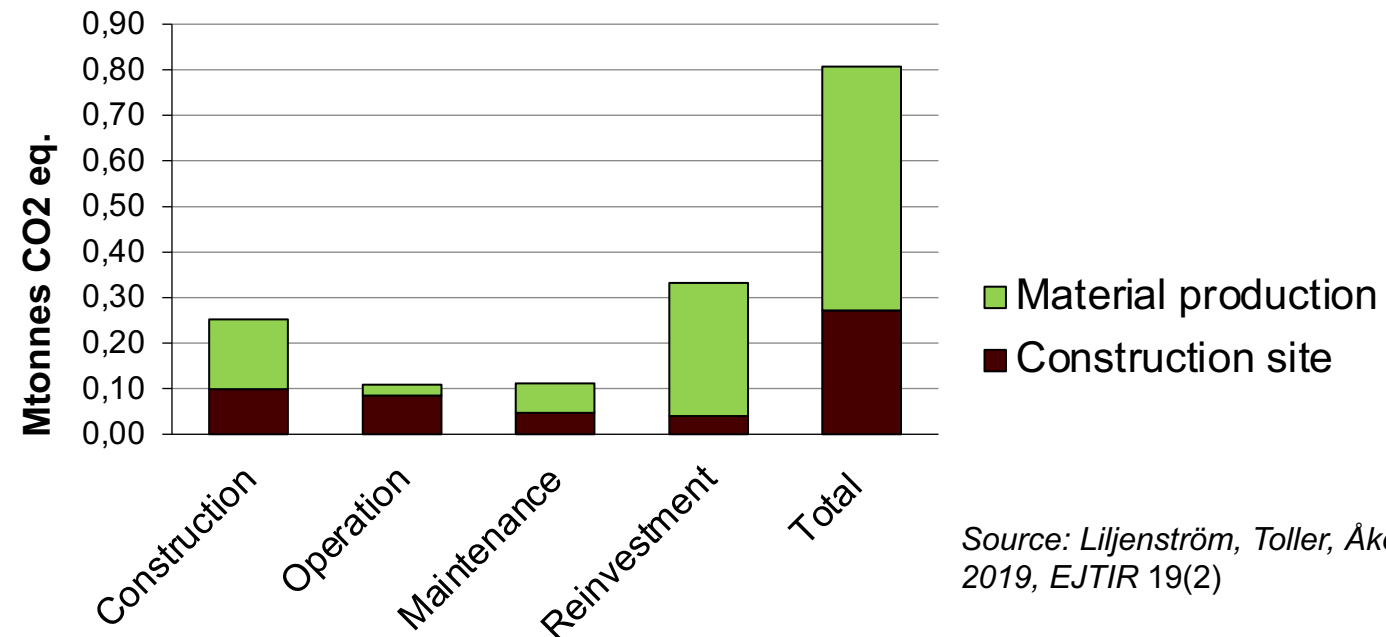
Construction



# Monitoring is a key

- We need to know the emissions today and we need to be able to follow up the effect of improvement measures
- Applying a life cycle perspective is necessary - the goal cannot be met without decreased emissions from material production

Annual direct and indirect emissions (Mton CO<sub>2</sub> eq.) from construction, operation and maintenance of state owned roads:



Source: Liljenström, Toller, Åkerman and Björklund 2019, EJTI 19(2)

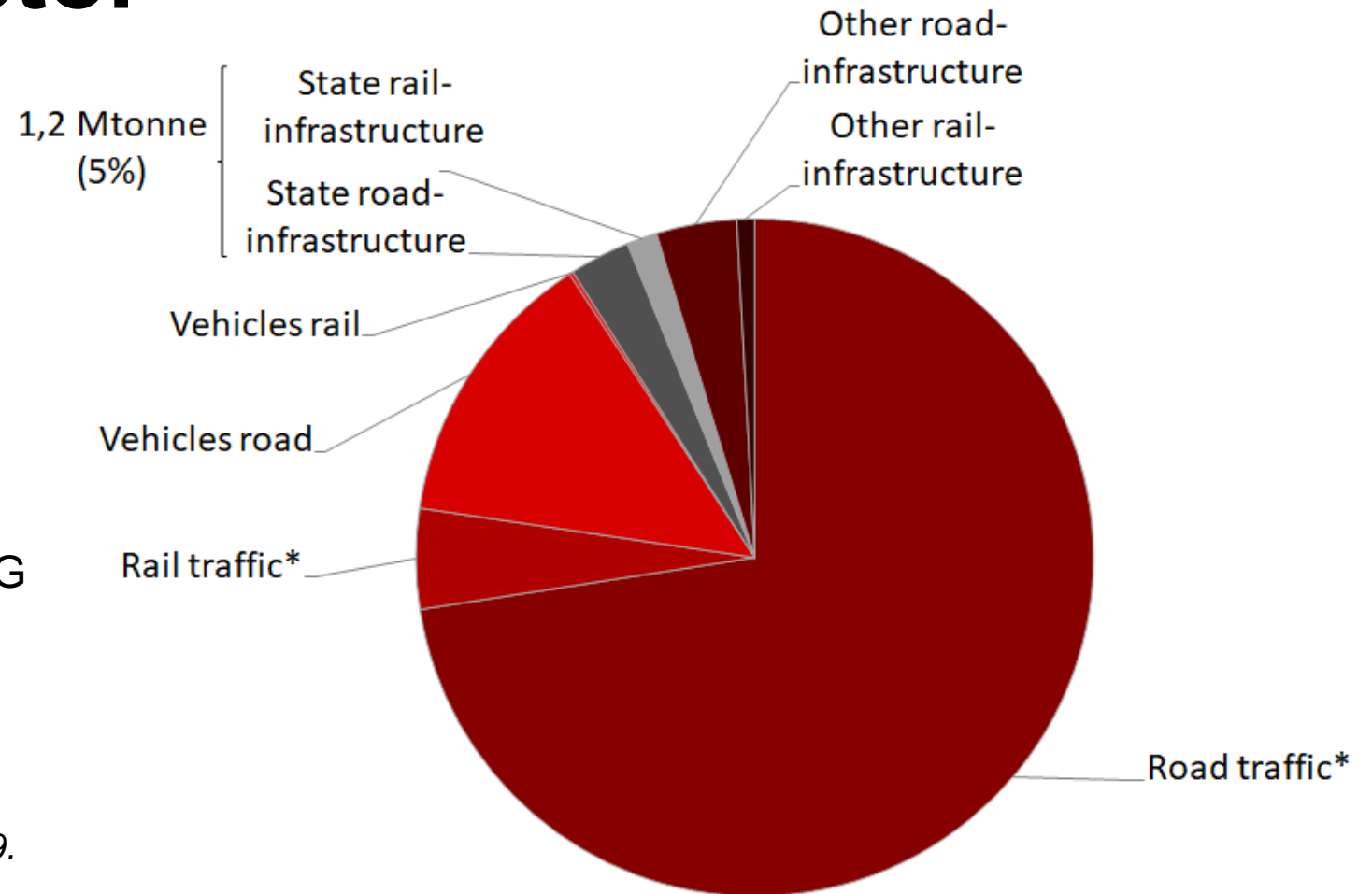
# Road and rail sector in Sweden

## *Lifecycle emissions*

(consumption based emissions)

27 million tonnes CO<sub>2</sub>e per year 2015

State own infrastructure 5 percent of GHG



\* incl. fuel production

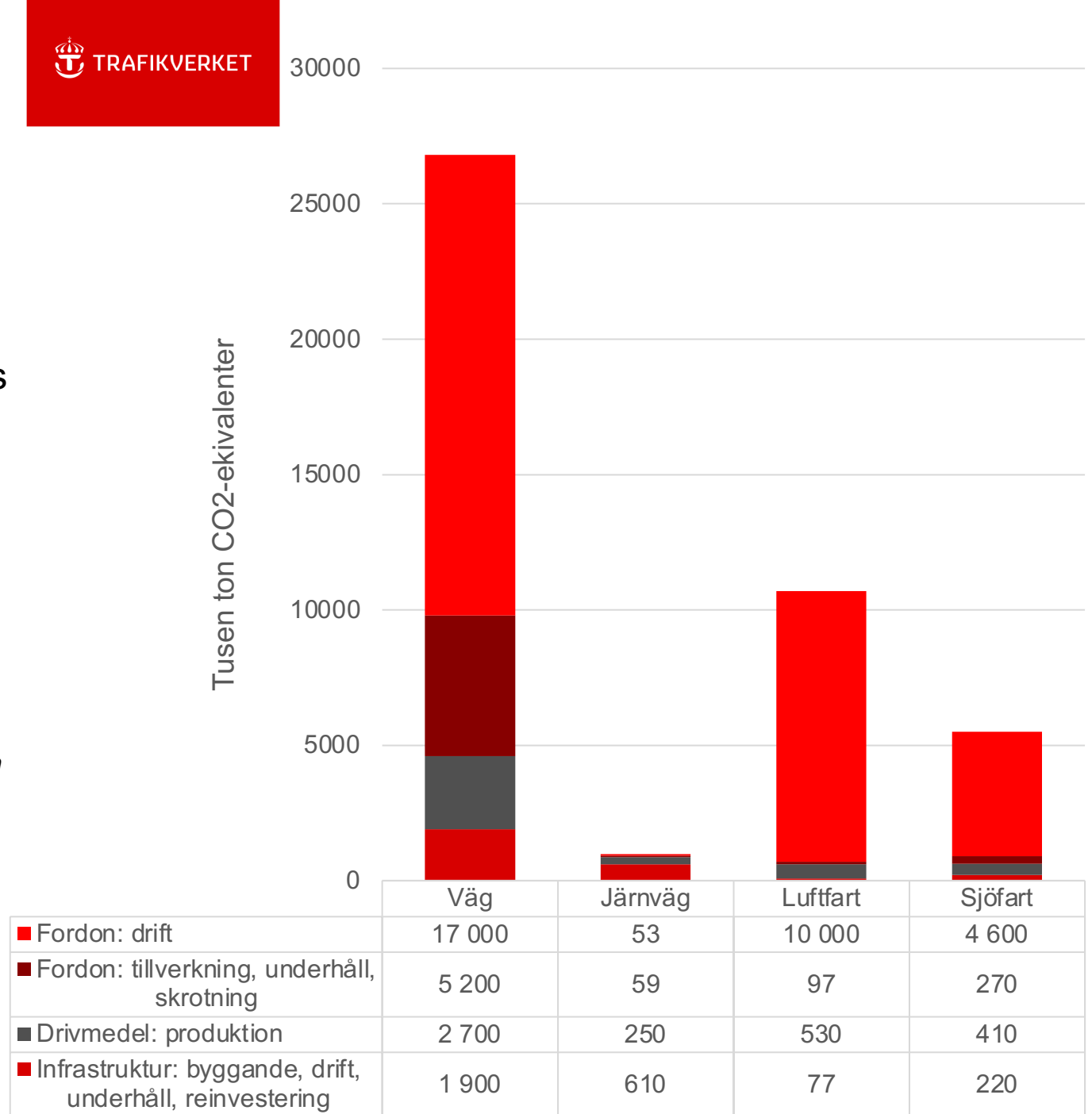
Source: Liljeström C. 2018 and Liljeström et.al. 2019.

# Transport system

Climate impact\* (kton CO2 eqv.) from transport infrastructure, fuel and vehicles in the swedish transport system 2015.

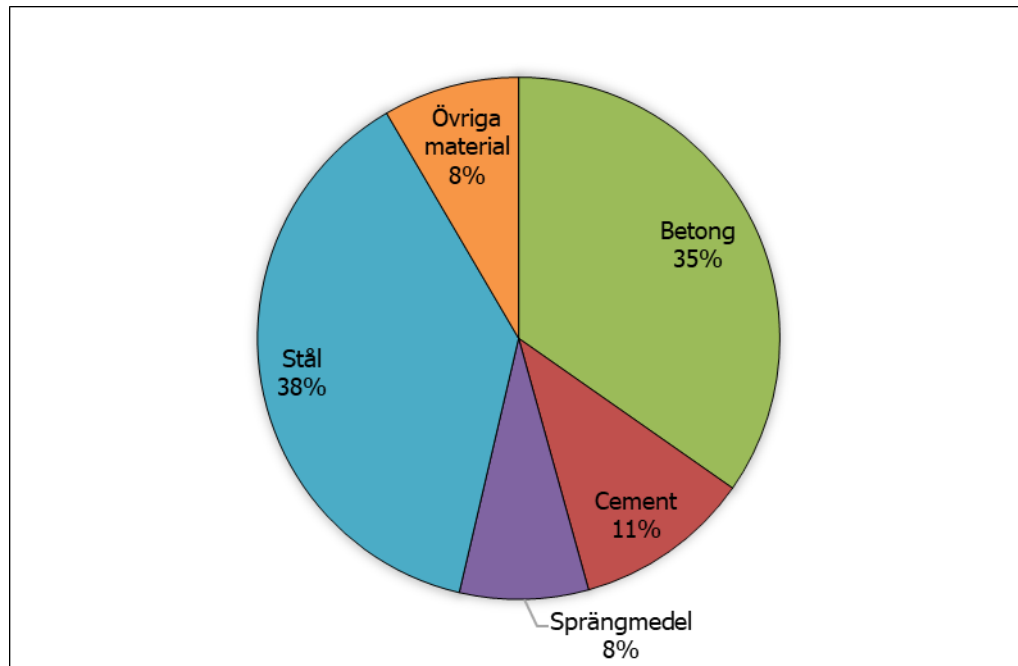
*\*Climate impact is calculated based on consumption perspective for the swedish population (including travelling and freight transports). Impact from air traffic and includes the high altitude effect.*

Source: Liljeström C. 2021

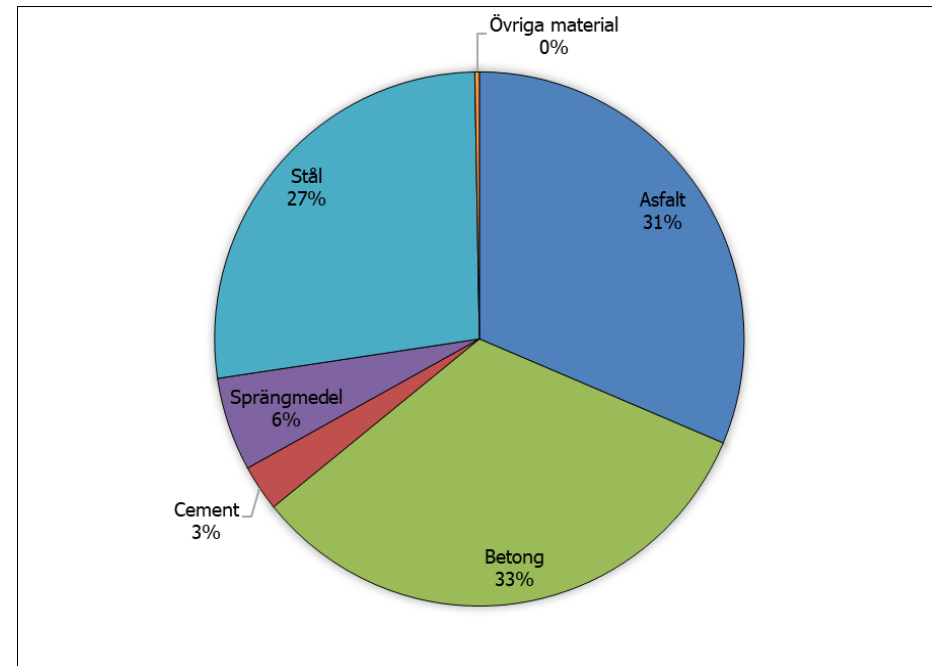


# Contribution from different types of material to the annual climate impact

State owned railways (projects >50MSEK, steel includes reinforcement steel used in concrete)



State owned roads (projects >50MSEK, steel includes reinforcement steel used in concrete)



Source: Liljenström, Toller, Åkerman and Björklund 2019, EJTI 19(2)

# Questions that have been answered through the project

- What is the annual contribution from the Swedish transport infrastructure to greenhouse gas emissions?
- What is the relation between emissions from construction, use and maintenance?
- What is the relation between different transport modes?
- How much of the greenhouse gas emissions is derived from material production and how much from the work at the construction site
- Which materials contributes most?

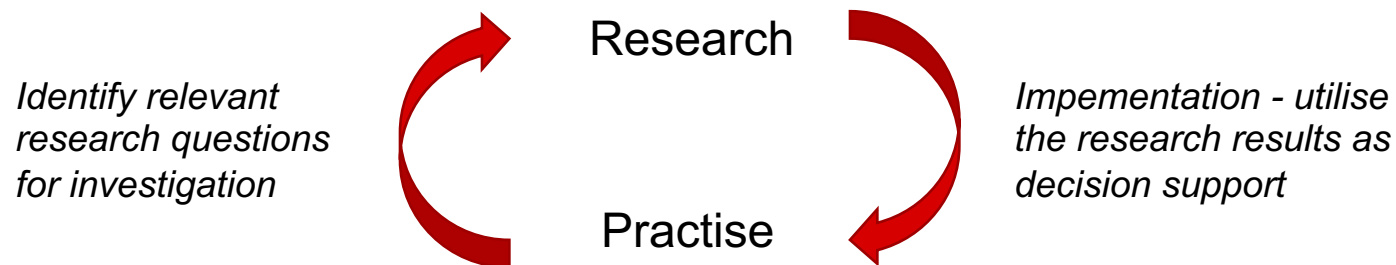
## The results from the project have given us a solid basis for decision support

- Climate assessment of the national transport plan 2018-2029
- Design relevant climate requirements to be used in procurement
- A better understanding on how LCA can be applied on transport infrastructure
  - Robust basis for following up and for performing scenario analyses
  - Increased quality in our climate calculation model, used both in planning and procurement



# Reflections on the cooperation

- Communication has been a key to success, but also a challenge - important to set aside enough time, to establish a joint terminology and to understand each others standpoints
- Benefits on different levels:
  - Inspiration, motivation and increased knowledge individually
  - Increased knowledge about the climate impact from the transport system and a better basis for different type of decisions within the Swedish Transport Administration
  - Contribution to the loop between research and implementation



# Thank you for your attention!

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Phone: + 46 70-724 61 75

Further information (mainly in swedish):

<http://www.trafikverket.se/klimatkalkyl>

<https://www.trafikverket.se/for-dig-i-branschen/miljo---for-dig-i-branschen/energi-och-klimat/klimatkrav/>



# QUESTIONS?

# THANK YOU

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