



# Local Economy and Social Change

Second meeting  
Tuesday September 26, 2023

# Today

1. Introduction round
2. Brief recap
3. Discussion 1 – In what situations do you believe it would be beneficial to carry out local economic assessments?
4. Local economic assessments - What do we learn?
5. Discussion 2 – What do you think you would learn? How would you present it in your community?
6. Community Wealth Building Strategies
7. Discussion 3 – What is your Community Wealth Building strategy?
8. Until we meet next on Tuesday October 10 at 9.00-12.00 a.m. C.E.T.

# Introduction round

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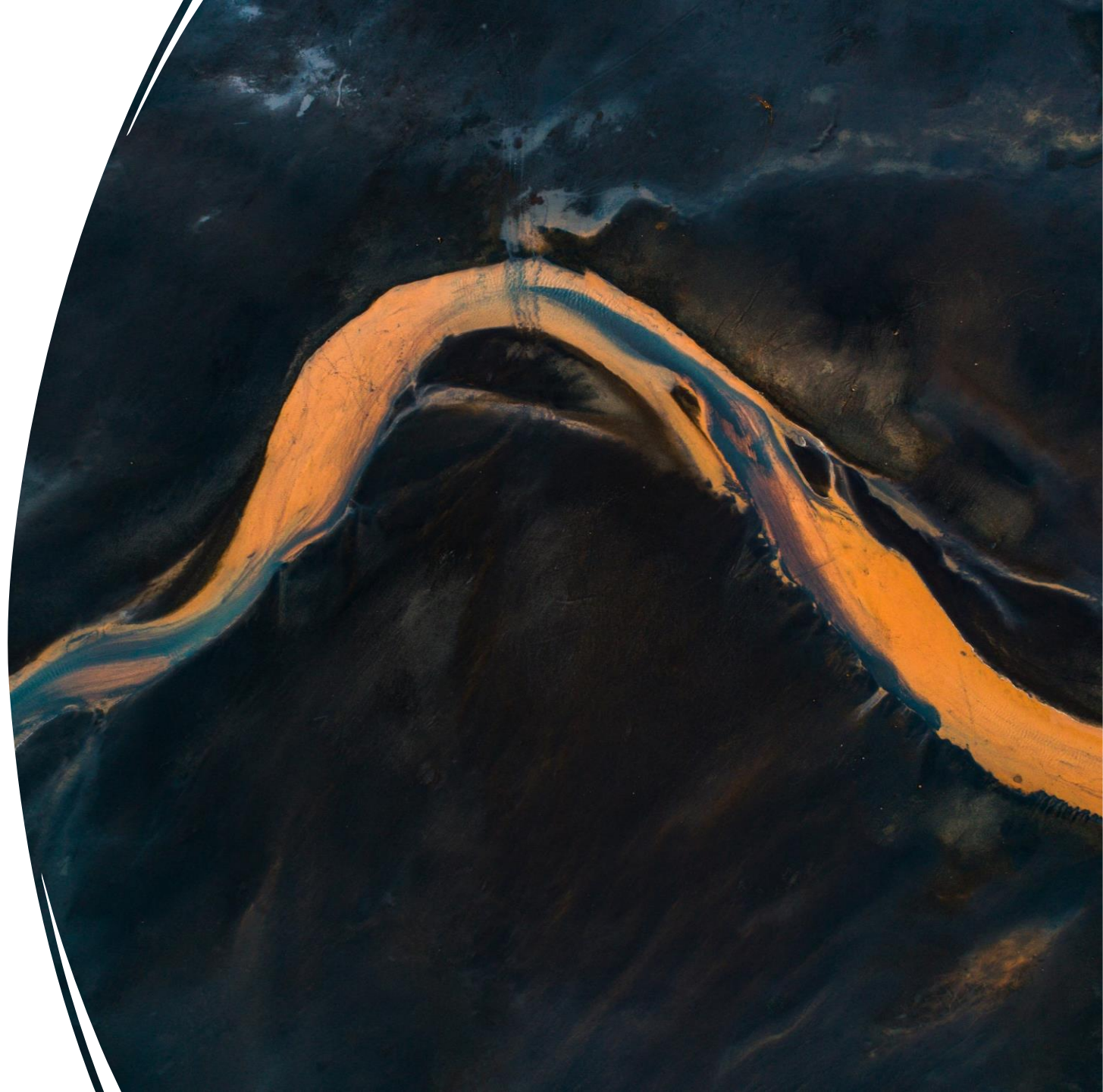
Name, locality



How was your morning?



Questions or ideas you have been  
pondering since last time?





## Brief recap

- Key questions for the local economy approach
- Some basic concepts
- The workshop approach

# What is the local economy perspective?

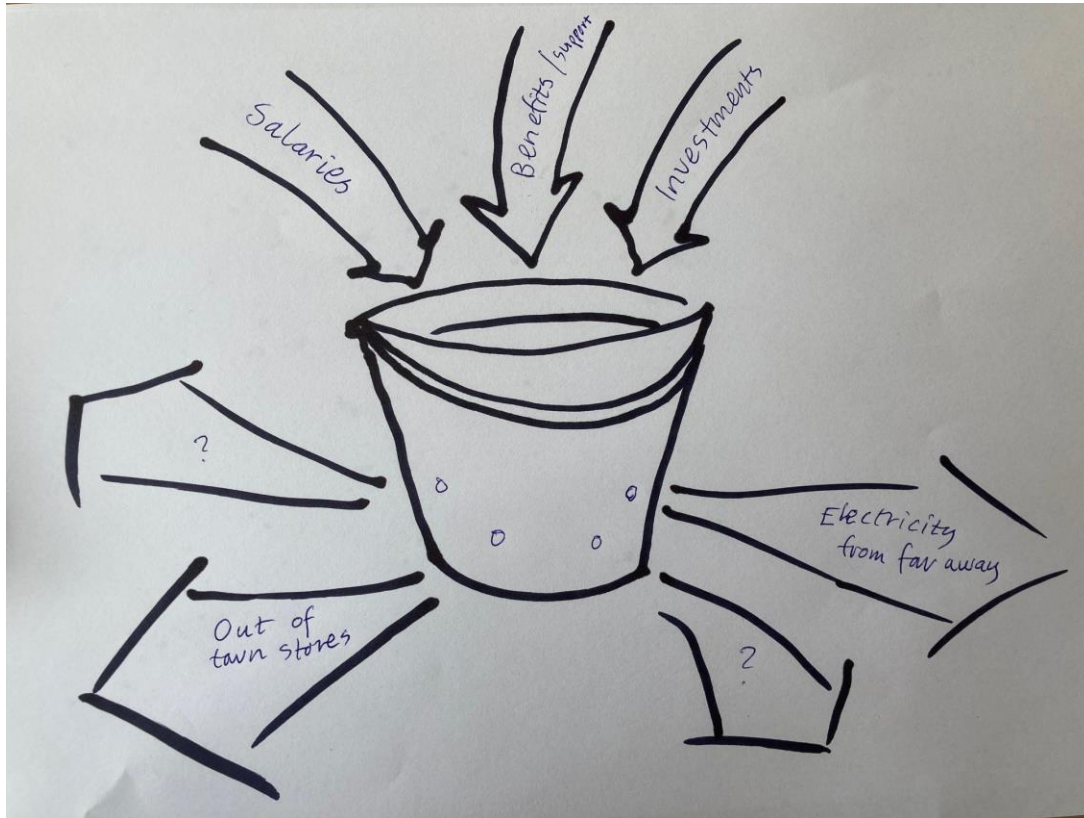
- Some questions to discuss:

1. What are our local communities?
2. And what is the local economy?
3. What is the state of it?
4. What are the big problems or challenges in our communities for the people living there?
5. How does local ownership of resources look like?
6. What resources are underutilized?
7. What approaches can strengthen the local economy and local residents?





# The leaky bucket



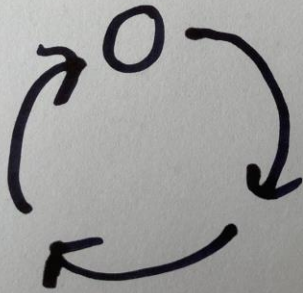
- How does resources leak out of the community?
- What can plug the leaks?
- How can we add flows of resources into the community?

# The circulating kronor or rand

10 rand = 10 rand

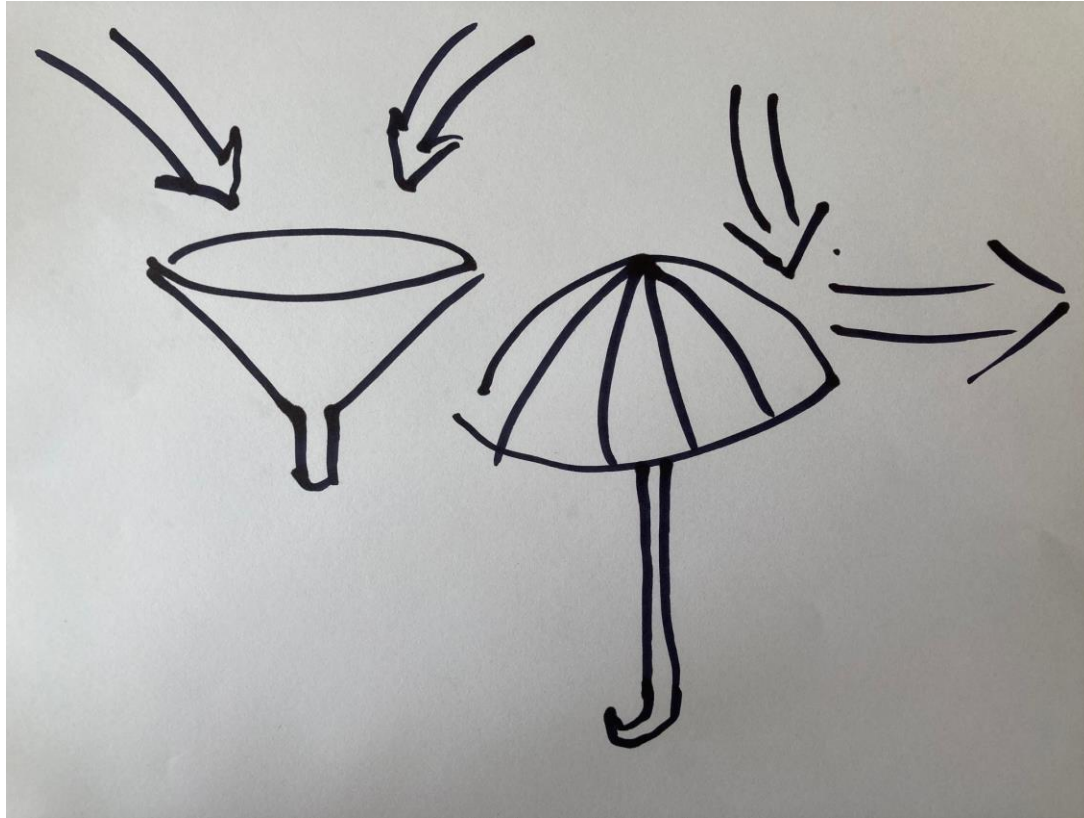
or

10 rand = 15 rand ?



- The multiplier effect
- What can community members, enterprises and local government do to circulate more resources within the community?

# Funnels and umbrellas




- What enterprises or other structures works as *umbrellas*, keeping resources out of our communities?
- What enterprises or other structures works as *funnels*, steering resources into our communities?



# The workshop approach

- Is all about participation and involving people
- Builds on the knowledge, questions and needs of local community residents, enterprises and organisations
- The role of data is not paramount, but the role of people is
- Question: When are we carrying out those workshops? And how do we need to go about it to be prepared to further what is brought to the table those workshops?






# Overview of the workshop approach for local economic assessments

Awareness raising			
	Holding workshop		
Getting started	Generating ideas	Agreeing on action	Maintaining progress

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How much  
numbers do  
we need?

# Two possible roads:

Gathering data and making more accurate estimates of things like local purchasing power, amount of local purchasing power used to drive local businesses and development etc

Working with rough estimates, basically what people know and can estimate and share as participants in a local workshop

A series of yellow brushstroke-like lines are located in the bottom right corner of the slide, extending from the right edge and slightly upwards.

Discussion 1: In what situations do you believe it would be beneficial to carry out local economic assessments? What would be the goal? How would you go about it? Your questions?







# Local economic assessments - What can we learn?

*Short version:* We can learn a lot. We can do together with a lot of people who have a lot of valuable local knowledge, that not always is taken into account in politics, dominating economic modes of development and so forth.





# What "human resources" exists in the community

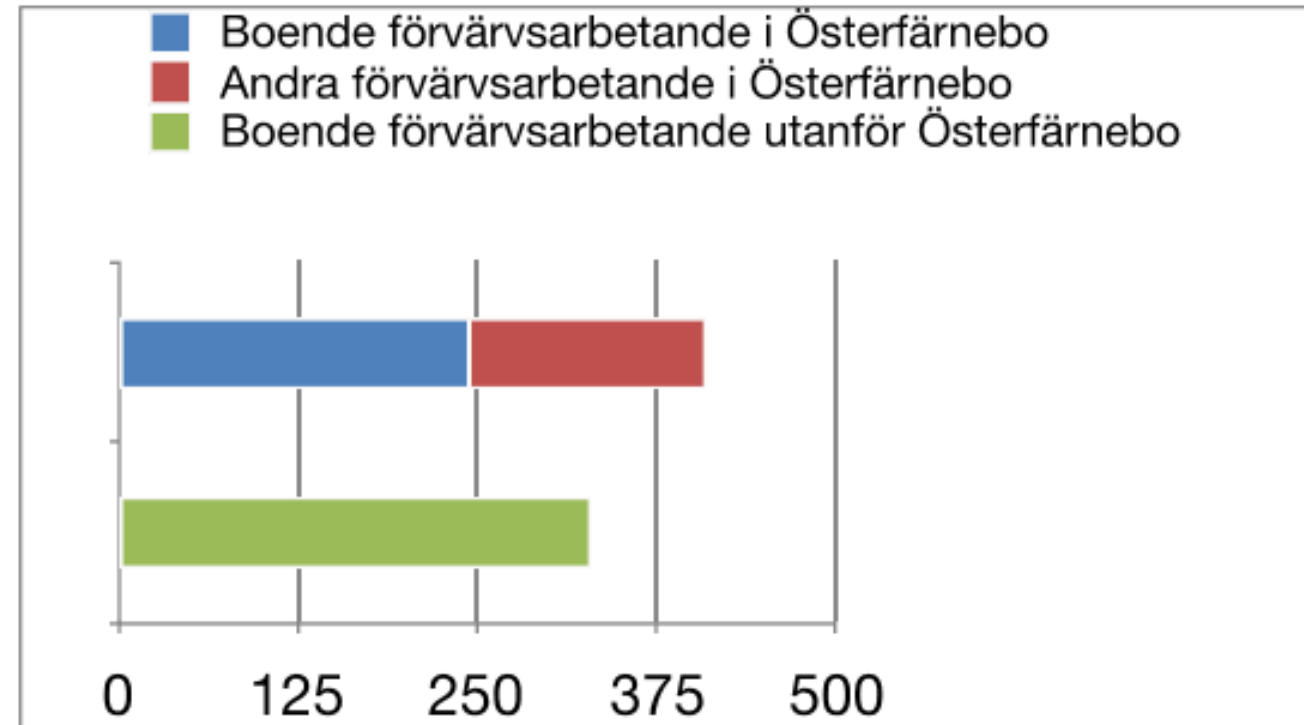
We need to describe and get to know the people that lives in our places, what are their skills, strengths, resources, monetary and non-monetary.

Working with this is a much larger project then conducting a local economic assessment, but as part of conducting a local economic assessment we need to tap into that local knowledge.

# What are people working with?

We need a picture about how many are working locally and where, in the formal or informal sector is often useful. It can also be interesting to now who is travelling out, and into a community for work, and how many job opportunities there are locally.

In my community we learned that out of a total of approximately 600 employed persons in Österfärnebo in 2016, around 250 had worked in Österfärnebo.





What natural resources are there in the community? How are they used/not used?



We can walk through our communities, talk to people, research how local resources can be used in different ways for example land, forest, wind, water and sunshine.

We may find there is unused land or other resources like sun and wind, or waste, that is not put to use, or at least not fully.



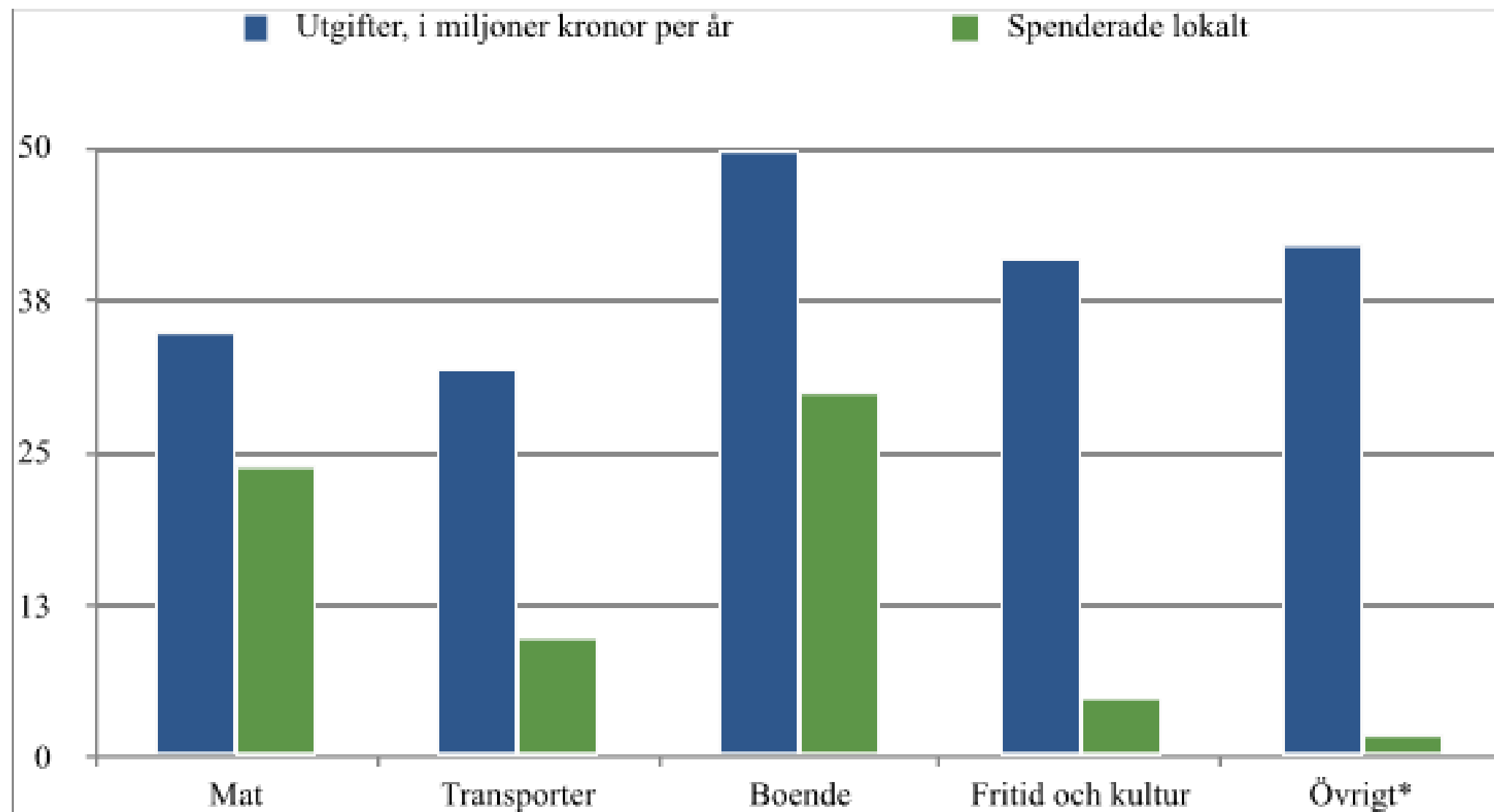


## How much money does the community spend in total on different goods?

We need to learn the total purchasing power of our community. This constitutes the full potential for developing companies that tend to local needs.

In Sweden we usually use statistics for this exercise and that means we assume that people in a locality spends money more or less like the average like people in other local communities. This is problematic. Another way of doing this would be to do surveys or participatory research together with people in a local community.





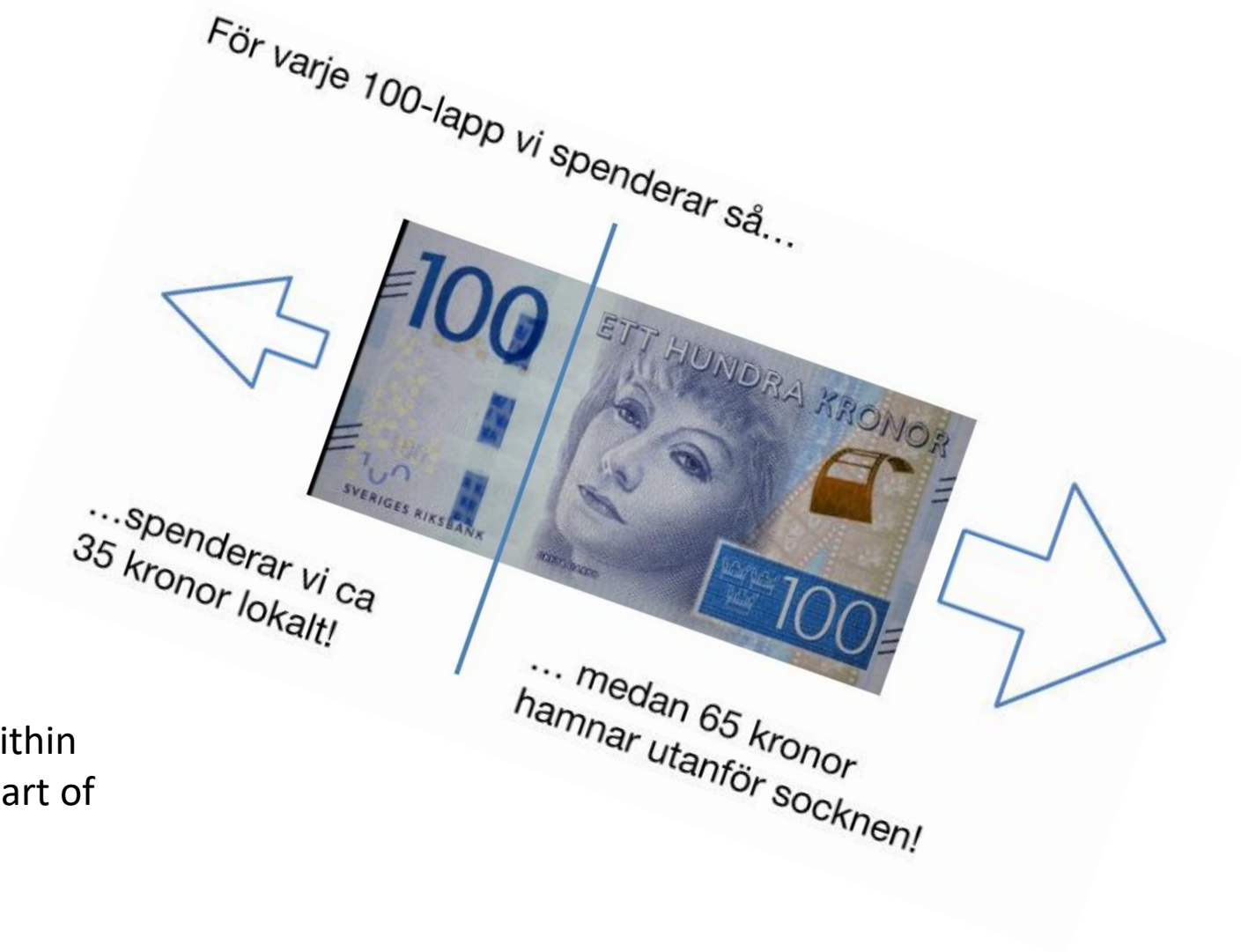


# How much is consumed locally and how much outside the district/community?

We also need to learn how much is consumed within our community presently. This constitutes that part of the local economy which is local.

Example:

In Österfärnebo we concluded that a third of our money seems to be spent on different locally sold products.





*Under 2017-2019 installerades 11 solelanläggningar i Österfärnebo. Lokalradion pratade om en "solboom"!*

How can the community increase the proportion of locally produced goods?

In the local economic assessment we also take time to look at different ways to plug the leaks in the "leaky bucket" of our local economies. Both a strength and dilemma or challenge is that we often depend on local knowledge, and we don't always know everything about all possibilities that exists in different fields.

A good idea is to consult people who are specialized in local food, energy, housing and so on in order to identify new ways of doing things.



## Action plan or not?

The goal is often to end up with an action plan. A list of things that you want to do as a group. A strategy for how to do it. But is this the given goal?

In some situations I would argue it is



**Mer lokalekonomi i  
Österfärnebo? Kanske det  
kanske!**

En titt på Österfärnebo



A wide-angle photograph of a residential street during the 'blue hour' of dusk. The sky is a mix of deep blues and greys with some light clouds. Bare trees are silhouetted against the sky and the street. On the left, a large red brick house with a dark roof is visible. On the right, a yellow house and a smaller red building are partially seen. A road with a white line runs along the right side of the frame. A silver car is parked on the right side of the road. In the foreground, there are several bare trees and a grassy area. The text '5 min break' is overlaid in the center of the image in a white, sans-serif font.

5 min break



Discussion 2 – What do you think you would learn from a local economic assessment done together with others? How could you use this in the activism that you are already working with?



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# Community Wealth Building Strategies

- Different approaches with shared objectives



# Example 1) Learning together and awareness raising work

Conducting a local economic assessment together with other people in the community is one way to raise awareness and create a willingness to contribute to a local development initiative. Buy local campaigns can be another way to achieve local awareness.



# Example 2) Community Development Corporations

Community Development Corporations (CDCs) are a form of businesses that are set up to serve local community needs.

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# Example 3) Community Land Trusts

- Another form of organisation that have the potential to build community wealth is the community land trust.

## Example 3: Community land trusts

Another form of organisation that have the potential to build community wealth is the community land trust. Here are 2 videos about this sort of organisation and what it can be used for:





## Example 4) Food hubs

- One community wealth building strategy is developing *food hubs*.

### Example 4: Food hubs

One community wealth building strategy is developing *food hubs*. Here are 3 short videos about food hubs and how they are building community wealth:





# Example 5) Anchor institutions

One example of how cooperatives can be developed with the support of so called anchor institutions is the Cleveland Model

## *Example 6: Anchor institutions building community wealth*

One example of how cooperatives can be developed with the support of so called anchor institutions is the Cleveland Model which is presented in this short video:



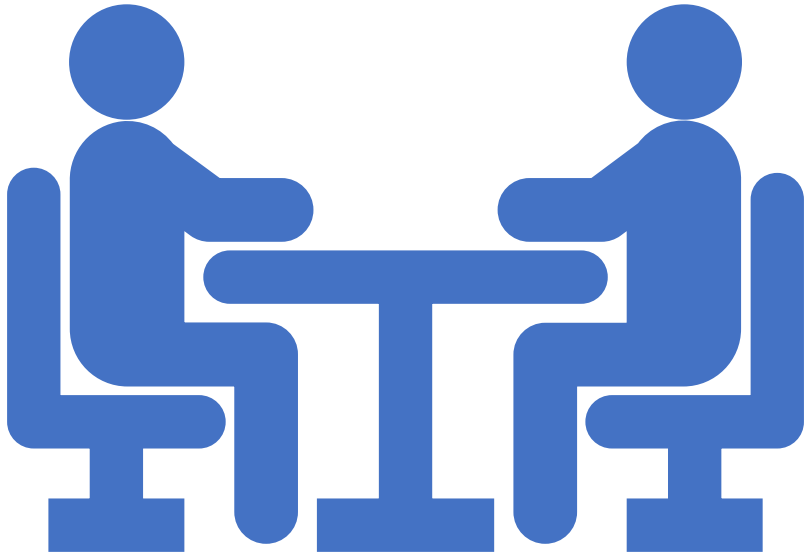
# Example 6) New local politics

- In UK and the broader European context Preston and some other UK municipalities, faced with austerity politics from above, has been pioneers of a community wealth building in the municipal arena  
There has also been work to develop this approach in Kigoma, Tanzania.

## Example 7: Local politics

In UK and the broader European context Preston and some other UK municipalities, faced with austerity politics from above, has been pioneers of a community wealth building in the municipal arena. They were inspired by the Cleveland model but brought into municipal politics. There has also been work to develop this approach in Kigoma, Tanzania. (See the article: ["Building community wealth globally: The Kigoma-Preston collaboration"](#), by Michaela Collord, The Next System Project, November 2019.) The below video discusses the meaning of community wealth building when brought into local and regional politics. (If you want to look at a longer video





Discussion 3 – What is your Community Wealth Building strategy? How would you like to develop it?

# Tasks

## Recap

- Take time to revisit handouts and presentations from part 1 of the course if you need

## Read

- Read the handout about the workshop approach

## Assignment

- Work with the assignment and share your ideas and conclusions with the WhatsApp-group

## More on approaches

- You also have chance to learn more about a few different approaches/community wealth building strategies at the course page







- We finish with a round of thoughts on today's session
- + / - / !

Thank  
you all for  
today!

