Ecology and Economy in a Sustainable Society
To be able to move towards a more sustainable society it is important to link ecological considerations with economic issues. There is a need for actionable methods to be used e.g. for authorities, municipalities and in medium and small sized companies.

The Nature-Economy Model (SDR)
At these scales there is a lack of combination methods where economic issues and environmental issues occur in the same context. One proposed framework is the Nature-Economy model (also named SDR model by Nilsson and Bergström, Ecological Economics 14 (1995) 175-184).

KEY FIGURES

**EFFECTIVENESS**
- serviceindicator/systemindicator

**PROCESS THRIFT**
- systemindicator/flowindicator

**RESOURCE MARGIN**
- resourcequality
- resourcebalance
- the timeframe of the resource base
- margin to threshold value.

MODEL

EXAMPLE

EXAMPLE OF KEY FIGURES

- The amount of transported persons/
The amount of driven km
- The amount of driven km/
The amount of used litres

Practical Issues
- Every key figure is a quota of two indicators.
- The different key figures answers different questions:
  - How effective are the services provided by the system?
  - Does the system require a modest input of material resources and energy?
  - Can the in- and outflows be sustainably maintained without impairing the resource base and essential ecological functions?
- The key figures should not be analysed one by one but as a whole.
- Use many key figures of the same kind (a cluster can give a more reliable information) and key figures of every kind (follow the theoretical model).
- The key figures are constructed so that they get a higher value when the outcome is better. By doing so in a time series you can analyse tendencies and it is easier to computerize the material and communicate the results.

Why the Nature-Economy Model?
To be able to move towards more sustainable societies it is necessary to link ecological considerations with economic issues. Simultaneous efforts should be done on different scales. To a large extent models so far are working on a national scale or large region scale. There is a need for models that works in smaller scale. One example is the Nature-Economy (SDR) model.

This model has been applied in some authorities and companies in Sweden. We think that it can be used to support environmental management systems, CR-reporting etc. To date the key figures, mostly the resource margin figures, can be troublesome to establish. But at the same time it represent an interesting possibility to connect economic performance to such areas as ecosystem services and long term sustainability impacts. Life cycle assessment and emergy modeling might be important tools to use in developing the Nature-Economy model.