

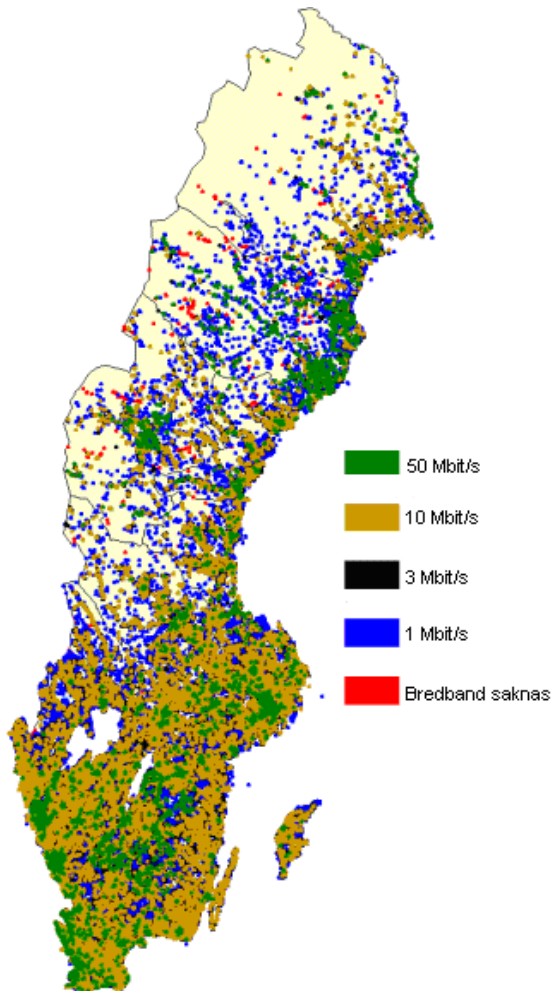
# Implementing the European Recovery Plan

## Experiences from Sweden

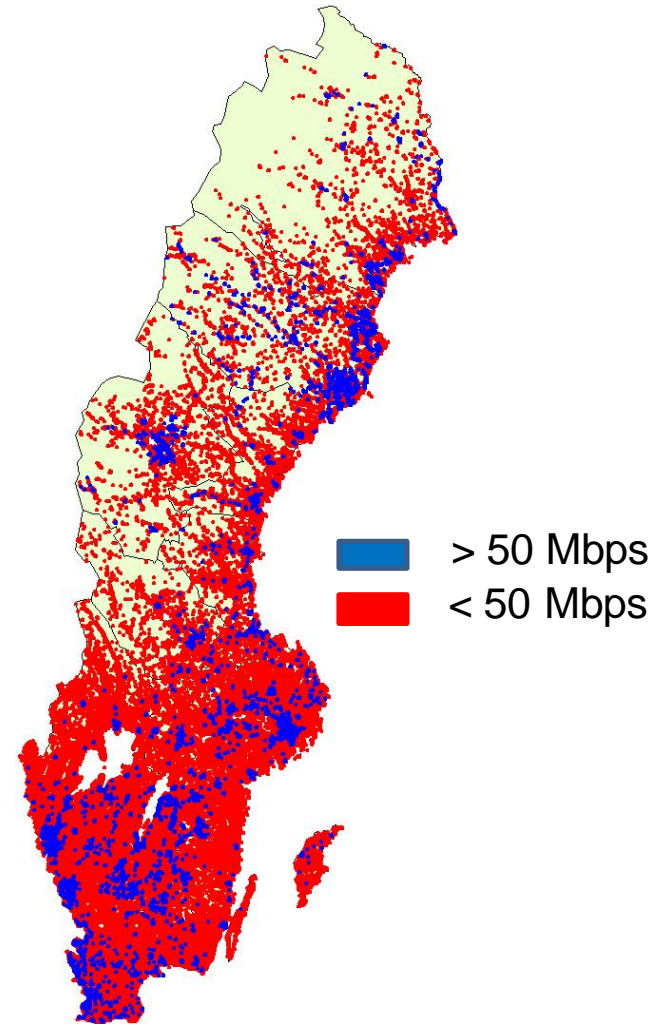
**Andreas Mattisson**  
**Head of Coordination Unit, Rural Development Department**  
**Swedish Board of Agriculture**

# State of Broadband in Sweden 2010 and 2020

Broadband quality and coverage based on current user patterns



Broadband quality and coverage based on future user patterns (2020)



2011-02-14

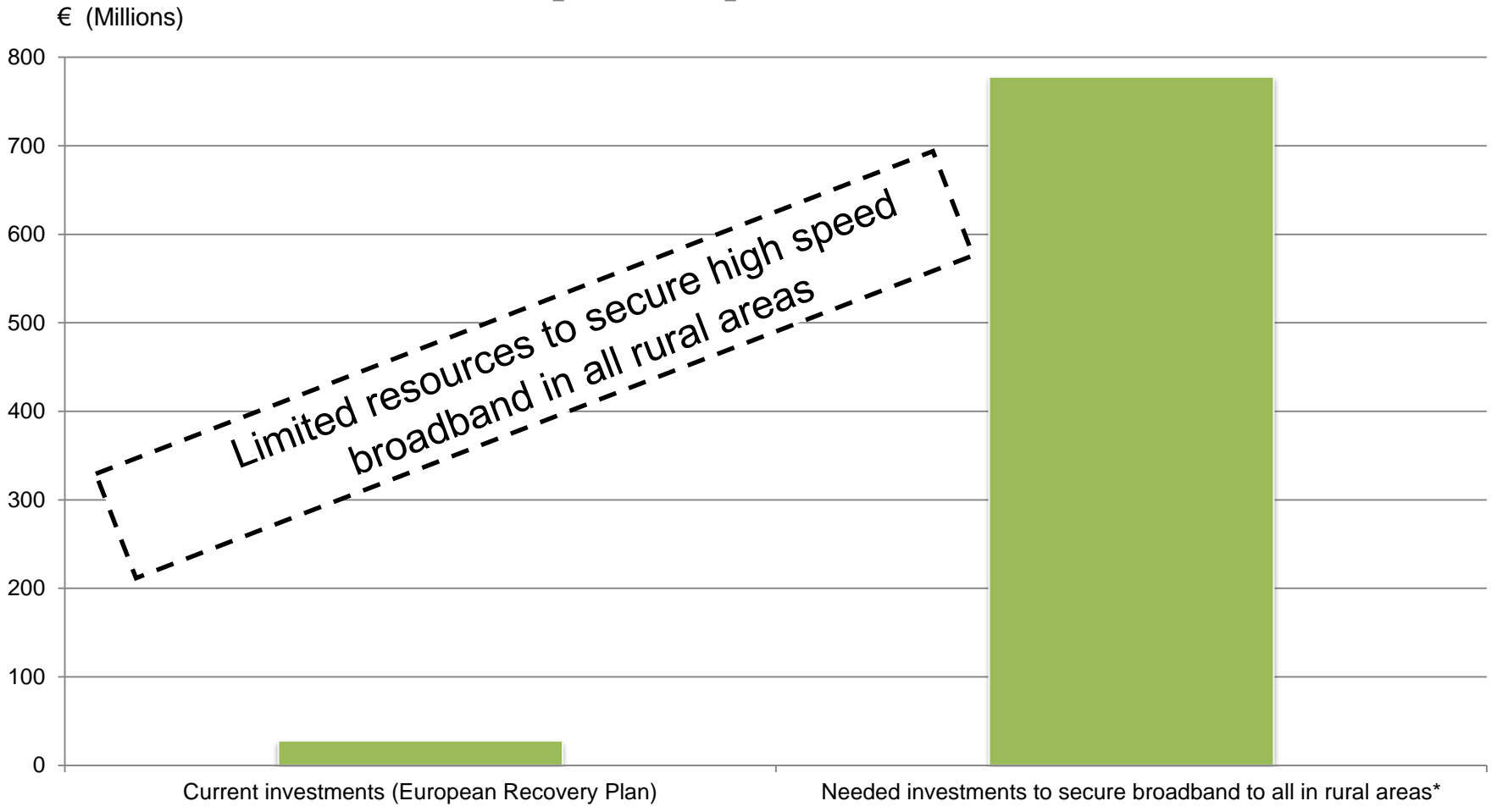
Source: Estimation by PTS, 2011



# Broadband infrastructure and the National Strategic Plan for RDP

- **Investments in basic services and broadband infrastructure already part of the NSP and RDP**
- **Until 2010 however limited interest and use of measure 321 Basic Services**
- **The role of broadband infrastructure strengthened in NSP 2010 – ”People living in rural areas need to have access to basic services and be a part of the information society.”**

# Putting the Recovery Package into perspective



\*.

# Our Solution – Focus on local commitment

- **Make use of local involvement and initiatives**
- **Knowledge of local conditions and needs**
- **Encourages local co-financing**
- **Easier access to land/private property**
- **In sum, this solution was considered to be more efficient than large-scale national projects**
- **Efficiency = Stronger and faster impact at a lower cost**

# A "Typical" example

- **Local need for better broadband technology leads to local initiative**
- **Local group create economic association**
- **Association applies for broadband support within the RDP**
- **If application is approved, the project is realized with additional local private contribution in order to scale up the investment**
- **Association owns the broadband infrastructure**
- **Call for tender for running of the broadband technology**

# Implementing our solution

## *Joint Cooperation for Stronger Performance*

### **Agency**

### **Competence/ responsibility**



The Swedish Board of Agriculture

Rural Development



The Swedish Post & Telecom Agency

Broadband Technology



21 County Administrative Boards

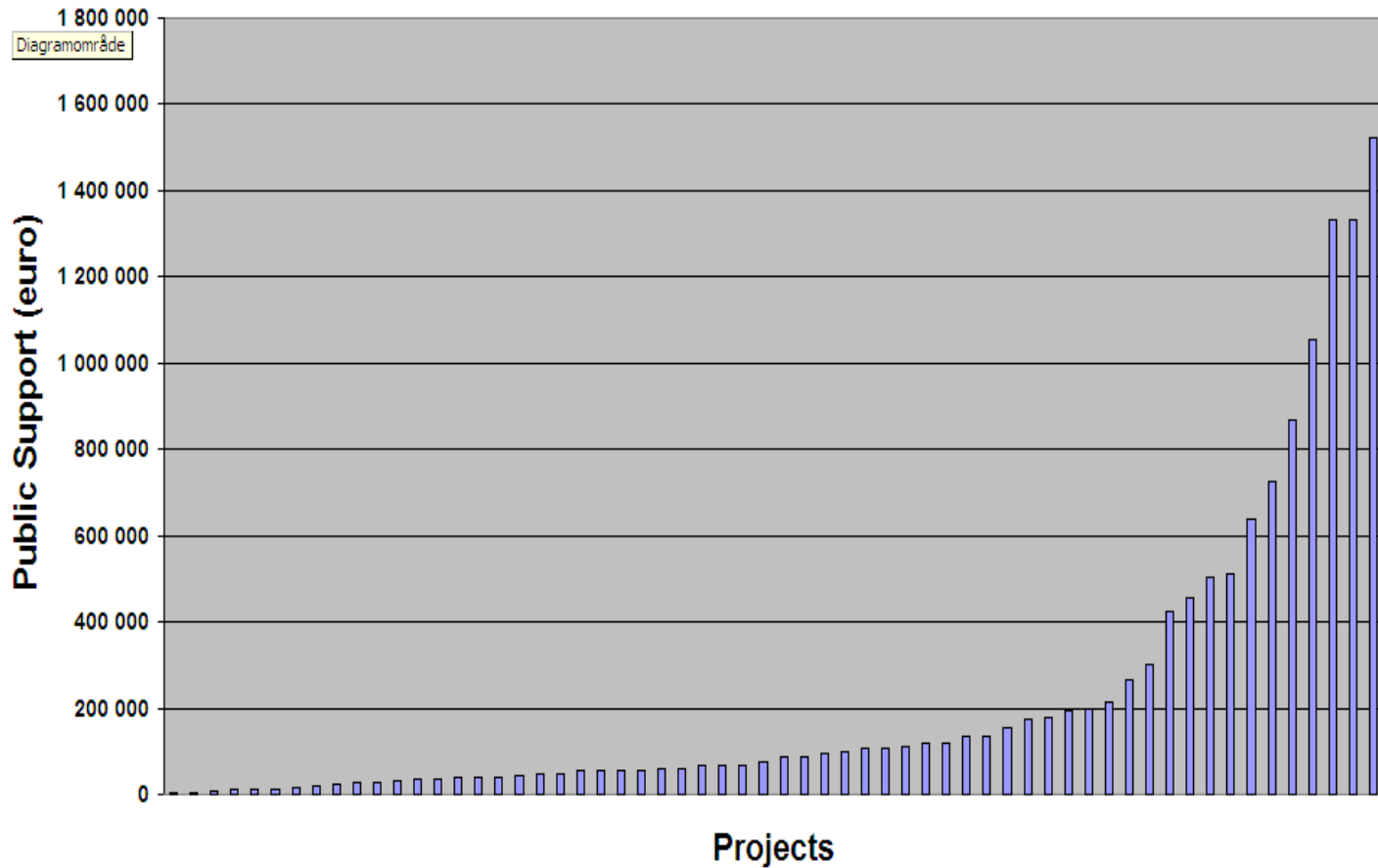
Regional broadband  
policy, Rural development  
implementation



Local groups

Local Knowledge

## Broadband Investments in Sweden 2010 (Recovery Package)





# Our experience



*Easy* – “One stop shop”



*Fast* – The procedure is fast (Dialogue among involved agencies).  
Money on a first-come first-serve **basis**



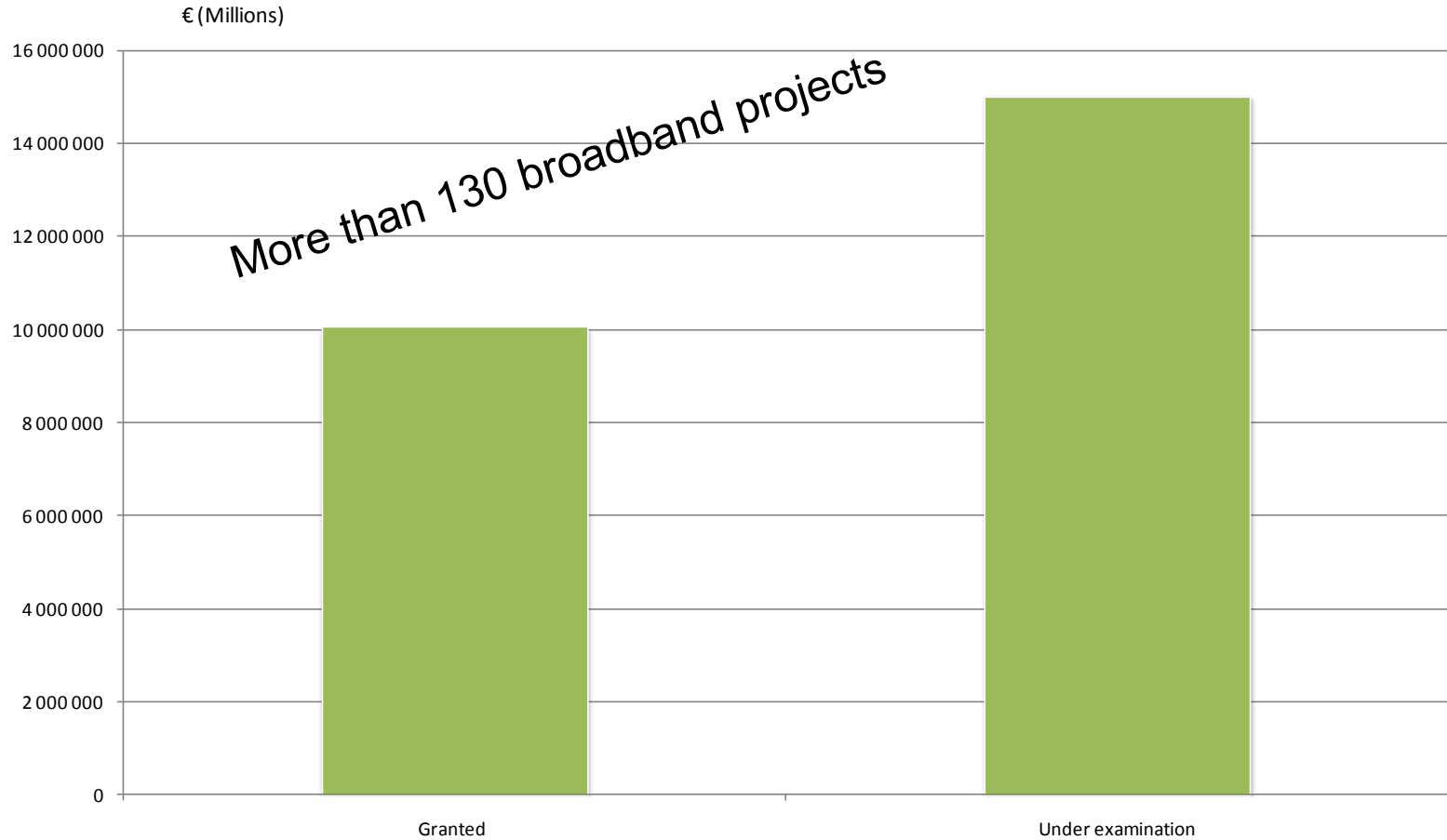
*Secure* – The applications are controlled to ensure high  
quality and robust broadband networks



*Transparent* – Applicants and other interested parties have a clear  
view of the support process, market analyses published



# More projects on the way – high demand for available funds



# Some reflections

- **State Aid process – Important but time-consuming. Need for State Aid rules to recognize and respect different and innovative solutions on a local level.**
- **Cooperation between national and regional actors is crucial for success**
- **Added value in encouraging local initiatives and commitment as well as solutions built on local conditions**
- **Recovery package has increased focus on need for broadband technology in rural areas as well as revitalized the use of measure 321 Basic Services**

# The road ahead

*Joint Effort with Private and Public Stakeholders  
for a Continuous work*

## BREDBANDSFORUM

- Highlight the importance of broadband for local, regional and national growth
- Draw attention to and identify barriers that affect access to broadband
- Find solutions that increase access to broadband throughout Sweden in rural areas
- Demonstrate the benefits that use of broadband generates for society

