



UNIVERSITY OF  
GOTHENBURG

# BECC-MERGE Joint spring workshop 2017

## Final Reflections

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**BECC**



**MERGE**



## *Scenarios - opportunities*

- A unifying, organising concept
- A way of handling complexity
- Convert assumptions into quantitative inputs
- Create links with policy
- And to other research
- A way to promote basic science!?



## *Scenarios - challenges*

- To combine societal, technological and natural processes
- “Socio-economic storylines”
- Be clear about what is included and what is not
- Not only your favourite aspects of reality
- Never provide a scenario “in the middle” – it will always be the one used
- Misunderstandings from outside (prediction)



## *Scenarios, Narratives and the Unknown*

- Scenarios cannot always be valued by their "probability"
- A choice for which we study the consequences
- Narratives, broader and mobilise the power of imagination – to imagine the non-plausible
- Bring you out of your comfortable zone, to visit different situations (c.f. risk management in companies)
- World views, ethical considerations and identification – roles of narratives



## *BECC – MERGE Interaction*

- Land use perspectives – as such and interaction with climate, variability within land use classes
- Appropriate down-scaling for impact assessments
- How can we make the most appropriate (but necessary) simplifications – dialogue between disciplines
- Robustness (uncertainty) analysis and communication – e.g. through ensemble methodology
- Effects of climate “events”, “extremes”
- Social science input



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**Thank you all for coming and  
contributing!**