

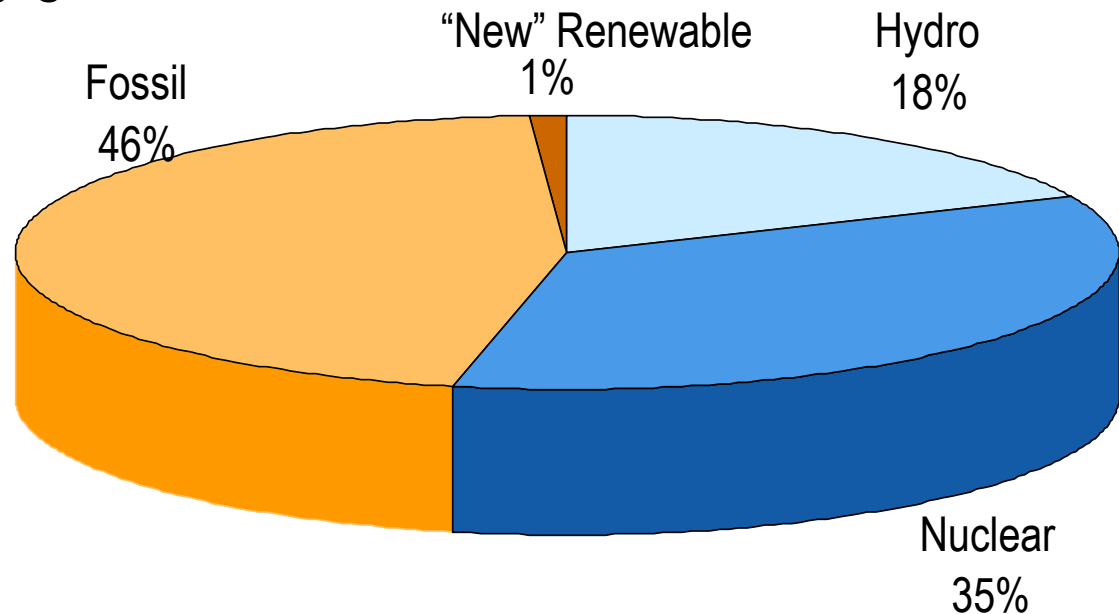
# "EPD requires specific data - and relies on generic databases"

Lausanne 2008-03-14

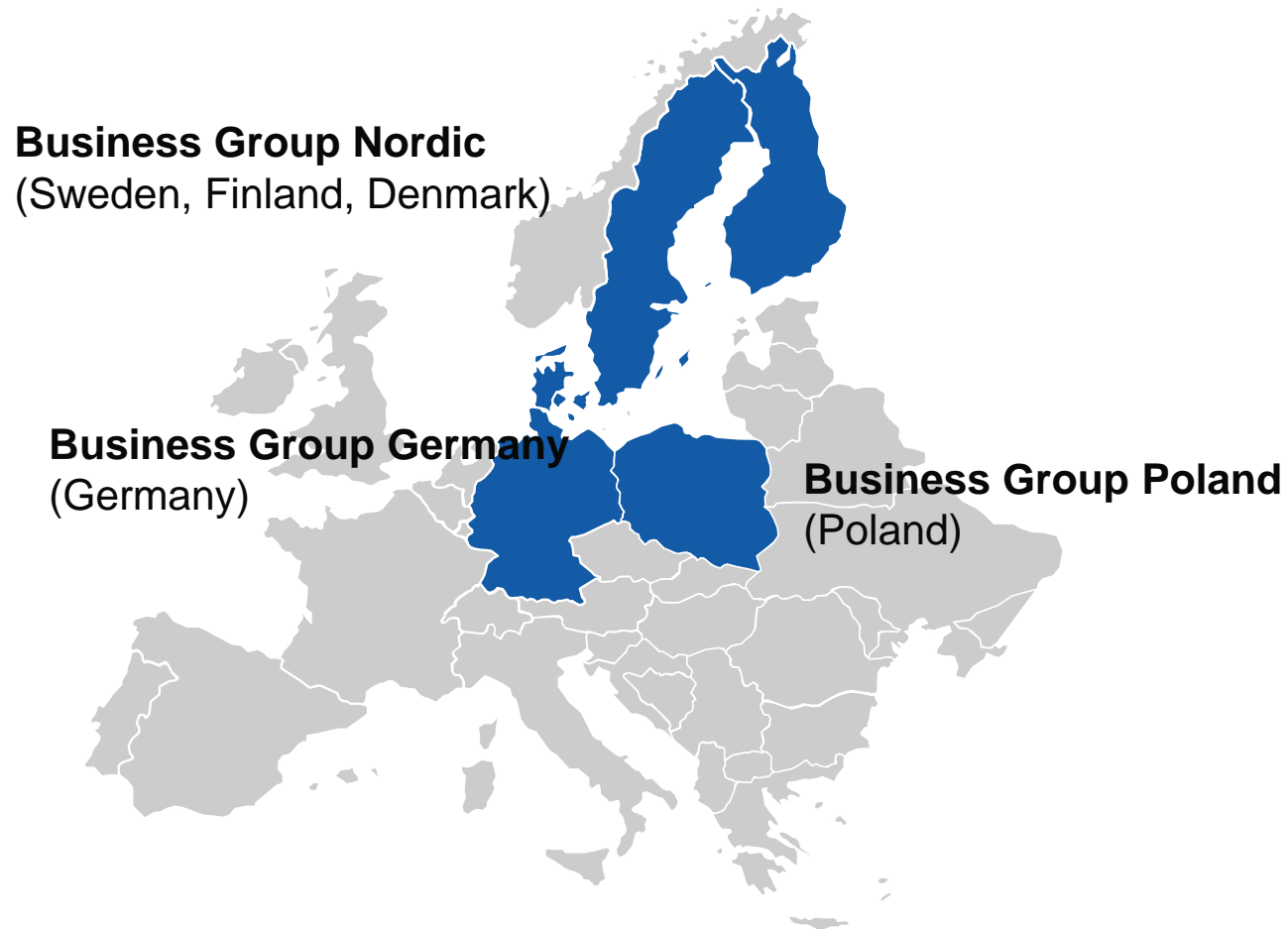
Dr Birgit Bodlund  
Vattenfall AB  
and  
Lund University

# Vattenfall Group (2006)

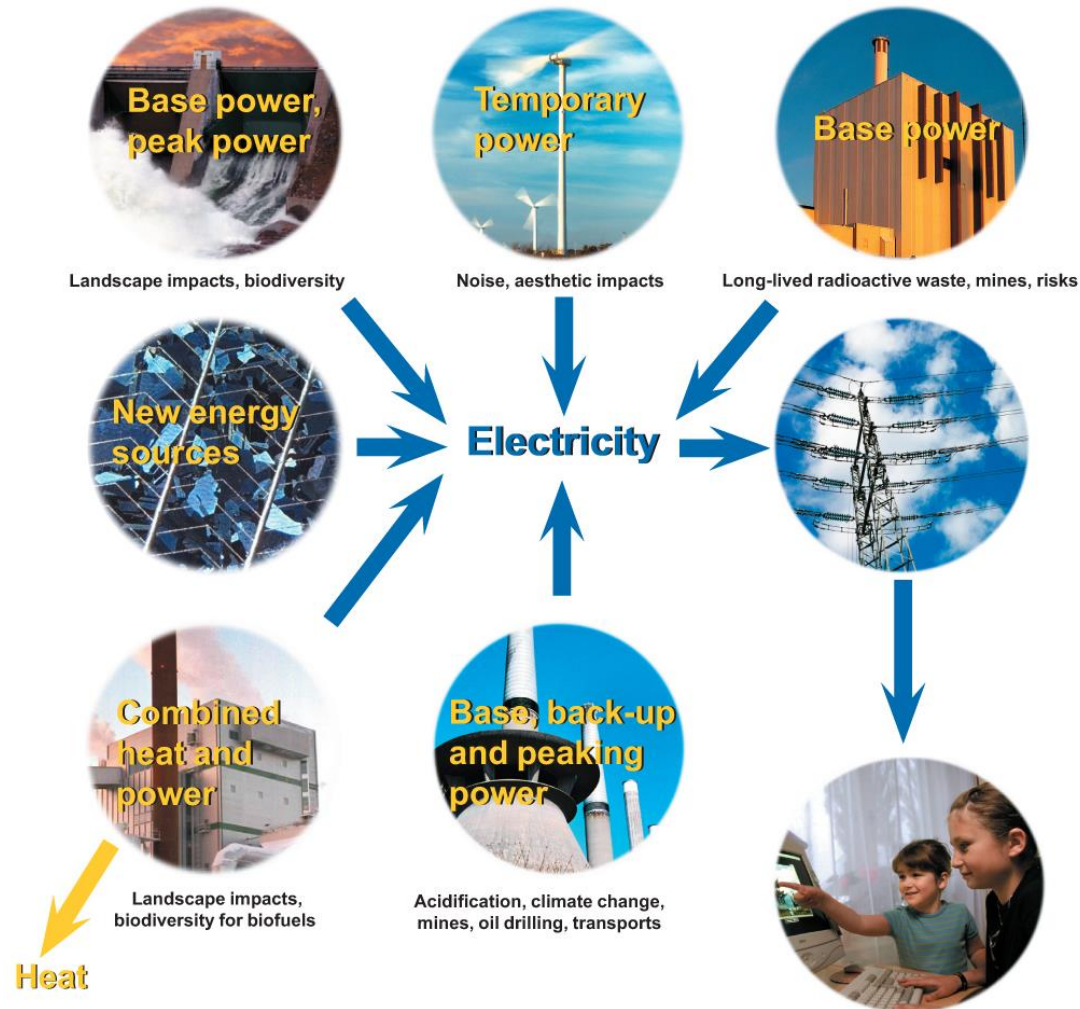
- Europe's fourth largest electricity producer and the largest heat producer
- Net sales: 16 billion EUR
- Operations in Sweden, Finland, Germany, Poland and Denmark
- Operates the complete value chain: production → distribution → sales
- Vattenfall Group electricity generation: ~186 TWh
- ~ 32 000 employees



# Three Business Groups



# Electricity generation systems



# The LCA work

- Started 1993 – reason to understand the electricity production chain
- Then methods under development
  - Difficult to get data
  - Resistance from suppliers
- Very early we understood the value of the ETH data-bas
- The situation is improving
- More databases and specific data
- Now ISO and more for methods
- EPD are emerging
  - Specific/companies-products
  - Generic/sectors

# **It is possible to “lie”, manipulate, and misuse LCA**

**Differences in the following will give differences in the results**

- **System boundaries**
- **System expansion or not**
- **Cut offs**
- **Data and data quality**
- **Differences in tools**

**But ambiguity can be avoided**

- **Transparency in description of scope, goal and calculations**
- **Agreement between operators and stakeholders on the market**

# Environmental assessment tools - Nordic Generation

## **Life-Cycle Assessment (LCA) according to the international EPD<sup>®</sup> system**

- Cradle-to-grave assessment of resource use and emissions (book-keeping approach)
- ISO-standard 14025, Product Category Rules (PCR)
- Identifies weak-spots, keeps track on up- and downstream suppliers

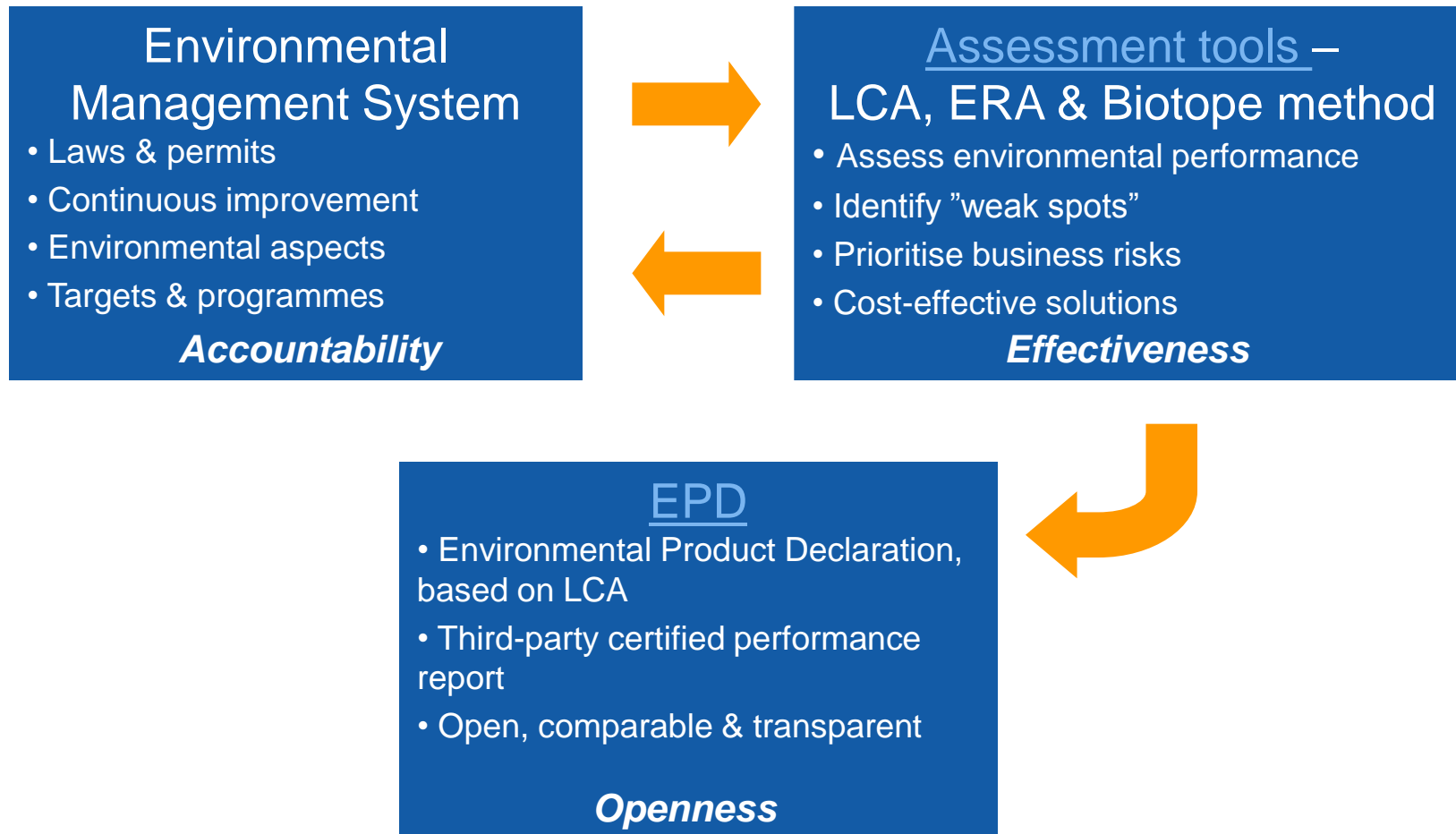
## **Environmental Risk Assessment (ERA)**

- Based on PSA-methodology from nuclear
- Likelihood x consequence of mishaps, failures, accidents
- Quantitative results (in form of environmental impact and costs)

## **Biodiversity impact assessment**

- Biotope method
- A before-after methodology
- Quantitative results

# Environmental strategy – Nordic Generation

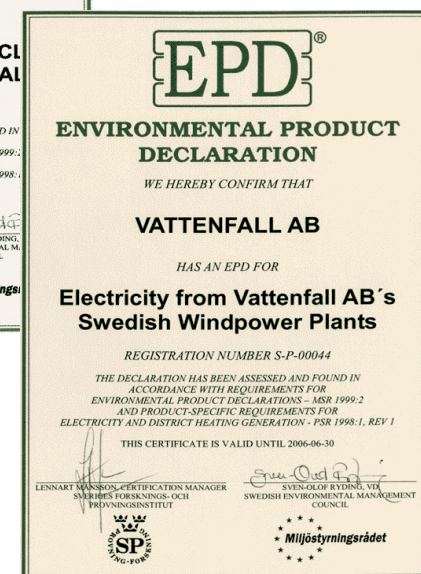
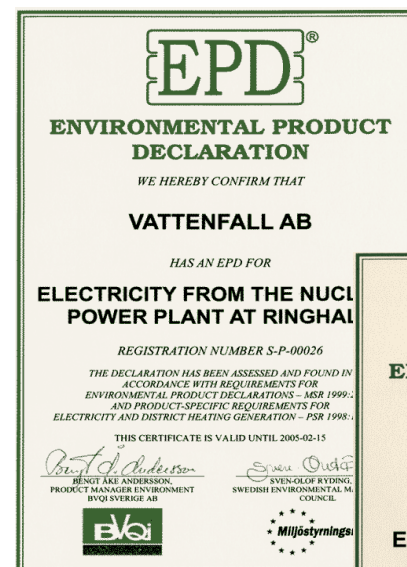




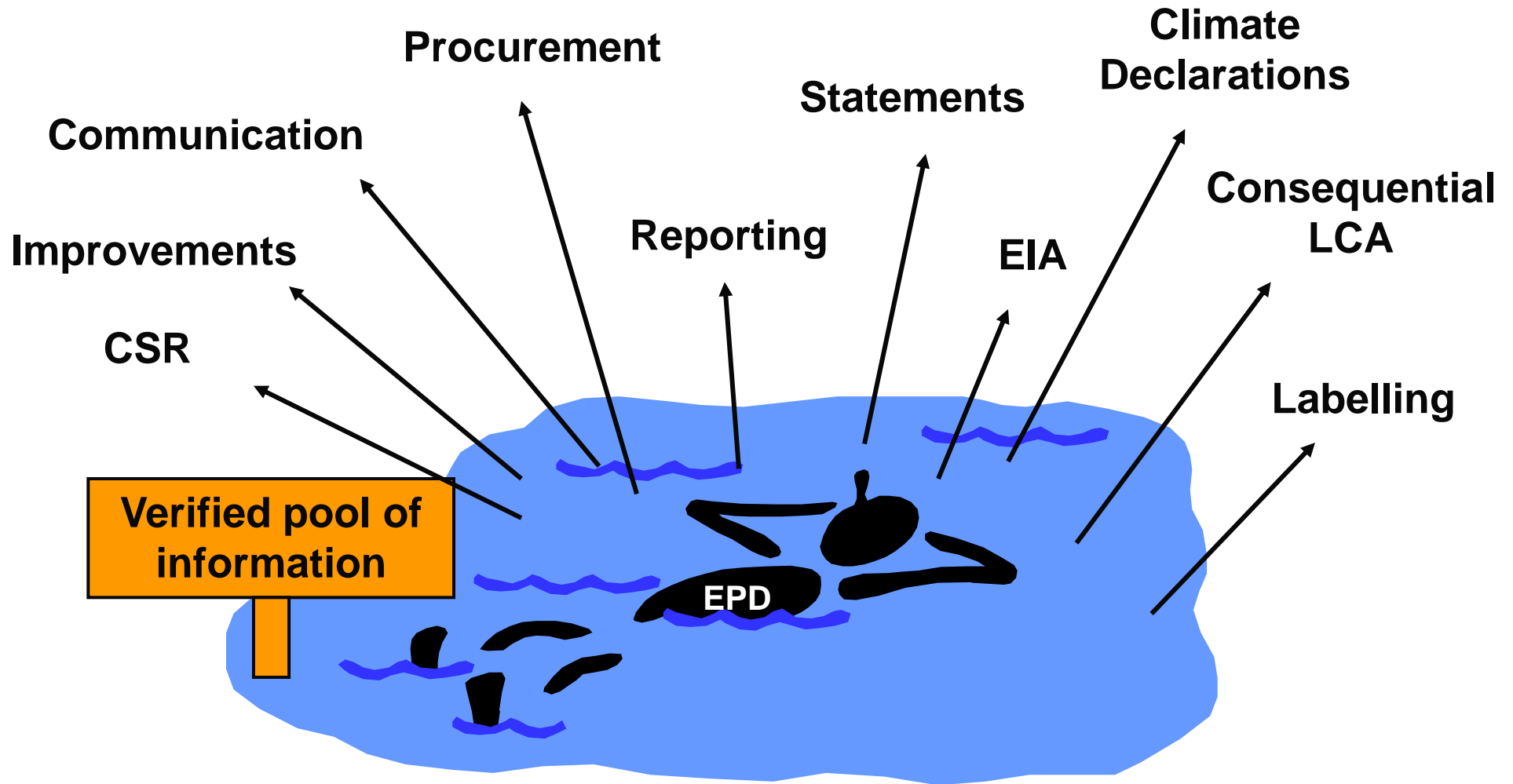
# Certified Environmental Product Declaration EPD® catches more than LCA



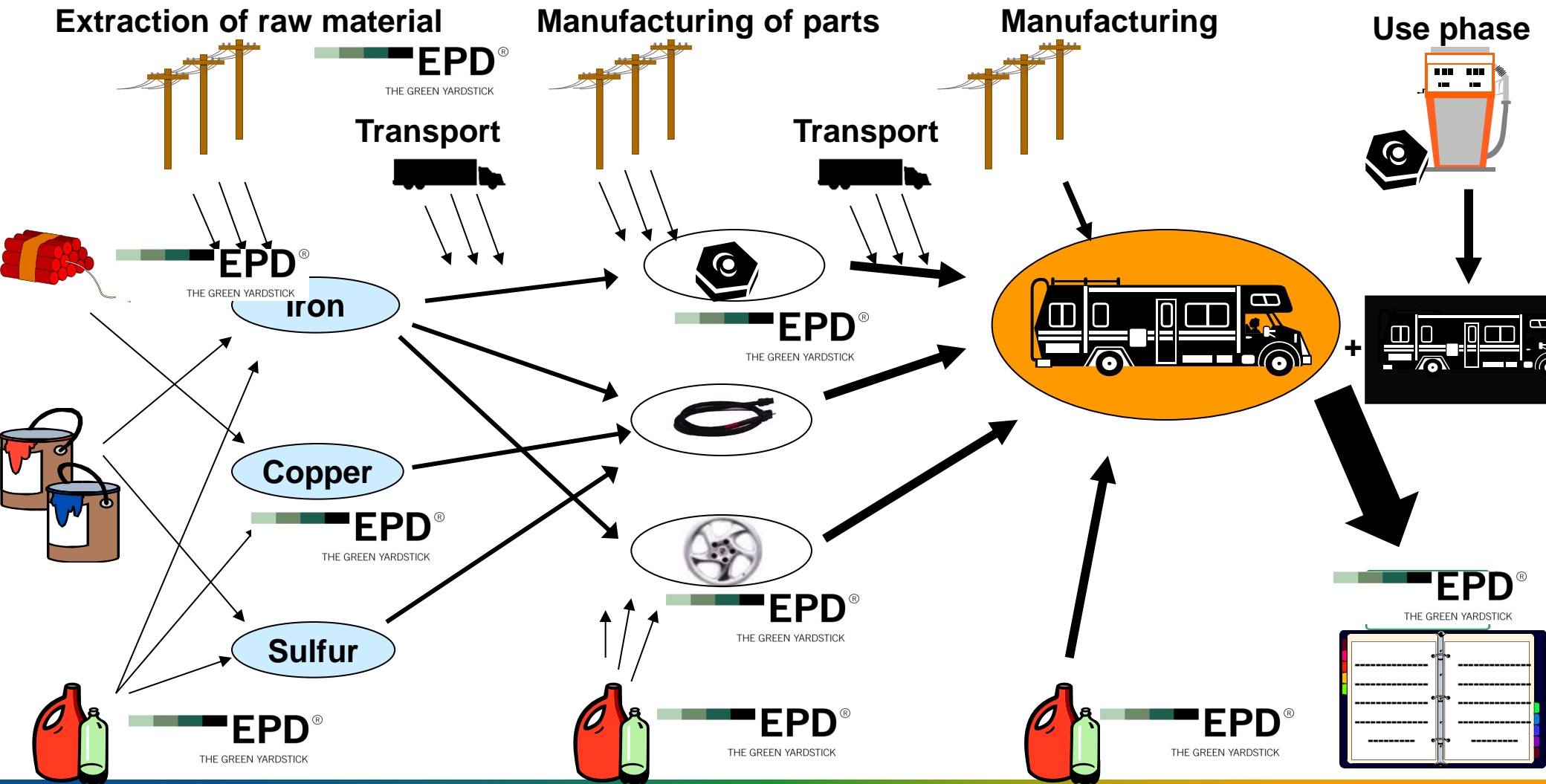
- **EPD® – Environmental Product Declaration – an information system to describe environmental properties of products and services based on facts**
- **Open for all products and services**
- **Based on ISO 14025**
- **Third party verified and certified**
- **An EPD® for electricity and district heat contains**
  - Life Cycle Assessment (LCA)
  - Land-use
  - Study of impacts on biodiversity
  - Environmental Risk Assessment (ERA)
  - Radiology
  - Proliferation



# Use for EPDs and underlying studies



# Added information throughout the supply chain



# Product category

## Example: Electricity Steam and hot (cold) water

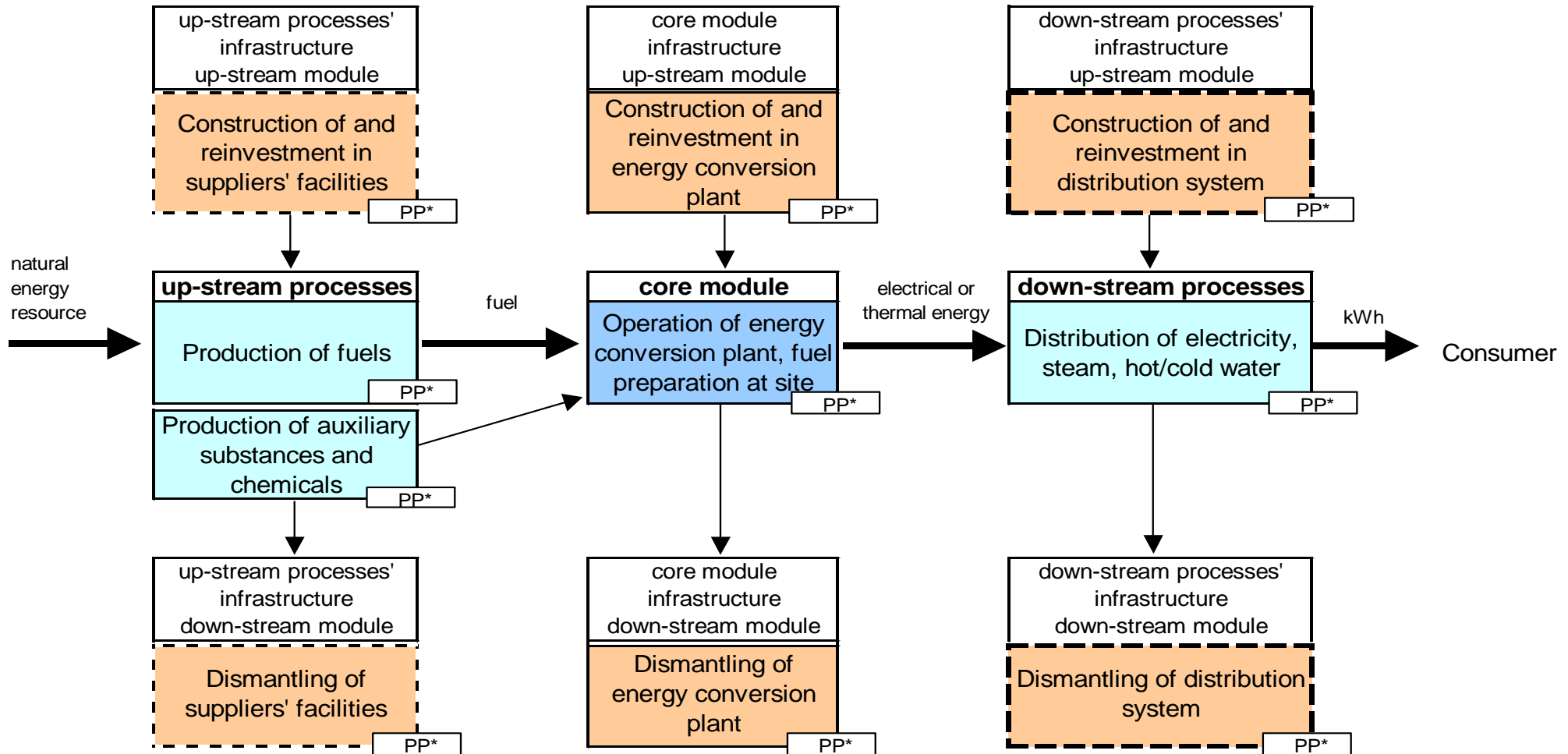
### Code according to UNCPC (United Nation Central Product Classification)

- **Section: 1**- Ores and minerals; electricity, gas and water
  - **Division: 17** – Electricity, steam, and hot (cold) water
    - **Groups:**
      - 171 – Electrical energy
      - 172 – Steam and hot (cold) water

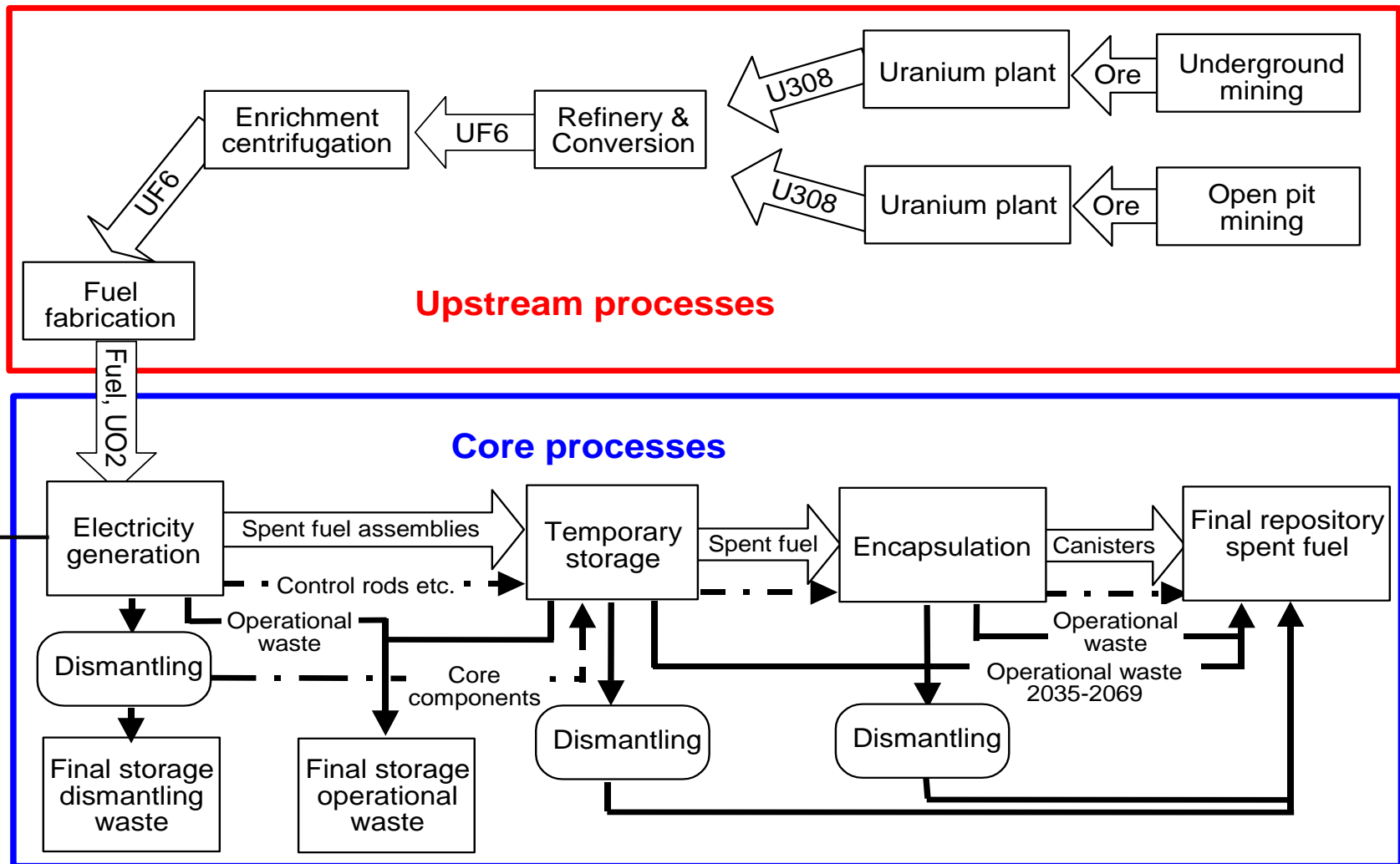
The product category includes the generation and distribution of electricity, steam, hot and cold water

- Generation: from cradle to power plant transformer inclusive or to heat delivery point to the distribution system
- Distribution: processes after transforming to customer or from heat delivery point to the customer central unit
- The use of electricity, steam, hot and cold water is not included

# Information modules (\* Polluter Pays allocation method)



# Ringhals' nuclear fuel cycle



# Rules for the core module, data requirement

- Specific data shall be used for the amounts of inputs and outputs in following activities
  - operation of energy conversion plant
  - fuel preparation processes at energy conversion site e.g. drying and grinding
  - maintenance activities e.g. lubrication
  - operation (also test operation) of backup power and heat
  - distances for the transportation wastes and type of vehicles and thus emissions
  - handling/treatment/storage waste

# Rules for **upstream** processes (1)

- **Fuel production**

- Extraction of natural energy resources
- Processing of fuel
- Preparation of fuel
- Fuel storage operation
- Transports: extraction/farming-> refinery->conversion plant

- **Production of auxiliary inputs to the core module**

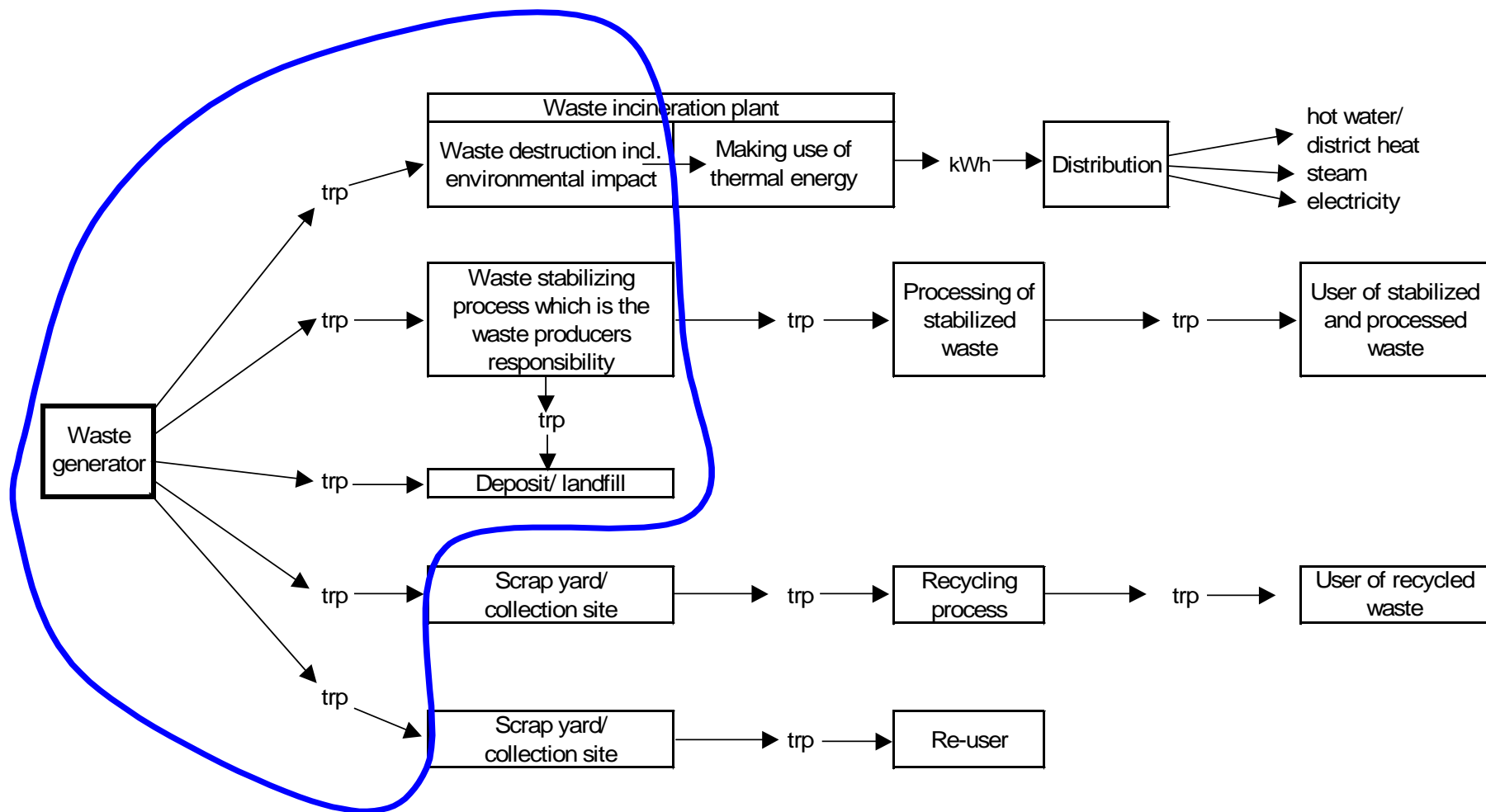
- Extraction of natural resources for auxiliary inputs (fuels and electricity used by suppliers, materials, chemicals)
- Production of fuels and electricity used by suppliers and auxiliary materials and chemicals
- Storage of auxiliary materials and chemicals at energy conversion site
- Transports: extraction -> processing -> conversion plant



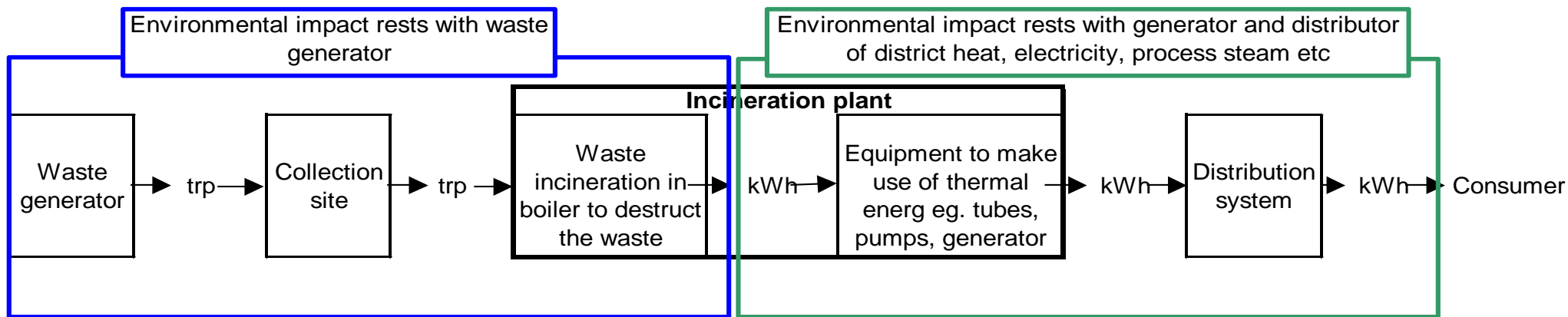
# Rules for **upstream** processes (2)

- **Production of fuel for the energy conversion plant**
- **Specific data** should be used for
  - **production of main fuels**
  - **distances** for the transportation within the fuel production chain and to the energy conversion plant and type of vehicles and the emissions
- **Generic data** may be used for
  - production of fuels **bought on the spot market**
  - **transportation** services (fuel use and emissions in conjunction with transportation)
  - resource use and emissions in conjunction with electricity, auxiliary materials and chemicals used in **fuel suppliers'** processes
  - national or regional **mixes for electricity** generation
  - resource use and emissions in conjunction with treatment of operational waste from fuel suppliers' processes

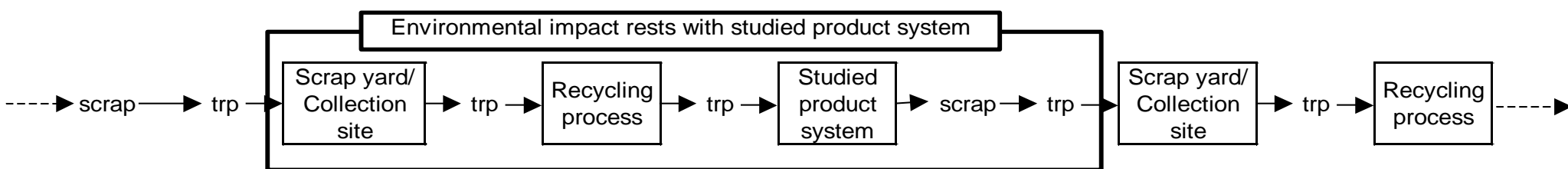
# Polluter Pays allocation method



# Shared burdens



# No double counting



# Data sources for Europe

MATERIAL	DATABASE
Steel	IISI (International Iron and Steel Institute)
Primary copper Copper products	ICA (International Copper Association) European Copper Institut (Deutsches Kupferinstitut – Life Cycle Center)
Electricity	ecoinvent Data combined with IEA (International Energy Agency) statistics on electricity generation mixes for nations, regions etc.
Fuels	ecoinvent
Aluminium	EAA (European Aluminium Association)
Plastics	PE Plastics Europe (former APME Association of Plastics Manufacturers in Europe)
Chemicals	PE Plastics Europe (former APME Association of Plastics Manufacturers in Europe), ecoinvent
Electronic components	EIME (Environmental Information and Management Explorer) EcoBilan
Transports	NTM or regional alternatives <sup>1</sup>
Waste management, other construction material	ecoinvent

**Warning allocation!!!**

# Credible and high quality data are key in the LCA

**Differences in the following will give differences in the results**

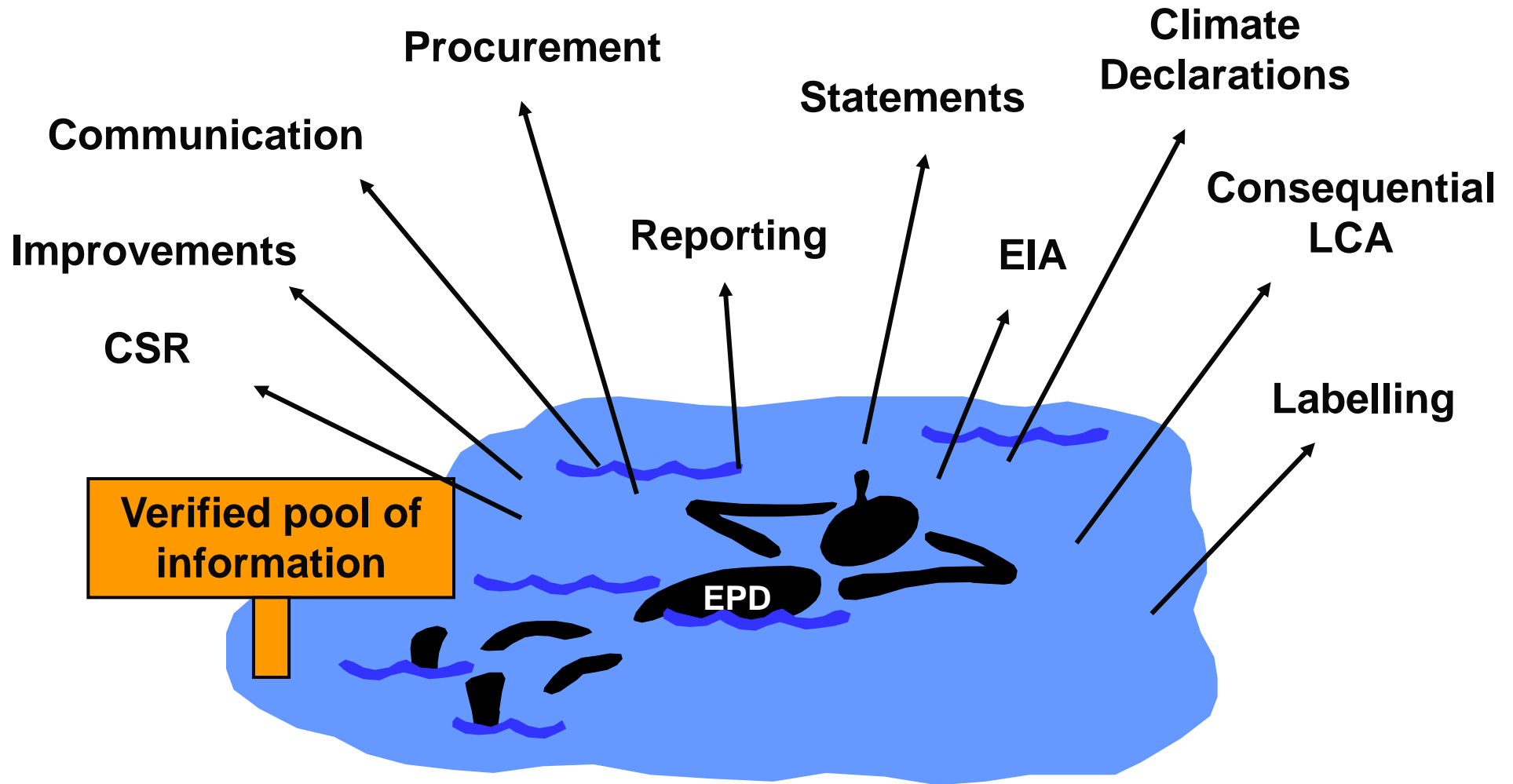
- **System boundaries**
- **System expansion or not**
- **Cut offs**

**We also need / want**

- **Information about the data - “meta data”**
- **The data are given in modules**

**Thus we have requirements on generic data concerning those key issues and that will help to avoid ambiguity**

# Use for EPDs and underlying studies



# Thank you

- [birgit.bodlund@vattenfall.com](mailto:birgit.bodlund@vattenfall.com)
- [www.vattenfall.com](http://www.vattenfall.com)
- [www.vattenfall.se](http://www.vattenfall.se) (in Swedish)
- [www.environdec.com](http://www.environdec.com)