



# Biological recycling and treatment processes - Climate impacts

**Klaus Fricke and Christiane Pereira**

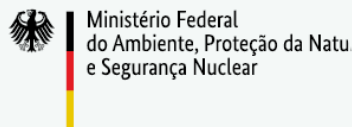


O ProteGEEr é um projeto de cooperação técnica entre o Brasil e a Alemanha para promover uma gestão sustentável e integrada dos resíduos sólidos urbanos, articulada com as políticas de proteção do clima.

[www.protegeer.gov.br](http://www.protegeer.gov.br)  
[www.teach4waste.com](http://www.teach4waste.com)



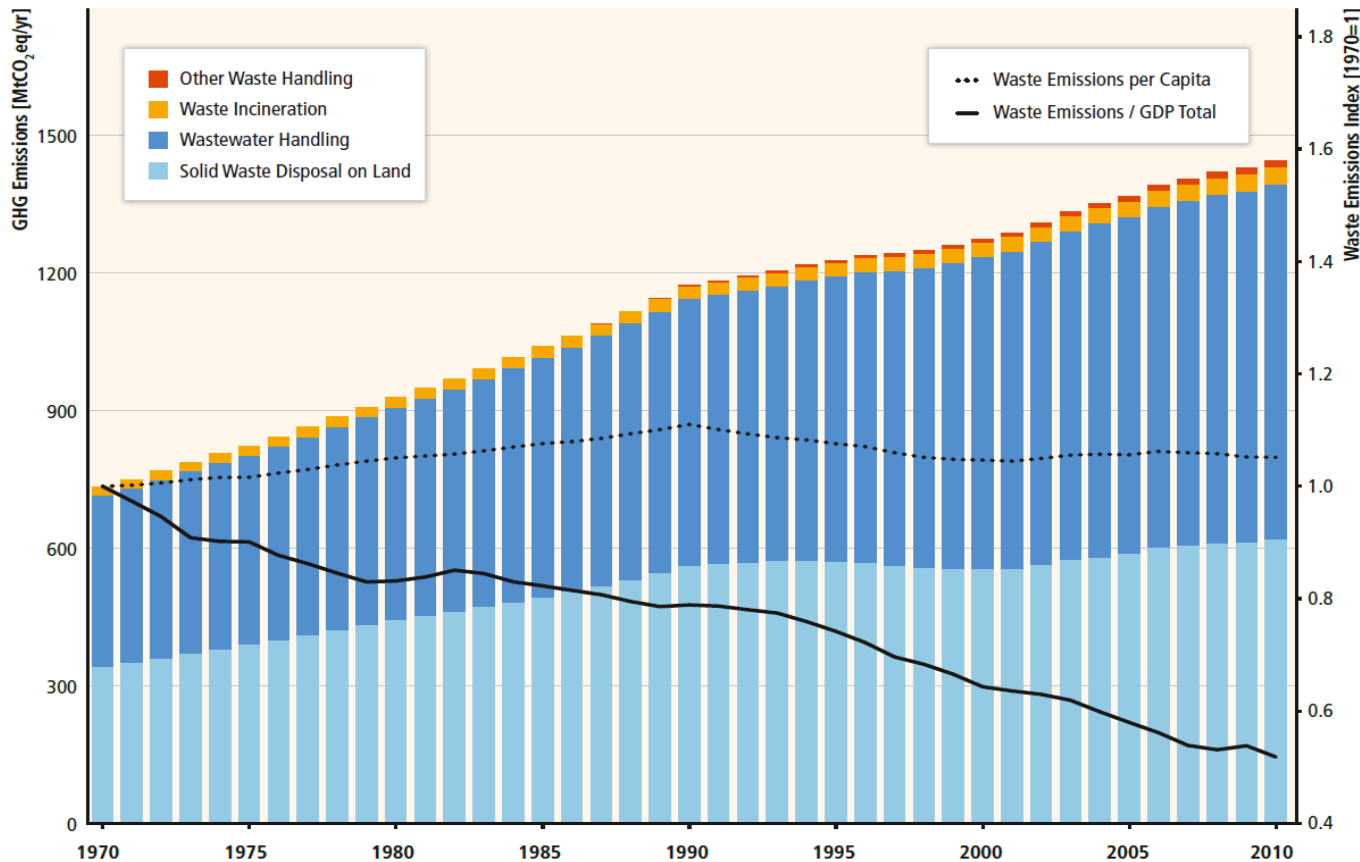
POR ORDEM DO



- Students should acquire basic knowledge of the climate impact of the various waste management measures and be able to use this knowledge to carry out weak-point analyses
- With the options for action learned, they should be able to develop climate-friendly measures



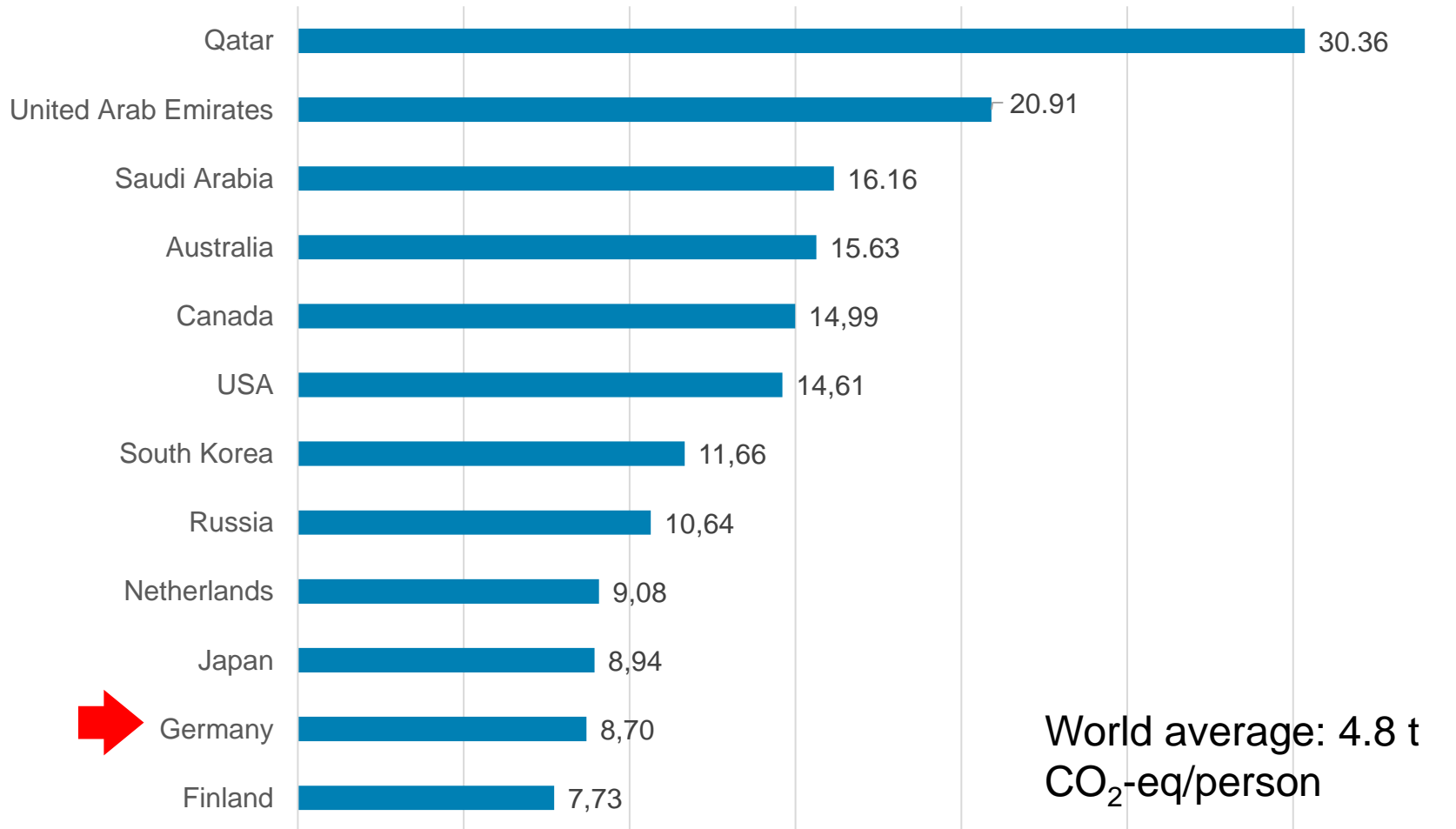
## Global waste GHG emissions Mt CO<sub>2</sub>-eq per year and GDP per capita, referred to 1970



**Up to 12 %**  
of total GHG  
emissions in  
developing  
countries and  
emerging markets  
originate from the  
waste sector

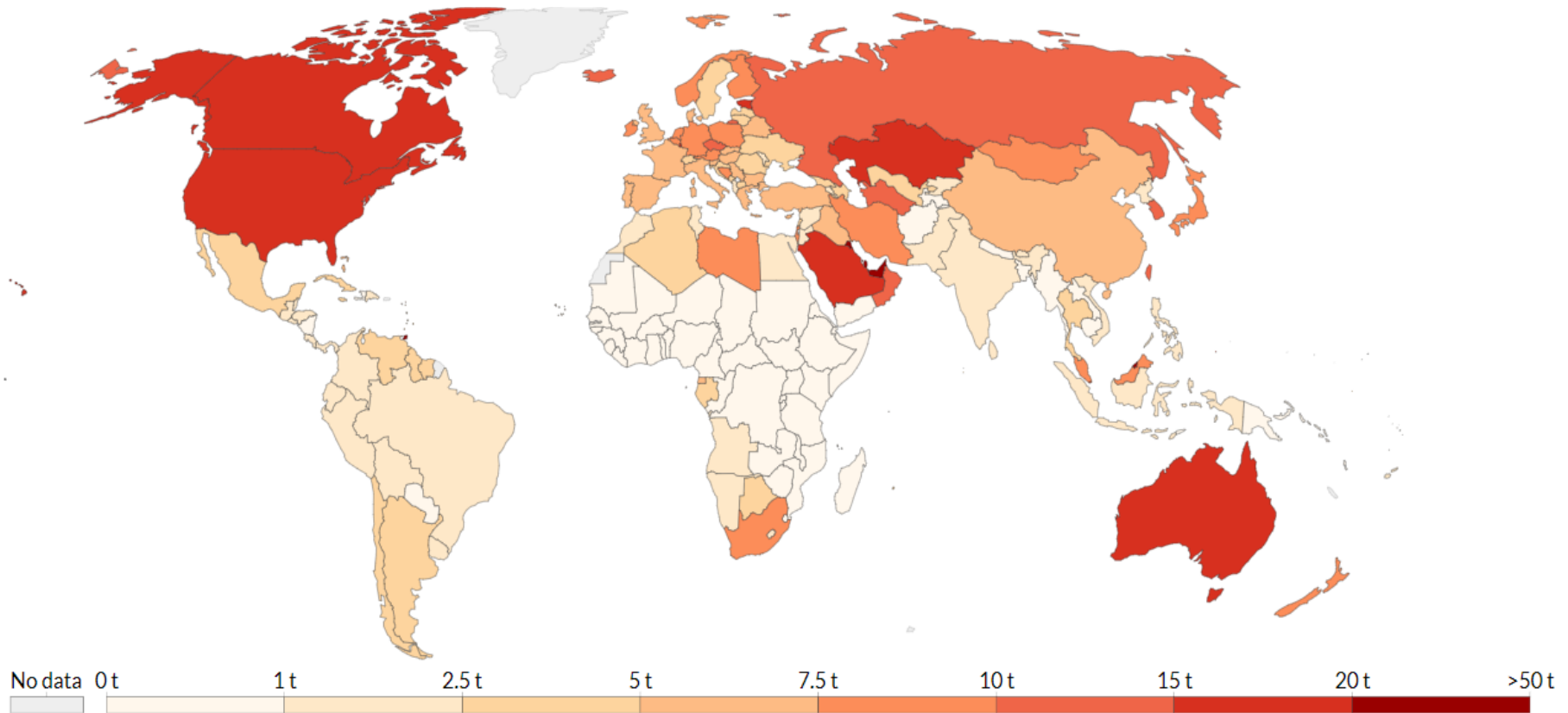
Source: IPCC, 2014

# GHG emissions in t CO<sub>2</sub>-eq per citizen in selected countries (status 2018)



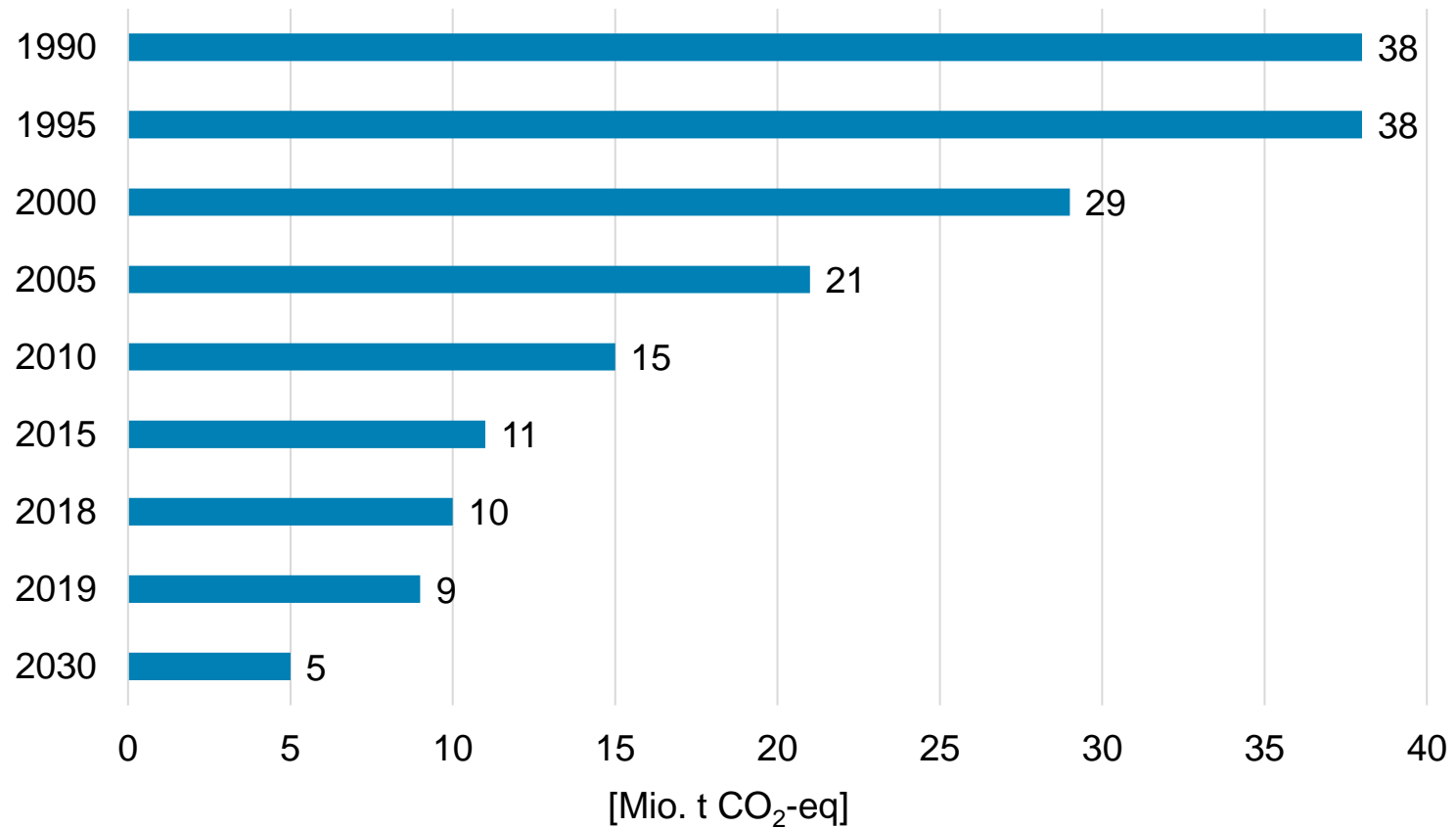
Source: Statista, 2020: <https://de.statista.com/statistik/daten/studie/167877/umfrage/co-emissionen-nach-laendern-je-einwohner/>

## CO<sub>2</sub> emissions per capita in 2017



Source: OWID based on the Global Carbon Project; Carbon Dioxide Information Analysis Centre (CDIAC); Gapminder and UN population estimates

## Development of GHG emissions from the waste sector in Germany, 1990 - 2019 – without credits

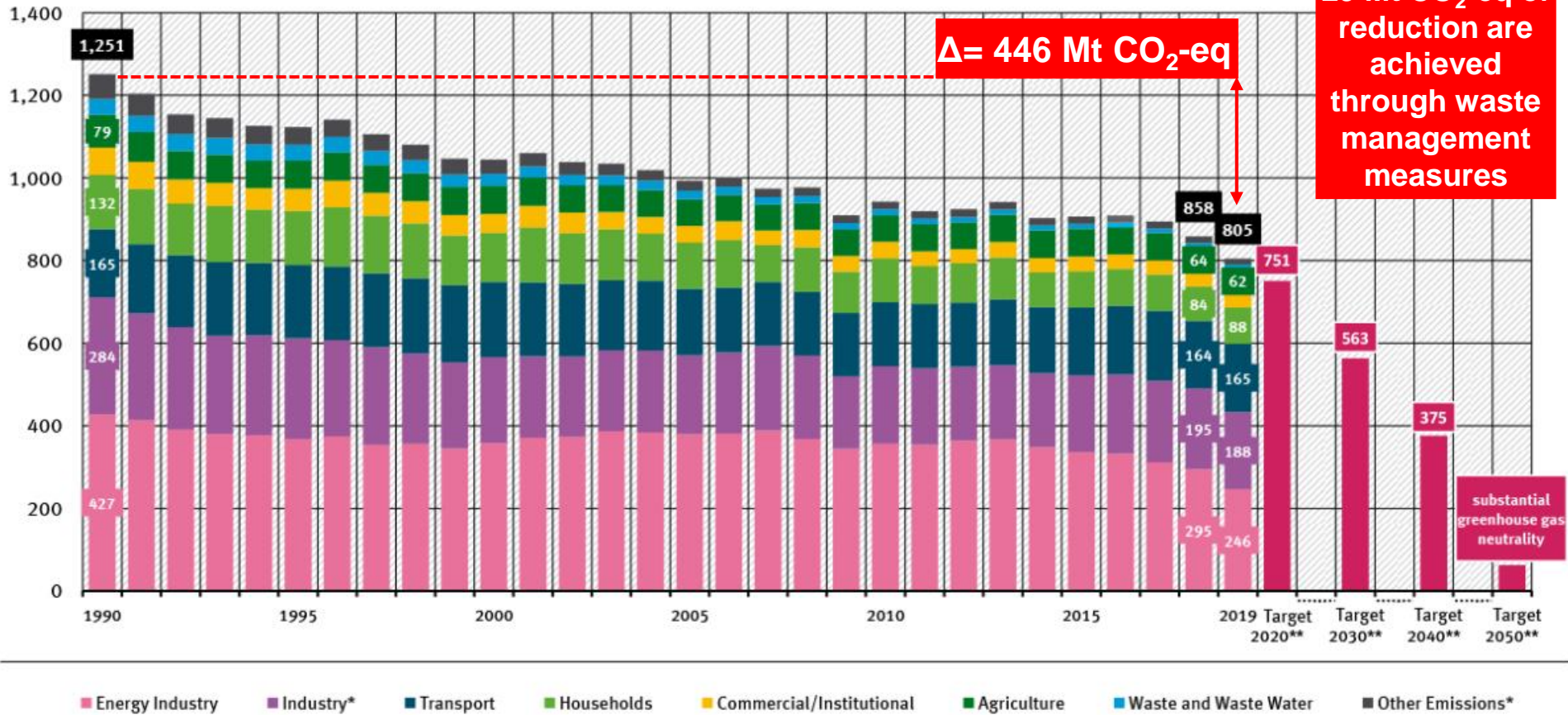


Source: UBA, 2020a (modified)



## Development GHG emissions in Germany 1990 - 2019

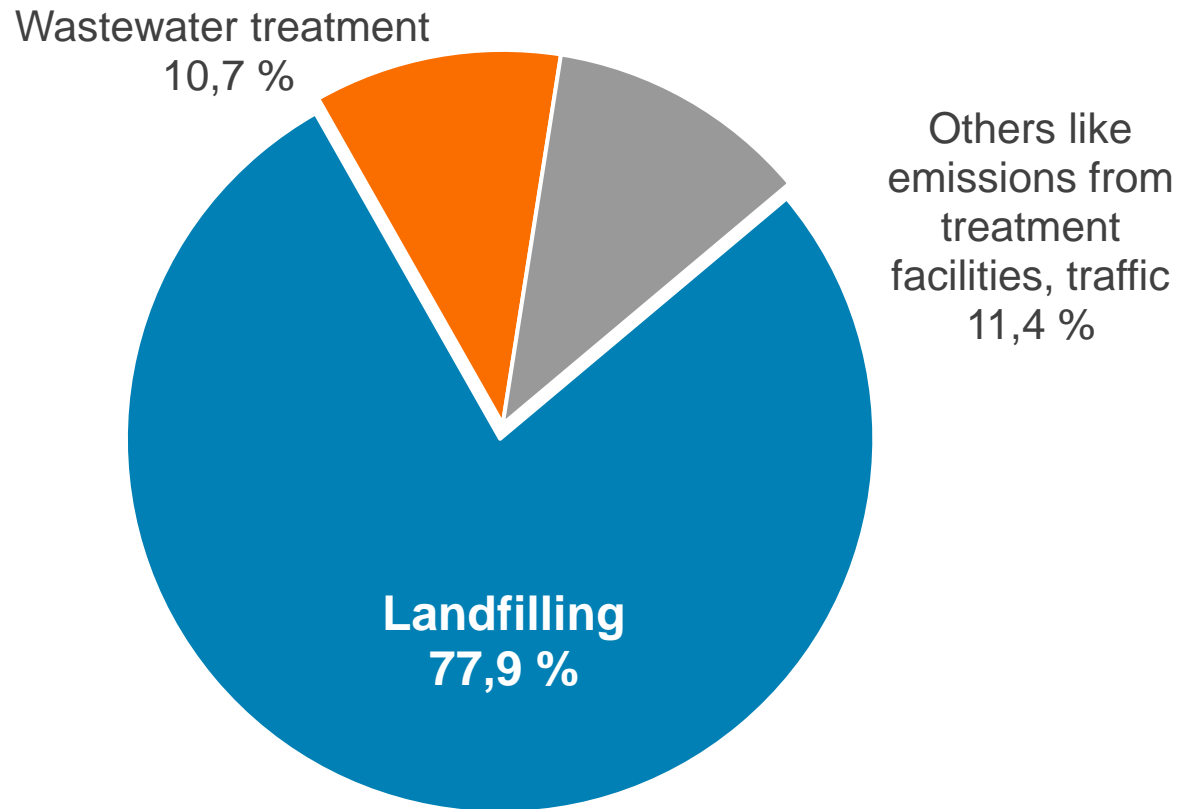
Million tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalents



Source: UBA, 2020

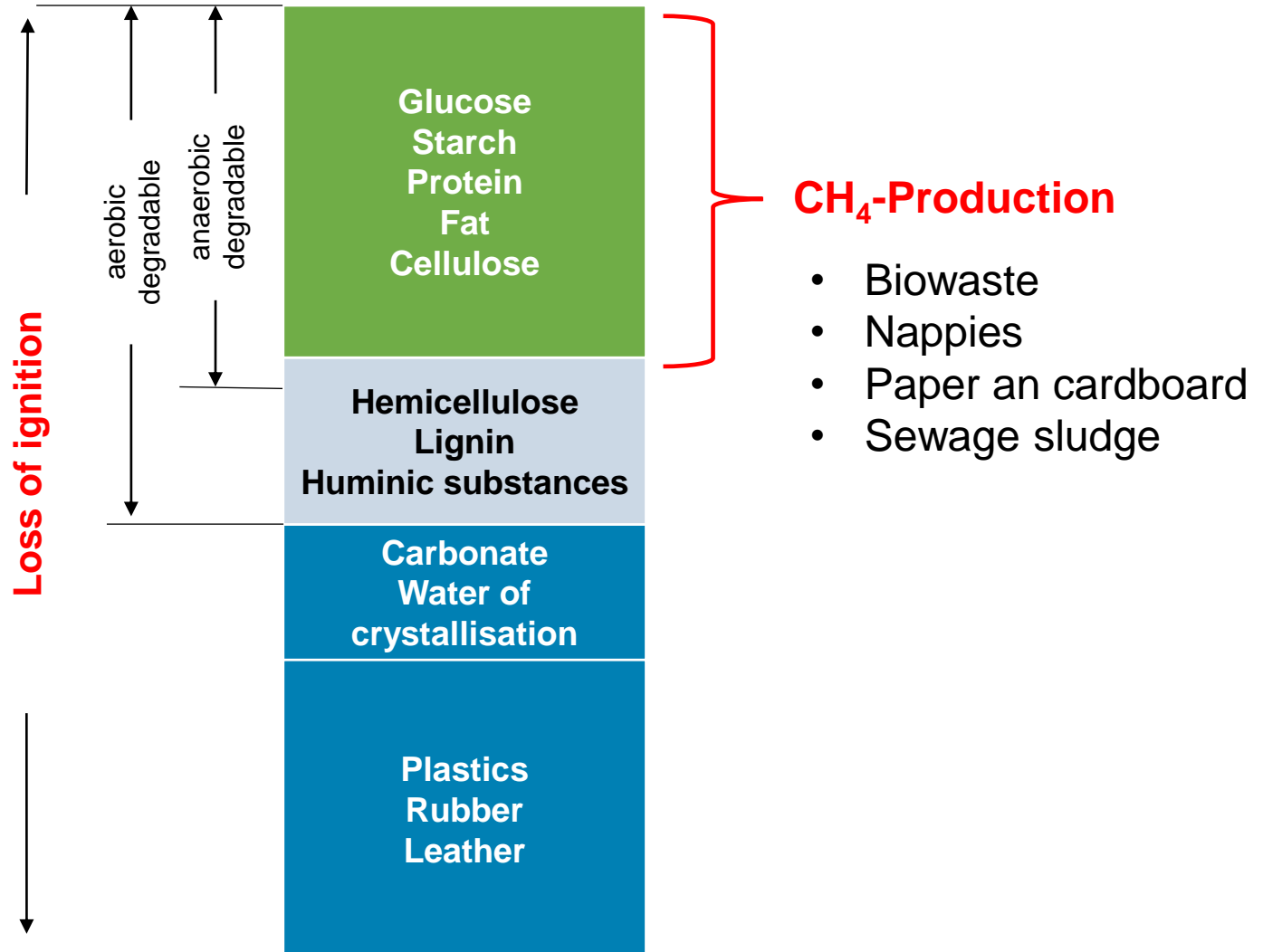


## GHG sources from the sector waste and wastewater treatment in 2018 - without CO<sub>2</sub> from biomass use



Source: BMU, 2020

# GHG emissions from landfills - Relevant raw materials



The total effect of waste management measures results from the sum of GHG credits and GHG emissions:

$$CO_{2,eq,total} = \sum_{i=1}^n Emissions_i - \sum_{k=1}^n Emissions\ Credits_k$$

## GHG mitigation in Germany from the sector of waste management from 1990 up to 2018:

- By GHG emissions 29 Mio. t CO<sub>2</sub>-eq/a
- By GHG credits through recycling and energy recovery 20 Mio. t CO<sub>2</sub>-eq/a
- GHG avoidance through waste management measures **0.61 t CO<sub>2</sub>-eq/person\*a**

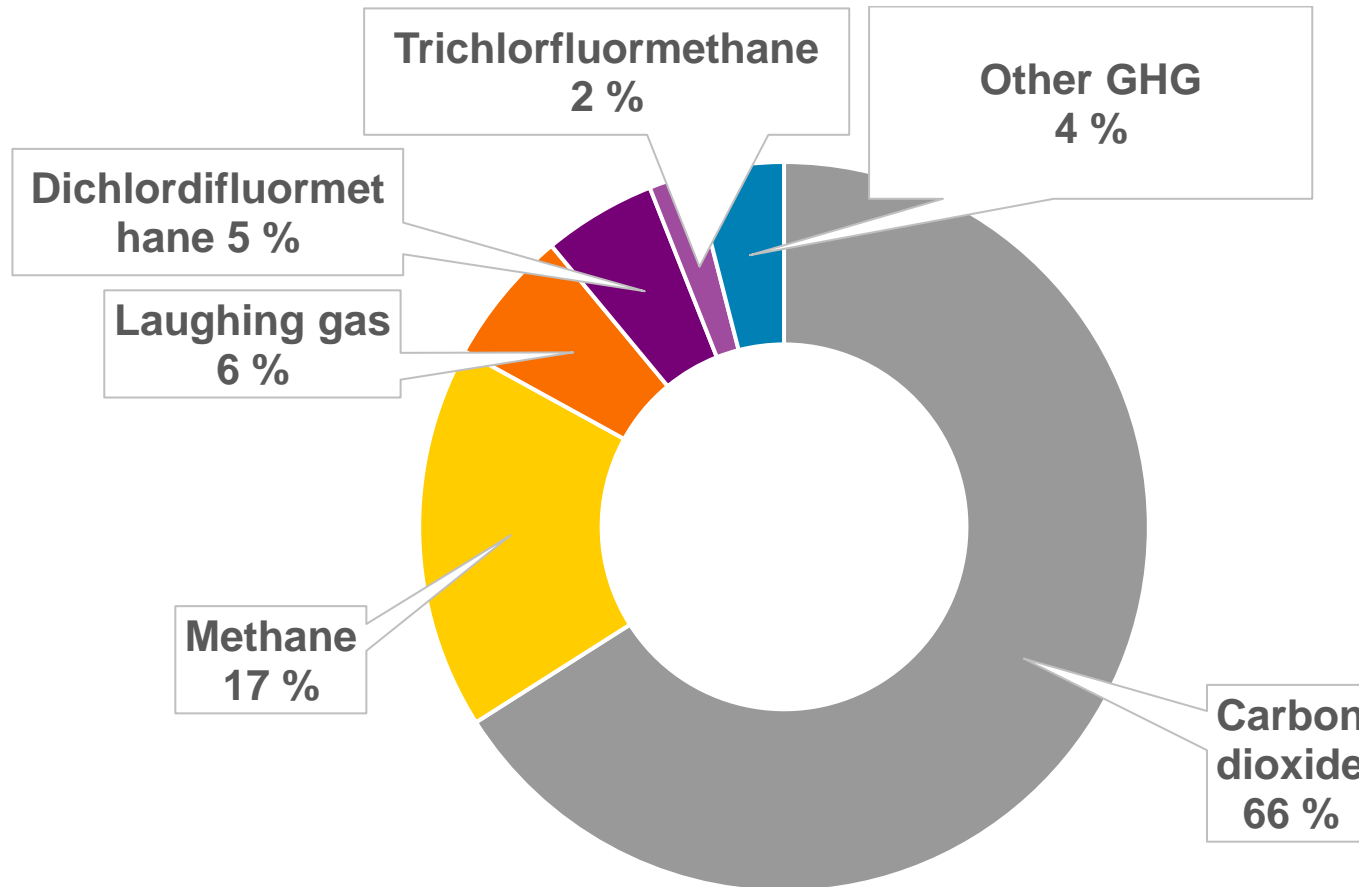
Source: UBA 2018 (modified)

# GHG credits of individual waste management measures as of 2011 and projected for 2030

Waste management measures	2011	2030	2030
	Satus quo	Status quo	optimised
[1,000 t CO <sub>2</sub> -eq/a]			
<b>Landfill</b>	163	0	0
<b>Waste incineration</b>	-1,691	-14	-2
<b>MBT</b>	-951	-1,246	-5,473
<b>Recycling</b>			
• Biowaste	-180*	-180*	2,600*
• Greenwaste	-14	61	-183
• Paper and cardboard	-6,120	-7,457	-9,290
• Glass	-1,232	-1,155	-1,155
• Light packages	-2,100	-2,840	-5,301
• Metals	-1,781	-1,842	-1,842
• Electronic waste	-764	-764	1,076
<b>Wood (biomass power plants)</b>	-5.060	-3,108	-5,624
<b>Total</b>	<b>-19.731</b>	<b>-18,188</b>	<b>-32,546</b>

(Ökonositut, 2014, \* Own data)

## Contribution of different greenhouse gases to the greenhouse gas effect



Source: UBA 2018 (modified)

# Specifications of GHG - Global warming potential (GWP)



GHG	Concentration today	Average lifespan	GWP	Global share greenhouse effect	Share greenhouse effect in GER
Units	[ppm]*	[a]	[weight unit over 100 a]	[%]	[%]
Carbon dioxide (CO <sub>2</sub> )	407.38	120	<b>1</b>	66	88.2
Methane (CH <sub>4</sub> )	1.92	15	<b>25</b>	17	6
Nitrous oxide (N <sub>2</sub> O)	0.33	114	<b>298</b>	6	4.2

\* Except water vapour

Source: UBA, 2017

## Credits for saving or providing electricity and heat

- Calorific value of waste
- Electric and thermal efficiency ( $\eta$ ) of the incineration plant
- **Emission factors** for substituted electricity and heat

### Calculation:

- Emissions from incineration  $= m \text{ (waste)} * C_{fos} * 44/12$
- Credit for electricity from incineration  $= m \text{ (waste)} * Hu \text{ (waste)} * \eta_{el} * EF$   
Electricity
- Credit for heat from incineration  $= m \text{ (waste)} * Hu \text{ (waste)} * \eta_{th} * EF$  Heat



$$\textit{Emissions intensity} \left[ \frac{\textit{g CO}_2}{\textit{kWh}} \right] = \frac{\textit{direct CO}_2 \textit{ emissions}}{\textit{Electricity consumption}}$$

### Relevance for calculation:

- Energy saving through avoidance, reuse and recycling
- Energy generation using fuels produced from waste
- Energy generation using biomass fuels produced from waste

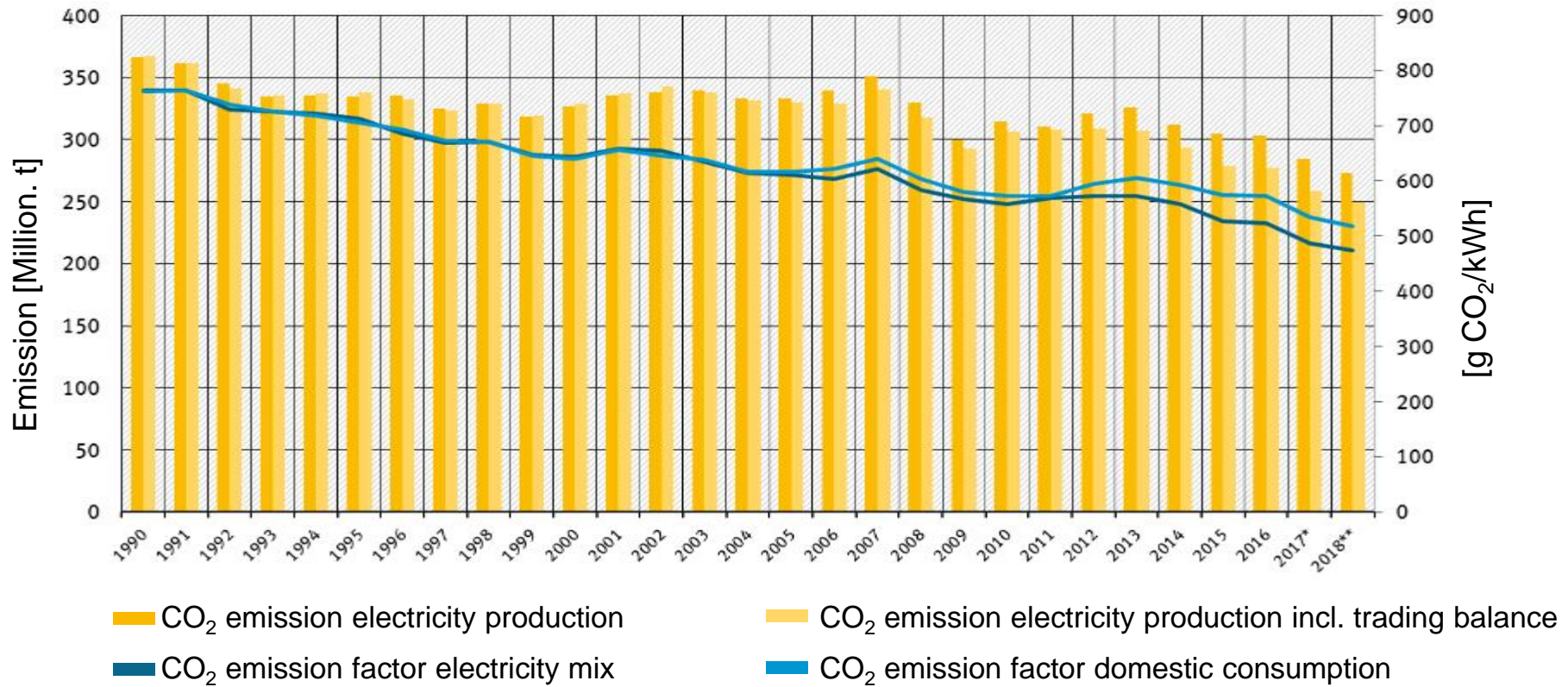
## Dependency of credits from the reference system:

- Depending on which electricity (heat) is substituted, different credits result.
- The lower the emissions from substituted electricity (heat), the lower the credits for electricity (heat) from incineration.
- That means for a decarbonized world, in which the most of the electricity (heat) comes from regenerative energy: Incineration gains less and less credits for electricity (heat)

Electricity	Credits for 1 kWh
Unit	[kg CO <sub>2</sub> -eq]
German electricity mix	0.40
French electricity mix	0.06
Brazilian electricity mix	0.29
Lignite-based electricity	1.22

Source: ecoinvent V 3.4 2017; UBA 2020

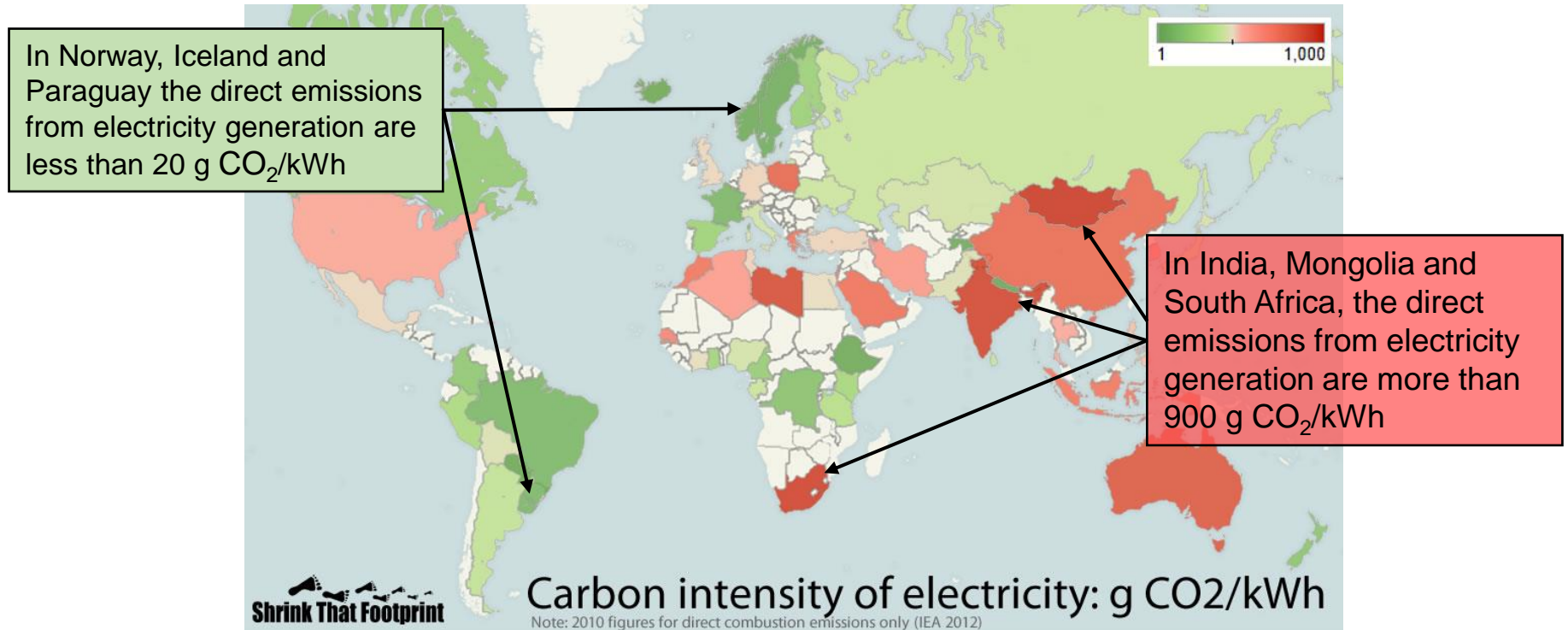
# GHG credits by energy saving - CO<sub>2</sub> emissions intensity in GER



$$Emissions\ intensity\ \left[ \frac{g\ CO_2}{kWh} \right] = \frac{direct\ CO_2\ emissions}{Electricity\ consumption}$$

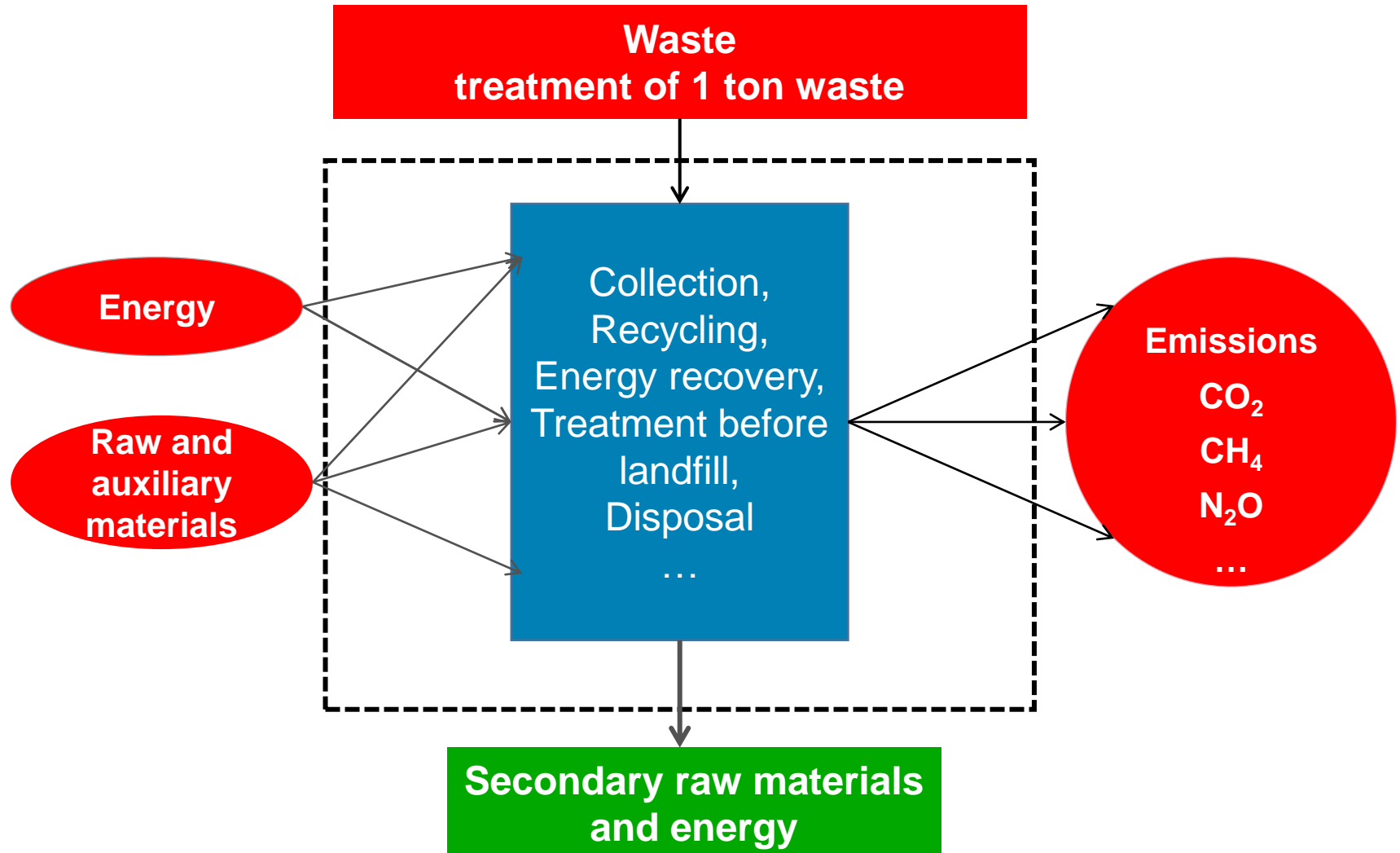
Source: UBA, 2019

# GHG credits by energy saving - CO<sub>2</sub> emissions intensity worldwide



CO<sub>2</sub> emissions intensity for the electricity around the world in 2010 [g/kWh]

Source: shrinkthatfootprint.com



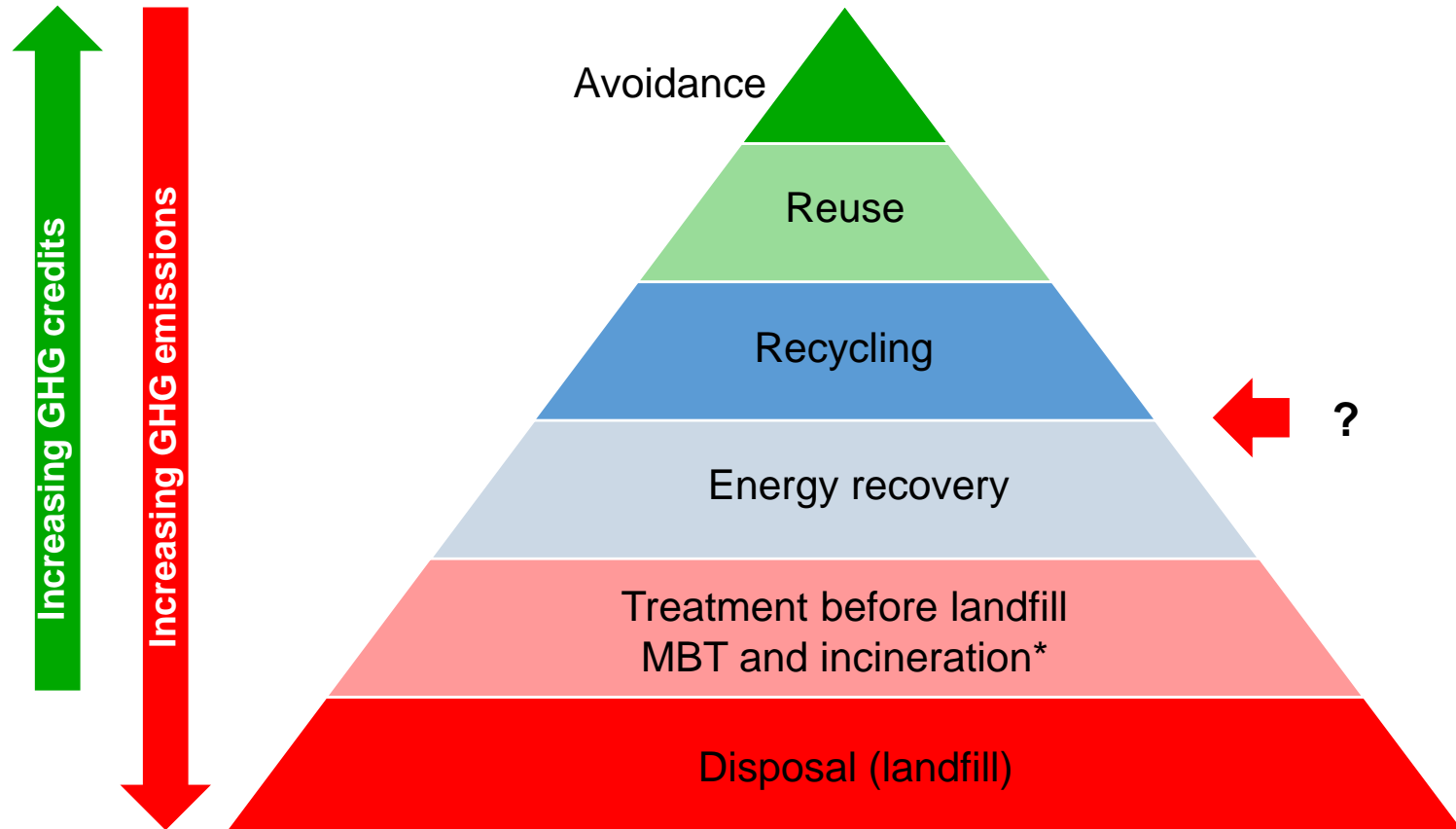
## GHG emission reduction

- Collection and transportation
- Processing e.g.
  - Sorting, composting, digestion, incineration
- Using secondary resources
- Landfilling

## GHG credits

- Prevention
- Reuse
- Recycling
- Energy recovery
- Landfill gas utilisation

**Sustainable waste management**



\*Not included in the official waste hierarchy of Germany and the EU as a separate level



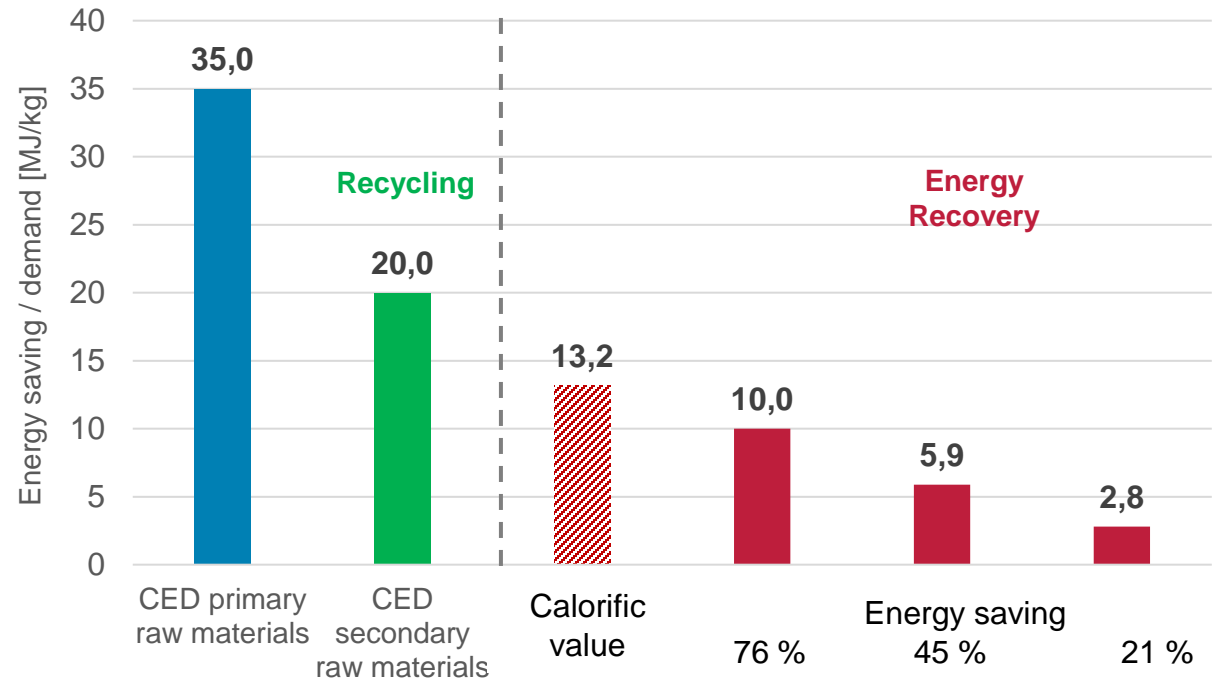
# Material recycling vs. energy recovery - What is the most sustainable strategy?

- **Material recycling vs. energy recovery**
- What is the most sustainable strategy in terms of:
  - Resource efficiency?
  - Environmental protection, i.e. mitigation of **GHG emissions**?



### Example paper fibre:

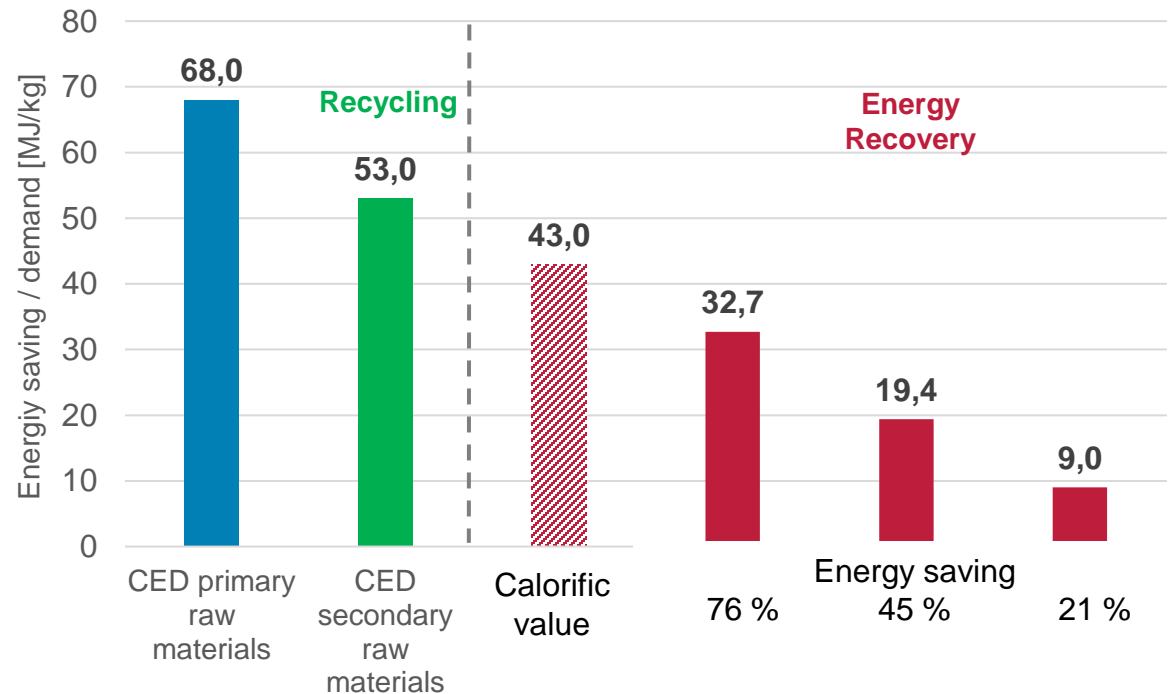
- 35 MJ/kg: Cumulated energy demand (CED) of primary raw materials
- 15 MJ/kg CED of equivalent paper made from wastepaper
- 20 MJ/kg energy saving by recycling
- Lower calorific value (LCV) 13.2 MJ/kg calorific value of paper
- Max. 10 MJ/kg energy saving by energy recovery
- Energy efficiency in German waste incineration plants 21 % up to 76 %



Source: Fricke et al. 2011

### Example LDPE polymer:

- 68 MJ/kg: CED of primary raw materials
- 15 MJ/kg CED of equivalent LDPE made from waste LDPE
- 53 MJ/kg energy saving by recycling
- LCV 43 MJ/kg calorific value of waste LDPE
- Max. 32.7 MJ/kg energy saving by energy recovery



Source: Fricke et al. 2011

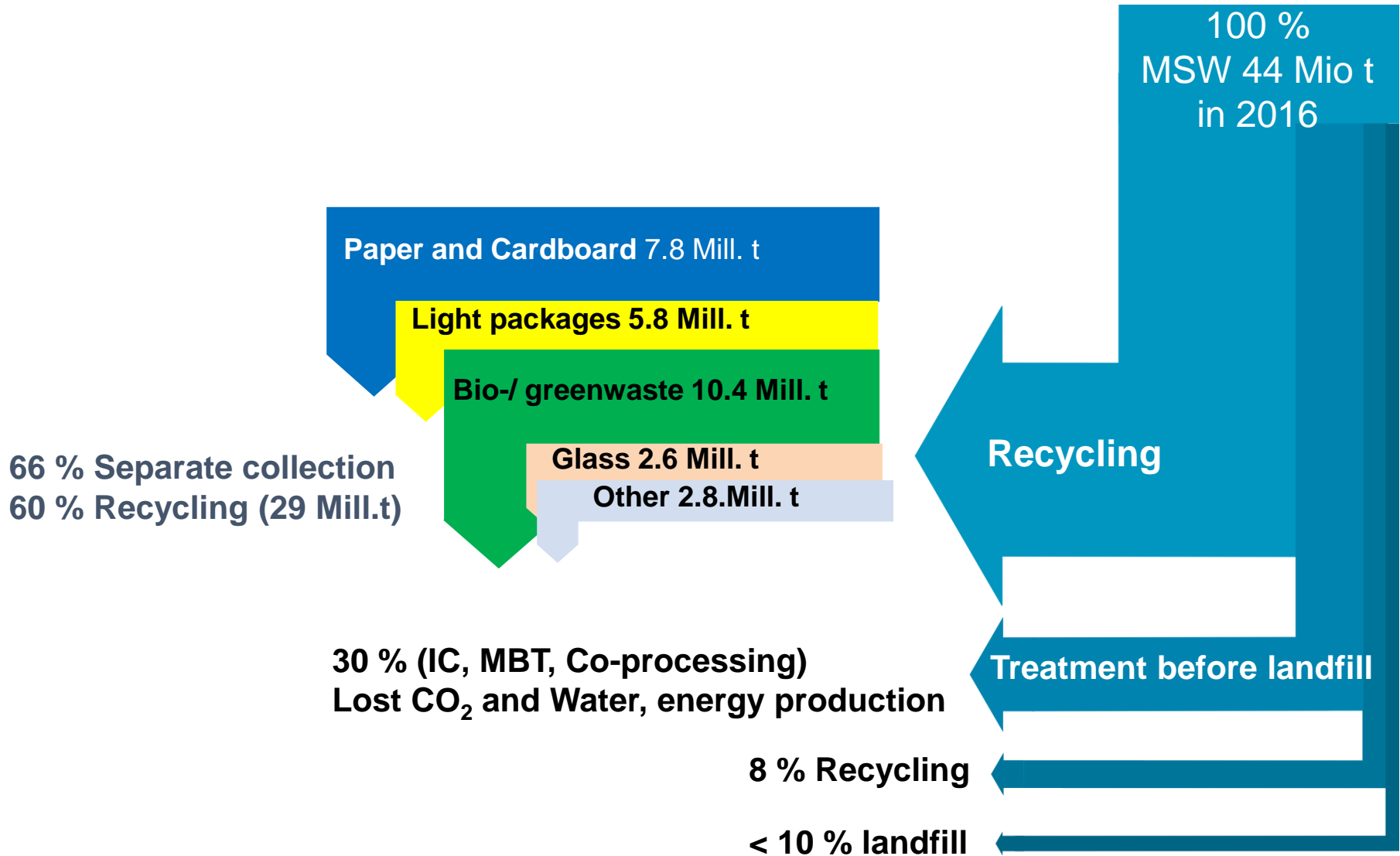
### Cumulated energy demand and lower calorific values for different polymers

Polymers	Cumulated energy demand (CED)	Lower calorific value (LCV)
Units	[MJ/kg]	[MJ/kg]
LD-PE	68	43
Polystyrol	79	40
Polyamid-6	166	28
PP	72	43
PVC	51	18

 The higher the difference between CED and LCV, the higher the energy saving factor by (material) recycling!!!

Sources: Kindler and Nikles, 1979 HTP and IFEU, 2001

# Mass flow MSW Germany - Separate collection



# Recycling - GHG emissions, losses and credits

	Emissions of recycling process	Recycling losses	Substituted raw materials	Credits
Units	[kg CO <sub>2</sub> -eq/kg] Input into recycling	[%]		[kg CO <sub>2</sub> -eq/kg] raw material
HDPE	0.37	25	HDPE	2.03
LDPE	0.69	30	LDPE	2.18
PP	0.37	25	PP	2.06
PET	0.43	30	PET, amorphous	3.13
PS	0.32	15	PS	3.60
Paper	0.37	32	Fiber (chemical/mechanical pulp)	1.11
Glass	0.02	10	Glass fragments	0.46
Metal	0.42	5	Steel, low alloy	1.91
Aluminum	0.57	5	Aluminum, wrought alloy	9.55



Source: Öko Institut, 2018, eigene Daten

### Simplified example calculation (PET)

Input recycling		Recycling		Output recycling	
PET-waste	1 kg	Loss	30 %	Secondary PET	0.70 kg
Electricity	0.7 kWh			Emissions-Electricity	0.40 kg CO <sub>2</sub> -eq/kWh

### Emissions for 1 kg primary PET

3.13 kg CO<sub>2</sub>-eq

### Overall results PET recycling.

- Emissions for recycling:  $0.7 \text{ kWh} * 0.40 \text{ kg CO}_2\text{-eq/kWh} = 0.28 \text{ kg CO}_2\text{-eq}$
- Avoided emission production:  $0.7 * 3.13 \text{ kg CO}_2\text{-eq} = 2.19 \text{ kg CO}_2\text{-eq}$
- **Total balance:** **= - 1.91 kg CO<sub>2</sub>-eq**



# Material recycling vs. energy recovery

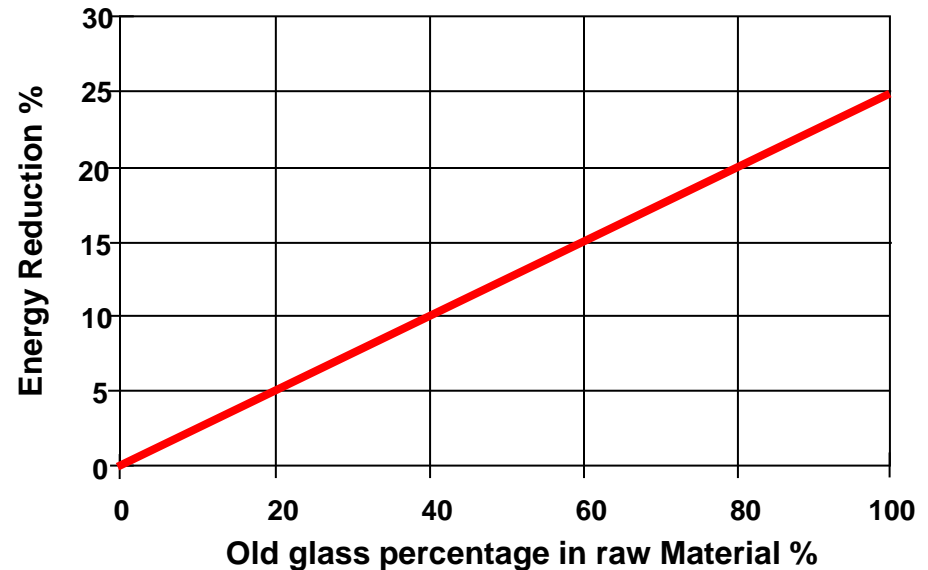
## - Conclusion

- Regarding resource efficiency, material recycling shows **significant advantages** compared to energy recovery and disposal for paper and plastics
- **Biowaste** recycling is more sustainable if cascade use takes place, this means biogas utilization **and** compost use
- **Metals** (except aluminum) and **glass** can be used only for recycling, as they are not suitable for incineration
- **Higher energy efficiency** corresponds to **lower climate effects**

- With increased use of old glass, the melting point is lowered
- Resource saving:
  - Energy
  - Quartz sand
  - Soda
  - Lime

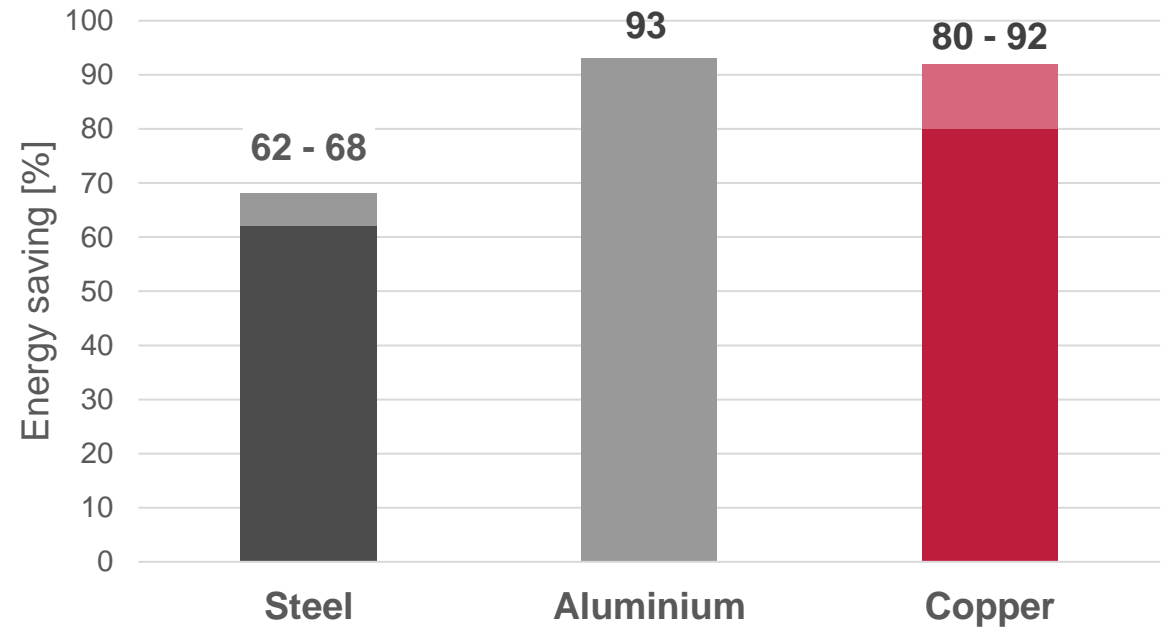


## Energy saving by glass recycling

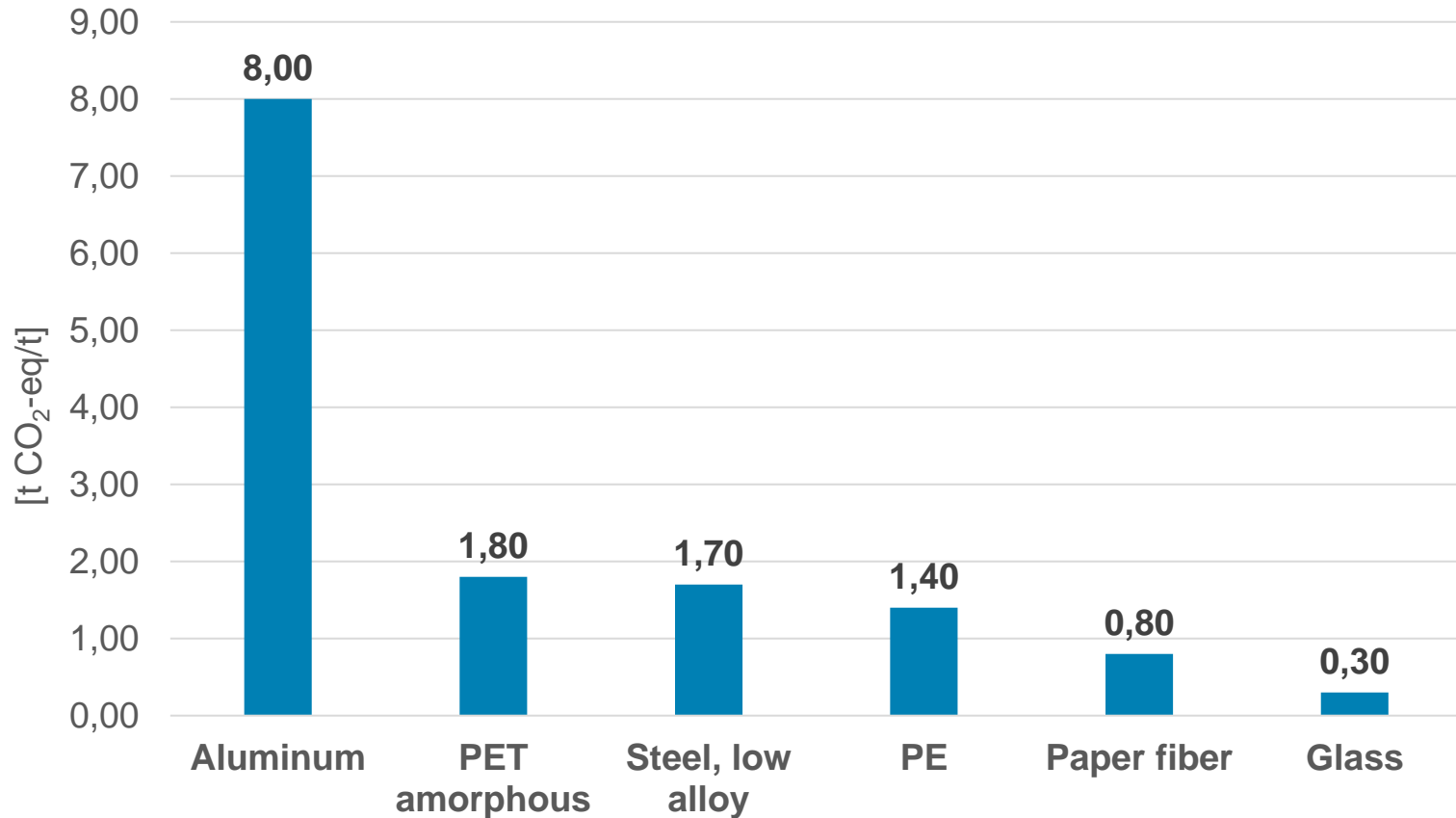




### Energy saving by metal recycling



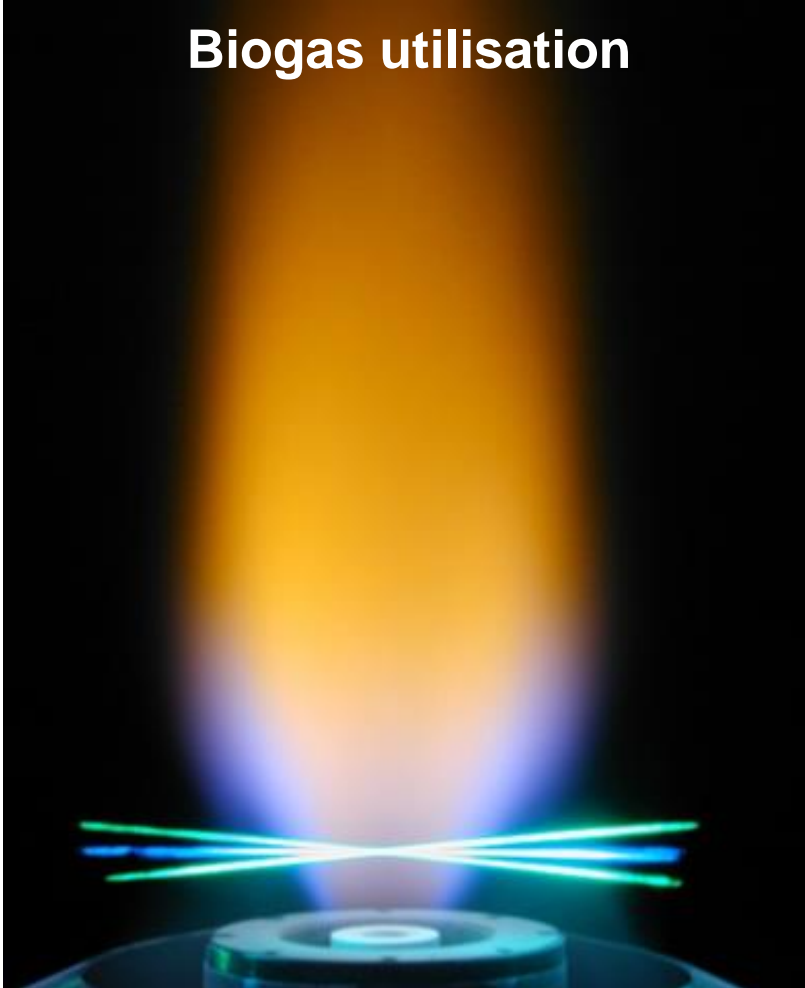
Credits in ton CO<sub>2</sub>-eq per ton recycling material



Source: regarding to Öko Institut, 2018

Material	Credits
Unit	[t CO <sub>2</sub> -eq/t recycling]
Paper and cardboard	0.6 - 2.5
Glass	0.4 - 0.5
Plastics	1.0 - 2.0
Ferrous metals	1.8 - 2.0
Aluminium	9 - 10
Biowaste	0.13 - 0.39

## Biogas utilisation



## Compost use



# Recycling of biowaste

## - Example calculation methodology

$$CO_{2,eq,total} = \sum_{i=1}^n Emissions_i - \sum_{k=1}^n Emission Credits_k$$

$$\sum_{i=1}^n E_i = E_{Collection} + E_{Transport} + E_{Compost\ process} + E_{Composting\ energy\ consum.} + E_{Compost\ transport} + E_{Compost\ application}$$

$$\sum_{k=1}^n E Credits_k = E Credits_{Energy\ supply} + E Credits_{Nutrients} + E Credits_{Humus\ C}$$

Where:

$E$	Emissions
$i$	Index
$k$	Index
$n$	Final value



# Recycling of biowaste - Example calculation methodology

GHG emissions	GHG credits
Collection: CH <sub>4</sub> in the collecting bin, not considered because of same emission in MSW collection and no data available	Energy supply
Transport of biowaste, not considered because of alternating collection	Nutrients supply
Biological treatment process (CH <sub>4</sub> and N <sub>2</sub> O)	Humus C supply
Energy consumption of treatment process	Indirect: Mitigation of landfill GHG emissions through recycling measures for biowaste and greenwaste
Transport of compost products, not considered because of comparison with organic fertilizers	
Compost application	

### GHG emissions through energy consumption of biowaste composting process

	Energy consumption	Energy types	Spec. GHG emissions	GHG emissions
Units	[MJ/t]	[MJ/t]	[kg CO <sub>2</sub> -eq/MJ]	[kg CO <sub>2</sub> -eq/t bio waste]
Energy expenditure - <b>extensive composting</b> , rotting degree IV	170	90 % diesel	0.093	16.81
		10 % electricity	0.152	
Energy expenditure - <b>intensive composting</b> , rotting degree IV	300	30 % diesel	0.093	40.29
		70 % electricity	0.152	

## GHG emissions through energy consumption of biowaste fermentation and composting process

Expenditures and credits	Energy consumption	Energy types	Spec. GHG emissions	GHG emissions
Units	[MJ/t]	[MJ/t]	[kg CO <sub>2</sub> -eq/MJ]	[kg CO <sub>2</sub> -eq/t biowaste]
Energy expenditure-intensive <b>fermentation and composting</b> , rotting degree IV	300	20 % diesel	0.093	42.60
		80 % electricity	0.152	

## GHG emissions from composting and fermentation process

Methane	Units	Composting	Fermentation
Spec. load	kg CH <sub>4</sub> /t biowaste	1.4	2.8
GWP	kg CO <sub>2</sub> /kg CH <sub>4</sub>	25	25
CO <sub>2</sub> -eq	kg CO <sub>2</sub> -eq/t biowaste	35	70
Laughing gas			
Spec. load	kg N <sub>2</sub> O/t biowaste	0.05	0.05
GWP	kg CO <sub>2</sub> /kg N <sub>2</sub> O	298	298
CO <sub>2</sub> -eq	kg CO <sub>2</sub> -eq/t biowaste	14.9	14.9
<b>Sum</b>	<b>kg CO<sub>2</sub>-eq/t biowaste</b>	<b>49,9</b>	<b>84.9</b>

Source: UBA, 2015

## GHG emissions by compost application

Methane	Unit	Composting	Biowaste*
Spec. load	g CH <sub>4</sub> /t	<< 1	
GWP	kg CO <sub>2</sub> /kg CH <sub>4</sub>	25	
CO <sub>2</sub> -eq	kg CO <sub>2</sub> -eq/t	<< 1	<< 1
<b>Laughing gas plus 10 % of 76.2 g NH<sub>3</sub></b>			
Spec. load	g N <sub>2</sub> O/t	39,3 + 7,6 = 46.9	
GWP	kg CO <sub>2</sub> -eq/kg N <sub>2</sub> O	298	
CO <sub>2</sub> -eq	kg CO <sub>2</sub> -eq/t	14	
<b>Sum</b>	<b>kg CO<sub>2</sub>-eq/t</b>		<b>5.39</b>

\*Conversion factor of nutrient content in compost relative to compost raw material = 0.385

## GHG credits by energy recovery of residuals from biowaste processing

	Mass residues	LCV*	Energy/t biowaste	Efficiency ratio	Energy production	Spec. GHG credits	GHG credits
Units	[kg/t] biowaste	[MJ/kg]	[MJ/t]	[%]	[MJ/t]	[kg CO <sub>2</sub> -eq/MJ]	[kg CO <sub>2</sub> -eq/t biowaste]
Credits heat	80	10.2	816	33.5 <sup>1)</sup>	273	0.0645	17.65
Credits electricity				11.3 <sup>1)</sup>	92	0.152	14.00
<b>Sum</b>							<b>31.65</b>

\*Lower calorific value, 1) Quicker et al. (2018)

## GHG credits through biogas utilisation

Energy supply	Energy production	Spec. GHG credits	GHG credits
Units	[kWh/t biowaste]	[kg CO <sub>2</sub> -eq/MJ]	[kg CO <sub>2</sub> -eq/t biowaste]
Energy production - electricity	235 (846)*	0.15182	128.44
Energy production - heat	321 (1,156)*	0.06456	74.61
<b>Sum</b>			<b>203.05</b>

\*kWh = 3.6 MJ

## GHG credits by using nutrients in the compost

Nutrients	Biowaste	Spec. GHG credits	GHG credits
Units	[kg/t FM]	[kg CO <sub>2</sub> -eq/kg nutrients]	[kg CO <sub>2</sub> -eq/t biowaste]
Nitrogen (N <sub>ges.</sub> )	3.88	8.85	34.03
Phosphorus (P <sub>2</sub> O <sub>5</sub> )	1.95	2.30	4.48
Potassium (K <sub>2</sub> O)	3.30	2.26	7.47
Magnesium (MgO)	1.85	1.20	2.21
Calcium (CaO)	12.64	0.028	0.35
<b>Sum</b>			<b>45.66</b>



## GHG credits by using humus C in the compost

Humus C	Biowaste	Spec. THG credits	THG credits
Units	[kg/t]FM]	[kg CO <sub>2</sub> -eq/kg humus C]	[kg CO <sub>2</sub> -eq/t biowaste]
Humus C <sup>4)</sup>	37.44		
Intercropping cultivation		1.60	8.98
Under sawing		0.35	0.66
Peat substitute		3.74	42
Straw utilisation		5.59	104.6
<b>Sum</b>			<b>156.23</b>

# Recycling of biowaste

## - Balance extensive composting

<b>Emissions</b>	[kg CO <sub>2</sub> -eq/t biowaste]	<b>Credits</b>	[kg CO <sub>2</sub> -eq/t biowaste]
Energy consumption - extensive composting	16.81	Energy supply - Energy recovery of residuals from pre processing	31.65
Biological treatment process (CH <sub>4</sub> and N <sub>2</sub> O)	55,29	Nutrients supply	45.66
		Humus C supply	156.23
<b>Balance</b>			<b>- 161.44</b>

\*Transport and application are not considered

# Recycling of biowaste - Balance intensive composting

<b>Emissions</b>	[kg CO <sub>2</sub> -eq/t biowaste]	<b>Credits</b>	[kg CO <sub>2</sub> -eq/t biowaste]
Energy consumption - intensive composting	40.29	Nutrients supply	45.66
Biological treatment process (CH <sub>4</sub> /N <sub>2</sub> O)	55,29	Humus C supply	156.23
		Energy supply - Energy recovery of residuals from pre processing	31.56
<b>Balance</b>			<b>- 137.96</b>

\*Transport and application are not considered

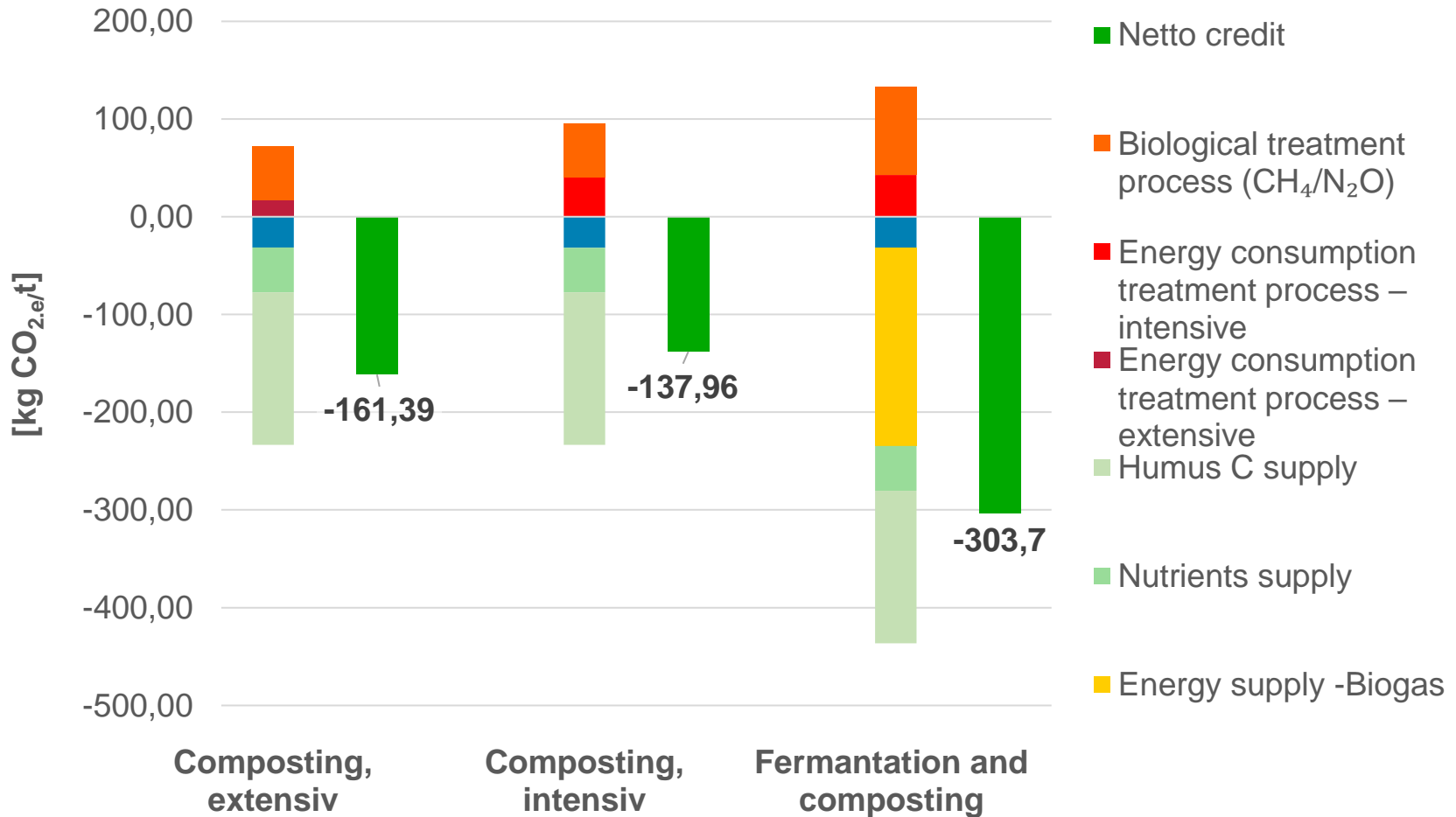
# Recycling of biowaste

## - Balance fermentation and composting

<b>Emissions</b>	[kg CO <sub>2</sub> -eq/t biowaste]	<b>Credits</b>	[kg CO <sub>2</sub> -eq/t biowaste]
Energy consumption treatment process – intensive	42.6	Nutrients supply	45.66
Biological treatment process (CH <sub>4</sub> /N <sub>2</sub> O)	90,29	Humus C supply	156.23
		Energy supply - Energy recovery of residuals from pre processing	31.65
		- Biogas	203,05
<b>Balance</b>			<b>- 303,70</b>

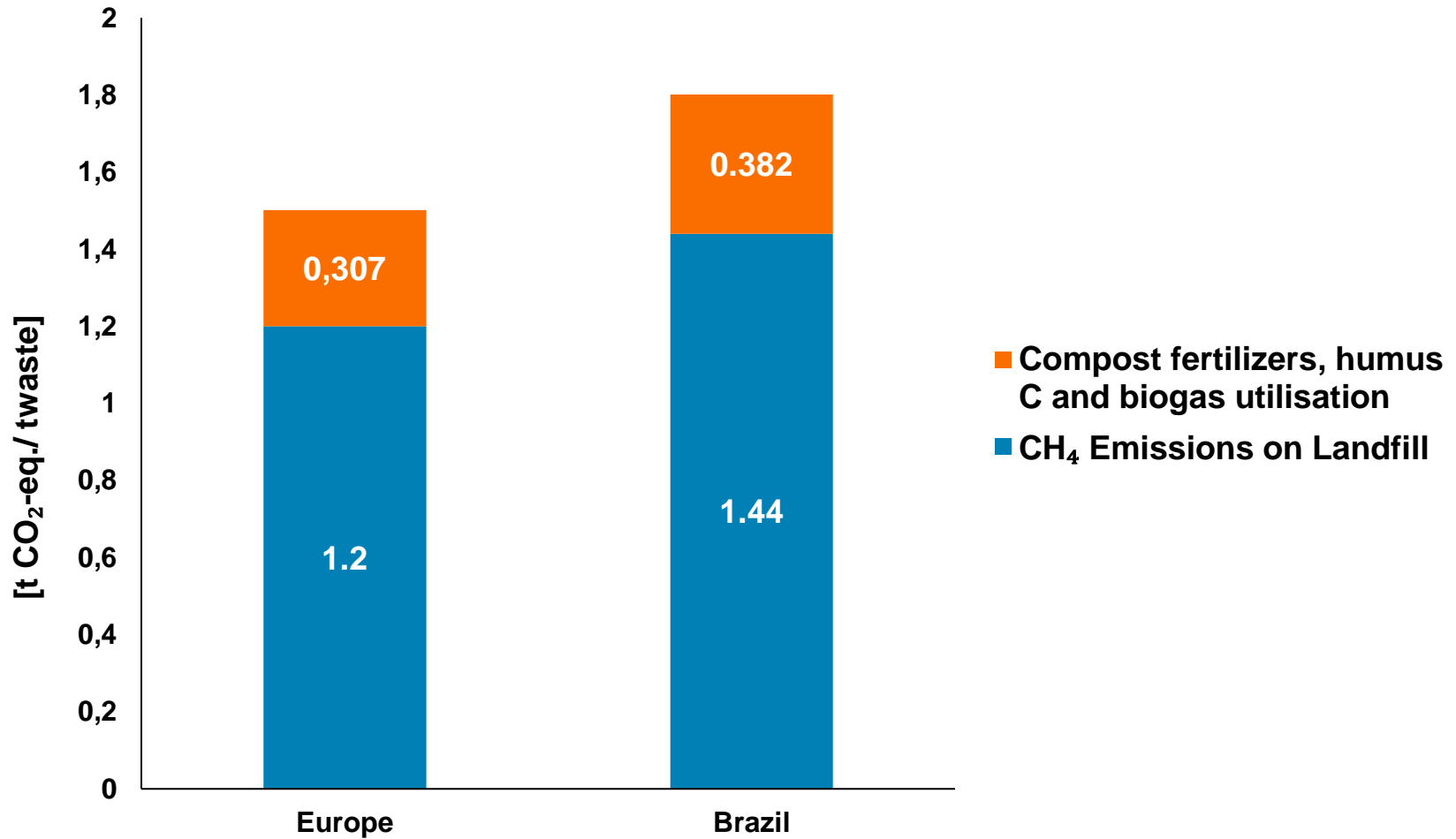
\*Transport and application are not considered

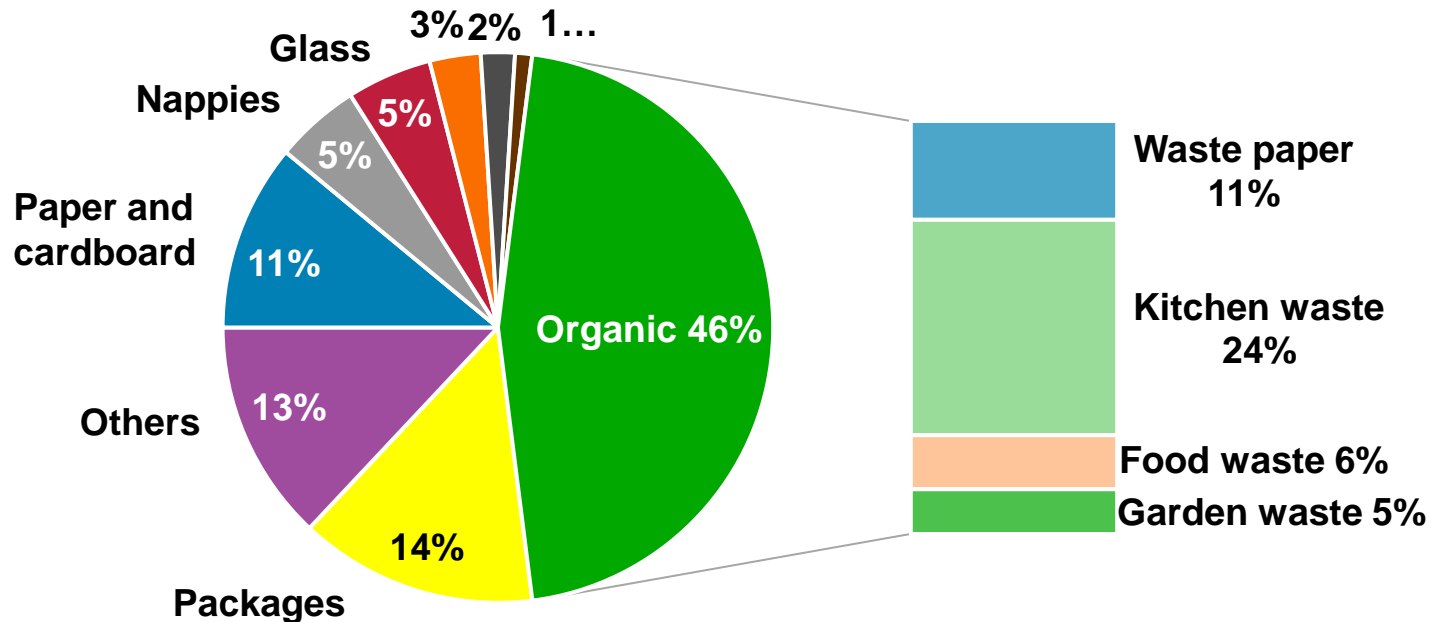
# Recycling of biowaste - Balance of losses and credits



# Recycling of biowaste

## - GHG mitigation of biowaste recycling and landfill





- 11 Mio. t/a food waste in Germany, value approx. 16,6 up to 21,6 billion €/a
- 210 up to 280 €/a per capita in MSW, biowaste and wastewater
- GHG mitigation potential?

## Prevention by reducing food waste:

- Better labelling
- Better management in retail
- Conscious shopping
- Better kitchen management



Photo: dpa/Arno Burgi

## Further measures:

- Climate-friendly production and reduction of transport efforts for food
- Conscious shopping - regional products



© iStock

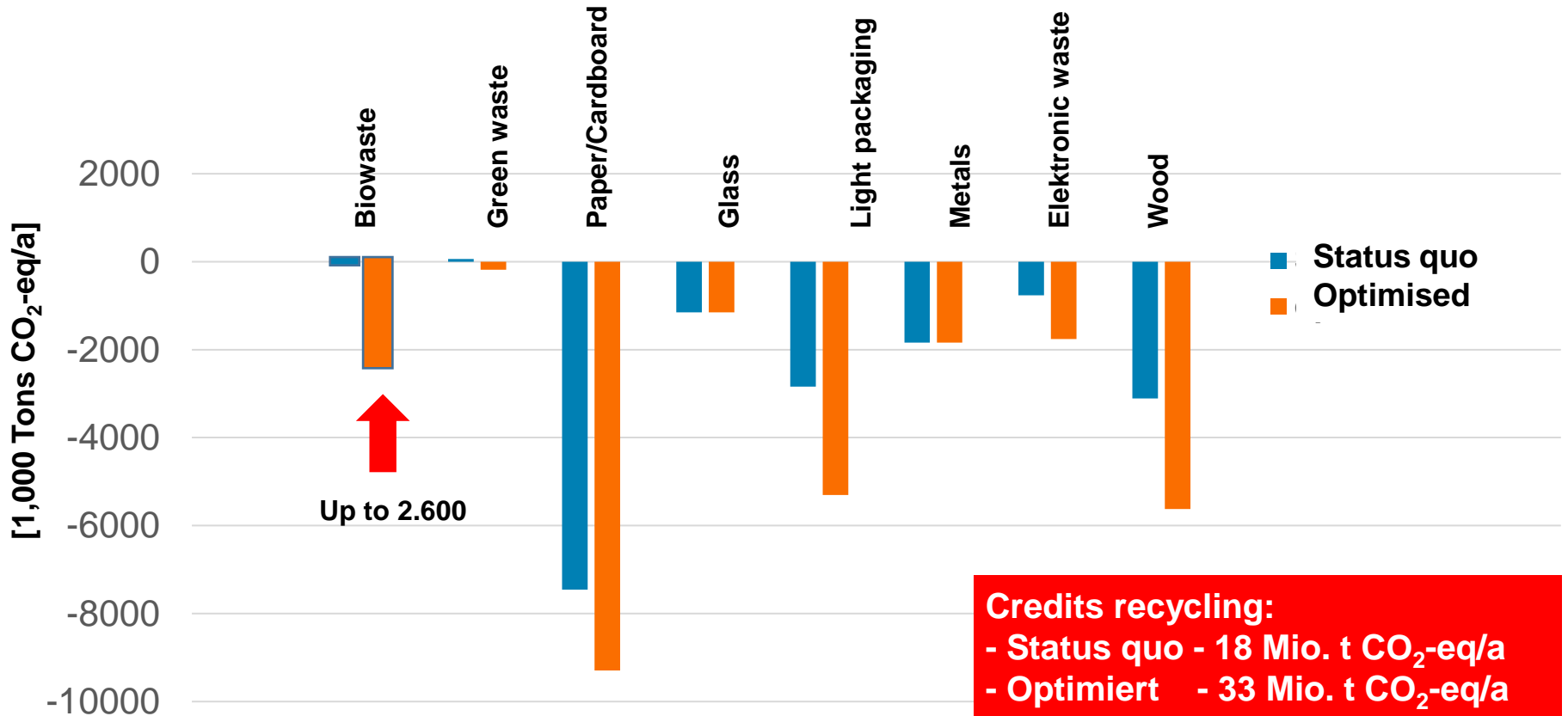


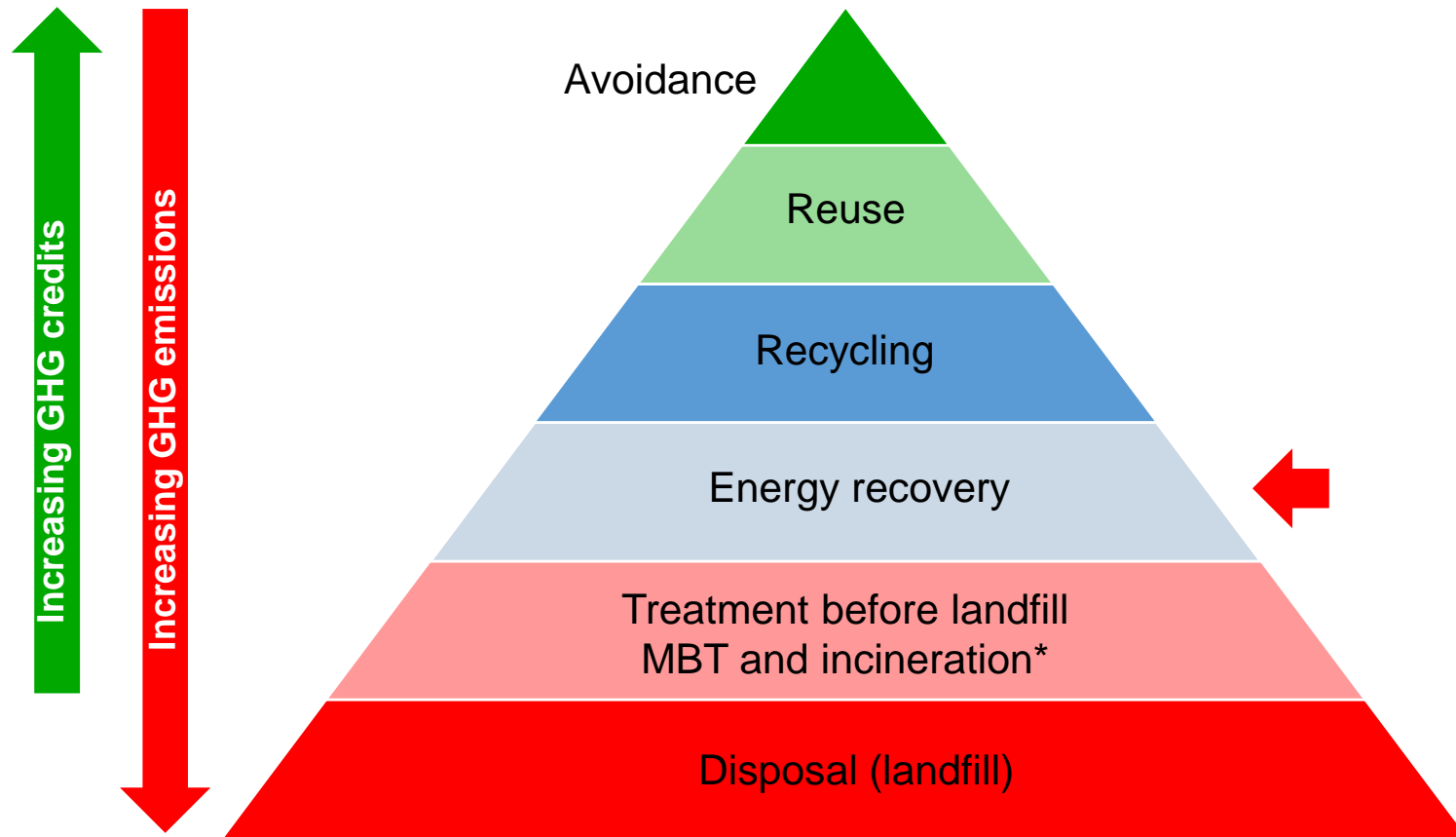
## Increase in separate collection:

- Increase of home composting
- Increasing separate collection of kitchen waste
- Cascade utilisation of valuable components of biowaste through fermentation **and** composting
- Reduction of GHG emissions from composting and fermentation
- Increasing energy efficiency in composting and fermentation processes

**You have not separated the waste again and suddenly your doorbell rings**







\*Not included in the official waste hierarchy of Germany and EU as a separate level

## Equipment and processes for utilization of fuels from waste (AF)

Waste incineration (untreated waste)	Pyrolysis (untreated / pre- treated waste)	Power plants (pretreated waste)	Production facilities (pretreated waste)
Grate technologies	Gasification technologies	Lignite and hard coal power stations	<b>Cement manufacturing</b>
Fluidized technologies	Degasification technologies	Biomass power stations	Blast furnace (use as reducing agent)

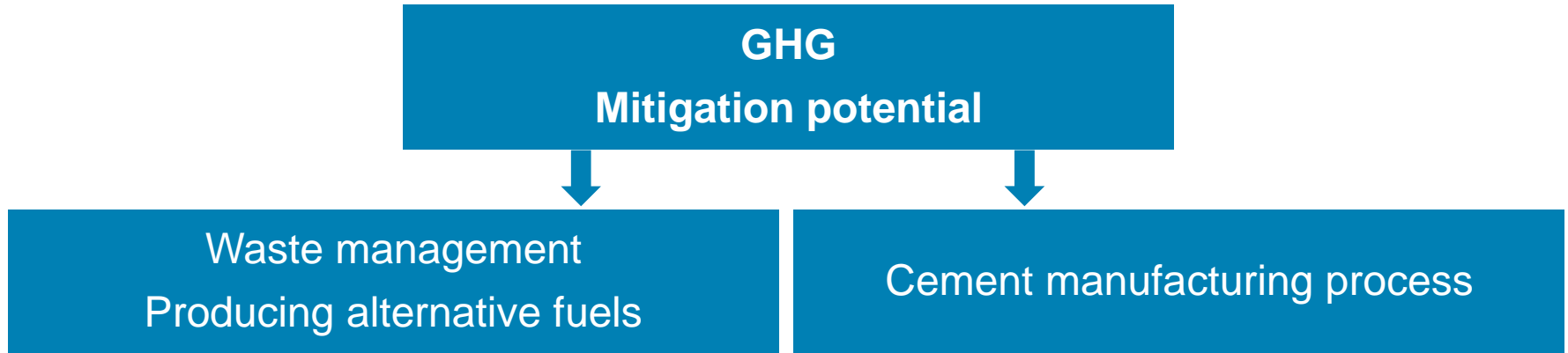
## Annual cement production volumes and their CO<sub>2</sub> emissions

	Germany	World
Annual cement production	33.7 Million t <sup>1)</sup>	4,100 Million t <sup>2)</sup>
Annual CO <sub>2</sub> emission	19.2 Million t	app. 2,800 Million t
<b>Spec. CO<sub>2</sub> emission per t<sub>Cement</sub></b>	<b>0.57 t</b>	<b>0.57 - 0.95 t</b>
Share of the cement production in annual global GHG emission	2.2 %	app. 5 - 8 %



Sources: <sup>1)</sup> VDZ, 2019 (in 2018); <sup>2)</sup> Statista 2019 in (2018)

# Cement manufacturing - Example calculation energy recovery



### Producing and using AF in cement manufacturing process

#### GHG emission reduction

- Collection
- Processing
  - Composting, digestion, **MBT**
  - Incineration
- Recycling
- **Landfilling**

Reduction of GHG emissions from **landfills**:

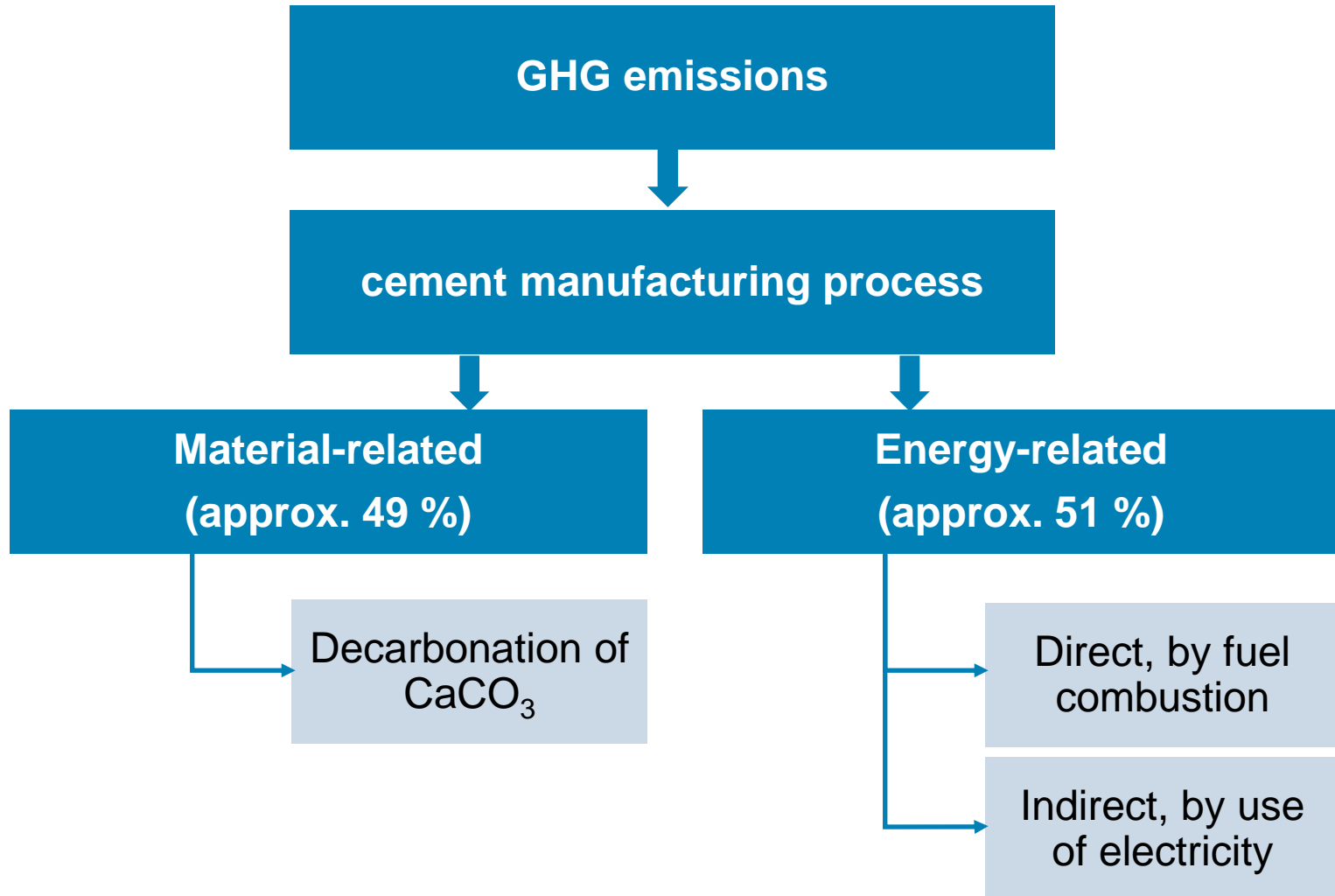
- The lower the deposited biomass, the higher the GHG mitigation rate

#### GHG credits

- Prevention
- Reuse
- **Recycling**
- **Energy recovery**

- Credits for **recycling** of metals, PVC, paper, minerals etc. out of MBT
- Credits for **energy recovery**: The higher the biomass proportion in the AF, the higher the amount of credits

# Cement manufacturing - GHG emissions areas of origin





# GHG mitigation areas - Cement production sector

Decarbonisation of  
limestones  
49 %

Fuels  
35 %

Milling  
12 %

Transport 4 %



## Measures for the production of alternative fuels in MBT plants:

- **Reduction of the  $C_{fos}$  content** by increasing the biomass fraction by introducing a drying step in MBT - the higher the biomass fraction, the higher the GHG mitigation
- **Improving energy efficiency:** Deploying existing state-of-the-art technologies in new cement plants and retrofitting existing facilities



CO <sub>2</sub> mitigation by	Measures
Reduction of CO <sub>2</sub> release from decarbonization process	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reduction of clinker-cement ratio, e.g. by using de-carbonated additives in the clinker by using pozzolan, granulated blast furnace slag (the suitability of waste incineration slags is also currently being tested)</li> </ul>
Reduction of energy demand	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reduction of clinker-cement ratio, e.g. by using de-carbonated additives (see above)</li> <li>• Technical process optimization, e.g. heat recovery</li> </ul>
Use low fossil-C fuels	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Use of low fossil carbon fuels like biomass-rich alternativ fuels e.g. RDF or biomass fuels</li> </ul>
CO <sub>2</sub> capture and storage CO <sub>2</sub> utilisation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Currently various methods for CO<sub>2</sub> storage (Carbon Capture and Storage, CCS) and CO<sub>2</sub> utilisation (Carbon Capture and Utilization, CCU) are being developed and tested.</li> <li>• This technologies currently are not state of the art</li> </ul>

Energy resources	Emission factors
Unit	[t CO <sub>2</sub> /TJ]
Brown coal (Rhineland, GER)	113
Lignite (GER)	98
Scrap tyres	88
Heavy oil	81
Natural gas	56
Plastics	61
<b>MSW</b>	<b>45</b>
<b>Alternative fuel (biomass-rich RDF)</b>	<b>10 - 25*</b>
<b>Solid biomass</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Sewage sludge</b>	<b>3</b>

Sources: UBA, 2016: Auszug der Liste der CO<sub>2</sub>-Emissionsfaktoren für Brennstoffbezogene Emissionsfaktoren aus nationalen Inventarbericht (NIR)M; \* own data

# Cement manufacturing - Used alternative fuels (AF) in GER

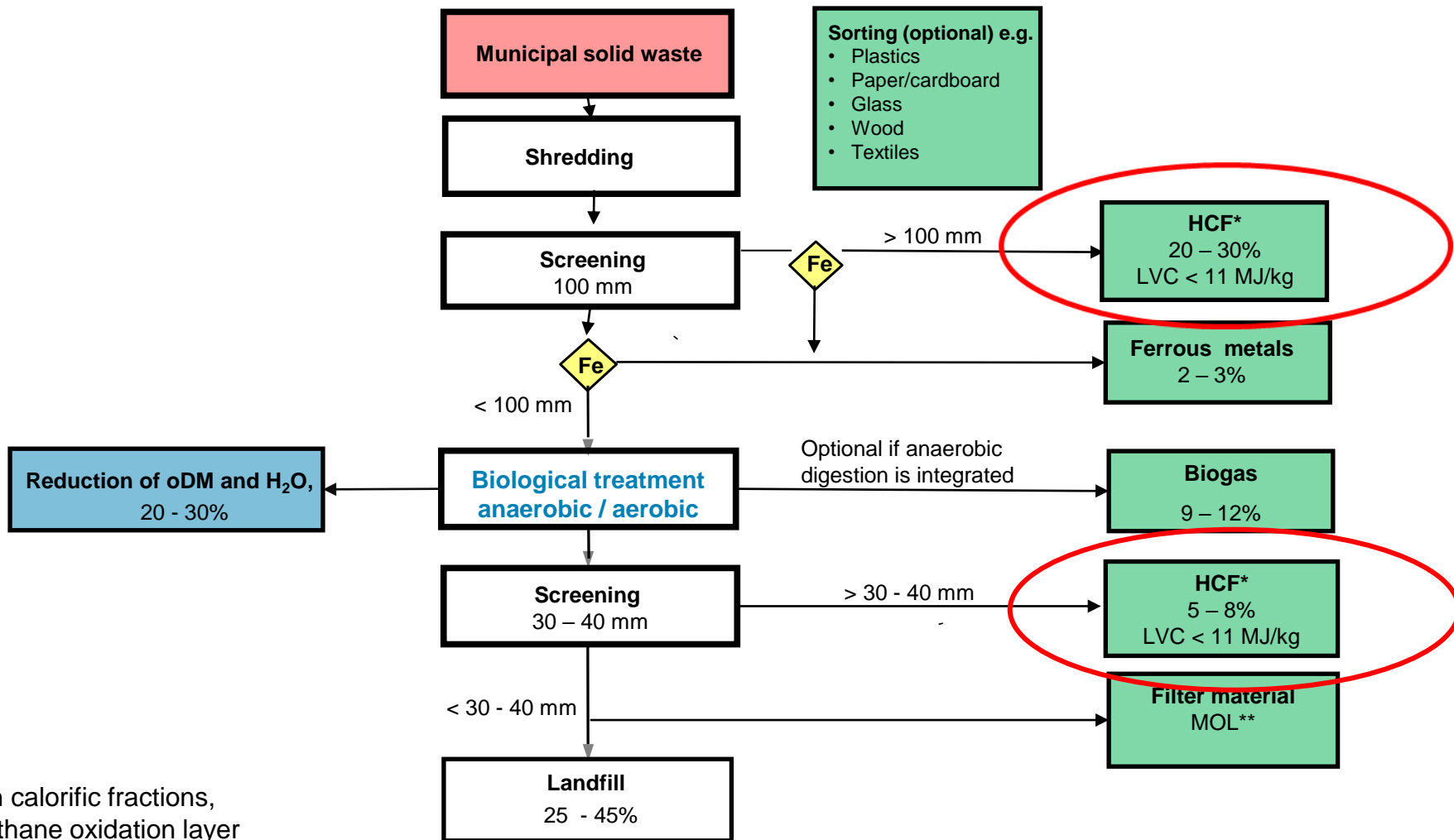
AF used in German cement manufacturing in 2016	Quantity	Proportion of biomass
Units	[t/a]	[%]
Waste tires (tires consist of 40 % rubber, app. 70 % of which are made of synthetic rubber)	201,000	12
Waste oil	66,000	0
Pre-processed waste fractions: Pulp, paper, cardboard	81,000	100*
- Plastics and packaging	640,000	app. 10
- Textiles	7,000	40
- Others	116,300	?
Meat and bone meal, fat	145,000	100
HCF and its derived RDF or SRF	283,000	50
Waste wood	< 1,000	100
Solvents	126,000	0
Dried sewage sludge	463,000	100
Others e.g. oil sludge, distillation residues	58,000	0
<b>Sum</b>	<b>2,187,300</b>	<b>app. 42</b>

Source: VDZ 2017

\* 5 - 8 % filling materials, non biomass

# Cement manufacturing

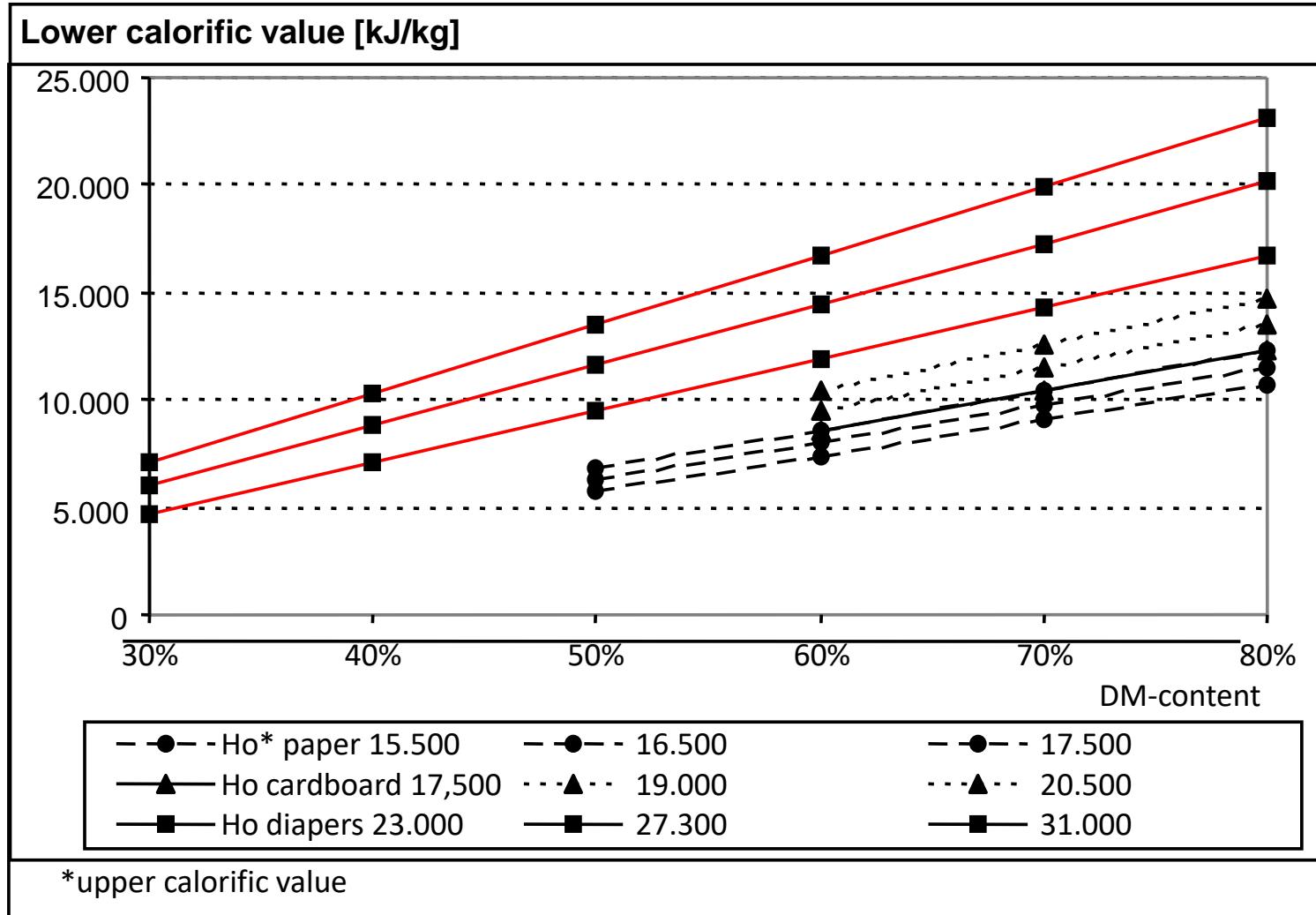
## - MBT process to produce HCF (simplified)



\*High calorific fractions,  
\*\*Methane oxidation layer

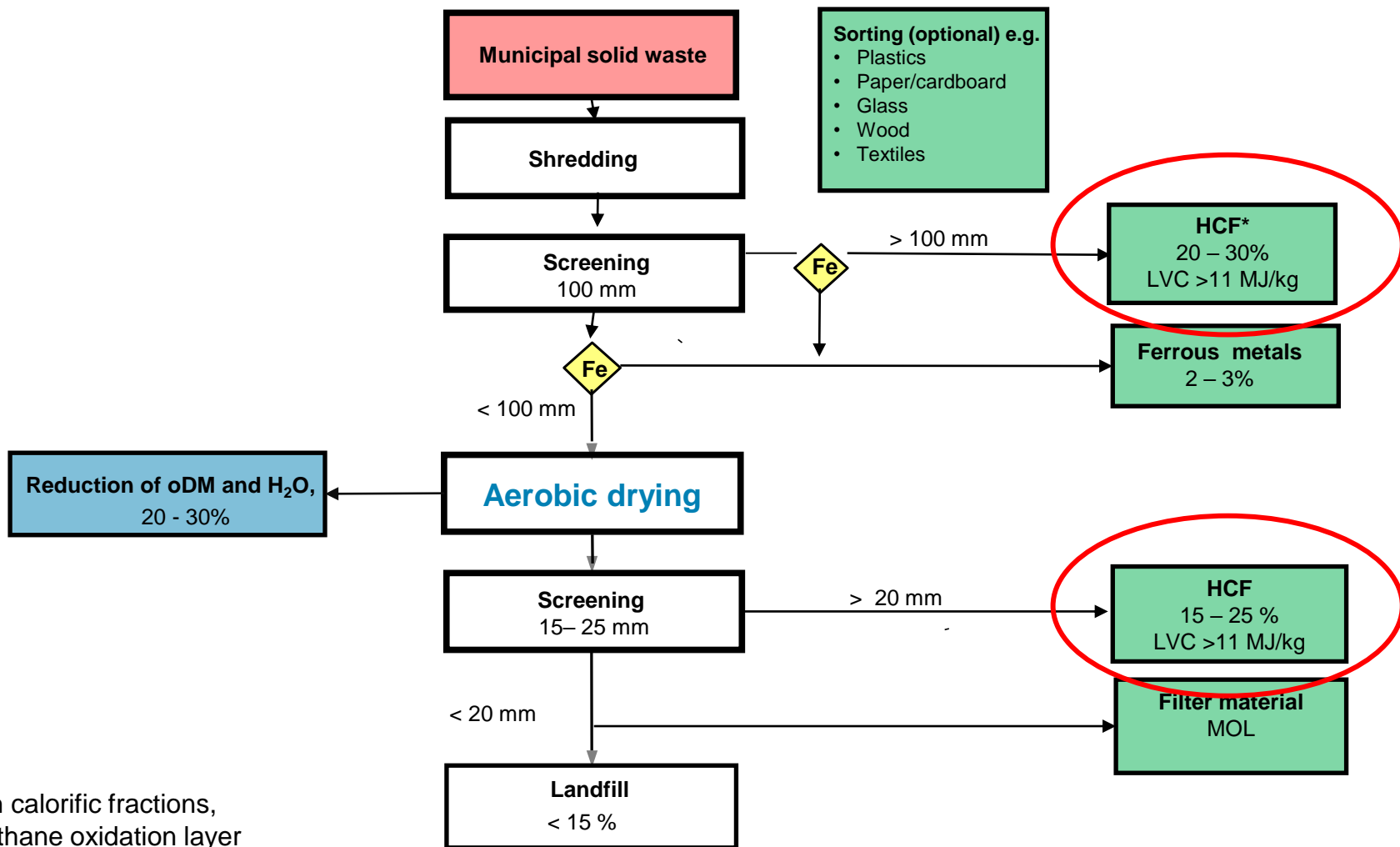
# Cement manufacturing

## - Increasing the calorific value through drying



# Cement manufacturing

## - MBT process to produce HCF/RDF (simplified)



\*High calorific fractions,  
\*\*Methane oxidation layer



# Cement manufacturing

## - Calculation example energy recovery



The credits include the emissions avoided by substituting the fossil primary fuels otherwise used in the cement plant. Substitution is based on a calorific value equivalent substitution factor of 1

The mass of the substituted coal is calculated according to the following formula:

$$m(\text{Primary fuel}) = \frac{m * LCV (RDF)}{LCV (Lignite)}$$

where

<i>m</i>	Primary fuel (lignite)	[kg]
<i>LCV</i>	spec. energy content (LCV)	[MJ/kg]

- 1,000 kg RDF with a LCV of 14 MJ/kg deliver 14,000 MJ of energy in total with a fossil C-content of the RDF  **0.09 kg C<sub>fos</sub>/kg**
- This RDF may substitute lignite with a LCV of 21 MJ/kg with a fossil C content of the lignite  **0.66 kg C<sub>fos</sub>/kg**

## 1. GHG emissions by using alternative fuels like RDF:

$$m \text{ CO}_2 - \text{missions} = 1,000 \text{ kg} * 0.09 \frac{\text{kg } C_{fos}}{\text{kg}} * \frac{44}{12} = \mathbf{330 \text{ kg CO}_2}$$


## 2. Mass replacement of primary fuels (lignite) based on energy quantity:

$$m (\text{subst. primary fuels}) = \frac{1,000 \text{ kg} * 14 \text{ MJ/kg}}{21 \text{ MJ/kg}} = \mathbf{667 \text{ kg primary fuel}}$$

## 3. CO<sub>2</sub> emissions not used lignite:

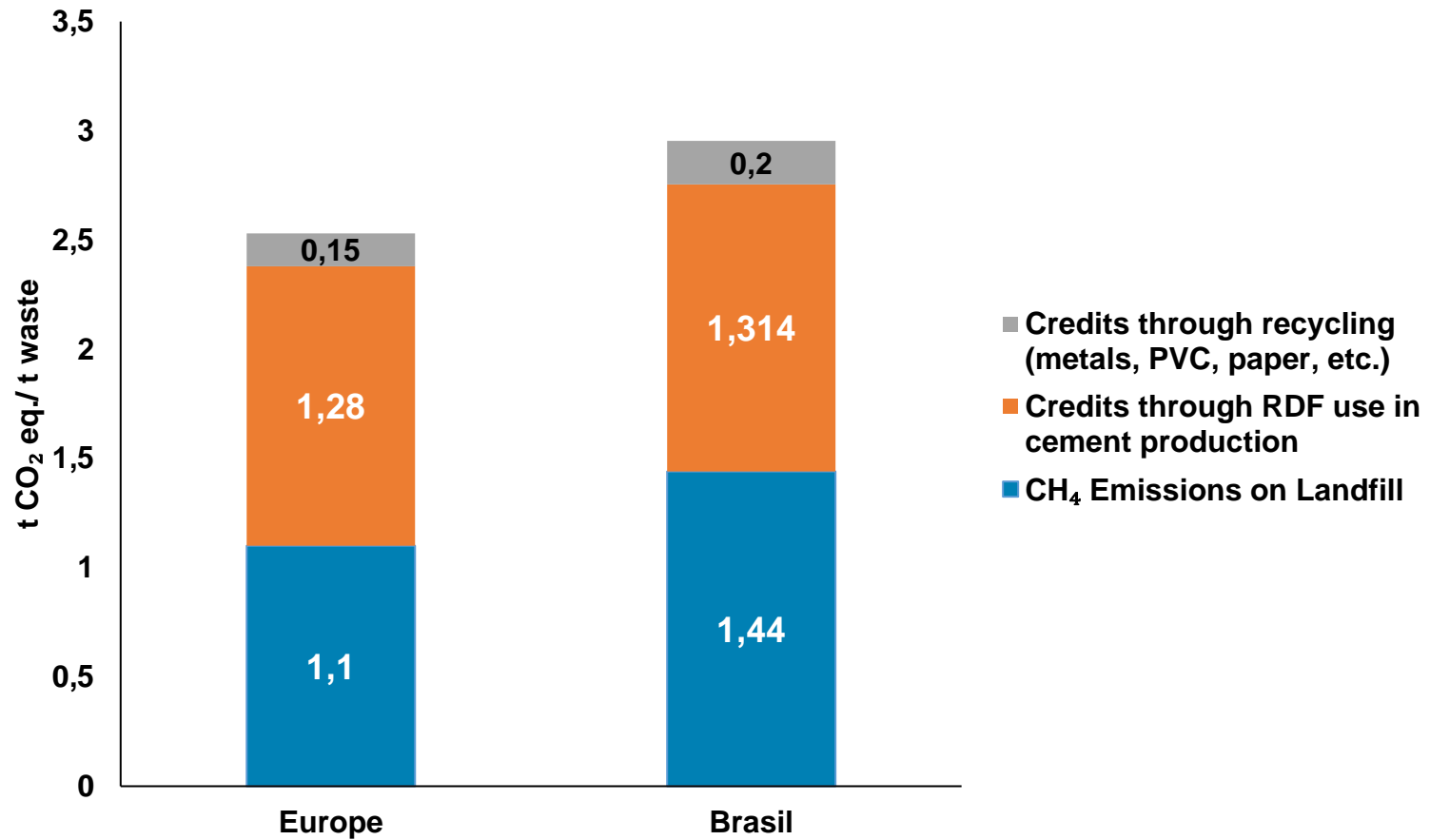
$$m (\text{CO}_2 - \text{emissions}) = 667 \text{ kg} * 0.66 \frac{\text{kg } C_{fos}}{\text{kg lignite}} * \frac{44}{12} = \mathbf{1,614 \text{ kg CO}_2}$$

## 4. Net credits:

  $m (\text{Net} - \text{credits}) = 330 \text{ kg CO}_2 - 1,614 \text{ kg CO}_2 = \mathbf{-1,284 \text{ kg CO}_2}$

# Cement manufacturing - Using AF in the cement manufacturing

## GHG reduction by using alternative fuels in the cement manufacturing under consideration of landfill



- Simplified **approval procedures** for the use of quality-assured waste-based substitute fuels with a high biomass content in accordance with RAL quality mark
- Increased **public acceptance** in the implementation of the measures
- Simplified standardization of CO<sub>2</sub>-friendly cement products (binders), especially recycled concrete
- Establishing of **legal certainty** for carbon capture and storage (CCS) and carbon capture and utilisation (CCU)
- Application of climate protection criteria in award of **public works contracts** The public sector accounts for approximately 23 % of German cement consumption (BBSR, 2018)
- **Effective CO<sub>2</sub> pricing** (taxation or emissions trading) - (see also German government's climate package of December 2019)

EUA (EU ETS) Futures Prices



Regarding source and purpose, the composition of blend waste-derived fuels can vary between 0 % (polymers) and 100 % (biomass) of CO<sub>2</sub> neutral compounds.

Source: EMBER

# Cement manufacturing

## - Short and medium mitigation potential



- The short- and medium-term CO<sub>2</sub> mitigation potential of the cement industry in **Germany** is estimated to be about **20 to 30 %** - without carbon capture and utilization
- **Worldwide**, due to pent-up demand, the mitigation potential is rated **significantly higher**

## CO<sub>2</sub> emission pricing with effect on cement production costs

	Germany	World
Spec. CO <sub>2</sub> -production per t cement	<b>0.57 t</b>	<b>0.57 - 0.95 t</b>
Production costs cement	35 - 75 €/t	
55 € CO <sub>2</sub> pricing	+ 31 €/t	

Level of the CO<sub>2</sub> tax in GER:

- From January 2021 25 €/Mg
- Increase to 55 €/Mg by 2025
- From 2026, between 55 and max. 65 €/Mg

 CO<sub>2</sub> pricing resp. tax strongly favours the use of biomass fuels!

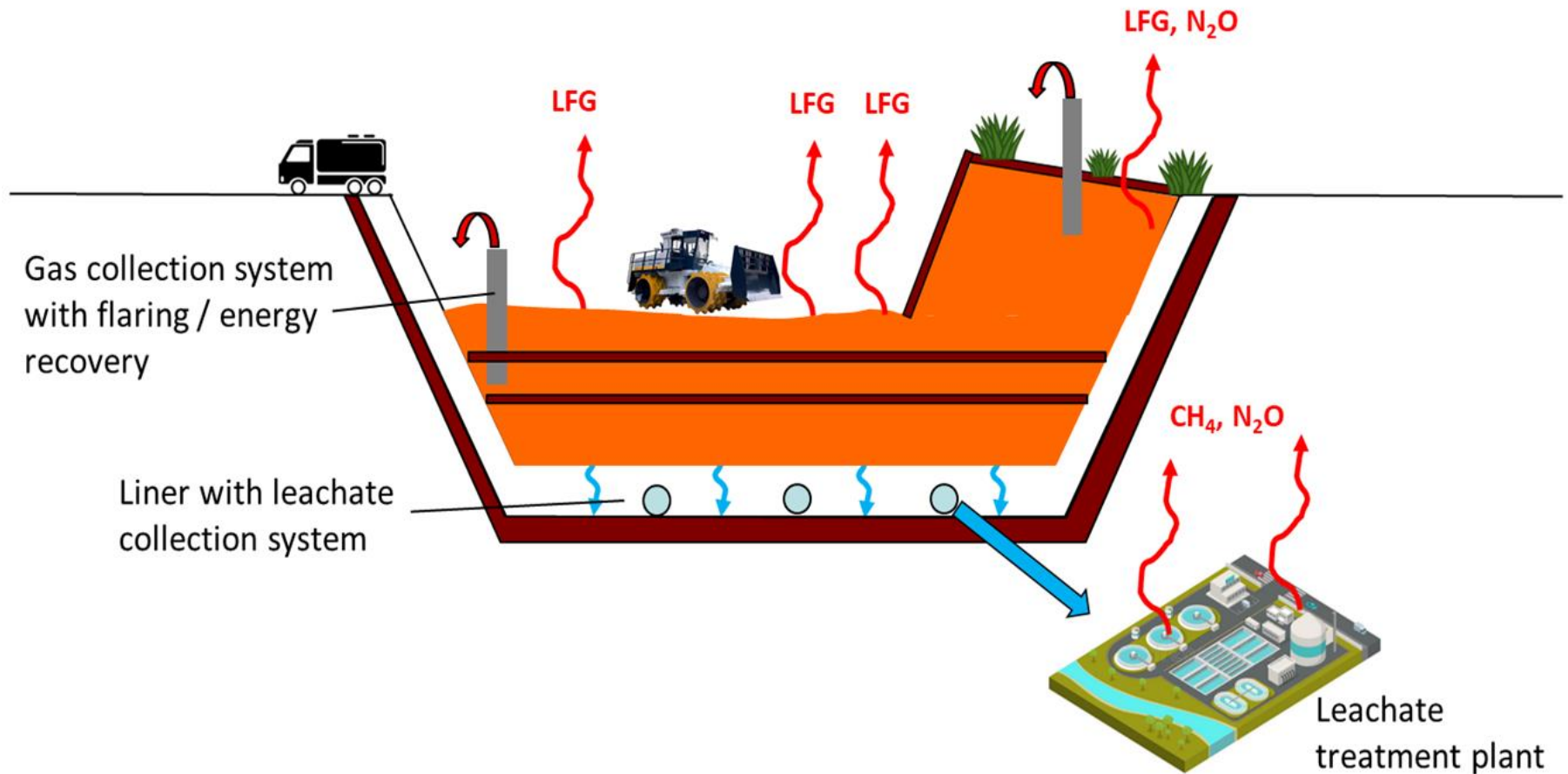
Ban of landfilling of untreated waste  
**since 2005** in Germany, Switzerland  
and Austria

Ban of landfilling of untreated waste  
in the **EU from 2022**



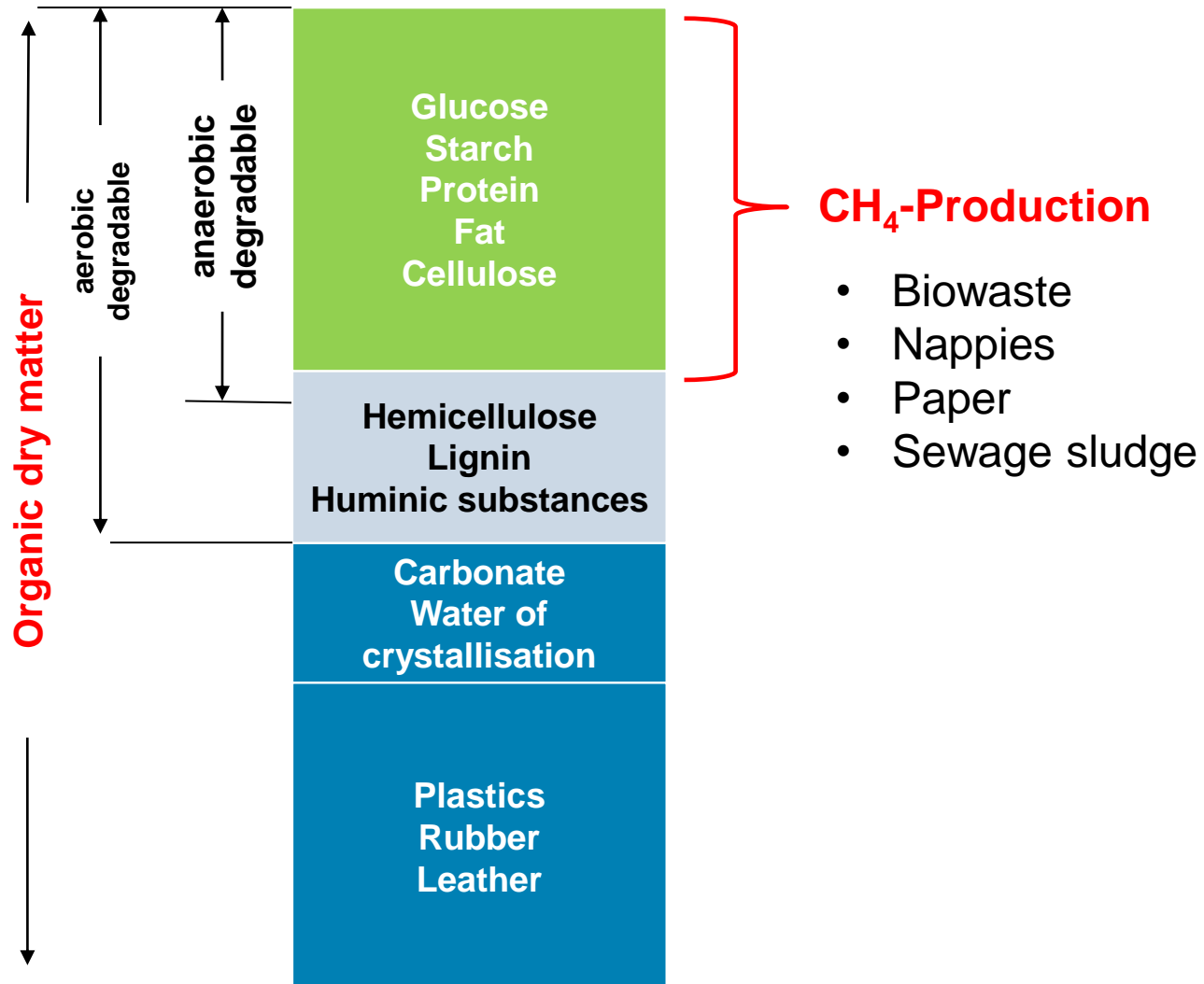


## Landfill in operation



# GHG emissions from landfills

## - Relevant raw materials

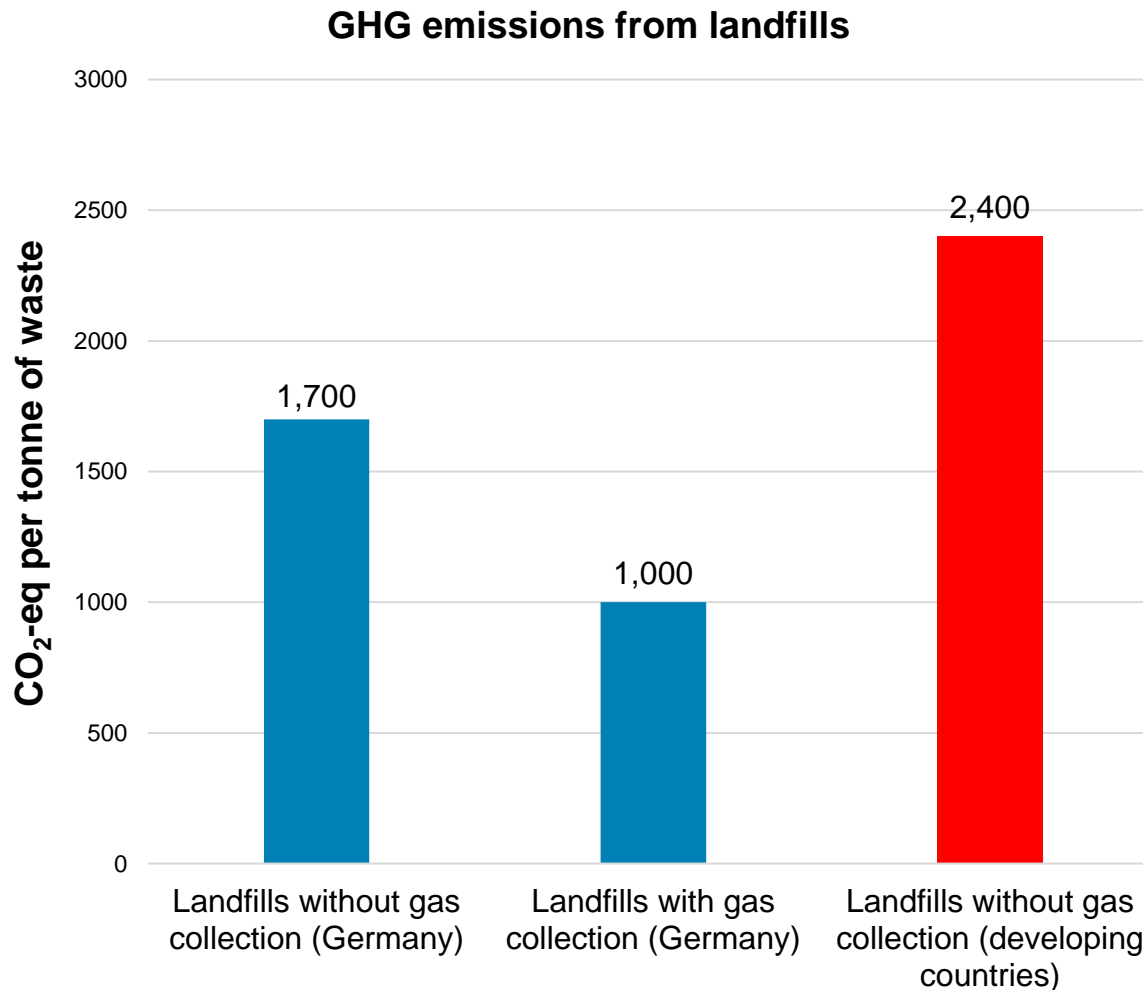


# GHG emissions from landfills - Relevant raw materials

Waste fraction	Germany	China	Brazil	Thailand	India	Java
Paper/cardboard [%]	5.2	15.0	13.1	7.7	1.5	3.5
Glass [%]	4.6	2.0	2.4	2.0	0.2	1.7
Organic [%]	<b>39.3</b>	<b>63.9</b>	<b>51.4</b>	<b>62.0</b>	<b>75.2</b>	<b>78.5</b>
Plastics [%]	6.7	16.9	13.5	12.0	0.9	2.6
Textiles [%]	3.5	1.4			3.1	1,0
Metals [%]	2.0	0.7	2.9	0,5	0.1	
Hygiene products [%]	13.5					
Rests [%]	25.2	3.2	16.7	16,0	19.0	13.7
Water content [%]	35 - 45	42 - 60	42 - 55	41 - 53	42 - 60	49 - 63
Calorific value [kJ/kg]	8 - 9,000	4 - 7,300	6 - 8,200	4 - 7,500	< 4,000	< 4,000
GHG-Emissions [-]	<b>very low*</b>	<b>very high</b>	<b>high</b>	<b>very high</b>	<b>very high</b>	<b>very high</b>

\*Since 2005, only pre-treated waste may be landfilled

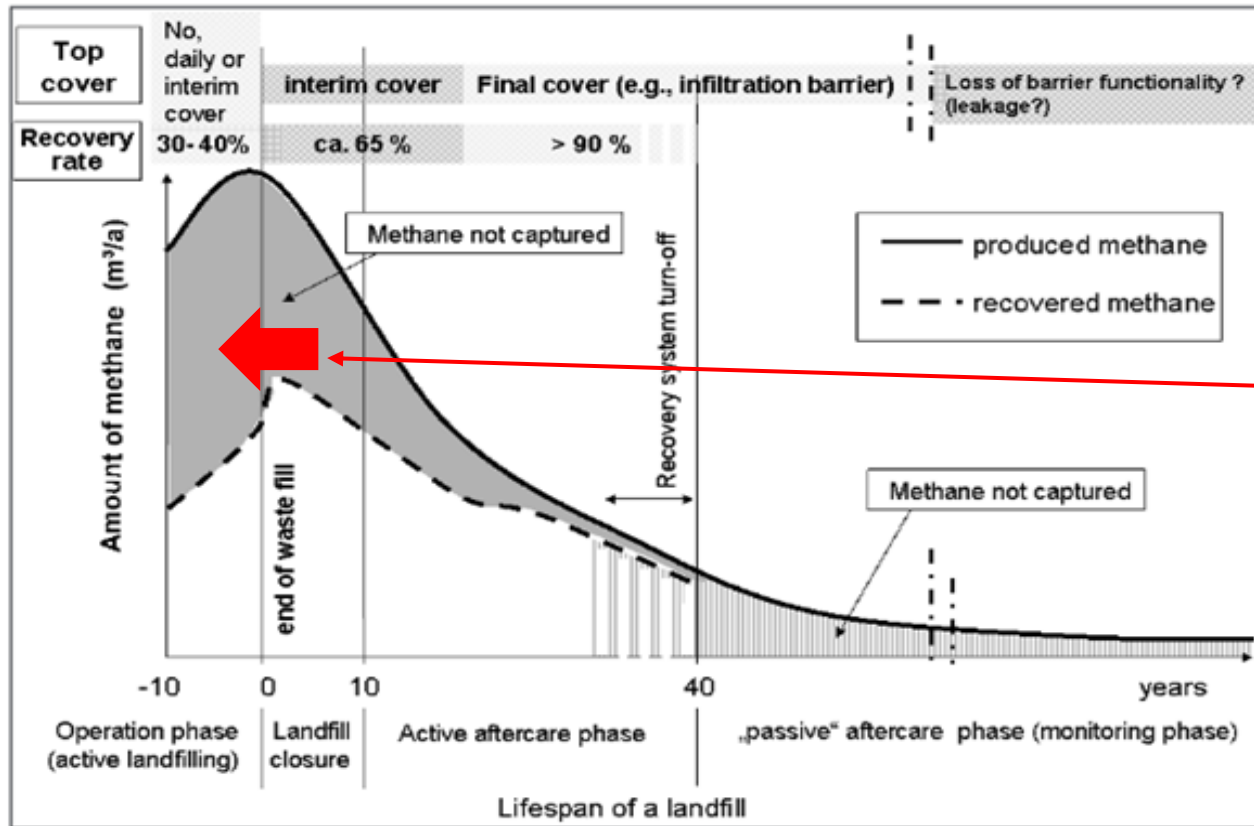
# GHG emissions from landfills - Germany and the developing countries



In developing countries, GHG emissions from landfills are **1.4 - 1.7** times higher, due to the higher proportion of readily degradable organic substances

**➔ 8 - 12 % of GHG emissions in developing and emerging countries come from the waste sector!**

# GHG emissions from landfills - Methane production and collection



## Half-life Gas formation

- Climate in Central Europe: 7 years
- Tropical wet climate: 3-5 years, this leads to a shift to the operating phase, in which no gas is usually collected from landfill

**➔ Gas collection rates in Germany: << 45 % !!!**

- Minimizing volume and mass of waste delivered to the landfill
- Inactivation of biological and chemical processes
  - ➔ to **prevent landfill gas production** and settlement
- Immobilizing contaminants within waste, in order to reduce leachate emissions
- Separation of recyclable materials, Fe- and Non-Fe-Metals, alternative fuels (RDF) etc.

- **Zero order model (default model):** LFG formation is constant over time, so there is no effect of waste age
- **Constant rate model:** After a lag phase LFG formation rises instantly to a constant value until all organics are degraded, and decreases than to zero
- **First-order model (FOD):** Effect of waste age is incorporated by an exponentially decline of LFG generation. With modifications, this model is mostly used (e.g. **IPCC model**)
- **Multiphase model:** FOD model which distinguishes different waste fractions with different degradation rates
- **Scholl Canyon model:** Most commonly used FOD model. The model doesn't consider a lag phase or limiting factors like moisture
- **Stoichiometric model:** Based on a stoichiometric reaction, in which the waste is represented by an empirical chemical formula. It only estimates the total amount of LFG but gives no information in view of the generation rate. Requires knowledge of the chemical composition of waste

## IPCC model (2006)

- FOD model for estimating methane emissions from landfills
- National greenhouse gas inventories must be compiled according to this model

### Choose the right level:

- **Stage 1:** IPCC FOD method using mainly standard activity data and standard parameters
- **Level 2:** IPCC FOD method and some standard parameters but requires good quality country-specific activity data on current and historical landfill waste disposal, historical waste disposal data for 10 years or more should be based on country-specific statistics, surveys or other similar sources. Data on the quantities disposed of in landfills are required
- **Level 3:** Level 2 plus use of either the FOD method with nationally developed key parameters or country-specific parameters derived from the measurement  
Key parameters should include the half-life and either the methane formation potential or the DOC content in the waste and the percentage of decomposing DOC (DOC<sub>f</sub>)



### IPCC model (1)

$$CH_{4,emissions} = \left[ \sum CH_{4,generated,x,T} - R_T \right] * (1 - OX_T)$$

$CH_{4,Emission}$	$CH_4$ emitted in year T	[Gg]
T	Inventory year	[a]
x	Waste category or type/material	
$R_T$	$CH_4$ recovered in year T	[Gg]
$OX_T$	Oxidation factor per year (per fraction)	[-]

$$CH_{4,generated,T} = DDOCm_{decomp,T} * F * \frac{16}{12}$$

$DDOCm_{decomp,T}$	$DDOCm$ decomposes in the year T	[Gg]
$DDOC_m$	degradable under landfill conditions organic carbon	[Gg]
F	Volume fraction of $CH_4$ in the produced LFG (fraction)	
$\frac{16}{12}$	Molecular weight ratio between $CH_4$ and C	[-]

### IPCC model (2)

For each year, the mass of anaerobically degradable carbon at the beginning of the year and out of this the mass of anaerobically degraded carbon is calculated:

$$DDOCm_{decomp_T} = DDOCma_{T-1} * (1 - e^{-k})$$

$$DDOCma_T = DDOCmd_T + DDOCma_{T-1} * e^{-k}$$

$DDOCma_T$	DDOCm accumulated in landfill at the end of the year T	[Gg]
$DDOCma_{T-1}$	DDOCm accumulated in landfill at the end of the year T-1	[Gg]
$DDOCmd_T$	DDOCm deposited in the landfill in year T	[Gg]
$k$	degradation constant = $\frac{\ln(2)}{t_{1/2}}$	[1/a]
$t_{1/2}$	half time	[a]

$$DDOCm = W * DOC * DOC_f * MCF$$

$W$	mass of waste deposited	[Gg]
$DOC$	degradable organic carbon in the year of deposition (fraction)	[Gg-C/Gg-waste]
$DOC_f$	fraction of DOC that can decompose (fraction)	
$MCF$	CH <sub>4</sub> correction factor for aerobic decomposition in the year of deposition (fraction)	

### IPCC model (3)

$$CH_{4,emission} = MWS_T * MWS_F * MCF * DOC * DOC_F * F * \left( \frac{16}{12} - R \right) * (1 - OX)$$

$MWS_T$	Total municipal waste produced	[Gg/a]
$MWS_F$	fraction of municipal solid waste going to landfill	[Gg/a]
$MCF$	Methane correction factor (fraction)	[-]
$DOC$	Degradable organic carbon (fraction)	
$DOC_F$	fraction of DOC that is biodegradable under real landfill conditions	
$F$	fraction of methane in LFG	
$R$	recovered methane	[Gg/a]
$OX$	oxidation factor	[-]

In the meantime, the model has been adapted to many country-specific conditions (waste composition, climate conditions, landfill technologies, etc.)

## IPCC model (4)

### Default values:

- Deviations are possible, but must be well justified
- If possible, use validated country-specific values
- DOCf: 0.5
- MCF: aerobic degradation in the year of deposition

### Categories of landfills:

- Managed site - anaerobic: 1,0
- Managed website - semi-aerobic: 0.5
- Non-managed site - deep (> 5 m waste) and/or high groundwater level: 0.8
- Non-managed landfill - flat (< 5 m waste): 0.4
- If categorization is not possible: 0.6
- F: Methane concentration 50 % by volume 0,5
- Half-life and degradation constant, To take into account the influence of the moisture content in the waste and the ambient temperature, the table is divided into two climate zones
  - MAT = average annual temperature
  - MAP = mean annual precipitation
  - PET = potential evapotranspiration

## IPCC model (5)

## Standard values for the half-life [a]

Type of waste		Climate zone							
		Boreal and moderate (MAT = 20 °C)				Tropical (MAT > 20 °C)			
		Dry (MAP/PET < 1)		Wet (MAP/PET > 1)		Dry (MAP < 1000 mm)		Wet and humid (MAP = 100)	
		By default	Area	By default	Area	By default	Area	By default	Area
Slowly degradable	Paper/textiles	17	14 - 23	12	10 - 14	15	12 - 17	10	8 - 12
	Wood/straw	35	23 - 69	23	17 - 35	28	17 - 35	20	14 - 23
Moderately degradable	Other (non-food) organics, garden/park	14	12 - 17	7	6 - 9	11	9 - 14	4	3 - 5
Rapidly degradable	Food waste/sewage sludge	12	9 - 14	4	3 - 6	8	6 - 10	2	1 - 4
Municipal or industrial waste		44	12 - 17	7	6 - 9	11	9 - 14	4	3 - 5

## IPCC model (6)

## Standard values for the degradation constant [1/a]

Type of waste		Climate zone							
		Boreal and moderate (MAT = 20 °C)				Tropical (MAT > 20 °C)			
		Dry (MAP/PET < 1)		Wet (MAP/PET > 1)		Dry (MAP < 1000 mm)		Wet and humid (MAP = 100)	
		By default	Area	By default	Area	By default	Area	By default	Area
Slowly degradable	Paper/textile	0.04	0.03 - 0.05	0.06	0.05 - 0.07	0.045	0.04 - 0.06	0.07	0.06 - 0.085
	Wood/straw	0.02	0.01 - 0.03	0.03	0.02 - 0.04	0.025	0.02 - 0.04	0.035	0.03 - 0.05
Moderately degradable	Other non-food organics, garden/park	0.05	0.04 - 0.06	0.1	0.06 - 0.1	0.065	0.05 - 0.08	0.17	0.15 - 0.2
Rapidly degrading	Food, sewage sludge	0.06	0.05 - 0.08	0.185	0.1 - 0.2	0.085	0.07 - 0.1	0.4	0.17 - 0.7
Municipal or industrial		0.05	0.04 - 0.06	0.09	0.08 - 0.1	0.065	0.05 - 0.08	0.17	0.15 - 0.2

## IPCC model (7)

### Delay time:

- After disposal, it takes 7 months up to 1 year until methane is generated
- Delay time depends on waste composition and climate conditions
- Default value is 6 months, but changes to values from 0 - 6 months are allowed

Type of waste	DOC (Degradable org. carbon), weight fraction (FM)	
	Range	Default
Food waste	0.08 - 0.20	0.15
Garden	0.18 - 0.22	0.2
Paper	0.36 - 0.45	0.4
Wood and straw	0.39 - 0.46	0.43
Textiles	0.20 - 0.40	0.24
Disposable nappies	0.18 - 0.32	0.24
Sewage sludge	0.04 - 0.05	0.05
Industrial waste	0 - 0.54	0.15

## Uncertainties with regard to the results of the modelling:

- The FOD method is a very simple method to describe very complex processes during waste degradation, but errors cannot be excluded
- The physico-chemical composition of the waste is assumed to be homogeneous
- Relevant errors may arise in modelling if significant changes occur in the mass of the deposited waste and/or in the composition of the waste
- DOC values often too high
- Only one DOC<sub>f</sub> value for different wastes
- Three subdivisions in only two climate regions cannot reflect the influence of humidity on the degradation constant
- Insufficient or inaccurate input data

 Predicted methane emissions vary between 38 and 492 % of actual emissions !



- Intensify avoidance, reuse, recycling and energy recovery
- Treatment before Landfill
- Landfill gas collection already during the disposal period
- Intensify of an efficient gas utilisation
- Application of an methane oxidation layer
- Landfill mining

# Treatment before landfilling

## - Limit values for MBT and incineration in GER

Parameters (selection)	Unit	MBT Germany
TOC in solid matter	% of DM*	≤ 18
TOC in eluate	mg/l eluate	≤ 300
Respiration activity in 4 days (AT <sub>4</sub> )	mg O <sub>2</sub> /g DM*	≤ 5
<b>Gas formation in 21 days (GB<sub>21</sub>)</b>	<b>l/kg DM*</b>	<b>≤ 20</b>
Upper heating value (HCV)	kJ/kg DM*	≤ 6,000

		Incineration Germany
TOC in solid matter	% of DM*	≤ 5
TOC in eluate	mg/l eluate	≤ 100
Loss of ignition	% of DM*	≤ 3

\* DM = Dry matter

Source: German Landfill Ordinance, 2001 and 2009

# Treatment before landfilling - Treatment technologies

- Thermal treatment (waste incineration, energy recovery)
- Mechanical biological treatment (MBT)



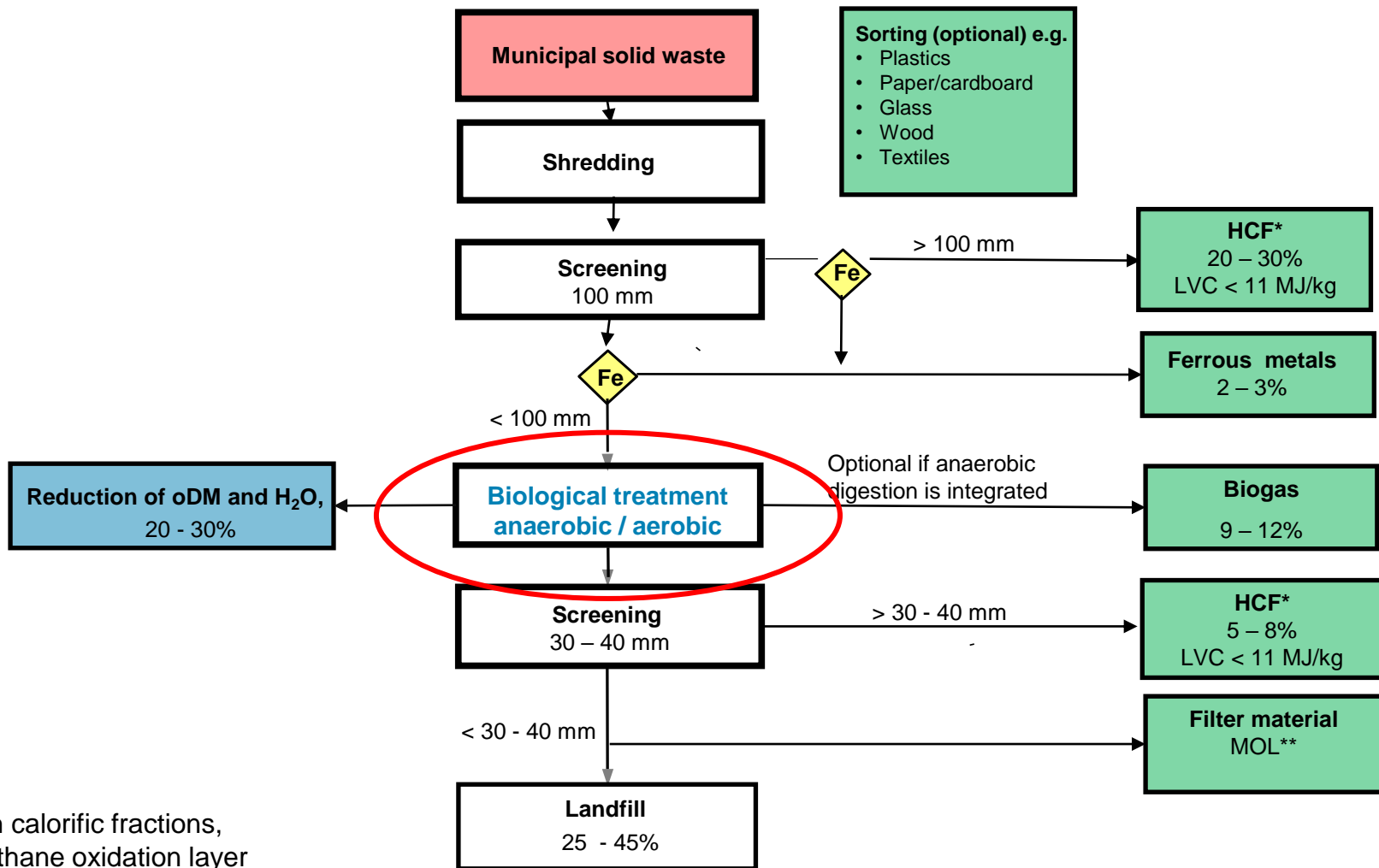
# Treatment before landfill

## - Incineration and energy recovery



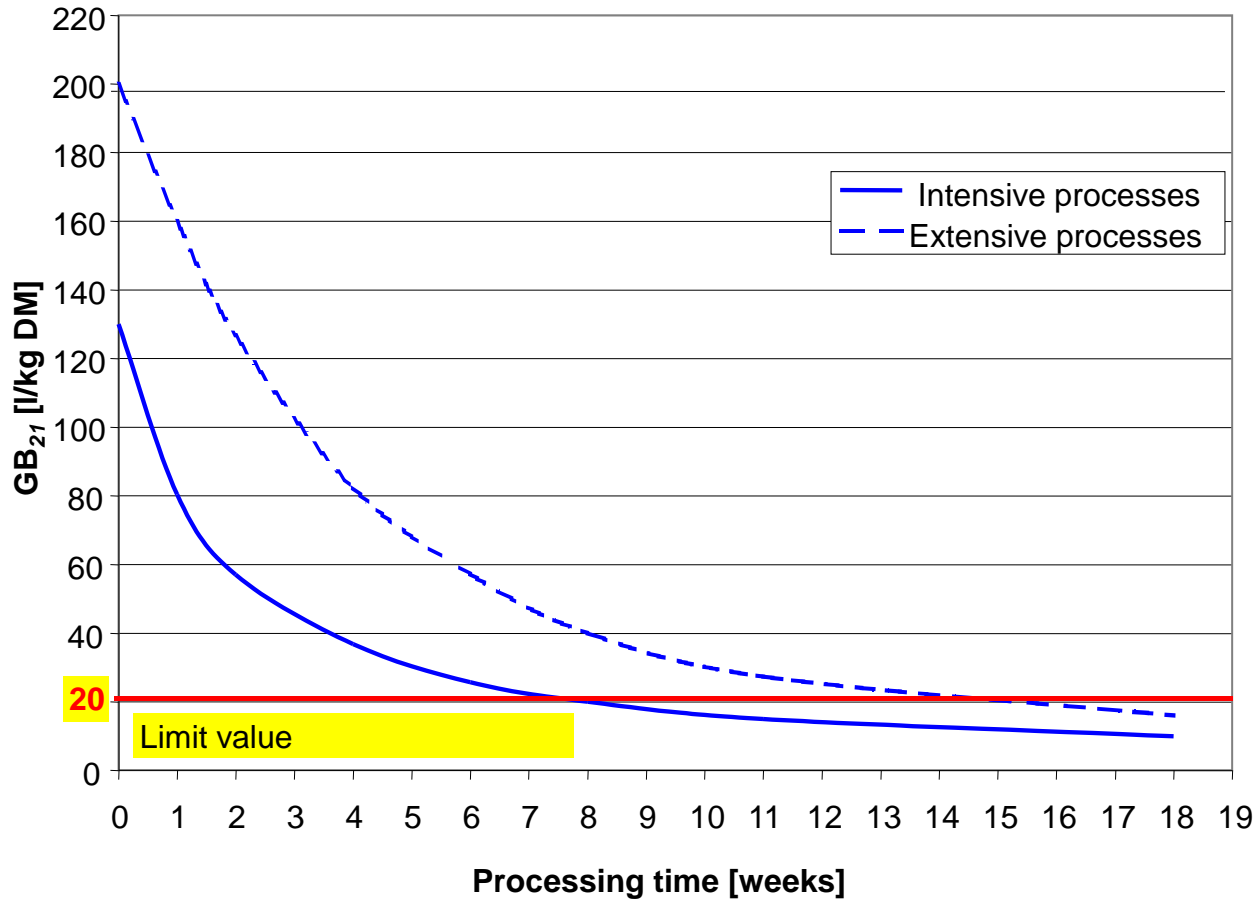
- Waste incineration slags do **not emit relevant quantities of GHG**
- The quantities of slag result from the inert content of the input and an average of 1.5 % unburned material in the slag (Öko-Institut, 2002)
- Only the federal state of Bavaria has waste incineration plant slags landfilled

# Treatment before landfill - MBT flow chart (simplified)

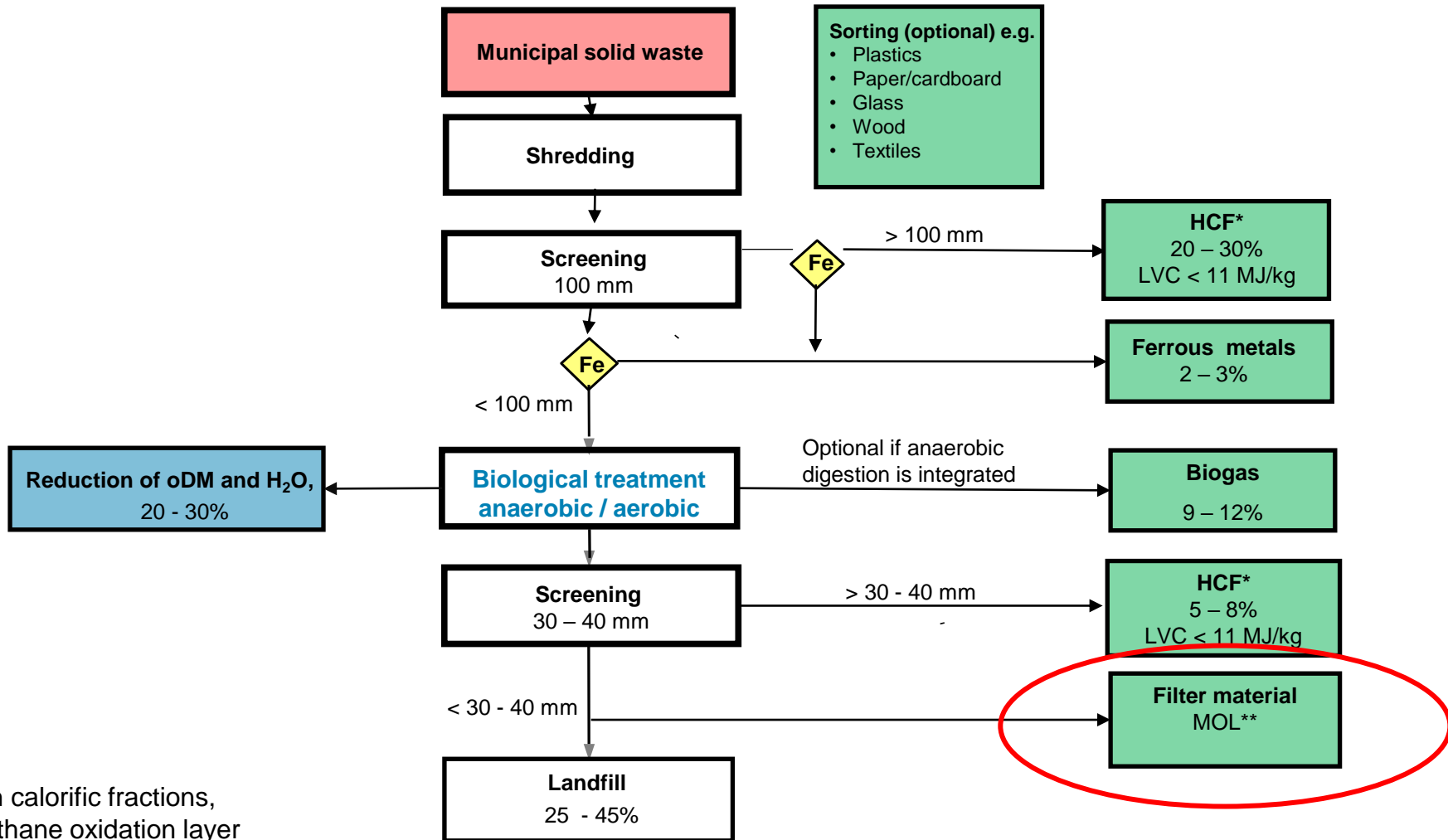


\*High calorific fractions,  
\*\*Methane oxidation layer

### Reduction of landfill gas formation through aerobic treatment in MBT



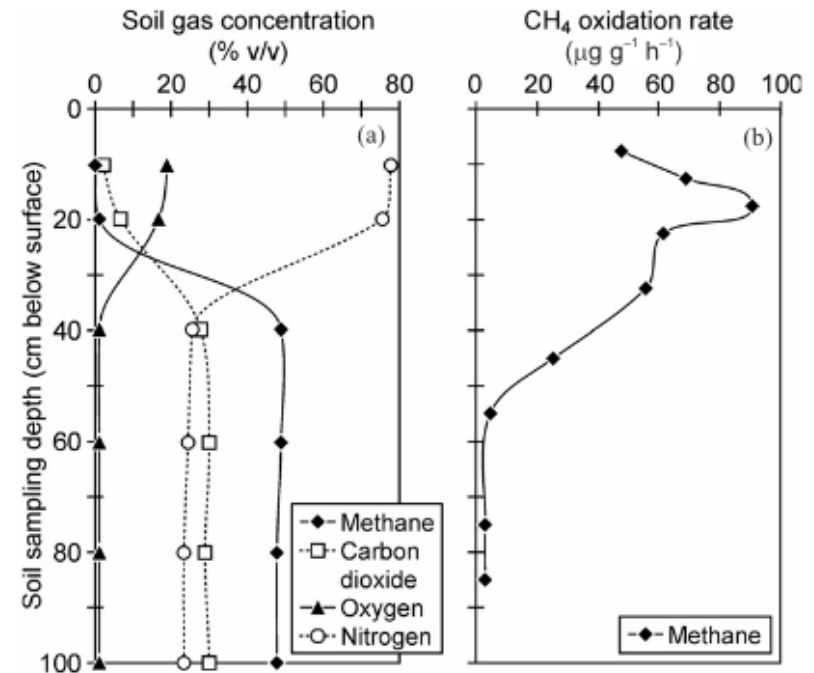
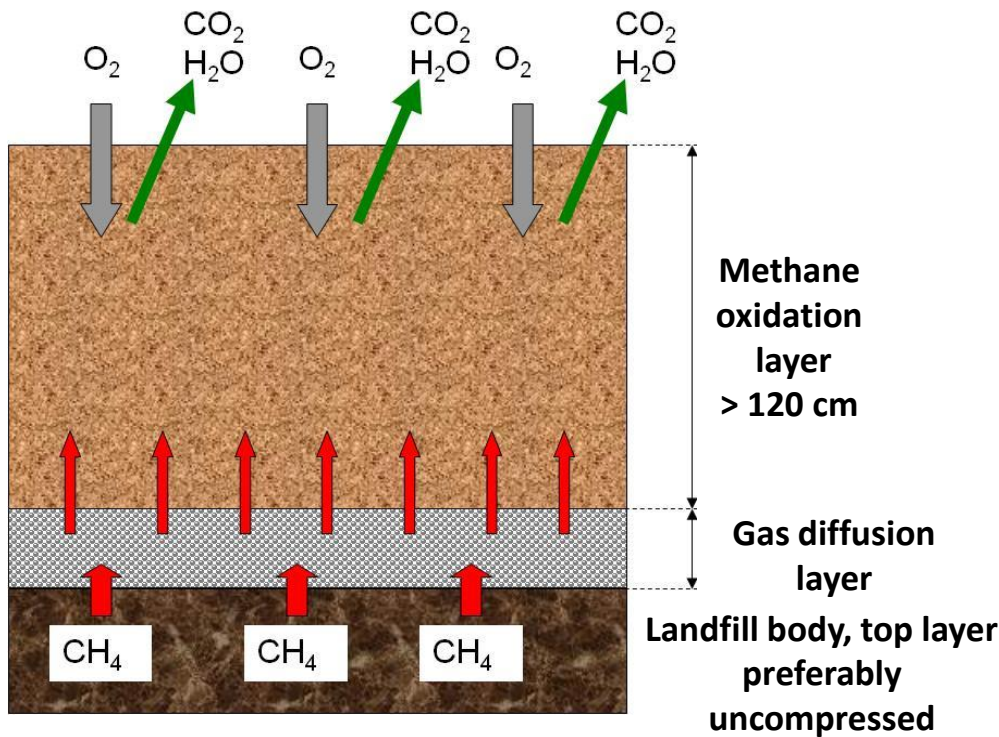
# Treatment before landfill - MBT flow chart (simplified)



\*High calorific fractions,  
\*\*Methane oxidation layer



## Methane oxidation layer (MOL)



Source: Scheutz et al., 2009, modified



## Methane oxidation layer:

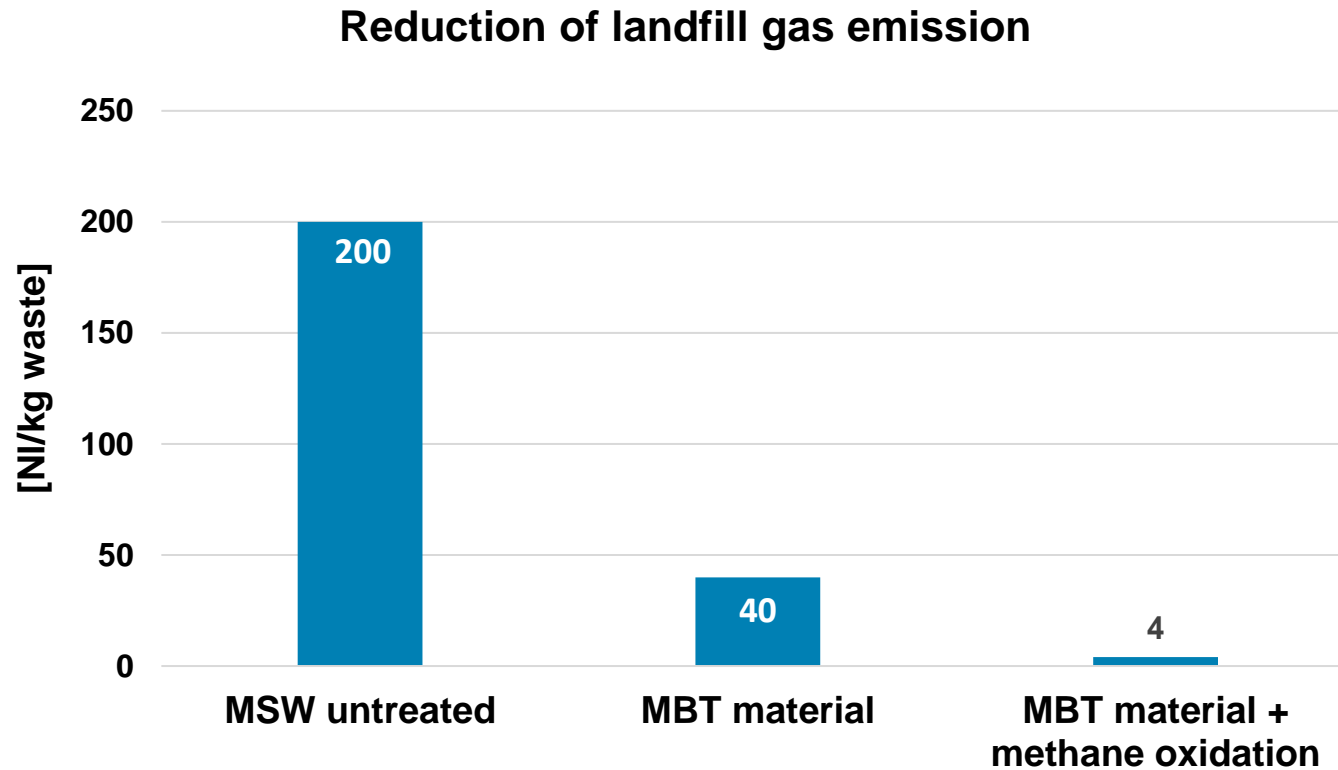
- Suitable for low LFG fluxes and low CH<sub>4</sub> concentrations

➔ Optimal methane input flux to methane oxidation layer: 12 - 96 [l/m<sup>2</sup>d]

Only system for MBT landfills or old landfills, where these values are met and where permeabilities are very low

- CH<sub>4</sub> is in the presence of O<sub>2</sub> degraded by special micro organisms (methanotrophic bacteria) to water, CO<sub>2</sub> and microbial biomass
- The process is exothermal





**➔ Gas reduction rate through MBT and MOL > 90 %**

- Explanation of the waste hierarchy with regard to climate impact
- Define GWP and give examples for the calculation of the CO<sub>2</sub> equivalent (CO<sub>2</sub>-eq)
- What is the emission factor?
- Emission intensity electricity (emission factor) and credits
- Define CO<sub>2</sub>-eq emissions and credits by given examples
- Which emissions and credits must be taken into account in the various waste management measures?
- What is the function of carbon pricing and trading?

