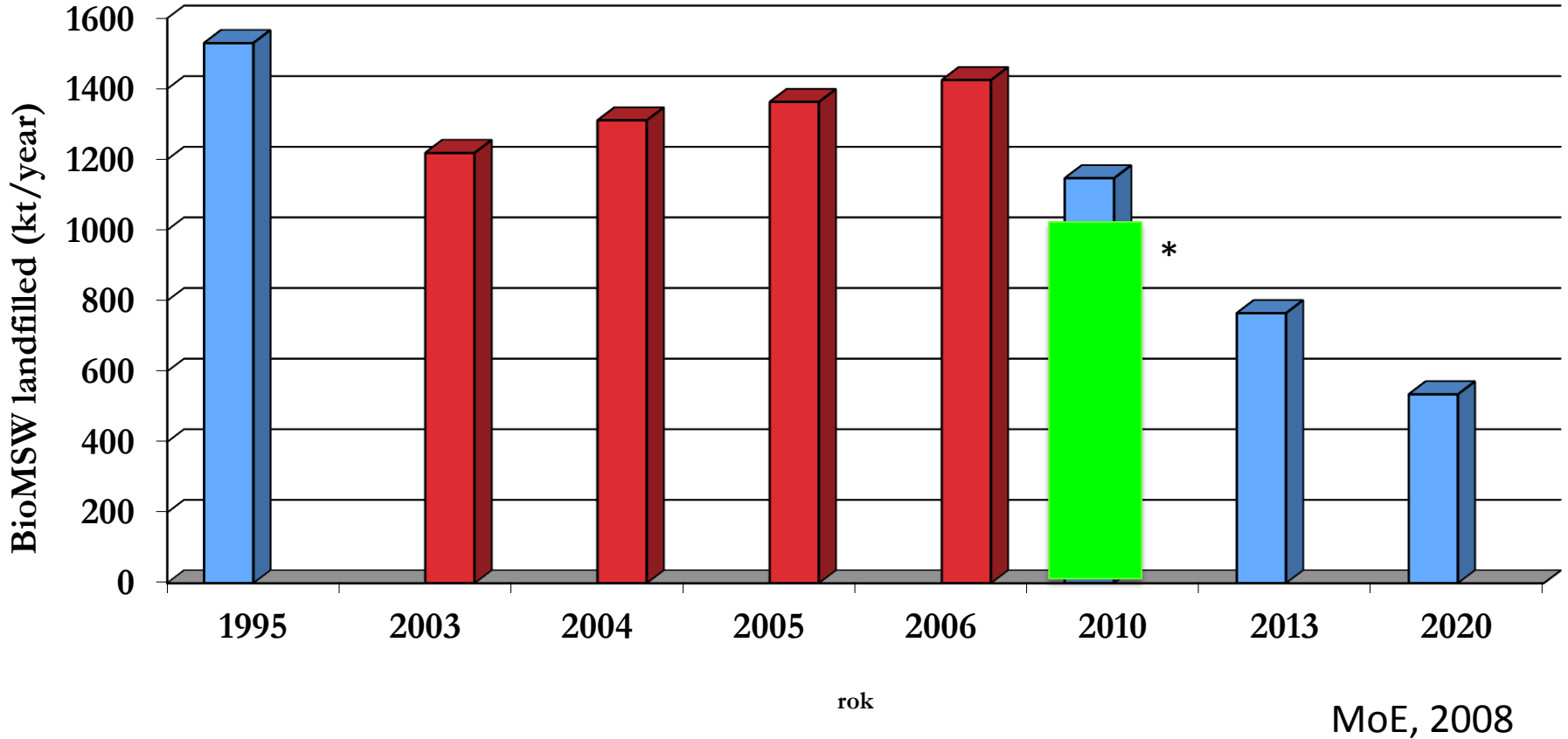


# Advances and drawbacks of biowaste management and composting in the Czech Republic

Jan Habart  
Chairman of board  
Czech biomass association

- Association of 160 companies dealing with biomass from raw material to waste (composting, AD, heating, electricity, biofuels)
- Since 1994
- Providing lobbying, consultancy, promotion and project work

- 10 mil. habitants
- 3 mil. hectares arable land
- 200 composting plants (capacity 2,2 mil ton/year)
  - including 20 “composting plant” at landfill (0,4 mil ton/year)
- 12 waste biogas (120 th. tons/year)
- Approx. 3,5 mio. tons MSW



\* Method of calculation has been changed

# Advantages

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- Strong driver to divert biowaste from landfills not yet adopted – we can make a good one
- Existing drivers are on the paper only, lack of control and reinforcement
- High share of arable land affected by erosion (40 %) – soil need organic matter!

# Many good examples



# Disadvantages

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- Soil owners are not farmers
- Landfill tax, 500 CZK/t (20 EUR/t)
  - Goes to municipality where landfill is located
  - Technical material to keep proper landfill excluded from payment
- E.g.: Landfill 100 000 t/year = 2 mil EUR tax income for municipality; *who would like to shut down little gold mine?*
- Electricity from landfill gas subsidized as a RES (additional income approx. 8 EUR/t)

# Disadvantages

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- Biowaste is used for “revitalization of landfill” as a technical material, no landfill tax, price lower than gate fee at regular composting plant



# Disadvantages

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- Support scheme for electricity produced from mixed municipal solid waste by premium payment
- Producer will get bonus 1830 CZK/MWh (73 EUR) for electricity from B-MSW
- It means approx. 12 EUR/t MSW (if electric efficiency of plant is 10 % and biodegradable part of MSW is 60 %)

- To calculate amount of biowaste landfilled  
MoE used 45 %
- To calculate production of RES produced from  
MSW ministry of industry and trade using  
figure 60 %

- Investment subsidy to build composting plant has been done without any planning
  - **Subsidy for composting plant building shall be given with respect to regional biowaste production capacities to avoid overcapacity**
- Composting and compost application to soil compete with RES support scheme
  - **EU wide goal to steer biowaste back to soil shall be adopted**
  - **Support for electricity from landfill gas and WtE plant shall be forbidden – Respect polluter pays principle!**
  - **Or sustainability criteria of biomass for WtE**

# Conclusion

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- There are few “grey” methods to keep landfill, technically is impossible to control what goes to MSW landfill
  - **EU wide ban on untreated waste shall be adopted**
- Low compost quality is main excuse to tolerate biowaste landfilling, it is not a real issue
  - **Attention has to be focused on reinforcement of biowaste diversion from landfill to proper waste management, composting plant needs enough biowaste to produce quality compost**
- Subsidy often break the economy
  - **Proper counting of waste management options**



We are ready to produce compost

But we need biowaste!

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