



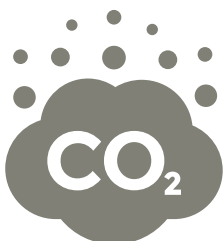
WHAT IS CO-PROCESSING?



The European cement industry is continuously using waste as a resource, thanks to what is called 'co-processing'. Co-processing is the combination of simultaneous material recycling and energy recovery from waste in a thermal process, which results in replacing natural mineral resources and fossil fuels such as coal and petroleum products.

Already, the cement sector in Europe is substituting an average 58% of its fuel with alternative sources, and it wants to grow this even further. Studies have shown that there are no technical barriers to raising this to 60% across Europe by 2030. Co-processing is already having a significant positive impact on the sustainability of the cement industry in Europe.

More than 50% of the thermal energy used in clinker production comes from **waste & bio-waste**.



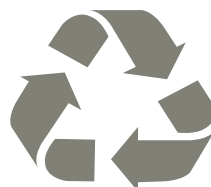
Reducing the
CO₂ intensity
of cement
manufacturing

Co-processing has important benefits:

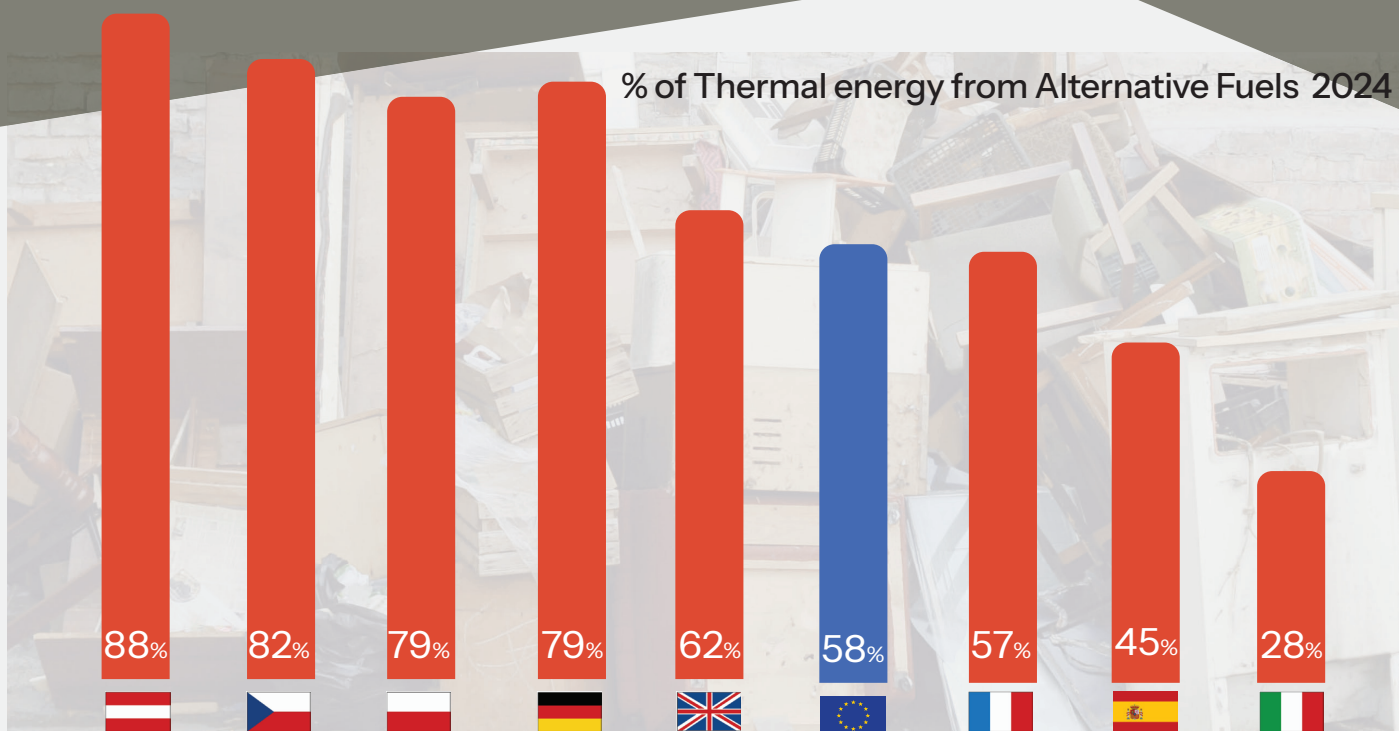
Reducing our
dependence
on virgin fossil
fuels



Decreasing
the amount
of landfill
waste



Minimising pub-
lic investment
costs in new
dedicated
facilities



Co-processing is key for a circular economy and already making a positive impact on the **sustainability** of the European cement industry:



- 21 million tonnes of CO₂ emissions avoided each year
- The use of alternative fuels, including bio-waste, helps to save about 7.8 million tonnes of coal
- About 5% of the raw materials needed in the production of the cement clinker in Europe consists of recycled material and ashes from alternative fuels

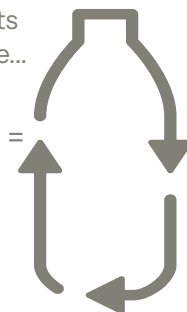
The potential of co-processing can be enhanced further with efficient regulatory measures that recognise this form of material recycling and its contribution to Europe's recycling targets.



Used tyres, wood, unrecyclable plastics, chemicals and other types of waste are **co-combusted in cement kilns** in plants across Europe, where...

the average substitution rate =

58% in the EU



Co-processing is a more **efficient waste management solution** than landfilling or incineration. It shows that the **cement industry is a net consumer of waste** and therefore is **at the heart of the circular economy**

