

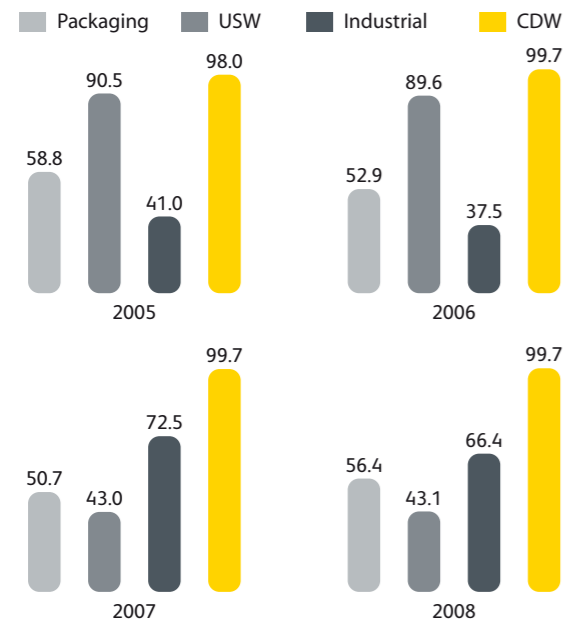
Environmental performance in services

Waste recovery

One of the activities that contributes to the reduction of landfill waste is the improvement of sorting procedures in order to increase the percentage of recovered materials. The main change in this respect was the recovery of packaging that grew from 50.97% to 56.45%. This increase was caused by the automation of the facilities in Seville, Talavera de la Reina and Cerceda in Spain, that had better performance and, therefore, a higher percentage of recovery.

Evolution of the percentage of waste recovered

Percentage of total received

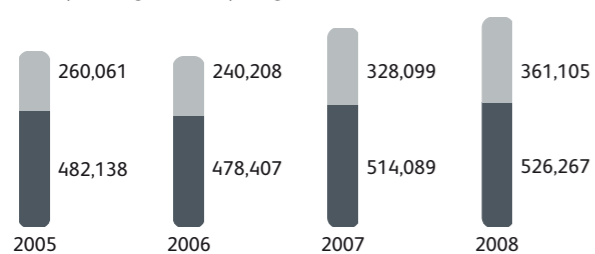


Avoided emissions

Greenhouse gases emissions generated per tonne of waste have remained stable compared to last year with a slight increase of 1%. Avoided emissions through sorting activities and biogas collection continue their upward trend. The reason is the increasing quantity of waste received in sorting plants (two new plants were opened) and their automation. In the case of emissions avoided by biogas collection, there is a general increase in the implementation of collection wells as well as in the degasification of the Xixona landfill in Alicante, Spain).

Equivalent tonnes of CO₂ avoided

By sorting (grey) By biogas collection (black)



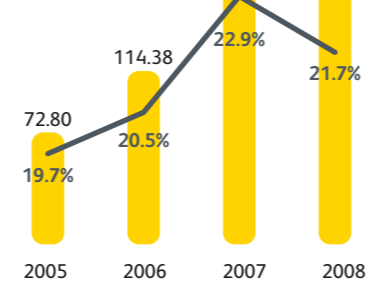
Compost produced

Composting is a technique in which organic matter is decomposed in a controlled environment, imitating natural procedures of thermophilic fermentation to produce compost, a useful product serving as fertilizer for soil and vegetation. It is, therefore, a way of generating added value from the waste.

Organic matter is about 48% of the total urban waste generated. There is a trend towards the reuse of this material by means of composting or biomethanization. The quality of the compost generated mainly depends on the purity of the organic matter, which depends on the previous sorting and preparation.

Thousands of tonnes of compost generated

Percentage of compost generated from waste processed in composting plants



Energy generated from wastes

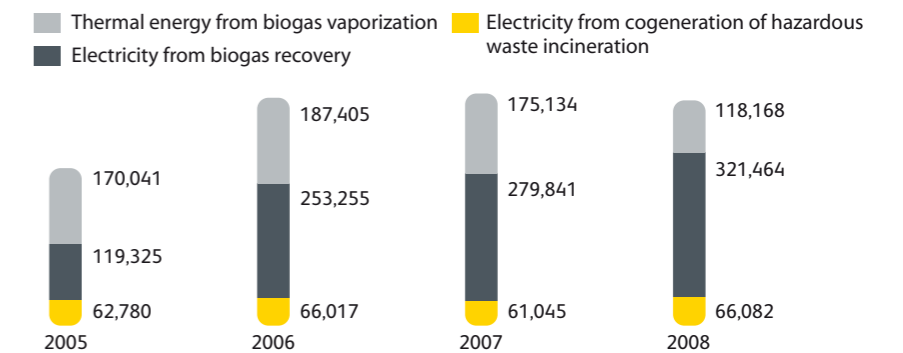
The wastes that we managed can be and must be reused.

The decomposition of waste in anaerobic conditions produces biogas, a gas mainly composed of methane that can be used as fuel to produce electric or thermal energy.

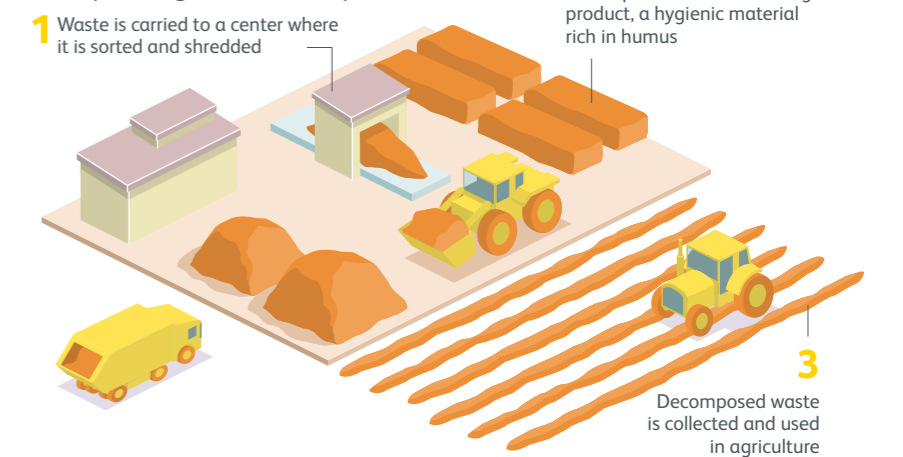
Incineration, as a system of energy recovery, provides more than 66,000 GJ of electricity in 2008 from hazardous wastes.

Distribution of energy generated from waste

GJ



Composting and decomposition



Energy from waste

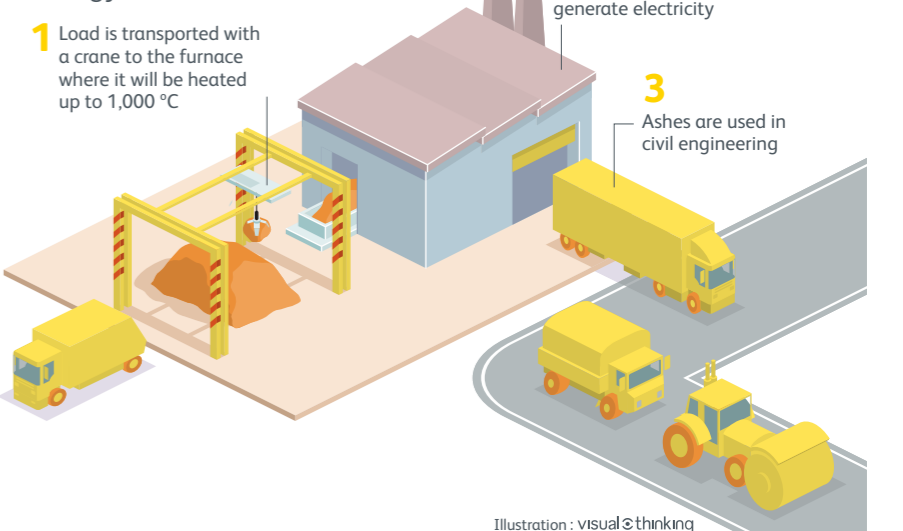


Illustration: visual@thinking