



Câmara Municipal da Póvoa de Varzim

In Portugal, the waste management sector is currently in a critical situation.

55% of our national waste is still being disposed of in landfills; far behind from the European Union goal of 10%.

18% is waste-to-energy in our country, in contrast to the EU average of 28%.

I know that change is possible. In my city, Póvoa de Varzim, we were able to build – almost from scratch – a modern and efficient sector.

But, in order to do so, we have to be equipped with energy recovery capacity. Therefore, we urgently need more EU funds to build waste-to-energy plants or to expand the existing ones.

We also urgently need political will from Government to define adequate strategies for our resources, without taxing our people more.

Otherwise, we will move back in time and fall short from achieving EU targets and the 2030 Agenda SDGs.