

Press Release

2nd December 2025

Portugal hosts Croatian trainers and teachers for advanced SHOEPRO capacity-building week

The Centro Tecnológico do Calçado de Portugal (CTCP) hosted, from November 24 to 28, a one-week “Train the Trainers/Teachers and Corporate Tutors” workshop under the SHOEPRO project, welcoming a group of teachers, company tutors, and representatives from Croatian VET and university institutions. The initiative aimed to strengthen participants’ understanding of the project’s training topics and support the transfer of existing pedagogical tools into practical teaching contexts.

Throughout the week, participants engaged in a series of technical and pedagogical activities designed to prepare them for the implementation of the SHOEPRO curricula. The programme included workshops dedicated to innovation and creativity, including design thinking methodologies and practical sessions on 3D printing and product personalization for tooling and prototyping. Technical training continued with sessions on Lean Manufacturing and Robotics, complemented by visits to Tropimática — a reference company in automation solutions — and to DCSI a manufacturer specialized in precision machining and advanced technical components for the footwear sector.

Sustainability and circular economy topics also played a central role, with a workshop on the Product Digital Passport (DPP) and a guided visit to CTCP’s exhibition of new sustainable materials developed by the Bioshoes4All team. Participants further visited sole producers Bolflex and ISI to observe innovative and sustainable industrial practices.

The final stage of the programme focused on analyzing, improving and validating the project’s training manual, ensuring that teachers and trainers are equipped with clear guidelines to adopt SHOEPRO methodologies.

For further information about the project, stakeholders can visit the official SHOEPRO website, where the Knowledge Hub currently under development will soon be made available. This platform will provide access to the training contents created for the curricula Digital skills and waste management in the footwear sector, structured into two thematic areas: Eco-Design and Waste Management in the Footwear Sector and Digital Skills for Footwear Design and Modelling.

Follow the news at project website: <https://shoepro.eu>