



Erasmus+



## **K4F-Knowledge Platform for Transferring Research and Innovation in Footwear Manufacturing**

PROJECT 2015-1-RO01-KA203-015198

### **OUTPUT 4**

## **Knowledge Platform for Transferring Research and Innovation in Footwear Manufacturing**

# **Structure of the K4F Knowledge Platform**

Prepared by Partners: **VC, TUIASI**

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## Knowledge Platform for Transferring Research and Innovation in Footwear Manufacturing

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The first objective of the K4F project is to set-up a new Knowledge Platform for transferring research and innovation for Leather and Footwear where the students will receive project-based training into a virtual environment by simulating all developing stages of the research projects and having as starting point the real identified needs in leather and footwear companies.

The Knowledge4Foot platform will facilitate active collaboration among education, business community and research in order to assess the skills needs on innovation, research, development and technological transfer (Objective 2). Also, the new developed common curriculum and related e-learning content which incorporate creative thinking, problem solving approach and project-based learning will implemented within the K4F Knowledge platform in order to test placements/internships activities of the students into virtual environment (Objective 3).

The main target groups - **students** enrolled on study programs in partner universities and trainees from SMEs - will be actively involved in the development stages of the K4F Knowledge Platform. The other target groups are:

- Managers or/and other professionals having managerial responsibilities (engineers/ technicians, designers) in European footwear enterprises
- HE experts and academic staff from universities which have study/training programmes for footwear sector
- Researchers involved in RDI activities for the footwear sector

The adopted methodology stands on team working and project-based training. HE students and professionals involved in top management of SMEs from 6 countries (RO, BE, ES, PT, EL, HR) will test and evaluate the Knowledge Platform for transferring research and innovation during its development stages. For this purpose, 90 students and trainees will be enrolled for on-line training. Based on their assessment results gained by following the on-line courses, 40 of them will be selected for virtual internship and project based training. Moreover, based on the evaluation of the project developed by students, they will be selected for participating in summer intensive course program (totally 15). At least 40 footwear companies from partner countries (RO, BE, EL, ES, PT, HR) will be registered on platform under membership for getting inputs from industry during the stage of shaping the training program, for brokerage sessions to project ideas during content development stages, and for evaluation stage of the projects and problem solving solutions proposed by students as part of their virtual internship. At least 2 relevant stakeholders (national bodies/ authorities/policy makers) in each partner country (totally 10) will evaluate the Knowledge4Foot Platform.

The opened licensed Moodle format will be used as basis for developing the Knowledge4Foot Platform.



In order to upload the intellectual outputs of the project, to perform the project activities and also to gather some of the available resources for footwear sector that were developed by partners in previous projects, the Knowledge4Foot Platform will have the following sections:

### 1. LIBRARY OF RESOURCES

#### 1.1. Studies & Reports

- 1.1.1. Mapping the knowledge triangle for transferring research and innovation in footwear manufacturing ( K4F project-Output 1)
- 1.1.2. Peer Learning Scenarios on Footwear Computer Aided Design ( INGA 3D project)
- 1.1.3. Mismatches, Shortages and Gaps in Competencies and Skills in the Footwear Industry (Tied Shoe project)
- 1.1.4. Research on Occupation and Training Needs on Sustainable Manufacturing in Footwear ( from STEP project)
- 1.1.5. .... ( the partners will be invited to submit studies and reports that could be published on the K4F Knowledge platform under Open Source credentials.)

#### 1.2. Books

#### 1.3. Compendia of research projects for Footwear Industry

### 2. TRAINING PROGRAM AND E-LEARNING CONTENT FOR TRANSFERRING RESEARCH AND INNOVATION IN FOOTWEAR MANUFACTURING ( K4F project-Output 2)

#### 2.1. Common curriculum

#### 2.2. Course 1- Developing project proposals for research and innovation in footwear enterprises

- 2.2.1. Manual
- 2.2.2. E-learning content (the substructure on Units and Subunits will be defined in a later stage)
- 2.2.3. Assessment tests
- 2.2.4. Certification
- 2.2.5. Glossary

#### 2.3. Course 2- Creativity and innovation for adding value to footwear- from idea to marketable product

- 2.3.1. Manual
- 2.3.2. E-learning content (the substructure on Units and Subunits will be defined in a later stage)
- 2.3.3. Assessment tests
- 2.3.4. Certification
- 2.3.5. Glossary

#### 2.4. Course 3- Research and technological transfer in footwear manufacturing

- 2.4.1. Manual
- 2.4.2. E-learning content (the substructure on Units and Subunits will be defined in a later stage)
- 2.4.3. Assessment tests
- 2.4.4. Certification
- 2.4.5. Glossary



3. **GUIDELINES FOR PROJECT BASED TRAINING THROUGH VIRTUAL PLACEMENT OF STUDENTS (K4F project-Output 3)**
  - 3.1. Student's handbook
  - 3.2. Supervisor's handbook
4. **INTENSIVE SUMMER TRAINING COURSE ON ENTREPRENEURIAL THINKING IN FOOTWEAR AND LEATHER SECTOR – Book of lectures (K4F project-Output 5).**
5. **VIRTUAL BROKERAGE**
6. **R&I PROJECTS FOR FOOTWEAR MANUFACTURING** is a project management tool that allows for:
  - collecting needs as requirements,
  - describing solution with specifications,
  - and controlling development task within a milestone schedule
  - for providing deliverables
  - that will be reviewed and validated

The registered users of K4F Knowledge Platform will receive also access to the previously developed/under development tools within the framework of VTC Shoe, TIED Shoe, Step2Sustainability and INGA3 D projects:

1. VTC Shoe Virtual Training Centre for Shoe Design (2007-2009), <http://vtc.shoedesign.ro/>
2. TIED Shoe Training in Innovation, Entrepreneurship and Design for the Footwear Industry (2011-2013), [www.tied-shoe.eu](http://www.tied-shoe.eu)
3. INGA3 D - Creative transfer of competence in 3D footwear CAD to VET professionals <http://www.inga3d.eu/>
4. Step2Sustainability- How to Implement Sustainable Manufacturing in Footwear - new occupational profile and training opportunities, <http://www.step2sustainability.eu/>

During developing stages of the K4F Knowledge Platform examples of good practices from other fields will be studied, such as:

1. Food & Business Knowledge Platform, available at <http://knowledge4food.net/>
2. PROVIP project “has developed this platform as an “umbrella” concept for supporting and facilitating international internships at-a-distance. Its goal is not to offer alternatives for already existing and very well functioning communication tools (e.g. Skype) but to add something new: a framework for the organization and execution of virtual internships”.  
<https://provip.eu/the-platform/>  
<https://provipproject.files.wordpress.com/2013/10/pathway-manual.pdf>
3. VIRTUAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE, <https://brightoncollaboration.org/public/what-we-do/capacity-buidling/vri.html>
4. Community of practice: Tied Shoe • <http://tied-shoe.eu/community>
5. Knowledge sharing: LEXSHA • <http://lexsha.virtual-campus.eu/en>
6. MOOC's • [https://iversity.org/en/my/courses/serious-gamedesign-and-development/lesson\\_units](https://iversity.org/en/my/courses/serious-gamedesign-and-development/lesson_units)
7. ....