



The start of a strong and wide skills partnership!

An ambitious Erasmus+ project has just started and promises to revolutionise the way textile, clothing, leather, and footwear (TCLF) industries' skills are developed, adopting new learning strategies and joining new actors. The new "Blueprint MetaSkills4TCLF" project started with the Kick-Off meeting on 26th and 27th September in Portugal, hosted by CTCP (Portuguese Footwear Technology Centre), project coordinator and APICCAPS (Portuguese Footwear, Components, Leather Goods Manufacturers' Association). The event saw the gathering of 21 partner organisations from 11 countries (BE, DE, FR, GR, IT, PL, PT, RO, SE, SP, and UA), along with their 4 affiliated partners, all representing the European TCLF sectors.

Over two intensive days, the MetaSkills4TCLF project convened stakeholders from across Europe to advance a comprehensive strategy for skills development, innovation, inclusivity, and sustainability in the textile, clothing, leather, and footwear industries, in line with the goals of the 2020 EU Skills Agenda.

This new project aims to address all the objectives of the Alliances for Sectoral Cooperation on Skills ("E+ Blueprint"), intersecting the pillars of the EU PACT4SKILLS TCLF Charter launched in December 2021. It is committed to consolidate and update part of the former "Blueprint Skills4Smart TCLF Industries 2030" project results, adding new skills necessary to help companies in the digital and green transition, while adopting disruptive learning methodologies that contribute to attract young generations.

The project focuses on the following key aspects and with the support of an upcoming wide Network of education providers and a Network of EU regional authorities supporting the modernisation of TCLF education:

To update an EU Skills Strategies at EU level, and also existing at national level, and to develop one for three of the countries that do not still have. This includes anticipating and addressing skills gaps in the textile, clothing, leather, and footwear (TCLF) sectors through public-private collaborative skills alliances at regional level working and developing regional Pact for Skills.

To develop innovative Curricula and training resources using new training methodologies. This involves collaboration with various actors in the education and training community throughout Europe, ensuring that training programmes are aligned with the evolving needs of the TCLF sectors.

To promote the Attractiveness and Inclusion in these sectors as a career choice. This includes measures to ensure that no talent is wasted, providing inclusive opportunities for professionals from diverse backgrounds, and facilitating their integration in the sectors.

To launch an Awareness Campaign: Additionally, partners will conduct a robust awareness campaign to raise awareness about the TCLF sectors and their career opportunities.

Through the next four years, the "MetaSkills4TCLF" consortium will demonstrate its crucial role in promoting the growth and sustainable development of the TCLF sectors in Europe. By addressing skills, innovation, inclusion, and sustainability challenges and opportunities, it aims to strengthen companies' competitiveness and prepare them for the future. This project aligns to the EU's ongoing commitment



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to invest on skills and lifelong learning of workers, and the relevance of the workforce in ensuring the growth of these sectors.



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