



**ECOn design criteria for Sustainability in footwear and
Testing methods for Evaluation of Performance**

Welcome to the 1st Newsletter of the ECOSTEP Project



Dear **ECOSTEP** Community, welcome to the first edition of our Newsletter!

We are glad to have you here as we begin this journey towards more sustainable, circular and transparent footwear in Europe. **ECOSTEP** has just taken its first steps, and this newsletter will be our space to share what happens along the way.

In the coming months, we will bring you updates from the project, insights from our partners, upcoming activities, useful resources and key developments around ecodesign, footwear testing, circularity, digital tools and the Digital Product Passport.

Whether you are part of the footwear sector, a researcher, a policymaker, a designer, an SME, a consumer, or simply someone interested in more sustainable products, this space is for you.

Thank you for joining the **ECOSTEP** community. We are excited to share this journey with you.

What is **ECOSTEP**?



ECOSTEP is about rethinking how footwear is designed, tested and understood.

A single pair of shoes can include many materials, components and production steps, which makes sustainability difficult to measure, compare and communicate.

That is why **ECOSTEP** will work over the next four years to explore better ways of designing and assessing footwear, with a focus on ecodesign, circularity, durability, testing methods, digital tools and clearer product information.

In short, **ECOSTEP** wants to make sustainable footwear easier to design, easier to evaluate and easier to trust.

[Learn more](#)

First steps of the road ahead



ECOSTEP has already started its journey, and the first months of the project have been focused on bringing partners together, introducing the project to wider audiences and setting the basis for the work ahead.

Kick-Off Meeting in Murcia



The **ECOSTEP** consortium came together for the project's Kick-off Meeting, marking the official start of this four-year collaboration. This first meeting was an opportunity for partners to align on the project's objectives, work plan, roles and next steps, while opening the conversation on how ECOSTEP will support more sustainable and circular footwear in Europe.

[More info here!](#)

Participation at EU Green Week 2026



ECOSTEP was also presented during EU Green Week 2026, one of Europe's key moments for discussing environmental policy, sustainability and green transition. This participation helped introduce the project's vision to a broader audience and highlight the importance of ecodesign, circularity and transparency in the footwear sector.

[Learn more here!](#)

1st Press Release now available!



To mark the beginning of the project, **ECOSTEP** has published its first Press Release. The article presents the project's mission, its European consortium and its ambition to support the transition towards more sustainable, circular and transparent footwear.

[Read it here!](#)

Take a closer look at **ECOSTEP**

DOCUMENTS

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Communication Materials

Brandbook



Deliverables

Coming Soon!

Scientific Publications

Coming Soon!

Brochure

Our project brochure gives a clear overview of **ECOSTEP's** objectives, approach, expected results and consortium.

Roll Up

The project roll-up offers a quick visual summary of **ECOSTEP** and its contribution to sustainable footwear in Europe.

Brandbook

The **ECOSTEP** Brandbook presents the project's logo, colour palette, typography and main visual guidelines.

Click to download them!

Stay connected with **ECOSTEP**

REDESIGNING FOOTWEAR FOR A CIRCULAR FUTURE

ECOSTEP develops a comprehensive ecodesign framework for the footwear sector — combining standardised testing methods, AI-powered digital tools, and a sector-specific Digital Product Passport to support compliance with EU sustainability regulations.

[Discover the Project](#)

Want to follow our next steps?

Visit the [ECOSTEP](#) website and connect with us on social media to stay updated on project news, activities, resources and upcoming results. We will be sharing our journey towards more sustainable, circular and transparent footwear in Europe, one step at a time.



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