

# news ecoCORK

Welcome to the first issue of ECOCORK magazine.

ECOCORK is a three-year (2020-2023) ERASMUS+ funded project to gain environmental awareness in the applications of cork composites as well as understanding the importance of eco-friendly natural composites in sustainability.



## ICSURO ?

**Catalan Institute of Cork (ICSURO)** is dedicated to cork science researches. The Institute name proves a strong experience in cork science for many years. The Cork Center, the laboratory of the Catalan Cork Institute was created in 2001 to provide services to the different components of the value chain in the cork sector.

## First Student Training activity was organized at ICSURO!

Students from partners joined the first training program at ICSURO. There were 24 students from four partner universities while one staff from each partner accompanied with the students. In this organization, experts in cork science shared their experiences with the students. There was a busy training program during the event. Main topics in this event were;

- cork and sustainability
- carbon footprint of cork products
- potential uses of cork





A fruitful student training program was held between 25 and 29 November 2021. The program was not only about the theory of cork science but also practical side of cork harvesting and processing. Within this training program, students visited the cork forest and live the nature in Pallafrugel.



## What is cork?



**Cork** is a suberous casing of the species *Quercus Suber* tree, also known as cork oak. Mediterranean coasts of Europe, especially Portugal and Spain, include the major territories of cork oak and 90% of cork products are produced from there in the world. Cork forests protect the environment from desertification while providing suitable habitat for several animal and plant species. This lightweight material exhibits elastic, impermeable and thermal/vibration isolation properties while retaining imperishable behavior. In current applications, cork is utilized as an insulation material in aircraft, rockets, automobiles and submarines. In addition, flooring, shoes, seals and decorative products also use this natural material.