



BIOPOL

With the contribution of the LIFE Programme of the European Union

PRODUCTION OF LEATHER MAKING BIOPOLYMERS FROM BIOMASSES AND INDUSTRIAL BY PRODUCTS, THROUGH LIFE CYCLE DESIGNED PROCESSES

PROJECT'S PHASES

1

MARKET SURVEY AND
PRE-TREATMENT OF BIOMASSES IN
ORDER TO MAKE THEM SUITABLE
FOR PRODUCING THE BIOPOLYMER



2

SYNTHESIS, CHEMICAL
CHARACTERIZATION AND LEATHER
APPLICATION OF BIOPOLYMERS
PRODUCED AT LAB SCALE



3

DESIGN AND BUILD UP AN
INDUSTRIAL PROTOTYPE PLANT
ABLE TO PRODUCE BIOPOLYMERS
AT INDUSTRIAL SCALE.



4

LARGE SCALE PRODUCTION OF THE
NEW BIOPOLYMERS INTO THE
PROTOTYPE PLANT



5

INDUSTRIAL APPLICATION OF
BIOPOLYMERS ON BOVINE,
SHEEP/GOAT AND SPLIT SUEDE
LEATHERS IN ORDER TO PRODUCE
HIDES FOR UPHOLSTERY,
AUTOMOTIVE, FOOTWEAR,
LEATHER GOODS, GARMENT.



The leather supply chain is facing ecological issues such as the minimizing of the environmental impact and guaranteeing the safety of the products used in the tanning process.

LIFE BIOPOL aims to develop safe and eco-friendly polymers based on biomasses. The main target of the project is the synthesis of a new class of biopolymers, which represent innovative and suitable alternatives to traditional products based on petrochemicals, currently used in leather making process. Biopolymers are produced using as raw material some industrial by-products like animal and vegetable biomasses from leather and agrochemical industries.

The project also satisfies many aspects considered high relevant in the leather industry, in particular: the improvement of water management, the reduction of hazardous substances and the decreasing of the carbon foot print of chemicals. The success of the LIFE BIOPOL and the full scale of the innovative technology will allow the implementation of more sustainable measures for the leather processing.



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