



Supplementary instructions for Research Council of Finland's RRF reporting

Research infrastructures and research projects in key areas of the green and digital transition have received funding under the [Recovery and Resilience Plan](#) of Finland's Sustainable Growth Programme. The research infrastructures supported by RRF funding were selected in a call opened for [national research infrastructures in 2021](#) and a call opened [for local and regional research infrastructures in 2022](#). The research projects in key areas of the green and digital transition were selected in funding calls opened in [2021](#) and [2022](#).

Below are links to the funding decision announcements and the lists of funded projects.

All projects that received RRF funding

- [List of all projects by organisation \(PDF\)](#)

National research infrastructures

- [Funding decision announcement](#)
- [List of all supported national research infrastructures \(PDF, in Finnish\)](#)

Local and regional research infrastructures

- [Funding decision announcement](#)
- [List of all supported local research infrastructures \(PDF\)](#)

Key areas of green and digital transition

- [Funding decision announcement 2021](#)
- [List of all supported projects in 2021 \(PDF\)](#)
- [Funding decision announcement 2022](#)
- [List of all supported projects in 2022](#)

Section 6 of the RRF Act designates the task for the Research Council of Finland to monitor the use of support in accordance with Section 12 and ensure that the information to be provided to the State Treasury regarding the use of support, achievement of the objectives set for support, as well as supervision and audit of support, is comprehensive and error-free and meets the content requirements of the centralised information system.



The Research Council of Finland reports to the European Commission on the achievement of the objectives of Finland's Sustainable Growth Programme. The projects' RRF reports are part of the documentary evidence provided to the Commission to assess the realisation of the objectives. Therefore, it is important to ensure that the prepared report comprehensively describes the activities of the project or infrastructure.

The projects and infrastructures are required to submit a consortium-wide RRF report to the Research Council of Finland within three months of the end of the funding period. The same deadline applies to the submission of the audit report. For projects ending on 31 December 2025, the deadline for the RRF report will be confirmed separately for each respective project. **The RRF report replaces the interim and final reports mentioned in the RRF-specific conditions submitted as an attachment to the project's funding decision.** Compliance with the terms, guidelines and the RRF regulation is assessed based on the consortium project's RRF report and the audit reports of all subprojects. The RRF report and the audit report are approved by the panel or committee that made the funding decision.

The reporting follows the Research Council of Finland's [guidelines for scientific reporting \(PDF\)](#). In the supplementary instructions, projects are instructed to describe specific sections in the manner required by the European Commission.

The reporting is done in the Research Council of Finland's online services (SARA), using the form available in the consortium PI's subproject decision. Initially, the consortium PI does the reporting, but they can also authorise other individuals to complete the form (see instructions: [authorising another person in the application or report](#)).

Please complete the RRF report in English.

In addition to the reporting form filled out in the Research Council of Finland's online system, projects and infrastructures that have received RRF funding are required to fill in a separate attachment describing the implementation of the Do No Significant Harm principle (DNSH self-assessment). Additionally, projects are requested to submit 1-5 impact stories as attachments. The attachments are submitted in the online services under the funding decision's additional information section (My applications > Decided > Additional information).

More information: rrf@aka.fi



Supplementary RRF reporting guidelines for national research infrastructures and local research infrastructure projects

You can use the Research Council of Finland's [guidelines for scientific reporting \(PDF\)](#) to help you with reporting. Also consider the clarifications provided in these supplementary instructions.

These supplementary instructions apply to projects that received RRF funding in the 2021 call for national research infrastructures and projects that received funding in the 2022 call for local research infrastructures.

4. Operation of research infrastructure
 - In this section, describe how the funding received has contributed to strengthening existing Finnish [competence clusters](#) in the field, their quality and efficiency, as well as increasing expertise both within and outside these clusters.
 - Describe how the infrastructure has advanced the goals outlined in the [Strategy for National Research Infrastructures in Finland](#), such as research quality, innovation, competitiveness, versatile impact, and national and international collaboration.
 - Include a list of other funding received from the EU (see section 7). Indicate the funder, funding programme, amount granted, project title and grant number.

7. Costs and funding base of research infrastructure
 - Break down funding received from other sources.
 - Also include on the tab "4. Operation of research infrastructure" a list of other funding received from the EU. Indicate the funder, funding programme, amount granted, project title and grant number.

8. Collaboration and interaction of research infrastructure
 - Pay attention to comprehensive reporting of cross-sectoral collaboration.
 - Ensure that international collaboration with other EU countries is reported comprehensively.

10. Open access to research infrastructure
 - Provide a more detailed description of the research infrastructure's openness, interoperability and usability in the impact story.

11. Publications
 - Report all publications resulting from research conducted in the project. Publications are needed for project reporting and must be entered in the online services (SARA). The Research Council of Finland does not retrieve publication data from project websites, for example.



14. Effects and impact

- In this section, describe the impact of the research infrastructure from the perspective of promoting the green and digital transition.
- Describe the implementation of [sustainable development principles](#) in the operation of the infrastructure (especially in terms of the following goals: 4: Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all; 5: Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls; 9: Build resilient infrastructure, promote sustainable industrialisation, and foster innovation; and 13: Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts.)

Supplementary RRF reporting guidelines for RRF research projects on key areas of green and digital transition

You can use the Research Council of Finland's [guidelines for scientific reporting \(PDF\)](#) to help you with reporting. Also consider the clarifications provided in these supplementary instructions. The guidelines apply to calls in 2021 and 2022.

3. Funding

- Include on the tab "6. Implementation of research project" a list of other EU funding received. Indicate the funder, funding programme, amount granted, project title and grant number.

6. Implementation of research project

- In this section, describe how the funding has strengthened basic research and excellence in the field.
- Also describe how the funding has contributed to strengthening existing Finnish [competence clusters](#) in the field, their quality and efficiency, as well as increasing expertise both within and outside these clusters.
- Include a list of other EU funding received (see section 3). Indicate the funder, funding programme, amount granted, project title and grant number.

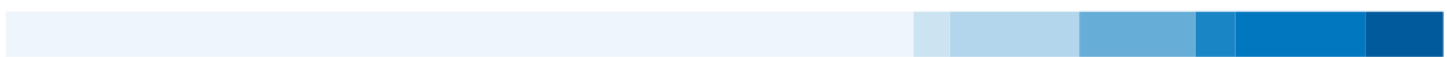
7. Research collaboration

- Pay attention to comprehensive reporting of cross-sectoral collaboration.
- Ensure that international collaboration with other EU countries is described comprehensively.

10. Interaction

- Pay attention to comprehensive reporting of cross-sectoral collaboration.
- Ensure that international collaboration with other EU countries is described comprehensively.

11. Publications





- Report all publications resulting from research conducted in the project. Publications are needed for project reporting and must be entered into the online services (SARA). The Research Council of Finland does not retrieve publication data from project websites, for example.
15. Research data
- Describe the openness and interoperability of data with partners or other actors from EU countries.
18. Popular description of project and results
- Note that the popular description can be read as is on the Research Council's website and/or research.fi portal, and the Research Council may use it in its communication.
19. Impact beyond academia
- Describe, if possible, the impacts on a low-carbon economy and adaptation to climate change and climate resilience.
 - Describe the implementation of [sustainable development principles](#) in the operation of the infrastructure (especially in terms of the following goals: 4: Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all; 5: Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls; 9: Build resilient infrastructure, promote sustainable industrialisation, and foster innovation; and 13: Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts.)
 - Use the guide for reporting on the [broader impact of research \(PDF\)](#)

Impact Stories

We request the RRF-funded research projects and research infrastructures to prepare an impact story or impact stories as part of the reporting.

In the impact story, describe and reflect on the research and interaction work done in the project in relation to the project's impact goals and the goals of the [Finland's Sustainable Growth Programme](#). We encourage you to create the impact stories in collaboration within the consortium and work packages, considering the added value of collaboration in pursuing impact.

Impact stories outline the long-term societal impact sought by the project and include more concrete and detailed, selected shorter-term information on the societal effects, changes or solutions the projects have sought to promote, and how and through what concrete impact pathways their research and interaction have advanced or are advancing the necessary development. You can find examples of impact stories via the [Strategic Research website](#).



Consortia can submit 1–5 impact stories, and they are requested to be written in English. The impact story is prepared on a separate template, and its indicative length is up to three pages. The impact stories are submitted in the online system under the decision's additional information section (My applications > Decided > Additional information).

Impact stories are used as part of the Research Council of Finland's reporting to the European Commission, and the Research Council may use them in its communication.

Describe the activities of the research project or the research infrastructure in the impact story using the questions below.

- 1) Describe how the research project or research infrastructure has promoted the green transition, sustainable growth and digitalisation.
 - What impacts has the project already had, what concrete solutions has it produced, and what medium-/long-term effects can be anticipated? What societal impact can be pursued with the project's results and effects in the longer term?
 - What cross-border effects has the project had between EU countries and/or at EU level? What solutions applicable to other EU countries has the project generated, and what cross-border effects can be anticipated? Provide examples of impacts on EU-level decision-making, policy actions, expansion of knowledge base in decision-making, research and business collaboration, interaction, and networking with other EU countries. What societal impact can be pursued with the project's results and effects in the longer term at EU level?
- 2) How does the funding support the strengthening and expansion of existing Finnish [competence clusters](#) in the field, both within and outside these clusters?
 - Describe especially the RDI (research, development and innovation) collaboration with companies and assess the impacts of this collaboration.
- 3) Describe the shared usability of the research infrastructure and its potential effects. (Only for research infrastructures)
- 4) Describe other possible impacts of the project.

Do No Significant Harm (DNSH) self-assessment

Research projects and research infrastructures funded from the Recovery and Resilience Facility (RRF) must conduct a self-assessment on the implementation of the 'Do No Significant Harm' principle after the completion of the project. The self-assessment is



submitted as an attachment to the RRF report through the Research Council of Finland's online services under 'My Applications' > 'Completed' > 'Provide additional information'.

A project-specific DNSH self-assessment is required to ensure that the implementation of the RRF-funded projects comply with the technical guidelines on the 'Do no significant harm' principle (2021/C58/01) and that the funding provided by the Research Council of Finland have supported projects fully in line with the second paragraph of Article 5 of Regulation (EU) 2021/241 of the European Parliament and of the Council establishing the Recovery and Recovery Facility. At the same time, the project needs to ensure that the project has complied with EU and national environmental legislation.

In the assessment the project must ensure that the implementation of the project has not included the following assets and activities: (i) activities related to fossil fuels, including downstream use; (ii) actions under the EU ETS to achieve projected greenhouse gas emissions that do not fall below the relevant benchmarks; (iii) activities relating to landfills, incineration plants and mechanical biological treatment plants; and (iv) activities where long-term waste disposal can cause environmental damage.

In the self-assessment, the project must describe the implementation in relation to the following RDI actions, which are considered to comply with the technical guidelines on the 'no significant harm' principle (2021/C58/01): (i) RDI actions leading to a technological neutral outcome at the level of their application; (ii) RDI actions supporting options with low environmental impact; or (iii) RDI actions focusing primarily on developing options with minimal environmental impact in the sector in question, where there is no technically and economically viable low impact option.

In the self-assessment, the project must examine its activities and procurements during the project implementations concerning six environmental objectives: (1) mitigation of climate change, (2) adaptation to climate change, (3) sustainable use and protection of water and marine resources, (4) transition to a circular economy, including prevention and recycling of waste, (5) prevention and control of environmental pollution, and (6) protection and restoration of biodiversity and ecosystems.

The potential impacts of the project on the six environmental objectives of the DNSH criteria are assessed into a separate DNSH self-assessment form. The assessment form is submitted in the online system under the decision's additional information section (My applications > Decided > Additional information).

Instructions and forms on the RRF page

- [Guidelines for scientific reporting \(PDF\)](#)
- [Broader impact of research \(PDF\)](#)



Suomen Akatemia

- [Online services \(SARA\) instructions](#)
- [Impact story template](#) (attachment)
- [DNSH self-assessment](#) (attachment)

Additional information

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