

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.



Suomen Akatemia

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).

The instructions are available at the [Instructions and forms page on the RRF website](#).

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