

“Do no (significant) harm” principle in Horizon Europe

NCP webinar - 13 November 2023



NCP FLANDERS



Practical information about DN(S)H in Horizon Europe 2023-2024

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HE Main Work Programme 2023-2024

- **General Introduction**
 - ‘proposed outcome of topics in this WP’ is screened for potential harm
 - applicants can contribute by reflecting on impact from their activities
 - HEU is committed to the ‘Do no harm’-principle
- **Cluster 5 climate-energy & mobility (Destinations 1, 3 & 5)**
 - HORIZON-CL5-2024-D3-01-06: Innovative applications/integration of geothermal heating and cooling in industry
 - HORIZON-CL5-2024-D5-01-18: Assessment of air pollutant emissions from low-carbon fuels in the heavy-duty, aviation, and maritime sectors
- **Cluster 6 Food, Bioeconomy, Natural Resources, Agriculture and Environment (mentioned in Destinations BIODIV & GOVERNANCE)**
 - HORIZON-CL6-2024-BIODIV-01-5: Transformative action of policy mixes, governance and digitalisation addressing biodiversity loss

Template Application Form*

- Part B – 1.2 Methodology

- Where relevant, include how the project methodology complies with the 'do no significant harm' principle as per Article 17 of [Regulation \(EU\) No 2020/852](#) on the establishment of a framework to facilitate sustainable investment (i.e. the so-called 'EU Taxonomy Regulation'). This means that the methodology is designed in a way it is not significantly harming any of the six environmental objectives of the EU Taxonomy Regulation.

* Same for all templates in the F&T portal. To be confirmed for call-documents!

Expert (standard briefing slides) 1/2



Do no significant harm principle (DNSH)

European
Green Deal

In line with the European Green Deal objectives, economic activities should not make a significant harm to any of the six environmental objectives (EU Taxonomy Regulation)

- Applicants **can refer to the DNSH principle** when presenting their research methodology and the expected impacts of the project, to show that their project will not carry out activities that make a significant harm to any of the six environmental objectives of the EU Taxonomy Regulation.
- However, evaluators **will not score applications in relation to their compliance with the DNSH principle** unless explicitly stated in the work programme (currently, this is the case only for actions in the European Innovation Council Work Programme 2021).

The six environmental objectives :



Climate change mitigation



Sustainable use & protection of water & marine resources



Pollution prevention & control



Climate change adaptation



Transition to a circular economy



Protection and restoration of biodiversity & ecosystems

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Expert (standard briefing slides) 2/2



Do no significant harm principle (DNSH)

- Aspects related to the '**Do no significant harm**' (DNSH) principle can be part of the proposal but evaluators should not score applications in relation to their compliance with the DNSH principle unless explicitly stated in the work programme (currently, this is the case only for actions in the European Innovation Council Work Programme 2021).
- Evaluators are asked in one **additional question** whether the proposal is compliant with the DNSH principle and provide comments in the case the answer to the question is 'Partially', 'No' or 'Cannot be assessed'. The answer to this question will be **used for monitoring purposes** and for a proper **follow up in the case the project is funded**.

Evaluation Form*

Do no significant harm principle

Is this proposal compliant with the 'Do no significant harm' principle?

Not applicable

Yes.

Partially

No

Cannot be assessed

If Partially/No/Cannot be assessed please explain.

[Comment box]

EIC Work Programme 2023 (Annex 2)

- Can you apply?
 - The scope of proposals should be in line with the Do Not Significant Harm principle
- Innovations that significantly harm the environment (and therefore contravene the 'do not significant harm' principle of the EU Taxonomy Regulation) will not be funded.

In general, EIC funding will not be awarded to projects that contravene the objectives of the Green Deal.

Exceptions might be established for activities aimed at reducing greenhouse gas emissions from certain fossil fuel-based energy sources, such as those covered by the Complementary Climate Delegated Act under the Taxonomy Regulation. For example: specific fossil gas-related activities can help accelerate the transition from high-emitting energy sources, such as coal, to renewable or low-carbon gases

EIC Expert briefing



6. Do no significant harm principle (DNSH)

European
Innovation
Council



In line with the European Green Deal objectives, economic activities should not make a significant harm to any of the six environmental objectives.

EIC WP 2023:

Exceptions might be established, however, for activities aimed at reducing greenhouse gas emissions from certain fossil fuel-based energy sources that can help accelerate the transition from high-emitting energy sources, such as coal, to renewable or low-carbon gases.

You must confirm the DNSH principle of a proposal.

The six environmental objectives:

-  Climate change mitigation
-  Sustainable use & protection of water & marine resources
-  Pollution prevention & control
-  Climate change adaptation
-  Transition to a circular economy
-  Protection and restoration of biodiversity & ecosystems

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Do not hesitate to contact us for further questions