

EQA

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AGORADA+ 2024
EURADA event 



About EQA



EQA is not an Innovation Agency; and it **does not offer consultancy services**.



EQA is an **International Evaluation Agency**: we are specifically focused on providing support to public sector entities at an international level, such as:

- ✓ Regional Development Agencies (RDAs)
- ✓ National Innovation Agencies
- ✓ Universities and Foundations
- ✓ Multilateral Organizations



EQA is specialized in conducting a **massive number** of evaluations of projects in a **short period** of time.



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Multi-sector & multi area evaluations



Evaluations for Research, Development and Innovation projects and proposals

- Identifying projects that **merit financial support** (ex-ante evaluations)
- Verifying the correct execution of R&D projects and their impact (ex-post evaluations)
- Evaluations finely tuned to meet the **rigorous criteria** of government funding agencies



Verification of the DNSH Principle Compliance

- Relying solely on a self-declaration of compliance presents a **substantial risk to the administration**
- DNSH verification ensures activities align with environmental sustainability criteria
- Validation and verification ensure a **technically robust and credible** evaluation

Why is DNSH crucial for RDAs?



Regulatory context

The "Do No Significant Harm" (DNSH) principle is mandatory for projects funded by European programs like MRR and FEDER, ensuring that activities do not harm the EU's environmental objectives.



Understanding DNSH Verification

The verification of the Do No Significant Harm (DNSH) principle ensures that any proposed activities or measures comply with environmental sustainability standards. This process involves assessing whether the activity significantly harms any of the six key environmental objectives outlined in the EU Taxonomy Regulation (Regulation (EU) 2020/852). These objectives include **climate change mitigation, climate change adaptation, sustainable use and protection of water and marine resources, transition to a circular economy, pollution prevention and control, and protection and restoration of biodiversity and ecosystems**. Verification is essential to confirm alignment with EU sustainability criteria and prevent funding for environmentally harmful actions.

DNSH is not just a requirement; it's an opportunity to demonstrate your commitment to sustainability.

Why is DNSH crucial for RDAs?



Economic impact

- Essential regulatory compliance to access and **justify funding**
- Risk mitigation against rejections or **fund withdrawals**



Common challenges for RDAs

- Complexity in **interpreting regulations**
- Need for **robust evidence** during audits
- Avoiding mistakes that may lead to **sanctions or funding losses**

DNSH is not just a requirement; it's an opportunity to demonstrate your commitment to sustainability.



EQA, your strategic partner in DNSH

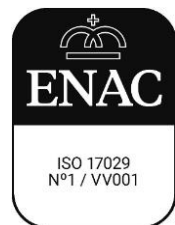
Why choose us?



Proven expertise: over 1,200 DNSH validations and a multidisciplinary team of 10,000 experts.



Proprietary management platform for agile and transparent tracking.



Recognized by the Spanish government for the validation and verification of the largest projects financed through the Recovery, Transformation, and Resilience Plan (Next Generation EU funds).



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Tailored solutions for RDAs:



Ex-ante validation: we check DNSH compliance before the project starts by reviewing planned activities and measures, ensuring early identification of non-compliant activities.



Ex-post verification: we ensure compliance with the DNSH principle after project execution by reviewing the activities performed and measures implemented.

Our recommendation: the combo **VALIDATION + VERIFICATION**



Key benefits and risk management



Comprehensive risk management: minimize the risk of supporting activities that fail to comply with the DNSH principle.

Proactive problem-solving / compliance: avoid identifying non-compliance during verification by addressing issues early in the planning stage.

Safeguarding funds: prevent the revocation of granted funds by ensuring consistency and maintaining transparency.

Efficiency: optimize processes to save time and resources.

Adaptability assurance: ensure compliance even after deviations during project execution.

In Spain, public bodies are leveraging the DNSH accreditation scheme to ensure companies receiving European funds provide **opinions from accredited entities** with their projects. This initiative, driven by the Ministry of Industry, strengthens trust and compliance.

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THANK YOU!

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