

# #Article 22(4)(j)

## #DNSH

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Online

**Interact**

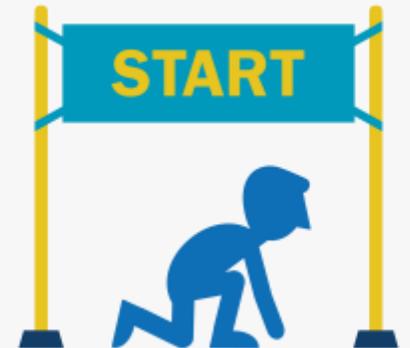


Co-funded by  
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Interreg

# Meeting objectives

Jointly we would like to:

- ✓ Recap rationale, purpose and cornerstones of approaches to DNSH and the provision in article 22(4j) of the Interreg Regulation
- ✓ Have an expert view on it and broaden the perspective
- ✓ Brainstorm on efficient and effective approaches to tackle it!



# Working agreements

- Stay 'muted', unless talking;
- Contribute & share;
- Be patient;
- Be open;
- Contributions: use chat/ speak up/ raise e-hand.



# Agenda

**01**

**Intro & setting  
the scene**

**02**

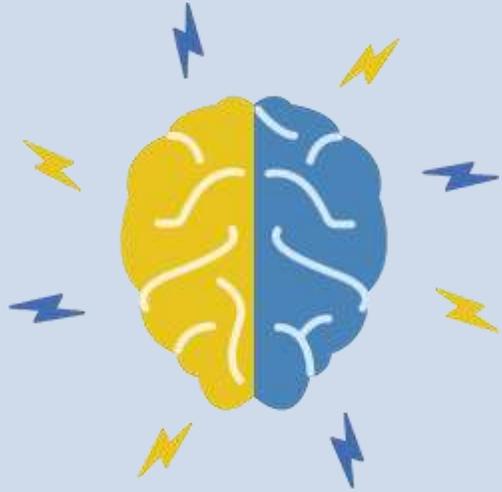
**Testimonials &  
open round**

**03**

**Expert view on it**

**04**

**Let's exchange  
and brainstorm!**



# Setting the scene

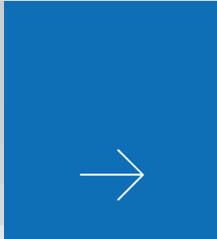
Checking infrastructure for climate resilience (Art. 22.4.j)



Do Not Significant Harm (DNSH)



“Taxonomy” Regulation



# Article 22.4.j Interreg Regulation vs. climate proofing

Technical guidance on the climate proofing of infrastructure:

It is therefore essential to clearly identify – and consequently to invest in – infrastructure that is prepared for a climate-neutral and climate-resilient future.

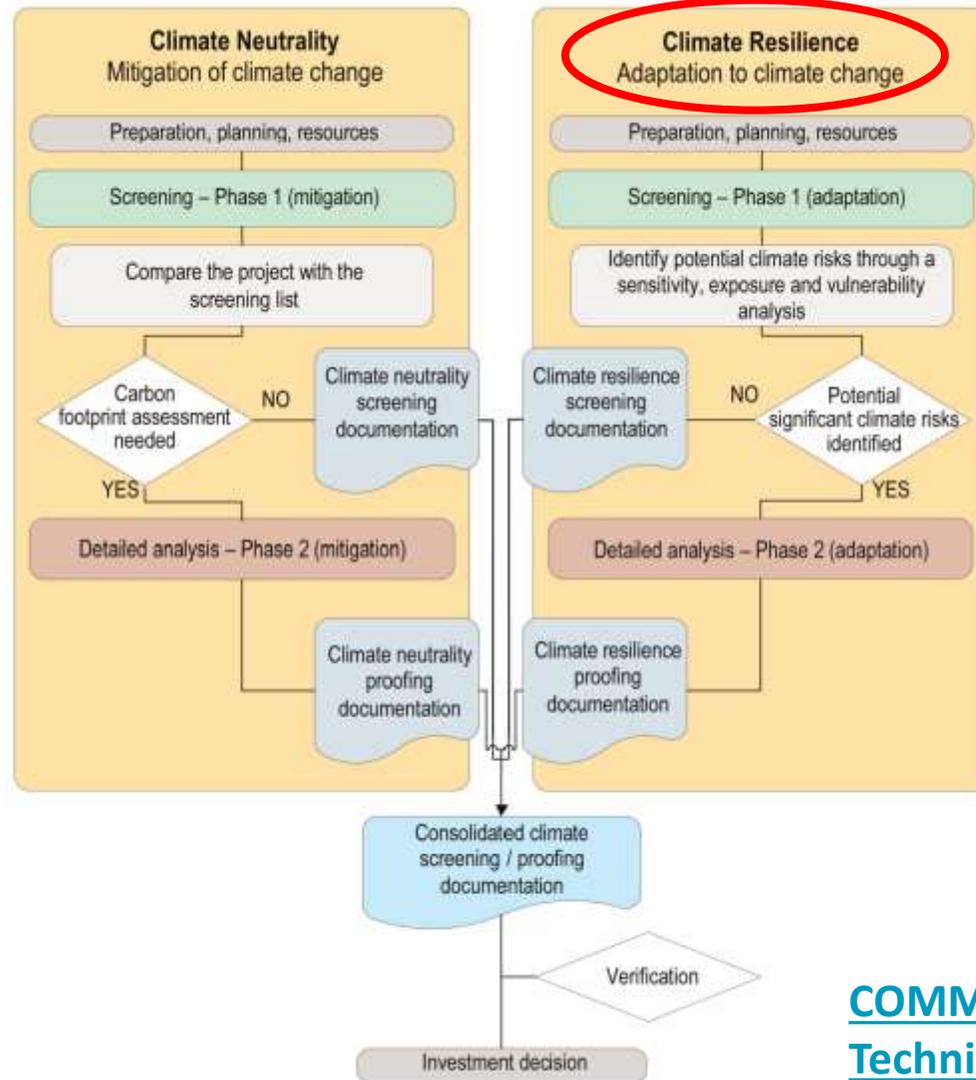
Article 22.4.j Interreg Regulation requires from the monitoring committee (or steering committee) to...

'ensure that, for investments in infrastructure with an expected lifespan of at least five years, an assessment of expected impacts of climate change is carried out.'



***This is not the climate proofing (Article 73.2 j CPR) !***

# Clarification of the legal requirement:



DG Regio (Unit G1 on Sustainable Growth)

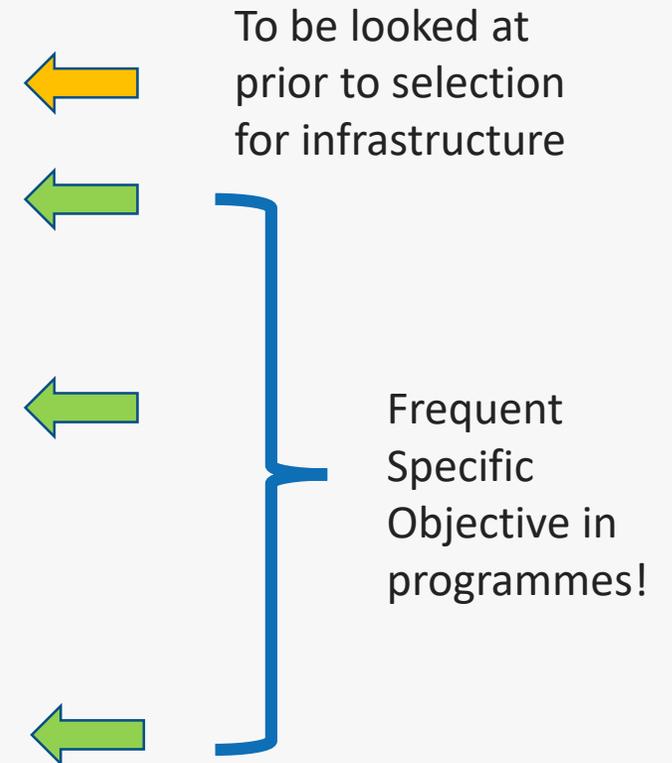
This assessment only addresses the climate resilience (adaptation to climate change) of infrastructure investments. – second pillar of climate proofing.

**COMMISSION NOTICE**

**Technical guidance on the climate proofing of infrastructure in the period 2021-2027**

# Article 22.4.j vs Significant harm to environmental objectives

| Objectives   | An activity shall be considered to significantly harm when it:   |
|--|--|
| Climate change mitigation                                    | leads to significant greenhouse gas emissions  |
| <b>Climate change adaptation</b>                             | leads to an increased adverse impact of the current climate and the expected future climate, on the activity itself or on people, nature or assets   |
| Sustainable use and protection of water and marine resources | is detrimental: (i) to the good status or the good ecological potential of bodies of water, including surface water and groundwater; or (ii) to the good environmental status of marine waters;  |
| Circular economy, including waste prevention and recycling   | (i) leads to significant inefficiencies in the use of materials or in the direct or indirect use of natural resources such as non-renewable energy sources, raw materials, water and land at one or more stages of the life cycle of products, including in terms of durability, reparability, upgradability, reusability or recyclability of products; (ii) leads to a significant increase in the generation, incineration or disposal of waste, with the exception of the incineration of non-recyclable hazardous waste; or (iii) the long-term disposal of waste may cause significant and long-term harm to the environment; |
| Pollution prevention and control                             | leads to a significant increase in the emissions of pollutants into air, water or land, as compared with the situation before the activity started   |
| Protection and restoration of biodiversity and ecosystems    | is: (i) significantly detrimental to the good condition and resilience of ecosystems; or (ii) detrimental to the conservation status of habitats and species, including those of Union interest.   |



# DNSH in Interreg

- dedicated ex ante assessment carried out during the programming phase preventing the inclusion of activities or types of action that could do significant harm - build on SEA findings;
- recommended to follow the methodology from RRF guidelines;
- the ex-ante compatibility with the DNSH principle to be ensured at the level of the definition of the types of actions in the programmes
- as the result of programme DNSH assessment - proposed harmful actions adjusted or removed.

In a programme document – point 2.1.2 (reference article 17.3(e)(i) of IR – to demonstrate that necessary assessment has been carried out;

# Compliance with the DNSH principle during programme implementation

No obligation is laid down in the cohesion policy Regulations requiring a case by case assessment of compliance of each operation with the DNSH principle per se, but rather that operations fall within the types of actions which have been assessed as DNSH compliant within the programmes.

Types of actions are in many programmes indicative: An operation falling outside the scope of pre-defined types of action may necessitate a separate DNSH assessment. There are no pre-defined rules on it: e.g. launch a request to competent authorities and/or use common sense.

# Compliance with the DNSH principle during programme implementation

It requires:

- Defining types of actions in programmes in sufficient detail to ensure that they are DNSH compliant and that an appropriate check can be carried out against the definition as part of the selection procedure of specific operations.
- Selecting only those projects that comply with the programme and with applicable EU and national law- to be verified by national and EC audits;
- Ensure that projects correspond to DNSH compliant actions defined in the programme by applying appropriate project selection criteria.

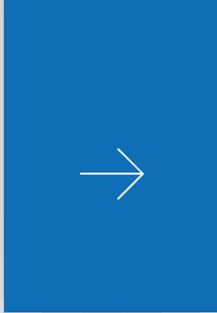


# Expert's view



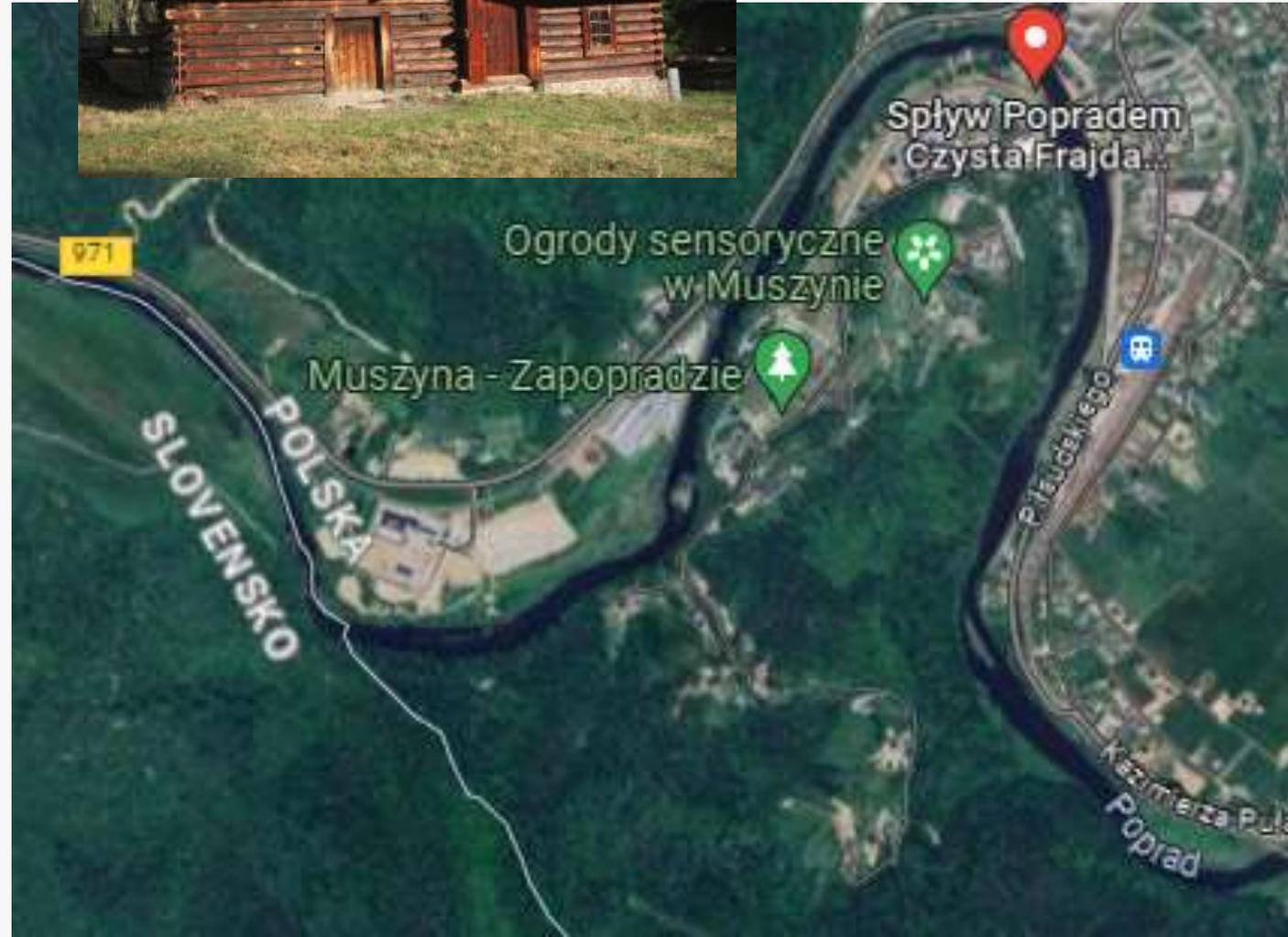


**Let's exchange and brainstorm!**



# Case 1 Cross border tourist info center

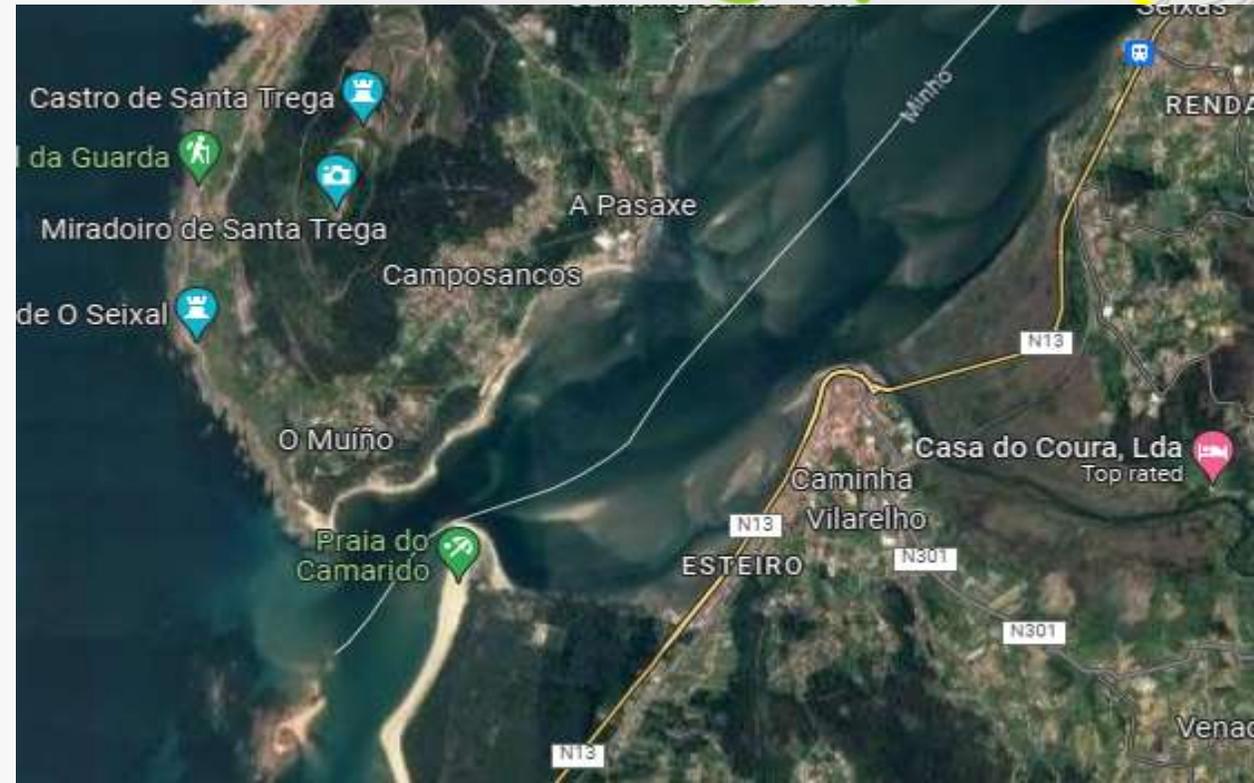
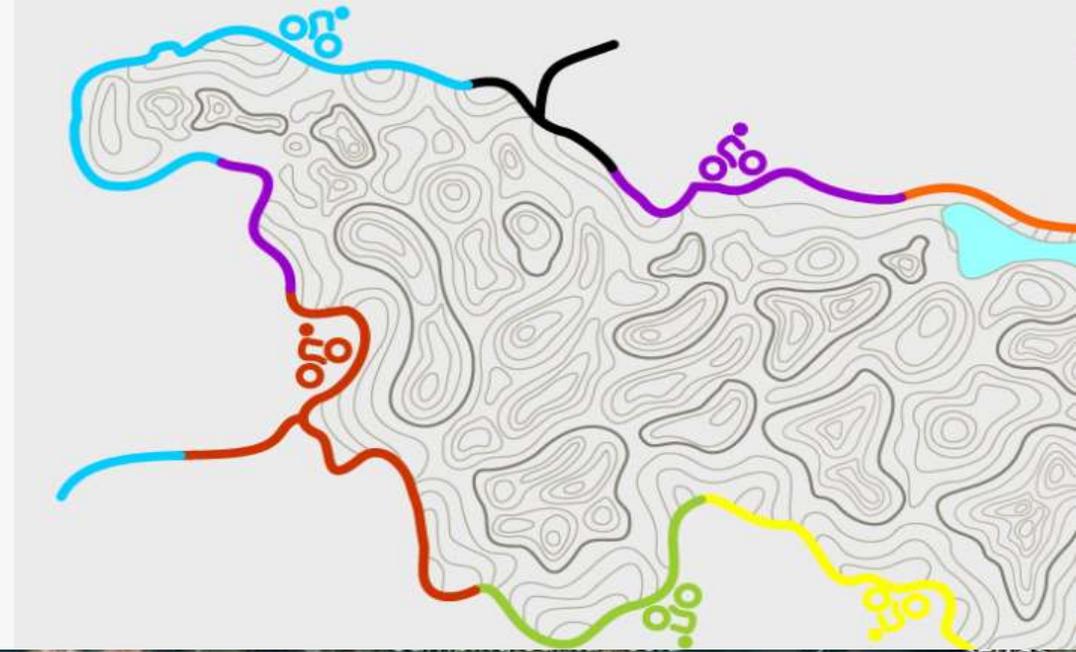
- location: cross border settlement area close to mountain river, area prone to flooding;
- rehabilitation of the cultural heritage building for the cross border tourist info center;



# Case 2

## Cross border cycle path

- location: cross border region close to the ocean and river's estuary;
- 50 kilometers of cross border cycle path along the ocean line, parts in a forest, close to cliffs;



# Case 3 Educational path accompanied with small infrastructure

- location: cross border peat area, wetlands, close to a mountain creek
- wooden elements of the path (footbridges, shelters, benches, tables, info tables, sign posting, entertainment & education small infrastructure, etc ... 30 pcs);

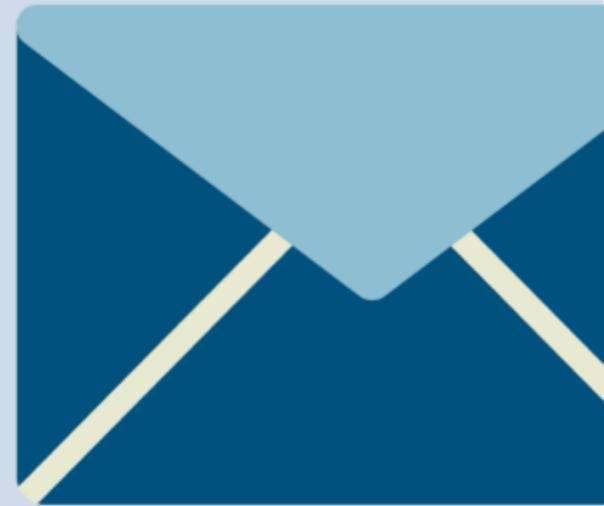
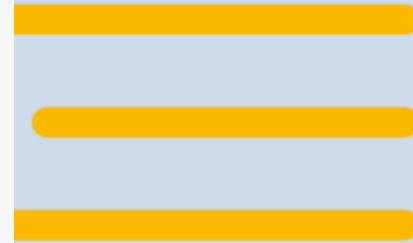


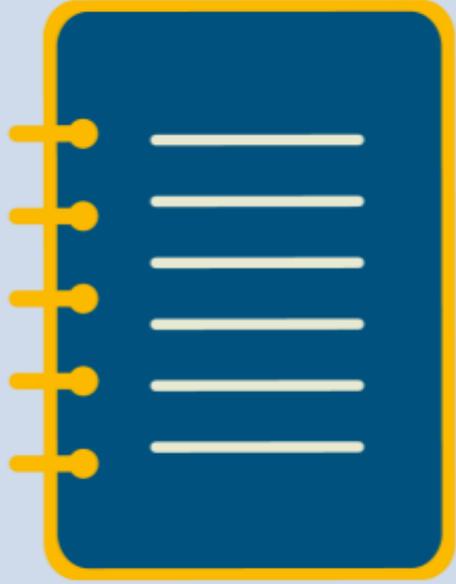
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# Wrap-up and closure

Please fill in our evaluation survey – thank you in advance!



# Cooperation works

All materials will be available on:  
[Interact / Library](#)