



Press release – Gif-sur-Yvette, February 6, 2023

## **Danone launches its new international Daniel Carasso Research & Innovation Center to accelerate research on the Future of Nutrition**

***Antoine de Saint-Affrique, Chief Executive Officer of Danone, in the presence of the French Prime Minister Elisabeth Borne, inaugurated Danone's new Research and Innovation Center on the Paris-Saclay campus today. True to its mission to bring health through food to as many people as possible, Danone is dedicating a new space to develop the products of the future within its ecosystem. At the inauguration, Danone unveiled a new product, which is an exclusive development for the Paris 2024 Olympic and Paralympic Games: HiPRO Expert.***

This research center will be dedicated to the development and innovation of Danone's "fresh dairy and plant-based products" and "natural mineral water" categories. It will include laboratories at the forefront of research and pilot production sites for innovation and limited production of specific prototypes.

The site currently employs more than 550 people, including world-class researchers in life sciences, fermentation and intestinal microbiota, nutrition, and health, as well as experts in consumer experience and social sciences, and specialists in product design, packaging, and pilot-scale production.

To support the transformation of the food research business and accelerate its innovation, Danone announced the creation of this new research center in 2021, at the cutting edge of innovation and meeting the highest environmental standards.

### **A center in the starting blocks of innovation: a new HiPro recipe for the Paris 2024 Olympic and Paralympic Games**

As an official partner of the Paris 2024 Olympic and Paralympic Games, Danone aims to contribute its expertise in balanced nutrition, through its dairy and plant-based products, for all ages. With Paris 2024, Danone is committed to a healthier society through a successful duo: food and sports.

It is within this framework, and with the collaboration and expertise of this new research center, that today Danone unveiled the design of the brand-new HiPRO Expert yogurt, an original recipe developed with the site's researchers, in collaboration with athletes.



The recipe is made especially for athletes. Rich in proteins, source of vitamins and minerals, with the same texture and intensity of taste that consumers have come to love.

With this innovation, Danone reaffirms its commitment to support Paris 2024 in its ambition to offer dairy and plant-based products adapted to athletes and to promote better nutritional and sporting practices.

**Antoine de Saint-Affrique, Chief Executive Officer of Danone states:**

*“Danone is a unique company; unique in its roots, anchored in a dual entrepreneurial and sustainable project; unique in its mission to bring health through food to as many people as possible; unique in its ability to innovate and reinvent itself; but above all, unique in the passion of the Danoners who carry and embody this mission every day and incarnate the 'dual project' daily.*

*Driven by this pioneering spirit, our 'Renew Danone' strategic plan puts science and technology back at the center of innovation, making them key growth drivers for the company.*

*Better serving increasingly diverse consumers and patients, and doing so in a more sustainable and innovative way, is a conundrum where we need science and research more than ever to find solutions.”*

**For Isabelle Esser, Executive Vice President, Research, Innovation, Quality and Food Safety at Danone:**

*“Enabling consumers to make appropriate food choices while innovating to meet the needs associated with physical and mental well-being is our priority. This is achieved mainly through our diversified portfolio of products, which address various nutritional needs without compromising taste or quality.*

*Our ambition for this site is to continue to honor our mission while staying one step ahead of the trends that will shape the food of tomorrow.”*

**The new Daniel Carasso International Research & Innovation Center, a showcase for the One Planet, One Health vision.**

In line with Danone's One Planet, One Health vision, this B Corp™-labeled facility<sup>1</sup> has also been designed to limit its impact on the environment. It features wooden frames, photovoltaic panels, geothermal heating and cooling, and a water recovery system. These multiple initiatives make the building the first-ever European research center to hold the low carbon label.

The building is designed on five levels (R+4) around a very large central atrium, called the Plaza: 900 m<sup>2</sup> with a ceiling height of nearly 10 m, designed as a village square to promote the gathering of Danoners and encourage meetings around various events.

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<sup>1</sup> In addition to being B Corp and low carbon certified, the new Daniel Carasso International Research & Innovation Center holds several environmental certifications: BBPA, HQE, BREEAM, OSMOZ, R2S.

The first floor offers a large transparent view of the interior of the building and its activities, as desired by the EPA Paris-Saclay. It houses the reception hall and its terraces, allowing natural light to flow through. It also has the Danone Café, which is open to all, and a 500 m<sup>2</sup> consumer area for "tests" with volunteer consumers.

While the second floor houses the project spaces and the food creation laboratories (Food Lab), with a view of the 3500 m<sup>2</sup> of "pilot" spaces, the last three floors house offices, evolving coworking spaces, meeting rooms, and prototyping and research laboratories in the fields of chemistry, physical chemistry, molecular biology, and spectroscopic analysis.

The Daniel Carasso International Research & Innovation Center in Paris-Saclay will focus its research on five main areas:

- **Consumers and patients:** to continue to provide innovative solutions that meet needs and uses throughout life
- **A product portfolio focused on health and taste:** to promote a varied, tasty, high-quality diet for all ages
- **Science and technology:** working with academia, partners, and start-ups to advance research on nutrition, hydration, immunity, microbiota, fermentation and animal and plant proteins
- **Tomorrow's packaging:** to develop suitable packaging that guarantees food safety and meets the major environmental challenges of our industry
- **Digital and data:** to collect more data and analyze it more efficiently to develop numerical services such as apps, and constantly improve traceability from the design of a product to its manufacture and remain at the cutting edge of technology



## FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

This release contains forward-looking statements about Danone. You can identify these forward-looking statements by forward-looking words such as "estimate," "expect," "hope," "anticipate," "expect," "project," "outlook," "objective," "plan," "intend", "anticipate," "envisage," "likely," "could," "should," "target," "aim," "will," "believe," "continue," "certain," and "convinced," the negative or plural form of these words and other words that have a similar meaning. The forward-looking statements in this document contain, but are not limited to, predictions about Danone's future business, operations, management, performance, and results.

Although Danone believes that these statements are based on reasonable assumptions, they involve numerous risks and uncertainties, and actual results may differ materially from those anticipated in these forward-looking statements. For a more detailed description of these risks and uncertainties, please refer to Danone's Universal Registration Document (section "Risk Factors", the latest version of which is available on [www.danone.com](http://www.danone.com)).

Subject to regulatory requirements, Danone does not undertake any obligation to update or revise publicly any of these forward-looking statements. This document does not constitute an offer to sell or a solicitation of an offer to buy any securities of Danone.

### **About Danone ([www.danone.com](http://www.danone.com))**

*Danone is a leading food company operating in three fast-growing, health-focused categories through Dairy and Plant-based Products, Waters and Specialty Nutrition. With a mission to bring health through food to as many people as possible, Danone aims to inspire healthier and more sustainable eating and drinking practices, while committing to a measurable nutritional, social, societal, and environmental impact. Danone has defined its Renew strategy to restore growth, competitiveness, and value creation over the long term. With over 100,000 employees and products sold in more than 120 countries, Danone has sales of €24.2 billion in 2021. Danone's portfolio includes international brands (Actimel, Activia, Alpro, Aptamil, Danette, Danio, Danonino, Evian, Nutricia, Nutralon, Volvic, among others) as well as strong local and regional brands (including AQUA, Blédina, Bonafont, Cow & Gate, Mizone, Oikos and Silk). Listed on Euronext Paris and present on the OTCQX market via an American Depositary Receipt (ADR) program, Danone is ranked in the main sustainability indices, including those managed by Vigeo Eiris and Sustainalytics, as well as the Ethibel Sustainability index, MSCI ESG Indexes, FTSE4Good Index Series, Bloomberg Gender Equality Index, and Access to Nutrition Index. By 2025, Danone's ambition is to become one of the first multinationals to obtain B Corp™ certification.*

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