



Press Release – Paris, November 22, 2023

## **DANONE AND THE GLOBAL METHANE HUB JOIN FORCES TOGETHER TO ACCELERATE INNOVATION IN METHANE REDUCTION**

- **Danone becomes first corporation to join the Global Methane Hub's Enteric Fermentation R&D Accelerator.**
- **The Accelerator aims to create new scalable and practical solutions for dairy farmers to reduce methane emissions.**

**November 22, 2023, Paris & Santiago:** The Global Methane Hub (GMH) and Danone announce a new partnership to reduce methane emissions and drive scalable solutions in farming.

Danone will become the first corporate funder of the Enteric Fermentation R&D Accelerator, the largest ever globally coordinated research effort on enteric methane, coordinated by GMH and supported by an alliance of philanthropic organizations and governments.

The Accelerator, which has already raised \$200M in funding, will invest in breakthrough research and innovation to create new scalable and practical solutions for livestock farmers that can mitigate enteric fermentation, which is the digestive process of ruminant livestock. Research will include mitigation of methane via feed additives, plant and animal genetics, methane vaccines, as well as accessible and affordable measurement technologies.

Through this partnership, Danone will work with academic experts and technology providers to test solutions which support dossier building for regulatory approvals, and drive innovations for various farm systems in multiple countries.

In addition to its contribution to the funding of the Accelerator, another collaboration with GMH will be the development of a methane accounting and feed optimization decision support tool for dairy cattle. This will involve Danone smallholders' dairy farms in North Africa, starting with a first pilot in Morocco with 1,000 farmers. This tool will help farm advisors formulate dairy diets based on regionally available feed and well-defined feed quality. The main goal of the project is to demonstrate the benefits of improved livestock nutrition in terms of enhancing livestock productivity, increasing farmers' income, and reducing methane emissions.

A reduction in methane emissions will have immediate benefits for the climate, superior to that of carbon dioxide reduction alone, according to the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC). Dairy production from cattle makes up an estimated 8% of total human-

caused methane emissions worldwide, as part of agriculture and livestock activities which represent approximately 40% of global methane emissions.

*"Agriculture is a sector where methane reduction efforts can have an extraordinary impact," said **Marcelo Mena, Chief Executive Officer at the Global Methane Hub**. "70% of agriculture-driven methane emissions come from enteric fermentation, making it the largest single source of methane emissions of any sector. Through scaled up investment from philanthropy, governments, and the private sector, we can accelerate progress in developing practical innovative solutions and create the scale and coordination needed for these solutions to be impactful, ensuring greater economic and food security for local communities and transform the future of sustainable farming."*

**Antoine de Saint-Affrique, Chief Executive Officer at Danone commented:** *"Reducing methane is a major stake for the climate, the sustainability of our foods systems and the future of many farming communities. As a long-time sustainability pioneer, we know that doing it at scale and in an impactful way cannot be done by anyone in isolation. Our partnership with the Global Methane hub is a key milestone in creating, testing, and deploying impactful and practical solutions in the field of methane reduction. This will allow the world to keep enjoying the benefits of yogurt and help secure a sustainable future to many rural communities."*

#### Notes to editors

#### **About Global Methane Hub and its initiatives to address enteric methane**

The Global Methane Hub organizes the field of philanthropists, experts, nonprofits, and government organizations to ensure we unite around a strategy to maximize methane reductions. We have raised over \$200 million in pooled funds from more than 20 of the largest climate philanthropies to accelerate methane mitigation across the globe. Visit [our website](#) to learn more about organizations that supported the commitment.

GMH funds pioneering efforts to reduce methane emissions in the highest emitting sectors and regions, including agriculture. By collaborating with governments, climate organizations and local farmers, GMH develops breakthrough programs such as the Enteric Fermentation R&D Accelerator that will consolidate and create new research and strategies on enteric fermentation which will be used for reducing methane from the sector and for developing evidence to facilitate regulatory support of mitigation technologies.

#### **About Danone's methane reduction agenda**

This partnership comes in addition to Danone's existing investments in manure methane solutions in Spain, Belgium and the US. Danone is also conducting research and trials on methane inhibitors solutions such as Bovaer feed additive already deployed in Belgium farms and Danone Manifesto Ventures' investment in Symbrosia start-up, which is developing a seaweed-based feed additive.

Danone announced in January 2023 that it would reduce absolute methane emissions from its fresh milk supply chain by 30% by 2030 (compared to 2020), through its Methane Action Plan, one of the priorities of its sustainability roadmap, the Danone Impact Journey.

In January 2023, Danone became the first food company to set a methane reduction target, and to align with the ambition of the Global Methane Pledge launched at COP26. The company will report on its methane emissions, as part of its extra financial disclosure. The methane action plan focuses on:

- Working with farmers to implement regenerative dairy practices and develop innovative solutions.
- Collaborating and partnering with peers, governments, and Environmental Defense Fund to scale innovation, reporting and advance financing models.

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- Advocating and engaging with governments to improve methane policies, data and reporting as well as funding for research and to support farmers transitioning to regenerative dairy practices.

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#### FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

*This press release contains certain forward-looking statements concerning Danone. In some cases, you can identify these forward-looking statements by forward-looking words, such as "estimate", "expect", "anticipate", "project", "plan", "intend", "objective", "believe", "forecast", "guidance", "foresee", "likely", "may", "should", "goal", "target", "might", "will", "could", "predict", "continue", "convinced" and "confident," the negative or plural of these words and other comparable terminology. Forward looking statements in this document include, but are not limited to, predictions of future activities, operations, direction, performance and results of Danone.*

*Although Danone believes its expectations are based on reasonable assumptions, these forward-looking statements are subject to numerous risks and uncertainties, which could cause actual results to differ materially from those anticipated in these forward-looking statements. For a detailed description of these risks and uncertainties, please refer to the "Risk Factor" section of Danone's Universal Registration Document (the current version of which is available at [www.danone.com](http://www.danone.com)).*

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