



CHILD FOOTBALL PRODIGIES BECOME PROUD CHAMPIONS & INVESTED WORLD CITIZENS AT THE DANONE NATIONS CUP WORLD FINALS

- After demonstrating excellence in sport, Spain took home the 2019 girls' cup and Mexico took home the 2019 boys' cup in front of thousands of spectators and our global ambassadors Carles Puyol, Amanda Dlamini and Pr. Muhammad Yunus.
- France girls' team claimed the 2018 trophy back to their country and Brazil came out top for the 2018 boy's cup!
- Over 2,000,000 children have played in the country heats of the Danone Nations Cup at a local level before playing for the chance to represent their country at the World Finals in Barcelona
- 700 girls and boys have come together to play football and change the game by tackling, through the Danone Nations Cup, challenges in line with the UN Sustainable Development Goals.
- The Danone Nations Cup 2020 edition will take place for the first time in Asia: Indonesia has been selected as the next destination!

Barcelona, 12th October 2019 – Thousands of spectators have witnessed the sheer professionalism, skill and prowess demonstrated by young girls and boys at the Danone Nations Cup World Finals, held today at the RCD Espanyol Stadium in Barcelona. 56 teams composed of 700 girls and boys donned their jerseys to represent 27 countries at a global level. The Danone Nations Cup ambassadors Carles Puyol and Amanda Dlamini were equally blown away by the level of sporting excellence demonstrated by the players on the pitch. Furthermore, an iconic “Match of Legends” was held where sporting stars from LaLiga including Morientes, Albeda and Capdevilla scored a total of 10 goals.

The champions from the Danone Nations Cup are Spain for the 2019 girls' cup and Mexico for the 2019 boys' cup. France girls' team will bring the 2018 trophy back to their country and Brazil came out top for the 2018 boy's cup! These extraordinary players join the Hall of Fame of the world's biggest football tournament for girls and boys aged 10-12, one that has also acted as a springboard for household names including Giovanni dos Santos and Alexandre Lacazette.

The road to Barcelona has been one full of excitement, dedication and commitment for our young players. With great sporting prowess comes great responsibility as they have participated in heats at a national level to win the chance to represent their country at the Danone Nations Cup World Finals in Barcelona. This year, they went even further together with the Danone Nations Cup to showcase how sports can be a force for positive societal change through a series of initiatives that are linked to a noble cause – providing access to safe drinking water in schools, notably through a partnership with Watering Minds Foundation.

The Danone Nations Cup believes in excellence in sport and key values such as respect, fair play and team work. As such, each captain signs a fair play charter and we're proud to announce that England has taken home **all four of** the Fair Play trophies for 2018 and 2019 respectively, a testament that values do pay off!



“The passion and commitment of kids from all over the world, gathered in one place, is what makes the Danone Nations Cup a truly unique event and a testimony of how excellence in sport can empower this new generation of young citizens to build a better future. Supporting them on eating and drinking habits that are good for their health and for the planet, we are proud, at Danone, to encourage more children to become catalysts for change around them”, said Emmanuel Faber, Chairman & CEO of Danone.

Carles Puyol, the Danone Nations Cup global ambassador said *“What a fantastic day at the Danone Nations Cup in a city that I’m fortunate enough to call home, Barcelona! We’ve witnessed some of the best young sporting talent play at an internationally-known stadium. We’ve seen the dedication that each and every one has put into the game. Most importantly, we’ve observed how children from different walks of life unite together with one key passion: football. I’m delighted to have been part of the Danone Nations Cup and am proud to be part of this tournament that fosters values such as fair play, respect and making the world a better place.”*

A life-changing experience empowering kids to build a better future together

Meeting cultures and traditions from all corners of the globe, the Danone Nations Cup players have been educated throughout the tournament on the importance of healthy hydration and nutrition habits as well as on how to protect the planet’s resources.

The Danone Nations Cup selected access to safe drinking water as its key cause to support throughout this year’s tournament. Working with partners such as the Watering Minds Foundation as well as Nobel Peace Prize laureate and social business leader Pr. Muhammad Yunus, the Danone Nations Cup has to date provided funding to support projects for safe access to water for 30,000 children in schools in India. A number of challenges have also been carried out including the Change The Game challenge, which was won by Argentina and Germany for even more projects to be supported.

The young athletes were also educated on the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals in a number of workshops and, for the first time, have been asked to vote on the UN Sustainable Development Goals that they want to see action on.

- The 700 children who participated in the World Finals expressed their voice.
- 4 UN Sustainable Development Goals gathered 40% of the votes: “gender equality” came first, followed by “ocean preservation”, “climate action” and “no poverty”.
- The kids have thus helped the Danone Nations Cup to choose its next game-changing projects for years to come.

The road to Indonesia!

We’re excited to unveil that the Danone Nations Cup 2020 edition will take place in Indonesia. This will be the first time the Danone Nations Cup will be held in Asia and Indonesia is home to thriving Danone Nations Cup local tournaments. Home to one of the biggest football-loving societies in the world, we are thrilled to witness the magic and unison that football can bring to players and their audience alike! Local tournaments will start at country level before the World Final in late 2020.

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FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:

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Learn more on our [Website](#) and follow the tournament on [Facebook](#),
[Twitter](#), [YouTube](#) and [Instagram](#).

ABOUT DANONE NATIONS CUP – A LIFE-CHANGING EXPERIENCE (www.danonenationscup.com)

The Danone Nations Cup is the world's biggest football tournament for girls and boys aged 10-12 honoring young soccer prodigies from all over the world since its creation in 2000. Each year the Cup starts initially across 27 countries where kids compete in local heats for the chance to represent their country at the World Finals in an iconic stadium. The Danone Nations Cup has always been much more than just a football competition, allowing kids from all over the world to discover new places and cultures and promoting values such as respect, humanism, fair-play and openness. The legendary footballing stars, Carles Puyol is throwing his support behind the Cup, following in the footsteps of Zinedine Zidane who has been backing the competition for over 15 years. To celebrate its longstanding legacy in football excellence, the Danone Nations Cup has unveiled a refreshed purpose in 2019: play football, change the game. With these words, the DNC hopes to inspire tomorrow's generation to go further as World Citizens and catalysts for positive societal change.

ABOUT DANONE (www.danone.com)

Dedicated to bringing health through food to as many people as possible, Danone is a leading global food & beverage company building on health-focused and fast-growing categories in three businesses: Essential Dairy & Plant-Based Products, Waters and Specialized Nutrition. Danone aims to inspire healthier and more sustainable eating and drinking practices, in line with its 'One Planet. One Health' vision which reflects a strong belief that the health of people and that of the planet are interconnected. To bring this vision to life and create superior, sustainable, profitable value for all its stakeholders, Danone has defined its 2030 Goals: a set of nine integrated goals aligned with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) of the United Nations. Danone commits to operating in an efficient, responsible and inclusive manner; it holds itself to the highest standards in doing business, as reflected by its ambition to become one of the first multinationals certified as B Corp™. With more than 100,000 employees, and products sold in over 120 markets, Danone generated €24.7 billion in sales in 2018. Danone's portfolio includes leading international brands (Actimel, Activia, Alpro, Aptamil, Danette, Danio, Danonino, evian, Nutricia, Nutrilon, Volvic, among others) as well as strong local and regional brands (including AQUA, Blédina, Bonafont, Cow & Gate, Horizon, Mizone, Oikos, Prostokvashino, Silk, Vega).