



Paris, France, (July 16, 2020)

## **Media Backgrounder**

### **Danone's Open Science Research Center for Life Transforming Nutrition in Shanghai**

Danone's new *Open Science Research Center for Life Transforming Nutrition*, based in Shanghai, will carry out scientific research and development work in specialized nutrition. The new center will develop evidence-based nutritional solutions tailored to the tastes, traditions and health needs of China's consumers. To do this, Danone will work in partnership with the public sector, medical and academic institutions, business partners and consumers in China.

Research at the new center will focus on early life nutrition and nutrition for those with specific medical needs or the elderly – with a specific emphasis on breast milk research and gastrointestinal health. The center will also carry out projects that apply new local market, data-driven insights & digital tools to these fields of nutrition. The center will also carry out research and development projects that contribute to ongoing advances in food safety and quality in China.

The following are examples of projects, which illustrate the caliber of research and development work that will be undertaken at the new center in Shanghai:

- **The Dragon Study**

The first study of its kind for Danone in China, this multicenter randomized controlled trial is being carried out in collaboration with the Shanghai Jiao Tong University Xinhua Hospital as the leading site across six sites in four cities in China. The study is designed to gather clinical evidence on how baby formulas, fortified with pro- and pre-biotics and partially hydrolyzed protein, are tolerated by infants in China and what impact such formulas have on a baby's growth. The study also explores the impact such formulas have on the development of a baby's gut microbiota and on the establishment of appropriate immune responses.

- **The Golden Stool Decoder**

This collaborative project, involving leading pediatricians in China, uses artificial intelligence technology to create a mini-app available on the Chinese messaging, social media and mobile payment platform, WeChat, which provides parents with automatic photo recognition of baby stools and customized feeding tips. This digital tool works by 'decoding' a baby's stool using four types of data driven insights – the color of the baby's stool, the characteristics of the baby's stool, the baby's age and the baby's feeding method.

- **The EU-China-Safe Program**

Comprising 16 participants from the European Union and 17 from China, the EU-China-Safe Program includes key research organizations, government and industry needed to develop and jointly implement major advances in improving food safety and combating food fraud in China and the EU. The program – which focuses on food inspection, food control laboratories, and food safety and quality – will develop innovative traceability tools to strengthen the most vulnerable supply chains. The program will focus on infant formula, processed meat, fruits, vegetables, wine, honey, spices. Danone is supporting this program through its technical expertise in the fields of food authenticity & fraud detection as well as food packaging & microbiological food safety analysis.

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

Danone is a leading multi-local food and beverage company building on health-focused and fast-growing categories in 3 businesses: Essential Dairy & Plant-Based products, Waters and Specialized Nutrition. With its 'One Planet. One Health' frame of action, which considers the health of people and the planet as intimately interconnected, Danone aims to inspire healthier and more sustainable eating and drinking practices. To accelerate this food revolution and create superior, sustainable, profitable value for all its stakeholders, Danone has defined nine 2030 Goals, and paved the way as the first listed company to adopt the "Entreprise à Mission" status in France. With a purpose to bring health through food to as many people as possible, and corresponding social, societal and environmental objectives set out in its articles of association, Danone commits to operating in an efficient, responsible and inclusive manner, in line with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) of the United Nations. By 2025, Danone aims to become one of the first multinational companies to obtain B Corp™ certification. With more than 100,000 employees, and products sold in over 120 markets, Danone generated €25.3 billion in sales in 2019. 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 Organic, Mizone, Oikos, Prostokvashino, Silk, Vega). Listed on Euronext Paris and present on the OTCQX market via an ADR (American Depositary Receipt) program, Danone is a component stock of leading sustainability indexes including the ones managed by Vigeo Eiris and Sustainalytics, as well as the Ethibel Sustainability Index, the MSCI ESG Indexes, the FTSE4Good Index Series, Bloomberg Gender Equality Index, and the Access to Nutrition Index.