

**For Immediate Release**

**The Norman Foster Foundation and Sanitas join forces to contribute to creating more sustainable and healthier cities**



**Madrid, 12 December 2022**

The Norman Foster Foundation and Sanitas have entered into a framework partnership agreement with the goal of spurring the creation of more sustainable and healthier cities. This agreement seeks to promote education and disseminate knowledge about constructing urban spaces and buildings which have a positive impact on the health of people and the planet. The two organisations have thus committed to organising public debate sessions involving top-class specialists, as well as promoting joint research into the future for urban planning and urban regeneration.

The Norman Foster Foundation stated, 'Our partnership with Sanitas reinforces the commitment of the Norman Foster Foundation to urban and civic action that strengthens, regenerates and revitalises healthy cities by educating researchers, professionals and leaders. Sustainable design in urban planning and good governance supported by objective and measurable criteria are essential in achieving the mission of the Norman Foster Foundation. The Norman Foster Foundation's alliance with Sanitas will contribute to meeting the criteria that establish a city as sustainable, equitable, healthy and liveable.'

'It is a real privilege to be able to count on the support of organisations of the scale of the Norman Foster Foundation. Caring for the planet and protecting people's health is our priority, and therefore joining forces in this task is the path we must follow to achieve a better world for all', said Iñaki Peralta, CEO of Sanitas.

In addition, by signing this agreement the Norman Foster Foundation has become a new scientific partner for the Healthy Cities project championed by Sanitas. Healthy Cities is the company's sustainability programme which promotes healthy life styles and urban environments with the goal of looking after people's health while protecting the health of the planet. This project has already received the support of the FEC (Spanish Heart Foundation) and other sporting partners such as the Spanish Olympic Committee, Spanish Paralympic Committee and Real Madrid.



Healthy Cities is an initiative which is open to participation by society in general. Employees from 200 companies around Spain are involved in the programme, which each year sets them one challenge based on physical activity, consisting of walking 6,000 steps a day, and one environmental challenge, entailing leaving their cars at home one day a week. If they meet the challenge, Sanitas makes a donation to an urban regeneration project which, in the most recent edition, included planting a tree for each person who undertook the challenge.

The partners and companies participating in Healthy Cities undertake to align themselves with the principles of the programme, contained in the Healthy Cities - One Health Manifesto. This manifesto is based on that published by the World Health Organization for a healthy recovery from COVID-19. This recognises the importance of caring for the health of people and of the planet, due to them being directly connected, and encourages companies, acting as drivers of change, to work in favour of the circular economy and sustainable, healthy and accessible infrastructures; to look after biodiversity and the planet's natural heritage to protect human well-being; to foster sustainable and healthy mobility; and to cooperate in order to achieve these objectives.

As a new partner to the programme and thanks to the partnership agreement, the Norman Foster Foundation has also signed up to the Healthy Cities - One Health Manifesto.

### **Norman Foster Foundation**

The Norman Foster Foundation promotes interdisciplinary thinking and research to help new generations anticipate the future. The first mission of the Norman Foster Foundation is to make visible the centrality of architecture, infrastructure and urbanism for the betterment of society. To this end, the second mission is to encourage new thinking and research across traditional boundaries in order to help younger generations anticipate the challenges of future change. In particular, the foundation speaks to those professionals who are concerned with the environment— architects, engineers, designers, urbanists, civic leaders, planners and artists. This is at the heart of the foundation's holistic approach to design and is ever more relevant as populations shift to cities. With the implications of climate change, robotics and artificial intelligence, sustainable design is not about fashion but about survival. The Foundation holds the Norman Foster Archive and Library, which provide a window into the larger narrative and history of our built environment through the work of Norman Foster. This is complemented and supported by drawings and models from other significant architects such as Claude-Nicolas Ledoux, Le Corbusier, Mies van der Rohe, Charles and Ray Eames, Buckminster Fuller, Richard Rogers, Zaha Hadid and Tadao Ando. Through its research initiatives and programmes, the Norman Foster Foundation encourages the transfer of advanced knowledge in a wide range of design fields. The Foundation's educational initiatives are structured around research, workshops, fellowships and forums, built around the Foundation's core objectives. The Norman Foster Foundation is based in Madrid and operates globally.

Visit [www.normanfosterfoundation.org](http://www.normanfosterfoundation.org) for more information or follow us on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter and Vimeo.

### **Sanitas**

Sanitas specialises in healthcare and wellness services in Spain. It offers its customers products and services for every stage of life through an integrated healthcare model. This comprises healthcare insurance policies, hospitals and multi-speciality centres, wellness centres, dental clinics, other health services and care services for the elderly.

It has more than 11,250 employees. Its medical network consists of over 50,000 specialists and 4,100 appointed medical centres in addition to its own facilities. These comprise 4 hospitals, 20 multi-speciality medical centres, 16 wellness centres, 200 dental clinics, more than 43 care homes for the elderly, 17 of which provide day-centre services, and 5 independent day centres.

Sanitas is part of Bupa, a leading international healthcare company serving over 38 million customers worldwide. It employs more than 84,000 people, principally in the UK, Australia, Spain, Chile, Poland, New Zealand, Hong Kong SAR, Turkey, Brazil, Mexico, the US, Middle East and Ireland. It also has associate businesses in Saudi Arabia and India.

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