

## *Sanofi collaborates with VeryNile to empower Qursaya Island community through environmental sustainability activities*

**Cairo, Egypt – 10 February, 2023.** Sanofi Egypt, collaborates with VeryNile to engage with diverse communities, with the objective of shedding awareness on the importance of protecting the environment in which we live.

This project aims at cleaning the Nile River, recycling waste, in addition to supporting vulnerable communities in Qursaya Island. Generally, the island hosts around 250 families, who are mostly underprivileged farmers and marginalized fishermen with a limited access to job opportunities.

As for Sanofi's part, the company will financially contribute to VeryNile to upgrade its operational facility within Qursaya, purchase the necessary equipment, and work on training and hiring fishermen and operators, so as to secure a stable income for its inhabitants, as well as raise their standard of living.

Additionally, the project aims at decreasing the pollution that surrounds the Nile by 2030, raising awareness on protecting the environment, and turning Qursaya into the first zero-waste locality in Egypt.

This collaboration came at the end of last year with Sandrine Bouttier Stref, Global Head of CSR Sanofi, Ghada Michel, Sanofi Egypt Communication and CSR Head, as well as Alban de Ménonville, Managing Director of VeryNile.

### ***Sandrine Bouttier Stref***

Global Head of CSR Sanofi

*"As a global pharmaceutical company, it is our shared responsibility to be agents of change so we can have a transformative impact on the increasingly complex social, environmental, cultural, and economic challenges being faced today."* explained Ms. Bouttier-Stref, Global Head of CSR Sanofi. She added, *"Our CSR pillars are fully aligned with our "Play to Win" business strategy, empowering us to focus our efforts on the issues where we can truly have a sustainable impact. Hence, in this initiative, we are investing in Egypt's local entrepreneurs' social businesses to support the vulnerable communities as well as mitigate the world's hazardous risks of plastic."*

### ***Ghada Michel***

Head of Communication and CSR Sanofi Egypt

*"Climate change is one of the most significant challenges of our age, that is why this initiative has emerged. When it comes to our employees, they are gladly volunteering to work hand in hand with the island's inhabitants to uphold our praiseworthy goal, as part of their belief in our role and commitment towards the community in which we operate."*

### ***Alban de Ménonville***

Managing Director of VeryNile

*expressed his pride by saying: "During the past two years, VeryNile has successfully demonstrated that raising awareness towards a better environment empowers underprivileged communities, and this is via providing job opportunities and social services."*

*He added: "In line with Egypt hosting COP27, we prove that Egypt is exerting immense effort to build a better future, through robust actions, to protect the environment. Therefore, through Sanofi and a coalition of partners from the Egyptian private sector, VeryNile will be able to upscale its operations, double its effort pertaining plastic collection, while providing more job opportunities to the communities we serve."*

## *We volunteering 2<sup>nd</sup> wave*

with the beginning of the year of 2023, Sanofi employees have joined forces prioritizing social work where they cleaned up the Nile from 50 Kg plastic wastes. Then collaborated with the island's inhabitants within the same day in manual handcrafts producing products from recyclable plastic giving around 42 useful products.

### **Climate Action**

As part of Sanofi's ongoing efforts to fight climate change, the company aims to collect 15 tons monthly on an annual basis (180 tons annually), as well as support 120 fishermen and 12 operators for waste recycling by the end of this year. Also, Sanofi's vision for this project lies in encouraging more of its employees to volunteer to clean the Nile, in several waves reducing the plastic pollution in the Mediterranean Sea and the Nile, and finally creating the first zero-waste community in Egypt.

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### *About Sanofi*

We are an innovative global healthcare company, driven by one purpose: we chase the miracles of science to improve people's lives. Our team, across some 100 countries, is dedicated to transforming the practice of medicine by working to turn the impossible into the possible. We provide potentially life-changing treatment options and life-saving vaccine protection to millions of people globally, while putting sustainability and social responsibility at the center of our ambitions.

### *Contacts*

**Mariam Bishara** | +20 10 9989 4866 | [mariam.bishara@sanofi.com](mailto:mariam.bishara@sanofi.com)

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