



## **SUEZ partners with FDJ as main co-sponsor of top French women's cycling team FDJ-SUEZ-Futuroscope**

**Paris, Monday 20 June 2022** – SUEZ today announced that it has signed on alongside the FDJ group for three years as main co-sponsor of the first French team to join the UCI Women's WorldTour. The team known as FDJ Nouvelle-Aquitaine Futuroscope will be renamed FDJ-SUEZ-Futuroscope from 15 July 2022 and will take the name FDJ-SUEZ in 2023.

A major player in environmental services for over 160 years, SUEZ has naturally made this choice to promote cycling, women's sport and excellence by partnering with the team managed by Stephen Delcourt.

At the same time, the FDJ group, a team sponsor since 2017, has announced its decision to extend its partnership until 2025. Futuroscope and the Nouvelle-Aquitaine region, both long-standing team partners, will also continue to lend their support.

With SUEZ alongside FDJ, the team will enjoy the backing of two large French groups as its riders take to the road in the inaugural Tour de France Femmes avec Zwift beginning on 24 July 2022.

The team achieved a key milestone in 2020 by being awarded a UCI Women's WorldTour licence, allowing it to embrace new goals by competing at the highest worldwide level. FDJ-SUEZ-Futuroscope will thus be setting its sights on the major cycling races of the coming seasons, with the aim of consolidating its status as the best French team and its ranking among the top three of the UCI Women's WorldTeams.

### **Choice of a sustainable sport accessible to everyone**

For many, cycling is the first sport learned as a child. In addition, it is the primary means of transport for teenagers and an enjoyable leisure activity for adults that involves less strain and injuries than most other forms of exercise and is therefore highly recommended by medical professionals as well as being a popular way of getting around. It is also environmentally friendly: one-third of cyclists say they choose to ride their bike to help protect the environment and this proportion rises to 44% for women.

SUEZ is active across the entire value chain in the water and waste management sectors, in France and around the world, and thus plays a key role in improving health for the populations served, in protecting their environment and in the regeneration of resources essential to life.

### **Support for women's sport**



SUEZ and FDJ are committed to ensuring gender balance and equal opportunities for women and men.

Through its “Sport pour Elles” programme launched in 2016, FDJ is a major player in the promotion of women’s sport.

In line with its renewed commitment to inclusion and diversity, SUEZ wishes in turn to assist with the transformation of women’s cycling and support the development of women’s sport.

### **Closeness and extensive local presence**

FDJ and SUEZ are both large French companies present throughout France. FDJ has built the largest network of points of sale in the country. Always close to the people it serves, SUEZ acts every day, across all of France, to support the circular economy.

Year round, the FDJ-SUEZ-Futuroscope team takes to the road in France, but also elsewhere in Europe, as well as in China and Australia, for example. These are all geographic regions where SUEZ’s teams deliver environmental services to meet the needs of local communities, businesses and individuals.

**Sabrina Soussan, Chief Executive Officer of SUEZ, said:** “Our support for this young and talented team is perfectly aligned with our business activities in environmental services, our commitments in the areas of inclusion and diversity, and our closeness to regions and communities. We share the same mindset: writing a new chapter in our story with the desire to win. SUEZ’s 35,000 employees will take pride in seeing such a worthy team wear our colours. Alongside FDJ, we will be an engaged, solid and enthusiastic partner.”

**Stéphane Pallez, Chairwoman and Chief Executive Officer of FDJ, said:** “FDJ has been a loyal partner of cycling for over 25 years. Just a few weeks before the inaugural race of the Tour de France Femmes avec Zwift, we are delighted to welcome SUEZ as co-sponsor of the women’s team and to announce the extension of our partnership until 2025. FDJ and SUEZ, two large French companies present throughout the country, are thus joining forces to bring French women’s cycling to great heights. Our move is also a strong message in support of women’s sport.”

**Stephen Delcourt, Team Manager of FDJ-SUEZ-Futuroscope, said:** “As the competitive stakes are being raised ever higher in women’s cycling and in anticipation of the inaugural Tour de France Femmes avec Zwift, the most important cycling race of the year, the support of both SUEZ and FDJ alongside our long-standing partners will be decisive in helping the team reach its full performance potential. Our team’s achievements since its creation in 2006 are a source



of great pride. Highly motivated by this strengthened backing, we are moving ever forward in this wonderful sporting and human adventure with huge ambitions.”

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#### **About SUEZ**

*SUEZ is a major player in environmental services. For almost 160 years, SUEZ has supported local communities and industrial companies in the management of essential services such as water, waste and air quality. As such, SUEZ produces drinking water for 66 million people worldwide, recovers 2 million tonnes of secondary raw materials per year and generates 3.1 TWh of renewable energy from waste. In its ongoing management of the ecological transition and climate change challenges, SUEZ relies on the expertise and commitment of its 35,000 employees (particularly in France, Italy, Central Europe, Africa, Asia and Australia) to offer high value-added and customised environmental solutions to all its customers. For instance, SUEZ’s expertise allows its customers to avoid the emission of 4.2 million tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub>, thus reducing their carbon footprint and their impact on climate. With revenue of over €7.5 billion in 2021 and backed by its expertise and capacity to innovate, SUEZ has strong growth prospects. SUEZ relies on a solid consortium of investors made up of Meridiam and GIP – each with a 40% stake – and Caisse des Dépôts et Consignations with a 20% stake, including 8% held by CNP Assurances, to pursue its strategic development plans in France and internationally. Active in Africa since 1948 when it won the contract for the development of the Sherbine drinking water plant in Egypt, SUEZ has built more than 500 drinking water and sanitation facilities that serve the majority of Africa’s capital cities. The Group operates two wastewater treatment plants in Egypt and is the leading technical partner for leasing contracts to manage public drinking water production and distribution for Senegal’s cities and their surrounding areas. SUEZ is also the leading player in industrial and municipal waste management in Morocco.*

#### **About FDJ**

*France’s national lottery and leading gaming operator, the #2 lottery in Europe and #4 worldwide, FDJ offers secure, enjoyable and responsible gaming to the general public in the form of lottery games (draws and instant games) and sports betting (ParionsSport), available from physical outlets and online. FDJ’s performance is driven by a portfolio of iconic and recent brands, the #1 local sales network in France, a growing market, recurring investment and a strategy of innovation to make its offering and distribution more attractive with an enhanced gaming experience.*

*FDJ Group is listed on the Euronext Paris regulated market (Compartment A – FDJ.PA) and is a member of indices including the SBF 120, Euronext 100, Euronext Vigeo 20, STOXX Europe 600, MSCI Europe and FTSE Euro.*

*In addition, FDJ has been a key partner of elite athletes in France for 40 years. As a long-standing supporter of cycling in France, the Group has been a sponsor of the men’s cycling team Groupama-FDJ since 1997 and the women’s cycling team FDJ-SUEZ-Futuroscope since 2017. The Group is also a partner of the Fédération Française de Cyclisme (FFC) and the Ligue Nationale de Cyclisme (LNC). Since 2016, FDJ has operated its Sport pour Elles programme to promote women’s sport, which is organised around four pillars: access to sporting activities for all girls and women, greater female representation in governing bodies, support for performance and expanded media coverage for women’s sport.*



### **About FDJ-SUEZ-Futuroscope**

*Created in 2006 at the initiative of Gatien Merlot, the adventure of the women's cycling team FDJ-SUEZ-Futuroscope was born out of the dream of a devoted father who wanted to give his cyclist daughter the chance to realise her full potential in her favourite sport, with support from three founding partners: the Poitou-Charentes regional cycling committee, Futuroscope and the Vienne administrative department. FDJ Group signed on as a team partner in 2017 and has renewed its commitment until 2025. In June 2022, SUEZ joined the team as titular co-sponsor. The first French team to be awarded a UCI Women's WorldTour licence, it currently has 14 members, representing six different nationalities. Since the start of the season, the team's cyclists have stepped up to the podium nine times in prestigious events, including Marta Cavalli's victories in the Amstel Gold Race (Netherlands) and the Flèche Wallonne (Belgium), and Grace Brown's second-place finish in the Liège-Bastogne-Liège (Belgium).*