


Annual Report 2023

 Santander Fundación



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Mission

Fundación Banco Santander works to help build a fairer, more inclusive, more sustainable society.

To this end, it develops initiatives that pursue the following courses of action: promoting culture as a tool for understanding the world around us; engaging in social outreach to improve the situation of vulnerable communities; supporting higher education, employment opportunities and entrepreneurship in order to facilitate the advancement of individuals and businesses; and caring for the environment to protect our natural heritage.

In all of its programmes, the foundation strives to create ties of cooperation with social enterprises, joining forces to take on the most pressing global challenges.

Transparency

Fundación Banco Santander's commitment to transparency and best practices in corporate governments is accredited by Lealtad Instituciones.

According to the report prepared by this agency, which evaluates and certifies the effective management of corporate foundations and businesses, the foundation meets every requirement in this respect established by its panel of experts. This report is posted on the foundation's website, along with information about its corporate purpose, its governing bodies, the measures it takes to prevent money laundering and the financing of terrorism, and details of the annual accounts for the last three financial periods.

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Figures for 2023

Culture

28

loans of works in the Banco Santander Collection

1,500

spectators at the family concerts

33

podcasts released

32

partnerships with cultural institutions

Social Outreach

6,957

beneficiaries

30

social projects sponsored

22

women's business initiatives supported in Africa

183

organisations supported

Higher Education and Entrepreneurship

8

scholarship programmes

4

entrepreneurial programmes

5

job opportunity programmes

17

university partnerships

Environment and Research

6

environmental projects sponsored

250

copies of sustainable development handbooks donated

5,600

downloads of the Nefrodiet app

15

partnerships with environmental and scientific organisations

Financial resources used

ACTIVITIES

Art

€ 812,884

Music

€ 1,794,379

Literature

€ 272,602

History

€ 517,386

Social Outreach

€ 1,606,880

Higher Education and Entrepreneurship

€ 6,124,131

Recovery of Natural Heritage

€ 1,712,652

Science

€ 236,292

Other Partnerships

€ 1,355,052

TOTAL

€ 14,432,258

* Amortisation, administrative and general costs are divided proportionally among the areas.

Highlights of 2023

January

5th edition of Santander Social Tech (training and advice programme)

Performance of *Cartas vivas* (Teatro de La Abadía)

March

3rd call for submissions to Santander for the Seas

"Sobremesa con..." (Rodrigo Muñoz Avia)

Workshops at the Santander Art Gallery begin

Publication of the book *Doce líricas para un nuevo mundo*

10th edition of the Colección seminar at the Estampa fair

May

Improv theatre at the Santander Art Gallery

Edit-a-thon on the cultural heritage of Cantabria

July

Opening of *En movimiento. Vehículos y carruajes de Patrimonio Nacional*

Inauguration of La Obra Invitada (Sorolla)

UIMP summer course (Ramón de La Serna y Espina)

Collecting, Contemporary Art and Society seminar at the UIMP

Santander Music and Academy Encounter

3rd session of La Colección de Ideas ("Crisis de las democracias liberales")

September

"Sobremesa con..." (Tania Pardo)

4th session of La Colección de Ideas ("Latinoamérica como nuevo terreno de disputa")

November

"Sobremesa con..." (Marta Pérez Ibáñez)

10th edition of Santander Emplea Cultura (call for organisations)

Family concert (Mozart)

2nd call for submissions to Santander Ayuda (combating child and teen poverty)

5th session of La Colección de Ideas ("África. Migraciones y seguridad")

Opening of *CNIO Arte. Dialogues between Art and Science* (New York)

Presentation of the work *Meditación* (6th edition of CNIO Arte)

Family concert (Telemann and Purcell)

First Collector begins at ARCOMadrid

Performance of *Cartas vivas* (Corral de Comedias in Alcalá de Henares)

February

8th call for applicants for the SRUK/CERU Award

12th call for applicants for the Hispania Nostra Awards

2nd call for submissions to Investiga Colección Banco Santander

Opening of *CNIO Arte. Dialogues between Art and Science* (Washington, D.C.)

"Sobremesa con..." (María López)

1st session of La Colección de Ideas ("IA y pensamiento crítico")

April

"Sobremesa con..." (Ianko López)

Biografías e Historia online lecture series

Opening of *Natureza Viva, Paisagem e Sustentabilidade*

Family concert (Mahler)

Publication of the book *Una antología del espíritu*

2nd session of La Colección de Ideas ("Transparencia y gobernanza institucional")

June

Closing concert of the 72nd Santander International Festival (Haydn and Beethoven)

La Granda courses

August

"Sobremesa con..." (Joaquín Gallego)

Inauguration of La Obra Invitada (Picasso)

31st edition of the Estampa fair

Opening of *CNIO Arte. Dialogues between Art and Science* (Chicago)

October

Christmas concert for families (Corelli and Haydn)

Gospel concert at the Santander Art Gallery

Press launch of the *CartasVivas* audiovisual productions

December

Letter from the Chairman

As is customary at this time of year, after reviewing our achievements in 2023, we turn our thoughts toward the future, in eager anticipation of continuing to work responsibly and earn society's trust.

Bringing culture to people from every walk of life has always been one of the driving purposes of Fundación Banco Santander, and to this end we plan to continue our patronage of the arts and publish new volumes of literature, philosophy and history. Additionally, 2024 will witness the launch of a new collection of biographies of fascinating historical figures.

We will maintain our support for inclusive growth via the international cooperation programme Santander BEST Africa and other social welfare initiatives, like Santander Ayuda and Santander Emplea Cultura.

Our commitment to higher education and equal opportunity will lead us to step up our cooperation with some of the leading Spanish universities on training, employability and entrepreneurial programmes.

Designing the programme of activities at Faro Santander, the recreational and cultural venue that the bank plans to open at its former headquarters in the capital of Cantabria and which will house its art collection, will remain a top priority for us.

I am convinced that we will achieve these ambitious goals thanks to the unswerving support of Banco Santander, the wise guidance of the board of trustees and the reliability of our management team. I would like to thank all of them for their efforts and urge them to maintain a united front as they face a new set of challenges.

Rodrigo Echenique Gordillo
Chairman

Introduction

This annual report describes the initiatives that the foundation has pursued over the past year. We also look forward to publishing the social impact study on which we are currently working, with the aim of monitoring our actions more closely and improving their results.

The end of the Covid-19 health crisis allowed us to resume our regular programme of activities at the art gallery in Grupo Santander City and our involvement in temporary exhibitions organised by other art institutions and museums. We are particularly proud to have had a hand in the inaugural show at the Royal Collections Gallery, a new museum created by Patrimonio Nacional to research and share the impressive artistic heritage it manages.

In order to better understand our constantly changing world, we have set up a forum of debate called La Colección de Ideas [The Collection of Ideas], where different experts share their thoughts on the principal global challenges of today.

We have improved the scope and efficiency of our social outreach programmes, introducing Santander BEST Africa in Mozambique and giving Santander Ayuda the more specific goal of reducing poverty among children and adolescents.

In 2023, we joined the bank and several institutions of higher learning in their invaluable efforts to facilitate access to quality education and ensure that young university students have a bright future in the working world.

We stepped up our contributions to science with the sponsorship of new projects led by the Spanish National Research Council and the Spanish National Centre for Cardiovascular Research.

At Fundación Banco Santander, we trust that our efforts and dedication over the past year have helped society to make progress in those areas which fall under our principal strategic guidelines.

Borja Baselga Canthal
Managing Director

Culture

Art

Banco Santander Collection

Santander Art Gallery

Exhibitions

Supporting Artistic Production

Supporting Collectors

Calls

Partnerships

Music

Fundación Albéniz

Teatro Real

Gran Teatre del Liceu

Orfeó Català Choir School

Orfeón Donostiarra

Santander International Festival

Francesco Ruggieri Cello

Literature

Colección Obra Fundamental

UIMP summer course

CartasVivas

CartasVivas Live

History and Heritage

Biografías e Historia

La Colección de Ideas

Banco Santander Historical Archives

Hispania Nostra Awards



Banco Santander Collection

The foundation is responsible for preserving, promoting and researching the Banco Santander Collection, made up of more than one thousand paintings, drawings, sculptures, decorative arts, banknotes and coins produced between the third century BC and the present day.

In order to publicise its holdings, the foundation arranges loans of items to other museums and institutions and carries out different multimedia projects. The latest is "Vivela", an audiovisual series in which culture industry professionals discuss the links between works in the collection and their own fields or relevant themes and issues (gender equality, sustainability, etc.). In 2023, the third season of "Vivela" consisted of three episodes, dedicated to travel, the performing arts and music, with the participation of Las Hijas de Felipe and Lucía Mbomio, Manuela Velasco and Rafael R. Villalobos, and Niño de Elche and Zahara, respectively.

In 2022, the foundation launched a new programme called Investiga Colección Banco Santander, which promotes in-depth research into the collection from an innovative cross-cutting perspective. A more detailed description of this programme can be found in the section on art-related calls.



[Banco Santander Collection](#)

Detail of *Pasadizos vegetales* [*Plant Passageways*], by Cristina Iglesias, from the Banco Santander Collection.

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Loans



Nicanor Piñole
María Teresa González del Valle

Exhibition *Em boa memória.*
Retrato, Humanidade e Futuro

Edifício dos Leões-Espaço
Santander, Lisbon
18.12.2021–29.01.2023



Ignacio Zuloaga
Las tres primas (sketch)

Exhibition *Em boa memória.*
Retrato, Humanidade e Futuro

Edifício dos Leões-Espaço
Santander, Lisbon
18.12.2021–29.01.2023



Francisco de Goya (copy)
Portrait of Meléndez Valdés

Exhibition *Em boa memória.*
Retrato, Humanidade e Futuro

Edifício dos Leões-Espaço
Santander, Lisbon
18.12.2021–29.01.2023



Anonymous follower of Goya
*María Consolación Azlor,
condesa de Bureta*

Exhibition *Em boa memória.*
Retrato, Humanidade e Futuro

Edifício dos Leões-Espaço
Santander, Lisbon
18.12.2021–29.01.2023



Circle of Velázquez
Infanta María Teresa

Exhibition *Em boa memória.*
Retrato, Humanidade e Futuro

Edifício dos Leões-Espaço
Santander, Lisbon
18.12.2021–29.01.2023



Circle of Giuseppe Bonito
Carlos III

Exhibition *Em boa memória.*
Retrato, Humanidade e Futuro

Edifício dos Leões-Espaço
Santander, Lisbon
18.12.2021–29.01.2023



Mariano Benlliure
*José Gómez-Acebo y Cortina,
III marqués de Cortina*

Exhibition *Em boa memória.*
Retrato, Humanidade e Futuro

Edifício dos Leões-Espaço
Santander, Lisbon
18.12.2021–29.01.2023



Joaquín Sorolla
Retrato

Exhibition *Em boa memória.*
Retrato, Humanidade e Futuro

Edifício dos Leões-Espaço
Santander, Lisbon
18.12.2021–29.01.2023



Joaquín Sorolla
Retrato de Calixto Rodríguez

Exhibition *Em boa memória.*
Retrato, Humanidade e Futuro

Edifício dos Leões-Espaço
Santander, Lisbon
18.12.2021–29.01.2023



José Gutiérrez Solana
Valentín Ruiz Senén

Exhibition *Em boa memória.*
Retrato, Humanidade e Futuro

Edifício dos Leões-Espaço
Santander, Lisbon
18.12.2021–29.01.2023



Amalia Avia
Puerta del monigote

Exhibition *El Japón en Los Ángeles. Los archivos de Amalia Avia*

Sala Alcalá 31, Madrid
23.09.2022–15.01.2023



José Gutiérrez Solana
Mujeres vistiéndose (Coristas de pueblo)

Exhibition *José Gutiérrez Solana. Obras invitadas*

Museo Carmen Thyssen, Málaga
07.11.2023–28.01.2024



José Gutiérrez Solana
La casa del arrabal (Las chicas del arrabal)

Exhibition *José Gutiérrez Solana. Obras invitadas*

Museo Carmen Thyssen, Málaga
07.11.2023–28.01.2024



Patricia Gadea
Diosas, esposas, rameras y esclavas

Exhibition *La ocupación. Carta blanca a Cabello/Carceller*

Museo Patio Herreriano, Valladolid
07.10.2023–10.03.2024



Joaquín Sorolla
Niños buscando mariscos

Exhibition *Los veranos de Sorolla*
Fundación Mapfre, Madrid
22.09.2023–07.01.2024



Joaquín Vaquero Palacios
Templo de Apolo en Corinto

Exhibition *Natureza Viva, Paisagem e Sustentabilidade*

Edifício dos Leões-Espaço
Santander, Lisbon
07.06.2023–31.01.2024



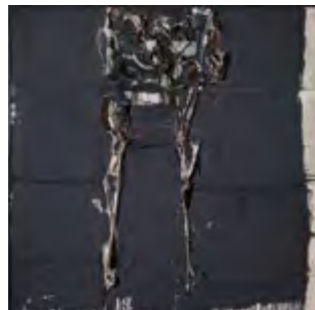
Pablo Ruiz Picasso
Busto de caballero III

La Obra Invitada exhibition

Museo de Bellas Artes, Bilbao
18.10.2023–10.03.2024

Exhibition *Picasso. Blanco en el recuerdo azul*

Museo de Belas Artes, A Coruña
23.03.2023–25.06.2023



Manuel Millares
Homúnculo

Exhibition *¿Qué humanidad? La figura humana después de la guerra (1940–1966)*

Museu Nacional d'Art de Catalunya, Barcelona
27.10.2023–11.02.2024



El Greco
Cristo agonizante con Toledo al fondo

Exhibition *El Greco. Un pintor en el laberinto*

Palazzo Reale, Milan
11.10.2023–25.02.2024



Evaristo Valle
Vagabundos

Exhibition *Natureza Viva, Paisagem e Sustentabilidade*

Edifício dos Leões-Espaço
Santander, Lisbon
07.06.2023–31.01.2024



Darío de Regoyos
Altos hornos de Bilbao

Exhibition *Natureza Viva, Paisagem e Sustentabilidade*

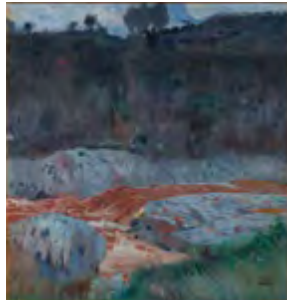
Edifício dos Leões-Espaço
Santander, Lisbon
07.06.2023–31.01.2024



Genaro Pérez Villaamil
La catedral de Sevilla por el lado de las gradas

Exhibition *Natureza Viva, Paisagem e Sustentabilidade*

Edifício dos Leões-Espaço
Santander, Lisbon
07.06.2023–31.01.2024



Joaquim Mir
Aigües roges (Aguas rojas)

Exhibition *Natureza Viva, Paisagem e Sustentabilidade*

Edifício dos Leões-Espaço Santander, Lisbon
07.06.2023–31.01.2024



Cirilo Martínez Novillo
Paisaje con figuras

Exhibition *Natureza Viva, Paisagem e Sustentabilidade*

Edifício dos Leões-Espaço Santander, Lisbon
07.06.2023–31.01.2024



Johan de Lagoor
Paisaje con cuatro árboles

Exhibition *Natureza Viva, Paisagem e Sustentabilidade*

Edifício dos Leões-Espaço Santander, Lisbon
07.06.2023–31.01.2024



José Beulas
Toledo

Exhibition *Natureza Viva, Paisagem e Sustentabilidade*

Edifício dos Leões-Espaço Santander, Lisbon
07.06.2023–31.01.2024



Joaquín Sorolla
Agustín Otermin

Exhibition *Sorolla en negro*

Centro Cultural Bancaja, Valencia
05.05.2023–10.09.2023



Rafael Martínez Padilla
Mar y cielo

Exhibition *Costa Brava. El descubrimiento del paraíso (1870–1936)*

Museu d'Art, Girona
15.04.2023–17.09.2023



Santander Art Gallery

Grupo Santander City, located in the town of Boadilla del Monte, Madrid, has an art gallery that can be visited free of charge where selected works from the bank's art collection are on display.

At this venue, the foundation organises activities (seminars, workshops, talks, guided tours, etc.) for Grupo Santander employees and their families as well as other communities.

Activities for Employees

Between 1 March and 15 November, employees were invited to attend six talks titled "Sobremesa con..." [Table Talk with...], where Rodrigo Muñoz Avia, María López, Ianko López, Tania Pardo, Joaquín Gallego and Marta Pérez Ibáñez discussed artists and works in the collection.

Two shows were also offered: an improv theatre session on 18 May to mark International Museum Day, and a gospel concert on 19 December to celebrate the holiday season.



[More information](#)

Workshops for Families and Communities

Workshops about the Banco Santander Collection were held every Saturday from March to December. The family workshops combined fun and learning to introduce children to the art world. Meanwhile, in the workshops intended for different groups, contemporary women artists presented creative practices that connected works in the collection to different themes or topics (nature, astronomy, tales of love and desire, etc.).

Exhibition of the Bank's art collection at the Santander Art Gallery.

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Exhibitions

Fundación Banco Santander views art as a social and educational tool with an important mediating purpose.

In addition to displaying an ample selection of works from the bank's art collection at the Santander Art Gallery, the foundation participates in exhibitions organised by other museums and cultural institutions.

The following pages provide details on the shows held during 2023 in partnership with Patrimonio Nacional, Banco Santander Portugal and the Museu Nacional de Arte Antiga in Lisbon, the Spanish National Cancer Research Centre, and the Museo de Bellas Artes in Bilbao.

La Obra Invitada exhibition
at the Museo de Bellas Artes
in Bilbao.

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En movimiento. Vehículos y carruajes de Patrimonio Nacional

Royal Collections Gallery, Madrid

Fundación Banco Santander sponsored the first temporary exhibition organised at the Royal Collections Gallery by Patrimonio Nacional, the Spanish heritage agency.

The show is a chronological survey of the history of the carriage in Spain and its importance for the public image of the monarchy between the sixteenth and the twentieth century. It features seven coaches, five small vehicles and two motorcars, as well as paintings, tapestries, trunks, uniforms and other objects related to royal travel that put the pieces in historical context.

Visitors can use touchscreens to explore the interior of the vehicles, and an audiovisual production about the Royal Stables explains how carriages have been used over the centuries.

The official opening of *En movimiento. Vehículos y carruajes de Patrimonio Nacional* [In Motion: Carriages and Other Vehicles in Patrimonio Nacional's Collections] took place on 25 July 2023, with the king and queen presiding. The show will remain open to the public until September 2024.



Natureza Viva, Paisagem e Sustentabilidade

Edifício dos Leões-Espaço Santander, Lisbon

The foundation, Banco Santander Portugal and the Museu Nacional de Arte Antiga in Lisbon co-organised this show held at the Edifício dos Leões from 7 June 2023 to 31 January 2024.

It features works from the collections of all three institutions—Banco Santander, Banco Santander Portugal and Museu Nacional de Arte Antiga—made between the sixteenth and the twentieth century, as well as contemporary creations by Portuguese artists like Vhils, Bordalo II, João Cutileiro and Joana Vasconcelos.

This journey through European art history explored humanity's relationship with nature via three core themes: the idealised landscape, the humanised landscape, and the quest for a new landscape.



CNIO Arte. Dialogues between Art and Science

Instituto Cervantes, New York and Chicago
Former Residence of the Ambassadors of
Spain, Washington, D.C.

The foundation joined forces with the Spanish National Cancer Research Centre (CNIO) to organise this free exhibition of a selection of the works created during the five editions of the CNIO Arte programme since it was first introduced in 2018.

The show featured three photographs, two videos, fifty-nine drawings and four collages by five Spanish artists (Eva Lootz, Chema Madoz, Carmen Calvo, Daniel Canogar and Susana Solano) inspired by the work of five researchers in different scientific fields (Margarita Salas, Ignacio Cirac, Juan Luis Arsuaga, Sarah Teichmann and Pedro Alonso).

Visitors were able to see the exhibition at the Instituto Cervantes in New York from 2 February to 15 April 2023, the Former Residence of the Ambassadors of Spain in Washington, D.C., from 27 April to 30 June 2023, and the Instituto Cervantes in Chicago from 25 October 2023 to 25 January 2024.



La Obra Invitada

Museo de Bellas Artes, Bilbao

In 2023 the foundation and the Museo de Bellas Artes in Bilbao presented two new editions of the exhibition programme La Obra Invitada [The Guest Work], which commemorated two important dates in the history of art: the centenary of Sorolla's death and the fiftieth anniversary of Picasso's.

Several pieces from the Museo Sorolla collection were on display from 10 July to 15 October 2023: two canvases titled *Bajo el toldo. Playa de Zarauz* (1910) and *Playa de Zarauz* (1910), four life drawings of female figures, and a photograph of the artist painting outdoors in that coastal town belonging to the Basque province of Gipuzkoa.

From 18 October 2023 to 10 March 2024, the museum exhibited two works from the final period of Picasso's career: *Busto de caballero III* (1967) from the Banco Santander Collection, and *Mousquetaire à la pipe* (1968) from the Artium Museoa in Vitoria-Gasteiz.

Supporting Artistic Production

Derivada

Derivada is a Fundación Banco Santander programme that supports contemporary artists, sponsors the production of works on paper and promotes collecting.

The featured artist in 2023, Ira Lombardía, created a work titled *Vessel* for the occasion, inspired by the age-old depiction of the female body as a receptacle. As contemporary art expert Bea Espejo explained in the accompanying text, her piece explores classical iconography and reviews the conventions regarding the image of the feminine throughout the history of art.

Vessel was exhibited at the Estampa fair, held in Madrid from 19 to 22 October, along with the rest of the works made by the artists who have participated in the programme since it began in 2018.



Derivada

CNIO Arte

Fundación Banco Santander and the Spanish National Cancer Research Centre (CNIO) have been the driving forces behind this initiative that explores the relationship between art and science since 2018.

For the sixth edition, visual artist Amparo Garrido drew inspiration from Elisabeth Blackburn, winner of the Nobel Prize for Medicine, and her studies of how stress affects telomere length in order to create a short titled *Meditación* [Meditation]. This film narrates the artist's journey to Extremadura in search of the serenity needed to reverse the shortening of these DNA sequences at the ends of our chromosomes.

Meditación had its first screening at the CNIO on 15 February and was on display from 22 to 26 February at ARCOMadrid, the international contemporary art fair. As usual, the sale proceeds were used to fund cancer research at the CNIO.



Vessel, created by Ira Lombardía for Derivada.

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Supporting Collectors

First Collector-ARCOmadrid

For the last thirteen years, the foundation has sponsored this programme, which offers free advice to prospective contemporary art buyers during the ARCOmadrid fair with the aim of making collecting available to a wider audience and promoting artistic production.

Experts from Arte Global, the international consulting firm that manages First Collector, supplies interested visitors with a selection of galleries, artists and works suited to their interests and budget. Moreover, since 2020 this service has also been available in digital format, giving participants the option of receiving this personalised information on their phones.

Estampa Fair

Fundación Banco Santander sponsors the contemporary art fair Estampa and two of the activities in its Colecciona programme: the Colecciona seminar and "De la mano de un coleccionista" [A Collector's Guide].

At the tenth Colecciona seminar, divided into six sessions held between 16 March and 3 June, various architects and art collectors came together to discuss the latter's relationship with the architectural designs they commission to display, store and preserve their collections.

While the fair was open, from 19 to 22 October, it also offered "De la mano de un coleccionista", in which a member of the 9915 Association gives participants guided tours of the galleries they find most interesting and explains why they chose them.

Collecting Seminar at the UIMP

The foundation sponsored the 10th Collecting, Contemporary Art and Society seminar at the Menéndez Pelayo International University (UIMP) in Santander.

From 17 to 19 July, participants reflected on how the contemporary art scene has evolved over the last decade and attempted to predict future changes in the short and medium term. New forms of collecting and patronage, current communication strategies and channels, and the shifting relations between artists and society were among the topics of discussion.



Calls

Investiga Colección Banco Santander

The second call for submissions to this research grant programme, created with the aim of gaining a deeper knowledge of the Banco Santander Collection, was issued on 18 April and ended on 18 May.

The programme is open to individual researchers, collectives, groups and organisations. Candidates can submit proposals to study works and/or artists in the collection from the perspective of any discipline or field of knowledge, and their research may be presented in different formats depending on the contents (article, dossier, podcast, audiovisual piece, curatorial project, etc.).

In 2023, a committee of independent experts and Fundación Banco Santander members chose the following projects: *Arte, energía y transformación: una lectura sobre recursos y materialidad en las colecciones del Banco Santander*, by curator Alejandro Alonso, and *El universo inmaterial de las pinturas de José Gutiérrez Solana de la Colección Banco Santander*, by Asociación para el Estudio del Mueble.

Edit-a-thon on the cultural heritage of Cantabria

In partnership with Wikiesfera, the foundation organised an editing marathon on 27 May in Santander to remedy the lack of Wikipedia content about certain topics and groups.

The goal of this second edition was to create entries about some of Cantabria's endangered heritage assets on Hispania Nostra's "Red List".

After a practical session to learn how to use the editing tool, participants composed entries on the following Cantabrian cultural assets: the Palace of Ceballos (Santa María de Cayón), Rigada Tower (Ribamontán al Monte), the water supply system of El Chorrillo (Castro Urdiales), the old schools of Terán (Cabuérniga), the cartulary from the Monastery of San Salvador de Oña (Archivo Provincial de Cantabria), the *lazareto* or leper hospital of Abaño (San Vicente de la Barquera), the Cave of Las Brujas (Suances), the Caserío Redondo farm (Molledo), the cave church of Campo Ebro, the Palace of Revillagigedo (Ramales de la Victoria) and the Cave of Los Emboscados (Ruesga).



Barros mexicanos [Mexican clay],
by José Gutiérrez Solana, from
the Banco Santander Collection.

Partnerships

Foundation of Friends of the Prado Museum

Fundación Banco Santander sponsors the Francisco Calvo Serraller lecture series, organised by the Foundation of Friends of the Prado Museum to publicise the rich heritage preserved at the museum.

The series titled "Los fastos del gótico. El arte de la última Edad Media", held between 3 October 2023 and 12 March 2024, explored the aesthetic universe of the fifteenth century in all its varied expressions and disciplines: painting, precious metalwork, set design, music, astrology, etc.

Museo Nacional Thyssen-Bornemisza

The foundation is a corporate friend of the Museo Nacional Thyssen-Bornemisza.

Its support, along with that of other businesses and institutions, helps to preserve and promote the museum's collection and organise the different activities on its cultural programme (temporary exhibitions, guided and educational tours, courses, lectures, workshops, concerts, cinema, etc.).

Museo Nacional Thyssen-Bornemisza.

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Artium Museoa-Museo de Arte Contemporáneo del País Vasco

Fundación Banco Santander is one of several organisations that contributes to the upkeep of this museum and the conservation of its holdings. Artium's collection is dedicated to contemporary art, especially works made from the 1950s to the present day, and therefore offers valuable insight into the creative output of the Basque Country in recent decades.

Instituto de Arte Contemporáneo

The foundation is a protector-level partner of this independent association of contemporary art professionals that seeks the benefit of the entire art community.

The IAC works to implement best practices at art centres and museums and pursues initiatives that aim to perfect the institutional network devoted to the creative endeavours of today and encourage a new social perception and the international promotion of Spanish contemporary art.

9915 Association of Private Contemporary Art Collectors

Fundación Banco Santander is a collaborating partner of this association, which aims to provide solutions to the problems faced by private collectors of contemporary art in Spain.

To this end, it offers training, mediation and guidance for its members and organises working groups and activities such as exhibitions, courses and lectures.



Music



Fundación Albéniz

Fundación Banco Santander supports Fundación Albéniz and its Reina Sofía School of Music by sponsoring the following initiatives to teach and divulge classical music.

Fundación Banco Santander Piano Chair

The foundation has sponsored the Piano Chair at the Reina Sofía School of Music since 1991. Twenty-nine students received instruction in the chair's two units, led by Milana Chernyavska and Stanislav Ioudenitch, in 2023.

Canal Escuela

The Reina Sofía School of Music has a free online video channel where it posts recordings of student concerts and classes in different instruments given by prestigious master musicians.

Family Concerts

The foundation organises four concerts every year for Grupo Santander employees and their families featuring the orchestras of the Reina Sofía School of Music. A total of 1,500 people attended in 2023.

Concerts for Schoolchildren

This educational programme invites primary and secondary school pupils to attend live concerts at the National Music Auditorium in Madrid and offers a virtual reality experience in the classroom.

Santander Music and Academy Encounter

2023 marked the twenty-second anniversary of this event, which every July gives promising young talents the chance to learn from and share the stage with established musicians at different venues across Cantabria. The foundation sponsored two concerts, held on 18 and 26 July at Argenta Hall in the Cantabria Palace of Festivals, which were attended by 1,415 people.





Teatro Real

Fundación Banco Santander is one of the principal patrons of this institution, a renowned temple of the performing arts.

The theatre's 2023 opera programme retrieved titles that had been postponed in previous seasons due to the pandemic, such as Corselli's *Achille in Sciro*, but it also featured new productions, most notably Rossini's *Il turco in Italia* and Charpentier's *Medea*.

Dance was represented by three great international companies—the New York City Ballet, the English National Ballet and the Ballet du Grand Théâtre de Genève—while the Voces del Real programme offered recitals by baritone Matthias Goerne, mezzo-soprano Joyce DiDonato, tenor Javier Camarena and countertenor Franco Fagioli.

The scheduled performances were rounded out by a variety of educational initiatives and activities designed to introduce these art forms to a wider audience.



Gran Teatre del Liceu

Fundación Banco Santander is a sponsor of the musical seasons of the Gran Teatre del Liceu in Barcelona. In 2023, its contribution facilitated the performance of two operas—Verdi's *Macbeth* and Haydn's *Orlando paladino*—and a recital by soprano Sondra Radvanovsky.

The Liceu staged its new production of *Macbeth* from 16 February to 3 March, with set and wardrobe designs by visual artist Jaume Plensa that combined contemporaneity and innovation on the stage.

The concert version of *Orlando paladino* premiered at the Liceu on 29 October, featuring the instrumental ensemble Il Giardino Armonico, conducted by its founder, Giovanni Antonini, and singers specialised in early music.

On 18 December, the soprano Sondra Radvanovsky, accompanied on the piano by Anthony Manoli, gave a recital of selected arias and lieder by great composers like Händel, Liszt, Strauss, Verdi and Bellini.



Orfeó Català Choir School

The Orfeó Català Choir School is an educational, artistic and social project sponsored by Fundación Banco Santander. It consists of over two hundred children and young people between the ages of 6 and 25, divided into five choral ensembles: Cor Petits, Cor Mitjans, Cor Infantil, Cor de Noies and Cor Jove.

Many of the singers in the prestigious Orfeó Català were trained at this school. Its teaching staff, comprising conductors, pianists and experts in vocal performance and music theory, gives the pupils the training they need at each stage of development in order to eventually join an adult choir.

The five choirs maintain a busy schedule throughout the year and participate in leading musical events alongside other ensembles, performing iconic pieces from the universal choral repertoire.



Orfeón Donostiarra

Fundación Banco Santander is a Friend of Honour of the Orfeón Donostiarra, one of the most important amateur choral ensembles in Europe.

It is made up of nearly two hundred sopranos, altos, tenors and basses, and its repertoire includes symphonic choral works, zarzuelas, operas, folk songs and polyphonic music.

The Orfeón maintains an intense performance schedule and sings at the top national and international festivals with prestigious conductors, orchestras and soloists.

Some of its concerts are also available as video and audio files uploaded to the multimedia section of the choir's website, and as recordings released on major labels. In addition, the choir regularly shares pictures, videos and information via its social media.

The ensemble's vocal excellence has earned it many distinctions in its 120-year history, including the Fundación Excelentia Award, the Príncipe de Asturias Award for the Arts, the Ondas Prize and the Universal Basque Prize.



Santander International Festival

The foundation is a patron of the Santander International Festival, which every August offers audiences a variety of music and dance shows of the highest artistic quality.

For the 72nd festival, held from 5 to 31 August, Fundación Banco Santander sponsored the closing concert at Argenta Hall in the Cantabria Palace of Festivals, where Omer Meir Wellber conducted the Deutsche Kammerphilharmonie Bremen in a performance of Beethoven's Symphony No. 1 and Haydn's *Nelson Mass*. The orchestra was accompanied by the voices of soprano Heidi Stober, mezzo-soprano Cecilia Molinari, tenor Martin Mitterrutzner, bass Stefan Cerny and the Andra Mari chorale.



Francesco Ruggieri Cello

The foundation extended the loan of a seventeenth-century cello to Asier Polo, whom music critics consider to be one of the greatest musicians of his generation.

The instrument was crafted in about 1689 by Francesco Ruggieri, a luthier of the renowned Cremona school. He used the finest wood and beautiful varnishes to create his pieces, which are admired for their sweet and powerful sound.

This instrument has two qualities that make it particularly valuable. The first is that it was built before the year 1700, when Stradivari established the definitive standards of cello construction, so its proportions differ from those of a modern cello. The second is that it was commissioned by church authorities for liturgical use. There is a hole in the bottom, now covered up, for a strap that would have passed round the cellist's neck, allowing it to be played in processions.

Literature



Colección Obra Fundamental

This collection was created in 1995 to resurrect forgotten works by Spanish-language authors from the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. In 2012 it was expanded to include the Cuadernos de Obra Fundamental, compilations of short texts in any genre with a markedly humanistic quality.

In 2022, after the Covid-19 pandemic, Fundación Banco Santander decided to begin publishing contemporary authors as well, with the aim of creating a space in which to create and reflect on the societal and individual transformations of our time.

The books are accompanied by interviews with the authors or anthologists and readings or dramatisations of excerpts in the form of podcasts. Audio recordings can be found on the foundation's website and the main audio streaming platforms.

In order to reach a wider audience, the titles in this collection are also made available as e-books in online bookshops and libraries.



Colección Obra Fundamental



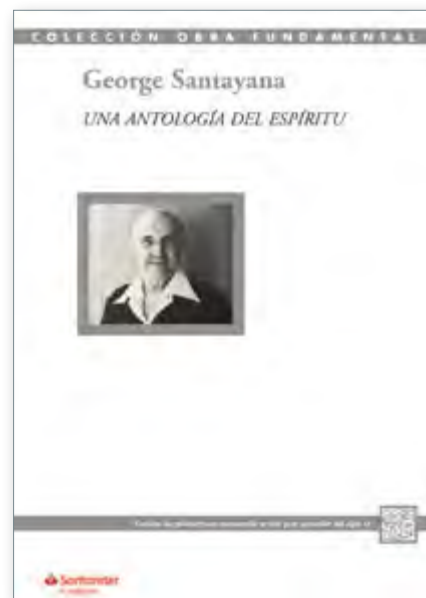


Doce líricas para un nuevo mundo. ¿Hacia dónde camina el ser humano? Multiple authors

This volume is a compilation of verses by twelve prominent contemporary poets: Antonio Colinas, Antonio Lucas, Aurora Luque, Carlos Pardo, Chantal Maillard, Clara Janés, Fermín Herrero, Jorge Riechmann, Luisa Castro, Raquel Lanseros, Vanesa Pérez-Sauquillo and Vicente Gallego.

The mind tormented by uncertainty, the need to find meaning in life and death, the quest for harmony with one's environs, and doubts about which road to take surface in poems composed especially for this book. The poet, writer and university professor José María Parreño contributed an epilogue about the destruction of the bond between human beings and nature.

The podcasts based on this work include interviews and recitations of selected poems by their authors.



Una antología del espíritu George Santayana

Una antología del espíritu is a collection of assorted writings (essays, poems, letters, autobiographical sketches, etc.) that document, in chronological order, every stage in the career of philosopher and writer George Santayana.

The volume was compiled, translated and prefaced by Antonio Lastra, Doctor of Philosophy, an independent researcher with the Instituto Franklin de Investigación en Pensamiento Norteamericano at the University of Alcalá and academic director of La Torre del Virrey.

The podcasts accompanying the book include a reading of selected texts, an interview with Antonio Lastra, and a conversation between Lastra and the philosopher Fernando Savater.



UIMP summer course

Fundación Banco Santander sponsored a summer course at the Menéndez Pelayo International University (UIMP) dedicated to the writer Ramón de la Serna y Espina.

On 13 and 14 July, a group of scholars, journalists and writers led by Juan Manuel Bonet gathered at the Palace of La Magdalena in Santander to discuss the man and the cultural context and family circumstances that shaped his oeuvre.

Among those in attendance was literary researcher Daniela Agrillo, who compiled and prefaced a selection of De la Serna's extensive literary output under the title *La torre invisible. Antología esencial* for the foundation's Obra Fundamental Collection in 2020.

CartasVivas Live

Fundación Banco Santander and the University of Exeter support this audiovisual initiative to revive the legacy of relevant women in the cultural, political and social life of the twentieth century.

CartasVivas, meaning “living letters”, is a free online library of short films in which different actresses give dramatised readings based on their characters' writings. Students from the University of Exeter, led by Nuria Capdevila-Argüelles, professor in Hispanic Studies and Gender Studies, were involved in the process of scripting and producing the shorts.

Three new “living letters” were presented in 2023, dedicated to the scientist Margarita Comas Camps, the writer Carmen de Zulueta and the psychoanalyst Irene Claremont de Castillejo, played by Maite Jáuregui, Laura Arnaiz and Jude Arkwright, respectively. The videos are posted on the website cartasvivas.org.

CartasVivas Live

Thanks to the support of Fundación Banco Santander, the play based on the epistolary relationship between Elena Fortún and Carmen Laforet that premiered at London's Cervantes Theatre in 2022 was able to travel to Madrid. The chosen venues were the Teatro de La Abadía in Madrid proper (26 January–5 February) and the Corral de Comedias in Alcalá de Henares (10–11 February).

The letters that the two authors exchanged for eight years, until Fortún's death, were published by the foundation in 2017 under the title *De corazón y alma* as a volume in the Cuadernos de Obra Fundamental collection.

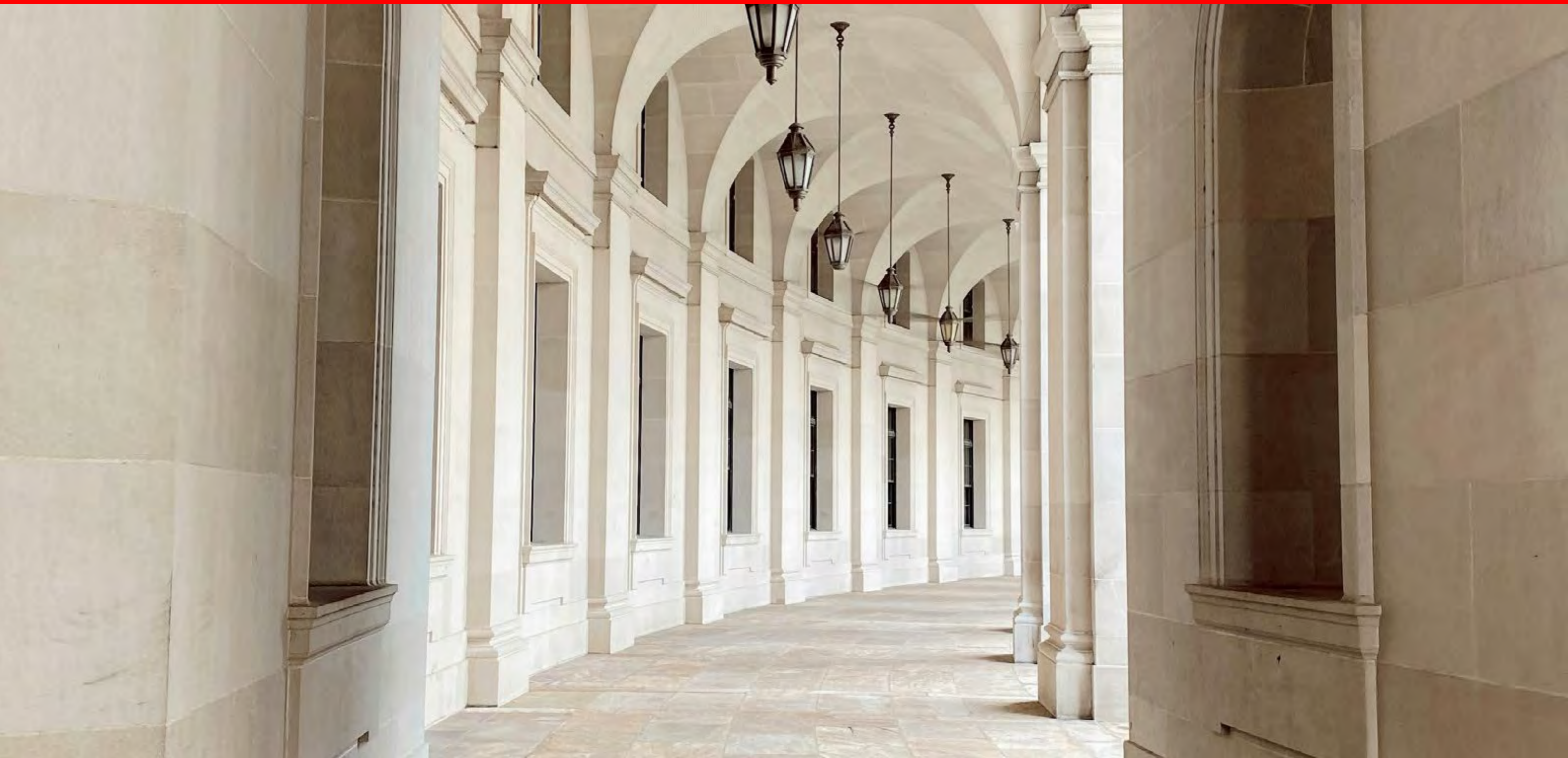
Stage director Paula Paz used a combination of audiovisual resources, off-stage recordings and music to theatrically recreate the mutual confidences of the two women.



CartasVivas



History and Heritage



Biografías e Historia

Fundación Banco Santander and Fundación Cultural de la Nobleza Española organise this annual lecture series dedicated to shedding light on the most relevant events in Spanish and Hispanic American history.

At the seventeenth edition, titled "Una corona de letras: libros y autores de la Monarquía Hispánica", historians Carmen Iglesias, Carmen Sanz, Feliciano Barrios and Jaime Olmedo underscored the importance of the work of sixteenth and seventeenth-century humanists, literati, printers and grammarians for making Spanish a truly global language, not only in the arts but also in political and government circles.

Since 2020, this series has been entirely virtual. Videos of the lectures were posted weekly from 6 June on the foundation's website and YouTube channel.

PRIMERA PARTE DE LOS COMMENTARIOS REALES,

QUE TRATAN DEL ORIGEN DE LOS YNCAS, REYES QUE FUERON DEL PERU, DE SU IDOLATRIA, LEYES, Y GOBIERNO EN PAZ Y EN GUERRA: DE SUS VIDAS Y CONQUISTAS, Y DE TODO LO QUE FUE AQUEL IMPERIO Y SU REPUBLICA, ANTES QUE LOS ESPAÑOLES PASARAN A EL.

Escritos por el Ynca Garcilasso de la Vega, natural del Cozco, y Capitan de su Magestad.

DIRIGIDOS A LA SERENISSIMA PRINCESA Doña Catalina de Portugal, Duquesa de Bargaça, &c.



La Colección de Ideas

Fundación Banco Santander created this forum of reflection and debate in order to encourage the exchange of ideas and proposals about the main challenges facing today's society.

At each of the five sessions held in 2023, an expert introduced the topic that was subsequently discussed by various professionals from the world of culture, politics, science and technology, with UNED lecturer José Ignacio Torreblanca moderating the debate.

For the first session on 28 April, telecommunications engineer Nuria Oliver talked about breakthroughs in the field of artificial intelligence and their ethical and social implications.

On 29 June, Elisa de la Nuez, federal prosecutor and secretary-general of Fundación Hay Derecho, addressed the subject of institutional governance and transparency.

The encounter on 11 July—introduced by Víctor Lapuente, who has a doctorate in Political Science from the University of Oxford—was given over to a discussion of the causes that have plunged liberal democracies around the world into crisis.

On 26 September, Javier Niño Pérez, Director for the Americas in the European External Action Service, analysed the impact of the latest global transformation in Latin America.

Finally, on 22 November, Ana Terrón i Cusí, director of Fundación Internacional y para Iberoamérica de Administración y Políticas Públicas, opened a debate on the challenges posed by the African migration trend.

The main conclusions of these sessions and information about the speakers who participated in them can be found on the foundation's website.





Banco Santander Historical Archives

Under the terms of an agreement signed in 2022 with Fundación UCEIF (University of Cantabria Foundation for the Study and Research of the Financial Sector), Fundación Banco Santander became responsible for coordinating the conservation and digitisation of these archives, an essential piece of documentary heritage for understanding Spain's economic history.

The archives contain fifty-one sets of documents pertaining to Banco Santander and other financial institutions, nine book collections, a collection of banking artefacts, and another of stock and bond certificates and other bank documents.

The task of seasonally analysing and monitoring environmental conditions in the archives (pest control, relative humidity, temperature and luminance) was completed in 2023, which will make it possible to devise a preventive conservation plan for the document collections and refit the building. Additionally, 491 documents were cleaned.

Hispania Nostra Awards

Each year, Fundación Banco Santander and the association Hispania Nostra organise these awards to recognise best practices in the conservation and restoration of Spain's cultural and natural heritage.

In 2023, the Land or Landscape Intervention Award went to the work done on a complex in Pulpí, Almería, consisting of ancient Roman mines, the natural monument that is the great geode of Mina Rica, the Museo de la Luminiscencia and the Castle of Terreros.

In the category of Conservation of Heritage as a Factor of Socio-Economic Development, the winning project was the maintenance and recovery of the portable items, properties and intangible assets dated to between the twelfth and eighteenth centuries that constitute the artistic and historical legacy of Valderrobles, Teruel.

Finally, the Legado Vivo project, dedicated to promoting and preserving the natural riches and beauty of the landscape in Murcia's Ricote Valley, won the Cultural and Natural Heritage Signage and Publicity Award.

Social Outreach

Programmes and Calls

Santander Ayuda

Santander Social Tech

Santander BEST Africa

Santander Emplea Cultura

Programmes and Calls



Santander Ayuda

In 2015, the foundation created the Santander Ayuda programme to help non-profit organisations develop social projects that improve the quality of life of vulnerable individuals.

In 2023, its focus was narrowed to combating child and teen poverty in Spain. Proposals submitted by candidate organisations must aim to break the vicious circle of poverty by promoting the holistic development of children, adolescents and their families. In the selection process, priority will be given to projects that pursue the following courses of action: tutoring and academic and vocational orientation; socio-educational support via informal learning and recreational and leisure activities; family orientation and guidance; and psychological and emotional therapy for minors and their families.

The results of the first call for proposals were announced in April 2023, and the thirty selected projects benefited a total of 6,216 people, of whom 4,967 were children and teens.

The submission period for the second call began on 6 November 2023, and the results will be announced in April 2024.



Santander Social Tech

The year 2023 marked the fifth edition of this programme, created by the foundation to support the digitalisation of non-profit organisations and consequently increase the impact and efficacy of their actions.

Santander Social Tech has three phases: training, advice and financial aid. There are two calls for submissions: the first, issued during the first quarter of the year, is for organisations in need of training and expert advice; and the second, held in December, is for applicants seeking funding.

In the initial phase, members of the selected NGOs are given training workshops to acquire the digital skills and abilities that will allow them to improve their communications, fundraising and internal management. Once they have completed this training, they are offered personalised advice to guide them through the digitalisation process. Twelve workshops were held in 2023 for a total of 132 organisations, seventy-six of which also requested advisory services.

Finally, the NGOs that participate in the training phase can apply for financial aid to implement their digital transformation (acquiring hardware and software, hiring professionals, etc.). In 2023, fifty-two of the organisations that participated in the training workshops offered during the fourth edition received financial aid. The fifth-edition grants will be awarded in 2024.



Santander BEST Africa

Santander BEST Africa aspires to contribute to the socio-economic development of this continent by supporting women entrepreneurs and their communities in the sustainable tourism sector.

The programme promotes a network of inclusive businesses, preferably led by women, related to tourism products or services. Beneficiaries receive technical and financial assistance to support their enterprises and are chosen based on their commitment to promoting jobs for women and social and environmental sustainability.

Santander BEST Africa currently operates in Gambia, Senegal, Morocco and Mozambique.

During the past year, the programme supported twenty-three projects that are improving professional skills and employability, creating jobs and generating income for 731 individuals, the majority of whom are at-risk women.

Additionally, in partnership with Banco Santander's Human Resources Department, the foundation has instituted an awareness programme that promotes the sharing of knowledge and experiences between bank employees and the female entrepreneurs of the Santander BEST Africa network. In the course of 2023, thirty Banco Santander professionals took part in three trips to different destinations in Senegal and Gambia.



[More information](#)



Santander Emplea Cultura

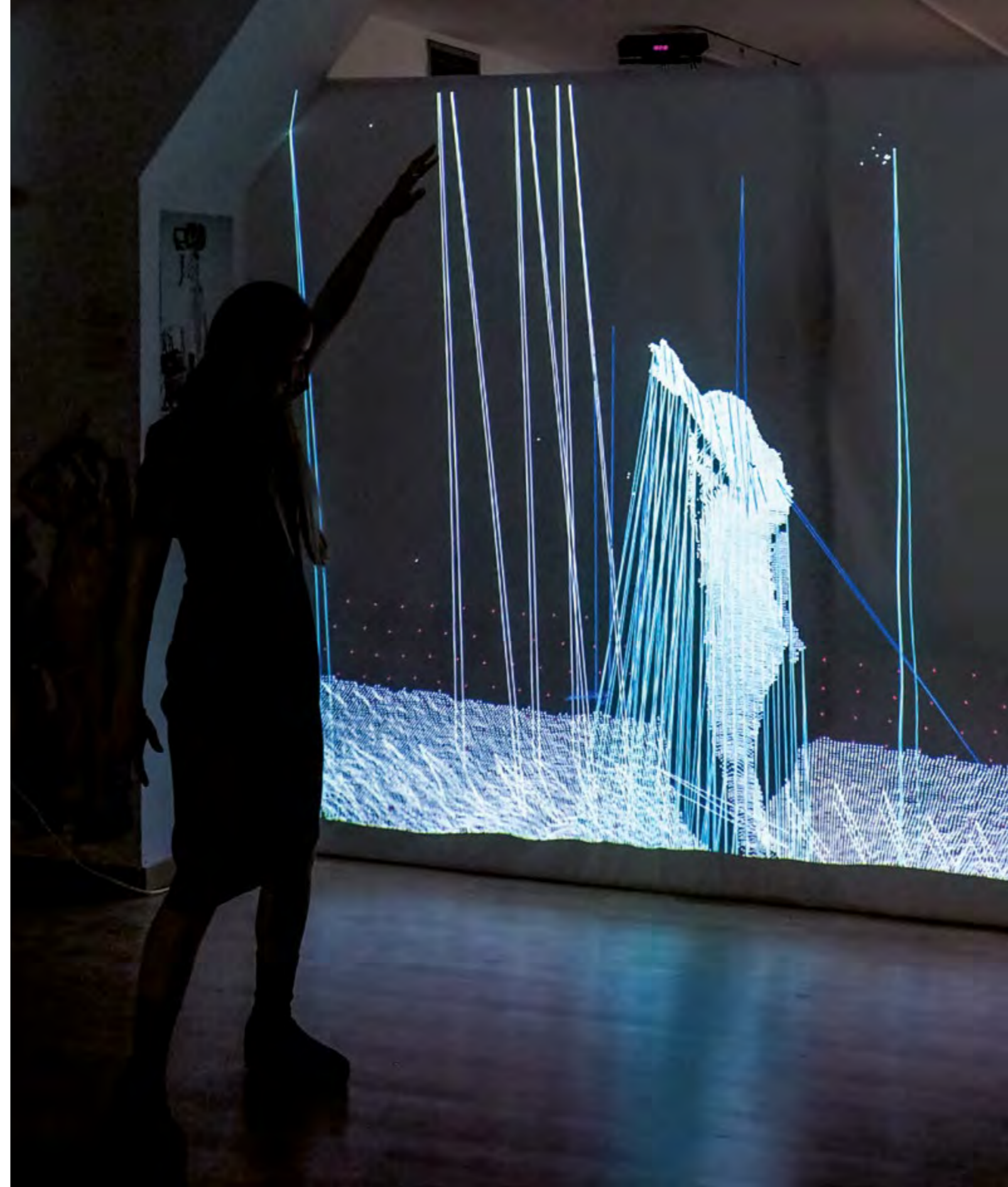
The foundation set up this programme to create quality jobs for young people trained in the contemporary arts and to drive the sustainable growth of cultural organisations.

To this end, it issues two consecutive calls for submissions each year: the first for organisations interested in hiring, and the second for candidates who want to fill those positions.

A panel of culture industry professionals chooses ten organisations whose activity revolves around the visual arts, performing arts, cultural mediation and management, or communicative and participatory arts. Each receives a stipend that must be used to pay the new hire's annual salary. Five of them may also be granted additional funds to keep the employee on for a second year.

The candidates selected in the ninth edition began their new jobs in May 2023. The tenth call for applications from interested organisations was issued in November 2023, and the results were published in January 2024.

The foundation also organised three encounters with organisations and three with professionals so that both can create a labour network, trade experiences and suggest improvements to the programme.



Higher Education and Entrepreneurship

Fundación Universidad Villanueva

Fundación de Estudios Superiores e Investigación ESIC

University of Cantabria

Fundación Comillas-Centro Universitario CIESE

Fundación Universia

National Distance Learning University

Oxentia Foundation

Fundación UCEIF

Fundación Universidad Villanueva

Fundación Banco Santander agreed to partner with Villanueva University's foundation on the project of promoting quality higher education that will ensure a bright professional future for its students.

With this goal in mind, they created a scholarship programme based on academic excellence to benefit students enrolled in the various degree courses offered at Villanueva University and the Villanueva University Centre, associated with the Complutense University of Madrid.

The more than two hundred scholarships granted in the 2023/24 academic year allowed first-year students to begin their university studies and rewarded the hard work of students enrolled in subsequent years.

Fundación de Estudios Superiores e Investigación ESIC

Fundación Banco Santander signed a collaboration agreement with this foundation to support two initiatives designed to facilitate access to higher education and quality employment for students at the ESIC business school and university centre.

The international mobility grants programme awarded fifteen scholarships to Latin American students for completing a master's course in Management at the ESIC campuses in Madrid, Valencia or Barcelona.

The grants for the Online Bootcamp in Accelerated Entrepreneurship went to ten young university students with an enterprising spirit and skills in this field, enabling them to develop a business model and use the most suitable resources at each stage of the process.



University of Cantabria

The goal of the University of Cantabria is to contribute to the advancement of society through its commitment to educational and academic excellence. It offers a wide variety of unique degree programmes geared towards job placement thanks to the involvement of various regional companies in both the classroom and off-campus work experiences. The university research department is home to a number of development and innovation teams and offers R&D+i solutions to the private and public sectors.

Fundación Banco Santander supported several of the University of Cantabria's research initiatives in different ways, such as co-financing subscriptions to academic journals and other bibliographical resources, acquiring and maintaining databases of interest to researchers, and backing the activities of the Emilio Botín digital library.

Fundación Comillas-Centro Universitario CIESE

Fundación Banco Santander is an institutional patron of Fundación Comillas, a public, non-profit foundation that manages a centre of excellence dedicated to promoting the study and teaching of Spanish language and culture.

Its academic activity, based on innovation and technology, is conducted at CIESE-Comillas (International Centre for Advanced Spanish Studies), which offers a variety of graduate and post-graduate degrees and specialisation courses.

One of its main aspirations is to establish a knowledge-generating community that will attract other prestigious institutions in Spain and abroad.



Fundación Universia

Fundación Banco Santander and Fundación Universia have partnered to develop the MetaRed project and an ISA (Income Share Agreement) funding programme.

The aim of MetaRed is to build inter-university communities in order to share best practices that will help Ibero-American institutions of higher learning to advance in three areas: digital transformation, entrepreneurship and corporate social responsibility.

The ISA programme is based on a responsible financing model guaranteed by the European Investment Fund. Its purpose is to improve the employability of low-income or unemployed persons by providing certified training and a specific platform that gives them access to jobs in professions with the highest demand.

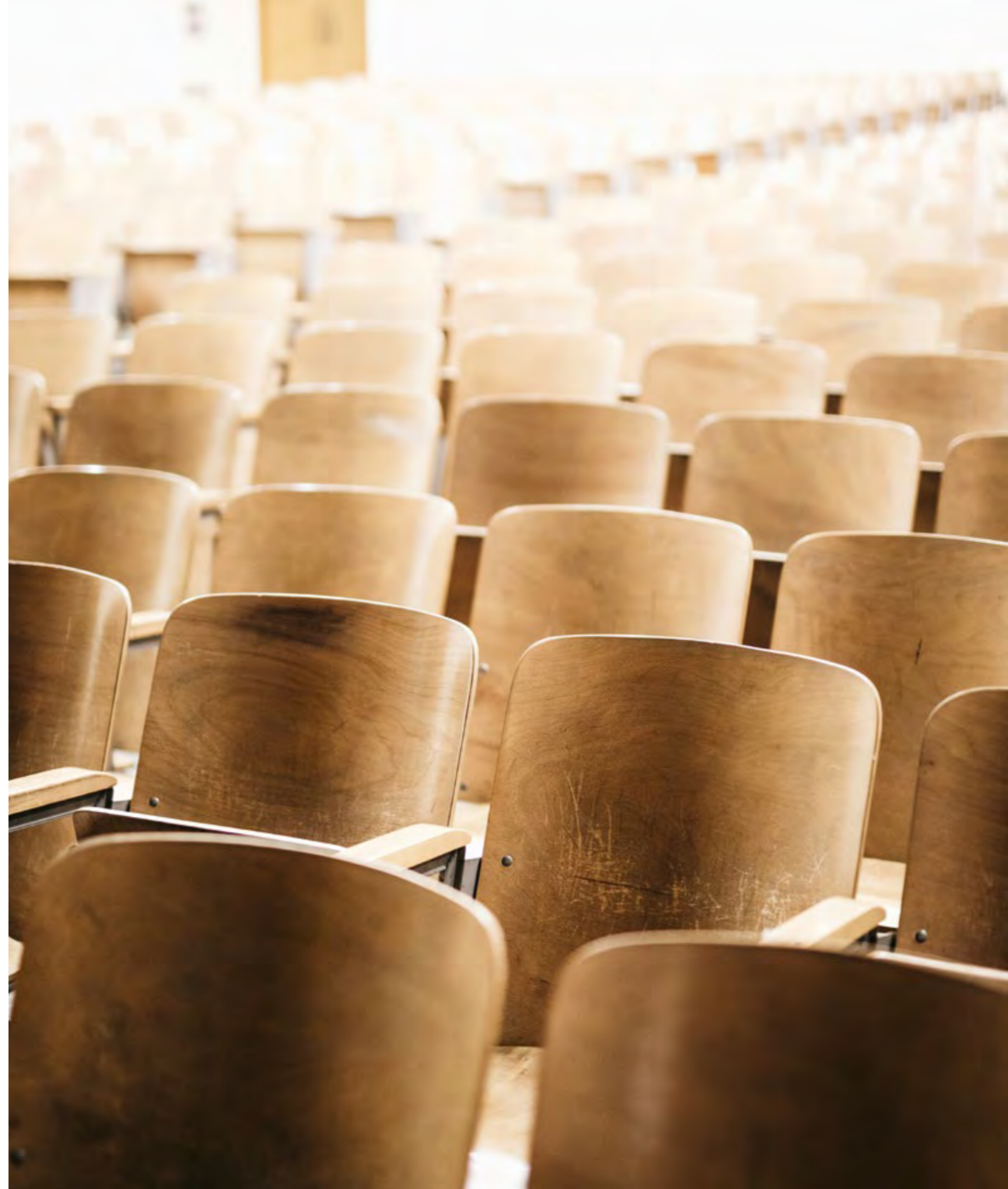
National Distance Learning University

Fundación Banco Santander has teamed up with the National Distance Learning University (UNED) to facilitate the study, design and implementation of several of its education, job placement and entrepreneurship programmes.

Educational initiatives include grants to encourage students to practice sport, scholarships to help students who have completed their first year continue their studies, and mobility grants for PhD candidates enrolled in the UNED's International Doctorate School.

Predocctoral contracts, off-campus work experience jobs at centres associated with the university and awards for research, knowledge transfer and dissemination were granted to young researchers with the aim of improving their future job prospects.

Finally, one first prize and two second prizes were created within the UNED's startup programme to enable current students or graduates to launch their own business ideas.



Oxentia Foundation

In 2023, Fundación Banco Santander signed a partnership agreement with Oxentia Foundation, part of the entrepreneurship and innovation ecosystem at the University of Oxford.

The two foundations will work together on different initiatives with the aim of building entrepreneurial networks that connect Spain, Portugal, the United Kingdom, Germany, Poland, the United States, Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Mexico and Uruguay, so that university students can develop or consolidate innovative science and technology projects.

The year 2023 witnessed the launch of Santander X Global Challenge / Transforming the Digital Economy, a competition that invites startups and scaleups in these eleven countries to come up with innovative solutions to the challenges that digitalisation poses for industry, the corporate world and society as a whole.

Fundación UCEIF

Fundación Banco Santander supports Fundación UCEIF by offering a free training and advisory programme called Santander X Explorer that aims to promote talent and entrepreneurship among young people.

Candidates must present innovative business ideas related to achieving one or more of the sustainable development goals set by the United Nations in the 2030 Agenda.

The best proposals are chosen by participating institutions, which last year came from Germany, the United Kingdom, Portugal, Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Mexico, Uruguay, Peru and the United States. During the training process, the aspiring entrepreneurs will be able to assess the viability of their projects, acquire business startup and management skills, and be introduced to key professionals in the field of entrepreneurship (investors, agents, successful entrepreneurs, etc.).



Environment and Research

Recovery of Natural Heritage

Environmental Projects
Sustainable Development Handbooks
Environmental Footprint

Science

SRUK/CERU Emerging Talent Award
Accelerate Your Business: From Lab to Market
Good Scientific Practices
ComFuturo
Fundación Pro CNIC
Fundación Marqués de Valdecilla
Fundación Renal Íñigo Álvarez de Toledo

Recovery of Natural Heritage



Environmental Projects

After nineteen years of experience in recovering natural heritage, in 2021 the foundation created Santander for the Seas, an annual call for proposals that aim to preserve marine biodiversity in Spanish waters.

The proposed initiatives must focus on areas and species listed as endangered or at risk of extinction in Spain's official national or regional catalogues.

A committee, made up of Fundación Banco Santander representatives and environmental experts, selects three two-year projects based on their innovativeness, technical quality, sustainability and replicability, among other criteria.

The beneficiaries of this third edition were Fundación Ecoalf, Tursiops and Fundación Blue Life. The foundation also continued to support the organisations selected in the programme's second year: Fundación Naturaleza y Hombre, CEMMA and Asociación Vellmarí.

The following pages provide a brief description of the initiatives launched in 2023 and a list of all projects that were still in progress during the same period.





Upcycling the Ocean

Spain's eastern seaboard

The initiative submitted by Fundación Ecoalf entails cleaning up and reusing waste accumulated in protected areas of the Mediterranean Sea by establishing an alliance of fishers, scientists, industry and civil society.

Plastics captured by fishing vessels are treated at recycling plants and made useful to different industries. PET, for instance, is turned into thread which Ecoalf's sustainable fashion label will use to make garments and accessories.

The project also uses geolocation devices to study marine debris and determine its traceability, typology and interaction with ocean currents. The results will be shared in national and international scientific forums.

Additionally, Ecoalf organises training sessions for fishers and different activities at schools to raise awareness of how debris negatively affects the marine ecosystem and the importance of the circular economy.



Moby Mummy. Delimiting a sperm whale breeding ground

Menorca, Balearic Islands

Tursiops launched a project to preserve the sperm whale in the Mediterranean. The goal is to define the boundaries of a recently discovered breeding ground north of Menorca and petition the pertinent authorities to protect it in order to shield this species from the greatest threats to its survival: vessel strikes and underwater noise pollution caused by ocean traffic.

Cutting-edge instruments and methods—including hydrophones, drones, transdermal tags to track specimens via satellite, and the automatic identification system (AIS) to analyse vessel movement data—are used to collect the necessary data in the field.

The initiative also aims to get shipping companies involved in safeguarding the protected waters and to conduct a social awareness campaign that will encourage responsible nautical practices in a high-density maritime traffic area.



Projects in progress in 2023

Begun in 2022

2030 Santander Bay

Santander, Cantabria

FUNDACIÓN NATURALEZA Y HOMBRE

Friendship-Orcas

Galicia, Asturias, Cantabria,
Basque Country and Andalusia

CEMMA

Western Mediterranean

Coral Habitats

Ibiza, Balearic Islands

ASOCIACIÓN VELLMARÍ

Begun in 2023

Upcycling the Ocean

Spain's eastern seaboard

FUNDACIÓN ECOALF

Moby Mummy. Delimiting a sperm whale breeding ground

Menorca, Balearic Islands

TURSIOPS

Restoration of Neptune grass meadows and conservation of marine ecosystems in the Mediterranean

Ibiza, Balearic Islands

FUNDACIÓN BLUE LIFE

Restoration of Neptune grass meadows and conservation of marine ecosystems in the Mediterranean

Ibiza, Balearic Islands

In 2023, Fundación Blue Life began working to protect and recover the biodiversity of Ibiza's marine habitats.

Its primary courses of action consist in restoring the *Posidonia oceanica* or Neptune grass community and collecting data on the distribution, reproduction patterns and status of uncatalogued populations of the violet sea-whip (*Paramuricea clavata*) and white gorgonian (*Eunicella singularis*). This information will be used to devise a suitable long-term conservation strategy for the species.

Different environmental education activities (talks, lectures and seabed cleanups) have also been designed for schools and for the island's yacht and diving clubs.

Finally, Fundación Blue Life will try to get the tourism industry and pertinent authorities involved in designing and implementing a pilot programme of sustainable tourism based on activities related to caring for marine ecosystems.

Sustainable Development Handbooks

Fundación Banco Santander publishes sustainable development handbooks to share information about the projects that are part of its environmental programme. In these handbooks, the organisations responsible for doing the conservation work provide detailed descriptions of the phases and methods used so that similar projects can benefit from their experience.

Digital copies of all the handbooks are available on the foundation's website. A limited number of hard copies are also printed and distributed free of charge to interested organisations, institutions and individuals upon request.

Conservación de polinizadores en entornos urbanos






In this handbook, members of the Brinjal association explain the vital role of pollinators, the causes and consequences of their decline, and specific actions taken in green zones of the city of Madrid as part of the Misión Polinizadores project. These actions included creating biodiversity islands, advising local authorities and developing a social awareness campaign.

In the final chapter, which studies populations of urban pollinators, the Biodiversity Monitoring Group from the Complutense University of Madrid gives a step-by-step explanation of how to set up an insect monitoring programme.

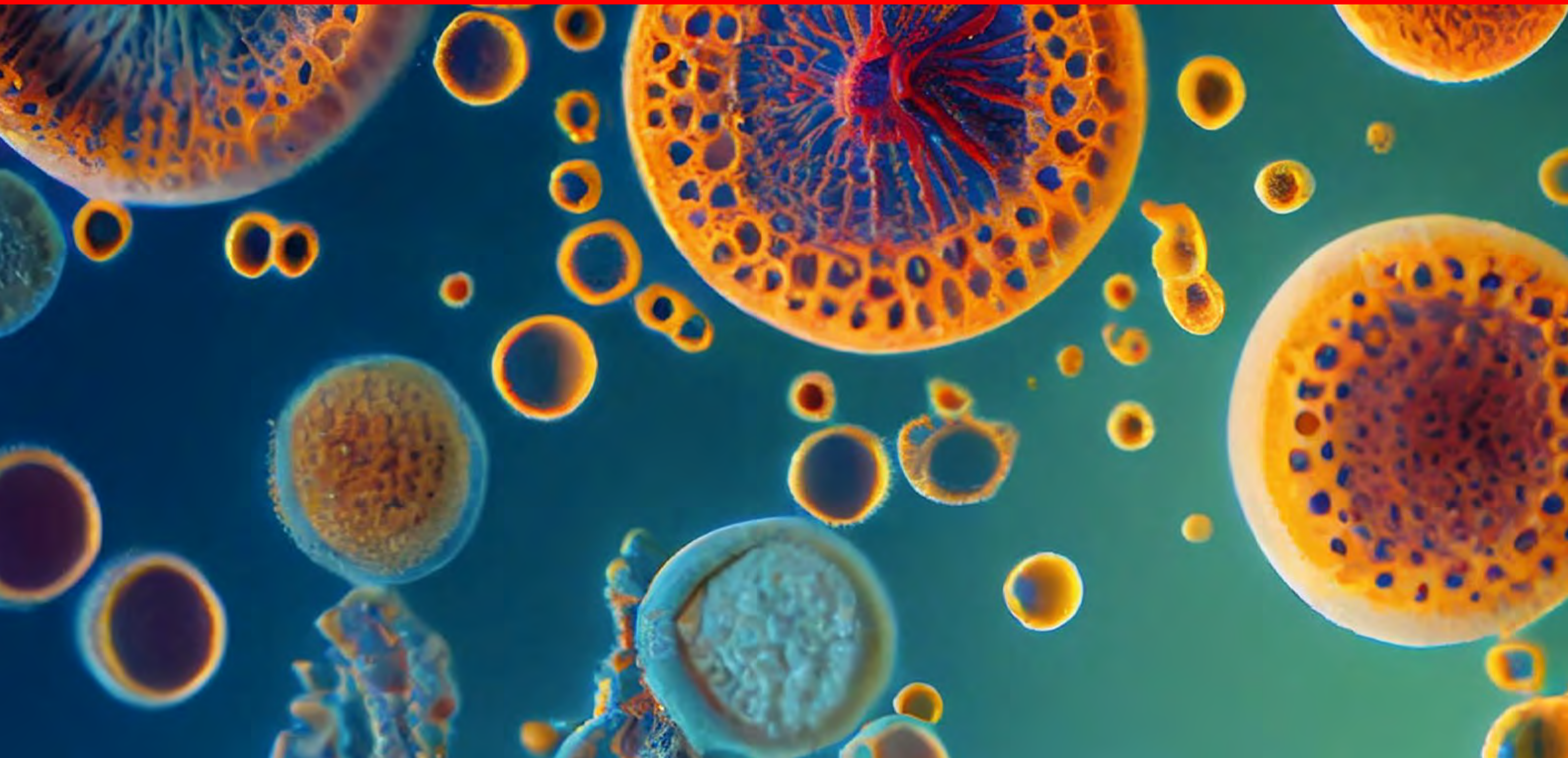


Environmental Footprint

Fundación Banco Santander measures the annual environmental impact of its activity in order to reduce its waste and emissions.

Consumption		Water (m ³)	246
		Water (m ³ /employee)*	14.47
		Electricity from renewables (kWh)	24,135.31
		Electricity from renewables (kWh/employee)*	1419.72
		FSC-certified and recycled paper (kg)	580.44
		FSC-certified and recycled paper (kg/employee)*	34.14
Waste		Paper and cardboard (kg)	499.90
		Paper and cardboard (kg/employee)*	29.41
Greenhouse gas emissions		Indirect emissions from employee travel (T CO ₂ eq)	22.85
		Indirect emissions from employee commutes (T CO ₂ eq)	1.02
		Total indirect emissions (T CO ₂ eq)	23.87
		Total indirect emissions (T CO ₂ eq/employee)*	1.40
		Average number of employees per year	17





SRUK/CERU Emerging Talent Award

Fundación Banco Santander and the Society of Spanish Researchers in the United Kingdom (SRUK/CERU) grant this award to recognise and advance the professional careers of young Spanish researchers working in the UK.

The winner receives a commemorative sculpture by the artist Cristina Iglesias and a cash prize that can be used to cover any costs related to their research.

The eighth award went to immunologist Roser Vento-Tormo, leader of the Cellular Genetics group at the Wellcome Sanger Institute. The atlases of human reproductive tissues generated in her laboratory using innovative computational and genomics tools have led to major breakthroughs in women's health.

At the awards ceremony, which took place on 9 October at the Spanish embassy in London, the researcher delivered a lecture about mapping female reproductive organs.





Accelerate Your Business: From Lab to Market

Fundación Banco Santander sponsors this training programme in entrepreneurship and innovation offered by IE University.

The programme is open to all CNIO staff, although it specifically targets researchers interested in turning their discoveries into business opportunities. Scientists learn how to develop business skills, acquire management tools and put their knowledge to good use in the corporate world.

The programme combines in-person and online sessions to work around the participants' job requirements and consists of the following units: strategy, economic context, finance, marketing, human resources, entrepreneurship and legal matters.



Good Scientific Practices

Fundación Banco Santander supports the Spanish National Research Council (CSIC) on this programme, which provides new researchers with training in scientific integrity and best practices to promote quality in science.

Good Scientific Practices offers guidelines for every stage of the research process: project preparation, experiment design and implementation; data collection and processing; presentation and reporting of results; evaluation; and scientific dissemination. The programme also teaches and discusses the principles of scientific integrity which ensure responsible conduct and avoid undesirable practices in the course of research.

The contents are complemented by an analysis of today's complex scientific system, the obligations of researchers, and relations between scientists and society.

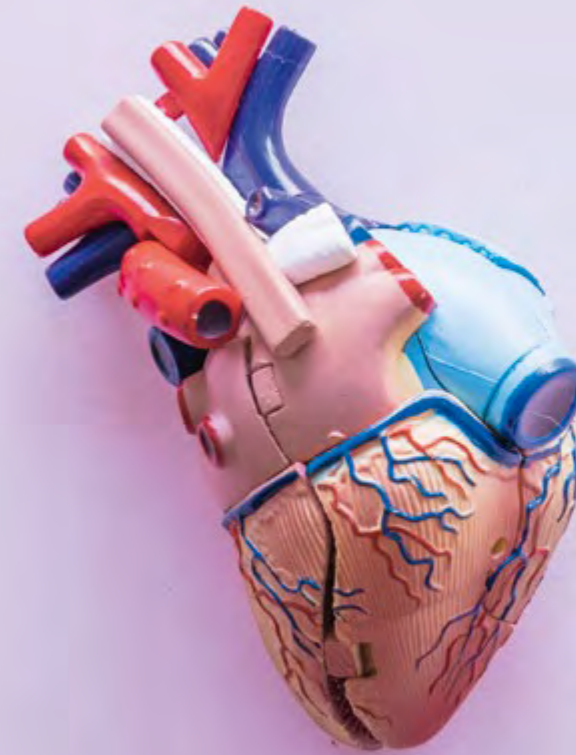


ComFuturo

Fundación Banco Santander and the Spanish National Research Council (CSIC) teamed up to develop this programme with the goal of recruiting talented young researchers for the Spanish science and technology sector.

After a rigorous selection process, young scientists from different countries are chosen to work at the CSIC for three years. The beneficiaries receive an annual stipend to cover the costs of their research and education in a variety of intersecting areas: communications, knowledge transfer, entrepreneurship and scientific integrity. They also spend some time working in a non-academic sector, which allows them to pick up new skills and put their abilities to use in a different setting.

During the first quarter of 2023, the scientists chosen in the third edition pursued research projects that attempted to address the biggest social challenges of our time—climate change, the energy transition, preventing disasters, treating diseases, etc.)—from an innovative and multidisciplinary perspective.



Fundación Pro CNIC

Fundación Pro CNIC supports the Spanish National Centre for Cardiovascular Research in research on cardiovascular diseases, international cooperation and the transfer of knowledge to clinical practice. It also promotes the adoption of healthy habits among the Spanish population to prevent cardiac and circulatory problems.

Fundación Banco Santander is an institutional patron of this foundation, sponsoring research, development and innovation programmes that benefit people with heart diseases and drive scientific progress in this area.



Fundación Marqués de Valdecilla

Fundación Marqués de Valdecilla, based in Santander, is dedicated to providing and promoting medical and care services, and to health-related teaching and research throughout the region of Cantabria.

Thanks to the patronage of Fundación Banco Santander, it was able to acquire a robot-assisted gait training system for neurological patients with impaired mobility. The system consists of a body weight support mechanism and an external robotic assistance device, effectively automating gait therapy on a treadmill.

This system boosts the efficacy of rehabilitation sessions, improving patients' ability to perform everyday tasks and consequently their quality of life.

Fundación Renal Íñigo Álvarez de Toledo

Thanks to the sponsorship of Fundación Banco Santander, this non-profit organisation that provides holistic care for persons with kidney disease was able to launch a mobile app called Nefrodiet in 2016.

The app is a tool that helps users follow a diet by monitoring the principal indicators and nutritional components that affect their disease on a daily basis. It also offers basic food-related tips and a dialysis centre locator.

From the moment it was launched, Nefrodiet has been rated one of the best health apps on iSYScore, a scale invented by Fundación iSYS, which specialises in evaluating digital healthcare initiatives. Nefrodiet is updated annually to make it more user-friendly, add new functions and expand the list of foods available in its database.

Other Partnerships

Fundación Princesa de Asturias

This institution annually rewards individuals and institutions whose efforts promote scientific, cultural and humanistic values that are considered part of our common world heritage. On 20 October, Princess Leonor presented the Princesa de Asturias Awards at Teatro Campoamor in Oviedo.

Fundación Premios Rei Jaime I

Fundación Banco Santander supports this foundation and the awards it grants to recognise the achievements of scientists, researchers and businesspeople. The awards come with a cash prize, which the winners pledge to partially invest in Spain. The 35th awards ceremony was held at Valencia's Lonja de los Mercaderes on 28 November, with HM the King of Spain presiding.

Casa de América

This consortium was formed to strengthen the ties between Spain and the Americas, particularly Ibero-America. To that end, it organises all kinds of cultural activities (lectures, film cycles, concerts, exhibitions, etc.) with participants from both sides of the Atlantic.

Real Instituto Elcano

This thinktank conducts strategic assessments from a European and global perspective, with a special emphasis on Spain's international relations. Its findings are released in publications and reports, and it participates in numerous international projects and networks.

Asociación Cursos de La Granda

Fundación Banco Santander helps to organise the courses this association offers in Avilés, Asturias, where experts from different fields of Spanish science, industry and culture gather every summer. The 2023 edition was held at the Hotel Palacio in Avilés from 1 to 31 August.

Real Fundación Toledo

This institution is dedicated to the conservation, study and dissemination of the cultural heritage of the historic city of Toledo. To that end, it organises different cultural activities (exhibitions, lectures, concerts, etc.) and promotes urban planning and heritage restoration initiatives.

Fundación Museo del Ejército

This foundation's primary purpose is to contribute to the conservation of the cultural, historical and artistic heritage of the Spanish army museum (Museo del Ejército). In 2023, eleven musical instruments in the museum's collection were restored thanks to the sponsorship of Fundación Banco Santander.

Fundación Policía Española

This cultural, educational, instructive and care-focused foundation works to highlight the efforts of Spain's national police force. Fundación Banco Santander made a donation to this organisation as its contribution to the programme of events lined up to celebrate the force's bicentenary in 2024.

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