

## Press release

20 September 2016

### Norman Foster on the Droneport project featured in UNOPS publication

Norman Foster has offered a glimpse into the future with an innovative solution to the lack of infrastructure in Africa through his Droneport project. His essay in the latest annual publication from The United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS) – ‘Urban glue and trim tabs: The creative re-imagination of infrastructure,’ discusses how the Droneport project in Rwanda could both change the way procurement is conducted in fragile states, as well as how Droneports could become centres of community life.

Around the world, innovative approaches are being developed to support humanitarian aid and drive sustainable development. From using drones to save lives and spur development, to the private sector fighting human rights abuses in other countries: these are just a few of the ground-breaking ideas in a new publication by UNOPS.

Procurement is one of the main channels through which humanitarian and development aid is delivered. Because of this, it is also a vital component to fulfilling the UN Sustainable Development Goals.

‘Future Proofing Procurement’ poses the question: How can we ensure that the procurement field is equipped to meet the world’s most complex issues?

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Contributors from across the public and private sector, as well as academia, propose innovative solutions to challenges in procurement – while also using procurement as a driving force to solve some of the humanitarian and development challenges of our time.

The entire publication is available on [www.unops.org](http://www.unops.org)

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### About UNOPS

UNOPS mission is to help people build better lives and countries achieve sustainable development, by expanding the ability of the United Nations, governments and other partners to manage projects, infrastructure and procurement in a sustainable and efficient manner. With more than 20 years of experience in over 130 countries, UNOPS work to serve people in need has helped build a better world.

### About Norman Foster

Norman Foster is President of The Norman Foster Foundation, which promotes humanitarian projects and interdisciplinary thinking and research to help new generations of architects, designers and urbanists to anticipate the future. The Foundation has built a prototype of the Droneport at this year's Architecture Biennale in Venice, on display until 27 November 2016.

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