

## **Casais Group completes the first phase of construction of Hassan Centenary Terraces, the tallest building in Gibraltar**

- **Casais Group concludes the first phase of construction of the Hassan Centenary Terraces project in Gibraltar, with the completion of three towers of this Affordable Housing project;**
- **Casais Group received a Recognition of Excellence Award from the Government of Gibraltar;**
- **Tower four of the Hassan Centenary Terraces, at 110 metres high, is the tallest building in Gibraltar;**

**Gibraltar, 05th September 2023** – The Casais Group, present in Gibraltar since 2005, has completed the first construction phase of the Hassan Centenary Terraces (HCT) project in Gibraltar. This project is part of the Government of Gibraltar's Affordable Housing Scheme, respecting two fundamental pillars: construction at controlled costs and ESG criteria.

The outline of this project was presented by the Portuguese Group at an event in Gibraltar attended by various local stakeholders and members of the local government, such as Chief Minister Fabian Picardo. Also, during the ceremony, the local authorities presented the Group with a Recognition of Excellence Award marking 18 years of dedication to technical excellence, high standards and exemplary sustainability and ESG practices in the territory. José da Silva Fernandes, Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Casais Group, received this award on behalf of the company.

The Casais Group began in 1958 in Portugal, already has significant experience in the territory of Gibraltar, having already developed housing projects, building refurbishment and construction of educational and industrial buildings. The Group's accumulated experience in Design & Build was fundamental in being chosen for this project. Affordable Housing is in line with the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and aims to guarantee access to housing for citizens with low incomes.

Gibraltar has a high demand for housing. And the Gibraltar government is committed to making housing available at more affordable prices.

The Group's Design & Build experience was vital to being selected for this partnership, which reflects the essence of affordable housing. This concept is intended to give people on moderate or low incomes access to housing designed to be priced below market value.

"Innovative projects such as Hassan Centenary Terraces - which benefits from modern and faster construction systems - are fully in line with Casais Gibraltar Limited's strategy. This housing complex represents an opportunity for the private sector to design, build and integrate technical solutions capable of improving environmental parameters, but also optimising productivity and meeting deadlines. This project is characterised by sustainability concerns, reflected in particular through the

choice of materials, energy efficiency, efficient water management, waste management and environmental comfort," says António Carlos Rodrigues, CEO of the Casais Group.

"We are very proud of the work we have done and of the vote of confidence that Gibraltar has given the Casais Group. And, as of now, we are committed to continuing to support the development of the territory, where we have been for almost 20 years and intend to stay for many more," adds the CEO from the Casais Group.

The HCT complex envisages that the homes will be handed over without final finishes so that each family can add on gradually according to their possibilities, in line with the Evolutionary Building concept.

### **Tallest building in Gibraltar**

Located in Gibraltar's ex-Eastern Beach public car park, Hassan Centenary Terraces consists of six blocks, three of which have already been completed. Varying in height, the residential towers will house 665 homes and 673 car parking spaces. Block four, which is 110 metres high and has 35 floors, is the tallest building in Gibraltar.

These residential buildings - developed in compliance with ESG (Environmental, Social, Governance) criteria - are located in the vicinity of the Rock of Gibraltar, a place with typically exceptional climatic conditions. These conditions led to the performance of wind tunnel tests, in order to ensure that the residential towers comply with the highest standards of safety and comfort that the Casais Group places on every construction.

Respect for ESG criteria - a priority for the Casais Group - translates into environmental, social and governance concerns, which are incorporated into the development of projects signed by the Group.

### **About Casais Group**

Casais Group was born in 1958 and is today one of the largest companies in the construction sector in Portugal, while maintaining its family nature. In 1994, it began the process of internationalization in Germany. The Group currently operates in 17 countries: Portugal, Angola, Germany, Saudi Arabia, Belgium, Brazil, Spain, USA (Texas), UAE (Dubai and Abu Dhabi), France, Ghana, Gibraltar, Netherlands, Morocco, Mozambique, United Kingdom, Qatar, but the history of its internationalization includes other countries such as Russia, Kazakhstan, Algeria, China and Cape Verde.

In 2022 it won the Construir Award for Best Construction Company in Portugal for the 5th time, as well as 3rd place for Best Place to Work. The company closed 2022 with an aggregate turnover of more than 682M€, with international markets accounting for 440M€.

Casais Gibraltar was founded in 2005, as part of the Casais Group's internationalization strategy, and has been consolidating its position, particularly through its involvement in the government's public investment program and the growing confidence shown by private investors.

Casais Gibraltar's portfolio includes renowned projects such as the University of Gibraltar; University Residences; the Holiday Inn Express Hotel; Kings Warf; New Waterport Schools and, more recently,



the Hassan Centenary Terraces towers. As a result of the work carried out, the Government of Gibraltar has awarded the company distinctions, namely the Heritage Award, for its participation in and sponsorship of the restoration and relocation of an old cannon located in the "Harding's Battery" fort. This recognition was reinforced with the award of the controlled-cost housing project by the Government of Gibraltar.