



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 7, 2023

Contact:

Julie Kuchepatov

Julie@seafoodandgenderequality.org

Packard Foundation Awards \$350,000 to SAGE to Promote Gender Equality in Seafood

Portland, OR - The David and Lucile Packard Foundation awarded the nonprofit Seafood and Gender Equality (SAGE) \$350,000 to advance its mission of promoting gender equality in the seafood sector.

This two-year grant provides core support to grow SAGE's key programs: the Gender Equality Dialogues (GED), The Bloom networking community, and The Conch podcast. Since 2020, SAGE has been promoting gender equality in the seafood sector, leading to a more resilient industry, thriving communities, and abundant resources for future generations.

"SAGE is extremely thankful to the Packard Foundation for this grant to bolster our efforts at building the seafood sector of the future, one that values and benefits people of all genders found at all levels of production, trade, and conservation," said Julie Kuchepatov, founder of SAGE.

The Bloom, SAGE's networking community for women and genderqueer people, has more than 85 members and is growing by the day. Members share their knowledge, insights, and stories and empower and support each other throughout their career journeys. SAGE recently launched the GED in August and the pilot cohort of industry leaders is pioneering the development of a roadmap of how other forward-thinking and innovative seafood companies can work towards a more equitable and inclusive seafood industry. The Conch podcast, featuring interviews with some of the most interesting people in the seafood sector, is finishing up its fourth season and boasts thousands of downloads.

Sarah Hogan, Program Officer at the Packard Foundation, emphasizes, "The Foundation recently rearticulated its vision for a more just and equitable world where both people and nature flourish. We have been an ardent supporter of SAGE since its beginning and this new

grant is not only an acknowledgement of SAGE's incredible progress and impact, but an investment towards achieving our new vision."

To learn more, contact Julie@seafoodandgenderequality.org and visit seafoodandgenderequality.org.



Seafood and Gender Equality (SAGE) promotes gender equality in the global seafood sector, leading to a more resilient industry, thriving communities, and abundant resources for future generations.

Learn more about SAGE and our efforts at www.seafoodandgenderequality.org.

###