



MEDIA RELEASE

Tuesday, September 19, 2023.

Women leaders from 25 countries unite to witness climate challenges up close.

Homeward Bound is unveiling its next bold challenge and is gearing up for unprecedented voyages of discovery and transformation. A powerhouse team of 188 exceptional women, hailing from diverse backgrounds across 25 countries, are set to embark on a 19-night expedition to Antarctica. This marks Homeward Bound's largest ever expedition.

Departing from Argentina in November 2023, the voyages which comprise of women with a background in Science, Technology, Engineering, Medicine, or Mathematics (STEMM), will rewrite the narrative on global leadership, bear witness to the critical state of the planet and collaborate to tackle the world's most pressing issue – climate change.

With climate change being a key driver of change in Antarctica and a vivid example of our planet's fragility, the need for action has never been more urgent. A recent *IPCC report resonates with a dire warning about the consequences of inaction. "There is a rapidly closing window of opportunity to secure a liveable and sustainable future for all."

Pamela Sutton-Legaud, CEO of Homeward Bound, Australia said: "The thinking and collaboration of these exceptional women with STEMM backgrounds are central to resolving the most pressing global challenges we face. This includes health, plastic pollution, deforestation, loss of biodiversity and the climate crisis."

Ahead of this extraordinary journey, the women have undergone an immersive 12-month virtual leadership program. Supported by 20 global faculty members, the participants on the voyage will be led through an unparalleled leadership journey and participate in workshops, lectures, collaborative ventures, and networking sessions that will empower these trailblazing women to influence decisions and collaborate for change.

Fabian Dattner, Homeward Bound dreamer, co-founder, leadership expert and storyteller said: "Homeward Bound aims to build a global collaboration of women leading with a STEMM background, all focusing on collaboration for a sustainable world. The initiative reflects the need for a new era of leadership, one marked by inclusivity, and a legacy mindset. Why do we go to Antarctica? Because it is an unparalleled view of our planet, and so inspires a profound commitment to collaboration. These exceptional women evaluate their own leadership in the

most remote and challenging place on our planet focusing on how we can help reshape our planet's future.”

Sponsoring the journey is ACCIONA, a global leader in sustainable infrastructure and renewable energy solutions. The partnership between Homeward Bound and ACCIONA resonates with the shared vision of nurturing female leadership across STEMM disciplines to meet future challenges.

Homeward Bound is committed to creating a diverse global leadership community of 10,000 women with a STEMM background.

For more information, please contact Anne Punter, Media Relations amtpunter@outlook.com. Tel: 0408 392967. Website: www.homewardboundprojects.com.au

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For further background:

3 November 2023, 88 women will depart Ushuaia, Argentina on board *The Ushuaia* for a 19-night expedition. [The Ushuaia Voyage 2023 - Homeward Bound \(homewardboundprojects.com.au\)](http://www.homewardboundprojects.com.au)

12 November 2023, 100 women will depart Puerto Madryn, Argentina on board *The Island Sky* for a 19-night expedition. [The Island Sky voyage 2023 - Homeward Bound \(homewardboundprojects.com.au\)](http://www.homewardboundprojects.com.au)

About Homeward Bound.

Homeward Bound is a not-for-profit groundbreaking, global leadership initiative for women with a background in Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics, or Medicine (STEMM). We are committed to creating a diverse global community of 10,000 women with a STEMM background. Our alumnae include more than 600 women from 90 nationalities.

About ACCIONA

ACCIONA is a global company and a leader in the provision of regenerative solutions for a decarbonized economy. Its business offer includes renewable energy, water treatment and management, eco-efficient transportation and mobility systems, and resilient infrastructures. The company has been carbon neutral since 2016. ACCIONA has a business presence in more than 40 countries.

*Source: World Economic Forum. The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC). [Climate change: The IPCC summarized 5 years of reports | World Economic Forum \(weforum.org\)](https://www.weforum.org/reports/Climate-change-The-IPCC-summarized-5-years-of-reports)