



# Technology Accelerator Fund: SAGES: Creating natural dyes from food waste



## THE SOLUTION

Synthetic dyeing is responsible for 80% of the emissions caused by the fashion industry. SAGES have made it their mission to solve this, creating natural dyes that don't cost the earth.

Through their circular process, SAGES are creating natural dyes from food waste, as a sustainable alternative to the high-polluting, non bio-degradable chemicals that are widely used today.

Through the GFIL Technology Accelerator fund, SAGES were able to partner with Cranfield University to improve filtration and UV stabilisation methodologies, producing purer and more concentrated dyes. The impact of this meant SAGES were able to start full end-to-end testing of the manufacturing process.

SAGES now have a range of 6 colours launching in 2024, 12 fully developed colours and 43 in total currently in development.

## ABOUT THE FUND

The Technology Accelerator Fund supports start-ups seeking to develop or validate an innovative solution that directly addresses challenges related to climate change.

Up to £50,000 is available to use to access Cranfield Universities wide range of applied science and engineering expertise and facilities.

The fund is open to SMEs/start-ups/spinouts with a technology that is currently TRL 4 - 5 and those with a technical challenge that can be over come with a four-month project.

## AT A GLANCE

### The Solution

- Natural dyes produced from food waste
- Funding helped to produce purer and more concentrated dyes

### The Fund

- Innovative green technologies or products
- Up to £50,000 available
- Mid-range technology readiness levels required (TRL 4 to 5)



"The funding from GFIL has been an amazing boost to our business. It has allowed us to form valuable connections with Cranfield University and to complete a key piece of research that will be instrumental in commercialising our dyes. The initiative is perfect for start-up businesses and we are very grateful to have been a part of it."

**Emily Taylor**

Chief Executive Officer, SAGES