

A portrait of Sarah Chen, a woman with long dark hair, wearing a black leather jacket over a white t-shirt and blue jeans. She is standing against a background with a watercolor-style gradient of blue, green, and yellow. Her hands are on her hips, and she is looking directly at the camera with a slight smile.

SARAH CHEN

"Fueling women's ambition , power & influence"

www.sarah-chen.com

As Featured in : **Forbes** **DER SPIEGEL** Bloomberg FAST COMPANY THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.

Biography:

Sarah Chen is an investor, entrepreneur & executive. Named Young Global Leader by the World Economic Forum, Sarah's career spans across venture capital (VC) and innovation, in Asia and the US. She is Co-Founder of The Billion Dollar Fund for Women, a global consortium of venture funds that have now pledged to invest and are actively deploying beyond \$1 billion towards women-founded companies, to begin to address the venture investment gap where women founders receive less than 3% of total VC funding.

Going Beyond The Billion, her mission is now to catalyze capital deployed to these venture funds, ensuring their continued capacity to invest by mobilizing limited partner investors - from institutions to family offices. Previously, she pioneered a corporate venture capital unit within \$13Bn publicly traded Asian conglomerate, Sime Darby, investing in later-stage biotechnology companies. Since then, she has been at the forefront of multi-million cross border investments, structuring and executing commercialization plans for her portfolio companies.

Named Forbes 30 Under 30, she is a recognized speaker and adviser on VC/innovation and women in leadership, having been featured among others on Der Spiegel, the Wall Street Journal, and at the United Nations.

Driven by a mission to fuel women's power and influence, she currently sits on multiple boards including 131 & counting, a bipartisan effort backed by Bloomberg Government to encourage more qualified women to run for office in the US; and Lean In Malaysia, which she co-founded, a platform accelerating women into leadership, recognized as the voice of credibility for professional women issues in Muslim-majority Malaysia. Sarah holds a Bachelor of Laws, LL.B (Hons.) from King's College London.

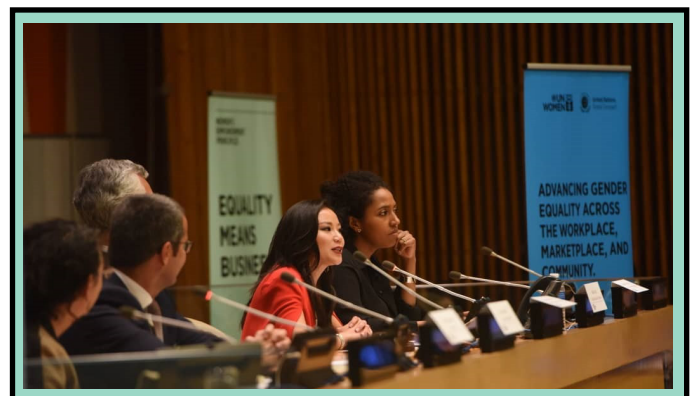


Expertise:

- Venture Capital & Innovation
- Gender Lens Investing
- Women In Leadership
- Executive Leadership

Audience:

- Corporations & Governments
- Investors
- Technology Industry
- Startups



WOMEN ON THE RISE: THE NEXT WAVE

Beneath the recent headlines of the movement for gender equality, is the true business case for investing in women. From increased innovation and improved returns, against the backdrop of a changing landscape of wealth, Sarah draws upon her work in venture capital, and as Co-Founder of The Billion Dollar Fund for Women, providing unique insights into the largest arbitrage opportunity of our lifetime.



POWER AND INFLUENCE: WOMEN FUNDING WOMEN

In all spectrums of investment, women are still underrepresented – only 12% of VCs are women; and women and people of color only manage 1.3% of US financial assets. Meanwhile, research shows that women institutional money managers bring valuable perspective to investment decision-making. What does it take to change the game and why are institutions and larger brands now paying attention?



CORPORATE VENTURE CAPITAL: REAL DEAL OR LIP SERVICE?

The role of corporate investors, from private and government conglomerates, and regional players, has changed significantly. From private equity beneficiaries in their infancy, to strong partners in co-investments and exits, these companies have grown into leading enterprises. Now, many have created dedicated investment platforms and sector-focused funds to leverage their industry expertise. How will this trend impact the evolution of Asia?



SAMPLE LINKS

United Nations New York 2019: Gender Lens Investing
Sarah named [World Economic Forum Young Global Leader 2020](#) World Affairs Council America 2020 Opening Keynote: [The She Economy](#)
Credit Suisse Global Financial Forum 2020: [Finding Alpha](#)
Moderator DealStreet Asia PEVC Summit: [Asia's Emerging Markets – Is it Worth The Wait?](#)

Forbes

PRESS & MEDIA APPEARANCES

Forbes

Billionaires Innovation Leadership Money Consumer

Sarah Chen

Cofounder, The Billion Dollar Fund for Women



Chen: Looking back, I realize how conservative many of our decisions were. The nuances of decision-making as a young executive in a conservative Asian conglomerate is certainly difficult, and I take a self-critical view of this.

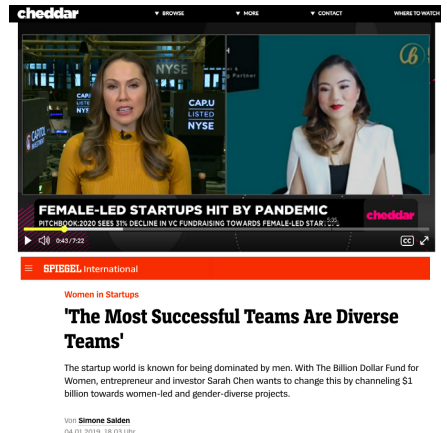
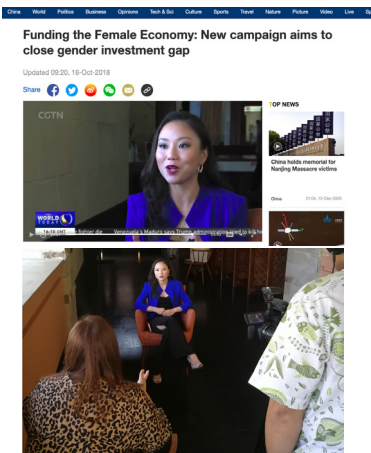
DER SPIEGEL: Why do you think that was?

Chen: Because it's simply not the norm to experience women in management positions. I was mostly the minority in every meeting: young, female and a non-Muslim in a Muslim-majority country like Malaysia. There are sectors, such as consumer goods, where women are seen more commonly in leading positions. But in the tech scene I work in, we're simply not the norm. It's the classic chicken-and-egg problem: We need more women leaders to show more women they can lead, and we need to show more women they can lead to get more women leaders. And every company always needs a courageous person to start with it.

DER SPIEGEL: Is it enough to support only women?

Sarah Chen is an investor and cofounder of The Billion Dollar Fund for Women, which ultimately aims to mobilize \$1 billion dollars in funding into companies founded by women entrepreneurs. Its primary goal is to tackle the gender funding gap female founders face. By 2020, it hopes to have invested \$1 billion in startups driven by women. So far, it has secured pledges of over \$750 million from global investors including Gobi Partners, Golden Gate Ventures, Rethink Impact, Springboard Growth Capital, Backstage Capital and Different Funds.

[Learn More](#)



Other Press Appearances

menabytes

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MTL in tech

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中國報 CHINAPRESS

Deal Street Asia

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THE EDGE MARKETS MAKE BETTER DECISIONS

Evening Standard

PENTA

Testimonials

"Sarah Chen is such a dynamic, engaging speaker and she was the perfect opener for our stage at the April 2019 4GameChangers in Vienna, Austria. She truly has a strong presence, and her material truly resonated with our audience of senior technology leaders, entrepreneurs and investors, many of whom told us how inspired they were by her message on investing in women as a business strategy. In her lively, energizing session, Sarah provided clear tips – and most importantly, actionable suggestions – dreaming big, but starting small. Further, with her media background, she was a naturally enthusiastic guest on our talk shows and post-event interviews, ultimately scoring our event a full spread on Forbes – which gave us additional exposure!"

– Nina Kaiser, Founder, 4GameChangers,
Prosenbat Puls GMBH

"Sarah is one-of-a-kind: her work in venture and women in leadership, her depth of knowledge in her areas of expertise, and ability to present an argument to a large international audience and immediately win them over, truly impressed us at the Goethe-Institut. Beyond being an excellent speaker, she was also an engaging facilitator at our Kultursymposium, a gathering of over 500 thought leaders from the world of science, culture, politics, economics and journalism. She has character, wit and presence – and is the speaker you'd want at your event."

– Daniel Göpfert



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Contact Sarah now: pr@sarah-chen.com