SGB
EVIDENCE
FUND

The Small and Growing Business (SGB) Evidence Fund, a joint effort of the International Growth Centre (IGC) and the Aspen Network for Development Entrepreneurs (ANDE), supports collaborations between researchers and practitioners to understand the most effective ways to support SGBs and the economic and social impact of SGB growth.

WHY ARE WE LAUNCHING THIS FUND?

In 2018, ANDE and IGC synthesized the academic research related to SGB growth and developed a research agenda that outlines the main gaps in the existing evidence.

Now, with the generous support of the Argidius Foundation, this fund will support practitioner-researcher collaborations that rigorously tackle these gaps. The resulting evidence will help inform thinking and practice of practitioners, researchers, policymakers, and funders on the most effective ways to support SGBs.

WHAT TOPICS ARE WE INTERESTED IN?

We welcome proposals on any topic related to growth and productivity of SGBs in Africa, South Asia and Latin America, though have a particular focus on:

- The effectiveness of different accelerator models, building on the broad analyses of the Global Accelerator Learning Initiative
- The effect of peer learning, mentoring, and other information sharing mechanisms
- The effect of new models of finance on SGB growth for different segments of SGBs
- The role of management training in improving productivity and SGB growth
- The economic and social impact of SGB growth, including job creation, poverty alleviation, and social benefits from access to beneficial products or services

PRACTITIONER–RESEARCHER MATCHMAKING

To aid in the development of new practitioner–researcher collaborations, we will organise annual matchmaking events. The first will be held in Nairobi, Kenya in July 2019, with a focus on those working in the accelerator/incubator space or that provide one or more of the components frequently offered in accelerator/incubator programmes.

For more information, please contact Matthew Guttentag (ANDE) or Sarah Logan (IGC).

www.theigc.org/sgb-evidence-fund