

The Small and Growing Business (SGB) Evidence Fund, a joint effort of the International Growth Centre (IGC) and the Aspen Network of 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 DID WE LAUNCH 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 and the International Development Research Centre (IDRC), 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 and Southeast 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 effectiveness of SGB support interventions to drive gender equality
- The economic and social impact of SGB growth, including job creation, poverty alleviation, and social benefits from access to beneficial products or services

WHAT IS THE TIMELINE?

The Autumn 2021 call for proposals is now open. The online application form will be available from 1 October 2021. In the meantime, you can access supporting documents, guidelines, and a sample application form to help prepare your proposal. The call will close on 1 November 2021 at 23:59 GMT. Further information is available [here](#).

PRACTITIONER-RESEARCHER MATCHMAKING

To aid in the development of new practitioner-researcher collaborations, we routinely organise annual matchmaking events. The first two were held in Kenya and India. The third event took place remotely during August 2021.

For more information, please contact [Matthew Guttentag \(ANDE\)](#) or [Rania Nasir \(IGC\)](#).

www.theigc.org/sgb-evidence-fund.

