

# SAVINGS GROUPS FOR AFRICA CALL FOR EXPERTS

Join us to help shape an exciting field. The SG4Africa consortium invites specialists from various fields to submit their application as an area expert in the project.

## JOINING SG4AFRICA AS AN AREA EXPERT ALLOWS YOU TO

1. have impact through shaping the field of savings groups as it relates to your area of expertise
2. interact with interesting partners both within the consortium and outside
3. help educate high-level researchers in country teams in sub-Saharan Africa
4. be a reference for the thematic working areas of the project

## KEY FIELDS

- Finance and Banking
- Economics
- Entrepreneurship
- Gender Studies
- Social Science
- Urban and Rural Studies
- Agriculture
- Public Policy
- Technology
- African Studies

## SAVINGS GROUPS

Savings groups are a global phenomenon, and especially prevalent across sub-Saharan Africa. Rotating savings and credit associations (ROSCAs) in particular have been identified as an indigenous African institution (Van den Brink & Chavas, 1997). Some estimates place the percentage of African participating in savings groups as high as 50% (Care, 2009), with even higher rates among the female population. The names for the savings group phenomenon vary by country: what is called *Stokvel* in South Africa, *Chama* in Kenya, and *Susu* in Ghana may differ in detail, but the concepts have striking similarities. Concepts related to SGs have strong cultural connotations, such the link between Kenya's *Chamas* and *Harambee* which is Swahili for "all pull together" and is enshrined in the country's coat of arms.

## ABOUT SG4AFRICA PROJECT

Launched in April 2018, SG4Africa is a pan-African research project on savings groups initially composed of 35 partners, covering 26 African countries. The project takes a pan-African approach to the phenomenon of savings groups in their diverse manifestations across the continent, which vary only slightly by country and region. Our research aims to capture these differences in a comprehensive manner, resulting in the publication of findings. Further information is available on [www.sg4africa.org](http://www.sg4africa.org)

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*Join SG4Africa to create knowledge and  
maximize impact for Africa*

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## HOW TO APPLY

Applicants should submit their CV to [ana.barroso@peep.pt](mailto:ana.barroso@peep.pt) by June 11, 2018. Applicants should clearly outline their area of expertise and how they would like to collaborate on the project.

