



**UNIVERSITÉ  
DE GENÈVE**

**FACULTÉ DES SCIENCES  
DE LA SOCIÉTÉ**

### **Doctoral contract**

*The family in practice in Kenya: a quantitative perspective*

48 months contract, starting date on 1 June 2023 (or as agreed upon)

### **Description of the project and advertised position**

The Graduate Institute (IHEID, Geneva) will be leading together with the Institute of Demography and Socioeconomics at the University of Geneva (<https://www.unige.ch/sciences-societe/ideso/>) and the Institut National d'Etudes Démographiques (Ined, Aubervilliers), the research project *The Remaking of the Family in East Africa* (FamIEA), funded by the Swiss National Science Foundation, from 1 June 2023 to 31 May 2027. Project FamIEA will apply an interdisciplinary approach to the study of the dynamics of family transformation in East Africa, with special focus on Uganda and Kenya.

At the core of project FamIEA's data, a demographic survey, conducted in the two capitals Kampala and Nairobi in collaboration with a partner institution the African Population and Health Research Center (APHRC), will document families and close social networks more broadly along a number of parameters: co-residence, kinship, subjective importance, frequency of contacts, and physical proximity. It will further document exchanges, obligations, rights, and conflicts between family members. Family members' places of residence, access to resources, and life trajectories will also be captured, as well as health dimensions, well-being and exposure to risks and vulnerabilities. The survey (beginning 2024) will follow a first layer of qualitative data collected jointly (summer 2023) and will be complemented by a second layer of qualitative data, stemming from an anthropological-ethnographic follow-up involving in-depth interviews and observations.

Project FamIEA will integrate two doctoral candidates in demography, one at Ined, and the other one at the University of Geneva. The PhD candidate in demography at the University of Geneva will focus on Kenya. S/he will work closely with their doctoral counterpart at Ined, who will focus on Uganda, as well as with the rest of the FamIEA team. S/he will take part in quantitative data collection preparations, in the monitoring of data collection in Kenya and in cleaning the database. S/he will construct a typology of Kenyan respondents' family configurations and analyze them in terms of individuals' past life events, attitudes towards reciprocity/obligations, and links to factors such as financial resources, well-being and vulnerabilities. In addition, s/he will develop her own line of analysis using quantitative or mixed-methods approach.

### **Requirements and assets**

- A Master's degree in demography or in any other relevant field
- Experience in quantitative data analysis
- Excellent knowledge of English; knowledge of additional languages spoken in Kenya, as well as of French, would be an asset
- Good interpersonal skills and ability to work in a team
- A fieldwork experience in East Africa or in the global South more broadly would be an asset
- Experience in interdisciplinary research and mixed methods would also be a strength.



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### **Recruitment conditions**

The doctoral contract will commence between 1 June and 1 October, 2023 (somewhat flexible), and will run for a duration of four years (70% activity rate). The successful candidate is expected to attend FamilEA's opening conference in Geneva (8-9 June 2023), and to take part in a collective qualitative fieldwork in Nairobi and Kampala (23 July to 14 August 2023), activities which will be funded.

The salary is based on the FNS' scale of remuneration for PhD candidates (function CANDOC, class 8, activity rate 70%). The place of work is UniMail, 40 Blvd du Pont d'Arve, 1205 Geneva, with time in Kenya depending on the doctoral project.

### **To apply**

Candidates should submit the following documents: a letter of motivation (one page), a research proposal (3 pages max), a complete CV (including academic outputs, if applicable) and the names and contact details of two referees, to [veronique.savary@unige.ch](mailto:veronique.savary@unige.ch) by 31 March, 2023. Interviews will be organized for shortlisted candidates on 20 and 21 April, 2023.

Contact for more information: [clementine.rossier@unige.ch](mailto:clementine.rossier@unige.ch)