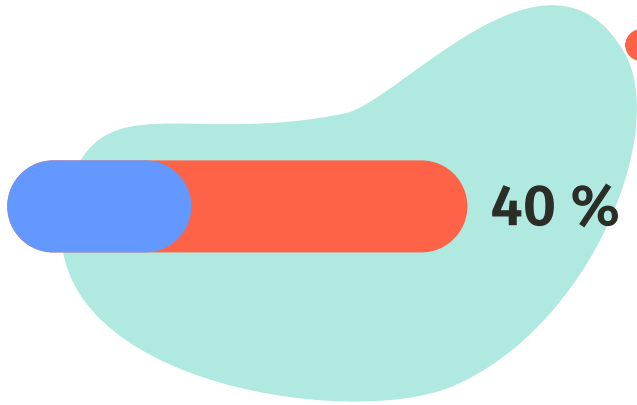
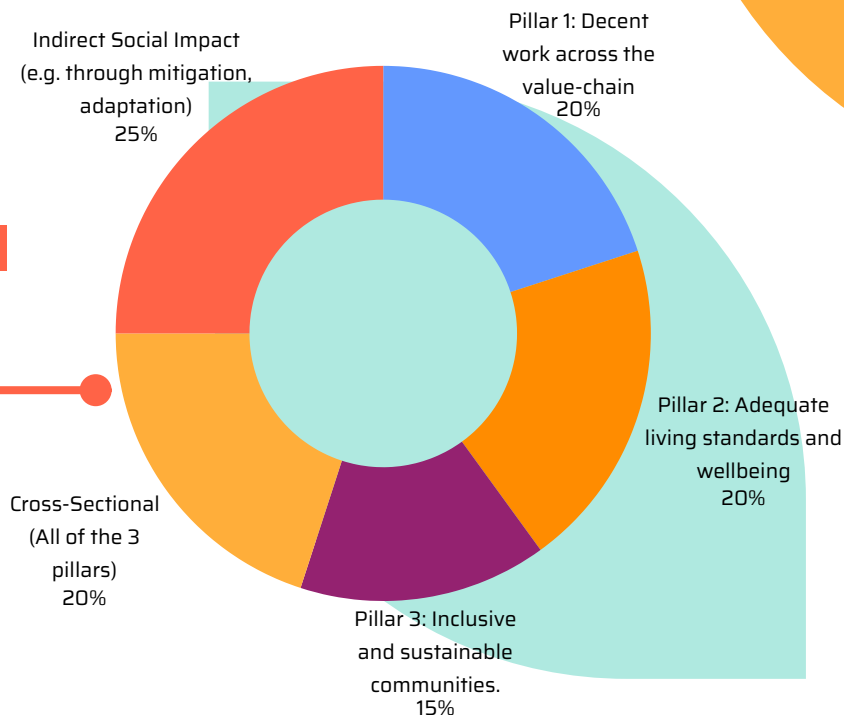


# Social Finance in 2026 Trend Predictions

Based on Insights from the 2026 ISFA  
(International Social Finance Accelerator) Applicant Pool

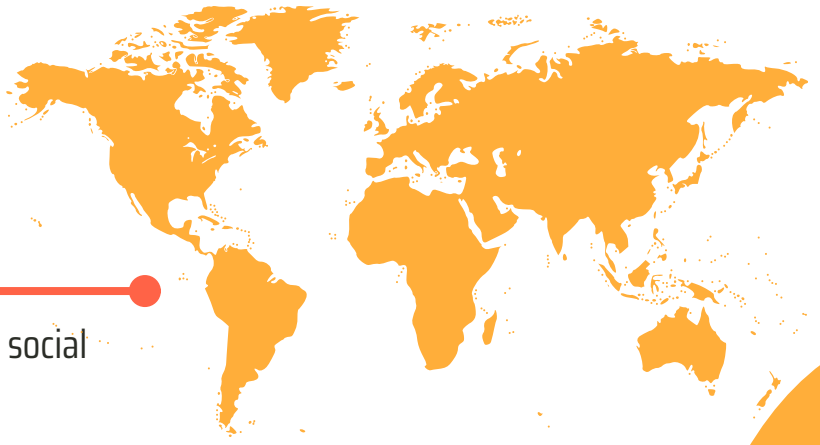
## Pillar-specific allocations account for 55% of the total funding

More than half of the funds target specific social pillars like decent work or community inclusion, while a growing share adopts cross-sectoral strategies addressing interconnected social challenges or indirect social impacts via climate pathways.



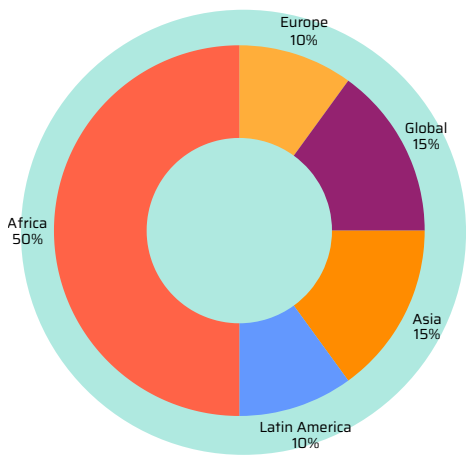
## The Rise of the SAFE

10% of our applicants are using SAFEs or similar convertibles as their **primary** instrument, and 40% of all applicants are using them as part of their strategy.



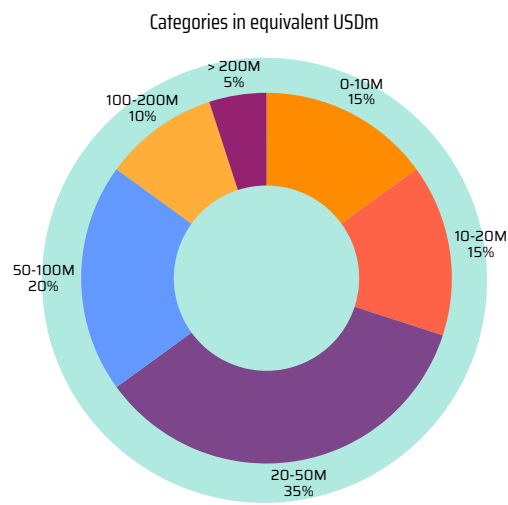
## Diverse Geographies

Africa remains central but varied: half of the social finance funds focus on Africa, split between continent-wide and Southern Africa-specific strategies, highlighting different operational risks and opportunities.



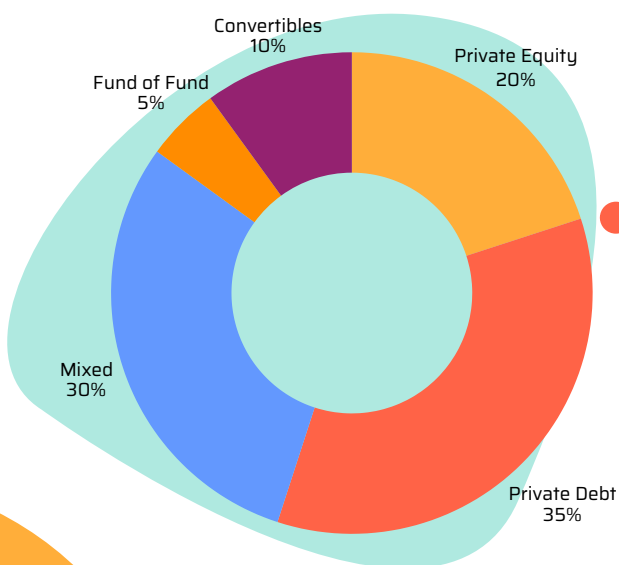
### Geographic Focus

50% of funds focused on Africa, with a third of these funds focusing on the continent as a whole and another third on Southern Africa countries.



### Fund Target Size

The fund target size is evenly distributed with a third of the funds targeting 0-20M, another third 20-50M and the last portion falling in the 50-200M categories.



## Instrument Segmentation

Up to 10% of the Funds use convertible instruments as first choice (SAFE, convertible notes, etc.) while 30% use mixed models, where convertible instruments are the second option. Private debt and equity still dominate with more than 50% of total representation.