



Building An Impact Economy

Annual Impact Report APRIL 2024 – MARCH 2025



Welcome

At the core of our mission lies an unwavering commitment to creating lasting and meaningful change in the lives of people and communities. Now halfway through our ten-year 'Building an Impact Economy' strategy, we are proud to share the progress we've made in deepening this commitment.

This year's report explores impact progress between April 2024 and March 2025. As 2025 marks the beginning of SIS's 25th Anniversary Year, we also take time to reflect on the long-term systems change achieved by SIS and those working alongside us.

The outcomes and impacts of SIS activities are described through three levels of impact:

1. People and Places
2. Inclusive Economic Growth
3. Contributing to Systems Change

These impact insights have helped sharpen focus on current and future priorities: expanding access to fair and affordable finance through a proposed Community Capital Fund; driving innovation in childcare and nature-based financing to support families, climate resilience, and local employment; strengthening market-building efforts; and progressing policy change through the Financial Inclusion for Scotland group.

Collaboration is at the heart of SIS's work. We extend our thanks to the communities, people and organisations we serve, and to the investors and partners on this journey with us. These shared successes are only possible through our collective effort and commitment.

With warmest wishes, The SIS Team

Front cover features photography from: Beta Bugs, Community Circus Paisley, and Legal Services Agency.

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People and Places

SIS's impact for people and communities is achieved through the activities of our investees and programme participants.

We also contribute to positive outcomes for nature and the environment, as Scotland's social enterprises play a vital role in regenerating and protecting important natural resources.

Community-owned and led initiatives continue to drive people-powered change in our communities, with continued demand for larger investments in property purchases and development, and community-owned assets.

Through our funding and market-building programmes, SIS acts as a conduit - to impact at the personal and local level.

In this section read more about:

- People and Places Impact Insights
- Community Circus Paisley
- Go! Youth Trust
- Strathdearn Community Developments
- Facility for Investment Ready Nature in Scotland

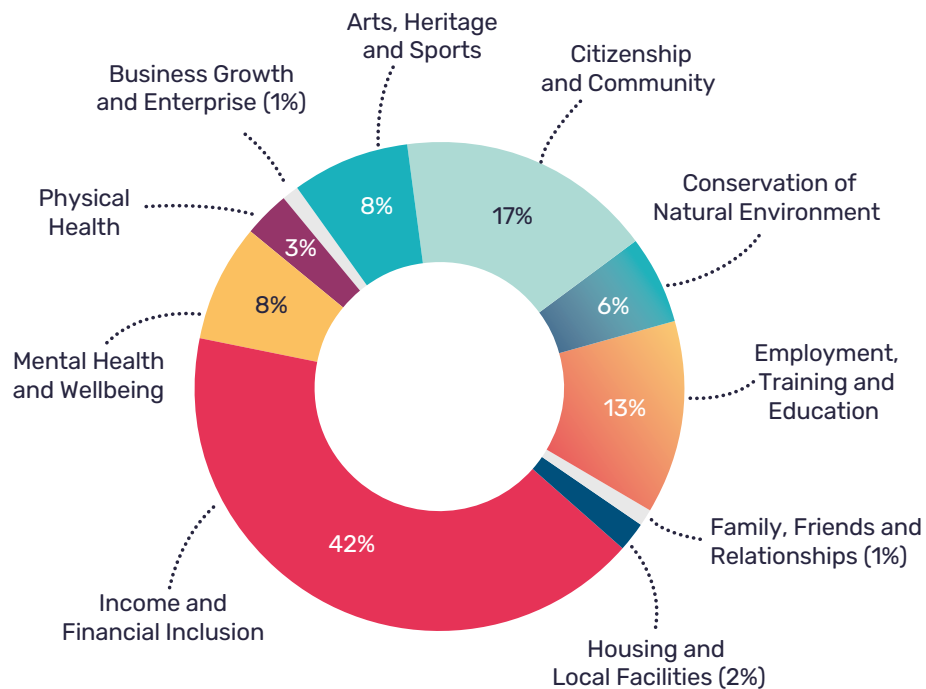
Impact Insights April 2024 - March 2025

6.1 million

people have been reached through our investees in Scotland, across the UK and further afield.

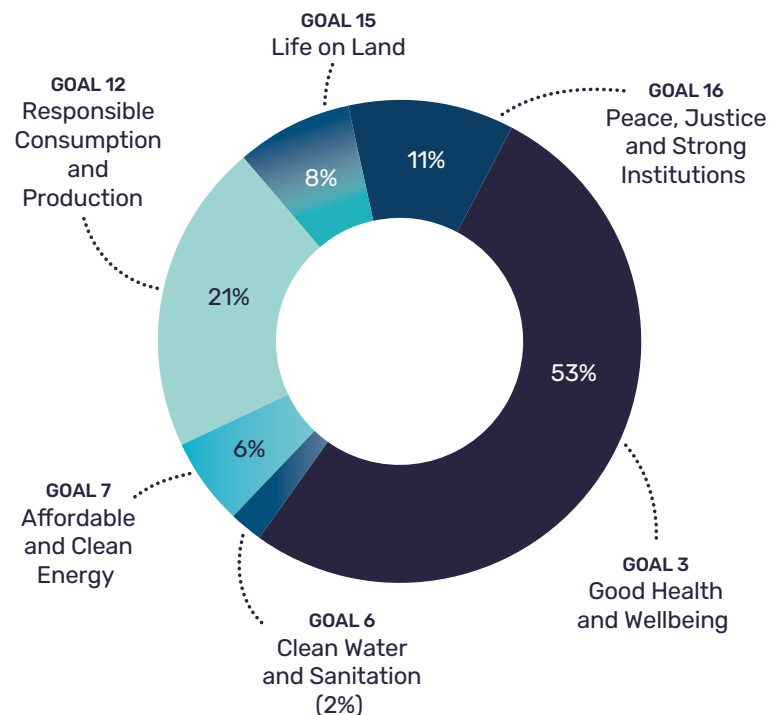
SIS investments have contributed to the sustainability of at least **6,396** full-time equivalent jobs across our portfolio. This reflects the continued strength of our investees, and the role our funding plays in supporting stable employment and economic resilience in communities across Scotland.

100% of social businesses with SIS debt funding benefit people and/or places, delivering these important outcomes for beneficiaries and customers:



Percentages based on total active loan investments in the year of £46.4 million.

Impact-led businesses with SIS Ventures equity investment are creating impact for underserved people and places:



Percentages based on total active equity investments in the year of £7.7 million.

Impact Insights April 2024 - March 2025

SIS invests in people and places, tackling inequality, promoting geographic inclusivity and supporting community-led transformation:

36%

of investees are based in areas within the 35% most deprived in Scotland, helping to channel resources into communities with potential for significant social and economic impact.*

31%

of investees operate in rural regions or on islands, reaching remote and underserved communities.

A wide range of initiatives deliver tangible outcomes, for people and places:

20

income and financial inclusion initiatives enabled - improving financial access and strengthening local economies.

19

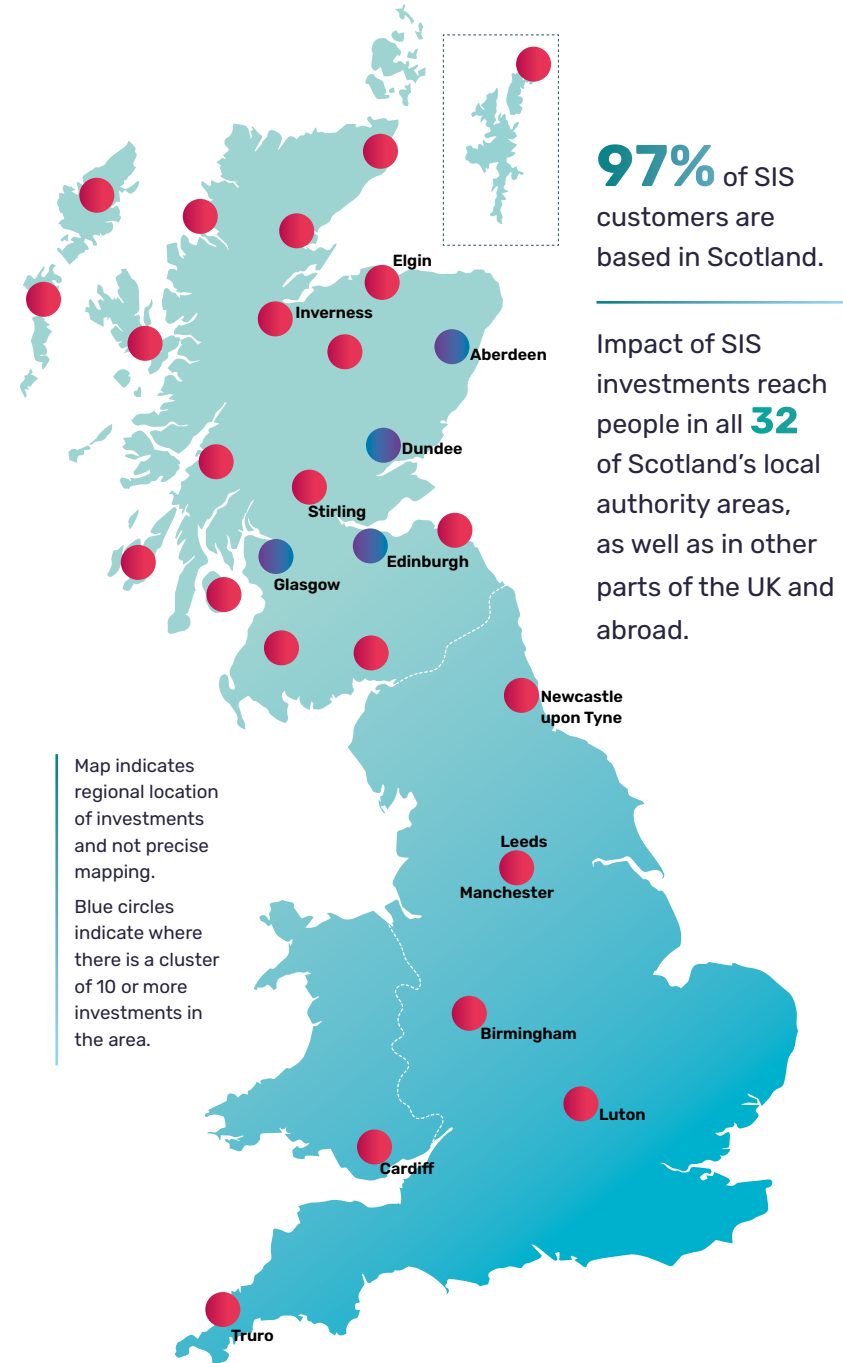
environmental sustainability initiatives advanced - including renewable energy and conservation efforts that boost resilience and protect nature.

12

housing and community infrastructure projects contributed to - including affordable homes, driving local renewal and transformation.

39

employment, training and education initiatives supported - promoting and building personal, household and community economic stability.



97% of SIS customers are based in Scotland.

Impact of SIS investments reach people in all **32** of Scotland's local authority areas, as well as in other parts of the UK and abroad.

*These figures represent 90% of all active investees in the year, operating in Scotland for whom postcodes could be matched with Scottish Indices of Multiple Deprivation datazones.

CASE STUDY

Community Circus Paisley

Community Circus Paisley (CCP) was founded in 2021, aiming to provide a permanent, community-owned home for the Scottish circus community, including a circus school and a development and performance venue.

CCP believes in an Asset Based Community Development approach which puts their community members at the heart of everything they do - focusing on what's strong, rather than what's wrong.

Their mission is to provide access to space and powerful tools for self-empowerment and expression, including world-class training in circus arts.

SIS Engagement	Investment and Ambitions Programme
Purpose	Property purchase and installation of full-scale flying trapeze equipment.
Outcomes	<p>Community Circus Paisley opens its doors, welcoming the local and circus communities.</p> <p>Funded places for young people and adults from the Ferguslie Park community.</p> <p>Outreach for people with dementia and additional support needs services in schools.</p> <p>Professional training using Scotland's only full-scale flying trapeze equipment.</p>



Click to learn more about
Community Circus Paisley



Shirley Alexander, Co-founder

“The funding has been instrumental because it allowed us to buy this building, and without it, we would not have any of this at all. It’s not just the funding, but actually all the support we’ve had from SIS. It’s been incredible.”

Shirley Alexander, Co-founder

CASE STUDY

Go! Youth Trust

Since its founding in 2013, Go! Youth Trust (GYT) has been at the heart of empowering young people aged 10 to 25 across Falkirk and Central Scotland. With a passionate team of 14 staff and over 70 dedicated volunteers, GYT delivers life-changing support to those facing significant barriers to opportunity.

GYT has positioned itself as a catalyst for change, operating in a region where 15% of residents live in areas identified as having high potential for economic growth and social transformation. In 2023 alone, the charity supported over 700 young people. At the core of their mission is a simple but powerful belief: every young person deserves the opportunity to thrive.

SIS Engagement	Investment
Purpose	Purchase and develop a dedicated youth facility, expanding its reach and creating a sustainable base for future impact.
Outcomes	<p>More space for youth programmes.</p> <p>Stronger partnerships with health and education services.</p> <p>New income-generating opportunities and reduced venue hire costs.</p>



“Thanks to SIS, we now have a permanent home where young people can feel safe, seen, and supported.”

Mark Wood, Head of Operations

CASE STUDY

Strathdearn Community Developments

Strathdearn's vision is for sustainable growth, achieved through the advancement of community development: providing employment opportunities and supporting locally owned community facilities and businesses, including affordable homes, a shop, and a café.

This vision is delivered across rural regeneration, health, youth and wellbeing, community-owned buildings, and the stewardship of natural assets, including community-owned and managed woodland.

SIS Engagement	Investment
Purpose	Build of six affordable rental homes specifically for families and retirees.
Impact	<p>Supports a rural community, responding to local housing need.</p> <p>Boosts local infrastructure and the economy.</p> <p>Addresses housing shortages in the local area.</p> <p>Homes are retained under community ownership for affordability and long-term stability.</p> <p>Supports local employment, personal and community wealth, and keeps communities connected.</p>



“The affordable housing project is a vital step in sustaining our small community, the local primary school and locally owned assets, such as the newly acquired woodland. It has always been a great place to live and work, but with new facilities, there is even more to support a thriving community.”

Graeme Ferguson, Chair

CASE STUDY

Facility for Investment Ready Nature in Scotland

SIS joined forces with NatureScot and The National Lottery Heritage Fund to deliver this programme, which aims to unlock opportunities for nature-based projects involved in the Facility for Investment Ready Nature in Scotland (FIRNS) scheme, the Investment Ready Nature in Scotland (IRNS) and Riverwoods Investment Readiness Pioneers.

SIS Engagement	Market Building Programme
Purpose	Preparing organisations to meet the demand for place-based, community-led projects that put people and nature first, as demand in nature-based capital markets grows.
Outcomes	<p>A Nature in Scotland community of practice convened.</p> <p>Participating groups developed a mix of sustainable business models, impact strategies, and funding propositions that reflect their values and ambitions.</p> <p>Professional relationships and networks strengthened across multiple stakeholder groups.</p> <p>Collaborations influence future policy and sector development.</p>



Click to learn more about
The FIRNS Gathering



“The FIRNS Community of Practice shows how collaboration across sectors can help unlock new forms of finance to tackle the nature and climate crises. The energy and ambition is inspiring and shows the power of community-led innovation when backed with the right support and investment.”

Kieran Daly (he/ him), SIS Head of Market Building

Inclusive Economic Growth

Scotland is home to 6,100 social enterprises, which contribute significantly to the national economy. The sector supports around 90,000 full-time equivalent jobs and generates an estimated £2.89 billion in Gross Value Added (GVA)*.

SIS works with founders, leaders, boards, executive teams, and a strong network of investors and like-minded partners to develop and grow the sector and strengthen its role in Scotland's economy.

Financially powering growth and resilience of this economically and socially important sector, SIS has raised, and invested, £167 million into 570 social enterprises over the last 25 years.

Beyond investment, SIS supports and bolsters leaders through executive development programmes, so that the people at the heart of this work are supported to deliver what's needed for Scotland's communities.

In this section read more about:

- Inclusive Economic Growth Impact Insights
- Indigo Childcare Group
- Community Investment Enterprise Fund
- SIS Ventures
- MiAlgae
- Ambitions Programme

*All data in this paragraph is from the **Social Enterprise Census 2024**

Impact Insights April 2024 - March 2025

£52,490,393

active loans and investments
in **216** social enterprises

£13,929,811

loan funding drawn providing
growth and sustainability capital

956

full-time equivalent jobs
are expected to be created
or sustained through **new investments** made this year.

Investments made support

20

new product and service ideas,
or pioneering solutions

326

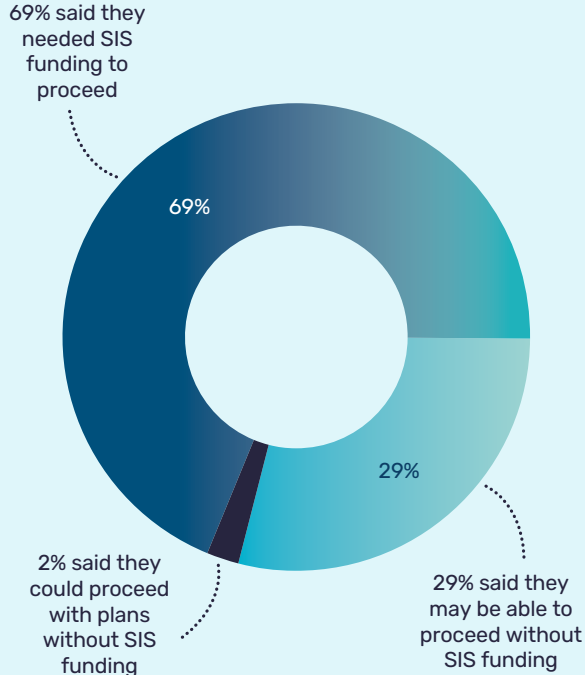
social enterprise leaders
participated in growth focused
training events

14

growth and resilience
training programmes
delivered

The role of SIS investment in growing and sustaining social businesses

We asked those applying for SIS investment if their impact plans could proceed without funding from SIS:



*Based on responses from 131 active investees in the year

Those who said they *may* be able to proceed also indicated that projects could experience significant delay, be scaled back or face uncertainty without SIS funding.

CASE STUDY

Indigo Childcare Group

Indigo Childcare Group is a dynamic social enterprise dedicated to providing high-quality early years and childcare services for children aged six weeks to 16 years. With a values-driven approach and an accessible pricing model, Indigo ensures that even the most vulnerable families in their communities receive the support they need.

Indigo recently expanded its capacity, reaching an additional 120 families beyond the 500 they were already supporting. Every profit generated is reinvested into services, staff development and training – strengthening underserved communities.

SIS Engagement	Investment and Business Associate Programme
Purpose	Purchase of commercial childcare provision, increasing capacity and impact.
Outcomes	<p>Quality employment and career opportunities created and sustained for local communities.</p> <p>Increased capacity keeps rates affordable for 500 families and continues to provide quality holistic support, helping parents prepare for and secure jobs.</p> <p>Strengthens the Group’s financial model and helps manage rising service delivery costs.</p> <p>Creates and maintains real living wage jobs with professional development pathways.</p> <p>Adds capacity to Scotland’s essential economic childcare infrastructure so more parents can work or take part in training and education.</p>



Click to learn more about Indigo Childcare Group



“The SIS loan has been absolutely critical. We wouldn’t have been able to achieve this level of growth, or reach the number of families we have, without it.”

Jacqueline Lamb, CEO

FUND FOCUS

Community Investment Enterprise Fund

The Community Investment Enterprise Fund (CIEF) is a £72 million investment initiative aimed at supporting micro, small and medium-sized businesses in the most deprived areas across England and Wales. SIS played a leading role in bringing together Lloyds Bank, Better Society Capital and, more latterly, Triodos, alongside four CDFIs (BCRS Business Loans, Business Enterprise Fund, Finance For Enterprise and SWIG Finance) to create the CIEF, providing capital for around 900 small businesses and supporting around 11,500 jobs. SIS is currently developing a similar fund for Scotland and aiming for a 2026 launch date.



Turkish restaurant brand Longa expanded to its third site, in Cardiff city centre, with co-investment from the Community Investment Enterprise Fund

[▶ Click to learn more](#)

Highlights

£28.3M

deployed to micro, small and medium-sized enterprises

284 loans made, creating **1,500** new jobs

24%

of the businesses invested in are led by women

19%

of the businesses invested in are led by global majority leaders

[▶ Click to learn more about the Community Investment Enterprise Fund](#)



SIS Ventures



Formed in 2018, SIS Ventures is part of the Social Investment Scotland group and is authorised by the Financial Conduct Authority. In 2024-25 SIS Ventures investment reached £7.7 million invested in 16 Scottish companies.

All investments aim to progress the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The SDGs were adopted by the United Nations in 2015 as a universal call to action to end poverty, protect the planet, and ensure that by 2030 all people enjoy peace and prosperity.

Highlights

£7.7M

equity investment

16

companies

214

jobs created in Scotland since
SIS Ventures investment

372

jobs created globally

50%

of investee companies are founded
or co-founded by women

56%

of investee companies are founded or
co-founded by individuals under 30

100%

of investee companies pay at least
Scotland's Real Living Wage

25%

of investee companies are founded
or co-founded by people of colour or
minoritised ethnic heritage

25%

of investee companies are founded
or co-founded by individuals over 50

100%

take action to reduce the environmental
impact of their business

Data on this page reflects the position as of July 2025.

For now, SIS Ventures is not raising or making any new investments and is focused on supporting our existing portfolio of companies.

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CASE STUDY

MiAlgae

MiAlgae applies leading advances in science and technology to improve food security and reduce the impact of humanity on the planet, all using the power of biotechnology. MiAlgae aims to eliminate reliance on wild-caught fish as a source of Omega-3 by harnessing the potential of microalgae as a sustainable and rich alternative source. They do this through their zero-waste, circular economy solution, recycling co-products from food and drink production to grow Omega-3-rich microalgae.

Omega-3 oils, essential to animal and human health, are currently produced by extracting the oil from billions of fish. Approximately 90% of world stocks are either over-exploited, fully-exploited or depleted*, and farmed salmon have half the quantity of Omega-3 oils than five years ago.

SIS Engagement	Investment
Purpose	Co-investor with specific focus on impact creation and responsible business practices (ESG).
Impact Progress	<p>Earthshot Prize Finalist in the “Revive Our Oceans” category for sustainable Omega-3 production.</p> <p>£20 million funding secured to accelerate operations and scale production, aiming to produce 3,000 tonnes of algae per year.</p> <p>Each tonne of algae produced creates as much Omega-3 as 620,000 fish and saves 40,000 kg of carbon dioxide.</p> <p>Agreement signed with Eden Mill distillery, St Andrews to repurpose whisky effluent.</p>



[Click to learn more about MiAlgae](#)

*More About Unsustainable Fishing - Oceanic Preservation Society (opsociety.org)

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CASE STUDY

Ambitions Programme

Thanks to players of People’s Postcode Lottery, Postcode Innovation Trust, the Ambitions Programme supported impact-led leaders to enhance their skills and scale their business and impact.

With the long-term support of the Postcode Innovation Trust, SIS has led this programme since 2019, with **139** leaders, and their growing social businesses, benefitting.

SIS Engagement	Market Building Programme
Purpose	Developing social entrepreneurs’ and leaders’ strategic thinking, confidence, capability and resilience so they are ready for growth.
Outcomes	<p>Social business leaders develop skills and confidence to step in to strategic leadership roles.</p> <p>Business leaders supported, and challenged, to develop their strategic thinking, stepping from operation perspective to strategic and growth mindset.</p> <p>Social businesses develop income streams and sustainability and become less reliant on grants.</p>

 [Click to learn more about Ambitions Programme](#)



Pheona Matuvo participated in our first Ambitions programme in 2019. Pheona is a co-founder and Strategic Director of Radiant & Brighter CIC, an expert inclusion adviser, co-delivering parts of our Equality, Diversity and Inclusion workshop series.

“Since coming to Ambitions, we now revisit tenders with an Ambitions ‘hat’ noting key content and words from the course as we reflect with a new lens. We are now confident we should have a seat at the table to magnify the voices of others and believe the impacts of this will ripple out to our communities. This highlights the results and power of incredible and skilled facilitation, backed up by a really supportive team. It was awe inspiring and genuine.”

Kate Deacon, Director Media Education CIC, Ambitions Programme 2024



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Contributing to Systems Change

Inspired by the Community Development Finance Institution (CDFI) movement in the United States, Social Investment Scotland was established 25 years ago and has, since then, been part of a growing and developing UK-wide social investment and CDFI sector.

The growing scale, reach and depth of impacts, and future potential, is the result of long-term activity, by committed organisations across the country. With others SIS has been collaboratively building, influencing and advocating to form a strong Scottish social investment marketplace; for the benefit of social businesses and - most importantly - the people and communities they work with.

We continue to build the marketplace for social investment, striving to access capital, reach communities across Scotland and bring new investors into the sector.

In this section read more about:

- The Social Investment Sector
- Financial Inclusion for Scotland
- Reaching Diverse Communities

The Social Investment Sector

Working alongside aligned investors, supporters and customers, SIS has influenced and convened key partners to invest in Scotland’s communities. From humble beginnings, SIS now leads a strong programme of investment, market-building and policy work focused on growing an impact economy.

2000-2005 SIS founded after Scottish Parliament visit to the USA.
 Founder high-street banks each provide finance facilities for initial investments.
 Gains charitable status.
 Launches SIS Futurebuilders for high-risk social enterprise finance.



2016-2020 Affordable Credit Fund launched with Carnegie UK Trust & Scottish Government.
 SIS reaches all 32 Scottish local authorities.
 Launches £17m Social Growth Fund with Big Society Capital, Scottish Government and University of Edinburgh.
 Manages £30m Community Investment Enterprise Facility.
 Impact investing subsidiary SIS Ventures launches.
 Becomes Scotland’s first signatory to the global standard Operating Principles for Impact Management.



2025 Founder high-street banks complete 25 years in partnership and continue to provide finance facilities.
 Ceniarth join SIS investor group supporting the Community Finance Fund.
SIS celebrates 25 years.
£167 million deployed to 570 enterprises.
Impacting 6.1 million people annually.



2006-2015 Manages £30m Scottish Investment Fund.
 Raises £2m via Community Investment Tax Relief.
 Loan balances hit £5m.
 Launches £16m Social Growth Fund with Big Society Capital and Scottish Government.
 Begins partnership with Asda for carrier bag levy donations.

2020-2025 Launches 10-year strategy: Building An Impact Economy.
 Introduces Covid Relief, Just Transition, and Net Zero Transition Funds.
 Launches Financial Inclusion for Scotland national policy group.
 £62m Community Investment Enterprise Fund launches, growing to £72m in 2025.
 SIS Ventures investments reach £7.7m in 16 businesses, aligned with global Sustainable Development Goals.
 Leadership programmes expand and 7th cohort completes Ambitions Executive Development Programme.



Financial Inclusion for Scotland



Financial Inclusion for Scotland (FIFS) is leading a bold, cross-sector effort to address financial exclusion across the country. Led by Social Investment Scotland, the group is driving innovation in policy, funding and practice - exploring solutions from digital tools to school banking pilots - to help ensure everyone in Scotland has access to fair, affordable financial services.

2022 September: **FIFS Launches**

Hosted and funded by SIS, FIFS brings together sector leaders including Scottish Financial Enterprise, StepChange, and Fair4All Finance.

November: First Conference

FIFS hosts its inaugural event with then-Deputy First Minister John Swinney. Urgency, innovation, and lived experience take centre stage.



2024 March: **Fair Banking Act**

FIFS joined a coalition of organisations to call for a Fair Banking Act for all.

May: Strategy Published

FIFS launches the 2024–2026 strategy calling for £20m from dormant assets to fund inclusive finance and tech solutions.

May: Funding Campaign Launched

FIFS urges the Scottish Government to allocate dormant assets to boost affordable credit and community lending.



2023 March: **Strategy Work Begins**

Insight sessions kick off with credit unions, advice services, and lenders to shape Scotland’s first co-produced Financial Inclusion Strategy.

November: New Leadership Joins

Sector expert Sharon MacPherson joins as an Associate to lead strategy development and drive delivery.

2025 March: **Progress Report Delivered**

At the Scottish Parliament, FIFS showcases key wins: a national dashboard, school banking pilot, FCA influence, and stronger policy ties.



Reaching Diverse Communities

It's as important as ever, if not more so, to drive change so that social investment and support reach under-invested people and communities. Lived-experience leaders have been progressing this agenda in Scotland for many years, with SIS more intentionally playing a part since 2020.



Ellis (they/ them) and Lou Beardsmore (she/ her), founders of Proud Futures, are inclusion and leadership experts working alongside SIS.

Where we are

Social investment and related services do not reach marginalised communities and people.

The Access Report published in 2024 helps us understand what needs to change.

Continued long-term commitment, actions and funding are needed to ensure progress in social investment, social enterprise and wider business support circles.

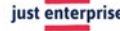
Some of the things we're collectively doing

- Exploring and co-designing solutions with lived-experience leaders. With Dechomai and Firstport, in 2024, published The Access Report.
- Co-delivering Funding Socials in target locations.
- Expanding our networks and reach via well-connected partner organisations.
- Delivering Equality, Diversity and Inclusion training for social enterprise leaders across Scotland.
- Funding early work by diversity-focused Social Enterprise Networks. Pathways Forward Pledge Partner.
- Sponsoring the LGBTQ+ leadership conference 2024 and 2025.
- Member of the Future Assets Programme.
- Sponsoring Ethnic Minority Talent Summit 2025.
- Refining our flexible working practices.

Where we need to be

Across Scotland, social investment and related services reach all the people and communities that could benefit.

[Click to learn more about Funding Socials](#)



What's next?

In today's climate of rising costs and growing demand for services, we recognise the pressure facing social enterprises, charities, and the communities they serve. That's why our role - and our mission - feels more important than ever.

Our updated 2025–2027 action plan reaffirms our commitment to supporting these organisations in building a fairer, more inclusive Scotland:

1

Strengthening our Market-Building Programme.

As the economic landscape evolves, strong networks and practical support are crucial. We are expanding our support for social enterprise leaders, delivering more Funding Socials across Scotland and deepening engagement through our SIS Associate to help build capacity and resilience when it's needed most.

2

Increasing Investment for Communities.

We are maximising available investment through existing and new funds, unlocking more flexible finance options to help organisations manage current challenges while delivering local impact.

3

Championing Access to Finance.

Fair, affordable finance is vital to social progress. We'll continue supporting the Financial Inclusion for Scotland group and aim to establish a Community Capital Fund—based on our success managing the Community Investment Enterprise Fund in England and Wales. This would bring much-needed investment to underserved communities, creating jobs and boosting local economies.

4

Driving Innovation in Key Areas

We're prioritising innovation in two critical areas:

Social enterprise-led childcare to support families, to provide essential economic infrastructure enabling parents to work, and to create local, quality, fair work jobs.

Nature-based financing to foster climate resilience and community wellbeing.

As we celebrate 25 years of impact, we remain focused on the future, and on how much more we can achieve together.

Whether you're an investor, a social entrepreneur, or a sector leader, we invite you to be part of what comes next.

Funds Overview

April 2024 - March 2025

Since 2001, SIS has invested £167 million in 570 social enterprises.

As we continue to grow and develop the range of funds, products, and support that SIS offers, our focus remains constant: providing excellent service and tailored solutions to our customers.

Our tailored loans range from £25,001 to £875,000, with the flexibility to consider smaller amounts based on specific requirements.

Open Funds

We create tailored funding packages to suit individual customers, accessing finance from a range of active funds:

- **Community Investment Enterprise Fund**
Phase 2 of CIEF is a £62 million investment initiative supporting small businesses in the most deprived areas across England and Wales. Funded by Lloyds Bank, Better Society Capital alongside Community Development Finance Initiatives (CDFIs) BCRS Business Loans, Business Enterprise Fund and Finance For Enterprise.
- **Community Sustainability Fund**
The Community Sustainability Fund (CSF) is an umbrella fund name for the Net Zero Transition Fund, the Resilience and Recovery Fund and the Scottish Community Lenders Investment Fund. Given the funds' shared purpose to increase sustainability of Scotland's social enterprises, they are combined under the umbrella CSF fund name.
- **Scottish Social Growth Fund**
Phase 2 of SGF, is a £13 million partnership between the Scottish Government, Better Society Capital, and University of Edinburgh, providing loans from £100,000 to £1.3 million. Phase 3 opened in early 2025 with investment from the Scottish Government.

- **SIS Community Finance**

Our core loan fund provides flexible loans from £25,001 to £375,000 and includes our bridging loan product.

- **SIS Ventures**

Launched in 2018, SIS Ventures invests in impactful enterprises to help address society's greatest challenges and needs.

Closed or fully invested funds

We manage ongoing repayments and servicing of the following funds:

- **Affordable Credit Fund**

With investment from Carnegie UK Trust and the Scottish Government, this £2 million fund helps not-for-profit lenders provide affordable credit to low-income borrowers.

- **Asda Community Capital**

This fund was designed to support early-stage social enterprises looking to access social investment for the first time.

- **Community Investment Enterprise Facility (Phase 1)**

Funded by Better Society Capital, this £30 million facility invests in social lenders (Community Development Financial Institutions) across the UK to help small and micro businesses create positive impact.

- **Social Enterprise Just Transition Fund**

The Social Enterprise Just Transition Fund supports charities and social enterprises in Aberdeen City, Aberdeenshire and Moray, delivering Just Transition outcomes as part of Scotland's journey to net zero.

- **Scottish Investment Fund**

This Scottish-Government-backed, £31.8 million fund has invested in 67 organisations in a range of sectors across Scotland.

- **Social Growth Fund (SGF)**

A £16 million partnership between the Scottish Government and Better Society Capital, SGF provided loans from £10,000 to £1.6 million.

- **Third Sector Resilience Fund**

Launched in response to implications of Covid-19, this Scottish-Government-backed fund provided loans to third sector organisations and social enterprises to respond to pandemic-related challenges. In a second phase of TSRF, this fund also provided Adapt and Thrive loans.

Open and closed funds reflect open and closed funds for the report timeframe (April 2024 to March 2025). Please contact SIS for details of current fund availability.

Programmes, Events and Training Overview

We work with funders and partners to support growth across the social enterprise sector:

Ambitions Programme

This series of leadership masterclasses, made possible by supporters of the People's Postcode Lottery, encouraged ambitious leaders in achieving their plans to scale their impact. Each masterclass is practical and inspiring, using a mix of keynote speakers, taught content, and one-to-one coaching and support.

Associate Business Support Programme

SIS Associates offer flexible business support to progress organisational growth and development. This was an opportunity for social enterprise leaders and their boards to access practical support to improve operations, systems, strategies, and/or financial projections for growth.

Culture Xcelerator

Bringing expert advice and SIS Associates to actively help meet challenges creative organisations face.

Equality, Diversity and Inclusion

A programme to build awareness, confidence, knowledge, curiosity and peer support in Equality, Diversity and Inclusion practice.

Facility for Investment Readiness in Nature Scotland

Community of practice for nature-based projects involved in the Facility for Investment Ready Nature in Scotland (FIRNS) scheme.

Funding Socials

An inspiring in-person event series designed for charity and social enterprise leaders looking for fresh ideas and connections to help boost income generation.

Impact in Practice

Developing approaches and systems for impact measurement, delivery and management.

“Our SIS Associate provided tailored one-to-one support, which was invaluable during a period of significant change. She provided honest feedback, challenged us to be our best, and helped us develop a stronger board, improve our fundraising practices, and enhance our leadership capabilities.”

*Kim McAleese, Director, Edinburgh Art Festival -
CultureXcelerator programme member 2024*

Impact Leaders who Coach

Sector leaders develop coaching skills which they can bring to their organisations and others in the sector.

Investment Pathways

An information session delivered by investment specialists looking at the what, who and why of social investment.

Investment Readiness

Building understanding of the tools, process and support to become social investment ready.

Purchase Power

In partnership with Social Enterprise Scotland, this is an opportunity for enterprises with products, services and experiences to connect with corporates seeking to develop their social and environmental impact.

Programmes, events and training listings reflect those taking place over the report timeframe (April 2024 to March 2025). Please see <https://www.socialinvestmentscotland.com/support/upcoming-events-and-webinars/> for current events.





A Charity and Social Enterprise

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Signatory to:



Operating Principles for
Impact Management

