



# Market Trends Report

A geographical focus research

June 2026



# **June 2026 Report Highlights**

Total Funding Raised

## \$515M

+ 281.4% MoM ↑

Startups Funded

## 48

+ 29.7% MoM ↑

Total raised in 2026

## \$1.44B

- 6% vs H1 2025 ↓

## Top 3 Deals



\$270M | Equity | Mobility



\$100M | Series E | Fintech



\$50M | Equity | Fintech

## Key Macro Event

The June 17 Iran-Gulf War ceasefire pushed oil prices down, easing inflation in Egypt, Kenya, and other African markets. Meanwhile, Fed Chair Kevin Warsh signals a hawkish hold, while South Africa anticipates a likely July rate hike.

## Exit Activity

With 25 exits announced in H1 2026, it was a busy half-year for African tech M&A on record, featuring Flutterwave's acquisition of Mono

**3 Deals makeup 81.5% of all Capital funding in June 2026.**

# **Venture Funding Overview**

Investments in African Tech

June 2026 delivered the strongest single month of African startup funding since July 2025 – and one of the sharpest month-on-month reversals in the ecosystem's recent history.

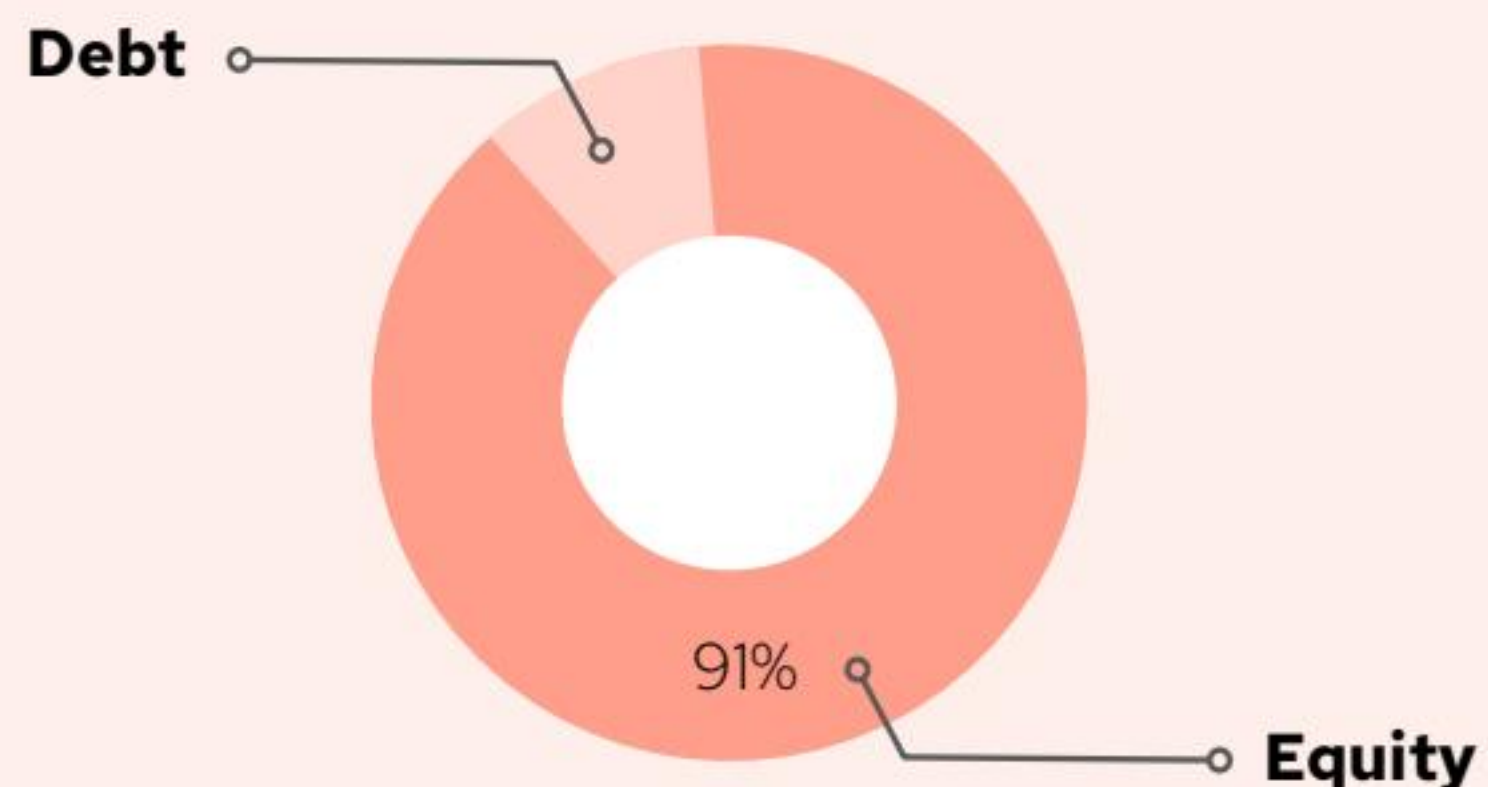
African startups raised **\$515 million across 48 disclosed deals**, more than tripling (+281.4%) May's \$135 million and beating June 2025's \$365 million by 41.4%. The rebound was overwhelmingly equity-led: approximately \$468 million, or 91% of June's total, came through equity financing – the strongest single month for equity since March 2022, and nearly three times the trailing 12-month monthly equity average of roughly \$169 million.

This marks a dramatic, and likely temporary, reversal of the near-even debt-equity split that had defined most of 2026 to that point.



# Debt vs Equity Mix

June witnessed the strongest equity month since March 2022.



- June witnessed the strongest equity month since March 2022, capturing \$468 million. This marks a sharp reversal from May, which sat in near-parity (\$65M equity vs. \$68M debt and \$2M grants).
- While June was a massive equity outlier largely driven by Spiro, the structural story is balanced. The broader H1 YTD landscape remains debt-inclusive, split roughly two-thirds equity to one-third debt.

**2:1** Equity to debt ratio

# Mega-Deals & Notable Rounds

\$515M raised in June 2026; 3 startups accounted for approximately 81.5% of the total capital raised.

## Beninese E-Mobility Surge

Pan-African electric mobility firm **Spiro** raised an exceptional **\$270 million** in June alone.

The funding consists of a massive **\$215 million equity round** on June 1, backed by a prominent coalition: Impact Fund Denmark, Equitane, FEDA, Nithio, Afreximbank, and Africa Go Green Fund.

This was bolstered by a **\$55 million top-up** from Chinese investor **NewTrails Capital**, accelerating Beninese ecosystem momentum.



# Mega-Deals & Notable Rounds

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## Flutterwave Series E

Stablecoins & Ripple Integration

Flutterwave raised a **\$100M Series E round** valued at \$3.2B. This confirms its absolute market leadership and this mega-deal signals robust capital availability for scaled payment infrastructure across major continental tech corridors.

SERIES E RAISE

**\$100M**

VALUATION

**\$3.2B**

# Mega-Deals & Notable Rounds

\$515M raised in June 2026; 3 startups accounted for approximately 81.5% of the total capital raised.

## Egyptian Giant Activity

MNT-Halan & Blnk Hybrid Rounds

**mnt | halan** | **\$50M**

Led by Al Ahly Capital, the investment arm of the National Bank of Egypt. Transaction pushes corporate valuation to \$1.4B

**blnk** | **\$37M**

Combines \$12.5M in Series A equity with \$24.6M in structured debt. Leverages diverse financing models to scale digital consumer lending products.



H1 2026

# Funding Snapshot in our Markets



Egypt

**\$327M**



Nigeria

**\$254M**



Kenya

**\$126M**



South Africa

**\$83M**

Others

**\$610M**

58% of funding was  
invested in start-ups  
in one of the big 4

# Deal Volume & Geographic Reach

H1 2026's geographic story was dominated by Benin's emergence as a top-tier funding destination – a result attributable almost entirely to Spiro

| Country      | Disclosed Total | Notes                                                                                                                                                                                |
|--------------|-----------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Benin        | \$327 million   | Almost entirely attributable to Spiro's four 2026 rounds; an unprecedented result for a market with no prior history as a major funding destination                                  |
| Egypt        | \$327 million   | Matched by Benin for the first time in recent memory; anchored by MNT-Halan, Blnk and earlier-year deals (ValU, Breakfast)                                                           |
| Nigeria      | \$254 million   | Remains the highest-deal-count market but continues to trail on aggregate capital relative to its historical share                                                                   |
| Kenya        | \$126 million   | Clean-energy and climate-tech deal flow continues to anchor Kenya's position, even in a quieter June for the country specifically                                                    |
| South Africa | \$83 million    | Paymentology's earlier \$175M raise and nCino's \$75M DocFox acquisition (recorded as M&A rather than primary funding) both reflect the market's infrastructure/compliance-tech tilt |

## Funding by Sector in H1 2026

**Fintech**  
**\$556M**

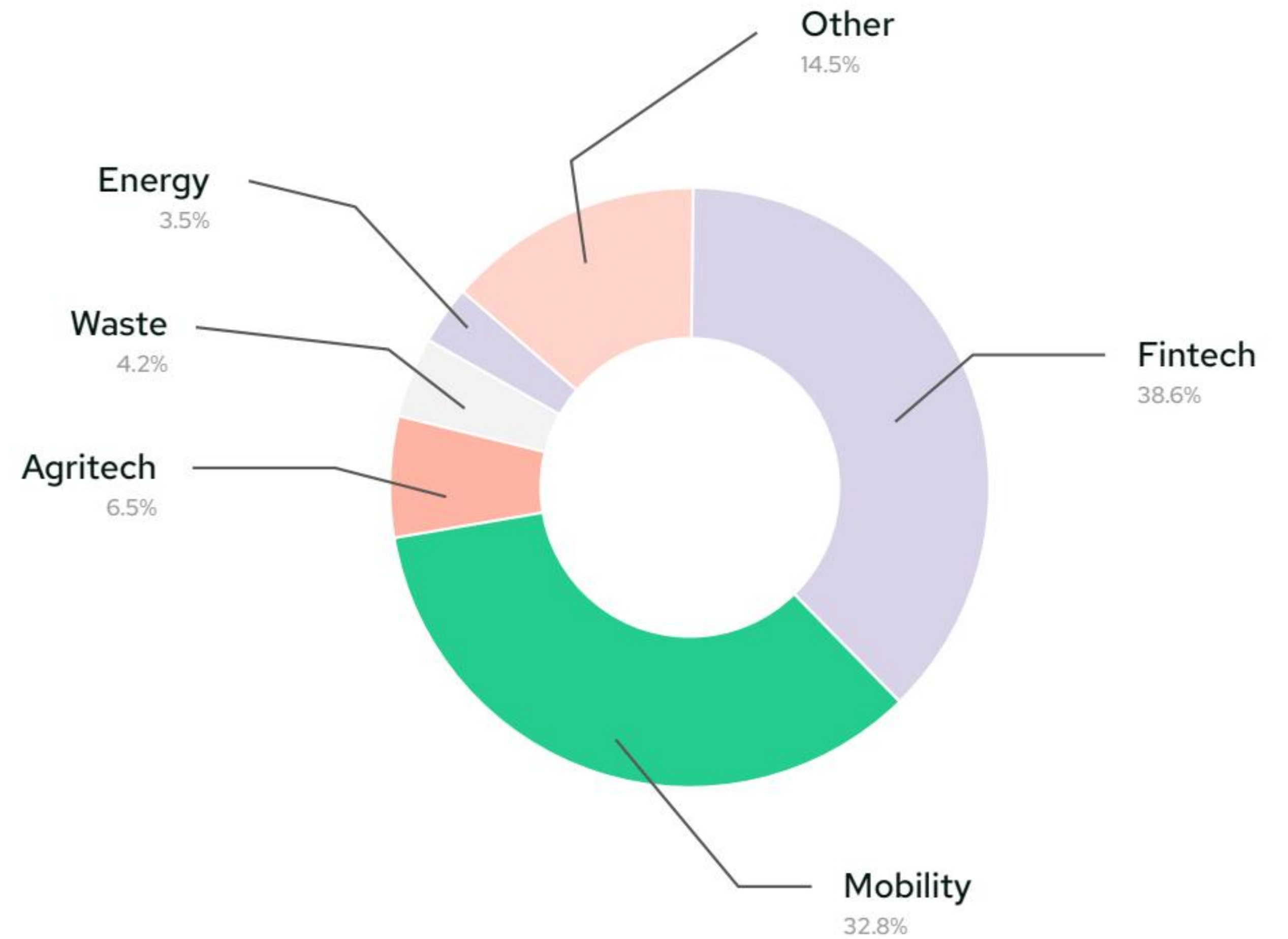
**Mobility**  
**\$472M**

**Agritech**  
**\$93M**

**Waste Mgmt.**  
**\$60M**

**Energy**  
**\$50M**

**Other**  
**\$209M**



## Notable Trends in June 2026

**\$515M**

Invested in 48 startups across Africa

- **Benin's unprecedented emergence:** Spiro's June fundraising makes Benin one of the most significant single-country funding stories of 2026, though the concentration in one company means this diversification signal should be read cautiously rather than as evidence of a broader Beninese startup ecosystem maturing at the same pace.
- **Egyptian fintech continues its hybrid equity-debt pattern:** Blnk's \$37.1 million round (split \$12.5M equity / \$24.6M debt) and MNT-Halan's \$50 million raise (led by Al Ahly Capital, the National Bank of Egypt's investment arm) both continue Egypt's now-established pattern of blending institutional equity with structured debt for proven, revenue-generating lending platforms.
- Nigeria, Kenya, Egypt and South Africa – the traditional 'Big Four' – accounted for approximately 58% of all deal activity in H1 2026, down from roughly 64% a year earlier, according to Techbuild Africa's analysis. This continues a gradual, multi-year trend of geographic diversification, with Morocco, Benin, Côte d'Ivoire, Senegal and Tunisia all cited as emerging or 'secondary' hubs capturing a growing share of investor attention.
- Flutterwave's Series E cements African fintech's stablecoin pivot: Flutterwave's ~\$100 million Series E at a \$3.2 billion valuation, with Ripple's participation and the integration of Ripple's RLUSD stablecoin and the XRP Ledger into Flutterwave's payment rails, is among the most significant single fintech developments of 2026



# **Economic Indicators**

Macroeconomic Situation in Focus Geographies

June 2026's defining macro event was the partial de-escalation of the Iran-Gulf War.

On June 17, US President Donald Trump and Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian signed a memorandum of understanding to end the war and lift the blockades around the Strait of Hormuz, sending Brent crude tumbling from an average of roughly \$102.78 per barrel in May to as low as \$83 per barrel by mid-June.

The relief proved fragile – Iran claimed to have re-closed the strait on June 20 citing continued Israeli strikes in Lebanon, and the US and Iran exchanged fresh strikes on June 27 – but the net effect across most of the month was a meaningful, if partial, easing of the energy-price shock that had driven inflation higher across Africa's focus markets since late February.

That easing showed up clearly in June's inflation data: Kenya and Egypt both recorded improving prints, while Nigeria and Ghana's June inflation trajectories remained more mixed, reflecting the lagged and uneven pass-through of global energy prices into different economies.



May 2026's macro landscape was defined by the lingering effects of the Iran-Gulf War energy shock (which began February 28) and the monetary policy responses that followed.



Egypt

Egypt's inflation rate **eased for the third consecutive month to 14.3% in June** 2026 from 14.6% in May, below market expectations of 15.1%.



Ghana

Ghana's inflation soared to **5.3% in June 2026** from 3.7% in May, reaching its highest level since December 2025.



Kenya

Kenya's inflation rate **eased to 6.4% in June 2026** from 6.7% in the prior month, which was the steepest since January 2024.



Nigeria

Nigeria's annual inflation **eased a little to at 15.91% in June 2026**, compared to May's six-month high of 15.93%, helped by the relative stability of the naira.



Morocco

Morocco's inflation **slowed sharply to 0.3% in June 2026**, slowing for a second consecutive month, down from 1.2% in May.

## Global Context



China

The inflation rate in China **eased to 1.0% in June 2026** from 1.2% in both April and May, slightly below market expectations of 1.1%.



USA

The US annual inflation rate **fell to 3.5% in June 2026**, the first decline in five months, compared to 4.2% in May and below forecasts of 3.8%.

# Interest Rates



## Global Context

### USA \*

The Fed left the federal funds rate unchanged at the 3.5%-3.75% target range in March 2026

### China

China's rate held steady at 3.0% for an 13th consecutive month in June 2026.

\*(No new data reported for June, 2026)

### Egypt

**19% \***

Egypt's central bank held interest rates at 19% in May, the lowest level since July 2023.

### Ghana

**14% \***

Ghana's central bank held its interest rate at 14% in May 2026

### Kenya

**8.75%**

Kenya's central bank held interest rates at 8.75%, after its 10th consecutive rate cut in May, following a similar move in December.

### Morocco

**2.25%\***

Morocco's central bank held interest rate at 2.25% at its June meeting, marking a 5th consecutive decision to hold rates steady.

### Nigeria

**26.5% \***

Nigeria's Central Bank held interest rates at 26.50% in May 2026, following a 50 bps rate hike in February.

# Unemployment Rates



**6% \***

*Unemployment rate dropped to 6% in the first quarter of 2026, down from 6.2% in the previous quarter.*



**13.1% \***

*AfDB estimated Ghana's unemployment rate at 13.1%*



**5.4% \***

*Unemployment at 5.4%; GDP projected to grow 5% in 2025 driven by services and consumption.*



**9.5%**

*Unemployment rates stood at 9.5% in the second quarter of 2026.*



**6.5% \***

*Increased to 6.5% in October 2025, from 4.3% after redefinition (ILO standard).*

\*(No new data reported for June, 2026)

## Global Context



**4.2%**

*unemployment rate dropped to 4.2% in June 2026, down from 4.3% in May and below expectations.*



**5.0%**

*Unemployment rate edged down to 5.0% in June 2026, in line with market expectations.*

# Outlook and Commentary

Conclusion On Research

- June 2026 rescued what had, through May, been shaping up as one of the weaker first halves in Africa's recent startup-funding history. A single exceptional month – \$515 million, 91% equity, powered overwhelmingly by Spiro's \$270 million raise – closed nearly the entire year-on-year gap that had opened up between January and May, leaving H1 2026 just 6% behind H1 2025's total despite 42% fewer disclosed deals.

That combination of headline resilience and underlying fragility is now the defining feature of Africa's 2026 funding story: the ecosystem retains genuine capacity to produce enormous individual transactions, even as the number of companies able to raise any capital at all continues to shrink relative to 2025 and earlier years.

- H1 2026 closed essentially flat year-on-year (\$1.44B vs \$1.42B), demonstrating that the ecosystem retains the capacity to match – not just approach – prior-year funding levels when large transactions align within a single half.

- Domestic and corporate venture capital continues to grow in relative importance: MNT-Halan's raise, led by the National Bank of Egypt's investment arm, and Aruwa Capital's continued backing of Ghana-Nigeria fintech infrastructure (Sika Financial) both reflect a broader 2026 pattern in which local and regional capital sources are playing a larger role relative to the historically dominant Western VC funds, whose African deal participation has continued to decline.

- Geographic diversification is real but should be read cautiously: While the Big Four's share of H1 2026 deal activity fell to roughly 58% from 64% a year earlier, much of the apparent diversification (particularly Benin's emergence) is attributable to a single company rather than a broad-based deepening of venture activity across new markets – a distinction investors and policymakers should keep in mind when assessing the durability of the trend.

