

## **SF MARKETS ANNOUNCES THE LAUNCH OF THE SFNG EQUITY INDEX SERIES**

**September 1<sup>st</sup>, 2015** - SF Markets, an index provider that focuses on providing transparent and rules-based indices for the Sub-Saharan African region announces the launch of the Scottfree Nigerian Equity Index Series which has been designed to provide an independent insight into the performance of the Nigerian Equity Market.

“Nigeria is now the largest economy in Africa and we are very pleased to introduce the SFNG Index Series which will serve as a neutral reference for both local and foreign investors to assess the economic development of the Nigerian economy or certain segments of it,” said Adebusoye Sotinwa, COO of SF Markets.

The core index family is made up of the SFNG Blue-Chip 30 Index, the SFNG Mid Cap 40 Index, the SFNG Small Cap Index, the SFNG Micro Cap Index, the SFNG Broad Share Index and the SFNG Total Share Index. All 6 indices together represent approximately 99.5% of the full market capitalization of all ordinary securities publicly quoted in Nigeria.

The indices adopt an actual free float market capitalization indexing system and are calculated in real-time and denominated in Naira (NGN), US Dollars and Euros for price, gross and net return versions. The index series is reviewed semi-annually in March and September. Daily index history data is available from the 21<sup>st</sup> of March 2005.

### **Usage**

**Benchmarking and Active Fund Management:** With the size of the investment industry in Nigeria and millions of the local population entrusting their money to it, it is of critical importance that there exists a way of evaluating the proper performance of asset managers. Our transparent methodology and rules-based indices and data can act as benchmarks for measuring how a manager who holds and manages a portfolio has performed relative to the financial market. With global best practices applied to our indices, we believe their use will be beneficial to investors which will give them an idea of the likely risk and performance features of a fund or portfolio.

**Index Tracking and Passive Fund Management:** If an organization subscribes to the Efficient Market Hypothesis (EMH) and is interested in launching a passive fund, ETF etc. then the SFNG Equity Index Series will provide a tool/means to efficiently track performance with minimal tracking error.

**Financial News, Research and a Market Gauge:** As the index series and data caters for 99.5% of the entire Nigerian equity market, they can be used as a barometer for how the Nigerian financial market and the wider economy in general is doing. Tracking the performance of the indices can be used as an indication of the economic conditions of the country.

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**About SF Markets**

SF Markets designs and manages a number of innovative benchmark and tradable indices tailored specifically for the Sub-Saharan African region. Our indices provide both local and foreign investors a tool for benchmarking portfolios, performance measurement and attribution, investment analysis, asset allocation, and serve as an underlying for index tracking products as well as structured products.

The company, through experienced management, comprehensive research, first-class technology and alliances with key partners, designs, calculates, manages and distributes over 50 equity and fixed income indices in multiple currencies for the Sub-Saharan African region.

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