

What moved the markets this week?

The image is a complex, multi-layered representation of a stock market display board. It features several overlapping panels, each showing different types of financial data. The most prominent elements include:

- Volume Data:** Multiple columns showing trading volume for various securities, with values ranging from 100,000 to over 600,000.
- Bids and Offers:** Columns displaying the best bid and offer prices for different securities, often accompanied by the spread.
- Price Changes:** Indicators showing whether a security's price has increased (green) or decreased (red), along with the percentage change.
- High and Low:** Columns indicating the daily high and low prices for specific securities.
- Large Green Arrow:** A massive, stylized green arrow pointing upwards, symbolizing a significant increase in the market or a specific security's price.
- Background Graphics:** Faint, stylized line charts and a silhouette of a bull, suggesting a bullish market sentiment.

The overall aesthetic is that of a busy, high-tech financial environment, with a focus on data and upward movement.

Global Updates

The US Bureau of Labour Statistics (BLS) reported that the country's headline inflation rose to 3.50% YoY in June, up from 3.30% in May, while core inflation held steady at 3.70% YoY, indicating that underlying price pressures remain firm. Headline inflation increased by 0.30% MoM, marking the second consecutive monthly uptick, driven largely by higher costs linked to recently imposed import tariffs on selected industrial and consumer goods. The data suggests that tariff pass-through effects are adding to already elevated costs across manufacturing and household spending, complicating the Federal Reserve's path towards policy easing.

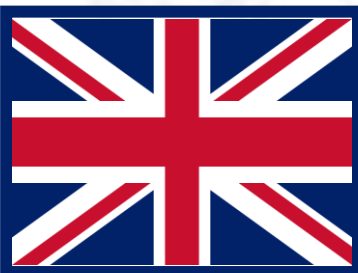


upside inflation risks and anticipation of delayed monetary easing may keep the US dollar firm and global funding conditions relatively tight. For emerging markets, including Nigeria, this could sustain mild pressure on local currencies and limit room for domestic yield compression. Frontier markets may also face higher external borrowing costs in the short term, especially if global risk appetite shifts back toward US fixed income.

We expect the strong US inflation data to sustain a firmer dollar in the near term and keep US Treasury yields supported, delaying the Fed's policy pivot until there is clearer evidence of disinflation.

The UK Office for National Statistics (ONS) reported that headline inflation accelerated to 3.60% YoY in June 2025, up from 3.40% in May, exceeding market expectations and reversing some of the moderation seen earlier this quarter. The monthly inflation rate also rose, from 0.10% in May to 0.30% in June. The unexpected rise was driven by declines in energy and food prices. This development has prompted investors to reassess the timeline for potential monetary easing by the Bank of England, with the likelihood of a near-term rate cut now appearing less certain.

We expect the increased inflationary pressure to delay expectations for a near-term rate cut by the Bank of England, keeping global funding costs marginally tighter in the short term. This may support sterling strength and lift UK yields modestly, sustaining a mild tightening bias in developed market funding flows. For Nigerian investors, this reinforces the need to monitor external rate moves closely, as prolonged high yields abroad could influence capital flows and FX pressures.





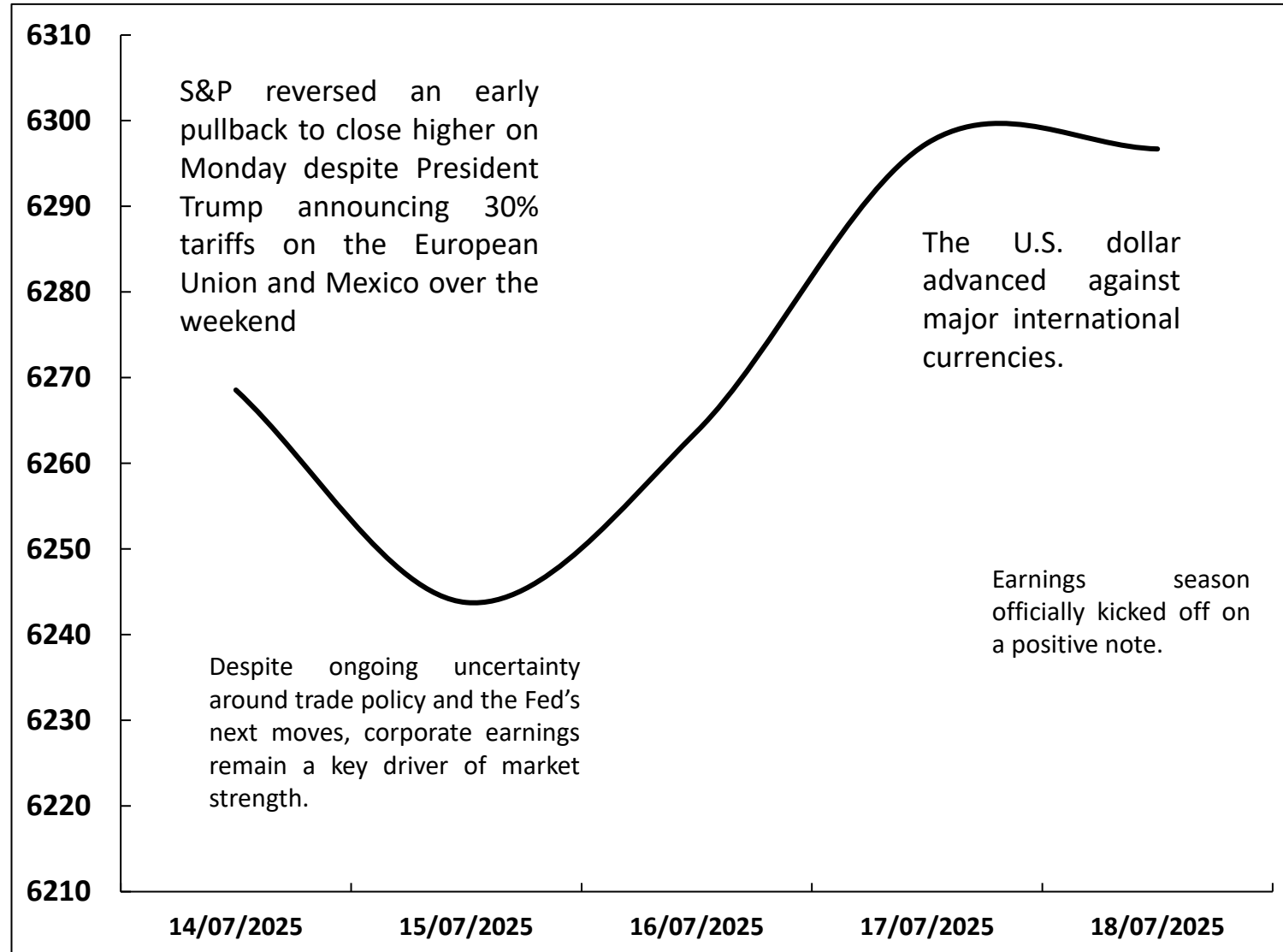
Ghana's headline inflation continued its downward trend, slowing to 13.70% YoY in June 2025, from 16.50% YoY in May, marking its lowest level in over two years. This disinflation, alongside a notable drop in local bond yields by over 250.00bps MoM, reflects improving investor confidence, supported by ongoing IMF-backed reforms and stronger FX reserves. In response to these developments, the Bank of Ghana convened an emergency Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) meeting on 17 July 2025 to review the latest macroeconomic data and market conditions.

However, the Committee deferred any decision on the policy rate at this session, scheduling a full meeting within the next ten days to finalize its stance. While markets had positioned for a possible rate cut at the emergency sitting (which would have marked Ghana's first policy easing in more than two years) the Committee's decision to hold indicates a cautious approach, balancing the goal of supporting economic recovery with the need to guard against renewed currency volatility and external pressures..

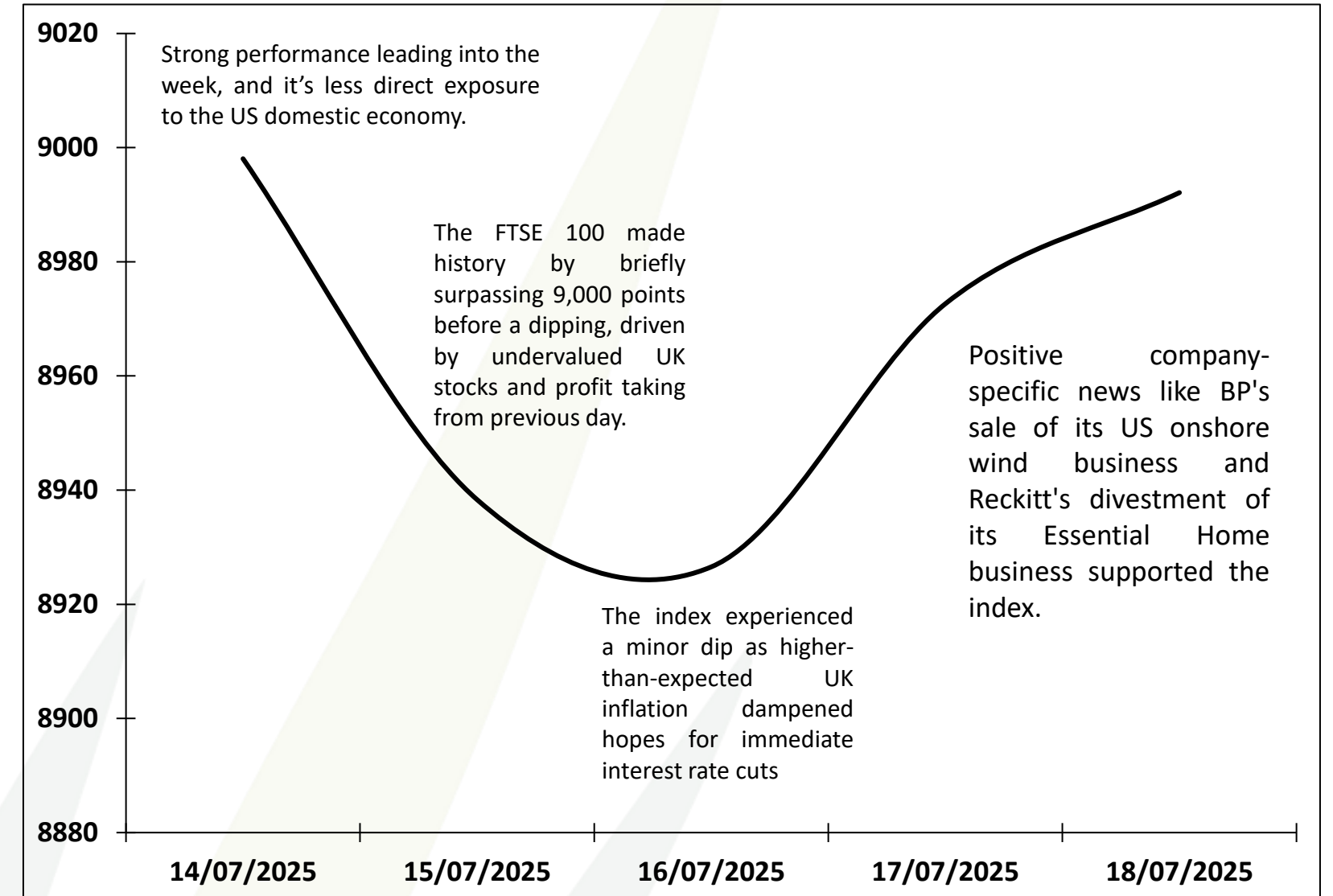
Looking ahead, the sustained disinflation trend and improved funding conditions create scope for the MPC to deliver a measured rate cut when it reconvenes later this month, in line with Ghana's efforts to ease borrowing costs and stimulate growth. Investors will be watching the upcoming full MPC statement for confirmation of a rate adjustment and for signals on how this could shape regional capital flows and carry trade dynamics in West Africa.

Global Equities Market Updates

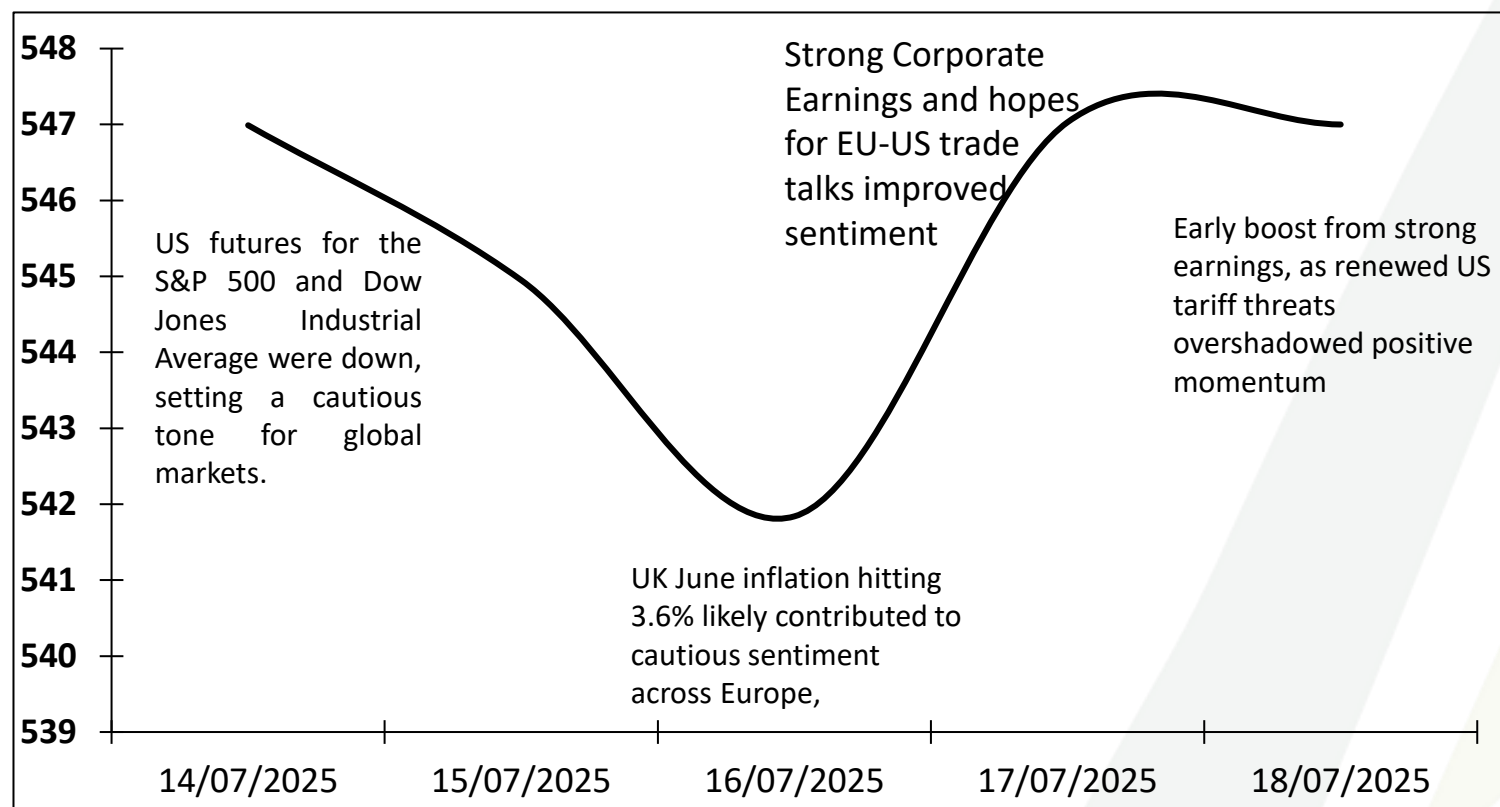
S&P 500 Movement in the Week



FTSE 100 Movement in the Week



STOXX 600 Movement in the Week



Events to look out for next week . . .

- 21st July U.S 3-Month Bill Auction
- 21st July U.S 6-Month Bill Auction
- 22nd July U.S M2 Money Supply (MoM)
- 23rd July German 10-Year Bund Auction
- 23rd July South Korea's Q2 GDP

Domestic Updates

The National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) reported that Nigeria's headline inflation eased to 22.22% YoY in June 2025, from 22.97% YoY in May, marking a modest 0.75% decline. However, monthly price pressures remained firm, with headline, food, and core inflation rising to 1.68% MoM, 3.25% MoM, and 2.46% MoM, respectively (vs 1.53%, 2.19%, and 1.10% in May). Food inflation accelerated to 21.97% YoY in June, up from 21.14%, driven by higher prices of pepper, tomatoes, meat, and plantain flour, highlighting ongoing supply constraints. Core inflation also increased to 22.76% YoY from 22.28%, reflecting rising costs in transport, ICT, and financial services.



Given the YoY disinflation but firm MoM pressures, we expect the MPC to maintain a cautious stance at its next meeting to consolidate recent gains and manage persistent supply-side risks. Headline inflation is likely to stay sticky near current levels in the near term due to seasonal food pressures and structural bottlenecks. A more sustained slowdown will depend on stronger domestic food supply, better distribution, and continued policy discipline.

United Bank for Africa Plc (UBA) has announced plans to issue 3.15bn new ordinary shares through a NGN157bn rights issue, offered to existing shareholders at a pre-determined price. This capital raise is aimed at strengthening UBA's capital base in line with the Central Bank of Nigeria's updated minimum capital requirements for Systemically Important Banks (SIBs).

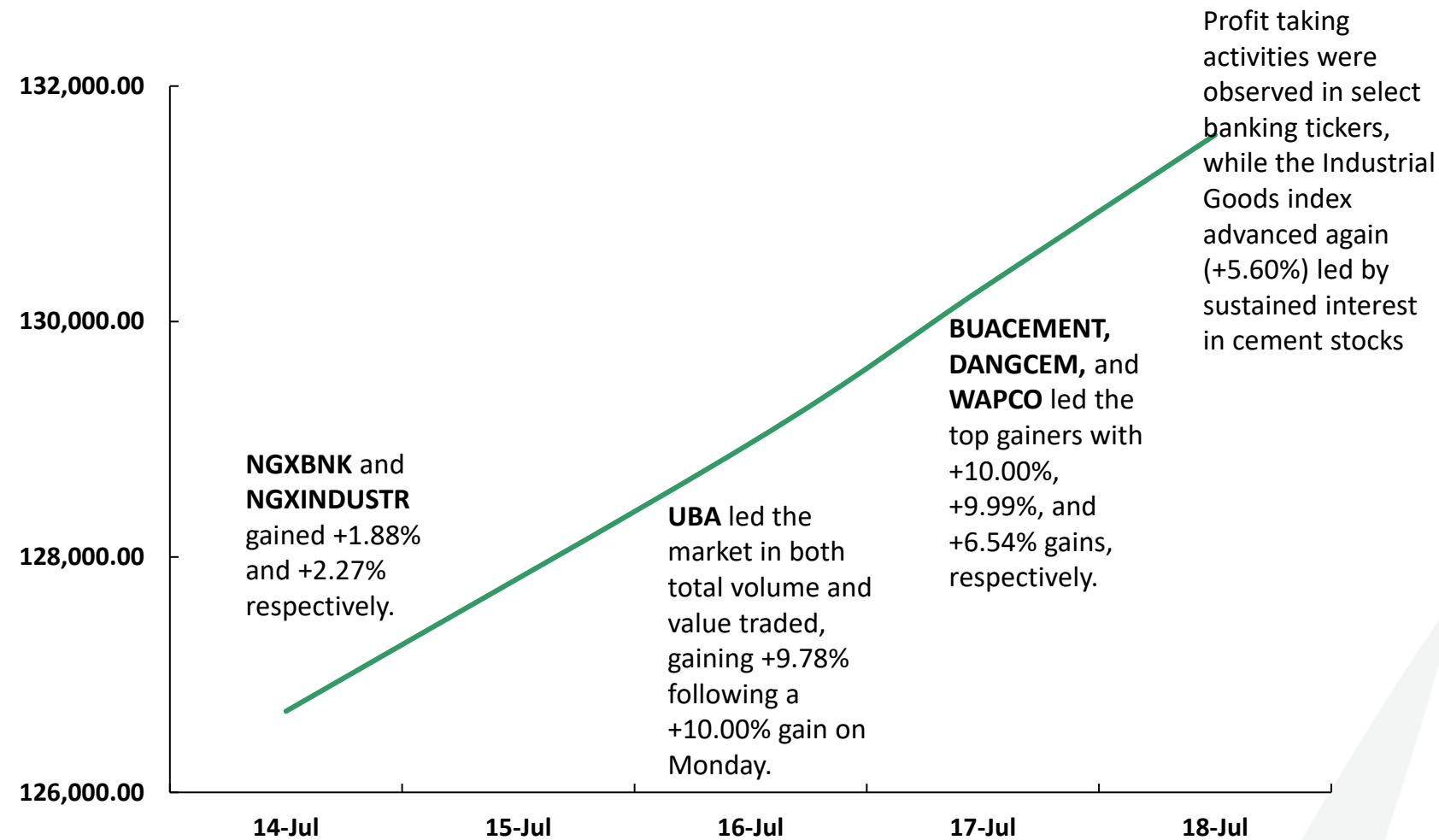
If fully subscribed, the rights issue will increase UBA's total issued share capital significantly, enhancing its capacity to support balance sheet growth, scale lending, and pursue new strategic opportunities across its Pan-African footprint. UBA closed 2024FY with total assets of NGN18.4trn, marking a robust +30.40% YoY expansion, underlining its position among Nigeria's Tier-1 lenders.

Looking ahead, we expect the rights issue to bolster UBA's resilience, deepen its funding capacity, and support compliance with evolving regulatory thresholds. At the macro level, well-capitalized lenders like UBA are better positioned to drive credit expansion, support private sector growth, and strengthen the banking sector's overall stability.



Equities Market Updates

NGXASI Index Movement This Week



	This Week	Previous Week	% Δ
NGXASI	131,585.21	126,151.04	4.31%
Volume ('bn)	5.91	5.37	10.17%
Value ('bn)	129.96	106.61	21.90%
Mkt. Cap. ('trn)	78.05	78.05	0.00%
Market Breadth	1.04x	6.44x	-81.64%

The equities market extended its positive run this week, as the NGX All-Share Index (**NGX-ASI**) advanced by +4.31% WoW to cross the 130,000-point threshold for the first time, closing at 131,585.21 points. This pushed the year-to-date return to an historical +27.85%. The milestone was largely driven by strong investor interest in bellwether stocks, particularly the banking stocks and cement stocks, with the banking index soaring 41.46% Ytd.

Significant crossings were observed in **FCMB** (-4.95% WoW), **ACCESSCORP** (+8.27% WoW), **UBA** (+5.74% WoW), **AIICO** (0.00% WoW), and **ZEINTHBANK** (+3.30% WoW).

In contrast, market breadth contracted significantly to 1.04x (vs 6.44x the last week), indicating fewer stocks participating in the weeks rally, even as market capitalisation held steady at NGN78.05trn

Gainers & Losers

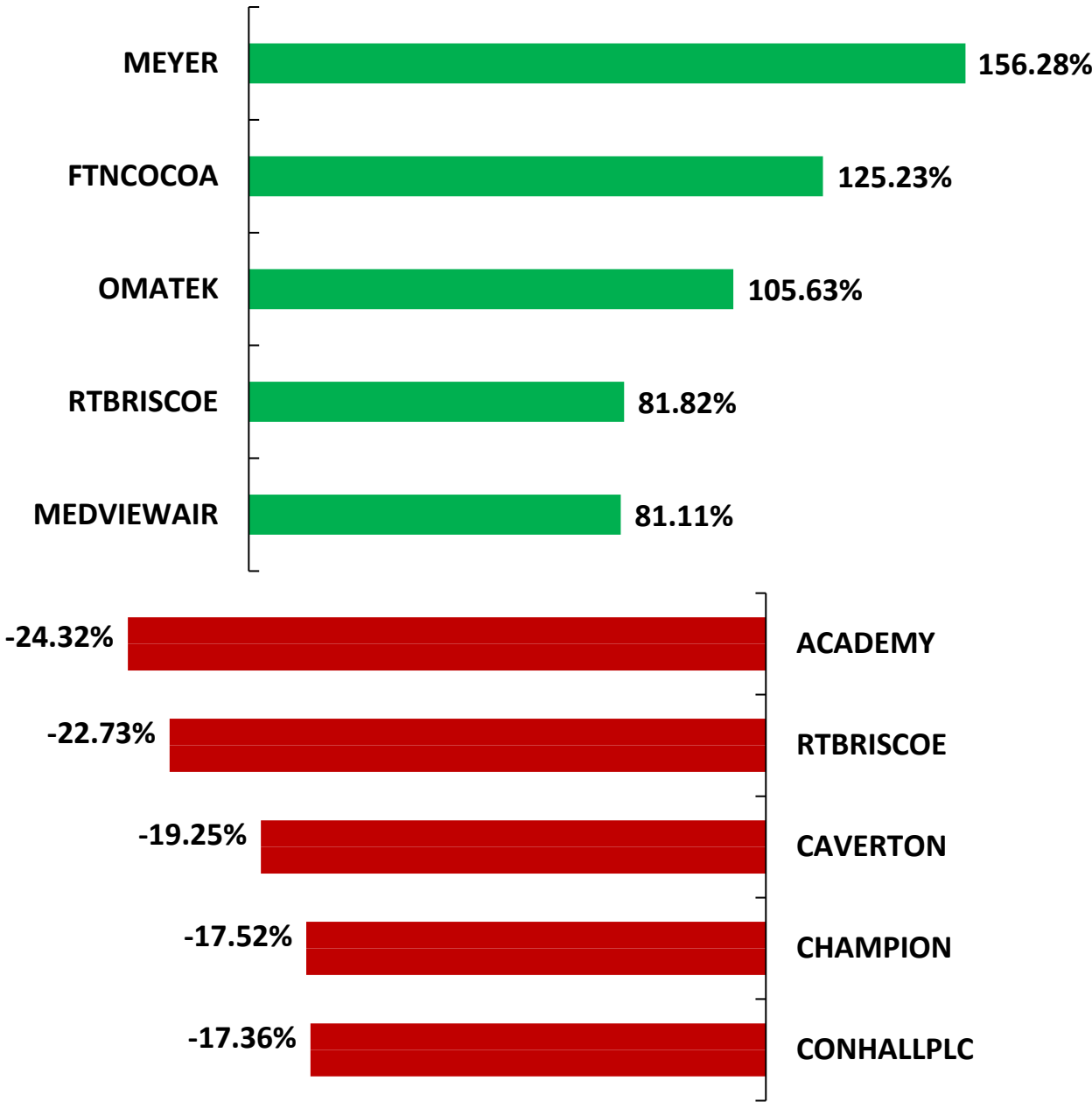


Top Gainers	% Δ	Top Losers	% Δ
EUNISELL	32.59%	ACADEMY	-24.32%
BUACEMENT	31.28%	RTBRISCOE	-22.73%
ABCTRANS	28.41%	CAVERTON	-19.25%
IMG	24.85%	CHAMPION	-17.52%
NSLTECH	21.00%	CONHALLPLC	-17.36%

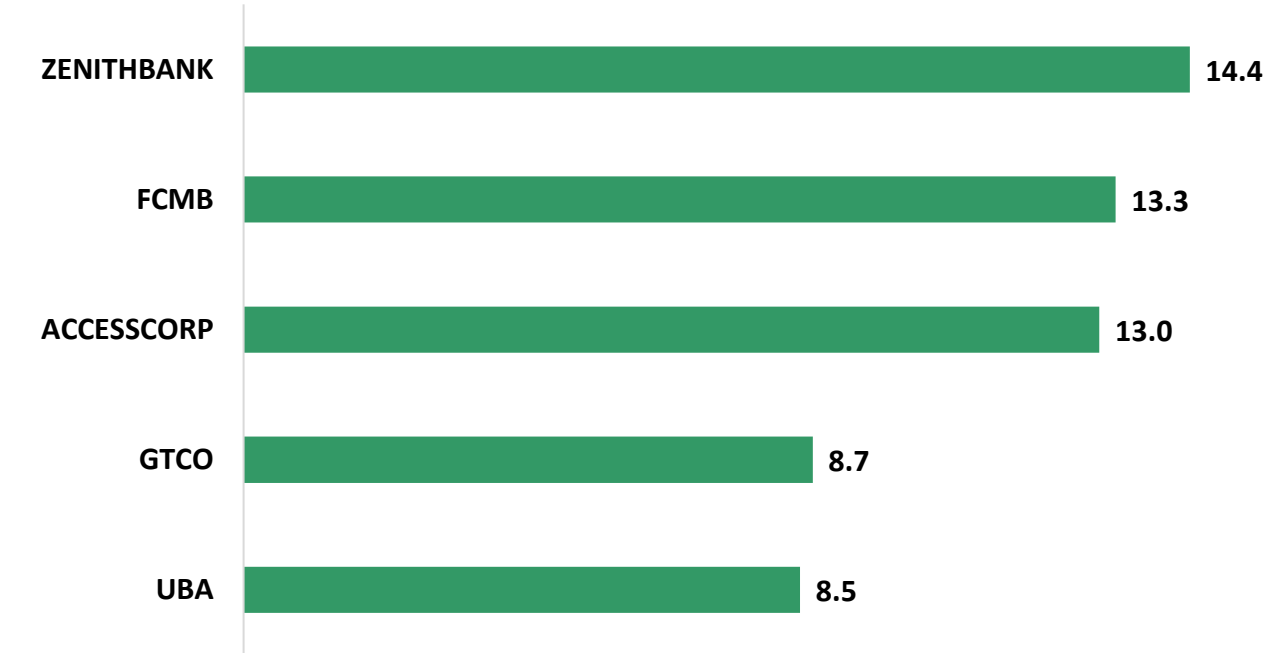
Equities Market Snapshot

Sectoral Performance	WtD (%)	MtD (%)	YtD (%)
NGXBNK	5.36%	19.97%	41.64%
NGXCNSMRGDS	1.34%	6.93%	62.76%
NGXOILGAS	-0.76%	-0.42%	-10.50%
NGXINS	-3.65%	15.30%	21.33%
NGXINDUSTR	19.17%	20.58%	22.80%
MERI-AGRIC	0.54%	17.29%	16.99%
MERI-TELCO	6.45%	22.07%	21.27%
Other Indices			
NGX-30	4.63%	9.30%	26.82%
NGX-PENSION	3.36%	12.39%	44.14%

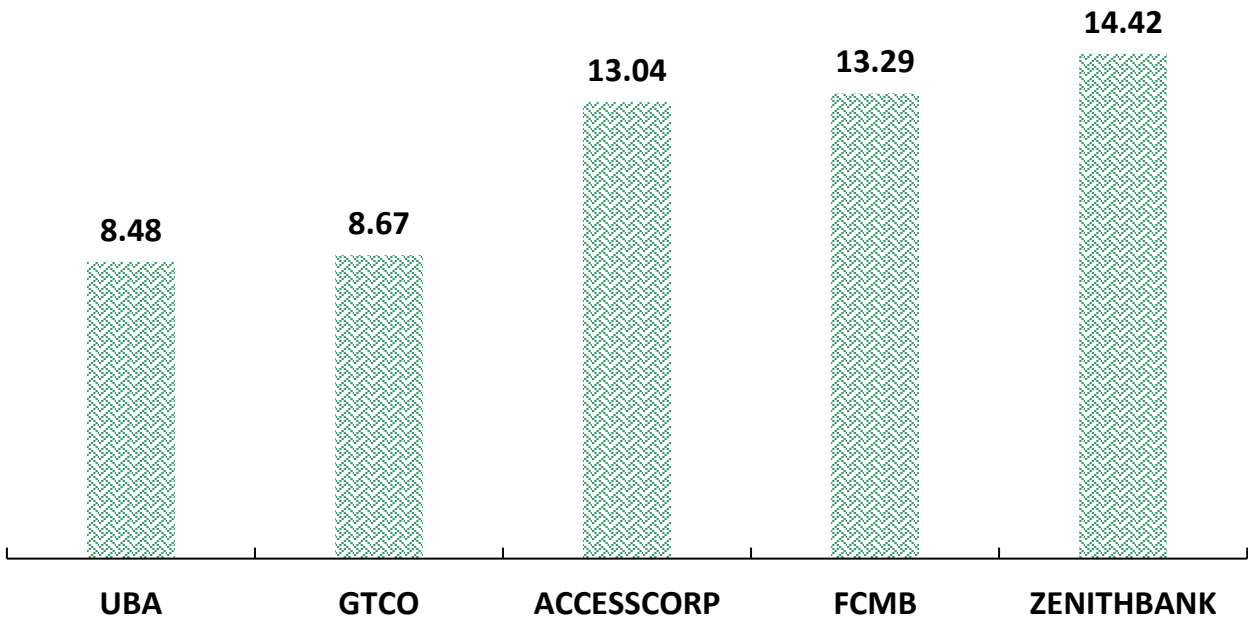
Top Gainers & Losers



Volume ('mn)



Value (NGN'bn)



Fixed Income

The fixed income market witnessed mixed performance this week, with bullish momentum in the T-bills and bond markets driving yields lower, while the Eurobond segment was characterized by sell pressure.

In the secondary market, the Treasury bills market maintained its bullish trajectory this week, despite mixed investor sentiment. Average T-bills yield declined by 53bps week-on-week to settle at 17.82% (from 18.35% the previous week), reflecting strong buying interest across the curve. The most significant yield compressions were seen on the MAY-26 (-272bps), DEC-25 (-211bps), and OCT-25 (-173bps) bills. However, the long end of the curve witnessed profit-taking activity, which led to slight yield upticks on the MAR-26 (+78bps), APR-26 (+62bps), and JUN-26 (+51bps) papers.

Similarly, the bond market extended its bullish momentum this week, driven by sustained demand across the curve. As a result, the average yield declined by 72bps week-on-week to close at 16.82% (from 17.54% the previous week). Notable yield declines were recorded at the short end, particularly on the MAR-27 (-119bps), FEB-28 (-114bps), and MAR-26 (-69bps) bonds, reflecting strong investor appetite. Conversely, mild sell-offs were observed on the JUL-30 and JUN-53 papers, resulting in marginal yield upticks of 9bps and 8bps, respectively.

The Eurobond market closed the week on a bearish note, as average yields rose by 11bps to 8.61%. Selling pressure was most pronounced at both the short and long ends of the curve, with notable yield increases on the NOV-25 (+74bps), SEPT-33 (+13bps), and FEB-38 (+12bps) instruments. On the flip side, modest buying interest was observed in the FEB-30 and NOV-22 papers, leading to slight yield compressions of 3bps and 2bps, respectively.

Fixed Income Market Monitor

Bond Yields

	This Week	Previous Week	% Δ
1YR	18.43	17.98	2.48%
3YR	16.93	18.67	-9.31%
5YR	16.80	19.34	-13.14%
7YR	16.87	17.04	-1.01%
10YR	16.56	18.00	-8.02%
30YR	15.80	16.05	-1.57%
Average	16.90	17.85	-5.32%

Treasury bills Yields

	This Week	Previous Week	% Δ
1MTH	16.36	16.61	-1.49%
3MTH	16.50	17.36	-4.96%
6MTH	17.94	18.64	-3.73%
9MTH	22.54	22.54	0.00%
12MTH	18.81	20.20	-6.88%
Average	17.65	18.57	-4.94%

Exchange Rate

Exchange Rate	This Week (NGN/USD)	Previous Week (NGN/USD)	% Δ
NFEM	1,530.26	1532.34	0.14%

Money Market Rates

Money Market	This Week	Previous Week	% Δ
OBB	32.33	31.50	2.63%
OVN	32.67	32.17	1.55%

Alternative Assets

	18/7/2025	11/07/2025	31/12/2024
	(USD)	(USD)	(USD)
Commodities			
Oil (WTI)	67.83	68.47	71.25
Brent Oil	69.77	70.39	74.64
Natural Gas	3.57	3.33	3.63
Silver	38.53	38.15	29.24
Gold	3359.50	3357.27	2,641.00
Cryptocurrency			
Bitcoin	117,843.88	117,591.89	93,557.20
ETH/USD	3548.78	2,990.83	3,337.43



Oil prices closed lower this week after an initial boost from rising geopolitical tensions was offset by renewed trade policy uncertainties and mixed inventory data, which weighed on market sentiment in the latter part of the week. West Texas Intermediate (WTI) crude fell by USD0.64 to settle at USD67.83pb, compared to USD68.47pb in the previous week. Likewise, Brent Crude declined to USD69.77pb, down from USD70.39pb, reflecting a cautious outlook amid shifting market drivers.



Meanwhile, the cryptocurrency market sustained its recovery, with Bitcoin gaining +0.21% WoW to close at USD117,843.88, while Ethereum advanced by +18.64% to USD3,548.30, extending its recent upward trend. The positive performance highlights improving investor sentiment and growing institutional participation, particularly in Bitcoin, which continues to strengthen its position as an emerging asset class within the broader financial landscape.

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