Betting on oil....



Is Living in a Fool's Paradise!

By Bismarck Rewane

CEO, Financial Derivatives Company Ltd



Outline



Q1'21 Review



Q2'21 Outlook



Global & Regional Developments



The Oil Illusion & Financial Delusion



Policy & Regulatory Announcements



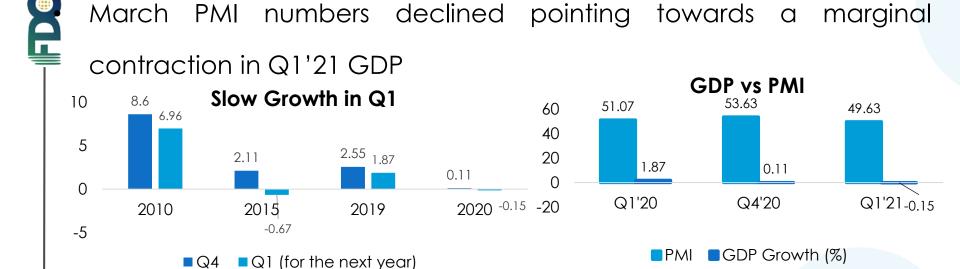
Stock Market Review





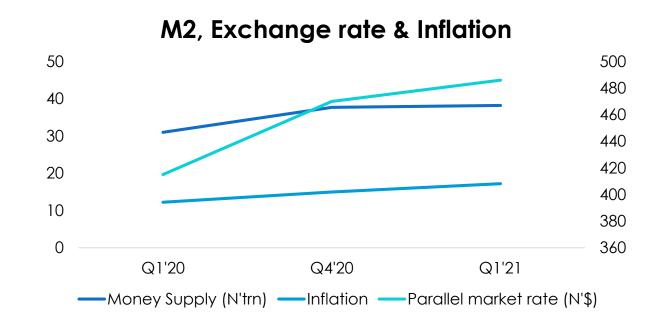
Q1'21 Review "Seasonally slow but recovery imminent"

- Q1 is seasonally a slow quarter in Nigeria and 2021 is no different
- The IMF yesterday revised Nigeria's growth forecast upwards to 2.5% in 2021

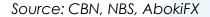


Source: NBS, FBNQuest

- Oil prices rose faster in Q1'21 on increased global vaccine roll out
- But Nigerian forex rationing is forcing companies to blend with the autonomous market funds
- Average blended rates for corporates was N460/\$ in Q1
- The naira fell at the parallel market by 17% to N486/\$
- The value of payments in March jumped 19.74% in Q1 to N24.75trn
- If growth recovers further in Q2, it will confirm that both PMI and transaction values rose ahead of growth



 The CBN continued forex rationing, resulting in temporary accretion of external reserves in March 2021 (\$34.82bn)



25

20

15

10

5

Q1'21 Review - Highlights

CBN appears to be embracing monetary policy orthodoxy, pushing interest rates up



Stock prices have slid by -3% in Q1 Corporate reports show a 13% increase in

Average earnings (PAT) grew by 13% in Q1'21 from Q1'20

earnings in Q1'21

Average daily turnover at the NSE rose marginally by 0.41% to N4.9bn in Q1'21



4.5

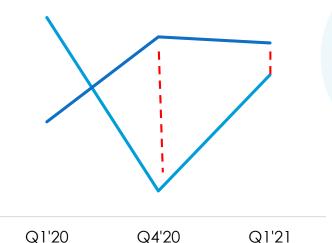
3.5

3

2.5

1.5

0.5



Source: CBN, NSE

—Stock Market Cap (N'trn)

—Interest Rates (%)

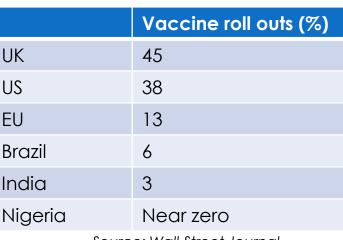
Q1'21 Review - Covid-19

 Federal government is expected to receive the Johnson & Johnson vaccines

After receiving	4mn	Oxford	AstraZeneca
vaccines			

 Which is yet to be exhausted as people are reluctant on huge trust deficit

Just 600,000 people vaccinated in four weeks



Source: Wall Street Journal

Indicators	Q1'20	Q1'21
GDP Growth (%)	1.87	-0.15
Avg. Oil price (\$'pb)	50.82	61.29
Avg. PMI (pts)	51.07	49.63
Avg. Inflation (%)	12.20	17.20
Money Supply Growth (%) – end period	31.9	15.8
Stock Market Cap (N'trn) – end period	11.1	20.36
Parallel Market (N'\$)	415	486
I & E	392.18	409
Avg. T/bill rates (%)	4.2	2.99
Vacancy Factor (%)	24	19

Source: NBS, Bloomberg, FBNQuest, EIU, NSE, AbokiFX, CBN, FDC Think Tank

Q1'21 Review - Key Takeaways

- Vaccine roll out is an economic growth booster
- Corporate revenues likely to slip in Q1 but to recover some growth
 in Q2
- 90% of forex was sourced from the parallel market as against official sources
- Higher interest rates are forcing pension funds to rebalance their portfolio
- Dividend yields of stocks lower than 6% are being dumped



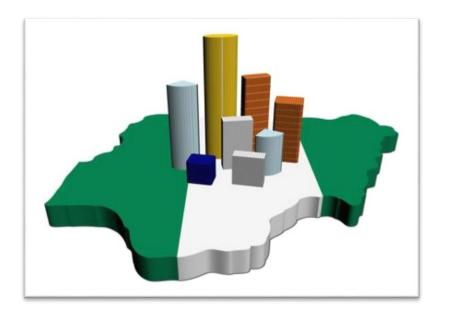
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Q2'21 Outlook

Q2'21 GDP Likely Positive

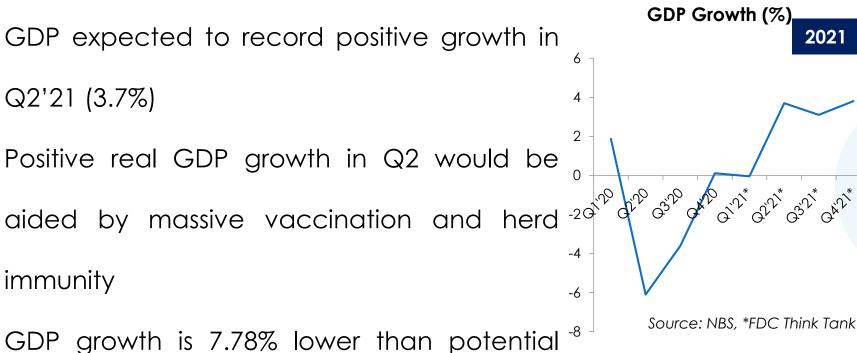
GDP expected to record positive growth in Q2'21 (3.7%)



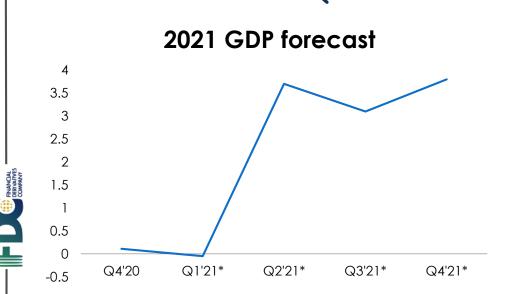
immunity

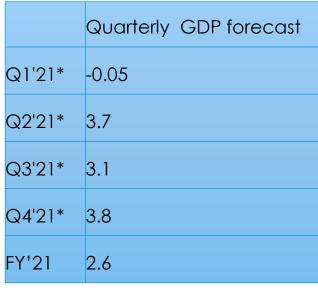
Positive real GDP growth in Q2 would be aided by massive vaccination and herd

GDP growth (8.9%)









Source: *FDC Think Tank

- W- shaped recovery giving way to an inverted V shaped recovery (-0.05% and 0.5%)
 - Mainly due to informal sector resilience

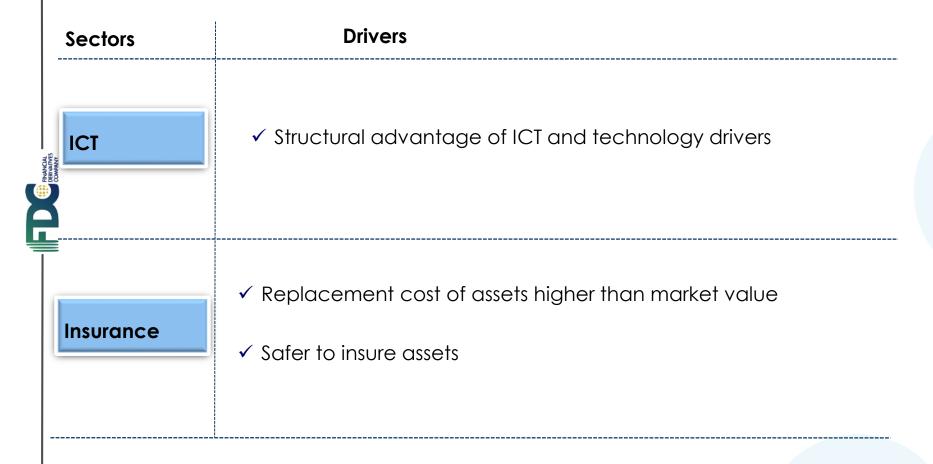
Sectors That Will Drive Growth

Sectors	Drivers
Trade	✓ Opened borders
	✓ Exchange rate equilibrium in the parallel market
ENANCIA COMPANY	✓ Increased smuggling of petroleum products as subsidies
Ř	continue
Manufacturing	✓ Reduced forex rationing to drive manufacturing impact
	✓ Blended rates of \$450-\$460
	✓ 20-25% from CBN
	✓ 75% from autonomous sources

Sectors That Will Drive Growth

Sectors	Drivers
Construction	✓ Supplementary budget for 2021 in Q2
	✓ Eurobond financing of fiscal deficit
COWPA	✓ Alignment of exchange rate in Q2 and Q3
	✓ More fertilizer- Dangote
Agriculture	✓ Better seedlings
	✓ Improved storage

Sectors That Will Drive Growth



Inflation Rate to Climb to 18% in April

- Headline inflation to reach 18% in April
 - Projected to average 18.5% in Q2'21
 - March estimate: 17.8%
- Food inflation will remain the major culprit
- SSA inflation average in 2027
 forecast at 8.1% Source: FDC. Think Tank

Inflation mitigating effect

- Estimated M2 growth of 20% in Q2'21
- Higher energy costs (PMS & electricity tariffs)
- Seasonality factors
- Disruptions cost
- Insecurity in the food belt
- Forex restrictions on food imports
- Exchange rate pass through (\$408/N)
- Every 1% devaluation leads to 0.2%rise in inflation

As Marginal Propensity to Import (MPM) is, Falling

M = f(GDP, Exr, Inf)

- Where M is nominal import,
- GDP is nominal GDP,
- Exr is the official exchange rate
- **Inf** is the inflation rate.
- Differencing all the variables after testing for stationarity

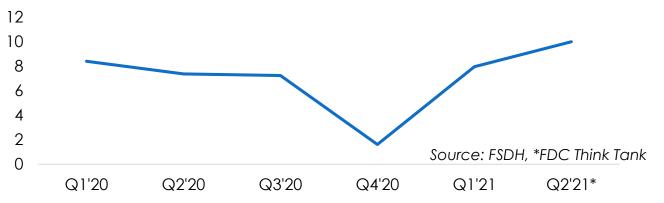
Marginal Propensity to Import (MPM)

- MPM measures changes in import as income level changes
 - MPM is 0.24

- FINANCIAL
- GDP increase by 1% = 0.24% increase in import
- Dependence on oil falls as foreign exchange earnings decline
- MPM responds to exchange rate changes which is highly volatile

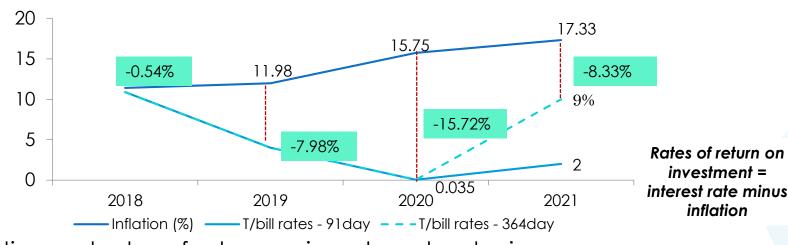
Interest Rates to Maintain Upward Trend

Short term Interbank Rates (%)



- Interest rates to keep rising as the CBN continues to mop up excess liquidity
- Average T/bill rates to rise towards 10%-12% in Q2'21
- Rising interest rates to curb capital flight and taper inflationary pressures





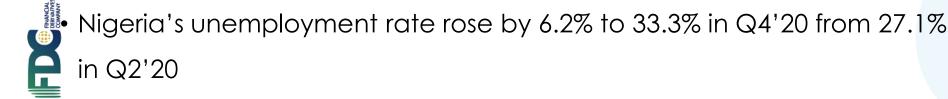
- Negative real rates of return on investment reducing
- FGN borrowing rate to increase
 - 12 month bonds up to 9%
 - Projected to increase to 12%
 - Marginal propensity to save is now 0.16

Unemployment Rate could Climb towards 40% in Q2'21

- Unemployment fast approaching 40% in Q2'21
 - Q1'21 estimate: 35%

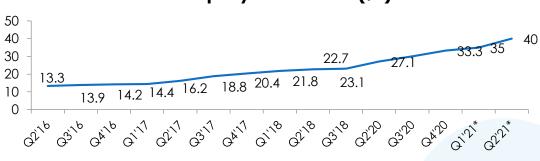
Source: NBS, *FDC Think Tank

Could make Nigeria the country with highest unemployment in Africa



Underemployment rate declined by 5.8% to 22.8% from 28.6% in Q2'20

Unemployment rate (%)

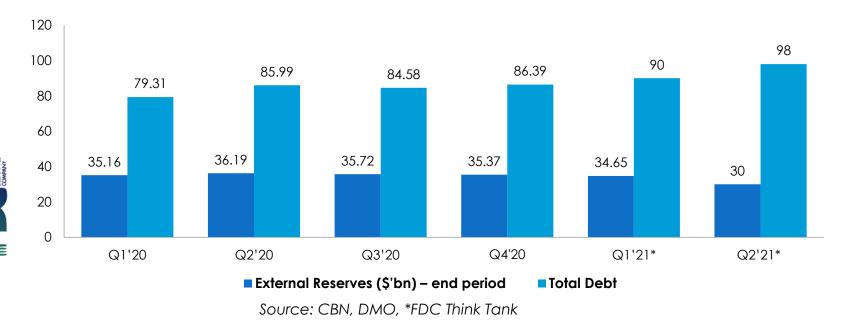




Parallel Market Rate & IEFX Rate Volatile

- Lingering policy ambiguity on exchange rate to increase investor pessimism
- Parallel market rate could weaken to N486-N488/\$ due to increased demand pressures
- IEFX rate likely to trade N410-N412/\$
- Increased IEFX turnover at a weaker rate will mop up more liquidity
 - Pushing up interest rates

External Reserves Falling as Total Debt Stock Climbs

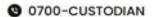


- External reserves is now a function of forex rationing
- Higher oil prices are offset by the huge import bill
- Projected import bill in 2021 to spike by 19.63% to \$58.5bn



Custodian ...exceeding expectations

■INSURANCE ■PENSIONS ■TRUSTEESHIP









Global Developments "The return of globalization and multilateralism"

Yellen Calls For Global Minimum Corporate Tax

Yellen has called on other countries to join the US in setting a global

• Corporate tax rate in the US is reduced to 21% from 35% in 2017

minimum tax for companies

reach 15% of GDP

stimulate the economy

In addition to the \$1.9trn stimulus and Trump \$900bn, total stimulus could

This comes after Biden unveiled a \$2trn infrastructure package to

Risks of a persistent inflation spike remains elevated – Larry Summers

China Launches its Digital Currency

- China has created a digital currency with a legal tender status
- Which will be controlled by its central bank
- The digital Yuan is aimed at protecting China's monetary sovereignty
- However, it could reduce the global demand for the US dollar
- Negatively affecting the US China relation
 - US could retaliate by digitalizing its currency

China Creates its Own Digital Currency

There are 3 types of investors in the cryptocurrency world



Defensive in a world of contraction, economic & global recession

Speculative for many traders.
Bitcoin price up to \$60,000

Fear of money supply growth & quantitative easing



Regional Development

"AfCFTA will come in handy in 2022"



SSA: Huge Fiscal & Debt Hangover

 The depth of recession experienced in 2020 will leave a large fiscal and debt hangover for most African countries



- Reducing the scope for policy makers to respond with stimulatory measures
- Zambia was the first country in the region to default in its Eurobond repayment

SSA: Increased Borrowing From the Eurobond Market

- Several African countries are planning to borrow from the international capital markets:
 - Ghana, Kenya, South Africa & Nigeria
 - Nigeria will raise \$3bn in 2021
- Increased borrowing to meet infrastructure need will force Nigerian policy makers to implement structural reforms
- Cote d'Ivoire was the first SSA country to visit the Eurobond market since the pandemic (\$1.2bn in November)

SSA: IMF Response to COVID Crisis

- Many SSA countries benefited from the IMF's rapid credit facility (RCF)
 and rapid financing instrument (RFI)
- Nigeria took advantage of the IMF's \$3.4bn rapid financing instrument
 - Kenya also received \$2.34bn IMF COVID support
 - The Fund provided support totalling \$16.3bn to 35 SSA countries
 between Mar'20 Mar'21

SSA: Economic Outlook

 Pro-business policies and structural reforms will help bolster economic activity over the longer term

Policy initiatives to address lagging productivity, skills and infrastructure



will progress slowly

SSA	Nigeria
2.3	1.1
1,128.4	206.1
2,085	2,279
8.1	17.0
-55.0	-4.4
11.8	7.4
	2.3 1,128.4 2,085 8.1 -55.0

Source: IMF

SSA: Inverted V-Shaped Recovery

- Recoveries are diverging across and within countries
- SSA is projected to expand by 3.4% in 2021 and 4.0% in 2022
 - Inverted V-shaped recovery in Nigeria and South Africa

	2020	2021	2022
SSA	-1.9	3.4	4.0
Nigeria	-1.8	2.5	2.3
South Africa	-7.0	3.1	2.0
China	2.3	8.4	5.6
India	-8.0	12.5	6.9

Source: IMF

SSA: GDP Weighting

Countries	GDP Weighting (%)	Ranking
Nigeria	21.2	1
South Africa	13.1	2
Cameroon	4.2	3
Ethiopia	3.6	4
Ghana	3.1	5
Tanzania	2.9	6

Source: EIU

Informal Sector to Spur Recovery

8.0% in 2022

- Unemployment in the formal economy will decline slowly
- While jobs in the informal sector will rebound faster as restrictions are
 eased
- Inflation is projected to average 8.1% in 2021 before edging down to

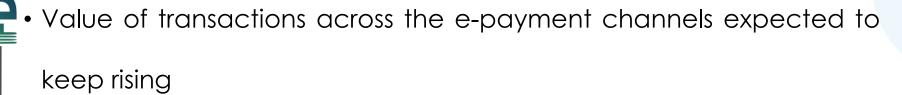




Market Proxies

Transactions Upward Trend Continues

	Feb'21 (N'bn)	Mar'21 (N'bn)
Cheques	277.45	317.19
NIP	18,734.46	22,502.95
NEFT	1,194.08	1,393.5
POS	468.91	531.38



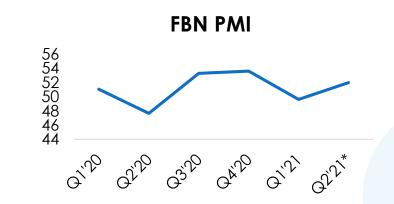
- Reflecting the increase in economic activities, particularly trading
- Total value of transactions jumped by 19.74% to N24.75trn in March

FBN PMI Levels Weakened in March

 PMI expected to pick up on improved economic activities



But exchange rate challenges
 remain a threat to manufacturing
 sector activities



Sub-index	Feb'21	Mar'21
Output	58.5	52 👢
Employment	48	50
Supplier delivery time	44.5	46.5
New orders	57.5	56.5 棏
Stocks of purchases	56.5	52 👢







Power Sector Update













- FG to end electricity subsidies by December 2021
- Power sector loses N59.33bn despite 5,802MW peak generation

Ships Awaiting Berth

Vessels Awaiting Berth	Feb'21	Mar'21
Apapa	1	3
Tincan	23	6



- Ship awaiting berth fell drastically by 62.5% in March
- Apapa gridlock addressed, courtesy of the new electronic callup system (ETO) development

Source: NPA, * FDC Think Tank

Rig Count to Rise

- Active rigs to increase as oil production picks up from May
- Rig count fell marginally to 6 from 7 in February
- OPEC+ eased production cuts for the next 3 months
- In tandem, Nigeria's share of OPEC oil production is up 6.8% to

1.58mbpd in July

	New Quota
May 2021	1.54
June 2021	1.55
July 2021	1.58

Source: OPEC



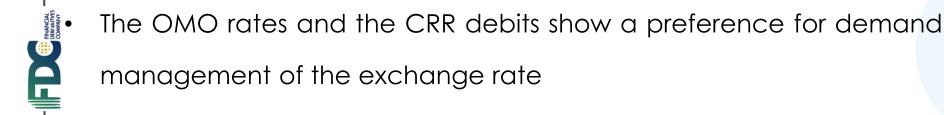
Conflicting Data & Ambiguous Pronouncements



- Policy announcements conflicted with data and was mostly ambiguous
- Exchange rate convergence was the objective
- But forex rationing continued and the I & E window was controlled
- The crawling peg was more of a zig-zag movement
- In January the I & E traded in a band of N393/\$ N394/\$
- In February it fell to as low as N400/\$ N410/\$

- In March it appreciated to close at N409/\$ after trading at approximately N412/\$
- Some traders believe the rate was a reflection of stronger oil prices
 - The CBN intervention in the I & E window fell throughout March to an average of \$66.63mn
- Indicating a preference for reserves accretion at the expense of exchange rate alignment

- Monetary policy framework remains inflation targeting
- The upper limit of the CBN inflation band is 9%



 The back tracking of the CBN after hints by the Minister of Finance of NAFEX as the official exchange rate was a missed opportunity

- MPC meeting in May will most likely see a resumption of the tightening cycle
- MPR could increase by 50 basis points
 - CBN could issue bonds as part of securitization of the FGN overdraft
- Pension funds and institutional investors have already factored this move into their expectations



Petrol Subsidies & The Refinery Rehabilitation Saga



Fiscal Policy

- NNPC says we can no longer affords subsidies N120bn per month
- Landed cost of PMS could rise to N212 per litre
- We will not increase price in March
 - No price increase until settlements with labour meaning indefinite



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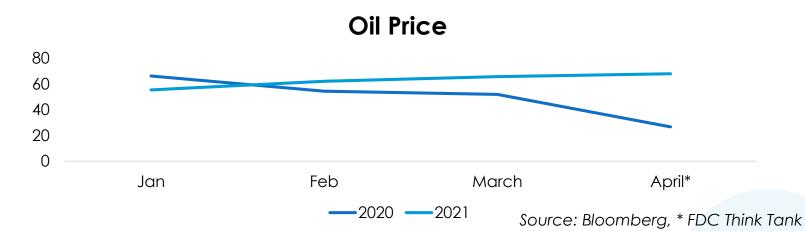




Oil Illusion & the Financial Delusion

Q1'21 Review

- Lockdown was in April
- In March, oil markets were already down
- In 2021, vaccine optimism and partial reopening
 - OPEC output curbs kept market in equilibrium



OPEC's Market Share- A Declining Function of Time

- Cartel loses grip as bargaining power erodes
- OPEC+ creates huge divide between price leaders and followers
- HE DERIVATOR COMPANY
- OPEC+ at its meeting (April 1) eased output cuts by 1.14mbpd for the next 3 months
- The cartel remains cautious as global events unravel renewed lockdown restrictions in Europe and vaccine rollouts
- Aims to keep Brent around \$65pb

OPEC & Global Oil Markets

- OPEC accounts for about 32.45% of total global petroleum and other liquids production
- OPEC production: 30.57mbpd (2020)
 - Global production: 94.2mbpd (2020)
- Decisions of OPEC and its allies including Russia strongly determine the movement of oil prices

Price Leaders

Leaders	Saudi Arabia	Russia	US
Oil Reserves	258.6bn	107bn	69bn
External reserves (\$'bn)	441.22	586.27	143.41
Income per capita (\$)	20,542	12,011	55,809
Population (mn)	34	147	330

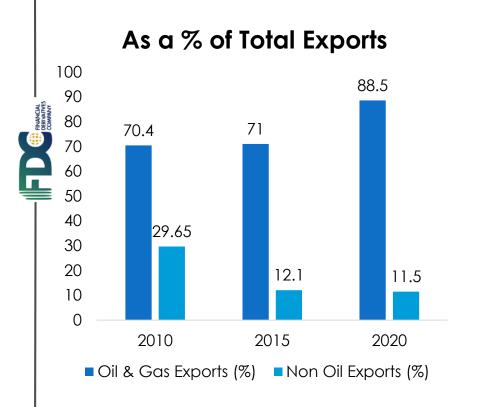
Price Followers

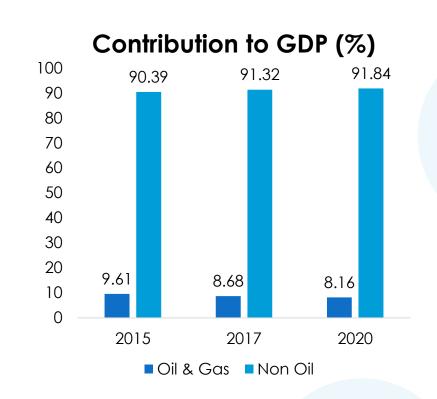
	Nigeria	Angola	Iran
Oil Reserves	36.89bn	7.78mn	208.6bn
External reserves (\$'bn)	34.82	8.68	86
Income per capita (\$)	2,386	3,103	5,922
Population (mn)	206	22	84

Source: OPEC, EIU, *FDC Think Tank

Betting on Oil & the Fool's Paradise

Diversification away from oil – all rhetoric and no results





Source: NBS, *FDC Think Tank

Nigeria & Crude Oil - The Relationship

- Crude oil contributes less than 10% to GDP
- Oil has changed in terms of GDP contribution but not revenue
- Accounts for over 70% of export earnings and 90% of external reserves
- Other commodities contributing to GDP are LNG, sesame seeds, cashew nuts, cocoa
- Oil revenue is closely related to the value of the naira
- Exchange rate has depreciated by 35% in the past three years





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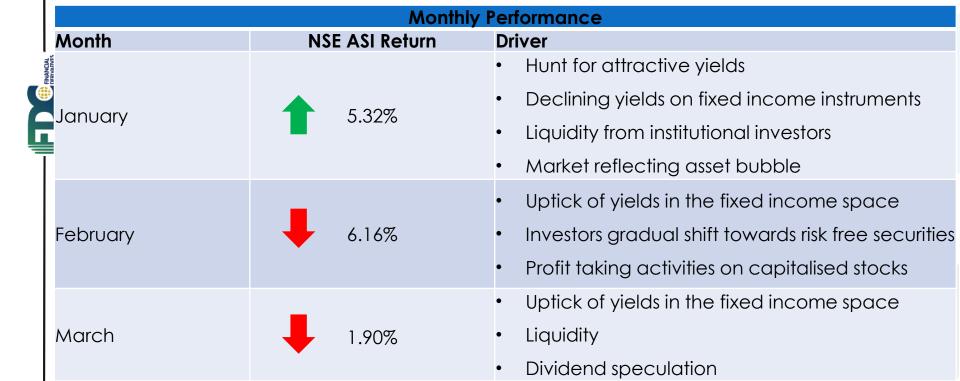




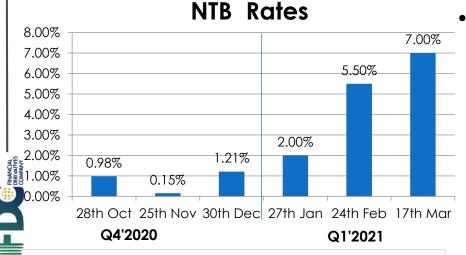
Stock Market Review
"Q2 more bearish than expected"

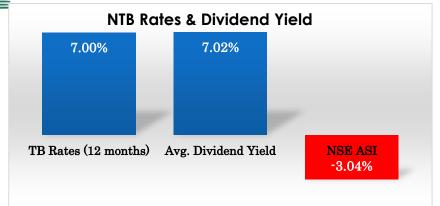
Nigerian Stock Market-Q1'2021 Review

- Market Capitalisation 2.98% to N20.43 trillion
- P/E Ratio 13.1% to 13.82x
- NSE ASI 3.04% to 39,045.13
 27 days positive, 36 days



Investment Opportunities





- Gradual uptick in the fixed income space in Q1'2021
 - Reversal of gains on the NSE
 - Average dividend yield corresponds with NTB rates
 - Investors likely to sell off more stocks for risk free securities after dividend payment

Stock Market Outlook- Q2'2021

- Bearish trend in the NSE to linger as fixed income yields climb
 - Continuous shift by investors towards risk free assets
 - Profit taking activities on capitalized stocks to compound declining trend
- Anticipation for Q1'21 earnings
 - Improved performance relative to Q1'20
- Economic activities to weigh on corporate earnings
 - Rising inflation
 - Loan restructuring
 - Forex pressures
 - Constrained consumers' spending

Q2'2021 Industrial Sector Outlook (Dangote Cement)

- Expected impressive Q1'21 earnings
- Top line expected to grow by 5%, driven by:
 - Increased export activities due to gradual reopening of global economy
 - Extended dry weather witnessed in most part of Q1'21.
 - Extra spending on construction activities by the government is expected to drive top line growth by 7% in Q2'21
 - AfCFTA advantage



Q2'2021 Sectoral Outlook-Bearish

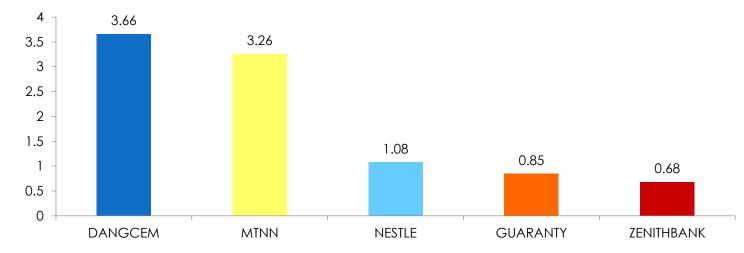
Sectors	Stock Picks	Outlook	Drivers
Banking	✓ Zenith ✓ Access	 ✓ Contraction in bank's margins and profitability ✓ Increased business and economic activities 	 ✓ Rising inflation ✓ Increased restructuring activities ✓ Reduction in USSD transactions ✓ Improved digital and lending solutions
FMCG	✓ Nestle ✓ Unilever	 ✓ Increased operating expenses to weigh on profitability 	 ✓ Forex pressures ✓ Volatility in prices of commodities ✓ Constrained consumers' spending
ICT	✓ MTN ✓ Airtel	✓ Telecoms sector is expected to remain resilient	✓ Increased use of online platforms, e-commerce
			✓ Increased competition with financial institutions

Q2'2021 Sectoral Outlook

Sectors	Stock Picks	Outlook	Drivers
Breweries SCHWANTAL SCHWANTAL SCHWANTAL STATEMENT ST	✓ Nigerian breweries ✓ Guinness	✓ Increased operating expenses to weigh on profitability	✓ Volatility in prices of commodities✓ Constrained consumers' spending
Industrial	√ Dangote cement	✓ Growth in earnings performance	✓ Global economic recovery✓ Reduced rain✓ AFCTA advantage

Selected Capitalized Companies on the NSE

Market Capitalization (N'trn)

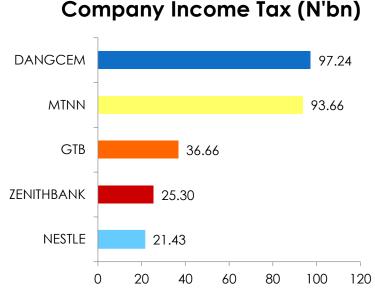


✓ Total market capitalization

- = **N20.2trn**
- ✓ Market cap for the 5 companies = N9.53trn (47%)

Share of Total CIT = 21.48%

Companies	Company Income Tax (N'bn)
Dangote Cement	97.24
MTN	93.66
GTB	36.66
Zenith	25.30
Nestle	21.43



- ✓ CIT paid by the 5 companies = N274.29bn
 - √ 19.4% of total CIT (N1.41trn)



Taxes Were Not All...

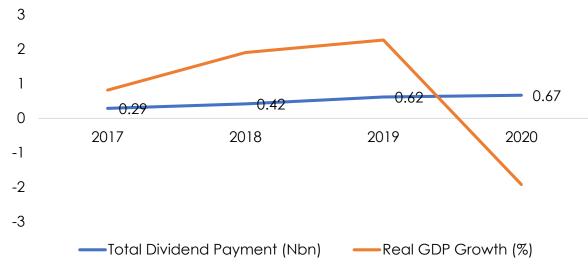


Dividends to shareholders = N671bn

Total number of employees = 33,014 (0.05% of total employment)

Total Dividend up 158.91% in 2020







- √5 companies paid a total dividend of N671bn in 2020
 - √ 59% higher than in 2018 (N421bn)

Access bank -Full Year 2020 Result

- Access bank overtakes Zenith (N8.68 trn Asset Size)
- First Nigerian bank to expand into South Africa- acquired South Africa's Grobank
- Tops with gross earnings of N764.7 billion (14.7% growth) driven by;



- 85.6% growth in net gains on financial instrument held at fair value
- Reduced FX losses
- 56% growth in e-business income spurred fees and commissions growth to N93.6 billion
- A 211.5% rise in impairment charge impacted decline in net interest income to N200 bn
- PAT grew by 12.7% to N106billion
- The bank's hold co structure plans to operate across the consumer lending, electronic payment industry and retail insurance market

Banking Industry - FY'2020 Results

Tier 1						
		Zenith		Gtbank		Access
Gross Earnings	•	5.2% to N696.5bn		4.6% to N455.2bn	•	14.7% to N764.7bn
Net Interest Income	1	12.2% to N299.7bn	•	9.6% to N253.67bn	•	5.2% to N262.95bn
Non-Interest Income	1	8.4% to N251.7bn	•	11.2% to N151.44bn	•	32.8% to N283.86bn
Profit After Tax	•	10.4% to N230.6bn	1	2.3% to N201.44bn	1	12.7% to N106.01bn
Cost to Income Ratio	1	2% to 50%	1	5.8% to 38.2%	•	2.76% to 63.4%
NPL	\leftrightarrow	4.3%	•	1.5% to 6.4%	-	26% to 4.3%
CAR	1	4.5% to 23%	•	2.7% to 21.89%	1	2.9% to 20.61%
Impairment	1	64.6% to N39.5bn	1	298.5% to N19.57bn	1	211.5% to N62.89bn
Dividend Yield		13.33%		9.68%		8.51%
P/E Ratio		3.07x		4.36x		2.56x
YTD Chanae	•	9.52%	1	9.37%	-	5.64%

- Resilient performance amongst players
 - Increase in Zenith and GT bank's interest income amidst low interest rate environment
 - Improved digital service across players
 - 85.6% growth in net gains on financial instrument held at fair value spurred double digit growth in Access bank's performance

Cost to Income, NPL, CAR & Profitability Ratios

- Zenith and Access bank's cost-to-income ratio only grew by 2%, while GTB's cost-to-income ratio grew by 5.8%
 - GTB's cost-to-income ratio impacted by 11% increase in AMCON charge and other expenses like depreciation, resulting in the growth rate of PAT



- Tier 1 banks NPLs reflecting reduced exposure to oil & gas sector
- Tier 2 banks NPL below regulatory threshold
 - GTB's NPL still above regulatory threshold
- Tier 2 banks NPL below regulatory threshold
- All players with robust CAR, above regulatory minimum of 15%
 - Increased capacity for additional risk taking

Banking Industry Outlook- Moody's

- Rising inflation expected to contract bank's margins and weigh on profitability
- Bank's asset quality expected to contract driven by:
 - Increased restructuring activities attributable to exposure to pandemic vulnerable sectors
 - Increased pressure on borrowers' repayment
 - Exposure to large volumes of foreign currency loans sensitive to currency devaluation
- Increased business and economic activities will likely stabilize and support bank's operations driven by:
 - Soaring oil prices
 - Growth in GDP







THE DECADE









Aviation Update

Global Aviation Update

- Airlines continued to experience deep losses on fears of a third coronavirus wave
 - Particularly in the Latin and North America region
- Vaccine rollout and anticipation of summer travels are boosting share prices across several regions
- But pressure on airlines' revenues is likely to continue in 2021
- Sector now expected to break even by late 2022

Global Aviation Update

 Air France-KLM, a member of the Star Alliance, receives about \$4bn in French recapitalization plan



French government to remerge as the biggest shareholder: 30% stake

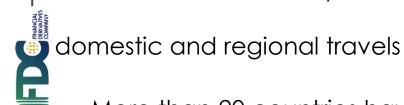
Vaccine passports are now mandatory for air travel

- We expect Lufthansa and the German government to respond
- Singapore Airlines is already raising additional long-term debt and

Global Aviation Update

- The IATA has developed a travel pass to enhance efficiency in testing and vaccine verifications
- Countries are currently debating on the use of the passport for both

- More than 20 countries have announced trials of the IATA Travel Pass
- Singapore is set to adopt the IATA pass from May 1, 2021
- Digital health certificates would be a key feature in air travel going forward
 - Will serve as a prove of health status using the vaccine passport



Global Aviation Update-Limiting Factors

 Resurgence in covid infections in Europe, but will be contained by summer 2021



- Spike in oil and jet fuel prices weighing on airline profitability and breakeven point
- Virtual meetings and some adjustments are now permanent

Aviation-Regional Update

Kenya Airways suspends domestic operations amid new travel restrictions



- RwandAir becomes the first African airline to vaccinate all its employees
- Ethiopian Airlines to commence trial of IATA travel pass
 - Only airline that did not stop flights to China

Aviation-Domestic Update

- Low load factor forcing airlines to merge flights
- Flight cancellations also on the rise
- And air transport fare keeps climbing as airlines seek to make profit while operating at a sub-optimal capacity
 - Kano airport opens to international traffic today
 - Enugu to commence May 3 and PH to begin international flights April 15
 - Crew layover demand for hotels will drive the hospitality industry

Aviation Outlook

- US visa appointments are becoming a tourist nightmare
- Earliest appointment in 2024



- With Johnson and Johnson vaccines rollout of 70mn in Nigeria
- Herd immunity may be achieved in late 2022
- Arik metamorphosis into Nigerian Eagle airline courtesy of AMCON





- Violence in the southeast as Ohaneze wants the Igbo presidency
- Zoning of power of the South has sparked huge interest
- It looks like a repeat 1979 and 1993
- Some players are risking burnout in a country that it is difficult to predict
- Anambra state is in play
- Attack on Soludo has enhanced his electoral chances of APGA nomination

- The PDP in Anambra is in a deep internal struggle but may not splinter
- The APC is very strong on paper in the state but has no ground game
- Analysts believe that APGA will cut a deal with APC which gives
 Soludo a window
- The endorsement of the incumbent governor could be a double edged advantage



- Our analysts give Soludo a narrow edge at this time
- It is too early to see the grassroots swing and the possible ground game advantage



National Politics of Zoning, Insecurity, Economy and Poverty

- At the national level certain trends are playing out
- The S.W. candidates with clear ambition are led by Tinubu



 The chairman of the governors forum, Fayemi, seems to have some momentum

National Politics of Zoning, Insecurity, Economy and Poverty

 There are many dark horses in the zone - at least six other hats to be thrown into the ring



In the South East there is a scramble for leadership

The recent violence in the zone means that some house cleaning is necessary before a favourite can emerge

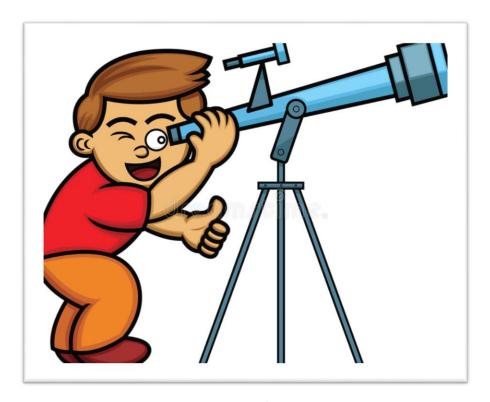
- The North Central have some attractive candidates
- Neither the PDP nor the APC are in a hurry to hold national conventions

National Politics of Zoning, Insecurity, Economy and Poverty

 We are approx. 850 days to handover and 200 days away from vigorous campaigning



- There is no coherent ideological and economic blueprint for recovery and competitiveness
- The litmus test will be the battle in Anambra state



Outlook for May



Outlook for May 2021

- March headline inflation estimated at 17.8%-18.0%
- 365-day T/Bills will rise to 10%p.a.



OMO auction rates already at 10%, could hit 11%p.a.

Stock market will trade flat to negative on weaker earnings

- Some bellwethers will rise on special corporate activities
- The battle between telcos and banks will erode banking profitability
- Banking incursion into the telco space will fail

Outlook for May 2021

- Oil price will be stuck at the \$60pb-\$65pb range
- The naira will touch N415-N417/\$ at the I&E window and N480/\$ at the

parallel market

- PMS price deregulation will send the pump price to N185 per litre with diesel at N260 per litre
- Johnson and Johnson vaccines will be widely used across SSA and Nigeria

Corporate Humour

There are no stupid questions but there are lots of inquisitive idiots.

-Anonymous



Behind every nagging woman there is a man not doing what he is supposed to do

-Anonymous

A secret is something you tell everybody to tell nobody -Anonymous

Corporate Humour

98

Whoever is trying to bring you down is already below you.

-Anonymous



In a consumer world, there are only two kinds of slaves, the prisoners of addiction and the prisoners of envy.

– Ivan Illich

You can calculate the worth of a man by the number of his enemies.

-Anonymous

Relations are made by fate, friends by choice.

-Abbe Delille



At 20 the will reigns, at 30 the wit and at 40 the judgement.

– Benjamin Franklin

Corporate Humour

Age appears to be the best in four things – old wood best to burn, old wine to drink, old friends to trust and old authors to read – *Francis Bacon*



The wisest mind has something yet to learn

- George Santayana

Work saves us from three great evils: boredom, vice and need

- Voltaire



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