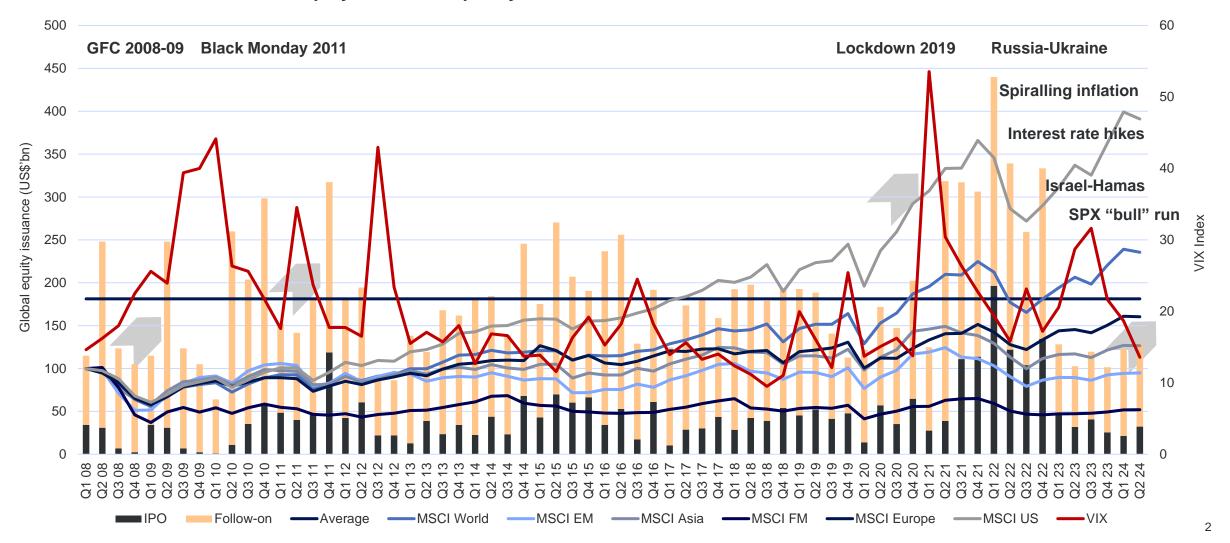


Equity issuance markets have kicked off 2024 with strong momentum



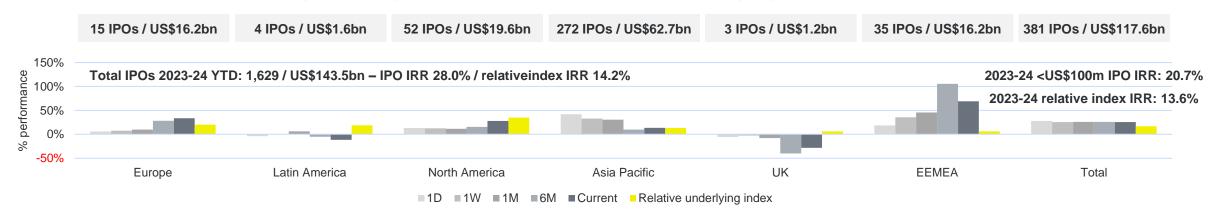
Are we on the brink of the next equity issuance super-cycle?



IPO mythbusting: the asset class has in fact outperformed globally



>US\$100m IPO performance by region through the 2023-24 economic downturn by geography (381 IPOs >US\$100m in the period)

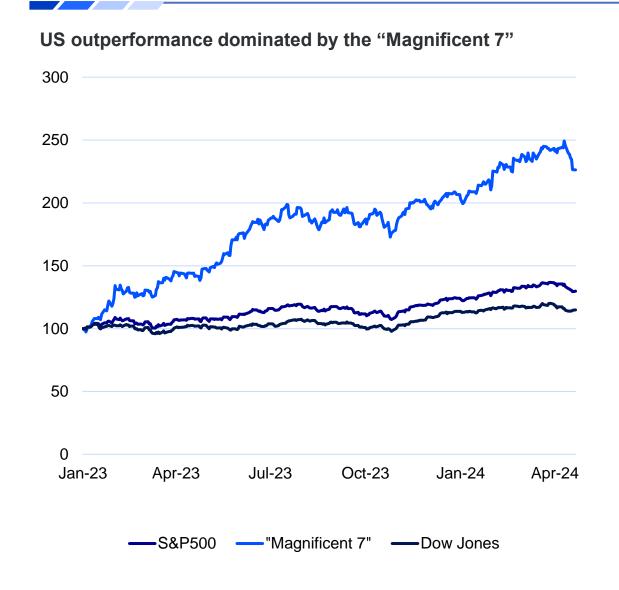


The world's largest IPOs through the 2023-24 economic downturn, only 3 out of 21 trading below relative index performance



...however, the devil is often in the detail...







Global custody as a gateway to building African exchange fungibility



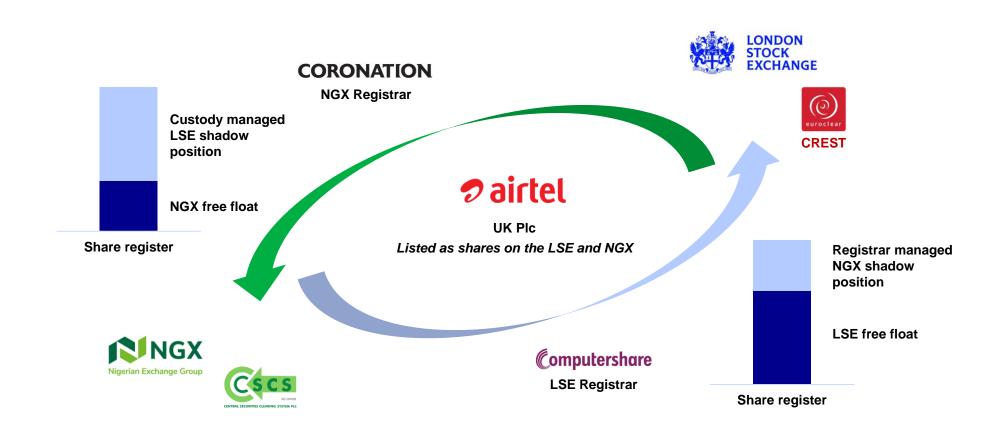
Growing requirement to enfranchise investors through localisation

Africa's less liquid markets have not historically benefitted from direct links to offshore exchanges

Custody to facilitate crossborder reconciliation to counter Registrar / issuance / share transfer inefficiency

Shares transferable crossborder within a trading cycle (previously weeks)

Gateways for crystalising tax and FX compliance and regulation







FX devaluation and availability, coupled with inflation and interest rate hikes are front and centre for investors focused on the Continent today



No need to shift away fully to "hard currency growth" as this is overly punitive on real business performance... but investors will expect clear articulation of risk and an executable hedging or portfolio strategy to manage exposures



FX situation not a barrier to investment but a clear pricing level determinant. Growing clarity on FX in Nigeria has reduced the investor "spread"



Essential to ensure the African voice is articulated and heard in constructing the equity story positioning... Nearterm African macro factors are not going away, investors will reward full disclosure and management strategies



Read-through for the near-term public markets outlook for Africa



Market windows are showing green-shoots but they are changing

First-mover advantage key, be ready



Market volatility has provided a long overdue valuation reset

However, markets are still trading at all-time highs

Strong start to 2024 not vet seen crossover into **African IPO activity**

Landmark IPOs could trigger Africa IPO relaunch

Investors have been punitive on issuers missing market guidance

Stability and pathway to profitability rewarded



Regardless, the exceptions continue to get all the headlines



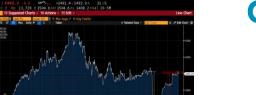




Alphabet

13.8x





adyen

Share price falls 59.5% on back of August 2023 profit warning

EMEA fintech hit hard across board (Worldline, CAB Payments, Nexi), with negative news flow

Adven +136.6% since sell-off on back of strong Q3 2023 numbers

arm

Subdued IPO aftermarket following 25% first day gain, 1M gain tracks down to 2.1%

...now +153.4% since **US%5.2bn September Nasdag** IPO (85.1x EV/2024 EBTDA)



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