

MARKET VECTORS ETF TRUST
Form 497K
May 01, 2015

MARKET VECTORS AFRICA INDEX ETF

Ticker: AFK®
Principal U.S. Listing Exchange: NYSE Arca, Inc.
SUMMARY PROSPECTUS
MAY 1, 2015

AFKSUM

Before you invest, you may want to review the Fund's prospectus, which contains more information about the Fund and its risks. You can find the Fund's prospectus and other information about the Fund online at <http://www.vaneck.com/library/etfs/>. You can also get this information at no cost by calling 888.MKT.VCTR, or by sending an email request to info@vaneck.com. The Fund's prospectus and statement of additional information, both dated May 1, 2015, are incorporated by reference into this summary prospectus.

INVESTMENT OBJECTIVE

Market Vectors Africa Index ETF (the Fund) seeks to replicate as closely as possible, before fees and expenses, the price and yield performance of the Market Vectors® GDP Africa Index (the Africa Index).

FUND FEES AND EXPENSES

The following tables describe the fees and expenses that you may pay if you buy and hold shares of the Fund (Shares).

Shareholder Fees (*fees paid directly from your investment*) None

Annual Fund Operating Expenses

(*expenses that you pay each year as a percentage of the value of your investment*)

| | |
|--|-------|
| Management Fee | 0.50% |
| Other Expenses | 0.30% |
| Total Annual Fund Operating Expenses ^(a) | 0.80% |
| Fee Waivers and Expense Reimbursement ^(a) | 0.00% |

Total Annual Fund Operating Expenses After Fee Waiver and Expense Reimbursement^(a) 0.80%

^(a) Van Eck Associates Corporation (the Adviser) has agreed to waive fees and/or pay Fund expenses to the extent necessary to prevent the operating expenses of the Fund (excluding acquired fund fees and expenses, interest expense, offering costs, trading expenses, taxes and extraordinary expenses) from exceeding 0.78% of the Fund's average daily net assets per year until at least May 1, 2016. During such time, the expense limitation is expected to continue until the Fund's Board of Trustees acts to discontinue all or a portion of such expense limitation.

EXPENSE EXAMPLE

This example is intended to help you compare the cost of investing in the Fund with the cost of investing in other funds. This example does not take into account brokerage commissions that you pay when purchasing or selling Shares of the Fund.

The example assumes that you invest \$10,000 in the Fund for the time periods indicated and then redeem all of your Shares at the end of those periods. The example also assumes that your investment has a 5% annual return and that the Fund's operating expenses remain the same. Although your actual costs may be higher or lower, based on these assumptions, your costs would be:

YEAR EXPENSES

| | | |
|----|----|-----|
| 1 | \$ | 82 |
| 3 | \$ | 255 |
| 5 | \$ | 444 |
| 10 | \$ | 990 |

PORTFOLIO TURNOVER

The Fund will pay transaction costs, such as commissions, when it purchases and sells securities (or turns over its portfolio). A higher portfolio turnover will cause the Fund to incur additional transaction costs and may result in higher taxes

when Fund Shares are held in a taxable account. These costs, which are not reflected in annual fund operating expenses or in the example, may affect the Fund's performance. During the most recent fiscal year, the Fund's portfolio turnover rate was 30% of the average value of its portfolio.

PRINCIPAL INVESTMENT STRATEGIES

The Fund normally invests at least 80% of its total assets in securities that comprise the Fund's benchmark index. The Africa Index is comprised of African companies. The Africa Index includes local listings of companies that are incorporated in Africa and offshore listings of companies incorporated outside of Africa but that generate at least 50% of their revenues (or, where applicable, have at least 50% of their assets) in Africa. Such companies may include micro-, small- and medium-capitalization companies. Subject to country and issuer limitations, the country weightings in the Africa Index are based on their relative gross domestic product (GDP) weights as compared to all other countries represented in the Africa Index. As of December 31, 2014, the Africa Index included 110 securities of companies with a market capitalization range of between approximately \$140 million and \$54.6 billion and a weighted average market capitalization of \$8.3 billion. These amounts are subject to change. The Fund's 80% investment policy is non-fundamental and may be changed without shareholder approval upon 60 days' prior written notice to shareholders.

The Fund, using a passive or indexing investment approach, attempts to approximate the investment performance of the Africa Index by investing in a portfolio of securities that generally replicates the Africa Index.

The Fund may concentrate its investments in a particular industry or group of industries to the extent that the Africa Index concentrates in an industry or group of industries. As of December 31, 2014, the Africa Index was concentrated in the financial services sector, and each of the energy, basic materials and telecommunications sectors represented a significant portion of the Africa Index.

PRINCIPAL RISKS OF INVESTING IN THE FUND

Investors in the Fund should be willing to accept a high degree of volatility in the price of the Fund's Shares and the possibility of significant losses. An investment in the Fund involves a substantial degree of risk. An investment in the Fund is not a deposit with a bank and is not insured or guaranteed by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation or any other government agency. Therefore, you should consider carefully the following risks before investing in the Fund, each of which could significantly and adversely affect the value of an investment in the Fund.

Special Risk Considerations of Investing in African Issuers. Investment in securities of African issuers involves risks not typically associated with investments in securities of issuers in more developed countries or geographic regions that may negatively affect the value of your investment in the Fund. Such heightened risks include, among others, expropriation and/or nationalization of assets, restrictions on and government intervention in international trade, confiscatory taxation, political instability, including authoritarian and/or military involvement in governmental decision making, armed conflict, the impact on the economy as a result of civil war, and social instability as a result of religious, ethnic and/or socioeconomic unrest. Unanticipated political or social developments may result in sudden and significant investment losses.

The securities markets in Africa are underdeveloped and are often considered to be less correlated to global economic cycles than those markets located in more developed countries or geographic regions. As a result, securities markets in Africa are subject to greater risks associated with market volatility, lower market capitalization, lower trading volume, illiquidity, inflation, greater price fluctuations, uncertainty regarding the existence of trading markets, governmental control and heavy regulation of labor and industry. There may also be a high concentration of trading volume in a

small number of issuers representing a limited number of sectors or industries. Moreover, trading on securities markets may be suspended altogether.

Certain economies in African countries depend to a significant degree upon exports of primary commodities such as gold, silver, copper, diamonds and oil. These economies therefore are vulnerable to changes in commodity prices, which in turn may be affected by a variety of factors.

Certain governments in Africa may restrict or control to varying degrees the ability of foreign investors to invest in securities of issuers located or operating in those countries. These restrictions and/or controls may at times limit or prevent foreign investment in securities of issuers located or operating in countries in Africa. Moreover, certain countries in Africa may require governmental approval or special licenses prior to investments by foreign investors and may limit the amount of investments by foreign investors in a particular industry and/or issuer and may limit such foreign investment to a certain class of securities of an issuer that may have less advantageous rights than the classes available for purchase by domiciliaries of those countries and/or impose additional taxes on foreign investors. These factors, among others, make investing in issuers located or operating in countries in Africa significantly riskier than investing in issuers located or operating in more developed countries, and any one of them could cause a decline in the value of the Fund's Shares.

The value of certain African currencies may be subject to a high degree of fluctuation and the income received by the Fund will be principally in African currencies. The Fund's exposure to certain African currencies and changes in value of such African

currencies versus the U.S. dollar may result in reduced returns for the Fund. Moreover, the Fund may incur costs in connection with conversions between U.S. dollars and the particular African currency.

Risk of Investing in Foreign Securities. Investments in the securities of foreign issuers involve risks beyond those associated with investments in U.S. securities. These additional risks include greater market volatility, the availability of less reliable financial information, higher transactional and custody costs, taxation by foreign governments, decreased market liquidity and political instability. Because certain foreign securities markets may be limited in size, the activity of large traders may have an undue influence on the prices of securities that trade in such markets. Because the Fund may invest in securities denominated in foreign currencies and some of the income received by the Fund may be in foreign currencies, changes in currency exchange rates may negatively impact the Fund's return. The risks of investing in emerging market countries are greater than risks associated with investments in foreign developed countries.

Risk of Investing in Frontier Market Issuers. Most African countries are considered to be frontier markets. Frontier market countries generally have smaller economies and less developed capital markets than traditional emerging markets, and, as a result, the risks of investing in frontier market countries are magnified. Investments in securities of frontier market issuers are exposed to a number of risks that may make these investments volatile in price or difficult to trade. Political risks may include unstable governments, nationalization, restrictions on foreign ownership, laws that prevent investors from getting their money out of a country and legal systems that do not protect property rights as well as the laws of the United States. Market risks may include economies that concentrate in only a few industries, securities issues that are held by only a few investors, limited trading capacity in local exchanges and the possibility that markets or issues may be manipulated by foreign nationals who have inside information.

Risk of Investing in Depositary Receipts. The Fund may invest in depositary receipts which involve similar risks to those associated with investments in foreign securities. Depositary receipts are receipts listed on U.S. or foreign exchanges issued by banks or trust companies that entitle the holder to all dividends and capital gains that are paid out on the underlying foreign shares. Investments in depositary receipts may be less liquid than the underlying shares in their primary trading market and, if not included in the Africa Index, may negatively affect the Fund's ability to replicate the performance of the Africa Index.

Risk of Investing in the Financial Services Sector. To the extent that the Africa Index continues to be concentrated in the financial services sector, the Fund will be sensitive to changes in, and its performance will depend to a greater extent on, the overall condition of the financial services sector. Companies in the financial services sector may be subject to extensive government regulation that affects the scope of their activities, the prices they can charge and the amount of capital they must maintain. The profitability of companies in the financial services sector may be adversely affected by increases in interest rates, by loan losses, which usually increase in economic downturns, and by credit rating downgrades. In addition, the financial services sector is undergoing numerous changes, including continuing consolidations, development of new products and structures and changes to its regulatory framework. Furthermore, some companies in the financial services sector perceived as benefitting from government intervention in the past may be subject to future government-imposed restrictions on their businesses or face increased government involvement in their operations. Increased government involvement in the financial services sector, including measures such as taking ownership positions in financial institutions, could result in a dilution of the Fund's investments in financial institutions. Recent developments in the credit markets may cause companies operating in the financial services sector to incur large losses, experience declines in the value of their assets and even cease operations.

Risk of Investing in the Energy Sector. To the extent that the energy sector continues to represent a significant portion of the Africa Index, the Fund will be sensitive to changes in, and its performance may depend to a greater extent on, the overall condition of the energy sector. Companies operating in the energy sector are subject to risks including, but not limited to, economic growth, worldwide demand, political instability in the regions that the

companies operate, government regulation stipulating rates charged by utilities, interest rate sensitivity, oil price volatility, energy conservation, environmental policies, depletion of resources and the cost of providing the specific utility services. Recently, the price of oil has declined significantly and experienced significant volatility, which has adversely impacted companies operating in the energy sector. In addition, these companies are at risk of civil liability from accidents resulting in injury, loss of life or property, pollution or other environmental damage claims and risk of loss from terrorism and natural disasters.

Risk of Investing in the Basic Materials Sector. To the extent that the basic materials sector continues to represent a significant portion of the Africa Index, the Fund will be sensitive to changes in, and its performance may depend to a greater extent on, the overall condition of the basic materials sector. Companies engaged in the production and distribution of basic materials may be adversely affected by changes in world events, political and economic conditions, energy conservation, environmental policies, commodity price volatility, changes in exchange rates, imposition of import controls, increased competition, depletion of resources and labor relations.

Risk of Investing in the Telecommunications Sector. To the extent that the telecommunications sector continues to represent a significant portion of the Africa Index, the Fund will be sensitive to changes in, and its performance may depend to a greater extent on, the overall condition of the telecommunications sector. Companies in the telecommunications sector may be affected by industry competition, substantial capital requirements, government regulations and obsolescence of telecommunications products and services due to technological advancement.

Risk of Investing in Small- and Medium-Capitalization Companies. Small- and medium-capitalization companies may be more volatile and more likely than large-capitalization companies to have narrower product lines, fewer financial resources, less management depth and experience and less competitive strength. In addition, these companies often have greater price volatility, lower trading volume and less liquidity than larger more established companies. Returns on investments in securities of small- and medium- capitalization companies could trail the returns on investments in securities of large-capitalization companies.

Equity Securities Risk. The value of the equity securities held by the Fund may fall due to general market and economic conditions, perceptions regarding the markets in which the issuers of securities held by the Fund participate, or factors relating to specific issuers in which the Fund invests. Equity securities are subordinated to preferred securities and debt in a company's capital structure with respect to priority in right to a share of corporate income, and therefore will be subject to greater dividend risk than preferred securities or debt instruments. In addition, while broad market measures of equity securities have historically generated higher average returns than fixed income securities, equity securities have generally also experienced significantly more volatility in those returns, although under certain market conditions fixed income securities may have comparable or greater price volatility.

Market Risk. The prices of the securities in the Fund are subject to the risks associated with investing in the securities market, including general economic conditions and sudden and unpredictable drops in value. An investment in the Fund may lose money.

Index Tracking Risk. The Fund's return may not match the return of the Africa Index for a number of reasons. For example, the Fund incurs a number of operating expenses not applicable to the Africa Index and incurs costs associated with buying and selling securities, especially when rebalancing the Fund's securities holdings to reflect changes in the composition of the Africa Index and raising cash to meet redemptions or deploying cash in connection with newly created Creation Units (defined herein). The Fund also bears the costs and risks associated with buying and selling securities while such costs and risks are not factored into the return of the Africa Index. In addition, the Fund may not be able to invest in certain securities included in the Africa Index, or invest in them in the exact proportions in which they are represented in the Africa Index, due to legal restrictions or limitations imposed by the governments of certain African countries, a lack of liquidity on stock exchanges in which such securities trade, potential adverse tax consequences or other regulatory reasons. In addition, the Fund maintains a tax reserve as a provision for Egyptian taxes while the Africa Index does not. The Fund is expected to value certain of its investments based on fair value prices. To the extent the Fund calculates its net asset value (NAV) based on fair value prices and the value of the Africa Index is based on securities' closing prices on local foreign markets (*i.e.*, the value of the Africa Index is not based on fair value prices), the Fund's ability to track the Africa Index may be adversely affected. For tax efficiency purposes, the Fund may sell certain securities to realize losses causing it to deviate from the performance of the Africa Index. In light of the above factors, including the maintenance of a tax reserve as a provision for Egyptian taxes, as discussed above, the Fund's return may deviate significantly from the return of the Africa Index.

Replication Management Risk. An investment in the Fund involves risks similar to those of investing in any fund of equity securities traded on an exchange, such as market fluctuations caused by such factors as economic and political developments, changes in interest rates and perceived trends in security prices. However, because the Fund is not actively managed, unless a specific security is removed from the Africa Index, the Fund generally would not sell a security because the security's issuer was in financial trouble. Therefore, the Fund's performance could be lower than

funds that may actively shift their portfolio assets to take advantage of market opportunities or to lessen the impact of a market decline or a decline in the value of one or more issuers.

Premium/Discount Risk. Disruptions to creations and redemptions, the existence of extreme market volatility or potential lack of an active trading market for Shares may result in Shares trading at a significant premium or discount to NAV. If a shareholder purchases Shares at a time when the market price is at a premium to the NAV or sells Shares at a time when the market price is at a discount to the NAV, the shareholder may sustain losses.

Risk of Cash Transactions. Unlike other exchange-traded funds (ETFs), the Fund expects to effect its creations and redemptions partially for cash, rather than in-kind securities. As such, investments in Shares may be less tax-efficient than an investment in a conventional ETF.

Non-Diversified Risk. The Fund is classified as a non-diversified investment company under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (the 1940 Act). Therefore, the Fund may invest a relatively high percentage of its assets in a smaller number of issuers or may invest a larger proportion of its assets in a single issuer. As a result, the gains and losses on a

single investment may have a greater impact on the Fund's NAV and may make the Fund more volatile than more diversified funds.

Concentration Risk. The Fund's assets may be concentrated in a particular sector or sectors or industry or group of industries to the extent the Africa Index concentrates in a particular sector or sectors or industry or group of industries. To the extent that the Africa Index continues to be concentrated in the financial services sector, the Fund will be subject to the risk that economic, political or other conditions that have a negative effect on that sector will negatively impact the Fund to a greater extent than if the Fund's assets were invested in a wider variety of sectors or industries.

PERFORMANCE

The bar chart that follows shows how the Fund performed for the calendar years shown. The table below the bar chart shows the Fund's average annual returns (before and after taxes). The bar chart and table provide an indication of the risks of investing in the Fund by comparing the Fund's performance from year to year and by showing how the Fund's average annual returns for the one year, five year and since inception periods compared with the Fund's benchmark index and a broad measure of market performance. All returns assume reinvestment of dividends and distributions. The Fund's past performance (before and after income taxes) is not necessarily indicative of how the Fund will perform in the future. Updated performance information is available online at www.marketvectorsetfs.com.

Annual Total Returns(%) Calendar Years

Best Quarter: 36.75% 2Q 09

Worst Quarter -18.09% 3Q 11

Average Annual Total Returns for the Periods Ended December 31, 2014

The after-tax returns presented in the table below are calculated using the highest historical individual federal marginal income tax rates and do not reflect the impact of state and local taxes. Your actual after-tax returns will depend on your specific tax situation and may differ from those shown below. After-tax returns are not relevant to investors who hold Shares of the Fund through tax-deferred arrangements, such as 401(k) plans or individual retirement accounts.

| | Past One Year | Past Five Years | Since Inception (7/10/2008) |
|---|------------------|--------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Market Vectors Africa Index ETF (return before taxes) | -12.86% | 1.31% | -4.18% |
| Market Vectors Africa Index ETF (return after taxes on distributions) | -13.55% | 0.61% | -4.76% |
| Market Vectors Africa Index ETF (return after taxes on distributions and sale of Fund Shares) | -6.91% | 0.98% | -3.13% |
| Market Vectors® GDP Africa Index (reflects no deduction for fees, expenses or taxes)* | -11.09% | 2.45% | -2.77% |
| S&P 500® Index (reflects no deduction for fees, expenses or taxes) | 13.69% | 15.45% | 10.36% |

* Prior to June 24, 2013, the Fund sought to replicate an index called the Dow Jones Africa Titans IndexSM.

Therefore index data prior to June 24, 2013, reflects that of the Dow Jones Africa Titans IndexSM. From June 24, 2013 forward, the index data reflects that of the Market Vectors® GDP Africa Index. All index history reflects a blend of the performance of the aforementioned indexes.

PORTFOLIO MANAGEMENT

Investment Adviser. Van Eck Associates Corporation.

Portfolio Managers. The following individuals are jointly and primarily responsible for the day-to-day management of the Fund's portfolio:

| Name | Title with Adviser | Date Began Managing the Fund |
|-----------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Hao-Hung (Peter) Liao | Portfolio Manager | July 2008 |
| George Chao | Portfolio Manager | July 2008 |

PURCHASE AND SALE OF FUND SHARES

The Fund issues and redeems Shares at NAV only in a large specified number of Shares each called a Creation Unit, or multiples thereof. A Creation Unit consists of 50,000 Shares.

Individual Shares of the Fund may only be purchased and sold in secondary market transactions through brokers. Shares of the Fund are listed on NYSE Arca, Inc. (NYSE Arca) and because Shares trade at market prices rather than NAV, Shares of the Fund may trade at a price greater than or less than NAV.

TAX INFORMATION

The Fund's distributions are taxable and will generally be taxed as ordinary income or capital gains.

PAYMENTS TO BROKER-DEALERS AND OTHER FINANCIAL INTERMEDIARIES

The Adviser and its related companies may pay broker-dealers or other financial intermediaries (such as a bank) for the sale of the Fund Shares and related services. These payments may create a conflict of interest by influencing your broker-dealer or other intermediary or its employees or associated persons to recommend the Fund over another investment. Ask your financial adviser or visit your financial intermediary's website for more information.

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