**Project Overview & Objectives**

1. The project aims to develop an **Interactive Stock Market Visualization Tool** to help users analyze historical stock market performance for the S&P 500 through a dynamic dashboard. It will feature historical stock data with interactive visualizations, such as time-series charts, comparative performance analysis, and a sector-based heatmap.
   1. Provide a high-level overview of the performance of the S&P 500 over time.
   2. Allow users to analyze specific stock performance trends over time (dashboard).
   3. Analyze the current components of the S&P 500 (heatmap).
   4. Include user-driven interaction to filter data and customize visualizations.

**Data Sources**

1. [**https://stockanalysis.com/list/sp-500-stocks/**](https://stockanalysis.com/list/sp-500-stocks/)
   1. List of all the stocks in the S&P 500 stock index as well current data including market cap, stock price, revenues, trade volume, etc.
2. [**https://www.kaggle.com/datasets/andrewmvd/sp-500-stocks?resource=download**](https://www.kaggle.com/datasets/andrewmvd/sp-500-stocks?resource=download)
   1. Provided additional data about the S&P 500 companies including number of employees and business summary,

**Data Ethics Considerations**

1. **Transparency of Data Sources:**
   1. All data sources, including APIs and third-party data providers, have been clearly cited above and documented to provide transparency to users.
   2. The readme file includes documentation on the origin and nature of the data used in the analysis.
   3. The project has tried to use clear and reproducible methods for data cleaning, transformation, and visualization.
2. **Accuracy of Financial Data:**
   1. Financial data has validated against original sources such as Yahoo Finance to the best of our ability to minimize errors and inaccuracies.
   2. Checks have been implemented to ensure that analysis and results align with the most recent and accurate information.
3. **Disclaimer on Financial Advice:**
   1. Note: this tool is for informational purposes only and should not be construed as financial advice.
   2. We are not financial advisors. Users should consult their own Certified Public Accountant (CPA) or financial advisor before making any investment decisions.
4. **Acknowledgment of Bias and Privacy Protections:**
   1. We acknowledge the potential biases inherent in data sources, as well as limitations in scope. Specifically, this project only focuses on the S&P 500 index. For investments, this represents just one small option among many others, such as other indexes, individual stocks, ETFs, and different types of investment products.
   2. The financial data analyzed in this project is entirely publicly available and does not involve private or sensitive information.