



Lagos, February 9, 2015

## LAFARGE SIGNS MOU WITH SHELTER AFRIQUE ON AFFORDABLE HOUSING IN NIGERIA

Lafarge Africa Plc, a leading sub-saharan Africa building solutions provider and Shelter Afrique, a Pan-African housing and development institution, today signed a Memorandum of Understanding for the purpose of facilitating access to affordable housing for low income earners in Nigeria.

The agreement which will commence with the development of identified sites at the Federal Capital Territory Abuja will be for an initial period of four years. Under the terms of the MOU, the areas of cooperation between the two organizations include provision of assistance to define the best construction technologies for use in affordable housing and micro-finance projects as well as supply of cement and concrete products for projects.

*Mr. Guillaume Roux, Group MD/CEO, Lafarge Africa Plc, said at the signing ceremony that "this is in furtherance of Lafarge's objective of complementing government's efforts to boost national development through improved infrastructure, industrialization and economic growth. Our commitment to bring more housing and better solutions to contribute to building better cities in Nigeria will be enhanced with the implementation of this agreement, which represents a new major step in our affordable housing program."*

*Mr. James Mugerwa, Managing Director, Shelter Afrique at the occasion commented that "we once again show that we are always keen on building strong partnerships and finding efficient ways to deliver affordable housing, which is a shared vision we have with Lafarge. It also shows our joint commitment to Nigeria, a very important market for affordable housing and a key player in the region. "*

Lafarge has developed an affordable housing program to address today's needs for decent and sustainable housing for all. Lafarge brings its expertise to offer affordable housing solutions to populations with low purchasing power. Since 2013, the program has provided access to decent housing for 250,000 people in 18 countries. Lafarge's objective is to facilitate access to affordable and sustainable housing for 2 million people by 2020.

In Nigeria, Lafarge started its affordable housing program tagged "Ile Irorun" in October 2013. So far, over 6000 people have been impacted by the scheme through more than 1,000 constructions, with each beneficiary having an average of 6 members in their family.

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## NOTES TO EDITORS

### **About Lafarge Africa Plc**

Lafarge Africa Plc, a leading Sub-Saharan Africa building materials company is a subsidiary of France-based Lafarge SA, a world leader in building materials. Listed on the Nigerian Stock Exchange with a presence in Africa's two largest economies, Nigeria and South Africa, Lafarge Africa is actively participating in the urbanization and economic growth of Africa.

Combining its operations in Nigeria - Ewekoro and Sagamu plants in Ogun State, Ashakacem in Gombe State, Unicem in Cross Rivers State, Atlas cement in Rivers State and Ready-Mix Nigeria with its varied operations in South Africa, Lafarge Africa has a current installed cement capacity of 12Mt, which is expected to grow to 17.5Mt by 2017. This is in addition to strong market leading positions in Aggregates, Ready mix concrete and Fly Ash.

Lafarge Africa leverages on its innovative expertise to provide valued added products and services solutions in the building and construction industry in Sub-Saharan Africa. Additional information is available on the web site at [www.lafarge.com.ng](http://www.lafarge.com.ng)

### **About Shelter Afrique**

Shelter Afrique is the only pan-African finance institution that exclusively supports the development of the housing and real estate sector in Africa. By meeting the needs of the continent's rapidly growing urban population, our work has a direct and positive impact on the lives of many.

A partnership of 44 African Governments, the African Development Bank (AfDB) and the Africa Reinsurance Company, Shelter Afrique builds strategic partnerships and offers a host of products and related services to support the efficient delivery of affordable housing and commercial real estate.

These include project finance, institutional lending, equity investments & joint ventures, trade finance, and social housing. We also offer practical advice and technical assistance to a wide range of industry stakeholders. Contact for more information [www.shelterafrique.org](http://www.shelterafrique.org)