



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Lillian Sowande  
LEAP Africa  
Tel: 01- 2706541/2  
Email: lamalu@leapafrika.org

### **TEN NIGERIAN YOUTH TO RECEIVE LEADERSHIP AWARDS**

As part of its commitment towards appreciating and supporting youth who actively strive to make positive changes within their communities, LEAP Africa will honour additional ten young Nigerians through the 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Nigerian Youth Leadership Awards.

After a meticulous screening of applications received from a nationally advertised campaign and rigorous deliberations by a team of world-class judges, ten youth from the six geopolitical zones in Nigeria, with change initiatives focused on Business and Economic Development, Environment, Education, Law and Human Rights, Health, Media, Arts and Culture, and Science and Technology, will be recipients of the Awards. These winners will receive up to Seventy Thousand Naira (₦70, 000) to support their work in local communities, in addition to a five (5) day Leadership training from LEAP Africa, widespread media attention and international publicity generated at the event.

The ten winners are:

1. Anyaegbu Francis: Youth in Transit Organization
2. Aboderin Tunde: Mobile Cinema for Climate Action
3. Alo Yejide: Young Mind Empowerment Initiative
4. Akin Rotimi: African Youth Unite for Change
5. Adesokan Balkiss: Brand it Nigeria
6. Isikwenu Oghenefego: Inspiro Communication and Media
7. Inalegwu Frank Uji: Society for Life and Human Development Initiative
8. Odiase Emmanuel: Smoke Free Nigeria Initiative
9. Okelola Olumayokun Francis: G54 Environmental Project Group
10. Okafor, Nonso Peter: Operation Quit the Street Campaign

An important component of this edition is the recognition of the efforts of the beneficiaries of LEAP's Leadership, Ethics and Civics (LEC) Programme designed to equip secondary school students with the skills and tools that they require to serve as change agents in the society. Outstanding secondary schools, teachers and social change projects will be recognized from the three participating States. The LEC Programme was piloted in the following select schools:

#### **LEAP AFRICA Ltd/Gte**

13 Omorinre Johnson Street, Lekki Phase 1, Lagos, P.O. Box 75427, Victoria Island Lagos  
Tel: (234)-1-270-6541/2; Website: [www.leapafrika.org](http://www.leapafrika.org); Email: [info@leapafrika.org](mailto:info@leapafrika.org)

- Anambra: Community Secondary School Umuokpu, Comprehensive Secondary School Nawfia, St. John of God Secondary School Awka.
- Lagos: Agboju Senior Secondary School Agboju, Lagos State Senior Model College Badore and State Senior High School Ikeja.
- Ogun State: Ansa Udeen Comprehensive College, Ota, Christ Apostolic Grammar School Iperu, Egba Owode Senior Grammar School Egba Owode.

*“We focused the LEC programme at public secondary school students who have limited access to training programmes such as LEC. And we chose SS1 students because this is when many young people make life-changing choices. In addition, instilling these skills and values in them at a young age will provide them with ample time and opportunities to work toward the change they want to see in Nigeria”.* Says Mosun Layode LEAP Africa’s Executive Director.

Building on the success of the pilot, LEAP has commenced the second phase of the LEC programme, which has commenced in fifteen additional schools (Five schools each from Anambra, Lagos and Ogun).

*“By the end of the two-year programme, it is estimated that these students would have positively impacted fourteen thousand, six hundred and fifty (14,650) lives.”* Says Mosun Layode LEAP Africa’s Executive Director.

The Awards celebration will take place from 4:00 pm at Shell Hall Muson Centre, Lagos and eminent personalities from across the country, such as guests from the private sector, government officials, members of the diplomatic corps, representatives from development organizations, as well as members of leading media agencies will be in attendance. In addition, Mallam Lamido Sanusi CBN Governor, who also serves on LEAP’s Advisory Board will serve as the Chairman of the occasion, while Mr. Sesan Awonoiki, CEO of Anchor International Consulting will serve as the Keynote Speaker for the occasion.

The event which is funded by Nokia and supported by the International Youth Foundation, have showcased the amazing efforts of 45 Nigerian youth since 2004.

Leadership, Effectiveness, Accountability & Professionalism (LEAP) Africa is a nonprofit organization, since its inception in May 2002, LEAP has been committed to inspiring, empowering and equipping a new cadre of leaders in Africa by providing the skills and tools for personal, organizational and community transformation and has successfully launched leadership programmes for business owners, social entrepreneurs, public sector officers and youth in Aba, Abuja, Awka-Ibom, Awka, Bauchi, Benin, Calabar, Enugu, Ibadan, Kano, Lagos, Minna, Ogun, Onitsha and Port Harcourt.

**LEAP AFRICA Ltd/Gte**

13 Omorinre Johnson Street, Lekki Phase 1, Lagos, P.O. Box 75427, Victoria Island Lagos  
Tel: (234)-1-270-6541/2; Website: [www.leapafrika.org](http://www.leapafrika.org); Email: [info@leapafrika.org](mailto:info@leapafrika.org)