

press release

October is 'Volunteering Month' for employees across Standard Chartered's African footprint

Employees aim to make a difference in the community with a target of more than 5,700 volunteer days

Lagos, 17 September, 2012 – October is 'Volunteering Month' for the more than seven thousand staff across Standard Chartered's African footprint. With a target of more than 5,700 days for the year, employees aim to make a difference in the lives of others by giving their personal time and effort to a variety of projects. Initiatives include: mentoring young students, advising small enterprises in financial management skills, supporting environmental initiatives, preventing the spread of Malaria and promoting HIV / AIDS awareness.

In addition to their annual leave, every staff member at Standard Chartered is entitled to three days of volunteering. The Bank's objective is to encourage employees to commit their time and unique skills to help meet the needs of their local communities. Last year, staff in Africa achieved an incredible 5,191 Employee Volunteering days against a target of 4,830 days.

Commenting on the initiative, Bola Adesola, CEO, Standard Chartered Bank Nigeria said:

"Employee Volunteering is at the heart of our brand promise, to be Here for good. It's simply another way in which we can proactively demonstrate our commitment to our staff, and to the communities in which we operate. Our members of staff in Nigeria are passionate about volunteering as these initiatives not only help individuals in the community, but also enrich the hearts and minds of our volunteers. We look forward to October bringing many inspiring volunteer activities."

Across its global footprint, the Bank has set an ambitious target of achieving over 70,000 volunteering days by the end of 2012 and the Africa Employee Volunteering Month is expected to contribute to making this target possible.

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For more information or interview opportunities, please contact:

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Standard Chartered in Nigeria

In 1965, the Standard Bank of South Africa merged with the Bank of West Africa acquiring businesses including a banking operation in Nigeria, which dated back to 1894. The name was then changed to Standard Bank of West Africa. Four years after the merger, Standard Bank Nigeria was incorporated locally to take over the business in Nigeria. In 1971, 13% of the share capital was placed with Nigerian investors. The end of the civil war saw a major economic upturn and as a consequence, the military government sought to increase local control of the retail-banking sector, hence the Bank's investment in Standard Bank Nigeria (renamed First Bank of Nigeria in 1979) was reduced to 38%. Standard Chartered remained a shareholder of First Bank of Nigeria until 1996.

Standard Chartered re-entered Nigeria in 1999 and opened to customers on 15 September 1999 as a wholly owned subsidiary of Standard Chartered Bank Plc, headquartered in United Kingdom. It now has thirty branches located in Lagos, Port Harcourt, Abuja, Ibadan, Kano, Maiduguri, Ota, Aba, Kaduna and Onitsha and Onne offering a wide range of products and services in both consumer and wholesale banking. It employs over 685 employees and sees Nigeria as a growth centre.