Title of Article: Comparative Analysis of Performance of Labour-Only and Direct Labour Contracts in Southwestern Nigeria

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Abstract: The construction industry in Nigeria is faced with challenges in the execution of construction projects involving labour-only contract and direct labour contract. This study therefore compares the performance of labour-only and directly employed contracts in southwestern Nigeria. Qualitative data were obtained from the consultants and key management staff of the companies that are responsible for decision making via in-depth interview. Qualitative data was obtained through administration of questionnaires using 5-point likert scale to measure the labour productivity and the performance of other project variables. Descriptive and inferential statistical techniques were used for the analysis. The study revealed that the productivity performance is higher in labour-only contract than direct labour contract executed in the same context and working environment. It then concluded that the use of labour-only contract should be more embraced than the direct labour contract in Nigeria.

Keywords: construction; direct labour; labour-only; performance; productivity.