

Information Summary for the Public

Host Country:	Afghanistan
Name of Borrower:	Sustainable Energy Services Afghanistan (Afghanistan)
U.S. Sponsor:	Mr. Anthony Woods
Foreign Sponsor:	None
Project Description:	To finance the installation of renewable energy systems (wind and solar) for electricity generation in rural and urban areas of Afghanistan (the “Project”).
Total Project Cost:	\$2.25 million
Proposed OPIC Loan:	\$2.00 million facility (\$750,00 maximum outstanding at any one time)
Proposed Loan Term	10 years
Developmental Effects:	This project will have a highly developmental impact in the host country. It will provide clean electricity to communities in rural Afghanistan, the majority of which are currently without any access to power. The provision of electricity in an underdeveloped region will also play an important role in enabling the growth of downstream businesses activities which will contribute to economic development in the host country. The project will further develop the renewable energy sector in Afghanistan, thereby introducing new technologies to the host country, and providing power infrastructure development that has a positive environmental impact as well. Lastly, the project will create numerous new local jobs, with strong employee benefits and training overseas.
Environmental Effects:	Procurement, assembly and installation services for small-scale renewable power generation facilities are typically screened as Category B under OPIC’s environmental guidelines because impacts are site specific and readily mitigated. The primary environmental impacts associated with the storage and assembly of wind and solar

equipment and the purchase of refrigeration systems are appropriate disposal of wastes associated both with office activities and the assembly operations, the adequacy of life safety and fire protection measures and assurance that refrigeration units do not use chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs)

Applicable Standards. The project and its contractors will be required to construct and operate the facility in accordance with (i) The International Finance Corporation's (IFC) April 30, 2007 Environmental, Health, and Safety Guidelines for Wind Energy; (ii) Applicable sections of the April 30, 2007 IFC's Environmental, Health and Safety General Guidelines; and (iii) All national and local regulations on environment, health, and safety in Afghanistan.

Impacts and Mitigation Measures. The project activities will not involve the acquisition of any land. The existing warehouse has sufficient space to hold equipment for current projects and if more space is needed in the future, the project will rent space in an existing building. Installation of equipment is done on marginal land allocated to the project by the community. Equipment may not be installed on any of the following:

- Contaminated sites
- Internationally recognized protected areas or critical forest habitats
- Locations that would require involuntary resettlement or significant economic displacement.
- Areas that pose a major hazard to human health or safety.
- Areas that necessitate the destruction or significant degradation of habitat of a critically endangered or endangered species.
- For wind energy systems, areas

	<p>within known migratory bird flyways or in or adjacent to known bat habitats.</p> <p>Any metal solid waste will be sold to secondhand metal agents in Kabul. The facility has its own septic system to handle sanitary wastes. Kitchen wastes are composted on site and used to fertilize the gardens in the compound.</p> <p>Refrigeration units will be imported either new or used from New Zealand. Before being imported into Afghanistan, the units will have the installed refrigeration components removed and replaced in New Zealand by registered companies. Any CFCs present in the units would be correctly recovered and disposed. New refrigeration units purchased in New Zealand would be installed using non-CFC refrigerants as per New Zealand standards.</p> <p>The project will be required to develop and implement an Occupational, Health and Safety plan that will include emergency measures to address any possible chemical leakage from the solar panels or refrigeration units and provide details regarding fall protection training.</p>
Worker Rights:	<p>OPIC's statutorily required standard worker rights language will be supplemented with provisions concerning the right of association, organization and collective bargaining, minimum age requirements, minimum wages, timely payment of wages, hours of work, and hazardous working situations. Standard and supplemental contract language will be applied to all workers of the Project.</p>
Human Rights:	<p>In consultation with the Department of State, the project received a Human Rights Clearance on May 6, 2009.</p>