

## INFORMATION SUMMARY FOR THE PUBLIC

Host Country:	Afghanistan
Name of Borrower(s):	American Wool Cashmere, Inc. (“AWC”), a Maryland corporation.
Project Description:	To provide working capital for AWC’s export and brokerage of Afghan cashmere (the “Project”), providing liquidity for local cashmere suppliers to cover the long lead time between the cashmere collection and the final sale to foreign buyers.
Proposed OPIC Loan:	A \$10,000,000 facility consisting of a series of working capital disbursements, the maximum outstanding principal balance of which shall not exceed \$3,500,000 at any time.
Total Project Costs:	\$13,400,000
U.S. Sponsor:	Mr. Nesar Nusraty, a US citizen and 100% owner of AWC.
Foreign Sponsor:	Not applicable.
<b>Policy Review</b>	
U.S. Economic Impact:	The project is not expected to have a negative impact on the U.S. economy, as the U.S. produces a limited amount of raw cashmere. There is no U.S. procurement associated with this project, and the project is expected to have a neutral impact on U.S. employment. The project is expected to have a negative five-year U.S. balance of payments impact.
Developmental Effects:	This project will have a positive developmental impact on Afghanistan. The project will continue to provide working capital advances to local cashmere suppliers, enabling them to earn higher incomes for their product. With these funds, the Afghan suppliers will continue to have capital to purchase raw Afghan cashmere from the local farmers, which, in turn, will increase the level of hand-sorting conducted in Afghanistan. The project will enable suppliers in Afghanistan to continue to expand their cashmere processing operations, increase exports, and employ hundreds of seasonal low-skilled workers.
Environment:	Operations associated with medium-scale wool products distribution without taking physical possession of goods are screened as Category B projects under OPIC’s environmental and social guidelines because impacts are minimal and readily mitigated.
Workers’ Rights:	OPIC’s statutorily required standard worker rights language will be supplemented with provisions concerning the rights of association, organization and collective bargaining, minimum age for employment, hours of work, the timely payment of wages and hazardous work situations. Standard and supplemental contract language will be applied to all workers of

	the Project. The Project will also be required to operate in a manner consistent with the requirements of the International Finance Corporation's Performance Standard 2 on Labor and Working Conditions. Standard and supplemental contract language will be applied to all workers engaged by the Project.
Human Rights:	OPIC issued a human rights clearance for this Project March 21, 2014.