

Public Information Summary

Host Country:	South Sudan
Name of Borrower:	Grand Hotel Juba, a Delaware limited liability company
Project Description:	<p>The project is the construction and operation of a 150-room 3- or 4-star hotel in Juba, South Sudan. The secure, Western-style hotel will include conference and meeting facilities, restaurants, and a fitness center. These and other amenities will address the needs of its target market of foreign professionals that make up the wave of international support for the new country of South Sudan.</p> <p>Following its independence in 2011, South Sudan finds itself in serious need of development and private investment in a number of economics areas, including its hospitality sector. In addition to developing that sector, the project will contribute to development by enabling foreign diplomats, development professionals, and business professionals to conduct business in South Sudan while staying and meeting in safe and reasonable accommodations.</p>
Proposed OPIC Loan:	\$19,500,000 (14-year tenor, including a 2.5-year grace period)
Total Project Costs:	\$30,000,000
U.S. Sponsor:	Aquila Investments LLC, a Delaware limited liability company owned by Barbara Gibian, an American citizen.
Foreign Sponsor:	Fathi M. Taher, a Jordanian citizen.
Policy Review	
U.S. Economic Impact:	Since the project involves the construction of a hotel in South Sudan, there is no potential for an adverse effect on the U.S. economy. The project is expected to have a neutral impact on U.S employment and a net negative effect on the U.S. balance of payments over the first five years. Cleared on 1/14/2013.

Developmental Effects:	This project will have a positive developmental impact on the host country. With recent independence from Sudan, South Sudan is working to build its economy after years of neglect. The expansion of the hospitality industry that caters to business travelers is important for South Sudan to accommodate and attract foreign investors. The country is already witnessing more visitors pursuing investments in the country's oil, mining and agricultural industries, and this trend is only expected to increase. This project will also support both new permanent and construction jobs, with benefits, in a country dealing with high levels of unemployment. Cleared on 1/14/2013.
Environment:	The project has been reviewed against OPIC's categorical prohibitions and has been determined to be categorically eligible. Projects involving construction and operation of a hotel in an urban setting are screened as Category B under OPIC's environmental and social guidelines because impacts are site-specific and readily mitigated. Environmental and social issues associated with the project include the need for appropriate occupational health and safety measures for workers involved in construction and maintenance activities, availability of potable water, wastewater and solid waste disposal services, and the adequacy of life safety and fire protection measures. Cleared on 1/14/2013.
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 be required to operate in a manner consistent with the International Finance Corporation's Performance Standard 2 on Labor and Working Conditions. Cleared on 1/25/2013.
Human Rights:	Cleared on 1/25/2013.