

### Information Summary for the Public

<b>Host Country:</b>	Afghanistan
<b>Name of Borrower:</b>	Pacific Collection/Tribal Loom (co-borrowers)
<b>U.S. Sponsor:</b>	U.S. Citizen
<b>Foreign Sponsor:</b>	None.
<b>Project Description:</b>	Expansion of a hand-woven rug manufacturing and finishing operation.
<b>Total Project Cost:</b>	<b>\$1.5 million</b>
<b>Proposed OPIC Loan:</b>	<b>\$975,000</b>
<b>Developmental Effects:</b>	<p>This project will have a positive developmental impact on the host country by providing home-based employment to Afghan women, and retaining the finishing and processing stages of the rug-making industry in Kabul – most rug-makers source these to Pakistan. The project will also generate foreign exchange earnings through its rug exports to the United States.</p>
<b>Environment:</b>	<p>Textile manufacturing projects are screened as Category B projects under OPIC’s environmental guidelines because impacts are site specific and readily mitigated. The major concerns related to textile manufacturing projects are water supply and wastewater discharge, construction related impacts, waste management, occupational health and safety, and the adequacy of life safety and fire protection measures.</p> <p>Applicable standards. The project will be required construct and operate the facility in accordance with (i) the International Finance Corporation’s April 30, 2007 Environmental and Health and Safety Guidelines for Textile Manufacturing; (ii) applicable provisions of the International Finance Corporation’s April 30, 2007 General Environmental and Health and Safety Guidelines; and (iii) all applicable environmental, health and safety requirements of Afghanistan.</p> <p>Impacts and Mitigation Measures. The existing project facilities are located in Kabul and Mazar-i-Sharif. The current project sites are not located in a floodplain or near areas of cultural or ecological significance. The project will not result in adverse impacts on protected areas or critical habitats. The project will not result in physical or economic displacement. The project is not expected to generate significant greenhouse gas emissions.</p>

	<p>The project will construct a new rug manufacturing and finishing facility that will include two buildings. One building will be used for finishing processes, warehousing, export packing, design studio and office space. A second building will be used for winter drying space and contain an enclosed space for rug “dusting”- the use of large tumblers to tumble dry and allow sand and grit to vibrate out of the rugs.</p> <p>The manufacturing process will be traditional in nature and only natural dyes, derived from plant sources, and mild rug shampoo will be used. Greywater generated from operations will be recycled for irrigation purposes. The project has not yet identified the site for the new production facility, and will be required to provide additional information regarding the selected site once one has been identified. Currently both production and potable water are provided to the existing production facilities via installed wells.</p> <p>The project will be required to develop and implement a wastewater monitoring and management plan demonstrating compliance with the 2006 World Health Organization Guidelines for the Safe Use of Wastewater, Excreta and Greywater, Volume 4. Additionally, the project will be required to develop a baseline environmental assessment of the selected site for the new facility, a solid waste management plan for both the existing and new facility, and a fire safety plan for both the existing and new facility.</p>
<b>Workers Rights:</b>	<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, timely payment of wages, minimum wages, hours of work, and hazardous working situations. Standard and supplemental contract language will be applied to all workers of the Project.</p>
<b>Human Rights:</b>	<p>In consultation with the Department of State, the project received a Human Rights Clearance on September 4, 2008.</p>