

## INFORMATION SUMMARY FOR THE PUBLIC

Host Country(ies):	All OPIC Countries
Name of Borrower(s):	A special purpose vehicle to be established in Ireland (the “Borrower”)
Project Description:	International students admitted to top graduate schools have limited options to finance their educations. OPIC will provide a \$50 million loan funded through OPIC-guaranteed loan participations to the Borrower to support the financing of graduate student loans for students from OPIC-eligible countries attending top-tier graduate schools in business, engineering, science, law, and public policy globally (the “Project”). The Project is expected to lead to better options for talented foreign students who wish to pursue graduate degrees outside of their home countries, particularly those from low-income and lower-middle income countries and women.
Proposed OPIC Loan:	\$50 million; 26 year term
Total Project Costs:	\$89 million
U.S. Sponsor:	TBD
Foreign Sponsor:	Prodigy Finance Limited, a company organized in the United Kingdom and regulated by the United Kingdom’s Financial Conduct Authority
<b>Policy Review</b>	
U.S. Economic Impact:	The Project is not expected to have a negative impact on the U.S. economy. Approximately 90 percent of the value of student loans will be used to pay tuition at top-tier U.S. universities. International students studying at U.S. colleges and universities contribute \$39 billion to the U.S. economy and support more than 400,000 jobs, according to NAFSA, the Association of International Educators.
Developmental Effects:	This Project is expected to have a highly developmental impact by expanding the availability of credit to high-potential students who otherwise may not be able to afford graduate-level education at a top-tier university. Over half of the students supported by Prodigy are the first person in their family to obtain higher education and 30 percent earn less than \$15,000 per year prior to attending the postgraduate program. The explosive growth in demand for postgraduate education in emerging markets is due to the rising middle class that has put enormous capacity constraints on local universities. In India alone, the demand for tertiary education is expected to increase from 19 million students in 2013 to 69 million by 2030. India currently has a tertiary gross enrollment ratio (GER) of only

	<p><a href="#">25.8 percent</a> (2017/18), compared with GERs of 50 percent, 48.4 percent, and 81.8 percent in Brazil, China, and Russia, respectively, according to the latest available <a href="#">UNESCO data</a>. In addition, the quality of education of these universities is often insufficient for graduates to compete both domestically and internationally. The Project will enable students to pursue careers with high earning potential in the fields of business, science, technology, engineering, mathematics, law, and public policy, which will add to the pool of talent in their home country or provide financial support for students' families living outside their country of residence. At least 50 percent of the loans will be made to students from low-income or low-middle-income countries, as defined by the World Bank. Thirty percent of the student loans will be made to female students. The Project will enable Prodigy to provide borrowers a longer repayment period, which provides students with flexibility and less of a financial burden in the early years of employment.</p>
<p>Environment:</p>	<p><b>SCREENING:</b> The Project has been reviewed against OPIC's categorical prohibitions and has been determined to be categorically eligible. Loans to finance international student loan programs are considered financial transactions and are screened as Category C projects under OPIC's Environmental and Social Policy. Environmental, health and safety impacts are minimal. Financial transactions are not considered vulnerable to climate change and an assessment of climate resiliency pursuant to Executive Order 13677 is not warranted.</p> <p><b>SCOPE OF REVIEW:</b> This environmental and social assessment was based on information submitted in the Request for Clearance and OPIC Form 248 – Office of Policy Investment Questionnaire (December 2016), Preliminary Information Memorandum (undated), Health and Safety Procedures (undated) and responses to OPIC's request for additional information (January 2017).</p> <p><b>APPLICABLE STANDARDS:</b> Under OPIC's Environmental and Social Policies, the Borrower is required to comply with applicable national laws and regulations related to environmental and social performance. OPIC's environmental due diligence indicates that the Project will have impacts which must be managed in a manner consistent with the following International Finance Corporation's (IFC) 2012 Performance Standards (PS):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>P.S. 1: Assessment and Management of Environmental and Social Risks and Impacts</li> <li>P.S. 2: Labor and Working Conditions</li> </ul>

	<p>Additionally, the Project will be required to meet applicable provisions of the IFC's April 30, 2007 Environmental Health and Safety (EHS) General Guidelines and Sector Guidelines.</p> <p><b>KEY ENVIRONMENTAL &amp; SOCIAL ISSUES AND MITIGATION:</b></p> <p>As a condition precedent to financial close, the Borrower will develop and provide OPIC a copy of its Environmental and Social Policy to assess and manage the environmental risks of its operations in conformance with P.S. 1. The Project's Health and Safety Plan conforms with P.S. 2 and includes procedures for life and fire safety and emergency response and preparedness.</p>
<p>Social Assessment:</p>	<p>The Project will be required to operate in a manner consistent with the International Finance Corporation's Performance Standards, OPIC's Environmental and Social Policy Statement and applicable local laws. The Project's human resource policies and procedures have been evaluated against the IFC Performance Standards. OPIC's statutorily required language will be supplemented with provisions concerning the rights of association, organization and collective bargaining, minimum age of employment, prohibition against the use of forced labor, non-discrimination, hours of work, the timely payment of wages, and hazardous working conditions. Standard and supplemental contract language will be applied to all workers of the Project, including contracted workers. The Project will be required to provide an anonymous channel for worker grievances. This review covers the commensurate human rights risks associated with educational service projects in South Africa.</p>