



Public Project Profile

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| Host Country: | India |
| Name of Borrower: | Water Health India Private Limited (“WHIN”) |
| Project Description: | The OPIC Loan will primarily be used to finance the installation of Water Vending Machines to provide access to clean water for mobile customers in India. |
| Proposed OPIC Loan: | \$12.5 million, 8.5 years |
| Total Project Cost: | Approximately \$16.65 million |
| U.S. Sponsor: | WaterHealth International, Inc. (Delaware) |
| Foreign Sponsor: | None |
| U.S. Economic Impact: | This Project involves the distribution of purified water in India and is not expected to have a negative impact on the U.S. economy. There is no U.S. procurement associated with this Project, and therefore the Project is expected to have a neutral impact on U.S. employment and the U.S. trade balance. |
| Developmental Effects: | <p>This Project is expected to have a highly developmental impact by providing easily accessible clean water for rail travelers and other mobile consumers in India. Current water options in the India railway system include either free public drinking fountains at railway stations, which are often contaminated with high levels of total dissolved solids, bacteria, and viral organisms, or expensive bottled water. The Project’s machines dispense clean, treated water at a cost that is 3-4 times lower than existing bottled water options sold at food stalls throughout the stations.</p> <p>This Project will ensure greater accessibility of low-cost, clean drinking water at rail stations and other high footfall locations across India. This Project will create more than 1,000 local jobs, and aligns with UN Sustainable Development Goal #6, Clean Water and Sanitation.</p> |
| Environment | <p>Screening: The Project has been reviewed against OPIC’s categorical prohibitions and has been determined to be categorically eligible. Projects involving investments in portable drinking water systems are generally screened as Category B projects under OPIC’s environmental and social guidelines because impacts are site-specific and readily mitigated. The primary environmental and social issues associated with the Project include the need for a robust environmental and social management system to ensure the Project is developed, implemented, and managed in accordance with the IFC’s 2012 Performance Standards and 2007 Environmental Health and Safety (EHS) General Guidelines. The Project is subject to a Climate Resiliency Screening per Executive Order 13677.</p> <p>Applicable Standards: Under OPIC’s Environmental and Social Policy (January 2017), WHIN is required to comply with applicable national laws and regulations related to environmental and social performance. OPIC’s environmental and social due diligence indicates that the Project will have impacts which must be managed in a manner consistent with the following International Finance Corporation’s Performance Standards (PS):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PS 1: Assessment and Management of Environmental and Social Risks and Impacts • PS 2: Labor and Working Conditions • PS 3: Resource Efficiency and Pollution Prevention |



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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• PS 4: Community Health, Safety, and Security <p>A desk-review due diligence assessment indicates the Project site is located within existing railway station buildings in India. The Project does not affect protected areas or sensitive ecosystems and adverse impacts on biodiversity are not anticipated. Therefore, P.S. 6 is not triggered at this time.</p> <p>The Project will be required to meet applicable provisions of the IFC Environmental Health and Safety General Guidelines.</p> <p>Environmental and Social Risks and Mitigation: The primary environmental risks associated with the Project are specific to the operation of portable water purification systems installed to dispense safe drinking water for passengers and visitors of the national railway stations in India and other high footfall locations. The Project has an Environmental Management System (EMS) Policy to identify and manage environmental risks associated with the production of safe drinking water and adheres to ISO 10500 potable water quality standards. The Project also includes tamper resistance measures, monitoring and adaptive management to ensure the quality of the water produced.</p> |
| Social Assessment | <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.</p> <p>OPIC's statutorily required language will be supplemented with provisions concerning non-discrimination, hourly or quota based 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.</p> <p>This Project involves financing for the development and sale of purified water in India. The Project has developed and implemented policies and procedures that addresses social risk, including labor, commensurate with the Project activities.</p> <p>This review covers the commensurate human rights risks associated with the development and sale of purified water in India.</p> |