

INFORMATION SUMMARY FOR THE PUBLIC

Host Country:	Costa Rica
Name of Borrower:	GoSolar Energy Efficiency S.R.L., a limited liability corporation organized under the laws of Costa Rica (the “Borrower” or “GoSolar”).
Project Description:	GoSolar will develop, finance, install and operate small scale solar power facilities in Costa Rica. Solar power has not yet been effectively established in Costa Rica and GoSolar will be the first to utilize financial engineering (leasing) to make this technology more available and economical. GoSolar is expected to contribute significantly to a rapid growth rate of solar power in Costa Rica.
Proposed OPIC Loan:	\$6,500,000
Total Project Costs:	\$12,275,000
U.S. Sponsor:	Ashok Raj Chabria, a U.S. Citizen Edwin Bauerfreund, a U.S. Citizen
Foreign Sponsor:	N/A
Policy Review	
U.S. Economic Impact:	The project is not expected to have a negative impact on the U.S. economy. The project is expected to have a small, but positive, 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 Costa Rica’s energy sector. The investment will result in the expansion of the project company’s existing solar energy systems sales, installation and financing operations. The project will improve the overall energy infrastructure in Costa Rica by adding more solar generation both off-grid and connected to the electric grid. Costa Rica’s energy generation is primarily generated by hydropower (71 percent of generation in 2012) ¹ , and this project will help diversify the country’s energy portfolio. The project will also make use of integrated smart grid systems, which are relatively uncommon in Costa Rica, for large-scale energy customers. Additionally, the project will create managerial and technical jobs.
Environment:	Screening: This project has been reviewed against OPIC’s categorical prohibitions and determined to be categorically eligible. Small-scale renewable power generation facilities are screened as Category B under OPIC’s environmental and social guidelines because impacts are site specific and readily

¹ U.S. Energy Information Administration, International Energy Statistics <http://www.eia.gov/beta/international/>

mitigated. The major environmental and social issues associated with photovoltaic projects are land use issues, visual impacts, general occupational health and safety issues related to panel installation, and the disposal of panels at the end of their useful life.

Applicable Standards: Under OPIC's Environmental and Social Policies, the Borrower will be required to comply with applicable national laws and regulations related to environmental and social performance and applicable provisions of the International Finance Corporation's Performance Standard (P.S.) 1, 2, 3 and 4.

- 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;*
- PS 4: *Community Health, Safety and Security*

In addition to the Performance Standards listed above, the IFC's April 2007 Environmental, Health, and Safety General Guidelines are applicable to this project.

The project does not involve physical or economic displacement and no land will be purchased for the project. The Borrower will install the rooftop systems on existing buildings in urban/suburban areas; therefore significant biodiversity impacts are not anticipated. The Project will not impact any indigenous peoples or cultural sites. Therefore, PS's 5, 6, 7, and 8 do not apply to this project.

Environmental and Social Risks: Environmental and social risks for this project are anticipated to be small. The Borrower will provide grid-connected and off-grid solar systems, solar thermal, and Smart Grid technology solutions to select target markets of residential, small and medium enterprises, and large-scale industrial customers. Potential risks include those for the health and safety of workers and those in the community, and the proper handling and disposal of construction and decommissioned solar panel materials.

Risk Mitigation: The Borrower frames projects around national requirements and its leading team members are competent in following local regulations and serving as a conduit between clients, government agencies, and the utilities.

	<p>The Borrower has three members on its technical team that oversees every installation for clients, verifying that all environmental, social and technical conditions are satisfactory. The Borrower will be required to provide OPIC with its Social and Environmental Management Plan, which will include an environmental and social policy and a community grievance mechanism, and an Occupational Health and Safety Plan for its review and approval.</p>
Workers' Rights:	<p>OPIC's statutorily required standard worker rights language will be supplemented with provisions concerning the right of association, organization and collective bargaining. The Borrower 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.</p>
Human Rights:	<p>OPIC issued a human rights clearance for the project on August 19, 2015.</p>