

PROJECT ABSTRACT

Universidad San Ignacio de Loyola (USIL)

(PE-L1141)

PERU

Founded in 1995 and headquartered in Lima, Peru, the Universidad San Ignacio de Loyola (USIL) is a socially inclusive private university that serves 12,000 students and employs 2,300 academic and administrative staff. Approximately half of USIL's students are women, and approximately one quarter (3,088 students) are young working adults (over 24 years of age, an underserved group, living in urban centers and self-funding their education). Over half of USIL's students receive tuition discounts of 50% or more.

USIL has developed a proprietary Competence-Based Education Model that focuses on bilingual, entrepreneurial education and a commitment to social responsibility. With a curriculum focused on technical and business-oriented disciplines, USIL seeks to develop the required skills needed by Peru's increasingly knowledge-based economy.

USIL is undertaking a capital expenditure program to upgrade and expand its campuses. The expansion project includes investments in infrastructure (including "green" buildings), equipment, research facilities, and the rollout of an innovative student loan program. USIL has decided to embark on a process of international accreditation. The increased costs to be incurred by USIL to qualify for this accreditation will be offset by the refinancing of its existing bank lines.

The IDB's proposed US\$29 million A Loan will support the USIL to achieve its goals of providing quality higher education to its existing 12,000 students and increasing its capacity to approximately 25,000 over the next ten years. With IDB support, USIL will be able to: (i) establish a student loan fund; (ii) extend its average debt maturity to improve its sustainability; (iii) expand and upgrade its infrastructure to contribute to more than doubling its capacity; and (iv) achieve international quality accreditation.