

Memorandum to: GRIF Steering Committee Members, GRIF Trustee, Partner Entity, Executing Agency From: GRIF Secretariat Date: September 25, 2023 Subject: Record of Decisions GRIF 2023, ICT Extension Request

Dear GRIF Steering Committee Members, GRIF Trustee, Partner Entity and Implementing Entity,

On 31 May 2023, the ICT for Hinterland, Poor and Remote Communities Project requested a second interim extension from 1 June to 30 November 2023 to the GRIF Steering Committee to complete the re-scoping of project activities and to prepare a proposal for a costed extension. The request was complemented by information provided to the GRIF Secretariat by the partner entity and implementing entity on several occasions since the request was submitted.

In reviewing the submitted information, the GRIF Steering Committee noted:

- The efforts to strengthen the project management, information-sharing and collaboration between project partners in the past few months;
- The initiation of a mid-term evaluation which is expected to be completed by the end of October 2023, after which a substantive revision of the project will be finalized;
- The Government of Guyana policy decision for the National Data Management Authority (NDMA) to provide and maintain the internet connectivity for the ICT hubs;
- The submission to the GRIF Secretariat of the annual reports for the period 2020-2022.

Considering the above, the GRIF Steering Committee **has approved** the no-cost extension of the ICT for Hinterland, Poor and Remote Communities Project for six (6) months, extending the project end date to 30 November 2023. During the approved extension, the project may continue the implementation of project activities according to the submitted annual work plan for the extension period, finalize the mid-term evaluation and substantive revision.

The Steering Committee requests that the project partners submit the proposal for a substantive project revision no less than 3 weeks before the conclusion of the interim extension.

A decision related to a costed extension beyond November 2023 will be considered based on the proposed substantive revision and accompanying implementation plan, which should be informed by the mid-term evaluation. The Steering Committee also encourages the project partners to ensure that the submission includes a detailed plan with timelines and clarification of the roles and responsibilities of the different stakeholders for the installation and operation of internet connectivity.

Kind regards,

David Fernandez GGGI Guyana On behalf of GRIF Secretariat