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PRESS RELEASE

GOB Launches National Grievance Redress Mechanism for Development Projects

Belmopan, June 13, 2025.

The Government of Belize, through the Ministry of Finance's Central Execution Unit (CEU), announces the official launch of its Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM), a national initiative designed to promote accountability, transparency, and citizen engagement development projects under the CEU's oversight. This GRM serves to improve project implementation by providing all project-affected persons (PAPs), stakeholders, and vulnerable groups with clear, accessible, and inclusive channels to voice their concerns and receive timely, fair resolutions. It is a key safeguard aligned with the Government's national priorities and commitment to uphold international Environmental and Social Standards in partnership with the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), World Bank, and other development partners.

Key features of the CEU Grievance Redress Mechanism include:

- Multiple complaint channels:
 - Face-to-face reporting at CEU offices or with local officials (alcaldes, councillors, MPs)
 - o Grievance Drop boxes at project sites and community locations
 - Dedicated Landline: +501 822-4106
 - o Email : <u>grievance@ceu.mof.gov.bz</u>
 - Website: https://mof.gov.bz/complaints/
- Timely acknowledgement and investigation: All complaints are acknowledged within 3 working days and undergo screening and investigation within 5 working days.

- **Structured resolution process**: Grievances are addressed in a fair and transparent manner with documented outcomes, timelines, and complainant feedback.
- Appeals and escalation: Unresolved grievances are reviewed by the CEU Grievance Redress Steering Committee System, with further recourse through the courts (if necessary), ensuring every voice is heard.
- Confidentiality and protection: Complainants may report anonymously and request confidentiality to ensure their safety and dignity.

To enhance collaboration between the Government and the people of Belize, there will be a series of planned public outreach activities designed to engage with stakeholders at strategic project implementation zones across the country.

For more information, visit: <u>Complaints - Ministry of Finance</u> https://mof.gov.bz/complaints/

To submit a grievance, contact: grievance@ceu.mof.gov.bz

Ends