**THE RATIONALE:**

The GICHD Innovation Conference builds on previous iterations of the Technology Workshop (TW), which was held every two years and focused on technology only. Following the last iteration of this workshop, the GICHD decided to pivot the workshop to include broader innovative approaches (including technology) to ensure that the ‘dots are joined’ more consistently across this important thematic. Therefore, the Innovation Conference will be underpinned by the challenges that we as a sector face at the moment and for which we need to develop innovative solutions to resolve them.

The conference will provide a unique platform to discuss current Explosive Ordnance Risk Reduction (EORR) challenges, which are those relating to mine action and ammunition management activities aiming to reduce the risks posed by explosive ordnance. The conference will also provide opportunities to debate new ideas that leverage knowledge to promote the efficient use of innovative solutions, including concepts, methods, and tools in both applied and developmental stages. By framing the challenges and inviting EORR practitioners and external experts to contribute to solutions, the Innovation Conference aims to provide a forum that should enhance EORR innovation capabilities and concretise some of the follow up actions across the sector.