

Request for Offers

Research Associate(s) specialised in blast and fragmentation mitigation

Introduction

The Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining (GICHD) is pleased to invite consultants to submit a quotation for the provision of the services described below as per requirements set out in this request for offers (RFO).

Reference number	RFO/2026/GHD (01)
Project number	1007
Posting date	27 February 2026
Deadline for submission of the offer	22 March 2026, 23.59, Geneva Time
Currency	The quotation shall be presented in Swiss Francs (CHF)
Language	The quotation shall be submitted in English
Submit to	g.darlow@gichd.org and p.basto@gichd.org

RFO Terms

By participating in this RFO (e.g., by submitting an offer), you agree to the following terms:

- This RFO is not a contractual offer and does not create any obligation on the part of GICHD to award a contract or to accept any offer. GICHD reserves the right to reject any or all offers, to withdraw or amend this RFO at any time, or to cancel the procurement process without providing reasons and without incurring any liability towards the participants.
- GICHD shall not be liable for any costs or expenses incurred by the participants in connection with the preparation or submission of an offer.
- GICHD is under no obligation to provide feedback or explanations regarding the selection or rejection of any offer.
- Evaluation of offers will be at the sole discretion of the GICHD.
- GICHD reserves the right to negotiate the terms of any offer or contract, including price, scope, and timelines, with any participant.
- This RFO and any related process shall be governed by the laws of Switzerland and subject to the exclusive jurisdiction of the courts of Geneva, Switzerland.

Requirements

Specification of Services	<p>Provide research support to a project team conducting research on technologies and methodologies designed to mitigate the effects of blast and fragmentation arising from Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD) operations in urban environments. Key responsibilities include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Literature review: conducting a comprehensive mapping of existing technologies and methodologies intended to reduce blast and fragmentation impacts in EOD operations, as well as in other relevant sectors (e.g. urban construction and planning, mining and quarrying, and port construction). • Data collection: supporting the testing and evaluation of selected emerging or novel technologies and methodologies to determine their applicability and performance in relevant operational settings. • Data analysis: assessment of existing technologies and methodologies for suitability, effectiveness, and operational limitations, including selection of those to be subject to trials. • Reporting: consolidating research findings, including the results of trials and evaluations, into comprehensive and coherent sections of the reports. • Dissemination: contributing to the Mine Action Innovation Hub Technical Sub-group on protective works, including active participation in technical discussions and the provision of subject-matter input.
Timing	<p>Anticipated workload of maximum 50 days delivered no later than 30th November 2026, with most workload between 1st April and 30th August.</p>
Terms	<p>Suppliers must agree to comply with GICHD’s Partner Code of Conduct, the GICHD General Terms and Conditions (subject only to commercial negotiations), and any donor-mandated compliance clauses.</p>
Other requirements	<p>The team or individual must demonstrate:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A strong technical background in the physics of blast and fragmentation as well as respective protective works; • direct experience related to explosive ordnance is desirable but not mandatory. • Consultant(s) shall hold a Master of Science (MSc) in Explosives Engineering, or an equivalent qualification, • a minimum of five (5) years’ professional experience in the testing, evaluation, and applied research of explosive engineering systems and methodologies.

Proposal

The supplier shall provide a coherent, organized and clear proposal in response to the request. The proposal should at least cover the following items:

- Name of company/individual
- Address, contact details
- Description of how the requirements set out above will be met by the supplier
- Portfolio of relevant previous work or research.
- Pricing: The selected supplier will present a quote for the hourly/daily rate based on the expectation of the project requiring up to 50 days of work.
- Evaluation will be based on the combination of
 - presented expertise,
 - coherence and clarity of the proposal
 - and cost