



TERMS OF REFERENCE (ToR)

Unexploded Ordnance (UXO) Survey and Clearance for Proposed 4-Storey Office Building

Project Site Area: 0.17 hectares

Location: Auki Town, Malaita Province

Date: 8/10/2025

Client: Ministry of Lands, Housing & Survey



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1. Background

The Solomon Islands was a major battleground during World War II, resulting in the presence of unexploded ordnance (UXO) and explosive remnants of war (ERW) across many areas. Prior to any ground disturbance or construction, a UXO survey and clearance must be undertaken to ensure the safety of workers, contractors, and the public.

The Ministry of Lands, Housing and Survey, as the project proponent, intends to construct a 4-storey office building on approximately 0.17 hectares of land in Auki town, Malaita Province. The proposed development area may contain UXOs due to historical wartime activities. This ToR outlines the scope and methodology required for a professional UXO investigation to ensure the site is certified safe for civil works and construction activities.



2. Objectives

The main objectives of the UXO investigation are to:

1. Identify, locate, and assess the potential risk of UXOs or ERWs within the project site.
 2. Conduct safe clearance, recovery, and disposal of any identified UXOs or ERWs.
 3. Certify the site as “UXO-Cleared” and safe for construction.
 4. Provide recommendations for ongoing safety and management during construction.
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3. Scope of Work

The consultant or UXO contractor shall carry out the following tasks:

3.1 Preliminary Assessment

- Review available historical records, maps, and previous UXO data for the area.
- Conduct stakeholder consultations with the Royal Solomon Islands Police Force (RSIPF) Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD) Unit and local authorities.
- Undertake an initial risk assessment to identify potential UXO threat levels.

3.2 Non-Technical Survey (NTS)

- Conduct field reconnaissance to identify potential UXO contamination indicators (e.g., craters, fragments, reports from locals).
- Mark potential risk areas on a georeferenced site map.

3.3 Technical Survey

- Utilize appropriate detection methods (e.g., magnetometers, ground-penetrating radar, or handheld metal detectors) to locate subsurface UXOs.
- Record all detected anomalies and confirm their type and depth.
- Mark and secure any confirmed UXO locations.

3.4 Clearance and Disposal

- Undertake safe removal or destruction of UXOs under supervision of certified EOD technicians in coordination with RSIPF.
- Comply with international safety standards such as IMAS (International Mine Action Standards).

3.5 Reporting and Certification

- Provide daily and final clearance reports detailing:
 - Methodology used
 - UXO types and quantities found
 - GPS coordinates of clearance zones
 - Risk assessment findings
 - Submit a **Final UXO Clearance Certificate** confirming the site is safe for construction.
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4. Deliverables

The following deliverables are expected:

Deliverable	Description	Timeline
Inception Report	Detailing work plan, methodology, and schedule	Within 1 week of contract signing
Preliminary Risk Assessment	Summary of historical data and site risk profile	Week 2
Survey Report	Mapping of detected anomalies and findings	Week 3
Clearance Completion Report	Details of clearance operations	Week 4
UXO Clearance Certificate	Issued by certified authority or contractor	Week 4–5

5. Duration and Schedule

The assignment is expected to take **4–5 weeks**, depending on site conditions and weather.

6. Expertise and Qualification

The selected UXO Contractor must:

- Be certified and licensed to conduct UXO operations in the Solomon Islands.
 - Have qualified EOD Level 3+ personnel and proven experience in similar assignments.
 - Possess adequate equipment and safety protocols compliant with IMAS.
 - Have liability insurance covering personnel and operations.
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7. Coordination and Reporting

- The Contractor shall report directly to the Project Coordinator or Client Representative.
 - Close coordination must be maintained with RSIPF-EOD Unit for oversight and final certification.
 - Weekly progress updates will be required throughout the operation.
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8. Health, Safety and Environmental (HSE) Requirements

- Adhere to strict HSE protocols to protect staff, the public, and property.
 - Establish exclusion zones during clearance operations.
 - Provide safety briefings to all personnel.
 - Maintain first aid and emergency response arrangements onsite.
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9. Payment Schedule

Milestone	Payment (%)
Upon approval of Inception Report	20%
Upon submission of Survey Report	40%
Upon delivery of Clearance Certificate	40%

10. Confidentiality

All data, maps, and findings are confidential and shall not be disclosed without prior written consent from the Client.

11. References

- International Mine Action Standards (IMAS 05.10, 07.12, 09.11)
- Solomon Islands RSIPF-EOD Guidelines
- UNDP UXO Management Manual