



EXPLOSIVE ORDNANCE

**RISK AWARENESS AND SAFER
BEHAVIOUR**

Explosive ordnance are extremely dangerous. They can pose a risk to you and your family long after fighting has finished. Explosive devices can explode at any time and severely injure or kill. You can protect yourself and your family by knowing how to recognise the risks of these explosive devices and how to avoid them.

WHAT IS THE RISK?

- Explosive remnants of war
- Landmines
- Improvised explosive devices

HERE ARE SOME FACTS ABOUT THEM

- All of these are ordnance found during or after a conflict or a battle
- They are active and dangerous at all times
- They can kill or injure adults and children
- They can be found lying on or under the ground or scattered across areas where there has been fighting
- They come in different sizes, shapes, and colours



WHAT ARE THE SIGNS

Explosive ordnance can be found in many places, both former combat areas and others frequented by civilians. Look out for:

- Warning signs
- Cordoned off areas
- Craters on the road



- Signs of fighting
- Military equipment
- Visible cables from the ground
- Destroyed vehicles
- Out-of-the-ordinary objects



Observe your environment carefully if there is any indication of weapon contamination.

SAFER BEHAVIOUR

It is your responsibility to protect yourself and others. There are basic steps that can be taken to improve your safety.

- Avoid being the first car on the road
- Avoid driving behind military convoys
- Avoid areas that recently experienced fighting

Use main roads and well-frequented paths.



Beware of visible signs of explosive devices in your path.



Avoid collecting scrap metal in areas where there has been fighting.



Look out for explosives that may be buried in farmlands.



IF YOU FIND AN EXPLOSIVE OR SUSPICIOUS OBJECT

- Keep your distance
- Alert others around you
- Inform the community leaders



Do NOT touch any explosive/suspicious objects.



Do NOT throw anything towards explosive/suspicious objects.



Do NOT kick explosive/suspicious objects.



Do NOT try to burn any explosive/suspicious object.



IN CASE OF AN ACCIDENT CAUSED BY AN EXPLOSIVE DEVICE

Always call for help first. Think about your safety and approach the victim with care.

- Do NOT rush to the victim during accident
- Call for medical and clearance experts immediately
- Check the surroundings before proceeding
- Where there is one explosive device, there may be others
- If the area is safe, proceed with first aid. If the area is unsafe, wait for clearance experts



The ICRC helps people around the world affected by armed conflict and other situations of violence, doing everything it can to protect their dignity and relieve their suffering, often with its Red Cross and Red Crescent partners. The organization also seeks to prevent hardship by promoting and strengthening humanitarian law and championing Universal humanitarian principles.

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