



INSARAG Guidelines 2026

Appendix 5.19: Safety and Security Plan

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Abbreviations

BoO	Base of Operations
ERS	Emergency Response Section
EMT	Emergency Medical Team
GDACS	Global Disaster Awareness and Coordination System
GRG	Guidelines Review Group
HNPW	Humanitarian Networks and Partnerships Week
HNS	Host Nation Support
IEC	INSARAG External Classification
IER	INSARAG External Reclassification
IMTST	Information Management Technical Support Team
IRNAP	INSARAG-Recognised National Accreditation Process
INSARAG	The International Search and Rescue Advisory Group
ISG	INSARAG Steering Group
LEMA	Local Emergency Management Authority
NAP	National Accreditation Process
NGOs	Non-governmental organisations
OCHA	United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs
OSOCC	On-Site Operations Coordination Centre
RDC	Reception and Departure Centre
RSB	Response Support Branch
UCC	USAR Coordination Cell
USAR	Urban Search and Rescue
UN	United Nations
UNDAC	United Nations Disaster Assessment and Coordination
VOSOCC	Virtual On-Site Operations Coordination Centre

1 Safety and Security Plan

1.1 Arrival

Before departure gather information about the situation on-site:

Activity	☒	☐	Remark
Damage situation, kind, place, coverage			
Information about Hazmat available, kind, amount (FEAT)			
Weather and weather forecast			
Medical situation			
Facts about crime, terrorism, riots in the operational area			
Special cultural information, religion			
Special local driving regulations, driving style of locals			
Landmines			
Discuss/plan safety and security tactic with CoO/CMA			

1.2 Safety during operational readiness BoO

Activity	☒	☐	Remark
Check own material on completeness and functionality.			
Protection of BoO against intrusion from outside.			
Sufficient illumination of BoO.			
Organise security patrols.			
Address, phone number, contact person: police.			
Fire protection (smoke detector fire extinguisher).			
Address, phone number, contact person: Fire brigade.			
Organise medical supply.			

Address, phone number, contact person: ambulance service, hospitals, medical doctors.			
Explore partners for safety and security from LEMA, UCC (UN, EU), other teams, NGO, population, media.			
Weather forecast and resulting possible dangerous scenarios.			
Topography of operation area and possible resulting dangers (rivers, hillsides).			
Danger resulting from buildings around.			
Fix and sign Assembly point.			
Extraordinary smell.			
Discolouration of surfaces/plants.			
Conspicuous vegetation, local fall of leaves.			
Conspicuous behaviour of animals, many cadavers, concentrated on a place or from a single animal species.			
Abnormal cumulative sickness symptoms of local population.			
Suspicious persons/groups.			
Military installations, chemical plants, storehouses, refrigerated warehouses.			
Check possible endangering by riots, crime.			
Assess safe places, embassies, consulates.			
Elaborate safety and security plan.			
Elaborate security briefing.			
Elaborate evacuation plan.			
Instruct relief units in special hazmat situations.			
Install and communicate your person checking system at.			
Check your decon system in entrance-/exit area is operable and is used.			

Check team members relating to stress symptoms.			
Check sufficient rest period for all team members.			

1.3 Worksite

Activity	☒	☒	Remark
Check the planned route with security information/authorities available.			
Check condition of the cars (water, oil, gasoline, electricity, tire, safety equipment, communication tools, nothing on board that could cause trouble e.g. drugs).			
Check condition of the driver.			
Communication modalities have to be checked, who reports when.			
Landmines.			
Areas which may not be entered.			
Checkpoints, special behaviour.			
Escorted by police/driving in a convoy.			

1.4 Safety on Worksite

Possible dangers/Activity	☒	☒	Remark
- Breathing toxins. - Diffusion. - Fear reaction. - Fall. - Radioactive/nuclear dangers. - Biological dangers. - Chemical dangers. - Breakdown. - Drowning. - Illness. - Collapse. - Explosion. - Electricity.			
Correct wearing of sufficient PPE.			
Control system for first responders, who are where.			

Endangerment by topography.			
Code of behaviour in dangerous situations.			
Endangerment by buildings, debris, aftershocks, environment.			
Determine and communicate kind of marking/barrier on scene.			
Extraordinary smell.			
Discolouration of surfaces/plants.			
Conspicuous vegetation, local fall of leaves.			
Conspicuous behaviour of animals, many cadavers, concentrated on a place or from a single animal species.			
Abnormal cumulative sickness symptoms of local population.			
Suspicious persons/groups.			
Military installations, chemical plants, storehouses, refrigerated warehouses.			
Fix decon-site.			
Check safety and security concepts inclusive evacuation concepts with incident commander and relief unit.			
Check if safety and security regulations are still effective and if they are still followed.			

1.5 Return trip

Activity	☒	☐	Remark
Check safety of way back, area, traffic, riots.			
Complete SSO equipment available, packed.			