A quick guide to...

Safety & Security in humanitarian responses
First off, it's important to understand the difference between a few concepts.
SAFETY:
Freedom from risk or harm as a result of unintentional acts (accidents, natural phenomenon or illness)

SECURITY:
Freedom from risk or harm resulting from violence or other intentional acts (crime, terrorism, kidnapping)
THREAT:
Any safety, security or other form of challenge to your staff, assets, organisation, reputation or programming that exists in the context where you operate.

RISK:
How a threat could affect your staff, assets, organisation, reputation or safety and security.
So, what threats can you face as a humanitarian worker?
Physical threats:

Crime
Terrorism
Kidnapping
Organisational threats:

- Legal challenges
- Reputational risk
- Corruption
Environmental threats:

Natural disasters
Stress
Health/medical problems
There are different security strategies to mitigate these:
Protection:
Reducing the risk, but not the threat by reducing the vulnerability of your organisation and its staff.

Acceptation:
Building a safe operating environment through consent, approval and cooperation from individuals, communities and local authorities.

Deterrence:
Reducing the risk by containing the threat with a counter threat. In humanitarian contexts, this strategy should be implemented very carefully.
Conducting a thorough risk assessment and adopting appropriate security strategies before the start of a response ensures the safety of everyone involved.

Security is everyone's responsibility!
Explore more safety and security tips with the Humanitarian Leadership Academy

https://kayaconnect.org/