

SAFETY & SENSE OF SAFETY

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This material presents basic information on safety and what is sense of safety through some examples. It also presents two tools that can be used to analyze and develop safety: SWOT-analysis and safety walk. Safety is a basic need to have freedom from harm or danger. To achieve and maintain it, that often requires some thinking and planning preparing to the future possibilities. Adequate preparing that enhances safety brings stability and reliability to everyday living and to any functions. In practice that can mean for example something that is simpler than safe surroundings to walk on the street or at the work place without falling or tripping.

Preparing and planning affects also to the sense of safety. Sense of safety and security is a personal perspective of one's own safety at the certain moment. It is affected by the surroundings, the knowledge of the surroundings but also a lot of by individual's own experiences and their feelings that can vary depending of the situation. Sense of safety builds on trust in surroundings, reliability and predictability of functions and it brings a peace of mind.

Safety walk and SWOT-analysis are tools that can be used to develop safety. Safety walk is an organized event where different users of the area come together and exchange their ideas and concerns about safety of the specific area. It can be organized at the public place like some certain small area of the city or at school. It is also suitable to map and develop safety at the workplaces. SWOT-analysis is a tool to find out strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats of the object of analysis. It helps to gain basic knowledge and to compare advantages and disadvantages of the object and with this information to help decision-making in different situations. For safety-wise safety walk and SWOT-analysis are good tools to prevent safety issues and to prepare in general.