

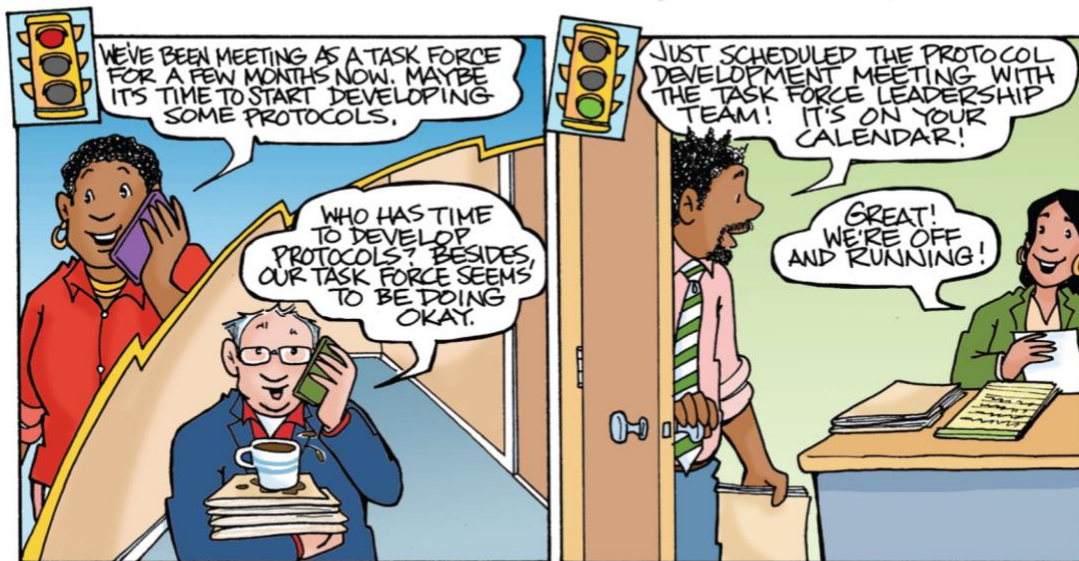
PROTOCOLS

Protocols are essential tools that help to guide a collaborative response to human trafficking and document task force operations. Task force protocols are separate from but complement and tie together the internal policies and procedures of individual member agencies.

Protocol development is a process. It is important for task forces to get the input of all relevant stakeholders and refine the proposed contents into an actionable protocol that is implemented in practice, not just on paper. When task forces develop and regularly review discipline-specific protocols with partners, they build and support consistency in response practices across the task force's member agencies and prevent or reduce unintended impacts.

This **Quick Guide** shares resources to assist ECM Task Forces as they develop protocols.

What is a Protocol? Why is it Important?



GENERAL TERMINOLOGY



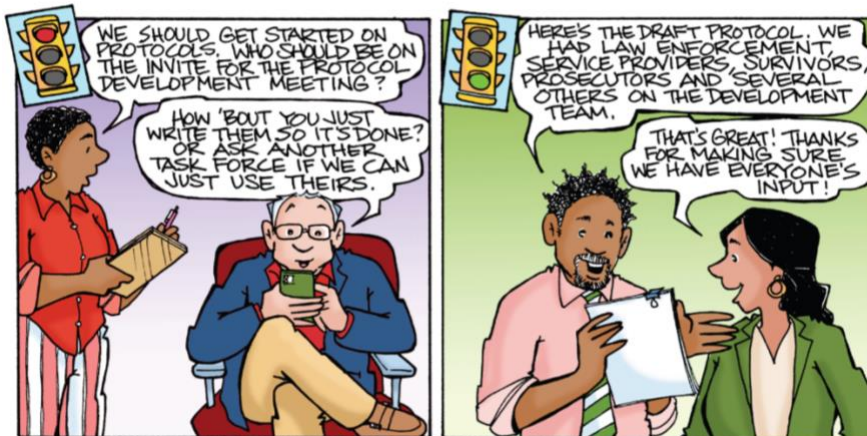
POLICY: A policy consists of high-level guidelines that describe the expectations, values, and principles of an entity, organization, or task force. Policies detail an official position on specific topics. They provide overarching tenets to guide day-to-day actions and strategies, while providing context for decision-making.



PROTOCOL: A protocol provides step-by-step instructions outlining how specific tasks or processes are executed and by whom. They describe what actions are taken in specific circumstances to execute the more general policy.

USEFUL RESOURCES

How to Develop a Protocol



[Human Trafficking Task Force Protocol Development Training Video Series](#)

1 What is A Protocol?
Why is It Important?

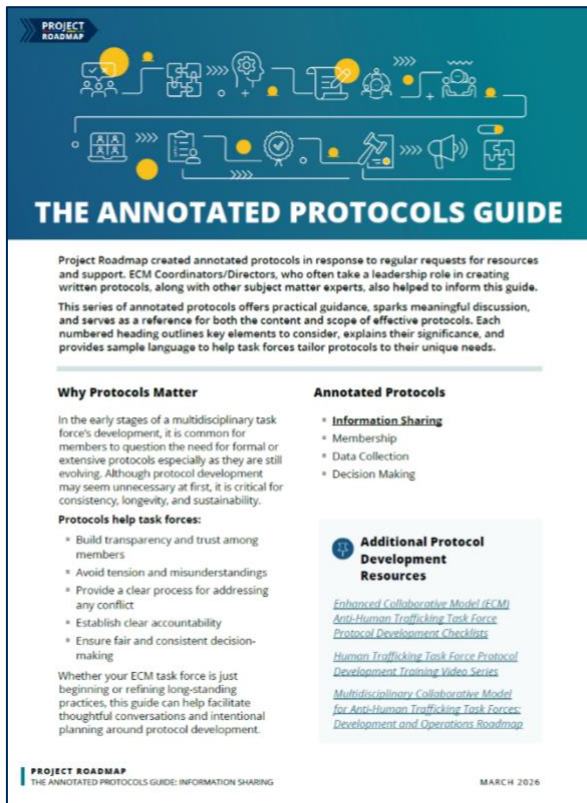
2 How to Develop a Protocol

3 How to Implement a Protocol

Implementing Protocols



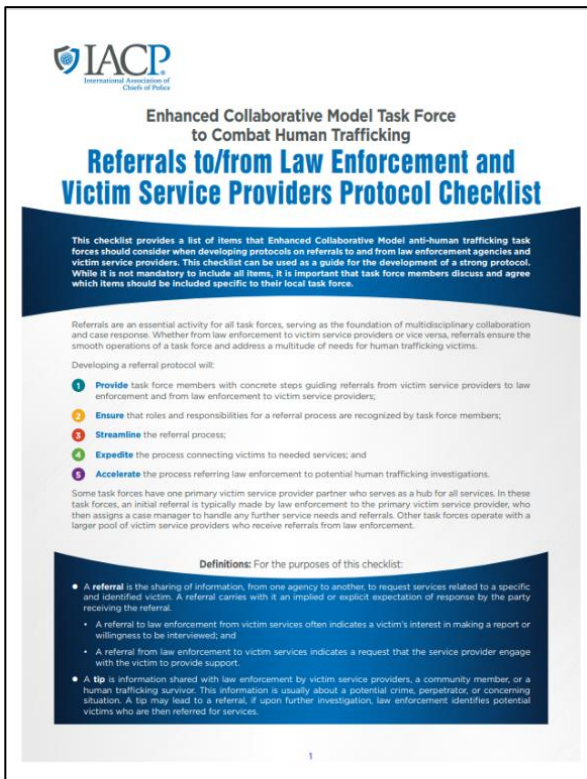
This [three-part training video series](#) explains the various steps to developing anti-human trafficking task force protocols.



The **Annotated Protocols Guide** supports task forces in developing and refining their operational protocols. The following series of annotated protocols offers practical guidance, sparks meaningful discussion, and serves as a reference for both the content and scope of effective protocols. Each numbered heading outlines key elements to consider, explains their significance, and provides sample language to help task forces tailor protocols to their unique needs.

- [Information Sharing](#)
- [Membership](#)
- [Data Collection](#)
- [Decision-Making](#)

View all Project Roadmap resources at <https://projectroadmappta.com/>.



The **Human Trafficking Task Force Protocol Development Checklists** provide human trafficking task forces a list of items to consider when developing protocols specific to their local task force.

- [Information Sharing](#)
- [Trauma-informed Protocols for Accessibility of Services for Victims Who Are Deaf and/or Hard of Hearing](#)
- [Language Access](#)
- [Referrals to/from Law Enforcement and Victim Service Providers](#)
- [Communication and Working with the Media](#)
- [Confidentiality](#)
- [Data Collection](#)
- [Grant Reporting](#)

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