

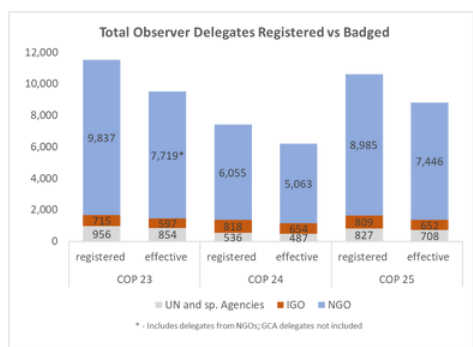
# Admission and registration

The UNFCCC COPs are not open to the public. All attendants need to be duly accredited as one of the following categories:

- i) Representatives of Parties to the UNFCCC nominated by the National Focal Points
- ii) Representatives of UN organizations nominated by the heads of UN organizations
- iii) Representatives of Admitted IGOs nominated by the Designated Contact Points
- iv) Representatives of Admitted NGOs nominated by the Designated Contact Points
- v) Representatives of Media assigned by the accredited news agencies
- vi) Representatives of Global Climate Action (GCA) activities assigned to speak at or organize GCA activities.
- vii) Staff of UNFCCC secretariat and the UN headquarters approved by the Executive Secretary to support the conference
- viii) Technical staff assigned by the host country to support the conference

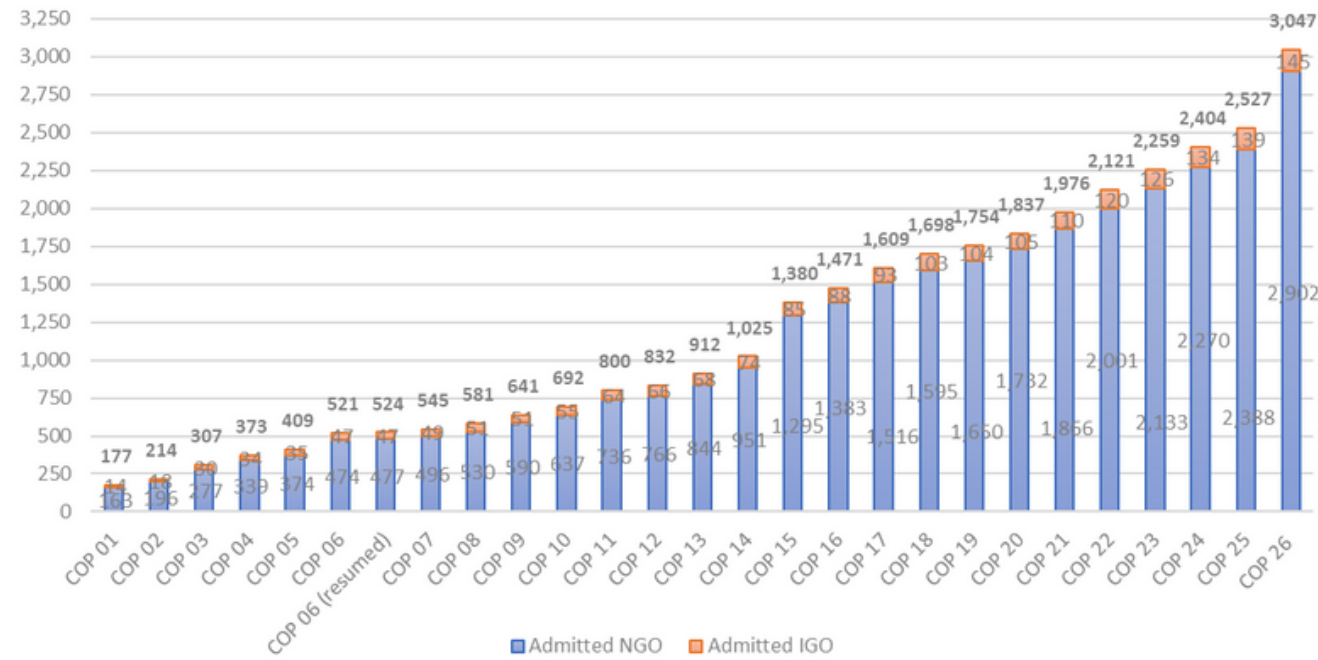
The purposes of participation are as diverse as the number of activities that take place in the two weeks:

- Follow the negotiation to be able to provide tailored substantive inputs to Parties
- Follow the negotiation to ensure transparency to the workings of a complex intergovernmental process
- Follow the negotiation to raise public awareness, and enhance public access to information
- Facilitate inputs from geographically diverse sources and from a wide range of expertise and perspectives to ensure reflection of stakeholder voices in the final outcomes of the COP
- Identify complementarity with other related intergovernmental process and aid in delivering alignment with other established objectives, in particular the SDGs and other multilateral environmental agreements
- To put pressure on Governments to work towards more ambitious outcomes
- Bilateral meetings with Parties
- Networking with other observers and non-Party stakeholders
- Showcasing climate action at pavilion events
- Showcasing climate action at UNFCCC official side events
- Hosting and attending side events and exhibits in order to highlight key issues, influence, exchange information and knowledge
- Attending side events and exhibits to learn about climate change issues



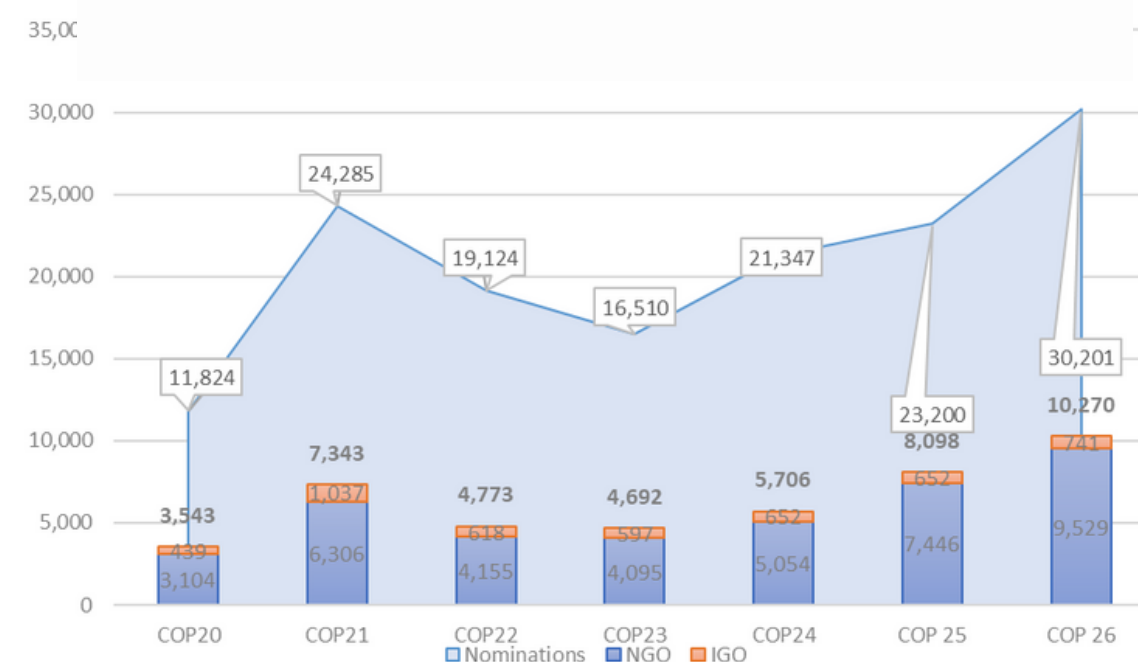
## INCLUSION

### Cumulative number of admitted observers



The number of admitted organizations shows that it took 14 years to reach the first 1,000 organizations, additional 8 years to reach 2,000 organizations and additional 4 years to reach 3,000. While it is the result of successful work of observers, if the majority remains active in the UNFCCC process, it will eventually become difficult to allocate even a quota of 1 per organization at COPs.

### IGO and NGO nominations and participation (quota)



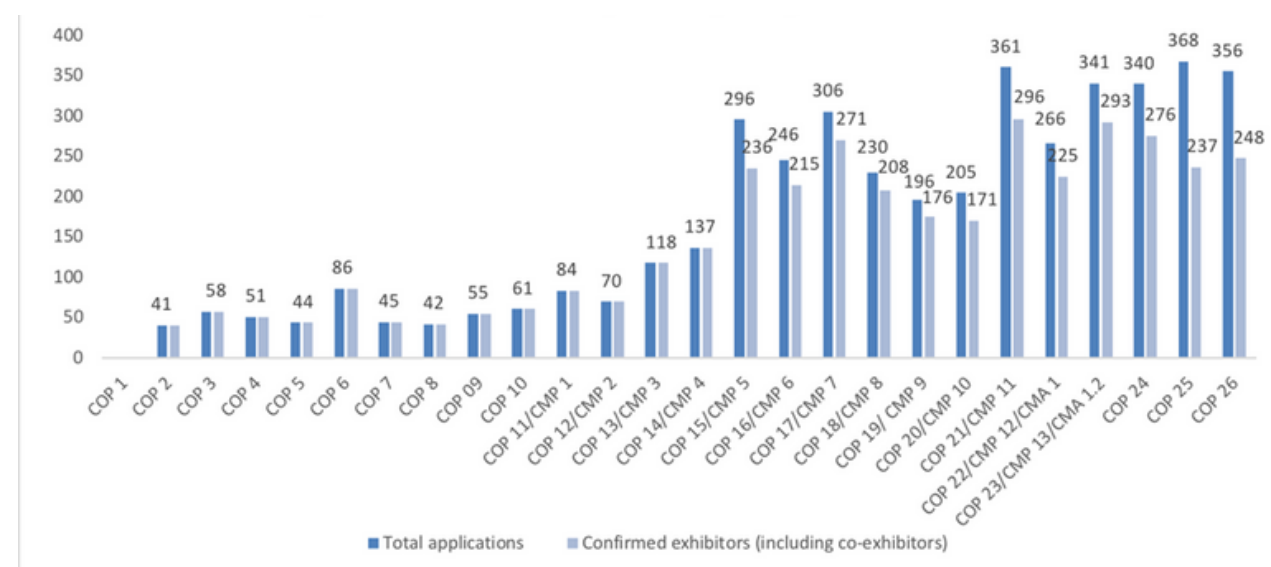
The number of IGO participants is significantly lower than the NGO category. It is often decided to treat IGOs along with Parties because the impact of access restriction is much smaller.

As the number of observers increases, so does the demand for holding side events and exhibits. Since COP 21, the number of side event applications per COP has not dropped below 700. At COP 26, the secretariat received a record number of 1,248 side event applications for 240 side event slots.

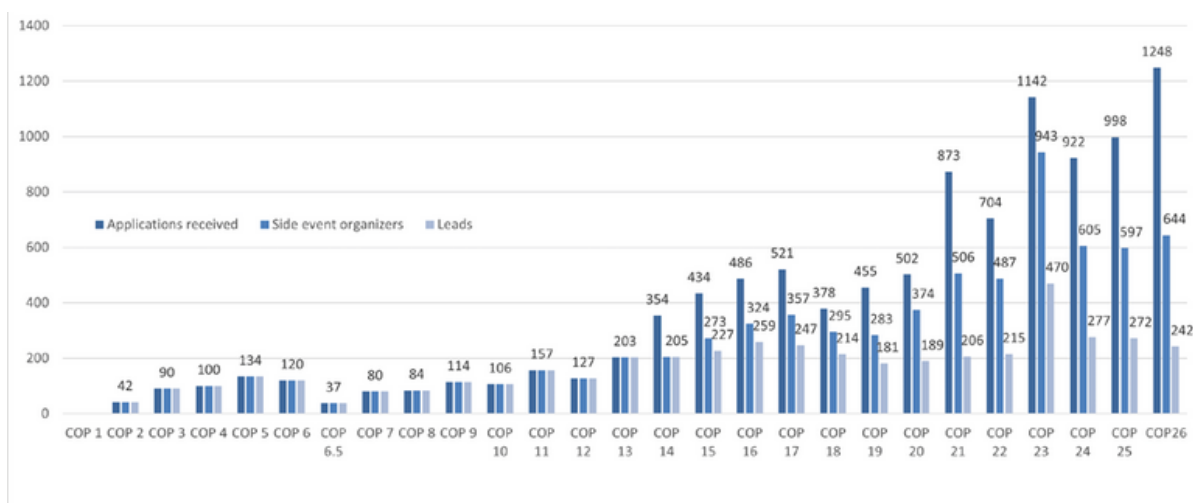
Given the limited number of side event slots, the secretariat has been encouraging merging side event applications. At COP 26, the average number of applications per joint application was 2.9. The selection of 242 side events facilitated the participation of 644 observer organizations and Parties in total. However, hundreds of observer applications had to be declined due to sheer number of applications.

At the same time, the observers who were selected against the odds have been reporting that the need to hold joint side events with several partners hinders effective engagement as it limits the opportunities for individual organizations to contribute.

### Historical number of exhibit applications and selected exhibitors



### Side event applications and confirmed side events per COP/CMP/CMA

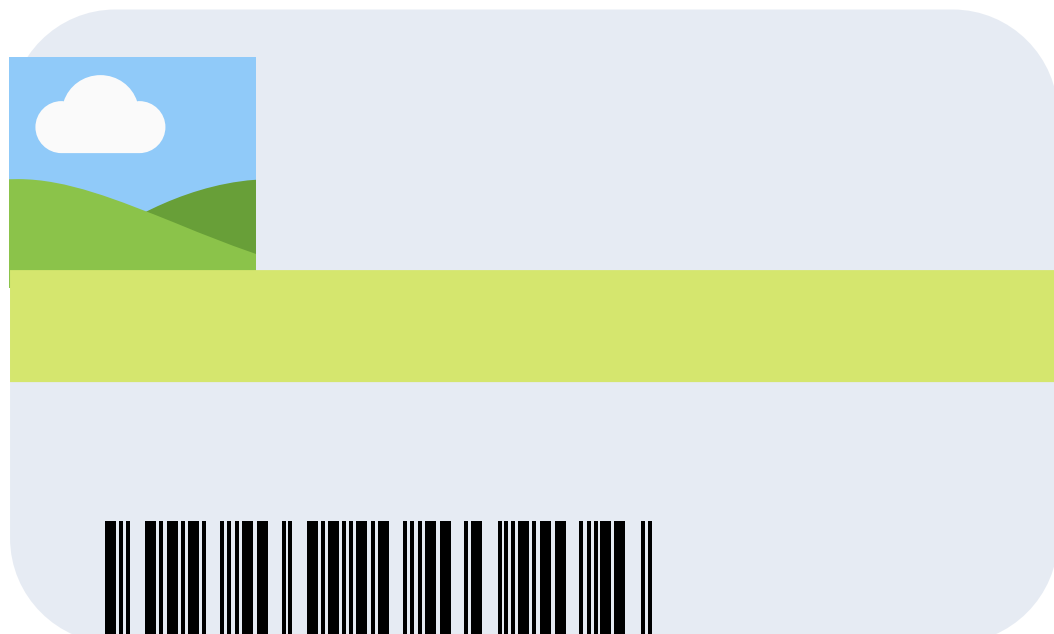


Given the growing number of side event applications, would it be possible to apply a combination of regional rotation approach and a limited quota for applications from the non-host regions? With this approach in place, applicants from the host country's region would be given a priority. The selection of side event proposals from other regions would then be aimed at maintaining the balance among topics as some issue areas may be of higher relevance in certain regions.

Could constituencies self-organize to allow for more streamlining within the process steps of the side events to align with the key stipulations of side events.

Which other solutions could be proposed to improve the operation of side events and exhibits?

## PURPOSE OF PARTICIPATION



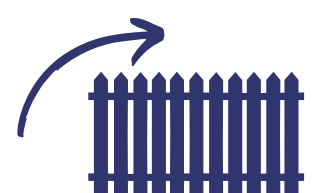
### ACCESS BASED ON NEEDS

- Follow the negotiation to be able to provide tailored substantive inputs to Parties
- Follow the negotiation to ensure transparency to the workings of a complex intergovernmental process
- Follow the negotiation to raise public awareness, and enhance public access to information
- Facilitate inputs from geographically diverse sources and from a wide range of expertise and perspectives to ensure reflection of stakeholder voices in the final outcomes of the COP
- Identify complementarity with other related intergovernmental process and aid in delivering alignment with other established objectives, in particular the SDGs and other multilateral environmental agreements
- To put pressure on Governments to work towards more ambitious outcomes
- Bilateral meetings with Parties
- Networking with other observers and non-Party stakeholders
- Showcasing climate action at pavilion events
- Showcasing climate action at UNFCCC official side events
- Hosting and attending side events and exhibits in order to highlight key issues, influence, exchange information and knowledge
- Attending side events and exhibits to learn about climate change issues

### BARRIERS OF IMPLEMENTATION

What are possible barriers for implementation of a needs based badge?

How do we overcome potential barriers?





## Focus groups guiding principles

1. **No final decisions will be made during the focus groups.** The focus groups will act as a space to share opinions and experiences as well as co-shaping solutions that will be collected at the end of Phase 2, also incorporating inputs from written submissions.
2. **Keep an open mind.** Take a step back before responding, rather than reacting automatically or defensively. Balance advocacy (making a statement) with inquiry (seeking clarifications and understanding).
3. **Focus on deep listening.** Try to build on other colleagues' ideas in the conversation.
4. **You don't have to agree.** Listen with the expectation of learning; that is, assume that the speaker has something new and of value to contribute to your comprehension and then stretch your mind to find out what that is.
5. **Communicate your reasoning process.** Every participant will naturally bring their assumptions to the conversation, but it's important to talk about your assumptions and how you arrived at what you believe. Seek out the data on which assumptions are based, your own and others. Bring tacit (hidden) assumptions to the surface.