# Frequently Asked Questions

The Commonwealth People's Forum is held alongside the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting (CHOGM). It convenes civil society from across the Commonwealth to engage in dialogue, share experiences, and develop solutions to pressing global issues.

This guide offers essential information and responds to the most frequently asked questions we get about the Peoples Forum. It is a live document and will be updated with more questions and answers as they arise.

If your question is not answered here, please contact us at: cpf@commonwealthfoundation.com

**When and where is the People's Forum 2024?**

The People's Forum 2024 will take place in Apia, Samoa, over two days: Monday 21 and Tuesday 22 October 2024 at the Tanoa Tusitala Hotel in Apia.

**How do I apply to register to attend the People's Forum?**

Registration for the Commonwealth People's Forum 2024 is now closed.

**How much does it cost to attend the People's Forum?**

There is no fee to participate in the People's Forum, however delegates need to cover their own costs to attend.

**Can the Commonwealth Foundation fund my attendance?**

The Commonwealth Foundation has a modest budget for the People's Forum which is used to cover all our preparation as well as the travel and related costs for our team of speakers, moderators and staff. The Foundation is a small organisation with a global remit and we are committed to keeping costs for the People's Forum low to ensure we don't cut back on our other work—including provision of grants to civil society. For the People's Forum 2024, we have sought additional resources from some of our Member States to fund participation of a small group of civil society delegates who are working directly on one or more of our three main themes; who have some connection with the Commonwealth; and who come from small and vulnerable Member States and other Commonwealth countries that are not expected to be well-represented at the Forum. Supported delegates are identified by the Foundation in collaboration with partner organisations. We unfortunately do not have the resources to support a wider pool of funded delegates.

The Foundation is conscious that only a small fraction of those who would add great value to the Forum will be able to be with us in Samoa. We have been working hard—including through various preparatory activities—to make sure their voices are heard in October. We are also working to ensure that all sessions are live streamed and recorded. Further information on remote participation will be made available on the website soon.

**Can I be invited to be a speaker at the People's Forum?**

Speaker roles for the People's Forum have now been filled. While we are unable to accommodate requests to be included as a speaker on a panel, sessions at the People's Forum are designed to be interactive and we encourage a two way dialogue between speakers and delegates.

**Can the Commonwealth Foundation send me an invitation to attend the People's Forum?**

The Foundation does not issue invitations to attend the People's Forum. If you need documentation for any purpose please use your Accreditation Certificate.

**Can the Foundation help me make travel, accommodation and visa arrangements?**

The Foundation is unable to assist with travel, accommodation and visa arrangements. If your registration to the Commonwealth People's Forum is approved, you will receive an Accreditation Certificate confirming your accreditation. The Accreditation Certificate can be used to apply for a transit visa, and to book accommodation via the Accommodation Portal. It is recommended you do not make travel arrangements until you have received an Accreditation Certificate.

**Do I need a visa for Samoa?**

The Government of Samoa is waiving visa requirements for all accredited participants. You may still need a visa for a country that you are transiting through (for example, Australia or New Zealand). You can apply for a transit visa through the accreditation portal.

**Can the Commonwealth Foundation fund me to attend the People's Forum?**

The Foundation is unable to fund delegates to attend the People's Forum. We appreciate that many people will be unable to attend in person and are working hard with the Host Government to make sure that those not with us in Samoa can watch online. Register your interest in attending online by return email so we can add you to our mailing list via cpf@commonwealthfoundation.com

**Is the People's Forum programme be available?**

The People's Forum programme is now online on our website. This includes the session titles, an outline of the planned events and a list of confirmed speakers.

You can also join our mailing list to receive updates on the latest developments.

**How much of the People's Forum will take place online? Can I participate without being there in person?**

We aim to livestream all the plenary sessions and share them online afterwards. We are also thinking of ways to involve our virtual participants and will share more information as it becomes available.

We will share updates on virtual participation via our mailing list in the coming weeks.

**What accommodation is available in Apia?**

The Government of Samoa is making available a wide range of accommodation options both on land and on cruise liner that will be docked at the port of Apia (very close to the Forum venue). Accommodation availability is managed and updated in the Accommodation Portal.

**If I am accredited to attend CHOGM or another forum, can I also attend the People's Forum?**

A limited number of temporary passes will be available for delegates accredited to CHOGM or one of the other forums to attend the People's Forum. If you are accredited to CHOGM and / or one of the other Forums, please email cpf@commonwealthfoundation.com by 11 October with a copy of your Accreditation Certificate to request a temporary CPF pass.

**How do I attend any of the other CHOGM related events taking place in Samoa?**

Please refer to the CHOGM 2024 website for the official CHOGM programme and the other forums' programmes.