

2020 Annual Conference FAQs

REGISTRATION

I am not an ANDE member – can I still attend?

ANDE gives priority to our members and cannot guarantee a slot for non-members to attend. If you are interested in attending, contact [Anna Santiago](#) to be placed on a waiting list. If you are interested in becoming a member, please review our [membership brochure](#) and contact [Carly Giddings](#) to discuss membership further.

Can my organization bring more than two people?

Given the size and format of the Annual Conference, attendance is limited to two attendees per organization. If additional colleagues would like to attend, they may reach out to [Anna Santiago](#) to be placed on a waiting list. We will be in touch closer to the conference to update those on the waiting list about their status.

Why do I have to pay for an online event?

ANDE considered many factors when determining the pricing structure for a virtual conference, including similar events hosted by peers, ANDE staff time, long-term goals, and the value of the event. We believe the value is worth the cost!

Will you offer scholarships to attend?

Our decision to pivot the conference online lowered the cost of attendance. Scholarship opportunities in previous years primarily covered the cost of travel and lodging, which are unnecessary this year. When we return to hosting the conference in-person, we will again provide scholarship options for emerging market headquartered attendees. Note that pricing is tiered based on location as an alternative format this year.

What if I can't attend all sessions?

ANDE is aware that people are juggling a lot more during these unusual circumstances. The agenda is spread out throughout the day to accommodate different time zones. While we encourage everyone to attend the live sessions, we will record plenary sessions and make them available on our conferencing app, Whova. Individuals who register for the conference will have access to recordings and resources to watch on their own time.

Who is coming to the conference?

For privacy reasons, ANDE does not list event attendees publicly. Please see previous years agendas to get a sense of attendees. A draft agenda with lead discussants will be posted in the coming week. Registered attendees may search for and contact other attendees in our conference app, Whova, once the app is launched in August.

AGENDA

When does the conference begin and end?

This year's annual conference will take place from Tuesday, September 22 through Thursday, September 24. Sessions are spread out throughout the day (Eastern time) to accommodate different time zones. Core hours for content will be 8:00 – 11:00 am and 6:00 – 9:30 pm ET.

What does the agenda look like?

The agenda is primarily made up of small group workshops on developing solutions and identifying commitments across the network. Beyond the three session types we are asking members to contribute to, there will be a mix of plenaries and networking opportunities.

As the agenda develops, we will update the main event page. The agenda will also be available on our conference networking app, Whova, for attendees to begin planning and signing up for sessions of interest. Please note that session times and titles are subject to change, and the final version will be posted shortly before the conference.

How will this year's conference be different from the usual in-person event?

ANDE has worked hard to ensure that this year's event does not stray away from what makes our annual conference unique. We want to capture the intimate, and retreat-like environment and networking opportunities our previous events have been known for – hence, Camp ANDE! That being said, we are living in a different reality and ANDE wants to address the difficult circumstances in which we find ourselves through focusing on solutions. This year's sessions will focus on solution building and building partnerships – you will have to attend to find out more!

My organization wants to have a speaking role at the conference – how can we get involved?

This year's session formats differ from previous years, as do the speaking roles. ANDE will be accepting [session ideas](#) until July 31, 2020. Given the nature of the agenda, we are also accepting [applications](#) to be a moderator. We will take the suggestions into consideration when finalizing moderators for breakout sessions in the agenda. The Annual Conference is designed to be highly participatory and discussion-based for all attendees, regardless of whether you have a formal role on the agenda.

What does one session idea *per session format* mean exactly? Could we, for example, submit one Solution Salon session idea and a separate Fail Faire session idea? And if so, should we have the expectation that only one of those at most will actually be accepted for the program?

Yes, each member organization can submit one idea per session format (Solution Salon, Fail Faire or ANDE Campfire Activity). You can choose to submit one of each, or just a Solution Salon for example. If you submit three session ideas, one, two or all three could be chosen. However, we will try to give as many members as possible an opportunity to be a part of the program.

When will I find out if my session idea was selected?

If your session idea is accepted, you will be notified during the week of August 24, and receive additional details and support. We may combine ideas from similar submissions.

- **Note:** unlike in previous years, if your challenge for a solution salon was selected, you are not guaranteed to be the moderator for that session. You will however be asked to present the challenge to your small group. If you want to be a moderator, please [apply here](#).

My session wasn't chosen. How can I get involved in the event?

ANDE's Annual Conference is designed to be highly participatory and discussion based. This year, we are focusing on building relationships and connecting participants, so there will be plenty of ways for you to be engaged throughout the course of the event.

Do I get a complimentary pass to the conference if I am a speaker/moderator?

We are unable to offer plenary and breakout session leads a free pass to the conference.

Please complete the same [registration form](#) to attend the conference.

SPONSORSHIP

I am interested in sponsoring the conference. Whom should I contact?

Thank you in advance for your consideration! Sponsoring the Annual Conference is a great way for your organization to promote your brand, and create awareness about your work. Please review our [sponsorship brochure](#) and contact [Flora Bracco](#) to discuss sponsorship opportunities.

If you have any additional questions, please contact [Anna Santiago](#).