

A INTRODUCTION

The first five global Next Generation Network (NGN) Showcases were held at the CIGRE Paris Sessions in 2016, 2018 and 2022, at the e-Session in 2020 and at the Virtual Centennial Session in 2021 and all five turned out to be great successes: 22 NGN members from 14 countries got the chance to present their work in 2016, 31 NGN members from 21 countries got the chance to present their work in 2018, 33 NGN members from 23 countries got the chance to present their work in 2020, 29 NGN members from 19 countries got the chance to present their work in 2021, 26 NGN members from 12 countries got the chance to present their work in 2022 and 55 NGN members from 23 countries got the chance to present their work in 2024. With the positive feedback received from participants, Study Committee (SC) Chairs and audiences, it is planned to hold the seventh event at CIGRE Paris Session 2026.

The initiative was initially developed and led by the CIGRE-UK NGN and the intention was to showcase the talent of NGN members from around the world, benefitting the individual NGN members by providing a fantastic development and networking opportunity early in their careers. It also supports CIGRE in its aim to drive sustainable membership growth by engaging with potential future experts in the industry.

In each SC Discussion Session at the 2026 Paris Session, two “NGN Showcase” presentation slots will be made available to CIGRE NGN members. Selected candidates from participating countries will have the opportunity to be allocated one of these showcase slots and present their work in front of an international audience.

This note provides guidance to National Committees and NGN members who wish to participate in the showcase at CIGRE Paris Session 2026.

B PROCESS

B.1 Showcase Coordinator

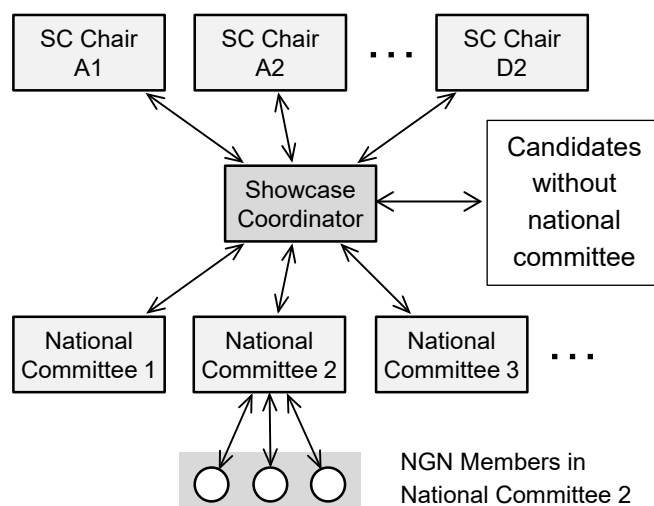


Figure B.1 – Interactions between NGN candidates, the National Committees, the Showcase Coordinator and the Study Committee Chairs

In the first NGN Showcase at CIGRE Paris Session 2016, the role of NGN Showcase Coordinator was created. This person acted as the single point of contact between National Committee representatives and the Study Committee chairs to coordinate the entire process. This role was played by a representative from the CIGRE-UK NGN at the 2016 and 2018 events, by a representative from the CIGRE-US NGN at the 2020, 2021 and 2022, CIGRE-CN NGN event in 2024. For the coming showcase event in 2026, the CIGRE-SRB NGN will provide a representative for this NGN Showcase Coordinator role.

The NGN Showcase Coordinator will again act as the single point of contact for National Committees putting candidates forward for the showcase, and for liaising with the SC Chairs. Where a candidate does not have a National Committee, they may contact the Coordinator directly. The Coordinator will administrate the process but will not have any influence on which candidates are finally selected and allocated showcase presentation slots. The Showcase Coordinator can be contacted via email at jana.toholj@ems.rs.

B.2 Before the Paris Session: nomination of candidates

1. National Committees are responsible for recruiting and selecting their candidates, and ensuring the technical quality and presentation skills of the candidates they put forward. The National Committee should determine the most appropriate way of selecting the best candidates within their countries, which could, for example, be achieved through a competition or a peer review process.
2. Once a National Committee has determined their candidates, they can nominate them by (the National Committee Secretary) emailing the Showcase Coordinator by the deadline of 23rd March 2026.
3. Each nomination made by a National Committee must include each of the following:
 - A full paper prepared by the candidate (please refer to Section D).
 - Supporting information to be provided by the National Committee (please refer to Section E).
4. Each candidate must fulfil the eligibility criteria given in Section F.
5. Nominations can only be made by National Committees; therefore, **candidates cannot nominate themselves directly to the Showcase Coordinator** (unless the candidate is from a country that does not have a National Committee, where the candidate can directly contact the Showcase Coordinator).
6. Each National Committee can nominate up to four candidates (in total across all 16 SCs), and each candidate must be for a different SC. If a SC committee receives multiple high quality nominations they can nominate top four candidates for the NGN showcase competition, and the remaining papers aligned with the preferential subjects can be added as a full paper to the regular Paris session.

B.3 Before the Paris Session: selection of candidates by the SC Chairs

1. The Showcase Coordinator will provide each SC Chair with the papers and supporting information for each of the nominated candidates within an SC.
2. The SC Chairs will have the final decision of which presentations/candidates are of sufficient technical quality for inclusion in their discussion sessions and are therefore allocated one of the two showcase slots per session. There is no guarantee of a candidate being allocated a presentation slot and the SC Chairs have the right to reject all submissions to their SC if they do not feel they are of sufficient technical quality or appropriately related to their SC.
3. The SC Chairs will inform the Showcase Coordinator of their decisions : papers selected for the NGN showcase and other high quality papers can be added to the regular Paris session.
4. The Showcase Coordinator will then contact the nominated candidates and National Committees regarding the allocation of showcase slots.
5. Each candidate allocated a showcase slot will have his or her paper included in the Paris Session Proceedings and will receive a free registration to the 2026 Paris Session.

6. Each candidate allocated a showcase slot will also have the option of participating in the NGN Presentation Competition, which will take place in addition to the NGN Showcase. Each selected candidate must inform the NGN Showcase Coordinator of his or her intention to participate by 6th April 2026.

B.4 During the Paris Session: presentations by selected candidates

1. Each candidate allocated a showcase slot must attend the Paris Session, the relevant SC poster session to discuss his or her paper and the relevant SC discussion session in order to deliver his or her presentation.
2. Each showcase presentation slot is up to 10 minutes in total, including time allocated for discussion by the SC Chair.
3. Each candidate that elects to participate in the NGN Presentation Competition must also present at the dedicated NGN Presentation Competition session at the Paris Session.

C PRESENTATION GUIDELINES

Each presentation provided by a nominated candidate must:

1. Be in English.
2. Have a subject that aligns with one of the Preferential Subjects of the relevant Study Committee. The Preferential Subjects are listed [here](#).
3. Use the required PowerPoint template (the formal template will be provided before the conference). The candidate can use the draft template, which is available in the accompanying documents and available [here](#). (Referring to document No.01-C)
4. Be no longer than 7 minutes in length.

D PAPER GUIDELINES

The full paper provided with a presentation should describe in detail the contents of the presentation and will be used by the SC Chairs to assess each candidate in conjunction with the presentation slides.

The full paper must:

1. Be in English.
2. Must use the CIGRE 2026 Session paper template. It will be available and uploaded in KMS on November 2025 in line with CIGRE. (Referring to document No.02-D)
3. Be a maximum of 12 pages in length.

E SUPPORTING INFORMATION TO BE PROVIDED

National Committees must provide the following information with each nomination. A template of this document and a completed sample document is available in the accompanying documents and available [here](#) (Referring to document No.03-E), and should contain the following information:

1. Name and email address of National Committee contact (e.g. Secretary).
2. First and last name of candidate.
3. Membership type of candidate (e.g. Individual I, Individual II or Student Member).
4. If the candidate is a member of a CIGRE NGN group (recognised by the National Committee), the group name must be provided.
5. State the Preferential Subject and corresponding Study Committee that is addressed.

6. A recommendation from the National Committee regarding the technical quality and presentation skills of the presentation/candidate. A couple sentences is sufficient.
7. Confirmation that the candidate will be able to attend the 2026 Paris Session if they are allocated a showcase slot. *Selected candidates will be provided free registrations for the 2026 Paris Session.*

F ELIGIBILITY

The showcase candidates proposed by each NC must meet the following conditions:

1. The candidate must meet his or her NC criteria for NGN membership (if the candidate is from a country that does not have an NC or an NGN group, the candidate must be under age 35, as per CIGRE's definition of an NGN member).
2. The candidate's work must not be based on a paper already submitted/accepted as a regular Paris Session Paper.
3. The candidate's work must align with a [Paris 2026 Preferential Subject](#)
4. The candidate must be a member of CIGRE (individual, student or collective).

G TIMELINE

10th October 2025	Showcase Coordinator confirmed and sends out the invitation to National committees.
12th January 2026	Each participating country should complete the nomination of the candidates they will put forward for the showcase by providing all of the supporting information listed in Section B.2. The Showcase Coordinator will gather the information of all the nominated candidates, and circulate the information to the corresponding SC Chairs.
23rd March 2026	The SC Chairs should complete the selection and allocation of the showcase slots and inform the Showcase Coordinator
30th March 2026	The Showcase Coordinator will inform the candidates about which showcase slots they have been allocated, or if they have not been allocated a slot.
6th April 2026	Each selected candidate must inform the Showcase Coordinator if he or she intends to participate in the Presentation Competition.
4th May 2026	The Showcase Coordinator will inform all Presentation Competition candidates of their scheduled presentation times during the Presentation Competition.
July 2026	SC Chairs to provide final programme to the Showcase Coordinator. Showcase Coordinator to give presenters notice on showcase presentation time and venue.
August 2026	Showcase presentations, poster presentations and Presentation Competition at the Paris Session.