IPACS
INTERNATIONAL PARTNERSHIP AGAINST CORRUPTION IN SPORT

2 October 2026

IPACS PARTNER REPORT 2026

A summary of the Partnership's growth since the 8th Annual General Conference

CONTEXT

As per the IPACS Governance Guidelines, the International Partnership against Corruption in Sport (IPACS) is composed of Partners belonging to the following categories:

- **states**, in particular those which are State Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption;
- **sports organisations**, in particular those within the Olympic Movement as defined by the Olympic Charter; and
- **intergovernmental organisations** with expertise in the fight against corruption.

Partners are committed to and responsible for the Partnership attaining its objectives and adhering to its working principles, in spirit and in practice. They participate in and contribute to the design and implementation of the Partnership's objectives and provide input and advice to the various IPACS bodies. They may also provide financial, technical or human resources to support IPACS activities.

The IPACS Governance Guidelines also allow for the participation of Observers in IPACS meetings. However, only Partners can be involved in making decisions and serve as representatives on the IPACS Steering Committee.

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MORE REACH

In 2026, the growing network of IPACS Partners has helped expand the Partnership's reach like never before. When asked to help raise awareness of the IPACS Sport Governance Benchmark and Guidelines Handbook that the Partnership launched in October 2025, Partners stepped up to the task. Umbrella organisations such as the Association of Summer Olympic International Federations (ASOIF) and the Association of IOC Recognised International Federations (ARISF) disseminated the tool among their membership, as did International Federations such as the International Shooting Sport Federation (ISSF), World Aquatics and the World Baseball Softball Confederation (WBSC).

The intergovernmental organisations involved in the Partnership, including the Commonwealth, the Council of Europe and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), provided additional opportunities to raise awareness about IPACS and its many tools, including the Handbook and the newly published IPACS Fact Sheet on AI and Corruption in Sport.

These outreach opportunities have introduced new audiences, who were previously unaware of the Partnership's existence, to the achievements of IPACS. A webinar on "Prosecuting Bribery in Sport: From Guidance to Practice", which was co-organised by the International Olympic Committee (IOC) and UNODC with the support of the International Association of Prosecutors (IAP), under the auspices of the IPACS Cooperation Task Force, is one such example. The webinar brought together more than 100 participants, mainly from prosecutorial and law enforcement backgrounds, drawn from networks beyond IPACS.

> "This year's webinar has been yet another example of the fruitful collaboration between the International Association of Prosecutors (IAP) and IPACS. The webinar's focus on actionable guidance and a practical case study was of great value to our members. The IAP is proud to be in a position to connect its global community of prosecutors with the unique expertise that IPACS brings to the fight against corruption in sport. We look forward to our next joint initiative with anticipation."
>
> **Irina Beridze**
> Executive Programme Manager
> International Association of Prosecutors

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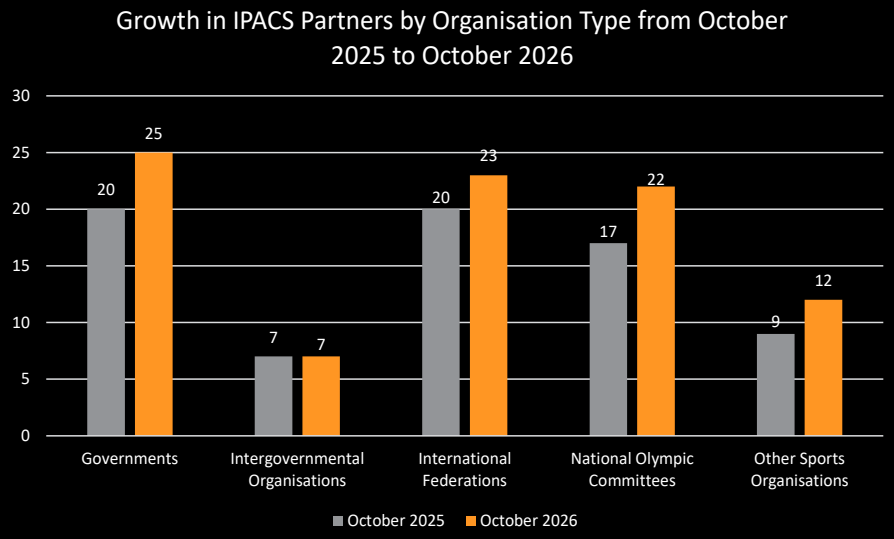
MORE PARTNERS

Since the 8th IPACS Annual General Conference in October 2025, IPACS has grown in the following categories:

- A 25% increase in the number of governments;
- A 15% increase in the number of International Sports Federations;
- A 29% increase in the number of National Olympic Committees;
- A 33% increase in the number of other sports organisations.

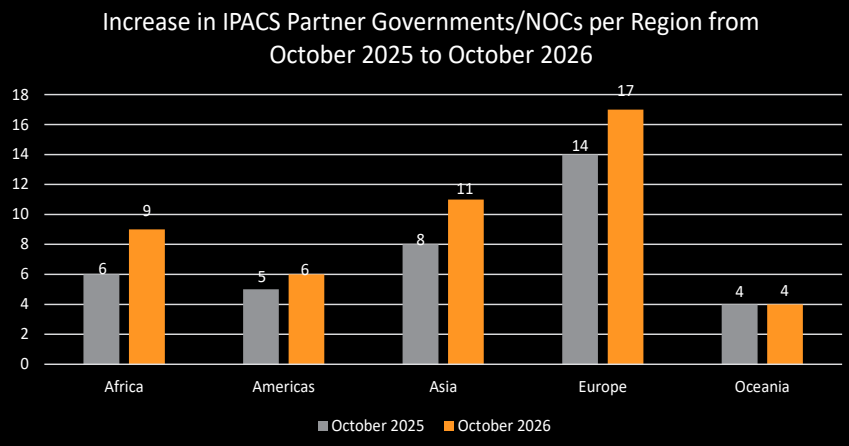


Overall, the Partnership has grown from 73 organisations to 89 in the last 12 months, a 22% increase.

MORE GLOBAL

In 2026 IPACS has also become more representative in terms of the regional spread of Partner governments and National Olympic Committees (NOCs). This included:

- A 50% increase in the number of governments/NOCs from Africa;
- A 20% increase in the number of governments/NOCs from the Americas;
- A 38% increase in the number of governments/NOCs from Asia;
- A 21% increase in the number of governments/NOCs from Europe.



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NEW PERSPECTIVES

Prioritising underrepresented regions

In 2026, the IPACS Support Office continued its efforts to expand the Partnership in terms of the number and diversity of Partners. Potential Partners were proactively engaged with and, in many cases, brought on board. In addition, in line with the objectives of the 2025 report, contact has been re-established with four Partners that no longer had IPACS focal points.

As per the objectives set out in the IPACS Partner Report 2025, a specific emphasis on outreach to Partners from underrepresented regions helped improve representation from Africa in particular, as outlined above.

> "The Commonwealth Secretariat welcomes the continued growth of IPACS, which we have been delighted to facilitate on multiple occasions. The growing presence of diverse regions from around the world within the Partnership will help ensure that the work of IPACS accurately reflects the needs of different contexts. We are committed to continuing our active involvement within IPACS and to seeing how the Partnership progresses over the next year to support our 56 member countries."
>
> **Dr Lin Sambili**
> Advisor, Sport for Development and Peace (SDP)
> The Commonwealth Secretariat

Nevertheless, most continents remain underrepresented in the Partnership. The IPACS Support Office will continue to prioritise engaging with Partners from underrepresented regions and introducing new perspectives into the Partnership.

Bringing governments on board

IPACS continues to see relatively lower engagement from governments than from sports organisations. Sports organisations outnumber governments in the Partnership by a ratio of more than two to one and have also been relatively more active in developing and promoting IPACS tools. More governments need to be convinced of the value of their participation in the Partnership, particularly given the important role they can play in supporting efforts to prevent and address corruption in sport.

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Looking ahead

The changes in the IPACS Steering Committee membership in 2027 will be a pivotal development in both these regards. This will introduce new perspectives, with new members representing different regions and the various Partner categories within IPACS, including governments. The large majority of Steering Committee members, who have reached their maximum number of terms, will be replaced by Partners who have not previously served on the Steering Committee.

This significant change within the Partnership's highest decision-making body will inevitably bring additional challenges. The outgoing Steering Committee members take with them multiple years of experience at the helm of the Partnership, while the incoming members will need time to familiarise themselves with their new roles.

Despite these challenges, the changes in the Steering Committee membership will help further the goal of introducing new perspectives from across the Partnership into the governance of IPACS. They will also demonstrate the value of the key good governance principle of term limits for those who hold positions of power. This continues the IPACS Steering Committee's commitment to leading by example, which included the decision to enhance transparency by publishing the Steering Committee's meeting minutes on the IPACS website.

Join the cause, join the Partnership. Organisations interested in becoming an IPACS Partner or unsure of their status are invited to reach out to the IPACS Support Office at contact@ipacs.sport.