

Pending Questions Q&A sessions for CMX21 RFI:

Pending questions from 1st Q&A session from 27 May 2020:

1.) How is the template supposed to be filled, if somebody applies as a group and not as a company?

Basically there are no restriction for the completion of the template. The only thing to keep in mind here is that all the working groups/partners etc. need to be based in NATO nations. If they are not, we would need to get a special permission.

2.) Is it possible bring the demonstrator's own devices and what will be the situation with wifi connection?

Companies, when selected, will have to tell us (and NATO Office of Security (NOS) / Conference room's services) their needs in terms of equipment in this domain. Once company selected, they will have to express their needs or present what they want to use within the area and NOS will provide specific / adapted restrictions.

There will be no internet access within the classified Conference room area. Wi-Fi might be available within the Public Square.

3.) Are the demonstrators expected to be on-site outside of their demonstration's slots?

This will be discussed later with the ones responsible of the exercise and the NOS in the NATO HQ. One of the basic parameters is, that we are not an integral component of the exercise but use this unique platform to present exercise (scenario) related solutions iot provide NATO with innovate (and deliverable) ideas for possible future use and projects that might be setup at some point in time.

4.) Does the company need have a NATO secret clearance?

All will be managed by NOS Representatives directly. Both Personnel have to be cleared at NATO Secret level and companies accredited .The process can be long so it must be started once companies are selected. Depending on the product and level of classification of information handled, companies may also have to have their facilities cleared as well. NOS stated that some companies selected might already have these level of clearance which may ease their work.

Additionally, NOS explained that before CMX21, even for the rehearsal in January, "demonstrators" and companies must be briefed by NOS and follow a process of Security briefings:

- NATO HQ basic facility security briefings but also;
- Info-management type;
- CMX 21 security briefings etc...

5.) What are the expectations regarding storage media?

Further details TBC. Some notes during discussion with the NOS:

Physical storage. Once rooms are granted for a period of time, doors are closed at night. It is a question of common trust. If NOS trusts companies to come in, Companies will have to trust NOS for keeping materials / equipment within rooms.

With respect to hard drives, depending in the circumstances, NOS may want to check them after the demonstrations before returning them to the owners. This should not take more than one day. (see #9)

6.) What the requirements are for bringing own hardware to the HQ?

Once companies are selected, they will have to express their needs or present what they want to use within the area and NOS will provide specific / adapted restrictions.

7.) Can the spreadsheet questions be extended and if so, what the requirements are?

Yes they can be. However, please do not go over a reasonable size for us to review.

8.) Are the questions outside of the cells deliberate?

No, sorry! This was a misprint. It has been amended

“Development-dependent” questions from 2nd Q&A session from 17 Jun 2020:

9.) If we bring demonstration hardware such as a laptop, will be allowed to take it home? There were questions at the last Q&A session about whether we would be required to turn hard drives over the NATO security following the event.

Once you are done with the demonstration, the Office of Security is likely to check the device to ensure there are no remaining information that are classified. Once we know the hardware requirements, we will be able to provide clear guidance on that.

10.) If there are more companies applying as consortium, do they all need to have security clearance?

All participants that will be entering the building will have to have security clearance and all companies must be from NATO nations and must be accredited or certified no matter if as a consortium or not. The final procedure will be provided to the selected companies by the NATO Office of Security of NATO HQ.

11.) Can you clarify whether the facilities must be cleared as well?

It will depend on the equipment and on the office of security. We cannot answer that until the companies are selected, the equipment will be investigated after the selection.

12) What is the policy for the devices?

As long as you bring something within the classified area, there is no access to Wi-Fi or NATO/other networks. You can give us something in advance or you can connect with your own device, but it would have to be approved by the Office of Security. For instance, you cannot bring your mobile phones or smart watches to the conference area.

As of 20 JUN 2020