

# NATO Allied Command Transformation Operational Experimentation (OPEX)



## 2020 Fact Sheet – Concept Development and Experimentation (CD&E) Working Group

- Background:** NATO’s Policy for Concept Development & Experimentation (MC 0583) emphasises the importance of transparency in developing concept and capabilities, and in designing and executing experiments. Transparency is an essential enabler to efficiency and avoidance of duplication in the 30 Nations’ CD&E enterprise. The CD&E WG provides a vantage point from which national experts and representatives can see NATO CD&E activities and plans so that opportunities for synergy may be identified and acted upon.
- Mission:** The CD&E WG reviews the past year’s CD&E activities, monitors ongoing work, considers planned and emerging activities to make NATO CD&E as efficient and effective as possible.
- Experiment Category:** Core Business
- Milestones:**  
*May:* CD&E WG VTC to discuss the next CD&E POW, validate the planned experiments and seek opportunities for cooperation and synergy.  
*Oct/Nov:* CD&E WG meeting, run back-to-back with the International CD&E Conference, to share ideas, review progress and look ahead to future initiatives.
- Headquarters:** NATO Allied Command Transformation  
Joint Force Development Directorate  
Operational Experimentation Branch
- OPEX:** OPEX is the intersection between Operators and Innovation. OPEX plans, designs, conducts, and analyses experiments in support of new concepts and capabilities development. Visit [www.act.nato.int/opex-pressroom](http://www.act.nato.int/opex-pressroom) for more information, or visit us online at the CDE365 Website located on [NATO’s Transformation Network](#).
- OPEX Point of Contact:** Experiment Integrator, Caroline Leichtnam, [caroline.leichtnam@act.nato.int](mailto:caroline.leichtnam@act.nato.int), +1-757-747-3661
- NATO HQ STRATCOM:** The NWCC experiment aligns under the 2020 NATO Communication Strategy pillars of NATO unity and NATO strength.
- NATO ACT STRATCOM:** The CD&E Working Group contributes to SACT’s 2020 Objective #3 “*Preserve the Edge of NATO’s Military Instrument of Power over our Potential Adversaries*” and Objective #4 “*Exploit the Benefits of Cooperation.*”

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