

Request for Information Number: **RFI ACT SACT 23-04**

Reference: **Q&A**

Date of Issue: **13 December 2022**

The following questions were raised with respect to subject RFI. Responses are to provide clarification.

#	Questions	Response
1	We acknowledge that you want to “test the market” for solutions but we don’t know what is the basic document or foundation for developing new M&S capabilities? Is there a strategic concept or new doctrine? Does it come from a political decision or “just” a military need?	The NATO Military Committee (made up from representatives from all 30-nations) issued a tasking to NATO’s Strategic Commands to propose plans for a NATO Next Generation of M&S capability. NATO’s 2030 vision lays out the need to conduct periodic warfare simulation from the political to tactical level
3	When you’re talking about NextGen M&S does it mean it is the next generation after JCTS or JTLS?	Both of these systems are involved in the RFI and AoA process for the program and will be considered as alternatives for the program moving forward along with other systems in the current baseline
4	Can you give further detail on a specific type of Simulation and modelling event that would be fundamental to a solution, with specific constraints and obstacles examples to be modelled?	One example would be driving the execution of a NATO exercise from planning the event through execution and then providing an AAR and lessons learned capability. Another example would be automating the operational / strategic planning process to include Wargaming.
5	The RFI discusses the use case to essentially be simulating mission and multi-geo coordinated operations (scenario) planning. Can you provide more detail on this (such as a documented use case)?	<p>Stakeholder discussions established that NexGen M&S scope should be at the operational and strategic level, with a strong emphasis on the operational level. Considering previously used systems and studies, NexGen felt the need to include models categorized as mission-level and campaign-level in the scope. During stakeholder workshops, use cases that involved modelling a level of abstraction above the campaign-level were raised and were of interest to certain analyses. The ability to explore force structure and military strategy trade spaces, and perform trade studies on means, ways, and objectives using simple, low-resolution capabilities with editable parameters. Because of this, NexGen M&S felt to need to include a range of model abstractions within the scope.</p> <p>It is worth noting that the RFI #2 only included Tier II capability requirements. Several requirements are aggregated and attempt to summarize multiple sub-requirements. Tier II capability requirements, such as the one involving multiple model abstractions, will be broken out into multiple lower-tier capability requirements and individually prioritized during future stakeholder engagements. It may be decided later that certain levels of abstraction are of higher priority than others and some may be categorized later as</p>

		"nice to have" (should) versus "need to have" (shall).
6	The RFI states the need to "Support turn-based game-play and interruptions to interact with simulation activities and events." Does NATO have a gaming system already in mind that a technology supplier might interact/integrate with?	NATO's Next Generation of M&S capability program will provide the materiel component of NATO's wargaming capability. The future gaming system will be developed within the NexGen M&S programme
7	Are you seeking a capability to model the Terrain (lakes, trees, elevations, buildings, etc)?	The common synthetic environment that NATO seeks must provide fidelity and visualization from the political to tactical level and accommodate multi-disciplinary approaches.
8	Is there legacy datasets that will need to be migrated to the new system? If yes, what is the approx. # of data items (or measured in Gigabytes) that need migrating, and what system(s) is that data coming from?	<p>Repositories and systems with maintained standard databases exist, are used by the NATO Command Structure, and are leveraged for settings and scenario development by the exercise community. Examples of the types of data used to build simulation databases can be found in the draft NATO Next Generation of M&S architecture document. The size and magnitude of data sources will be elicited from stakeholders during future phases of the common funded process. For analytics use cases, the data sources will depend on the problem at hand.</p> <p>Alternatives representing the target system environment and their migration strategies will be defined and evaluated during later phases common funded process, and implemented during future Project Plans. This phase will also include verified accounting of real and simulation data sources from the NATO Command Structure, national providers, open sources, and C2/FAS systems, as well as an assessment of their accessibility, reuse and mobility.</p> <p>Several discussions were held with stakeholders regarding common datasets accessible across application areas and their systems, the use of data warehouses, and data decoupling concepts. However NexGen M&S recognizes that simulations have data schemas and database tables that need to be completed.</p>
9	What format is appropriate to respond if I have a capability or idea not covered in the RFI?	The RFI solicits responses from industry, nations, and academia. Traditional responses following the outline of the RFI or creative formats are equally encouraged.
10	What is the scope of the capability?	Please see the draft NATO Next Generation of M&S architecture document.
11	Who are the users of the capability?	Please see the draft NATO Next Generation of M&S architecture document.
12	How many commands and/ or nodes will host or access the capability?	Please see the draft NATO Next Generation of M&S architecture document.