1. **Genesis:** Quad came together during the 2004 tsunami in the Indian Ocean region to coordinate response and assistance to countries in the region. The first meeting of Quad officials took place on the sidelines of the ASEAN Regional Forum summit in Philippines in May 2007. After a gap of 10 years, Quad officials met in Manila in November 2017 on the margins of the East Asia Summit for consultations on connectivity issues; maritime security and counter terrorism; shared principles for a Free and Open Indo-Pacific; and proliferation threats in Asia. Thereafter, Quad Senior Officials from respective Foreign Ministries have been meeting regularly.

2. **Foreign Ministerials:** The first meeting of Quad Foreign Ministers took place in September 2019 on the margins of the UNGA in New York. The second Quad FMM was held in October 2020 in Tokyo, their third meeting was held virtually on 18 February 2021. The fourth Quad FMM took place on 11 February 2022 in Melbourne. The Ministers issued a Joint Statement for the first time following the meeting. Quad Foreign Ministers met on the sidelines of the UNGA High Level Week in New York on 23 September 2022, where they issued a statement calling for the reform of the multilateral system, including expansion in both the permanent and non-permanent categories of the UN Security Council.

3. **Summits:** Quad saw a natural evolution and elevation in 2021 to the level of the Leaders with the first Quad Summit in virtual format on 12 March 2021. PM participated along with Prime Ministers Suga of Japan and Morrison of Australia and President Biden to discuss regional and global issues, especially the Indo-Pacific. Three Working Groups were announced by the Leaders-Vaccine Partnership, Climate Change and Critical & Emerging Technology. The Quad adopted an action oriented approach to enable practical cooperation.

The second Quad Leaders’ Summit was held in person on 24 September 2021 in Washington DC. The Leaders agreed to setup three new Working Groups on Infrastructure, Space and Cyber issues. 100 STEM fellowships (25 from each Quad country) to US universities for graduate and doctoral students from Quad countries was announced.

The third Quad Leaders’ Summit was held virtually meeting on 3 March 2022 during which Leaders discussed the situation in Ukraine and its impact on the Indo-Pacific. They also agreed to set up a Quad HADR partnership.

The fourth Quad Summit (second in-person) was hosted by Japan on 24 May 2022. The Leaders reviewed the progress of their initiatives and the progress made on Quad’s core agenda- addressing inequity in access to the Indo-Pacific, climate action, resilient supply chains, peaceful use of outer space and providing sustainable financing for infrastructure in the region. Leaders launched the Quad Satellite Data Portal to provide regional countries with space based data for climate and disaster forecasting and sustainable use of marine resources, Quad Climate Change, Adaptation and Mitigation Package (Q-CHAMP) for practical cooperation on climate action, mobilize climate finance and technology transfer to help countries meet their COP26 commitments; Quad Debt Management Resource Portal to guide countries about available resources to address challenges of unsustainable debt financing; a New Partnership on HADR Cooperation *(an India led initiative)* – to provide timely and effective assistance to the IP region in the event of future incidents.

4. **Initiatives announced by Leaders:** Initiatives announced by Leaders reflect their shared vision for implementing a positive agenda which would benefit countries in the Indo-Pacific region.
and the Quad’s focus on contemporary issues. Quad has set up Working Groups, with officials at functional level leading them.

a) Vaccines/Health Security: The Quad Vaccine Partnership was announced in March 2021 by the Leaders to deliver Quad vaccines to the Indo-Pacific region. Under this partnership, the US Development Financial Cooperation (DFC) provided a credit line of 50 million US$ to augment manufacturing capacity in Biological E facility in India. India delivered 525,000 Made in India vaccines to Cambodia and Thailand under the Quad Vaccine Partnership in April 2022.

b) Climate Change: The Quad WG on Climate Change would strengthen climate actions through mitigation, adaptation, resilience, technology, capacity-building, and climate finance and organized its work under three pillars- Climate Ambition; Clean Energy Innovation and Deployment; and Adaptation, Resilience and Preparedness. It will facilitate clean energy transitions of Indo-Pacific countries to meet their net-zero commitments.

Quad’s Green Shipping Network with ports in Los Angeles, Mumbai, Sydney and Yokohama are envisioned as a network dedicated to greening and decarbonizing the shipping value chain. The Quad Clean Hydrogen Partnership is working to strengthen infrastructure projects for clean hydrogen and facilitate commercial deployment prospects in this area, find ways to lower costs across all elements of the clean-hydrogen value chain.

Quad is also looking at cooperation with CDRI to provide technical assistance in small island developing states and other countries of the Indo-Pacific.

c) Critical and Emerging Technology: Four sub groups have been established- on technology standards, technology supply chains, 5G and vendor diversification, and horizon scanning. The Quad Principles on Technology Design, Development, Governance and Use calls for democratic values and human rights shaping the ways in which technology is designed, developed, governed, and a commitment to foster an open, accessible, and secure technology ecosystem.

Quad is pursuing work on 5G and Vendor Diversification to maintain a diverse, open and interoperable telecommunication ecosystem through collaboration with like-minded partners, pilot projects and trial deployments. Under the Quad Open RAN (ORAN) Forum, industry and government are looking at options for ORAN deployment to help deliver greater vendor diversity across the telecoms ecosystem in the Indo-Pacific.

The Quad Investor Network was announced at the Quad Leaders’ Summit in Tokyo to mobilize capital for strategic initiatives under the Quad framework.

d) Infrastructure: The Quad Infrastructure Coordination Group (QICG) announced by the Leaders in September 2021 is meeting regularly to share assessments of regional infrastructure needs and coordinate respective approaches to deliver transparent, high-standards infrastructure. The group is coordinating technical assistance and capacity-building efforts to ensure Quad’s efforts are mutually reinforcing and complementary in meeting the significant infrastructure demand in the Indo-Pacific.

e) Space: The Quad Space Working Group, announced by Leaders in September 2021, is discussing exchange of Earth observation satellite data and analysis to help Indo-Pacific countries better adapt to climate change, prepare for natural disasters and better manage marine resources. The group will also consult on norms and guidelines for the sustainable use of outer space.

f) Cyber Security: The Quad Cyber Working Group is sharing threat information, identifying and evaluating potential risks in supply chains for digitally enabled products and services to secure
critical infrastructure. The group will coordinate capacity building programs in the Indo-Pacific region under the Quad Cybersecurity Partnership, and will initiate the Annual Quad Cybersecurity Day to help individual internet users across to better protect themselves from cyber threats.

g) STEM Fellowships: The Quad STEM Fellowships were announced by Leaders at their September 2021 Summit in Washington DC to provide 100 Fellowships-25 from each country- for graduate or doctoral studies in leading US universities annually. The Fellows will need to demonstrate a strong interest in the intersection of science and technology and public policy. The first set of Quad Fellows will start their academic cycle in the Fall of 2023. More details can be found at https://www.quadfellowship.org/

Other areas of cooperation

a) HADR: A Partnership on Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR) has put in place SOPs for effective coordination among the four countries so as to provide timely assistance in future events in the region.

b) Maritime Security: India is a key partner in the Indo-Pacific Maritime Domain Awareness Initiative (IPMDA), a regional initiative announced by Quad Leaders at their Summit in May 2022 with the objective of enhancing regional MDA of select countries in the region to combat illegal and unreported fishing; and to augment their capacity to address humanitarian and natural disasters by providing technology and training.

c) Counter-Terrorism: Quad has condemned terrorism and violent extremism in all forms and manifestations, denounced the use of terrorist proxies and emphasized the importance of denying any logistical, financial or military support to terrorist groups which could be used to launch or plan terror attacks, including cross-border attacks. Quad Leaders condemned the terrorist attacks in India during 26/11 in Mumbai and the Pathankot attacks. They reiterated the importance of upholding international standards on anti-money laundering and combating the financing of terrorism by all countries, consistent with FATF recommendations.

- November 2022

***