



## India, France, UAE Trilateral Initiative

**For Prelims:** India, France, United Arab Emirates, Nuclear Energy, Solar Energy, Climate Change, World Health Organization, Gavi-the Vaccine Alliance, Exercise Shakti (Army), Exercise Varuna (Navy), Exercise Garuda (Air Force), International Solar Alliance, VIRAL (Venus Infrared Atmospheric Gases Linker).

**For Mains:** Major Highlights of the Trilateral Initiative, India France Relations, India UAE Relations.

### Why in News?

Recently, **India, France, and the United Arab Emirates (UAE)** have agreed to form a partnership to **work together in the fields of nuclear and solar energy**, as well as in tackling **climate change and preserving biodiversity**.

- The idea of this partnership was first discussed at a meeting in New York during the [United Nations General Assembly in September 2022](#).

### What Are the Major Highlights of the Trilateral Initiative?

- This trilateral initiative will serve as a **forum to promote the design and execution of cooperation projects in the fields of energy**, with a focus on **solar and nuclear energy**, as well as in the **fight against climate change** and the protection of biodiversity, particularly in the [Indian Ocean region](#).
- The three countries have also agreed to work together in defence, countering infectious diseases, and promoting cooperation in global health organisations such as the [World Health Organization](#), [Gavi-the Vaccine Alliance](#), [the Global Fund](#), and [Unitaid](#).
- Further, the three countries will attempt to identify tangible cooperation on implementing the **“One Health” approach**, and support the development of local capacities in **biomedical innovation and production within developing countries**.
- The three countries also agreed to expand their cooperation through initiatives such as the [Mangrove Alliance for Climate](#) led by the UAE and the **Indo-Pacific Parks Partnership** led by India and France.

### What are the Other Areas of Cooperation between India and France?

- **Defence Cooperation:**
  - The three services of both countries have regular defence exercises; viz.
    - **Exercise Shakti (Army)**
    - [Exercise Varuna \(Navy\)](#)
    - [Exercise Garuda \(Air Force\)](#)
  - India entered into a contract with a **French firm to build six Scorpene submarines in India’s Malegaon dockyards** through a technology-transfer arrangement in 2005.
  - Also, India and France had signed the **inter-government agreement in 2016**, under which France agreed to provide [36 Rafale fighter jets at a cost of around 60,000 crore rupees](#) to India.

▪ **Other Initiatives:**

- India and France are in joint efforts to limit climate change and develop the [International Solar Alliance](#).
- France has agreed to be part of **India's Venus mission, scheduled for 2025**.
  - Also, ISRO's Venus instrument, [VIRAL \(Venus Infrared Atmospheric Gases Linker\)](#) has been co-developed by **French and Russian agencies**.

## What are the Other Areas of Cooperation between India and UAE?

- **Collaboration:** They both are the members of [I2U2 Grouping](#).
- **Economic Partnership:** In 2022 India & UAE signed a [Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement \(CEPA\)](#) with an aim of taking bilateral trade to USD 100 billion within 5 years.
  - Also, India and UAE are discussing ways to **boost non-oil commerce in rupees** that will **promote internationalisation of rupees**.
  - UAE is the **second largest export destination of India (after the US)** with an amount of over US\$ 28 billion for the year 2021-22.
    - For the UAE, India is the **second largest trading partner for the year 2021** with an amount of around **USD 45 billion (non-oil trade)**.
- **Defence Cooperation:** With the **spread of radicalism in the Gulf and South Asia**, India looks to enhance **security cooperation with the UAE** to counter terrorist threats and combat radicalization.
  - ['Desert Eagle II'](#), is a joint **air combat exercise**, between **air forces of India and UAE**.

## UPSC Civil Services Examination, Previous Year Questions (PYQs)

### Prelims

**Q. Consider the following statements: (2016)**

1. The International Solar Alliance was launched at the United Nations Climate Change Conference in 2015.
2. The Alliance includes all the member countries of the United Nations.

**Which of the statements given above is/are correct?**

- (a) 1 only
- (b) 2 only
- (c) Both 1 and 2
- (d) Neither 1 nor 2

**Ans: (a)**

### Mains

**Q. How will I2U2 (India, Israel, UAE and USA) grouping transform India's position in global politics? (2022)**

[Source: TH](#)