

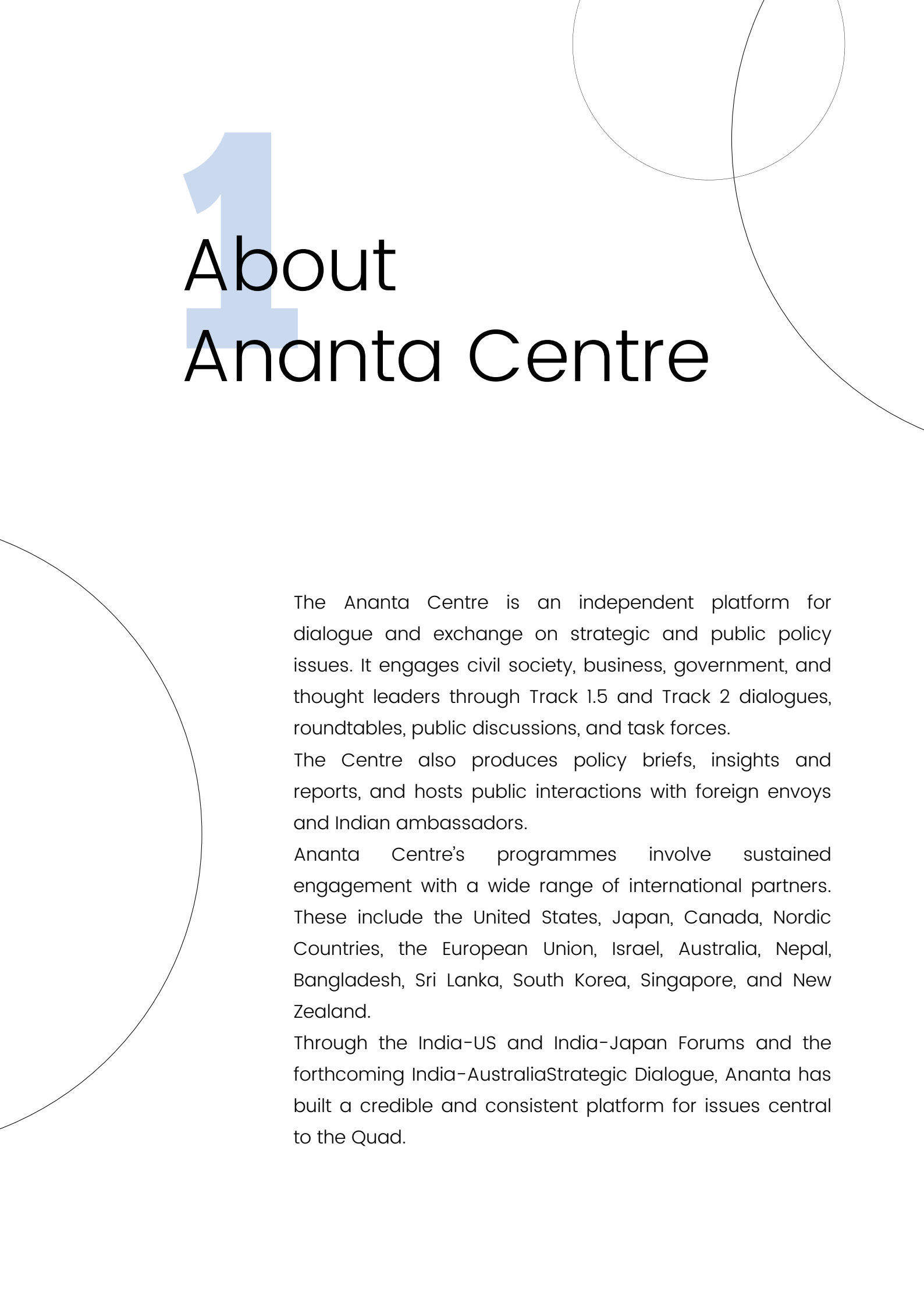


PORTS OF THE FUTURE



A QUAD Initiative

Organised by the Ananta Centre in
collaboration with the Ministry of Ports,
Shipping and Waterways (MoPSW) and
the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA)



1 About Ananta Centre

The Ananta Centre is an independent platform for dialogue and exchange on strategic and public policy issues. It engages civil society, business, government, and thought leaders through Track 1.5 and Track 2 dialogues, roundtables, public discussions, and task forces.

The Centre also produces policy briefs, insights and reports, and hosts public interactions with foreign envoys and Indian ambassadors.

Ananta Centre's programmes involve sustained engagement with a wide range of international partners. These include the United States, Japan, Canada, Nordic Countries, the European Union, Israel, Australia, Nepal, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, South Korea, Singapore, and New Zealand.

Through the India-US and India-Japan Forums and the forthcoming India-Australia Strategic Dialogue, Ananta has built a credible and consistent platform for issues central to the Quad.



2

The Conference and Its Objectives

The Quad Ports of the Future Partnership is a collaborative initiative launched by the Quad—comprising Australia, India, Japan, and the United States—aimed at promoting sustainable and resilient port infrastructure development across the Indo-Pacific region. This initiative seeks to harness the Quad's collective expertise to coordinate, exchange information, share best practices, and mobilize both government and private sector investments in quality port infrastructure.

In essence, the partnership is a strategic move to bolster maritime connectivity, logistics resilience, and quality infrastructure in the Indo-Pacific, leveraging the Quad's combined resources and institutional expertise

Dates & Venue

Date:

29th and 30th October, 2025

Venue:

Bombay Exhibition Center,
Goregaon, Mumbai

3 Participants

The Quad Ports of the Future Conference will convene a high-level and diverse group of stakeholders, including:

- Senior Representatives from partner nations engaged in the Indo-Pacific maritime domain.
- Private sector leaders from:
 1. Shipbuilding and logistics
 2. Sub-sea cables and digital infrastructure
 3. Defence and security industries
 4. Port operations and management
 5. Cybersecurity and Artificial Intelligence solutions
- Maritime domain experts and academia – providing research insights, innovation perspectives, and policy recommendations.

4 Themes

1. Ports as Strategic Anchors in the Indo-Pacific

Examining how Quad ports can serve as resilient hubs for global trade corridors, while supporting critical supply chains and advancing the Indo-Pacific vision.

2. Infrastructure and Investment — Quad's Pathways in the Indo-Pacific

Exploring models for joint financing and public-private partnerships to modernize ports, enhance connectivity, and attract global investment.

3. Shipping and Shipbuilding

Discussing strategies to strengthen civil and defense shipbuilding, pilot digital technologies, and build a skilled maritime workforce for future-ready ports.

4. Integrating Quad and Strategic Maritime Security Alignment (Closed-Door Roundtable)

Extending Quad cooperation with regional partners to share best practices and interoperable frameworks across the Indo-Pacific.

5. Securing Undersea Cables and Critical Digital Maritime Infrastructure

Deepening strategic coordination to protect undersea cable networks and ensure secure digital connectivity for maritime operations.

6. Building Smart, Secure, and Connected Ports and Next Gen Tech

Reimagining ports as hubs of logistics and resilience, leveraging AI, advanced analytics, and regulatory frameworks for next-generation operations.

7. Building Sustainable and Resilient Ports

Digitalisation and AI-driven operations to optimise logistics, reduce emissions and improve energy efficiency.

5 Intended Outcomes

The Quad Ports of the Future Conference is designed not only as a platform for dialogue but as a mechanism to generate tangible, actionable results. The intended outcomes include:

- **Engagement of the highest-caliber stakeholders** – bringing together ministers, senior officials, industry leaders, and domain experts to ensure discussions are informed by both policy vision and technical expertise.
- **Actionable recommendations for policymakers** – consolidating insights into a set of strategic proposals that can guide Quad nations and partner countries in shaping resilient, sustainable, and technologically advanced port ecosystems.
- **Strengthening of public-private collaboration** – fostering new channels of cooperation between government bodies, industry and academia to accelerate innovation and implementation.
- **Regional frameworks for cooperation** – advancing the Quad's commitment to shared standards, interoperability and knowledge-exchange mechanisms in maritime infrastructure and management.
- **Roadmap for future initiatives** – establishing next steps for collaborative projects in areas such as logistics modernization, cybersecurity, AI-driven port management and maritime domain awareness.
- **Produce a Joint Statement / Outcome Report** – capturing key recommendations, shared commitments, and a forward-looking roadmap for cooperation among Quad partners and regional stakeholders.

Together, these outcomes will provide a forward-looking blueprint to support resilient maritime trade, sustainable infrastructure, and deeper Quad cooperation in the Indo-Pacific.