# Vision MAHASAGAR (Mutual and Holistic Advancement for Security and Growth Across Regions)

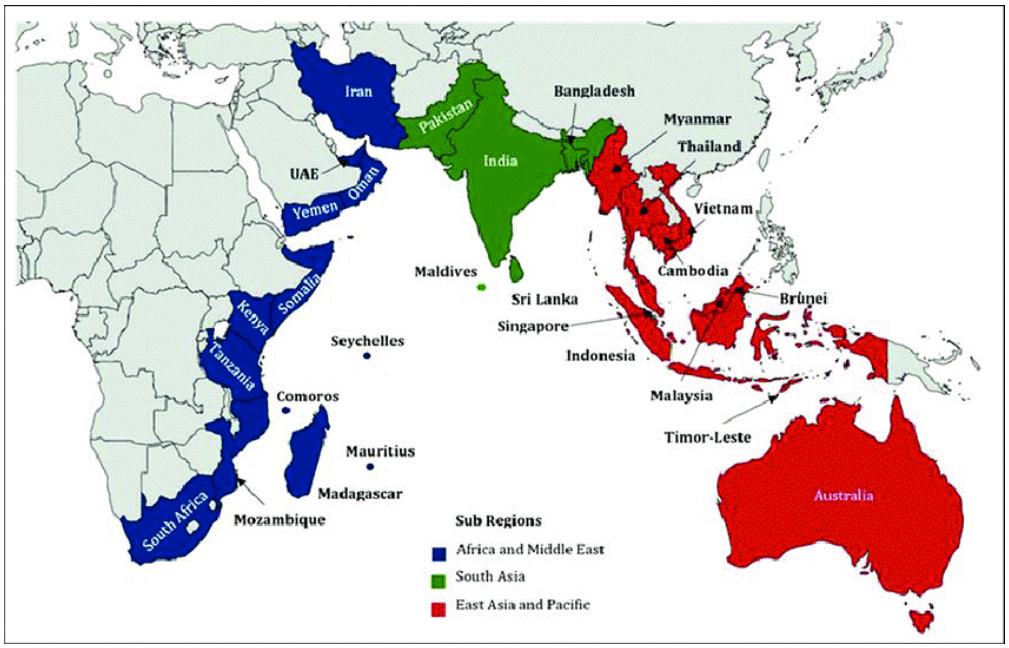
***Prelims:*** *Current events of national and international importance | Government policies and interventions*

## Why in News?

*Recently, India and Seychelles launched the Joint Vision SESEL, aligned with India's MAHASAGAR maritime vision.*

- It is the ***Indian Navy's high-level outreach initiative, conducted biannually as virtual interactions.***
- **Launched in –** 2023
- **Evolution –** The Mahasagar vision ***builds on the SAGAR (Security and Growth for All in the Region) of 2015.***
    - **Shift** – Indian Ocean Region (IOR)-centric to Global maritime outreach (Global South).
- **Key Pillars –**
    - Trade for Development
    - Capacity Building for Sustainable Growth
    - Mutual Security for Shared Future
- **Objectives – Partnerships –** Consolidate strategic maritime partnerships with Africa and littoral states.
- **Security Role –** Position India as a *preferred security partner and first responder.*
- **Containment –** Counter China's growing maritime influence and String of Pearls strategy.
- **Integration –** Link maritime security with trade, energy security, and supply chains.
- **Influence –** Enhance India's diplomatic, technological, and infrastructural footprint in the maritime domain.
- **Associated Projects – AIKEYME Exercise –** Improved interoperability with 10 African countries through the ***AIKEYME Exercise (Africa-India Key Maritime Engagement).***
    - **Participants –** India and 10 African nations, namely, Tanzania (co-host), Comoros, Djibouti, Eritrea, Kenya, Madagascar, Mauritius, Mozambique, Seychelles, and South Africa.
- **IOS Sagar –** The deployment of INS Suyana as the Indian Ocean Ship (IOS) Sagar aids
    - Strengthening surveillance in Southwest IOR chokepoints.
    - And, enhanced Maritime Domain Awareness (MDA) in Exclusive Economic Zones (EEZs).

- **Agalega Airstrip** - Joint India–Mauritius developed airstrip, which acts as a key Indian Navy outpost in the Western Indian Ocean.
- Enhanced India's image as a responsible regional partner (disaster response, oil spills, pandemics).
- Boosted defence cooperation, info sharing, and naval exercises.




## References


1. PIB | Vision MAHASAGAR
2. MAHASAGAR | Indian Navy
3. PIB | 3RD edition of MAHASAGAR



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