

Development

January 2013

Monthly Development update from DHAN Collective

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Feature

Retreat 2012

Fifteenth Retreat of DHAN Foundation



Retreat is an unique annual event of DHAN, which provides a platform for DHANites to interact, share and reflect their achievements, hardships and pleasant memories in their year of work. The Fifteenth annual retreat was held at Indian Institute of Youth Welfare, Nagpur from 27th-30th Decemeber, 2012.



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From the Editors' Desk

Dear Readers,

Greetings from DHAN Foundation.

The Fifteenth Annual Retreat was held at Indian Institute of Youth Welfare, Nagpur. A event article on this gives you a glimpse of these four day event. Institutional updated of different thematic programs of DHAN and also institutional updates of DHAN as a whole will keep you informed about the recent progress and developments to achieve our goal of poverty reduction. An exposure visit was organized to farmers under One village-One variety project by rainfed program a brief of which features in this article. A case study 'Battle with nature' presented in this issue shows how farmers cope up with climatic vagaries by growing alternative crops. Inland Fisheries has a vast scope for enhancing income of farmers apart from fulfilling the food security needs. A paper analyzing the trends in fisheries and the need for policy changes will give readers more insights about Inland fisheries. DHAN has opened a service center for migrant workers in Tirupur an article on which informs you about the activities planned by the center. An article on our new initiative Housing for more appeared in Times of India, an extract of which was produced in this issue. Last but not the least a briefing about the Tree walk event held at Nagamalai, in Madurai is also presented in this issue.

The readers are welcome to give their suggestions and feedbacks on the articles featured in the development matters. They can send their mails to dhancdc@dhan.org

Happy reading!

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Fifteenth Retreat of DHAN Foundation



Retreat is an unique annual institutional event of DHAN Foundation, which provides a platform for all the DHANites working across twelve different states of the country to meet and reflect on each ones experiences, learning's, achievements, hard times, pleasant and frustrating moments they faced in the past one year. Also this platform provides a rejuvenation to the participant's through reinforcing the values of the institution and the purpose for which we are working. The fifteenth annual retreat of DHAN Foundation got held in Indian Institute of youth welfare, Nagpur from 27th-30th December, 2012.

Day-1: 27th Dec,2012

The Purpose of the fifteenth retreat

Each retreat will be held with a defined purpose and the purpose of the fifteenth retreat was shared by Mr. A.Gurunathan after formal inauguration of the event.

- Keeping community and the centre and creating self-reliant community institutions.
- Owning the strategic plan of the organization and significantly contributing in achieving the plan

- Fostering and advancing citizenship in DHAN collective
- Attracting quality human resources and mentoring them with self as a demonstrator of self-regulation and team work
- Imbibing the focus of the year-Food and Nutrition Security and ensuring substantial action to attain food and nutrition security.

This is followed by the introduction of the 24 first time retreat participants by Mr. S.Singarayar, one of the retreat anchors. Mr. M.P. Vasimalai, Executive Director, DHAN Foundation in his inaugural address which highlighted the importance of preparation of community charter as our institutional presence is in 11,000 villages in 12 states across our nation, which will support the process. He added that Community charters will enable a paradigm shift in the development approach of the nation. Ms. Vijaya Shah, Director, Indian Institute of Youth Welfare, Nagpur in her special address explained about the key activities of the institute on, community life centre, youth and skill development, women empowerment prevention of

child labour, family counselling centre, prevention and control of HIV/AIDS, special focus on truckers, CSW, migrant population, health, hygiene, education, income generation activities, DEWATS, formation of SHGs.

Later all the participants were divided into 39 sub groups to discuss on. Purpose connectivity, Expression of values, capacities acquired to enhance the effectiveness and efficiency of performance and self-regulation. The outputs which are synthesized during the sub plenary. The process was successful in creating right perspective on the institutions mission on poverty reduction and revealed the expression of core values in all activities of DHAN especially the with respect to grassroots action and collaboration. Though innovation is expressed still more stress has to be given. The participants expressed that they got their capacities enhanced and acquired new skills, to do their work better through the process of learning by doing and also were adopting self-regulation at all levels and has instilled the same among the community.

Day 2: 28th December 2012

The second day started with four development dialogues on Agriculture Bio-diversity and Food & Nutrition Security, Climate Change and Food & Nutrition Security, Rainfed Agriculture and Food & Nutrition Security and Fisheries and Food & Nutrition Security. This imparted a good knowledge on the above topics to the DHANites who actively participated in the discussion and also clarified their doubts

Mr. Singarayar, Mr. Balasubramanian, Mr. Kiran Kumar, Mr. Vittal Rao took charge as day anchors. Mr. Singarayar highlighted the purpose, objectives and lead questions for the day's focus on community and team. Quality of engagement with the community, Community negotiations, Involvement in Development



Intervention Groups (DIG), Identification built with community, Community enabling process and Developing community charter were the focus areas of discussion in subgroups with respect to the community. Shared purpose of the team, Team Norms, Composition and complement of the team, Team appreciation, Role of Team Leader and Rating of Team were the areas to be discussed with respect to strengthening the team spirit. The sub groups discussion happened on the above areas and the outcomes were synthesized in the sub plenary which are presented below.

On Community

- Quality of engagement with the community in terms of facilitating Maha Sabha, conducting food festivals, formation of PPGs and PMGs, conducting capacity building programmes, staying with the community, supporting the young locations, attending the functions of family members, etc was good especially with those engaged directly with grassroots works.
- Convincing the community for working together on mutuality basis to create a win-win situation and also to benefit others through common fund allocation, cost coverage, people contribution, implementation of health (SUHAM) initiatives, conflict resolution, social security initiatives, utilizing ideal funds for specialized loan products, etc. has happened across all the people institutions.
- Developmental Intervention groups concept has to be strengthened further, though conscious efforts are seen in some locations.
- Establishing a social relationship with the community apart from the focused agendas is felt crucial to create rapport and also to understand their issues better.

- Enabling the community is through training and exposure, building ownership, grooming of leaders and ensuring the leaders' rotation which are vital for a community institution is found to be expressed in all locations.
- The sub group discussions came out with many ideas for using the community charter to build adequate infrastructure and resources (Humane, material and financial) for health, education, drinking water, sanitation, electricity, Patta, provisions for settling the entitlement for community, coping mechanisms, permission from revenue departments for application of tank silt, etc. Based on our rich experience in MF the community charter can influence the Panchayat in formulation of regulations which will prohibit the entry of the usurious money lending by money lenders and MFIs'. Similarly entry of contractors for undertaking community participatory civil works can also be prohibited. However, the participants felt that the community charter concept is new more capacity building is needed at field level to go ahead with the process.

On team

- Internalization and expression of our shared purposes in our activities viz., promotion of sustainable institutions, ensuring the social security, nurturing and recruiting young professionals, livelihood promotion and strengthening etc got shared during the discussion

There are no formalized and structured team norms. However, the institutional norms like starting office with reflections, adhering to time schedule, submission of reports on time are being followed as team norms. For all the activities and systems to be followed, a formal team norm is to be made available to all our teams.



1. Composition and complement of the team

Shouldering of multiple responsibilities is commonly observed. There are several teams at programme, region and at location levels where in all the assigned position remain vacant thus requiring personal to assume more responsibilities.

Hand holding and deputation of staff to the need locations is happening. Newly joined staffs are getting support to complete their assign task effectively. Regional HRD complements the CHRD by identifying the right candidate and assisting in the recruitment process. Programme and central teams complements the region team in timely completion of audit by systematic coordination with the auditors, imparting the trainings through DMPs', software updation and data conversions and FRC matters.

2. Team Appreciation

Team appreciation is generally observed in various forums and adequate process to identify the good performer for greater recognition is required. Suggestions to recognize the excellent team works and also forums to award them were given.

3. Role of team leader

Role of team leader is identified as a person provide the leadership quality, role model for others, as demonstrator, good communicator, mentor and motivator, content clarity, quick decision maker, etc.

4. Rating of team

Personal assessment of their own team performance varied from average to very good. Still many wanted to perform and reach the level of excellent performer in the years to come.



The cultural committee facilitated by Mr. K. Vittal Rao and team has organized the cultural programme. The event enriches the performance by DHANits. The cultural activities cover Dances, Songs, skits and mimicry. Latter this event extended with high energetic camp fire and every one enjoyed by active participation.

Day 3: 29th December, 2012

Third day started with five development dialogues by five facilitators in the following areas:

1. Mr. Vittal Rao facilitated on ‘Micro finance and tribal food and nutrition security’

The deliberations focused on the need to encourage nutritional banks for FNS, tapping more livelihoods opportunities for FNS, agriculture produce marketing and processing, more thrust on tribal women, children, lactating mothers and adolescent girls, promotion of fish rearing, encouraging more consumption of forest produces like honey, mahua, bamboo etc., herbal and medicinal plants preservation and usage without migrating to allopathic or any other medicines.

2. Mr. Subbu Raj facilitated on ‘Micro finance and coastal food and nutrition security’

They discussed about the status of food production and under nutrition at national level, the relevance of bio diversity under coastal context and its impact on FNS. After the deliberations, relevance of MF and possible solutions towards FNS were discussed. The solutions proposed were creating awareness on bio-diversity, FNS, promotion of farm ponds, improving alternative livelihood options to reduce pressure on sea and conservation of coastal context.

3. Mr. Kiran Kumar facilitated on ‘Watersheds and food and nutrition security’

He initiated the discussions on watershed, components and its relation to F&N security. The objectives of soil & moisture conservation leading to increased soil fertility, crop yield and fodder availability, water harvesting leading to stabilizing the existing area under cultivation, additional area brought under cultivation, crop diversity and horticulture promotion leading to availability of nutrient rich fruits etc. The deliberations given action points like assessment of percentage of watershed farmers using produce for their own consumption,

exclusive watersheds for nutrition security, evolving models for allowing landless for cultivating catch crops in water spread area of water bodies, observational research, etc.

4. Mr. K.P. Bharathi facilitated on ‘Tourism and food and nutrition security’

He initiated the discussions about tourism services, traditional / regional products has an opportunity to diversified jobs and to reduce migration, generate additional income and also create job opportunities and facilitates the increase in demand for heritage products. For that traditional farming heritage of rural and food tourism, globally important agri heritage system in India and how the heritage food to the emerging tourist would provide the demand for local products which in turn facilitates additional income to host communities, paving the opportunities for indirect FNS.

5. Mr. M. Karthikeyan facilitated on ‘Agriculture bio- diversity and food and nutrition security’

He discussed about agro bio-diversity (ABD), values and benefits of ABD, food and nutrition security, and status of ABD followed by dialogue on the ways for improving the links between ABD and FNS. He shared about perceptions of farming community on the nutritional superiority of rainfed paddy varieties over the irrigated paddy and declining production of rainfed paddy. Similarly perception of community on taste of long duration varieties over short duration varieties, utility of uncultivated flora and fauna for food and its negligence in modern agriculture and food system, balanced nature of traditional cropping system in terms of integrating food, fodder and soil fertility needs.

Then the third day of the event has its focus on “Agri. Bio-diversity and food and nutrition security” focus of the year 2013. The day anchored by M/s. M.P.Vasimalai, M.Palanisamy, N. Venkatesan and Gayathri. Then, Mr.Gurunathan retreat anchor, welcomed all the participants followed by reflections from Maharashtra, Odissa team. Mr.N.Venkatesan, from day anchors team briefed about the day schedule and requested lead paper presenters. Our Executive Director gave a briefing about various activities done by different thematic programs of DHAN for ensuring food and nutrition security, propositions and lead points for the future. Mr.M.Palanisamy went in detail to explain about

biodiversity, agricultural biodiversity and genetic biodiversity, their present status and need for preserving them to ensure food security. Ms. Gayathri spoke about DHAN's calendar 2013, which depicted the activities of different programs to ensure protection of biodiversity and food security.

Mr.N.Venkatesan facilitated the process of sub group discussion by giving leads for the discussion. Thirty nine sub groups formed had a detailed discussion and they got shared through six sub plenary sections. The outcomes of sub plenary were shared by each sub plenary anchors in plenary held at main meeting hall. The overall outcomes of sub plenaries as consolidated by representative of special group Mr. Vediappan is as follows:-

- All participants got a better understanding about agricultural biodiversity and food and nutrition security
- Kharif maize stabilization project, Kitchen garden, WADI model of horticulture promotion, Quality seed supply, Farm pond promotion, Tank renovation, Social security including crop, livestock insurance, Earthen bunding through MGNREGS, Improved variety of Maize and Ragi, Land leasing for landless and marginal farmers Conservation of traditional varieties, Production trials and varietal selection Consumption loans for food and nutrient security, Prososis Juliflora removal and bringing the land in to cultivation, Recipe competition with minor millets are the current activities of DHAN identified to support the initiative of conservation of biodiversity and ensuring food and nutritional security.
- Discussions came out with the communities vulnerable for food and nutritional security such as S1 in all family types (F 1 to F 5), Women especially adolescent girls and pregnant women
- Children and Old age people
- The potential areas identified for future intervention through our programs were Systematic nutritional garden to ensure regular food supply for the family, Seed banks at community level, Integrated farm model, Food and nutrition outlets for small millets and traditional food, Farm Field Schools, Low / No cost interventions – kitchen garden, Apiculture, farm ponds, papaya cultivation, community nursery.
- Generation of funds and other resources for intervening in Food and Nutritional security can

be done through collaborating with mainstream institutions (NHM, NRHM, ATMA, KVK, NABARD, RKVY, etc), Federation common fund and by using existing human resources

- Base line survey on consumption pattern, Identifying status of crops / species cultivated and consumption pattern in different contexts and Participatory varietal selection, Bio diversity block experiments are the studies proposed for ensuring FNS
- The causes for agricultural biodiversity degradation and FNS problems were identified as Inadequate availability of food grains at local level, Conversion of land for construction, Moving to mono cropping, Increased migration in rural areas etc.
- Events like Walkathon, Symposium, Food melas, Workshops for the farmers, development workers and scientists, Bio diversity fair, Maha sabha's, Celebrating international day of bio-diversity, Cycle rallies, National nutritional week and School competition can be done to promote awareness regarding biodiversity and FNS.
- The following emerged as the action plan to conserve biodiversity and ensure FNS

Action plan – Immediate

- Nutrient garden with package to ensure food supply throughout the year
- Base line survey of consumption pattern
- Creating awareness through events like walkathon
- Food Mela for increasing consumption of nutritious local food
- Farm Field School - FFS
- Bio-diversity PRA
- Land leasing
- Goat penning

Action plan – intermediate

- Piloting based on findings of base line survey
- Development of integrated farm model
- Community Bio-diversity Register, Community seed bank (CSB)
- Food and nutritional outlets – pulse, oil seeds and millets
- Mainstream collaboration
- Quality seed production of food and nutritional crops

Action plan – long term

- Policy advocacy
- Community Biodiversity management
- Behavioural change communication strategy for consumption practise
- Revival of Rare Endangered and Threatened species
- Restoration of farmers variety

The third day ended with cultural programs- dances, songs, skits, mimicry and the same was facilitated by Mr. K. Vittal Rao and team.

Day 4: 30th December, 2012

The focus of the final day of the Fifteenth retreat-IYW, Nagpur was Institution building and Strategic planning. The day started with reflections and recap of the third day events being shared by Mr. Vittal Rao. Ms. Malini presented the consolidated data of members moved out of poverty. She said that out of 38 regions, 22 regions shared their data of which five regions declared specifically with member code and other details. The five regions were Tanjore, Vellore, Chittoor, Vizag and Chittoor tank in which 2170, 270, 3100, 2336 and 775 member families respectively were declared being out of poverty

Sharing by Retreat committees: The ten retreat committees for Retreat-2012 shared their role in ensuring the success of the event. The other committees also shared about the logistics, health care, cultural events, minutes and the AV facilities made. Mr. Vasimalai expressed that Ms. Vijaya Shah of the host organization IYW appreciated the way in which rooms are maintained during the event.

Geographical focus in strategic planning

Vasi then presented his insights on the strategic planning process. He appreciated the energy unleashed and intensive work done at community, staff and all levels in the process. On geographical perspective DHAN is present in twelve states and works in all contexts urban, rural, tribal and coastal. In Andrapradesh, DHAN works in urban, rural and tribal contexts and to a little bit in coastal context in Vizag. In Assam we work in one place which is a mixture of both rural and tribal context and we have to focus more on expanding to other blocks and districts. In Bihar, Kerala and

Maharashtra we work in rural locations. In Karnataka, we work in rural, urban and to less extent in tribal. In Madhyapradesh, Orissa and Rajasthan our work is restricted to tribal areas and we have to expand to other contexts. In Pondicherry we work in urban and coastal contexts and in Tamilnadu we work in all contexts urban, rural, coastal and tribal contexts. We have to concentrate our efforts in forthcoming years to expand to other contexts in the states wherever we are already present and also expanding to other states. Chattisgarh and Uttarpradesh are the two states in which we are planning our operations shortly.

Vasi also stressed all regions to capitalize on rural-urban linkage potential for development and come out with a paper on it. He also said that our focus on coastal community development should extend beyond Tamilnadu to other states. The coastal and tribal areas remain excluded from the larger society and we should think of integrating them with the mass. With respect to Institution building we are stronger in savings, credit and insurance and from last year much focus is given on livelihood strengthening and skill building. Non-farm activities, DHAN Resource centers and health have to be further strengthened. Education needs a good start in our people institutions based on the need.

Vasi also spoke on the need of positioning the locations as identity of the community and making them self-sustainable. By 2017, 800 people institutions should be in place of which 500 should run on their own. A new pillar Judiciary, has been added to our programs through our Micro justice piloting and this should be present along with governance and administration in all our locations he added. He also stressed on accountability and transparency among staffs to ensure proper people find management, accounting and auditing. He also stressed the need for regions to function as Center's of integration of all programs to ensure all round development. Regions should generate resources through own funds, convergence with government and banks, guiding the mainstream and converging with market he stressed.

With respect to Programs and Central office high trust, respect and sanctity is needed, Vasi added. This is more important at higher level so that these values percolate to lower level. People movement of KF, DVTF and CALL program should get a stronger shape in the next five years. Implementing cross cutting themes,

monitoring and evaluation through flying squads and experimentations at local level have to be vigorous in the coming years. For ensuring all the above central office will provide support for infrastructure, human resource and finance. Later there was sharing of Institutional updates by the respective program anchors and update of DHAN Foundation as a whole by M.P.Vasimalai. Summing up his speech Vasi said in Future Retreat events, the contractual staffs also should take part and the timing of the event will be fixed after consultation with the team.

Feedback for Retreat

The following were the feedbacks given by the participants

- The proceedings of the Retreat event report can be published as a separate document.
- For easy identification of subgroup participants, the subgroup places can be fixed in advance and the subgroup number can be displayed
- The exhibition organized by the different regions in the retreat venue gave good insights for cross learning.
- Sub group discussions can be facilitated in common language that everyone can understand.

The Fifteenth Retreat event came to a successful end with Vote of thanks by Mr.Singarayar and followed by National Anthem. □

Little Millet- Recipes

Little millet Pudina rice

Ingredients: Little millet rice 100 g, oil 10 ml, pudina ¼, bundle, ground nut 10 g, turmeric powder 1 pinch, mustard, and cumin seeds 1 pinch each, black gram dhal ½ tsp, bengal gram dhal ½ tsp, green chillies 2 nos, salt as per taste.

Procedure: Prepare little millet rice. Heat oil in a pan, add mustard seeds, and allows them to crackle. Add cumin seeds, bengal gram dhal and black gram dhal. Then add green chillies and mix. Add roasted groundnuts, chopped pudina leaves, turmeric powder and salt and mix well. Add this seasoned mixture to cooked rice and mix well and serve hot.

Total yield: 300 g/2½ katories No. of Servings: 2-3

Little millet Vangi Bhat

Ingredients: Little millet rice 100 g, brinjal 100 g, tomato 50 g, Vangibhat mix 15 g, oil 10 ml, mustard and cumin seeds 1 pinch each, bengal gram dhal and black gram dhal ½ tsp, onion 20 g, curry leaves few, salt to taste.

Procedure: First roast little millet and keep aside. Heat oil in a pan and give seasoning with mustard, cumin seeds, curry leaves, bengal gram dhal and black gram dhal. Add chopped onion, tomato and brinjal. Add vangibhat and mix well. Add two times of water

and keep for boiling. Add roasted little millet to the boiling water and cook till soft and serve hot.

Total yield: 400 g/3 katories No. of Servings: 03

Little millet Bisibelebhat

Ingredients: Little millet rice 100 g, red gram dhal 50 g, carrot 50 g, beans 50 g, potato 50 g, groundnut 10 g, bisibelebhat mix 15 g, tamarind 7.5 g, mustard and cumin seed 1tsp, oil 20 ml, bengal gram dhal ½ tsp, black gram dhal ½ tsp, onion small, garlic 2-3 pieces, green chilly 1 no, turmeric powder a pinch, coriander and curry leaves few, salt as per taste.

Procedure: Boil 500ml of water in a container. Add little millet rice and red gram dhal to the boiling water and cook. When half cooked, add chopped vegetables, onion, and garlic and cook till soft consistency is obtained. Then add tamarind juice, bisibelebhat mix and salt and cook.

For seasoning heat oil in a separate pan, add mustard seeds and allow them to splutter. Add cumin seeds, curry leaves, black gram dhal, bengal gram dhal and groundnut. Add the seasoned mixture to bisibelebhat and mix well. Garnish with finely chopped coriander leaves and serve hot.

Total yield: 500 g/4 katories No. of Servings: 04

Source: CFTRI, Mysore

Institutional update of DHAN Collective

M.P.Vasimalai*

I feel proud to share that our organization has achieved a great feat of bringing over one lakh poor families out of poverty and the declaration of the same was made during the 16th Foundation day event held on 2nd Oct, 2012. This remains as a source of inspiration and excitement for all DHANites. The earlier focus of the organization was poverty reduction and however we were successful in eradicating poverty in these one lakh families. However there are more challenges ahead. How these families were able to come out of poverty has to be well documented and this should remain as a resource for enabling others to come out of poverty. I present here few suggestions for enhancing the effectiveness of our program initiatives along with the progress made in the last year.

- Making the federations as Prosperity centers which can give counseling for improvement in the income of families by way of livelihood support, financial and other supports. The livelihood initiatives done in the last year should be carried on much more vigor in the coming years. Though the focus of the year 2013 is Agro biodiversity and Food and Nutritional Security, livelihood focus should remain throughout.
- Annual report 2012 carries a lead paper on our livelihood experience and everyone should go through it and use it for implementing livelihood activities in their locations. This livelihood experience and Livelihood policy of DHAN collective also is available as separate booklets which will be much useful.
- Availing entitlements to poor people with whom we are working is a 'No cost' initiative. Old age pension, assistance for differentially abled, widows and destitute etc. can be facilitated by the locations and federations. The Mission on women empowerment has lot of utilized funds which can be explored.
- With respect to insurance Micro pension and health mutual are picking up. The United health insurance has extended its support further to March, 2013 for

health insurance. People mutual should reach more and more number of people in the coming years.

- SUHAM Trust needs an outstanding ovation for its significant contribution in expansion and strengthening of the health initiatives. Lot of health programs are in place and Salem region owns a full-fledged secondary care hospital completely owned by the people. PHCs are getting opened across the states viz. Vizakapattinam, Tirupathi, Kottampatti etc., and more request is coming from the field for initiating PHCs. The Anemia program implemented in many locations is giving excellent results. Such health initiatives should get replicated in all locations
- Getting CRISIL rating for KDFS is in progress which will ensure fund flow for KDFS. SRTT has contributed thirty lakhs as seed money for initiating branches in Ratlam, Balswada and Koraput.
- KTL has registered "Maruthi Mooligai Producer company" for medicinal plants and making itself sustainable will be its focus in the coming years. KTL can adopt some learning's from the Bhuldana Urban Cooperative Bank for its business interventions.
- The achievements of the Vayalagam Tankfed Agricultural Program were shared already. Sub basin approach will be followed largely in our tank program in future. This year also Vayalagam program will participate in the India water week event to be held in April, 2013.
- KCBP had a good success through MAVIM program covering one lakh families through it. In Andrapradesh, the team is working in a crisis situation, the state government being against the functioning of any other NGOs in the process of facilitating their SERP initiative. A strategy has to be worked out either to work along with them or to fight with them. In Tamilnadu our collaboration with Pudhu Vazhvu program remained under constant threat due to under performance. However the performance has improved very much recently and issues got resolved. The program has intensified its review and follow up process which is yielding

* Mr.M.P.Vasimalai, Executive Director, DHAN Foundation

results. The program is working in Assam and planning to expand to Nagaland also in the North eastern region. In Madhyapradesh the Wadi model is being implemented for the first time.

- Rainfed agricultural development program is really growing well with Mr.Palanisamy and Mr.Karthikeyan leading the team. Lot of new opportunities also have emerged. The rainfed team can collaborate with KF at least in 50 new locations to be initiated for effective results. Self-regulation is largely practiced in this team and hence needs less supervision. However CAIM project remains as a challenge and Palanisamy's frequent visit to Maharashtra and discussions has settled the problem to some extent.
- The Tata-Dhan Academy is expected to function as an independent institution by March,2013 and follow a broad based approach. The training programs conducted meets the 25% of the cost and more funds are needed. One year Leadership programs in both English and Tamil are planned through this institute.
- The Panchayat program got life through the European Union funded project currently under implementation in 750 panchayats in Tamilnadu with focus on Women panchayat leaders.
- The ICT team needs to be strengthened further. One ICT federation is in the offing shortly in Melur and Kottampatti. The hardware and software team were effectively contributing for the entire DHAN collective institutions.
- The new theme Climate change started with a fund support from giz and the other themes Youth and Migration are yet to have a takeoff.
- The SUHAM, Education and Tourism are other cross cutting themes. The Tourism theme has initiated Heritage walk in Madurai, Tirunelveli and Pudhukottai districts of Tamilnadu. Also Ecowalk – is held every third Sunday in Madurai by Madurai Green. Madurai Green is constantly involved in planting 50,000 to 60,000 trees every year.
- Micro justice the new concept has initiated three legal clinic and trained many para legal volunteers.
- All centers are doing great works and they should further integrate with programs to reap mutual benefits. □

Field Notes - Climate Change

In farming, learning matters much....



My father used to visit other villages, learn new agricultural practices and try to replicate it in our fields. He also share, support and educate other villagers with his knowledge. He sensed long back that water scarcity and labor will be a problem and started planting tree crops in our land. Currently we have 300 trees- Mango, Guava and Coconut trees which I look after. I used to grow onion, sorghum and tomatato as intercrops. I also wish to be like my father and wish to learn more. I hope your project will be of much help to me and the villagers.

- R.Ramakrishnammal, 52 years, *K.Chattirapatti*

Adapting and Readapting



We have planted tree crops like Mango, Guava, Citrus trees and Sapota in our garden land. We irrigate them using well water. We were gaining a decent income through tree crops all these years. This year, for the first time the well water became insufficient to irrigate the trees. I am afraid we cannot save the trees from dying. We keep praying for rains to come. I became a member of the CCA village committee formed by you with hope that we can put an end to the problem we face.

- Kamala, 26 years, *K.Chattirapatti*

Lack Insurance products to suit our needs



Insurance is available only for paddy and not for rainfed crops we cultivate. If there are no rains and crop fails, what we have are left with are only debts.

- Karupaiah, 65 years, *Chokkampatti*

Institutional Updates of Kalanjiam, Vayalagam and CALL programmes

The institutional update of Kalanjiam Foundation, DHAN Vayalagam Tankfed program and CALL program shared in Retreat 2012 held at Nagpur.

Institutional update of Kalanjiam Foundation

Ms.V.K.Padmavathi shared the performance of Kalanjiam Foundation over the past nine months which is presented below:-

- For resource mobilization, a new proposal was evolved for SRTT and the first year of implementation is almost completed. The interim review was held by SRTT recently who were satisfied with the performance. HIVOs, MAVIM and Pudhu vazhvu programs also support KF. The emerging core partners are the people themselves who contribute to 30 % of the program expenses.
- With respect to program implementation all the staffs of Kalanjiam Foundation were appreciated for their efforts. Back to Basics was the principle followed to ensure progress.
- The annual plan was achieved in the six month time itself by Sept, 2012 meaning that the achievement has doubled. Expansion and saturation happened across the existing federations which contributed greatly in achieving the plan, apart from expansion in new locations.
- Strengthening of the groups through grading, livelihood and poverty classification of the members, clearing bank overdues, goal setting and strategic planning and resource mobilization were the other areas of stress.
- Field audit was done this time to ensure quality
- Role definition for President, Secretary and Treasurer was redefined by holding meetings of presidents, secretaries and treasures separately.
- Significant progress was made in overdue clearance through which 1.5 crores of over dues which were very chronic got cleared.
- The common fund accumulation began to happen in physical sense
- Audit was much delayed and extended even up to December. However a resolution was taken to

complete the audit for the financial year 2012-13 by April, 2013.

- DRCs were promoted in 16 mature regions of the total 30 regions. 16 regions are emerging regions which are expected to expand and stabilize in the coming years.
- The regions can be classified into project implementing regions (MAVIM/ CAIM), location promoting regions and mature regions.
- Vizag, Mysore and Salem are the three regions which have a scale and also strong financially. The DRCs functioning in those regions gives a new learning to the program itself for example Vizag region does a lot of Mass learning programs.
- Kanchipuram Region has set a benchmark for the program by standardizing many practices
- Ramanagara (Bangalore rural) and Ramanathapuram regions shows the way for the revival strategy. The fodder cultivation groups promoted by Ramanagara are functioning well.
- Tanjore Region has set standards through its LIFE center which is functioning effectively
- Tumkur Region has made a remarkable progress in livelihood initiation.
- In Mysore, tailoring activity has benefited 1,500 members all of whom were employed and earn ₹4,000-5,000 as monthly income, as the garment industry around gives them an excellent opportunity.
- Adilabad, Hyderabad and Gulbarga functions as integrated regions

Institutional update for DHAN Vayalagam Tankfed Agriculture Program

Mr.A.Gurunathan, CEO, DHAN Vayalagam (Tank) Foundation shared that program deepening, integration and sectoral contribution was the focus during last year. Greater achievement was done in program implementation by way of spending over 6.5 crores in the six month period April, 2012 to Sept, 2012, while the target fixed was around 5 crores. He appreciated all the regions for contributing to this success.

Regarding the projects done the IWMP and NSO project done with the support of district government earned a good name in Chittoor district. The DHANA project (DHAN-Axis bank) project has a target of renovation/construction works in 750 water bodies in a period of five years in Pambar basin. From January to December, 2012, nearly 2 crores of work is done in that project alone. The four regional teams contributing to this achievement was lauded.

In the Kanchi region, with limited staff the CSR project of HP was completed very successfully which earned a good name for HP has well and opened up way for new funding opportunities. Mr. Santhanam and Mr. P.A. Viswanathan who were responsible for this funding opportunity were appreciated.

The regional team in Hyderabad region worked under high pressure to implement the IWMP project and achieved the target by putting tremendous effort. There were 24 other project implementing agencies, but only DHAN is known for its reputation of doing quality works. The Adilabad region was the KF and VF operates together, implemented three Indo German watersheds and IWDP water sheds. There were difficulties in achieving the target under HUL and NABARD projects. However the lack of rains this year indirectly supported the speeding of the process.

Thoothukudi region is one which can be lauded for having no overdues with any of the external agencies. In Kolar the Bharat Petroleum, BP CSR project is getting implemented. In Odissa and Bihar, pond renovation works and fisheries project were taken up on a large scale and we are working for the first time in a fluoride affected area there. Ooranis were renovated with the support of DFID funds.

Apart from this water quality monitoring was done effectively using the kit provided by World water quality monitoring institute in 98 villages the effort being very much appreciated through a letter. They are also in the process of sanctioning more kits for the purpose.

With respect to the national level, Vayalagam Foundation participated in the India water week event held for the first time in the country and also sponsored ₹5 lakh for the same A conference on village tanks and ponds for ensuring food security was held during the event. A book

on AHAR-Pyne model was released by the Honorable Minister for Rural Development Mr. Jayaram Ramesh.

Contribution to state action plan for climate change adaptation was also done by Vayalagam Foundation. The state has eight climate change adaptation mission of which DHAN has a role in two missions. The center for research has supported for impact analysis in DHANA project and the community radio functioning from Kottampatti also is of great support in the project implementing site.

Institutional Update of Coastal Conservation and Livelihood Programme

Mr. Singarayar shared that the CALL program concentrated more on program implementation aspects in the initial five years period and the focus on improving the quality and systems is being given off-late. Compared to KF and VF program, CALL program is a new program which had its birth post tsunami and still has to go a long way.

However it was one program where the livelihood focus was given from the day one and constant efforts were done to improve farm based and fisheries livelihood in the coastal areas. The ANANDHAM milk processing units set up at Cuddalore to support the coastal people now started picking up well after initial struggle and hope to get stabilized in the coming years.

He shared that there are currently 33 locations under the program of which seven are self-sustainable. The movement of coastal fisherman and agricultural community "Neithal Movement" was established and the fund mobilization for the same got initiated. A primary health care unit of SUHAM Trust was also established in Neithal federation as a part of health care initiative.

The CARITAS from Switzerland, has extended their support for the dairy activity and has requested for another proposal which has been submitted. The RABO bank support for agriculture and extension activities is yielding good results. IFAD also agreed for supporting the dairy activity in Cuddalore for another three years. Audit has been completed very recently. He appreciated each and every individual in the team by calling their names for their contribution for the success of the program and the self-initiatives of the individual in achieving the progress. □

Exposure visit to Hans Rover, KVK

R.Senthilkumar*

The One Village One variety scheme is a CSR project implemented with the support of Cotton Corporation of India, Coimbatore in Sengapadai and surrounding villages in Thirumangalam block of Madurai District. Farmers in a village were educated to sow a single variety of cotton, which will help them a lot in pest and nutrition management strategies. As a part of training to the farmers an exposure visit to Hans Rover Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Perambalur was organized on 11.12.2012 to enable them to learn the new technologies followed in cotton cultivation. Mr. R. Jeyakumar, The Branch Manager of Cotton Corporation of India, Coimbatore, rendered his support and guidance for making this visit successful.

Fifty two farmers from Sengapadai Village along with Supervisor and Scout from this project visited Hans Rover KVK, Perambalur on 11-12-2012. Mr. M. Palanisamy, Programme Leader from DHAN Foundation also participated along with the farmers.

The training programme started with the formal inaugural function headed by Mr. Kathiravan, Programme Coordinator, Hans Rover KVK and Mr. M. Palanisamy, Programme Leader, DHAN Foundation. In this, Mr. Kathiravan shared that their farmers, all the Perambalur cotton cultivating farmers used hybrid cotton varieties like RCH -2, RCH-20, RCH-530 and MRCH 7918. All farmers adopt line sowing 4*3 ft in Perambalur district unlike the farmers in Gujarat who adopt 5*1 ft in their cotton field which was observed by the Perambalur farmers during their exposure visit to Gujarat. Mr. M. Palanisamy also reinforce the importance of certified seeds, practicing line sowing in the cotton field and all the participant should utilize this kind of exposures by adopting it in their field and it could be replicate to other farmers also in future.

Technical guidance undertaken from KVK Class room Session

Mr. P. Saravanan, Cotton Senior Inspector, Hans Rover KVK explained about the package of Practices in cotton Cultivation adopted in the Perambalur block. Some of the key points explained by the Resource persons are

- The farmers in Gujarat have practiced the spacing of 5 * 1 feet and using tractor/ power tiller during first and second weeding.
- Use certified seeds which could be brought from the reputed dealers or organizations. Use Hybrid varieties to increase the income. The varieties of cotton used for rainfed areas are LRA 5166, SVPR-2, and hybrid varieties are RCH-2, RCH-20, RCH530 (Bt varieties) and MRCH 7918 (Long leaf variety). The seed rate used for hybrid cotton seed is 450 gm/ acre which cost around ₹950/-.
- Soil testing should be done
- Seed treatment with Azospirillum, Phosphobacteria, Trichogramma viride, Pseudomonas sp will help a lot.
- Line sowing should be practiced by adopting spacing 120 to 90 cm at 3 cm depth and the population comes around 9260 plants/ha.
- Proper weed management should be done through hand weeding and Power weeder and maintain free from weeds.
- Application of foliar nutrition with Urea 1% along with plant growth regulator ensures good plant growth and avoids wastage of urea.

Pest management in Cotton

1. **Myrid bug Infestation:** The leaves turns from green to light yellowish color and later leads to formation of blockish red spots, which later spreads to plant tip, flower bolls and make them shed in case of sever infestation
2. **Mealy Bug:** Two types of mealy bugs viz., papaya mealy bug (white colour) and Cotton mealy bug (white color with black spots) affect cotton. The symptoms are yellowing and wilting of leaves, wilting of flowers and bolls which later fall down. Spraying Quinocram 30 ml in 10 liter of water along with Soap oil or Sampoo (adhesive purpose) and lime will control the pest

Other pests which affects cotton crop are boll worms (pink and spotted), red cotton bug, Green leaf hopper, White flies and Aphids. Cotton plant normally gets subjected to heavy pest infestation if proper

* **Mr.R.Senthilkumar**, Senior Project Executive, DHAN Foundation

precautionary pest management practices are not taken. Farmers will be forced to spend more on pesticides which eventually leads to reduction in profit margin or even loss. Following agronomic and pest management practices like summer ploughing, using natural fertilizers, using certified seeds of cotton, line sowing, using same variety and same age seedlings, management of field channels, castor as coverage crop and intercropping with maize, Using yellow sticky trap etc., will help the farmers to get a good crop with less investment.

Controlling sucking pest

Biological control: *Acirophagus papaya* @100/acre and using *Ephilacna* Beetle and cirpit fly.

Chemical control: Acetate 2 gm, Emidochlopid 0.7ml and prophinophos 2ml/lit of water and spray to control sucking pests.

Diseases management in Cotton

- 1. Root rot:** Roots will be turn to black colour and it can be managed by Seed treatment with *Trichogramma viride* 4 g/kg of seeds. Carpendazim 3g /lit of water mixing and using at the root portion.
- 2. Wilt:** The entire plant will wilt, which starts spreading from tip of the stems.e wilted. The disease can be managed by spraying Potassium nitrate 10g/ lit of water.
- 3. Bacterial Leaf Blight:** The symptoms of bacterial leaf blight are brown spots in leaves which spread to entire leaves and later affect the entire plant. The disease can be managed by spraying Copper oxy chloride 1gm/ litre of water with Streptomycin sulphate 1gm per 10 liter of tank in the affected field.

The KVK also had a Cotton Fiber Separating machine which they use for demonstration purposes. The machine is battery operated having the capacity of working for 6 hours. It weighs around 10 to 12 kg and cost of ₹7,000 to 7,500 per machine.

Field visit to Anukur Village of Perambalur village

All the farmers went to visit Anukur village of Perambalur district to have an interaction with farmers on their cotton cultivation experiences along with the KVK staff. The farmers visited the fields of Mr.Rajendraen and Mr.Selvaraj. The cotton crop was sown by September, 2012 which was nearing first harvest by the time of our field visit. The harvest will continue up to the month of April, 2013. The farmers

have sown MRCH - 7,918 (long broader leaf variety). The farmers shared the cultivation practices they followed which are as follows

- First Disc plough 1 to 3 time
- Sowing Season –mid of September
- Basal application-DAP- 50 to 75 kg/acre
- Spacing for their hybrid variety is 4 * 3 feet
- Animal drawn weeding was done for first weeding on 22nd day after sowing (DAS), Hand weeding was done from Second weeding on 50 DAS, Third weeding on 75 DAS. So far three weeding was done in their field
- Application of Confidor of 5ml/lit for controlling sucking pest.
- Application of Mancozeb + confidor for Pest and diseases management.
- Application of Monocrotophos+Asiphate @20ml/ tank.
- Application of micro nutrient mixture to arrest the square fallen.

Mr.Rajendiran shared that he got a yield of 8 quintals/ acre under rainfed conditions. But this year he expects the yield to be lesser to a tune of only 4-5 quintals/ acre due to monsoon failure. This year he was forced to give one irrigation for the crop from the neighbours well on rental basis to save the crop. The number of bolls per plant ranges from 100 to 120. The farmers demonstrated how the cotton fiber separating machine works. The fiber was sucked by the sectional force and it was stored in the bag which is held by the operator. Then the collected fiber stored in the gunny bag for sales.

Key learnings

The exposure visit was extremely useful and the farmers felt very happy about the visit. These are some of the key points the farmers learned through this visit, which they shared during their feedback

- Timely sowing with the correct season
- Selection of varieties/ hybrid i.e., certified seeds
- preparation
- Fertilizer application – basal, broad casting and Foliar
- Line sowing with adequate spacing
- Weed management
- Foliar nutrient application
- Application of Growth regulator
- Pest management
- Disease management.

Battle with Nature



Two fifty families in the villages of K.Chattirapatti, Kaadaneri and V.Ammappatti depends on the big tank in Kaadeneri which is the source of irrigation for 150 acres. For the past two years the tank remains dry forcing the farmers to give up cultivation. Karupaiah born to Samayan is 60 years old and resides in K.Chattirapatti village along with his wife Ms. Subbu. He has a son Mr. Mariyappan who works as a fitter after doing ITI education (Industrial training institute) and a daughter who is just completed her degree in Nursing and working as a nurse in Meenakshi mission hospital, Madurai . His son got married, living separately with his wife,

providing no support to the elderly parents. Karupaiah being a hard worker, however never expects his support. He owns 60 cents of land irrigated by Kaadeneri Kanmai and 66 cents of rainfed land. Being innovative and trying his best with available water, Karupaiah used to grow green manure crop Sun hemp in his field. When there are rains and water in the tank he used to raise paddy nursery, and while transplanting he used to plough sun hemp in the field and transplant. In his absence few villagers from Kaadeneri used to harvest the crop without his knowledge for feeding cattle. Also if there are no rains he was not able to get optimum utilization of the sun hemp crop if there are no rains which force him to give up paddy cultivation. So instead of sun hemp he started growing gingelly crop (Sesame). Last year he cultivated paddy. This year there were no rains at all. Other farmers in the village were pessimistic and thought that they could not cultivate any crop in their field. Their land were left fallow. Karupaiah however took a risk.

He kept is land prepared using five duct foot plough and cultivator. Even using the slightest rain that fell that occurred during first week of September, he sowed gingelly in his field. He had plans of cultivating paddy by buying paddy seedlings from those who have prepared

Income from paddy cultivation in last two years

2010-2011- Paddy cultivation			2011-12		
Expenditure (₹)		Income	Expenditure		Income
Land preparation	2,000	Yield- 30 bags	Land preparation-	2,000	Yield-11 bags
Seeds, land preparation and sowing	3,000	Price per pag = ₹600	Seeds, land preparation and sowing-	3,000	Price per bag- ₹800
Fertilizer, pest control and harvest	2,500	Income = ₹18,000	Fertilizer, pest control, watering and harvest	3,500	Income-8800
Total	7,500	Net income = ₹10,500	Total	8,500	300

Income from gingelly cultivation this year (Sept-Dec,2012)

Expenditure	Amount (₹)	Income	Amount (₹)
Ploughing	2,000	Expected yield	100 kgs
Seeds	100	Oil extracted	41 litres
Fertilizer	nil	Expected Price /liter	150/litre
Harvesting and thrashing	400	Gross Income	6,150
Total	2,400	Net Income	3,750

nursery using well water, if there were subsequent rains and the tanks get filled. As fate would have it, there was no rains. Hence he allowed the gingelly crop to grow, which came up well and reached the stage of harvest. They started harvesting the crop on 14.12.2012. His neighbors who have left their land fallow now started feeling that they have made a wrong decision. Karupaih says "Lot of villagers asked me with surprise, how I was confident of getting crop even in this extreme drought. I can feel the jealousy that some expressed. I never bothered about the external influences. With no support from my son and the rains, I have to earn something to maintain my family and educate my daughter. Though she got the seat by merit I have to spent a lot for her hostel and other expenses for three and half years amounting to ₹24,000/year". His wife Subbu added "My son did not have any concern for our family. Whenever we grow gingelly we used to extract gingelly oil by milling it in nearby mill. They

take gingelly cake instead of money and return us the oil. When we mill 12 kg of gingelly it gives 5 litres of gingelly. We expect 100 kgs of gingelly from these 60 cents. Per liter of gingelly costs ₹150-200/-. From this we expect a income of around ₹5,000-6,000/- We also retain some oil for family consumption. I used to give oil to my son's family which he refuses to accept, fearing that we will seek some help later. Though his behavior disheartens me, we keep struggling to maintain our family" Karupaih also adds "Gingelly is very drought tolerant. It can serve as an excellent green manure for paddy crop. If paddy cannot be cultivated, I leave it as such. I wish that my fellow villagers also cultivate their land, at least part of their land without leaving it barren."

Karupaih is the role model for rainfed farmers. Rains may deceive, crops may fail but one should not lose his heart. □

DHAN in Media

THE HINDU 03-02-2013

"Eat millet and steer clear of dis..."

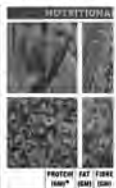
Overdependence on rice and wheat accelerates spread of urban ailments into the

World Correspondent

MADURAI: To Kandasamy, of more gathered at the 10th annual gathering, it was a message that brought them back to the countryside. It was a reminder of the importance of millet, a staple food that is not only healthy but also drought-resistant. The message was "Eat millet and steer clear of dis..."



TRADITIONAL FOOD BEST: Students taking part in a rally on 'Agricultural biodiversity and food security' in Madurai on Saturday. PHOTO: R. ANIL



PROTEIN RICH FOOD: Millet, a staple food that is not only healthy but also drought-resistant. PHOTO: R. ANIL

The message was "Eat millet and steer clear of dis..."

THE HINDU 03-02-2013

Nalkathon highlights importance of millets

It also stressed on food security in the face of rising population

MADURAI

Experts Bore Holes in Corporation's Water Strategy

Collector Urges Youth to Public on Water Conser

Full Khandan

US PIZZA

Long march of women

Indian Express 29-01-2013

Short Films Highlight Effects of Climate Change

Express News Service

MADURAI: Climate change and food security are the widely discussed topics in recent times and it is important to know the impact of climate change so that it could be spread among others, said Kalyani Mathivanan, Vice Chancellor of Madurai Kamaraj University here on Monday. She was speaking at the inaugural ceremony of the 8th Development Film Festival on climate change and food security organised by DHAN for...

She said...

THE TIMES OF INDIA 03-10-2013

Farm or jail, veterans are on mission mode

Times News Network

MADURAI: P. Gomathinayagam and L. Arulanandam share very little in common. One is a former...



STEELY ACTIVISTS: P. Gomathinayagam and L. Arulanandam

The two veterans were...

always been...

STAR OF MYSORE

35th Anniversary

Long march of women

Mythri, 70, 2 MYTHRI...

Policy needs for Inland Fishery Development – DHAN's Experience

S.P.Madhanmohan*



Water theme of DHAN Collective (www.dhan.org) is giving importance to conservation of minor rainfed water bodies such as Tanks and Ponds receive water through rain water runoff during South west and North east monsoon period, only from their free catchments area without any other supplemental source. Normally these water resources are used for irrigation as well as for percolation. Water holding capacity or water available duration of these tanks is three to seven months. Normally fishing of natural stock is the long-established practice in small scale water bodies and slowly that has changing in to rearing of fishes. Even though this water ecosystem has utilized for irrigation, percolation and domestic purposes, fishery activity is given least importance in these water bodies due to the uncertainty in water availability.

DHAN is giving importance to develop community Inland fisheries development in these rural minor rainfed water bodies by providing “dead storage” in these water bodies. Dead Storage is the stored water below the sill level of Sluice which cannot be taken by gravitational force for irrigation. This will help to store water for two more months which help to rear fishes additional for two months and also will help to cattle and mulch animals as drinking water source.

Objective & Focus of community inland fisheries

- Making full use of available water in rural common water resources by taking up fish rearing activity.
- Providing additional income to community organisations to sustain the Maintenance of rural water ecosystems
- Providing protein rich food at their reach to offer additional nutrition to rural community
- Employment generation for inland fishermen & Landless agriculture labours

Adopted techniques

Poly culture technique is adopted in rainfed tanks by stocking fish seeds of carps and Murrel. The seeds of Murrel are naturally collected seeds and the carps are Catla, Rohu, Mrigal, common carp, silver carp and grass carp. Apart from these, we have stocked Pangasius and Iridescent or Stripped Shark species also. Composite fish culture technique is adopted in village ponds and Farm ponds.

Growth of Fish Rearing

Inland Fishery in tanks and Ponds are in growth phase in a steady and sustainable manner. The success in fish rearing was achieved by selecting suitable fish varieties with enough number of seeds based on the nature of water bodies. We have practiced extensive and semi intensive ways of rearing depend upon the water and natural food availability in the selected water bodies. Supplementary feeding, G'nut oil cake and rice bran, is also practiced to achieve maximum growth within the limited period. The average success rate of this activity is around 60%. The details of Tanks and Ponds are given in below chart (excluding the small water storage structure and household ponds which are taken up more than 2000 nos)

Categorization of potential Tanks

Normally rainfed tanks are considered as non potential for Pisciculture due to uncertainty of available water for

Particulars	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010 -11	2011-12	2012-13
Success rate in %	62	71	62	73	68	58	46

* Mr.S.P.Madhanmohan, Team Leader, DHAN Foundation



fisheries and the available duration varies from three to ten months that also depends upon the maintenance of tanks and ponds. Due to that we have categorized the tanks and ponds, based on water available duration and based on the categorization, techniques are adopted such as intensive, semi intensive and extensive. The major criteria taken up for categorization are Water available duration which is calculated with minimum of five feet depth. This helped the farmers to identify the potential water bodies and chosen opt technique.

Total feasible tanks are 542 out of 1200 in our working area.

- Water available duration was calculated with minimum five feet depth
- Duration still varies based on rainfall, which cause to reach 100%
- Out of 482, we have so far taken up 186 water bodies that show 40% of possible water bodies reached.
- Competition for Fishery rights for highly potential tanks are more

*Block wise data is annexed

Target Groups

- Small and marginal farmers in vayalagams
- Landless in Micro Finance groups
- Local artisans

Areas

- Community tanks
- Village ponds
- Farm ponds
- Check dams, small water storage structures

Creating Awareness on Fish rearing

Awareness creation on Inland fish rearing was given more important to develop this activity. Awareness creation made to Vayalagam leaders, People workers, Vayalagam members and Professionals. Through

formal discussion at various events with Community and leaders on fish rearing, clarifying their doubts and also explaining the advantages of fish rearing activity has created well awareness on this activity at all level and also Vayalagam members showed their interest in this activity. More than 45 awareness programmes conducted exclusively as well as combined with other events.

Skill building on Fish rearing

After creating awareness, skill building trainings were conducted to People workers and members on fish rearing activity. We have adopted composite fish culture, simple and effective technique in fish rearing. Selection & preparation of water bodies, Manuring, Fish seed selection and Procuring, Stocking and feeding, Harvest and sustainability are given importance during the training. More than 50 trainings were organized and more than 500 members gained knowledge on fish rearing in commons which helped to take up fish rearing in large scale even during the drought year.

Sustaining Community organizations

Suitable tanks and ponds are identified at block level and supported seed money for initiating fish rearing in tanks and ponds by Vayalagams. This initiation started with 35 water bodies in 2006 and reached maximum of more than 250 water bodies in a year, fish rearing was taken up. The results are highly encouraged the growth of this activity to reach more in numbers within short period. The success rate and the income depend upon various factors.

1. Water spread area
2. Water available duration
3. Water body management
4. Community involvement
5. Social issues- Poaching, poisoning

Fisheries and Food & Nutritional Security

“Rich food for poor people”- “Cheapest protein for the poor”

Food security is a fundamental dimension of poverty. People who are chronically poor usually lack access to adequate food. Malnutrition negatively affects people's working and learning capacity, and may affect vulnerable groups living just above the poverty threshold, causing them to enter the ranks of the poor. Eliminating hunger

and malnutrition, therefore, is a precondition for the eradication of poverty. Fish, as a source of “rich food for poor people”, can play an important role in improving food security and nutritional status. Fish are an excellent source of high-quality protein and other nutrients vital to good health, including iron, calcium, potassium, vitamin A, and iodine.

Fish contains fatty acids that aid fetal brain development and cognitive abilities critical for effective learning. Also, the nutritional benefits of fish lower the risk of low birth weight in infants, a major factor in infant mortality. Women who consume fish regularly as part of their diets enjoy better health and produce stronger babies.

The year wise success rate is given in below table and the success differs for each year due to lack of water availability and also the seed quality.

Food security and small-scale fisheries

Most small-scale fishers are in developing countries and many live in communities characterized by poverty and food insecurity. Small-scale fishing communities are faced with an array of serious problems, including overexploitation and depletion of resources, lack of alternative sources of employment, rapid population growth, migration of populations, displacement in coastal areas due to industrial development and tourism, pollution and environmental degradation and conflicts with large commercial fishing operations. However, small-scale fisheries are critical for food security and poverty alleviation in many countries.

At the global level, consumption of fish as food has doubled since 1973 and the developing world has been responsible for over 90 percent of this growth, much

of it from small-scale fisheries, especially small-scale aquaculture but also freshwater capture fisheries. Fifty percent of all food fish originates from small-scale fisheries, and almost all fish from small-scale fisheries is used for food.

The most direct contribution of fishing activity to food security at the household level is through consumption of the household's catch. Certainly for many poor households engaged in full-time, seasonal or occasional small-scale fishing activities, such contributions are crucial to individual/household food security. The percentage of total household catch that is consumed by the household varies greatly, however, and may depend on both the level of commercialization in the fishery and the level of poverty in the household.

Globally, India stands at third position in the total production and second position in production of farmed fish. But, the per capita availability of India stands at 9 Kgs/year against the WHO standard of 11.2 Kgs/year. When compared to developed countries, India is far behind in fish consumption as around 12 kgs per year approximately. Within India, coastal community and people in West Bengal are consuming more fishes than rural areas especially in interior & remote villages. Access to this protein rich food is a major issue in remote villages. Equity for fish availability throughout the country needs focus.

Recommended Policy Changes

Inland fishery development in India is picking up in faster manner and different stakeholders plays major role in development. Policy on inland fishery development is being adopted by different stakeholders. Right from Central government, State government, Fish Farmers Development agency, National Fisheries Development Board, KVKs, NABARD, Fisheries & Research Institutes supported by ICAR, MPEDA, NGOs, and Community are the Major stakeholders in developing inland fishery in India. Each stakeholder is having their own policy for developing inland fisheries in India. Central government has its own policy, different states having their own policy, NFDB having its own policy on commercial inland aquaculture development.

The overall goal is increasing the fishery activity in both ways, i.e. horizontal and vertical growth in India. The last fifty years aquaculture show tremendous improvement in quantitative and qualitative wise when



compared to marine fishery production. India is having vast area for inland fishery development and holding second position in aquaculture production next to China. But if you see the biomass production per hectare we are non comparable to China and also they are producing tenfold more than that of India. That made possible by diversifying and intensifying the activity i.e. new technology, new species, new technique and growth friendly policy and involvement of community.

Policy Need at present

Central level policy

- Exclusive Ministry for fisheries development like recently exclusive Fisheries Universities is formed. This can help more focus and to take intensive effort to boom aquaculture.
- Develop national inland fishery policy for resource sustenance and promotion of fishery related livelihood. Update the Inland fishery policy of each state through a stake holder based approach. There is also scope for learning from each other state's policy. At present the legislations are ad hoc and piece meal. There is a need of a comprehensive policy.
- Shift priority to bringing more water resources under fish production with equal importance to indigenous species, from just increasing production and productivity of major carps and exotic carps. Emphasis should be given to ecosystem protection, biodiversity and above all socio economic benefit. Equal importance to be given to capture, capture cum culture and culture fisheries.
- Like Fishery survey of India (FSI) for Marine, need one exclusive institute for Fresh water and brackish water Survey of India.
- Integrating inland fishery with watershed development as large number of water resources were created and still creation is going on. A policy on using the water resources for inland fishery development to be integrated in Watershed development policy itself.
- Inland fishery to be considered as Agriculture and separate policy for commercial and food security (Fishery in tanks and Ponds) to be prepared
- Increase budgetary allocation for inland fishery program, and fishery dept should be made independent of cooperative and other dept. periphery.
- Convergence with MGNREG- project for fisheries focused on tank development, creating dead storage, desilting, bund strengthening, repairs in effective way

ICAR & Fisheries Institutes, KVVKs

- Research to look into promoting more multi species composite culture shifting from the 3species or 6 species system to 10-16 species system as in China or Bangladesh and review the relevance of strict eradication of "weed" and predatory fishes. Maybe stocking of advanced fingerlings may take care of the problem to some extent.
- More research and extension work on small and indigenous species (SIS) culture and its role in nutrition livelihoods to be strengthened including its auto stocking possibility of hatchery production.
- Capacity Building and training on intensive inland fishery and also suitable fish rearing technique in exiting water bodies to be done periodically and the technical support for farmers to be also given when rearing is going on.
- Farmer's participatory action research on different techniques in different context can be taken up and the same to be incorporated in their research action plan.
- Measures to be taken to ensure to symmetrically collect and mange inland fish production data, including capture and culture of all species including SIS. This will help take better policy decisions.

State Fisheries Department

- Wherever water available (more than three months), fish to be reared. This will ensure additional nutritional security to rural poor.
- Leasing of water bodies by different owners (PWD, Panchayat, FFDA) made it to be one, especially by Fisheries department. Leasing of tanks and ponds in such a way that shared ownership, minimum lease amount, maximum period, periodical technical monitoring by Department will enhance the biomass production and also bring back our traditional way of maintance by community themselves.
- Bring back vibrancy in FFDA throughout the country and as the District Collector is the Chairman of FFDA, each state should bring alive to FFDA in improving aquaculture.

- Urban tank based ecosystem policy to be developed for multiple uses include fish rearing for edible, sport fishing for tourism development.
- Policy on Tank eco system development to be done by involving all stakeholders in the perspective of saving our traditional. Food and nutritional security focus to be given in rainfed water resources by extending support on seed cost in large scale.
- Proper market development support, financial support and value chain development support needs to be provided through TNFDC for rural community.
- Women role in inland fisheries and fish marketing to be recognised and to insist 33% membership of women in newly formed cooperatives and producer companies
- Increase budgetary allocation for inland fishery program, and FFDA should be made alive with more seed money support for rainfed aquaculture
- Budgetary allocation for fish rearing to be included in watershed development activity including in all watershed development programmes at state level.

Fish Farmers Development Agency

- Water user association is to be given priority for leasing and licensing in inland capture and culture fisheries in Tanks and Ponds. Increase lease period of water bodies for culture to 10 years, so that water user association will do the maintenance works also. Example, in the Madhya Pradesh policy, the traditional fishing communities and their cooperatives to be given all priority for leasing and licensing in inland capture and culture fisheries. Increase lease period of water bodies for culture to 10 years as in Madhya Pradesh so that the lease holders feel more responsible to maintain the resources sustainably.
- Importance of SIS in local food security and nutrition to be recognised and the concept promoted just not through the department of fisheries, but also through departments of health, women and child welfare.
- Genuine inland fisher cooperative societies and Producer companies to be promoted, strengthened and necessary financial support given for taking up culture and capture fisheries.
- Ensuring availability of advanced fingerlings in all districts, at present the state fisheries department

depend on private farmers even though all resources are with state fisheries department.

National Fisheries Development Board

- Food and nutritional perspective aquaculture to be included in NFBD, extending grant support to Water user associations for taking up fish rearing in rainfed water bodies.
- A separate Fund like IFAD, IFRFD (Indian Fund for Rural Fisheries Fund) to be created to develop rainfed aquaculture with intensify and diversify way.
- Grant support for dead storage creation and subsidy for fish rearing in rainfed tanks will increase the productivity and the national fish production also.
- Convergence with MGNREGS project for fisheries focused on tank development (creating dead storage, bund strengthening, repairs etc)
- Facilitate National Fisheries Development Board (NFDB) to work with NGOs and other civil society organizations to strengthen Inland fisheries sector

Way Forward

- Mainstreaming inland fisheries in DHAN Collective in collaboration with support of different stakeholders
- Raising fund, seed capital from corporate, Main line institutions and other funding agencies to support exiting and to initiate in more water bodies more on nutritional perspective
- Creation of fish ponds (Dead storage in Tanks and ponds) to reach the unreached water bodies in more number to bring more water resources suitable for fish rearing in commercial perspective also.
- Tie up with fisheries department in our working states for developing inland fishery in different context.
- Focus on Gender and fisheries to be given importance and bring more women SHGs in pisciculture
- Developing inland fishery in different contexts such as semi urban, Rural, Tribal and coastal.
- Tie up with fisheries research institutions in our working states for joint action research such as small scale hatcheries, effective harvest techniques etc
- Watershed based fish rearing to be intensified as more number of watersheds being implemented by DHAN Foundation. □

DHAN Service Centre for Migrants (DSCM), Tirupur

P.Rajan*

Mothering of development innovation being one of the core purposes, DHAN Foundation nurtures new themes on various thematic areas for advancing the development. The new theme - Migration and development evolved so has started designing its components on two dimensions as a cross cutting theme and as a standalone theme.

Tirupur, the textile hub in Tamilnadu is a well known destination to migrants and attracts migrants from all over the country. The garment industry over there offers employment opportunity to many. The migrants are subjected to many developmental issues like issues in living conditions, middlemen and sub-contractor exploitation due to unorganised situation, child labourer issues, social issues-suicide, alcoholism, camp labour system-Sumangali Thittam, low income, uncertain future, prevalence of usury or kanduvatti, health and education issues. DHAN Foundation hence has taken Tirupur to pilot the new theme –Migration and development and to build a model to address these developmental issues.

As a part of our piloting efforts in the migrant destination (Tirupur) DHAN Service Centre for Migrants (DSCM) was inaugurated in Tirupur on 30.01.2013.

DHAN Service Centre for Migrants (DSCM) – Facilitation centre: This DSCM will be a facilitation centre and it will work in 3 main fronts – Migrants especially with special focus on other state migrants who are more vulnerable, garment industry and mainstream institutions. It will work with other state migrants and garment industry through skill building and wage employment services. Through these services, DSCM will enhance the skills of migrants' and facilitate them to get placed in decent work places with increased wages. Also it will collaborate with mainstream institutions for collecting data base, providing ID cards, facilitating to get entitlements, financial and social security services and other services (like health, education etc). Through these services, DSCM will empower the migrants on



rights based approach to live a dignified life in the destination on par with the origin/native communities. These two kinds of facilitations will reduce the poverty in all aspects among the migrant families esp. other state migrant families.

The services to be provided by DSCM are discussed in detail below

1. Skill building and wage employment services:

This centre will act as a facilitator between migrants' and industry through skill building and wage employment services. For this, the centre will collect the data base of migrants' including their educational qualification, skills and experience. On the other side a data base of garment industries and their human resource needs will be created. Based on the needs and demands migrants will be facilitated to get employment skills through various training programmes and by offering skill building courses.

2. Capacity building and awareness services: The migrants will be educated to understand their rights. Their capacity and skills will be improved with specific training and educational programmes. To build the capacity/awareness and to facilitate to access the services every month a meeting will be organised with migrants in a fixed date where the mainstream stakeholders will be invited as guest. This will create conducive environment to facilitate the services for the benefit of migrants.

3. Financial and social security services: The seasonal/distressed migrants are having cash flow. And they are in the position to send earned income to their origin. Here they don't have proper savings and remittance system. More over no migrants are having social security protection especially life and medical insurance services. To provide the financial and social security services, the seasonal migrants esp. the other state migrants – women and men - will be organised in Kalanjiam SHGs.

These migrant Kalanjiam SHGs groups will be promoted as homogenous groups (ex. state wise/ language wise/community wise/relationship wise). This platform will build community bondage, improves their mutual support systems. The Migrant Kalanjiam groups will open a bank account which will provide identity, recognition for them and also facilitates remittance to origin through this bank account.

4. Ensuring entitlements services: Entitlement services will be provided to all migrants (not only to the members of Kalanjiam) through the DSCM. It will facilitate them to get entitlements provided to them such as ID cards, opening bank accounts, getting health and education services etc. These services will lead the migrants' esp. other state migrants to live a decent and fearless life in Tirupur.

5. Health and educational services: These services will be provided on need basis; remedial schools, evening tuition centres will be promoted to educate the migrants' children and also to minimise the child labour issue. These services will be delivered through organising the unorganised migrants (building social capital) and through collaborative efforts with mainstream institutions and industrial associations. DSCM will work closely with respective departments of district administration, health and educational, Police dept, Industrialist and other stake holders in order to improve the migrants living and working conditions and standards. A formal and informal network will be promoted along with those who are working on migration issue – NGOs, training and educational institutes, Govt departments/officials.

Governing and executive system of DSCM: A committee will be formed with the representatives from the executive committee of the federations (Nine leaders), Federation Coordinators and staffs of DSCM. This committee will meet once in a month to plan and review the activities of the DSCM. A field team comprising of one professional staff with minimum three associates will be placed to execute the works planned by the DSCM and this team will closely work with the federation leaders and staffs to deliver the services to the migrants. This centre will operate from an office at North Kalanjiam Federation, Tirupur. □

Field Notes - Climate Change

Let's join hands together



Fifteen years ago I applied tank silt regularly to my farm lands and got very good returns. My rainfed land is infertile and with lot of undulations. Tank silt being a excellent source of nutrients, turned my soil fertile. I used to apply 30 cart loads of tank silt to my land. I got good yields in the years, whenever I applied tank silt. But presently government regulations are preventing me to excavate tank silt from the village tank. I wish that all the villagers should join hands to force the government to heed to our needs. We are glad that you are making efforts to revive the practice. We hope that you provide continuous support to us and do not leave the process half way like other NGOs

- Thangamuniyandi S/o Chinnasamy 35 years, *P. Avarampatti*

Willing to be a Para vet



Whenever we manage to get the veterinary doctor to come to our village for treatment of goats and cows, I observe them with keen interest. Now I can treat some of the basic diseases of goats of myself and also of other villagers. Since goats are the backbone of our economy I am ready to develop my skills and knowledge on goat rearing and provide services to villages as and when required. Can the project facilitate such training to me.

-S. Muniyandi, 30 years, *P. Avarampatti*

Housing for More

A Dutch Connection in Building Shelters for Poor

Madurai: Recently, villagers of Perumalpatti near Sholavandan, Kondayampatti near Alanganallur and few other villages in the district observed a group of foreigners were involved in constructing houses along with the local construction workers and much to their surprise some of the foreigners seem to be experts with the construction tools. It was a team from the Netherlands who have come on Building Week to oversee their project work of Housing4More.

A team of eleven professionals from various walks of life from the county were visiting Madurai last week on a six days trip to study their project status and discussed with various people including the beneficiaries. During the trip, they decided to get involved in construction of some of the houses under their project and they surprised the local masons with skill and agility because some of them in the group like Johan De Visser, Herwig Minnen and Paul Deurloo are architects and constructors themselves back in Netherlands.

During an interaction with the team, Tonny Drijdijk, Manager, Insurance of Rabo bank in Netherlands said that the project was the Corporate Social Responsibility of Rabo Bank and its 114 partnering institutions. The bank wanted to use its huge grand under CSR and came up with the plan of constructing houses for poor people across the globe. “We are working in 25 countries partnering with various local NGOs, constructing houses for the poor people who can’t afford housing”, he said. In India, they have partnered with DHAN

Foundation, he said. Under the scheme they construct two types of houses as single houses and incremental houses sanctioning ₹ 1.5 lakh for single houses and ₹ 25,000 for incremental houses where additional rooms or facilities will be added to existing houses. The funds are sanctioned to the NGO who in turn manage the project locally and DHAN in its turn has made it different by lending these funds to its Kalanjiam Federation members where the loans are repaid over the period of 7 to 8 years and the loans are then provided to another set of beneficiaries. “Thus we have made one time grand into a revolving fund benefitting more and more people”, said Mr.A Madhan Kumar, Programme Leader of DHAN Foundation.

Housing4More has set aside ₹ 1.03 crore for the project in India for constructing 90 single houses and 290 incremental houses and they have already sanctioned ₹ 84.52 lakhs completing the construction of 60 single houses and 200 incremental houses. “We have completed nearly 70 percent of our project”, said Richard De Jager, Manager, Financial and Supporting Services of Rabo Bank.

Their construction expedition has yielded them a lot of learning, the team members said. They have suggested various measures of reducing the cost like constructing row houses, optimization of the construction materials through their expertise. “The local masons liked our tools brought from our country. So we are planning to impart this knowledge and construction tools and we will work out some system of providing them to local masons”, Tonny said.

The next expedition of Housing4More will be constructing cluster houses and the team members along with beneficiaries laid foundation stone for the housing complex in Paravai on November 29. The team members have greatly contributed to the project even from their pockets, DHAN sources said. “We learn that 400 to 600 million people don’t have housing in the world and it is our small effort in providing shelter to the poor”, says Ad Rujtenberg one of the member said.

Courtesy: Extract from article in Times of India



Tree Walk - December 2012

R.Sivakumar*



Trees and hills play crucial role in protecting environment, ensuring rains, conserving biodiversity and survival of many living organisms. By protecting the wealth in the hills we can ensure safe living in the plains spoke Dr.Muthupandi Associate Professor in Botany, Madurai Kamaraj University.

Speaking on the Tree walk event organized by Madurai Green and DHAN Foundation on 16th Dec, 2012 Dr.Muthupandi added that Madurai city is protected by hills in all directions of which “Nagamalai” has its own specialty. The hill is 1500 feet high at its highest point and runs to a distance of almost four kilometer. It inhabits many wonderful species of plants and trees. However this hill doesn’t have the capacity to store the rainwater. So all the rainwater which fall on the hills gets runoff and reaches the plains besides. We can plan for growing more trees along the foot hills of Nagamalai and extend it later to other areas. Now the hill is full of Neem trees and Prosopis. The people living nearby and also the NGOs can join hands together and grow variety of other trees and plants including those with medicinal values.

Dr.Stephen, Professor of Botany, American college during his inspiring speech said that “Environmental protection and development is not the concern of Non governmental organizations and other institutions alone. Each and every individual has responsibility and stake to protect the environment. Their interest and participation are most important. Now we are living in the era of computers and electronics. We are causing many disturbances to the environment and responsible for its

degradation either knowingly or unknowingly. A sense of environmental consciousness and the importance of trees in protecting the environment should be known to all. Spread this awareness among your neighbours, relatives and the society and the event like this will support such activities. It is the responsibility of us to handover a healthy environment to the next generation.

Mr.Bharathi Team Leader, Tourism for Development, DHAN Foundation expressed his happiness over participation of more youth in the “Tree walk” program. He added that ‘the younger generation, especially the students from schools and colleges should show interest in environmental protection through tree plantation. When they act together with the guidance and support of the elders and experts in the field, we can create a wonderful environment to live for the future generations’.

Hundreds of people participated in the Tree walk program which started from PanaiyanVilaku, in the west of Nagamalai. Dr. Bathirinarayanan gave the thanks giving address. The event was organized by Mr.Chidambaram, Madurai Green. □

Field Notes - Climate Change



Herbal gathering to cope up with extreme drought

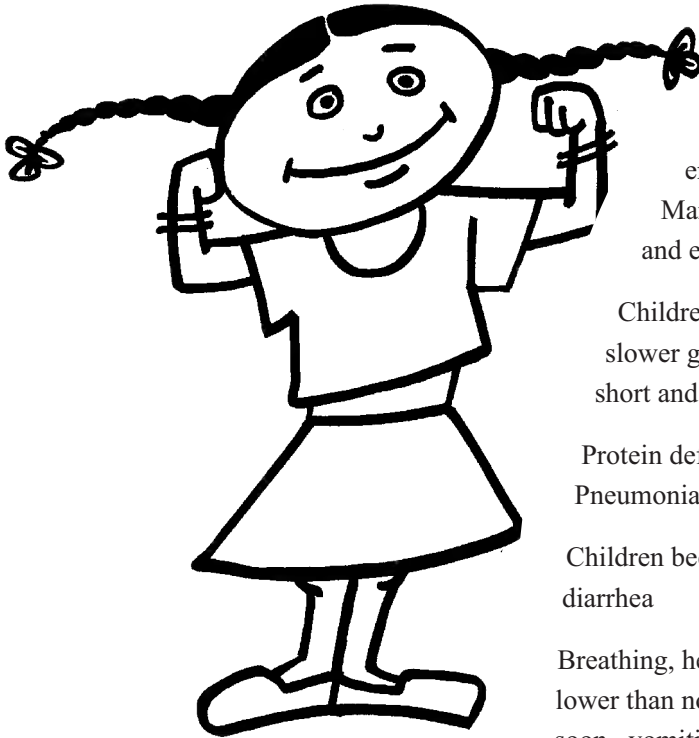
Severe drought has forced families in our villagers to seek for alternate employment. Fifteen families in the village now are engaged in herbal

gathering to sustain their livelihood.

They collect the herbs like Nerunji, Thulasi, Koondhal Panai, Nochi and neem growing naturally in foot hills. The hills had a wide range of herbs once and now few of them have vanished. Even getting adequate quantity of existing herbs has become difficult due to drought.

-Aandiappan S/o Chinna Vettaian, K.Chattirapatti

Can address protein deficiency



Protein deficiency in children can cause Marasmus and Kwashiorkor among Children. Severe growth failure and emaciation are the most striking symptoms of a Marasmus infant. Bulging of the body, fatty liver and edema are symptoms of a Kwashiorkor child.

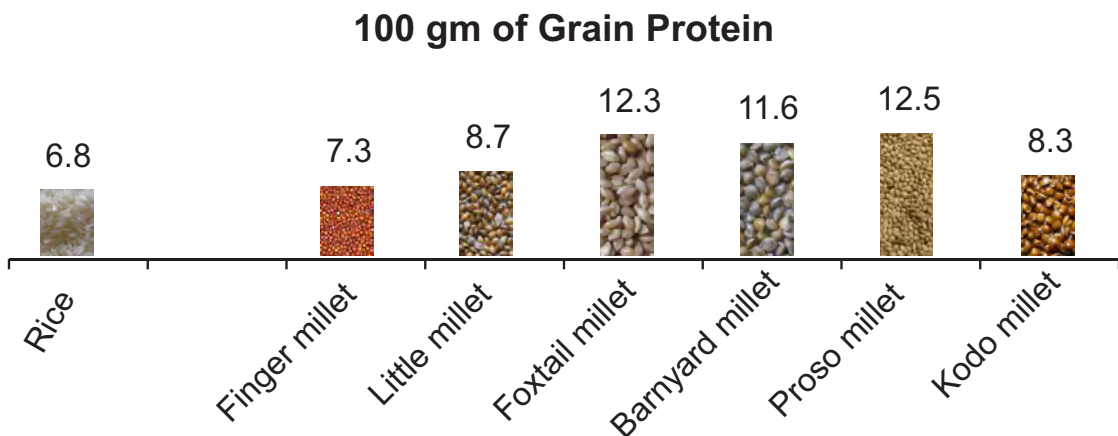
Children affected with protein deficiency will show slower growth rate than normal children and are usually short and with under weight

Protein deficiency increases the risk of death due to Pneumonia and measles.

Children become more prone to communicable diseases and diarrhea

Breathing, heart beat will be slower. Body temperature will be lower than normal temperature. Children get tired and fatigue soon, vomiting and giddiness too may happen on over stressing them

Small millets have higher protein content than rice or wheat





Agricultural Bio-diversity and Food Security

Contemporary advanced agricultural production systems supported by intensive research and state sponsorship have eroded agro-biodiversity at both farm and agro-ecosystem levels. There is, however, a growing realization that crop varietal diversity, cultivated by small and marginal farmers has enormous public value for ensuring global food security, poverty alleviation, and building more resilient and sustainable farming systems. This could be achieved by strengthening farmers' efforts to improve, use and conserve crop varietal diversity.

An action research project - Revalorising Small Millets in Rainfed Regions of South Asia anchored by DHAN is working on raising the profile of small millets. It aims at conserving agro-biodiversity and increasing productivity of small millets. The project focusses on revitalizing indigenous knowledge and socio-cultural practices that augment cultivation, processing, storage, and utilization of small millets.



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