

**Launching of Vayalagam Federations
for Natham, S.Pudur and Ponnamaravathy blocks
in Pambar and Kottakaraiar basin**

A community collective under DHANA Project

**September 13, 2013
at Thamukkam Grounds**



**Madurai Symposium 2013
Governance for Advancing Development**

September 11-16, 2013

Background

Madurai Symposium is a biennial event being organised at Madurai for the development practitioners and multi stake holders to share their experiences on various development themes and to advance their collaboration with the institutions and general public. The 6th Madurai Symposium is scheduled to be organised during the 11 to 15th September 2013 at Madurai. The focus of the Madurai Symposium is on integrating Governance with the various development interventions and sharing the field experiences to address the global issues of sustainable development.

The Convention

Pambar and Kottakaraiar is one of the seventeen river basins in Tamilnadu. This basin is spread over in Dindigul, Madurai, Sivagangai, Pudukottai and Ramanathapuram districts. This basin is one of the tank intensive basins in tamilnadu. Agriculture is the prime livelihood of the people in this basin. Tanks are the only source for irrigation and also for recharging the ground water. The performances of the tanks are declining because of the negligence of maintenance and management by its stakeholders. The status of farmers and agriculture are highly vulnerable for

both droughts and floods because of the poor performance of the non system tanks in this basin.

Initiation and Reach of the programme

DHAN Vayalagam (Tank) Foundation initiated the Tankfed agriculture development programme in this basin two decades before during the year 1993 at Kottampatti block and extended the development works to Singampunari and Thirupathur blocks during the year 2004. With the financial assistance of AXIS Bank Foundation the tankfed agriculture development programme was initiated at Natham, S.Pudur and Ponnamaravathy blocks during March 2011 for improving the tank systems in larger scale. The AXIS Bank Foundation came forward to improve 625 tanks and 125 village ponds (ooranis) in this basin within a five year period of time from March 2011. Totally 308 vayalagams (Tank associations) were promoted as on July 13 in those three blocks for strengthening governance on the each tank system.

DHAN Vayalagam (Tank) Foundation has taken efforts to promote block level federations at Natham, S.Pudur and Ponnamaravathy blocks. The objectives of promoting block level federations are:

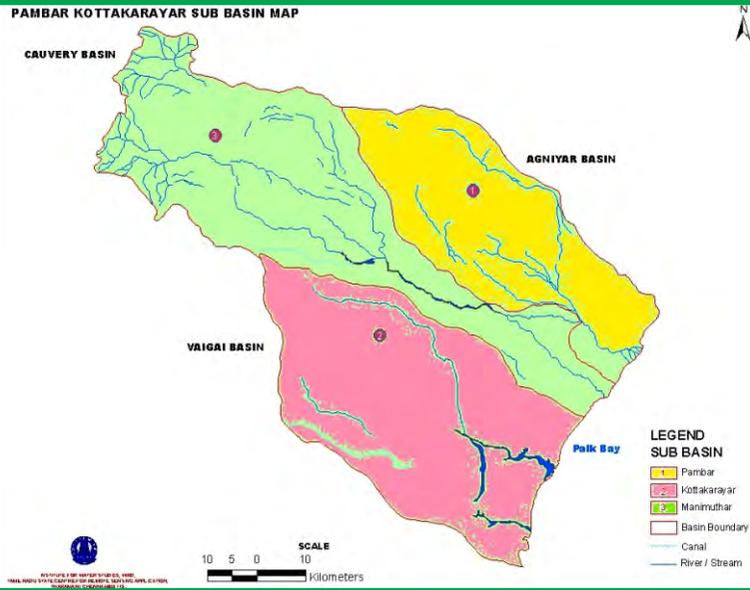


- To scale up the tank development with self governed institutions for achieving sustainable livelihoods.
- To collaborate with mainstream agencies for conserving tanks and developing agriculture.
- To ensure uniform standards across all nested institutions.

Launching of Block Federations

The launching of three block federations will be on 13th September 2013 at Thamukkam grounds in Madurai with the participation of Collaborators, Government officials and stakeholders. The objectives of the launching of federations in this symposium are:

- To share the experience of the people governed and owned tank development.
- To share the importance of governance at block level for advancing development.
- To share the tank based basin development approach for poverty reduction.
- To share the outcome of the tanks and ooranis development through DHANA project.



Programme Schedule

- 09.00 am : Registration
- 10.00 am : Inauguration of the event with Reflections
- 10.15 am : Welcome address and Brief about the event
- 10.30 am : Chief guest address
- 10.45 am : Lead paper presentation
- 11.00 am : Experience sharing by the vayalagam leaders
- 11.45 am : Launching of Natham, S.Pudur and Ponnamaravathy block federations
- 12.30 pm : Special address of the Guests
- 1.30 pm : Lunch Break
- 2.30 pm : Sub group discussions
- 5.00 pm : Synthesis of sub group discussion
- 5.30 pm : Concluding session and Vote of thanks

Venue and Date of the Seminar

The seminar is planned to be organized in Thamukkam Grounds on 13th September 2013

Registration and contact

Kindly confirm your participation and send your papers if any, along with your travel details through email to:

J.Mohan, Team Leader
DHAN Vayalagam (Tank) Foundation,
 No. 1A, Vaidyanathapuram East, Kennet Cross Road,
 Near Seventh Day Adventist School,
 Madurai 625 016, Tamilnadu, INDIA.
 Ph: +91-452-2302580; Mobile: 9943295985
 Email: dhantank@ghan.org, pambar@ghan.org
 Web: www.dhan.org



DHAN Vayalagam (Tank) Foundation, Madurai

Tankfed Agriculture Development Programme was one of the thematic programmes of DHAN Foundation towards the purpose of reducing rural poverty. For up scaling the tank programme and for enriching the water related development interventions, DHAN Foundation promoted DHAN Vayalagam (Tank) Foundation (DVTF) which became operational with effect from October 2, 2006. The DVTF is striving for the conservation and development of small scale traditional water resources such as tanks, ponds, ooranies, supply channels etc in addition to the development of watersheds through people's participation. At present DVTF is working in 6 States with the support of Government, National and International Corporate Philanthropies and other funding agencies.



DHAN Vayalagam (Tank) Foundation,

No. 1A, Vaidyanathapuram East, Kennet Cross Road,
Near Seventh Day Adventist School,
Madurai 625 016, Tamilnadu, INDIA.
Ph: +91-452-2302580; Mobile: 9943295985
Email: dhantank@ghan.org, pambar@ghan.org
Web: www.dhan.org



AXIS BANK FOUNDATION

Mumbai