

Building Resilience for Sustaining Development

Workshop on

**Enabling Resilience
through Empowered Gender**



Madurai Symposium 2017

Thamukkam Grounds, Madurai
September 21, 2017

*"Gender equality is more than a goal in itself.
It is a precondition for meeting the challenge of
reducing poverty, promoting sustainable development and
building good governance."*

- Kofi Annan

On Gender Equality:

UNICEF says gender equality "means that women and men, and girls and boys, enjoy the same rights, resources, opportunities and protections. It does not require that girls and boys, or women and men, be the same, or that they be treated exactly alike. Gender equality is more than equal representation, it is strongly tied to women's rights, and often requires policy changes. Gender equality has become global development agenda. The fifth of seventeen sustainable development goals of the United Nations. The same was measured at national, regional and global levels through Human Development Reports every year.

On Gender and Resilience:

The development interventions will be more appropriate and impact-full if resilience-building interventions are seen with a gender equality lens. Adopting a gender approach in resilience building requires recognizing social differences, roles, expectations and needs accorded to women and men and between people within these gender categories. This means going beyond the women-men binary to look at the intersection between and interaction of different social identities (e.g. gender, status, ethnicity, class, age, religion, disability). The aim here is to gain a better understanding of the underlying causes of people's vulnerability to climate extremes and longer-term climate change as well as their resilience capacities.



The contribution that external interventions make to individual, household and community resilience to climate extremes and disasters will largely depend on the suitability of those

activities to the local context and the extent to which implementing agencies address existing social dynamics and power relations. Exploring the gender dimension of resilience to disasters and climate change encourages researchers and practitioners working in these fields to focus on people's different relationships to the environment and access to resources.

Need for Gender perspective in Resilience:

Role of gender in vulnerable / unforeseen situation is very critical. In disaster situations, war incidents, and other social stress conditions, women and girls are severely get affected. Also the impact of such distress situations on male and female are completely different. Same solution for both male and female would not serve intended purpose. For example, in drought situation, mostly male are get migrated to nearby cities and the women has to stay at local and take care of their family. Also in War situation, in general, men are killed but women are abused and assaulted. In tsunami kind of large scale disaster shows that most of the women are dead and could not escape from such situations due to lack of knowledge or rescue support. So, resilience building will be meaningful only when gender based interventions are taken up at grassroots level.

About the Workshop:

This workshop would focus on spell out deliberations of gender differences and dimensions in disaster, climate change, conservation and socio-economic parameters. The need and impact of women and men are different in various crisis situations. Also, in general, the capacity of resilience of women are lesser than men. The social exclusion of gender parameters is serving key factor in widening inequalities.

This workshop aims to bring out both perspectives and practices in relation to role of Gender in enabling better resilience. Both success and distress factors will be discussed. Women and men community from rural, tribal, coastal and urban contexts, from various livelihood backgrounds will be called for the workshop on deliberate on the subject. With agenda for moving towards equality of the genders, realizing their full human rights and have equal opportunity to contribute to and benefit from development, these participants are invited for the Convention to share their experience on gender inequalities and to find different ways of strengthening inclusion of women in the development process.



Advanced Centre for Enabling Women Empowerment (ACEWE)

DHAN Kalanjiam Foundation

1A, Vaidyanathapuram East, Kennet Cross Road
Madurai 625 016. Tamil Nadu, INDIA

Tel: +91 452 2610794 / 805, Fax: 2602247

Email: ahila@dhan.org



Supported by



WOMENSTRONG
INTERNATIONAL

Organized by



DHAN Foundation