

About Coastal Conservation and Livelihoods Programme

The Coastal Conservation and Livelihoods Programme of DHAN Foundation was launched with a mission to achieve sustainable development through conservation, disaster risk reduction activities and livelihood enhancement. After the tsunami disaster in December 2004, the coastal programme took-up massive relief and restoration works covering around 70,000 families in 11 coastal districts of southern India. As the damages caused by the disaster was huge, and the coastal communities were highly vulnerable, the programme has developed a comprehensive development framework, phased into (i) humanitarian aid, (ii) livelihood restoration,

(iii) conservation and (iv) community-led sustainable development. At present, the Programme works with 1,25,000 families spread across states of Tamilnadu and Odisha in the areas of livelihoods, strengthening community resilience and conservation.

Advanced Centre for Enabling Disaster Risk Reduction (ACEDRR)

The Advanced Centre for Enabling Disaster Risk Reduction (ACEDRR) is a specialized centre of Tata-Dhan Academy established to enhance the knowledge and practice on disaster risk reduction through research and pilot projects, training and education, networking, consultancy, and policy advocacy activities to ensure secured lives and livelihoods of vulnerable communities.

Building Resilience for Sustaining Development

Advancing Community Resilience: Mapping Change and Visioning for Future



For further information, please contact

S. Ahila Devi & P. Subburaj

Workshop Coordinators

Coastal Conservation and Livelihoods Programme

DHAN Foundation

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

Phone: +91-452-2309500, 526, 527; Fax: +91-452-2602247

Email: ghancoastal@dhan.org Website: <http://www.dhan.org>

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Madurai Symposium 2017

September 23, 2017

Thamukkam Grounds, Madurai

About Madurai Symposium 2017

The Madurai Symposium is a biennial event organised by DHAN Foundation since 2003 to facilitate sharing of knowledge and experiences on development themes and interventions among various stakeholders of development – NGOs, government institutions, civil societies, financial institutions, academicians and researchers. This year, the eighth Madurai Symposium is scheduled from 20-24 September, 2017 at Thamakkam ground, Madurai. As part of the Symposium, several workshops, seminars and people conventions will be organized on the theme of Building Resilience for Sustaining Development. Advanced Centre for Enabling Disaster Risk Reduction (ACEDRR) and the Coastal Conservation and Livelihoods Programme of DHAN Foundation is organising a workshop on “Advancing Community Resilience: Mapping Change and Visioning for Future”

The Context

India is vulnerable, in varying degrees, to a large number of natural as well as man-made disasters. 58.6 per cent of the landmass is prone to earthquakes of moderate to very high intensity; over 40 million hectares (12 per cent of land) is prone to floods and river erosion; of the 7,516 km long coastline, close to 5,700 km is prone to cyclones and tsunamis; 68 per cent of the cultivable area is vulnerable to drought and hilly areas are at risk from landslides and avalanches.

When the Tsunami struck the coastal regions of Southern India in 2004, DHAN swiftly entered into relief, rehabilitation and restoration of livelihoods with a long term sustainability focus. At that point of time, DHAN has no prior experience in carrying out relief operations. DHAN with its unique model of community organisation, organised around 80,000 affected families along the Tamil Nadu coast, channelised relief materials to the needy and ensured equity. Followed by relief, DHAN initiated rehabilitation and restoration of livelihoods of the affected communities. Post tsunami interventions and experiences led DHAN to envisage a development programme theme to aid the communities along the coast. Coastal Conservation and Livelihoods Programme works with disaster vulnerable communities in the coastal areas. Coastal Conservation and Livelihoods Programme with the support of ACEDRR is carrying out a disaster response programme in Balasore district of Odisha after Phailin Cyclone 2013.



Objectives of the Workshop

Disasters disrupt progress and destroy the hard-earned fruits of painstaking developmental efforts, often pushing nations, in quest for progress, back by several decades. Thus, efficient management of disasters, rather than mere response to their occurrence, has in recent times, received increased attention both within India and abroad. In this context, DHAN Foundation is implementing a livelihood restoration project with major focus on strengthening community resilience through disaster risk reduction activities. The Programme has promoted more than 150 disaster risk reduction committees in the villages vulnerable to cyclone and floods. More than 750 volunteers have been identified from these villages both men and women and they have been trained on Search and Rescue and First Aid. The Programme is able to observe significant changes in the attitude, skill and knowledge on the part of volunteers. Hence there is a need to document the significant change happened among the volunteers through process of mapping



the changes and to evolve the future strategies for advancing the resilience building in the context of disasters.

With this perspective, the workshop will serve the following purposes

- (i) To map the changes in the attitude, skill and knowledge of the volunteers and factors facilitating the change
- (ii) To consolidate the understanding of progress & continue to support DRR committees
- (iii) To evolve the future course of action/strategies for strengthening the community resilience.

Programme Content

The deliberations in the workshop will be in following areas

1. A lead paper presentation will be made on the initiatives of the DHAN Foundation in Balasore District
2. The Process facilitation by Ms. Ahila Devi, Team Leader, DHAN Foundation to map the changes and evolving vision for strengthening community resilience in Balasore District.

Participants: Trained volunteers on search and rescue and first aid.