

## PARTICIPANTS

The expected participants for this workshop are development practitioners, stakeholders such as mainstream institutions, bankers, NGO representatives, leading farmers, Academia and interested individuals who are actively involved in implementation of different tank development and watershed development projects.

## EXPECTED OUTCOME

- Tanks are the tools to cope up climate change and agriculture ecosystem
- Impact of tank conservation in stabilizing the agriculture.
- Shared understanding on the resilience to cope with climate change.
- Developing action plan for mainstreaming the concept

## VENUE AND DATE OF THE SEMINAR

The Seminar is planned to be organised in Thamukkam Grounds, Madurai on 23rd September 2017.

## PROGRAMME SCHEDULE

- 10.00 – 10.15 : Prayer and welcome
- 10.15 - 10.30 : Purpose and background of the Workshop
- 10.30 – 10.45 : Inaugural address: Chairperson
- 10.45 – 11.15 : Presentations on Drought Experience in Gundar Basin
- 11.15 – 11.45 : Reflection on Presentation
- 11.45 – 12.15 : Tea break
- 12.15 – 13.30 : Experience of Community and Experts Views
- 13.30 – 14.30 : Lunch break
- 14.30 – 16.00 : Sub group discussion
- 16.00 – 16.30 : Group presentation and synthesis
- 16.30 – 17.00 : Sharing Key Outcomes and Resolution
- 17.00 – 17.05 : Vote of Thanks

# MADURAI SYMPOSIUM 2017

*Thamukkam Ground, Madurai*  
**September 23, 2017**



**RESILIENCE BUILDING FOR DROUGHT  
THROUGH TANK RENOVATION**  
*EXPERIENCES OF COMMUNITIES IN GUNDAR AND VAIPPAR BASINS*

Sponsored by



Organised by

DHAN VAYALAGAM (TANK) FOUNDATION  
Madurai



## **MADURAI SYMPOSIUM**

Madurai Symposium is a biannual event being organized at Madurai for the development practitioners and multi stakeholders to share their experiences on various development themes and to advance their collaboration with the institutions and public.

The Eight Madurai Symposium 2017 is scheduled to be organized during September 20 to 24, 2017 at Madurai. The focus of the Madurai Symposium 2017 is on Building Resilience for Sustaining Development.

## **ABOUT DHAN FOUNDATION**

DHAN Foundation is working on water sector for about two decades. The centrality and focus of the institution is on community-owned and community-led conservation & agriculture and development for poverty reduction in rural areas. The space for participation, institutional infrastructures and leadership creates democratic platforms for the community. The intervention part of the institution is engineered to adapt basin and sub-basin approach for addressing the issues holistically. DHAN Foundation has collaborated with many stakeholders like DRDA, NABARD and Hindustan Unilever Foundation, for the rejuvenation of community management over water bodies in Gundar Basin. The intervening projects have multi-level interventions for facilitating achievement of water and food security. Such direct efforts build the resilience of community and help them to work together collectively.

## **OVERVIEW OF GUNDAR BASIN**

Gundar basin originates from the rain shadow region of Westernghats and it spreads over 3000 hamlets in five districts namely Madurai, Ramnad, Sivagangai, Virudhunagar, and Tuticorin. About five lakh families, most of them are marginal, landless and small farming families are living in this basin. The total area of the basin spreads about 5660 Sq.km. The basin receives 550 - 900 mm of rainfall. There are 2276 tanks and 43 anacuts are there. Of which 43900 Ha land are irrigated by 511 PWD tanks and 27600 Ha land are irrigated by 1765 minor irrigation tanks come under the control of Panchayat union. Nearly 14388 Ha land are irrigated by the anacuts. There are also 5500 ooranies. These ooranies are used both for drinking water and for domestic use. Declining trend in Agriculture based livelihoods is prevalent in this basin because of increasing area of fallow lands infested with Juliflora jungle, low productivity and low income, missing links of water ways, degeneration of tank system and eco system, deforestation in hillock ,water deficit for agriculture and other related issues. Most of the tanks in this basin are hydrologically linked as cascades



## **THE WORKSHOP**

This workshop titled "Resilience Building for Drought through Tank Renovation: Experiences of Communities in Gundar and Vaippar Basins" is organised as part of Madurai Symposium 2017. This Workshop will act as the platform for sharing the successful experiences of the development in cascade even in drought conditions impacting the agricultural based livelihoods, efforts of the various stakeholders for securing the agricultural based livelihoods in this basin and sharing other related experiences in Gundar River Basin. This workshop will facilitate the forum to discuss various strategies for the resilience to cope with climate change through rehabilitation of tanks in cascades by the farming communities.

## **OBJECTIVES**

The objective of the workshop is

- Experience of farming community in resilience to cope with climate change in tank systems
- Creating awareness on the demand management practices in tank system and showcasing the impact on agriculture livelihood through ground water recharge impound by tank renovation.
- To build the perspectives among the stakeholders and practitioners on "Converged action for the livelihood development of the farming communities in Gundar basin".
- To evolve suitable strategies and action plan for the collective action by various stakeholders like mainstream institutions,
- NGOs, Research institutions, Corporates and others for the resilience cope with climate change in securing livelihoods of the farming community in Gundar basin.