

Centre for Urban Water Resources (CURE) from DHAN Vayalagam (Tank) Foundation, the water thematic collective of DHAN Foundation with sectoral focus on water management in urban and semi-urban environments, was inaugurated in 2008. CURE is functioning towards key vision of 'Water Security' in urban fabrics.

To attain 'Water Security' CURE is working on following aspects,

1. Restoration of traditional water bodies in urban space
2. Nature based decentralised waste water treatment systems
3. Roof water harvesting for drinking in households and institutions
4. Drinking Water Quality Monitoring
5. Water Literacy

List of Events

Day 1: 18.09.2019 – Photo story Competition

Day 1: 18.09.2019 – Documentary and Short Film Competition

Day 2: 19.09.2019 – Poster and Model Presentation

Day 3: 20.09.2019 – Seminar: Research Paper and Article Presentation

Day 4: 21.09.2019 – Plenary discussion

*Please find the attached brochures for Individual Events



Centre for Urban Water Resources (CURE)

DHAN VAYALAGAM (TANK) FOUNDATION

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Supported by



Venue & Date

**Thamukkam Ground , Madurai
18th September 2019
Scan QR Code for Registration**



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Water Security: A Women Empowerment Tool



Madurai Symposium 2019
Fostering Development Knowledge
Thamukkam Grounds, Madurai
September 18-22, 2019

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Madurai symposium is a grand gathering where Development Stakeholders gather biennially at Madurai to share, learn from each other experience and practices and explore opportunities for collaboration. The symposium attracts diverse stakeholders in development: Community Organisations, Civil societies/NGOs, Government, Banks, Insurance Companies, CSR Foundations, Donors, Philanthropists, and Academia. The previous edition of 2017 saw the participation of 10,000 stakeholders and deliberated on 'Approaches and mechanisms for Resilience building among the vulnerable and risk-prone poor'. Given the multifaceted development goals of SDGs, the Madurai Symposium 2019 would connect with the critical element of challenges in sustaining development processes involved to 'Empower women' and make women self-esteemed, pride, dignity in the status of holistic development in all spheres of social, economic, cultural and environmental context.

Past Symposium and History:

2003 Advancing Development

2005 Advancing Development

2007 Advancing Development towards building alliances

2009 Advancing Development towards Millennium Development Goals (MDGs)

2011 Advancing Development towards Sustainable Livelihoods

2013 Governance for advancing development

2015 Localising Sustainable development Goals

2017 Building Resilience for sustaining development



Madurai Symposium 2019: Women Empowerment

Empowerment of women in the society is the fundamental development right and the symposium 2019 aims to deliberate on the challenges, limitations, and pathways in addressing equitable and equal society for both men and women.

Women's equal participation and making decisions is an important area of development in the society make the development genuine and meaningful. Economic transformation, grooming women as a leader in political, business, science and many arena in the society is very much required and need for the hour.

Women Empowerment and its relevance for advancing the development

DHAN Foundation and it's all thematic collectives strongly vouch for the approaches towards empowerment of women cut across all the development themes and programmes which in turn create a conducive atmosphere for women to chart their own development and wellbeing. Madurai symposium 2019, therefore is aiming to focus on the deliberations, discussions, and dialogues on,

- Women and Social Capital, Democratic Governance
- Women and Agriculture, Water, Nutrition Security
- Women and Health, Social Safety Nets; Vulnerability
- Women and Education, Research and Knowledge Development
- Women and Market, Business with Pride
- Women and Information Technology
- Gandhiji and women Empowerment (As a fitting response to the closing of 150th Birth centenary of M.K.Gandhi)

Water Security: A Women Empowerment Tool

Relationship between women and water is centuries old and is reflected in every stage of human evolution. Rivers were named after women. Folklore goddesses were placed near water bodies and worshiped, and Literature continuously explores; expresses 'sense of women and water' which is unending. In the Indian context, women fetch water for their families.

'Conservation, preservation and utilization' of water bodies are shared responsibilities of the community. When Male takes the lead for water bodies that are used for livelihood, female takes the lead for water bodies that are used for living.

DHAN Foundation is working in the themes of 'Water Security' and 'Women empowerment' for past 3 decades. It has touched more than 18 lakh communities across 14 states. It has experienced on several occasions that women community members taking key initiatives in the rehabilitation of waterbodies such as 'Dorani' and 'ponds'. Post introduction of MGNERGA, the participation of women in 'water bodies' conservation has greatly increased. In a few places, women 'Participation' has transformed into 'Ownership'.

UN-Water proposes the following definition of water security: "The capacity of a population to safeguard sustainable access to adequate quantities of and acceptable quality water for sustaining livelihoods, human well-being, and socio-economic development, for ensuring protection against water-borne pollution and water-related disasters, and for preserving ecosystems in a climate of peace and political stability." Here, the Capacity of the population includes the women population of the society in itself. To attain 'water security' one has to work with multiple stakeholders in arenas of Social, Economics, Politics, and Environment. This journey will transform women as 'empowered women'.

Therefore, the **Centre for Urban Water Resources (CURE)**, a division of Vayalagam Programme working for 'Urban Water Security' sees 'Water Security' as one of the processes for Women Empowerment. The Centre is organizing multiple events aligning with the theme 'Water Security: A Women Empowerment Tool' to attain SDGs 5, 6, 11, 12. CURE invites Grassroots performers, Innovators, Professionals, Engineers, Journalists, Writers, Activists, Academicians, Lawyers, Research Scholars, Students, historians, Archaeologist, Sociologist, Community organizations, NGOs and other stakeholders working in themes of water and women empowerment to take part in the events and contribute for a better future.

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