

# Women Empowerment for Sustaining Development



## Workshop on Women Well-being through Access to Safe Water and Sanitation

**Madurai Symposium 2019**

Thamukkam Ground, Madurai  
September 18, 2019

Supported by



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## Current Scenario on Safe water and sanitation

The Sustainable Development Goals 2015 - 2030, a successor to Millennium Development Goals, include Goal 6 for clean water and sanitation for ensuring their availability and sustainable management. Goal 6.1 specifically says that by 2030, countries including India should 'achieve universal and equitable access to safe and affordable drinking water for all', and Goal 6.2 stipulates that by 2030, countries should also "achieve access to adequate and equitable sanitation and hygiene for all and end open defecation, paying special



attention to the needs of women and girls and those in vulnerable situations." Thus, ideally, by definition, this means leaving no one behind in terms of access to safe water and improved sanitation. Hygiene poses another challenge; safe drinking water and sanitation in the absence of hygienic habits will not prevent feco-oral infections. In many households, even if the original source of water is safe, the water is frequently contaminated by unhygienic conditions and practices in homes posing adverse health impacts. In fact, poor hygiene and unsafe water are responsible for 90 per cent of worldwide diarrheal deaths.

## Moving ahead with Women Empowerment

To accelerate the efforts to achieve universal sanitation coverage and to put focus on safe sanitation, women are becoming more empowered and are the decision makers to ensure total sanitation at the household level. Sanitation can be ensured through a package of services taking the environmental sanitation in to consideration inclusive of safe disposal of garbage, drainage, segregation of non

degradable and bio degradable waste, solid and liquid waste management, eliminating open defecation sites, harvesting rain water for drinking water at the households. This can be made possible by sensitizing the women and adolescent girls using the Behaviour Change Communication strategies reaching the larger population thereby ensuring the ODF + and ODF-S with clean and sanitized status across the nation. In order to move ahead in positive direction, the secretaries of Women Self Help Groups and Farmers' groups have been promoted as the Self Health Governance for Sanitation to reach out the larger population. The capacity of the governance has been built through various training and orientation programmes updating the latest developments related to safe water and sanitation aspects which resulted in the community led programme among the households to reach wider and deeper. The governance for sanitation acts as the motivating factor cum change agent to move ahead in the sector leading to the sustainability of the initiatives.

### **The workshop**

The workshop on 'Empowering Women through Community led Safe Water and Sanitation' intends to discuss about ensuring the real ODF sustainability through providing a package of sanitation and safe water aspects through sensitising of women and adolescent girls to reach the entire population. The workshop also looks forward for the women who are the driving force of a family to reach the sustainability under safe water and sanitation initiatives. The workshop would evolve process and systems to set up strong women-led self health governance for sanitation as demand stream at grassroots level

### **Objectives of the workshop**

- To consolidate the overall experience of product promotion and utilization on safe water and Sanitation.
- To sensitise and empower the women to move forward towards ensuring package of sanitation and safe water services to all
- To evolve innovative and cost effective safe water and sanitation products suiting to the various contexts and needs of the community

- To build women-led self health governance for saturating entire population to reach out entire population
- To develop action plan on saturating all households with sanitation and safe water by involving convergence strategies towards achieving sustainability.

### **Participants**

The workshop will be conducted involving the professionals, Civil Engineers, Regional Health Coordinators, Federations and Regional Coordinators of DHAN Foundation, Community Leaders and Beneficiaries. The eminent and experts will guide the entire forum who have experience in Safe Water and Sanitation.

### **Programme Content & Structure**

1. Lead paper presentation by the event coordinator
2. Presentations by the delegates
3. Experience sharing by the professionals and community
4. Evolving new products under sanitation and safe water
5. Deriving action plan towards achieving sanitation and safe water sustainability

### **Date & Venue**

The workshop will be held on Wednesday, 18th September, 2019 at  
Thamukkam Ground, Madurai from 10.00 am to 4.00 pm

*For further information, please contact*

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