



Workshop on WASH For All: Enabling Demand and Supply System

Madurai Symposium 2021

DHAN Foundation, Madurai

October 26, 2021

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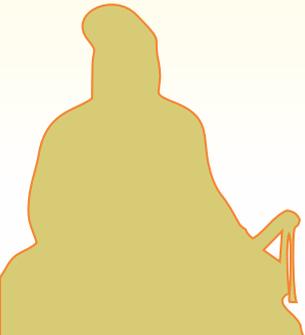
Sustainable Healthcare Advancement (SUHAM) Trust
(A Healthcare Initiative of DHAN Foundation)



DHAN Foundation



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Current Scenario of Safe water and sanitation

The benefits of having access to an improved drinking water source can only be fully realized when there is also access to improved sanitation and adherence to good hygiene practices. Beyond the immediate, obvious advantages of people being hydrated and healthier, access to water, sanitation and hygiene – known collectively as WASH – has profound wider socio-economic impacts, particularly for women and girls. Hygiene poses another challenge; safe drinking water and sanitation in the absence of hygienic habits will not prevent fecal-oral infections. In many households, even if the source of water is safe, the water is frequently contaminated by unhygienic conditions and practices in homes posing adverse health impacts. Poor hygiene and unsafe water are responsible for 90 percent of worldwide diarrheal deaths. In addition to this the drudgery in accessing safe water by women because they have the responsibility of fetching water for drinking and domestic purposes. Another major issue is the households without space for the construction of toilets and the low or no maintenance of the Community Sanitation Complex in the villages.

DHAN in accessing WASH

DHAN has wide experience in WASH products promotion for more than two and half decades through microfinance loans for the members. When it was conceived as a separate programme as Sanitation and Safe Water, policy changes were done at the group and federation levels which led to



the additional loan facility to reach a greater number of households. The sanitation literacy for the members in the primary groups and the secretaries training conducted in regular intervals or periodicity are the added value to the product promotion along with ensuring the end-users of the products promoted. The literacy on the end-users of the promoted products and the close monitoring by the community governance and the field staff working for WATSAN helped the family members to use the toilets.

There are state and central government schemes for facilitating water and sanitation along with housing programmes for the community members is also now fetching up. Many schemes with minimum subsidies may not be sufficient for the community members to think about availing of the services. DHAN's water loans are a solution for them to proceed further. Accessing the subsidy from the government and loans from the group make the members use facilities intact. DHAN's initiatives in the villages and panchayats are known to the service providers and having MoU with them made the process of toilet constructions and tap water connection to households feasible.

DHAN's Reach under WASH

DHAN's long experience of working for the promotion of the product under WASH, reached eligible community members through the people institutions promoted at the village, panchayat, block and district levels. The community governance promoted at all levels made possible covering 4,48,994 families through Safe Water and Sanitation products for Eight years benefitting 731171 population. 3,52,628 families reached through construction as well as renovation of toilets, 67,807 through household water tap connections, 23,535 by installing water filters and 19 by the way of constructing Rain Water harvesting structures. Bore well or Hand pump 3,237 Water and Sanitation combo 1710 And 58 members are benefitted from Special needstoilets. The role of women and girls in each household played a vital role and was indispensable in convincing the male members of their family. The women and girls also feel the pride and dignity of having a sanitation structure at home which is safe and secured. Thus, the women are empowered to take the major decisions in the households to address the issues related to safe water and sanitation products.

The Workshop

The workshop on WASH for All: Enabling Demand and Supply System will focus on the following aspects

- The Role of development finance for ensuring WASH products for all
- Experience sharing by various stakeholders on their significant approach towards ODF++
- Consolidating the learning and best practices of WASH implementation from various regions



Objectives of the workshop

1. To showcase the best practices learnt across the country in ensuring WASH for all
2. To evolve the strategies and mechanisms to reach out all eligible people in the backward locations of the country under WASH products
3. To find ways and means to accelerate the effective convergence with mainstream institutions for ensuring ODF++

Participants

Officials and field workers from various government departments, Regional Coordinators, Federation Coordinators, Health Associates and the Community Governance.

Programme Content and Structure

1. Lead paper presentation on WASH for all: Enabling demand and supply system
2. Presentation and address by the delegates
3. Experience sharing by Regional Coordinators, Federation Coordinators, Health Associates and the Community Governance
4. Sharing perspectives by various stakeholders

Date and Venue

The convention (hybrid mode) will be held on October 26, 2021, Tuesday at DHAN Foundation, Madurai, Tamil Nadu from 10.00 am to 05.00 pm. The link will be shared to the participants.

For further information, please contact

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