



Seminar on
**Investing on rehabilitation of water commons
with community equity - Urban water governance**

26th October, 2021 at DHAN Foundation, Madurai

Madurai Symposium 2021
Advancing Development: Community Swaraj

October 25-29, 2021

About Madurai Symposium

Madurai Symposium is a “Unique” Knowledge Mart inviting Development Stakeholders and those interested in Development. The events are scheduled from October 25 to 29, 2021. This is the Tenth Biennial Madurai Symposium, where many stakeholders with diversity in development: Community Organisations, Civil societies / NGOs, Government, Banks, Insurance Companies, CSR Foundations, Donors, Philanthropists and Academia gather to share and learn from each other's experience and practices to serve the underprivileged community. The previous edition of 2019 saw participation of 10,000 stakeholders and deliberated on the approaches and mechanisms for building “Women Empowerment”.

The Madurai Symposium 2021 has a special significance as this year marks a century of Mahatma Gandhi's historic identification of with poor by renouncing the formal attire for the simple Dhoti (While Loin Cloth) leaving the torso bare. This year, also marks the DHAN's Silver Jubilee of its development journey. The communities are at the heart of development, their distinct identity is the process of development and with their active participation and ownership would lead to not only sustaining development, but also communities taking charge of the development. Hence, the 2021 Symposium is organized on the title “Advancing

Development: Community Swaraj, which is the vision of Mahatma Gandhi and Vino Bhawe.

About DHAN Vayalagam (Tank) Foundation

DHAN Vayalagam (Tank) Foundation (DVTF) is a not-for-profit, professional and secular development organization working on water, agriculture and ecosystem regeneration. DVTF was promoted by DHAN Foundation for scaling-up community-led and invested water conservation and development across the nation. DVTF was founded on the Gandhian day of 2nd October 2006. As on March 2021, DVTF has facilitated promotion of 6273 association and reached 3.9 lakhs households. The community institutions have renovated over 3500 traditional water bodies (Tanks, Ponds, Ahar & Pyne and other Water harvesting Structures) and DVTF has a rich experience of implementing and guiding the implementation of watershed projects in India. At present DVTF is working in 7 States with the support of Government, National and International Corporate Philanthropies and other funding agencies.

Background of the seminar:

Due to rapid urbanisation the traditional urban water bodies in Madurai city lost its purposes. The main focus on revitalising urban water commons is to establish the re-defined future purpose, so as to

bridge the gap between present local community and water bodies.

The vision of water body rejuvenation is co-developed by the local communities to meet their redefined future functionalities. So, the holistic water body rejuvenation model has to address intricate challenges; it is co-created with consultation of experts and multiple stakeholders. To achieve sustainable rejuvenation process various models were adopted based on the principles such as self-revenue generation, seasonal regeneration, operational simplicity, cultural integration and community governance.

Purpose of the seminar

The key purposes of this webinar are:

- ◆ Sharing the best practices and mechanisms adopted by various urban Vayalagam members in the rejuvenation of urban water commons.
- ◆ Knowledge dissemination on multiple successful models adopted across India in revitalising urban water commons.
- ◆ Pathways to build holistic approach and models in community led urban water commons rejuvenation.

Participants

- ◆ Participants are members of various urban Vayalagam involved in revitalising urban water commons.
- ◆ Lake practitioner from various institutions

Mode, Date of the Workshop:

The event is scheduled on 26th October 2021. The event will be organised on a digital mode considering the epidemiological situation. Very few participants will be invited to DHAN Central Office to share their experience.

Programme Schedule (Tentative)

26th Oct 2021 Tuesday, 9:30 am to 1 pm

- ◆ Welcome address
- ◆ Context setting to participants
- ◆ Experience sharing by Urban Vayalagam Members
- ◆ Presentations on Various model adopted in revitalising urban water commons by guest speakers
- ◆ Open Discussions
- ◆ Way forward

Registration and contact

Kindly confirm your participation by sending your brief profile, papers for presentation and power point presentation (optional) to the email: dhancure@ghan.org and dhantank@ghan.org. You can also contact:

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