

# Advancing Development: Community Swaraj



**Madurai Symposium 2021**

**Fostering Development Knowledge**

**October 25-29, 2021**

**Google Meet Link: <https://meet.google.com/zyv-obvn-xto>**

## Background

Small millets in the Indian context include finger millet, kodo millet, little millet, foxtail millet, proso millet, barnyard millet and browntop millet. They have been cultivated in India for around 3000 years, making them an integral part of the culture and history of India. Small millets offer better nutrition with more micronutrients (like vitamin B complex, calcium, iron and sulphur), more protein, more dietary fibre and low glycemic index when compared to mainstream cereals like rice and wheat. They are known as both preventive and curative foods. They help to manage lifestyle diseases like obesity, diabetes, hypertension, cardiovascular diseases and anaemia. They are also a safe source of food, as no or meagre farm chemicals are used for their cultivation. However, consumption of small millets has come down drastically in the last three decades. Drudgery of women in primary processing of small millets is a major reason for decline in consumption of nutritious small millets in the production regions across India. Women in the small millet farming household in general spend about three hours to process 5-8kg of grains of small millet crops with husk. This process involves considerable drudgery and physical efforts. Appropriate mechanisation is the way to address this problem. Understanding the scope of small millets to address triple burden of malnutrition and non-communicable diseases, many agencies are taking efforts to develop appropriate processing equipment for small millets in the recent past.

Madurai Symposium 2021 would bring several development stakeholders together to take stock of the Community Swaraj in the national agenda of Inclusive growth and development. The contributions of the communities individually and collectively have been monumental in charting the course of development in the country. The sharing between the agencies involved in developing and the users and promoters of these technologies has been limited. As development of small millet primary processing technologies is in nascent stage, it is important to understand these recent developments to build various efforts to reduce drudgery of women and to mainstream small millets in the regular diets.

## About the workshop:

In this backdrop, Small Millet Foundation, a division of DHAN Foundation, on 26 October 2021 at Madurai, organizes a one-day workshop on **'Addressing Drudgery in Small Millet Sector'**. The broad objective of this workshop is to bring together recent promising advances in primary processing of small millets carried out by different actors, recognize their contributions, experience sharing and facilitate an interaction among them.

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## Day 2 (26.10.2021) Schedule:

### Addressing Drudgery in Small Millet Sector

10. 00 AM	Introduction - <b>Mr. M. Karthikeyan/Mr.P.Premanand</b>
10. 20 AM	DHAN work in addressing drudgery in small millet sector- <b>Mr. P. Saravanan</b>
10. 50 AM	Selco's work with community in small millet promotion – <b>Selco &amp; Team members</b>
11. 15 AM	Tea Break
11. 30 AM	Practical experience in millet / organic farming- <b>Mr. Ramesh</b>
12. 00 PM	Experience sharing on running a small millet FPO - <b>Mrs. Senthil Arasi</b>
12. 30 PM	About practical difficulties and challenges in small millet processing - <b>Mr. Janakan &amp; Mr. Laxmi Narayanan</b>
12 .50 PM	General overview of millet field in India- <b>Mr. Tapas Chandra Roy</b>
01. 15 PM	General Questions & Answer session
01. 30 PM	Conclude by <b>Mr. Premanand</b>

## Madurai Symposium so far

- 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 - Localizing Sustainable Development Goals
- 2017 - Building Resilience for Sustaining Development
- 2019 - Women Empowerment for Sustaining Development



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