

# Knowledge Building workshop on Case Studies on Water and Wastewater

September 15, 2011

## Madurai Symposium 2011

### **The Seminar**

Madurai Symposium is a biennial event being organized at Madurai as a knowledge management platform for development practitioners to share their experiences on various development themes and to advance their collaboration with other institutions and public. The fifth Madurai Symposium 2011 scheduled to be organized during September 14 - 18, 2011 at Madurai. The focus of the Madurai Symposium 2011 is on integrating livelihoods development with various development interventions and sharing field experiences to address the global issues related to sustainable development. During the Symposium, it is proposed to conduct a seminar on Case Studies on Water and Wastewater.

## Background

The UNICEF/WHO studies indicate that the water supply and sanitation Millennium Development Goal (MDG) target is going to be missed with most of the unserved populations residing in rural Asia and Africa. It is a hard truth that a number of organisations involved in addressing water and sanitation issues in the South Asia are very limited as compared to any other development sector. The problem lies with the fact that there is no formal training or education, which is designed to create specialized manpower for the water and sanitation sector. About 99 percent of university education in India does not offer courses on social engineering aspects related to water and sanitation that are essential to address the development related needs to promote water and environmental sanitation programmes (apart from the very basics of building water supply schemes and toilet construction).

The Centre for Urban Water Resources (CURE) is a centre of DHAN Vayalagam Tank Foundation (DVTF), the water thematic collective of DHAN Foundation. CURE, with a sectoral focus on water management in urban and semi-urban environments was inaugurated in 2008. Its main objectives are to protect the urban aquatic environment, to enhance the living conditions of residents with regard to health and hygiene, and to improve livelihoods by securing water resources.

## Salient features of wastewater treatment systems

- Cost efficient as no or only simplified system
- Low running costs and energy savings as no electrical devices
- Minimal O&M needs and costs as lower human resources capacity levels
- Reliable, long lasting and tolerant towards inflow fluctuation
- High variety of local water, energy and nutrient reuse options.
- No groundwater pollution.
- Easy and efficient user involvement and participation and high user acceptance.

## Knowledge building workshop on wastewater recycling

DHAN Vayalagam (Tank) Foundation, a water theme of DHAN Collective is giving importance to conservation and development of small-scale water bodies such as tanks and ponds, which impound rainwater runoff from their free catchments area only without any other supplemental source during the southwest and northeast monsoon period. Generally, these water resources are used for irrigation as well as groundwater recharge.

During the year 2010, CURE made good progress in networking with appropriate partners by setting up collaborations with organisations dealing with decentralised sanitation management and respective governmental organisations. CURE was able to strengthen its position in the Indian branch of the international BORDA (Bremen Overseas Research and Development Association) network, managed by the Bangalore-based Consortium for DEWATS Dissemination (CDD) Society, due to various project-bound and informal collaborations with CDD and its partners.

## Objectives of the Seminar

- Create awareness about the need for adequate sanitation management within different stakeholders
- Build the perspectives among the stakeholders and practitioners on community based sanitation development through people institutions.
- Influence the policy at mainstream institutions for integrating the concept of Centralized and decentralized wastewater treatment systems (DEWATS).
- Evolve suitable action plan for integrating the concept through field practices as way forward.
- Provide adequate sanitary concepts as alternatives to open defecation

## Participants

The expected participants will be engineers of municipal corporations, district administrations, district rural development agencies, public health departments, TWAD board as well as heads of departments, NGO representatives, professors, and research staff from academic institutions. Participants with work experience related to wastewater management and sanitation are

especially invited for the workshop. From the host organization, technical staffs who are all involved in implementation of DHAN's sanitation projects and student from Tata Dhan Academy will also participate in the programme.

### Expected outcome

- Disseminate low - cost water and wastewater solutions
- Advocate effective policies and strategies to address the capacity building needs in water and sanitation with a special focus on poor and vulnerable rural and urban communities
- Replicate of water and wastewater models by stakeholders in areas of planning, implementation, operation and maintenance
- Disseminate the lessons and impacts to NGOs, academic and Government staff as to bring this activity as a major livelihood for poor



### Programme Schedule

- 09.30 - Registration
- 10.00 - Welcome and introduction
- 10.15 - Purpose and background of the seminar
- 10.30 - Opening address: Chairperson
- 10.45 - Lead paper presentation and discussion on lead paper findings
- 11.45 - Tea break
- 12.00 - Paper presentations on field experience
- 13.30 - Lunch break
- 14.30 - Sub - group discussion
- 16.00 - Group presentation and synthesis
- 16.30 - Resolutions and concluding remarks

### Venue and Date of the Seminar

The seminar is planned to be organized in Thamukkam Grounds on 15<sup>th</sup> September 2011

### Registration and contact

Kindly confirm your participation and send your papers if any, along with your travel plan through email to:



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### **DHAN Vayalagam (Tank) Foundation, Madurai**

Tankfed Agriculture Development Programme was one of the thematic programmes of DHAN Foundation towards the purpose of reducing rural poverty. For up scaling the tank programme and for enriching the water related development interventions, DHAN Foundation promoted DHAN Vayalagam (Tank) Foundation (DVTF) which became operational with effect from October 2, 2006. The DVTF is striving for the conservation and development of small scale traditional water resources such as tanks, ponds, ooranies, supply channels etc in addition to the development of watersheds through people's participation. At present DVTF is working in 6 States with the support of Government, National and International Corporate Philanthropies and other funding agencies.

