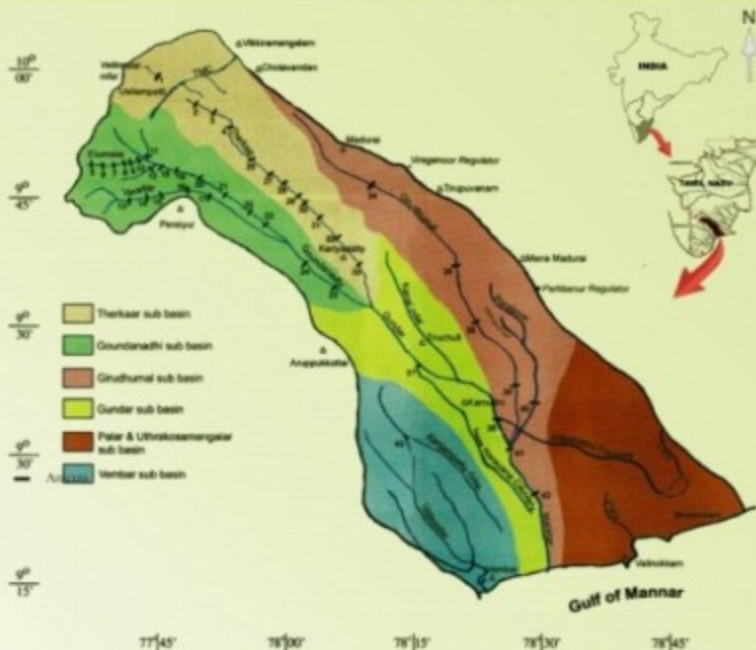


Tank Farmers Convention on Tank based Livelihood

September 14, 2011

MAP SHOWING THE GUNDAR RIVER BASIN
WITH SUB BASINS AND ANICUTS



Madurai Symposium 2011

Background

Thirumangalam Vattara Vayalagam is 5th Federation on Madurai District of DHAN Vayalagam Programme. Thirumangalam Vattara Vayalagam consists of 57 Vayalagam Associations with 2060 members in 2 Cascade Association, 2 Watershed Association, and 55 Vayalaga Kurunithi Kuzhu with 1080 members are functioning at Thirumangalam, Kallikudi and Thiruparankundram Blocks. This People Institutions has done the tank conservation work value of Rs.59.15 lakhs on various project such as NWDPR, OXFAM NOVIB, SGRY, HUL, and philanthropy projects. Tanks are the lifeline and livelihood to vulnerable communities where there are no perennial sources, fresh water sources such as rivers and canal systems are not there. Over the centuries the minor irrigation tanks in different part of South India used for a multiple livelihood such as water, food, fish rearing, bricks making, silt for soil nutrient on life. But centralization of tank administration leads to many systems malfunction namely encroachment, siltation, weak structures, dumping of pollutants inside the tanks, etc. Keeping the relevance of tanks and experienced gained to organized the social capital around the small scale freshwater sources such as tanks, pond, Ooranis since 1992, DHAN Vayalagam Tank Foundation proposed to convene a day long farmers convention to restore the necessity of tanks poverty and potential threats due to climate change impacts namely Flood, drought, famine, etc., The convention on the title " Tank Farmers Convention on Tank based Livelihood : Launch of Thirumangalam Vattara Vayalagam" will be held on Thamukkam Ground, Madurai on September 14th, 2011.

DHAN Vayalagam Tank Foundation extends cordial invitation to all relevant stakeholders such as government officials, civil society, and academician to participates the convention and share their thoughts. In order to highlight the necessity of local management and nested institutions perspective like Vayalagam Model.

About convention

DHAN Vayalagam Tank Foundation would launch the promotion of Thirumangalam Vattara Vayalagam a Block level Community Owned People Institution (5th of its kind in Madurai District). These new institutions power over 2000

farming and landless families covering more than 50 villages of Thirumangalam, Kallikudi and Thiruparankundram Blocks.

Objectives of the conventions

- ❖ To share the experiences learned from different locations by tank farmers in varied context such as Rural, Urban, Coastal, and Tribal
- ❖ To deliberate on challenges for people-led tank conservation work in the state
- ❖ To discuss the role of mainstream institutions and their collaboration in protecting tanks as the living ecosystems for future generations.

Participants

- ❖ Members of Vayalagams
- ❖ Stakeholders from Government Institutions, Academicians, Non Government Organizations, and Media, etc.,

Indicative Schedule

- 11.30am - Prayer
- 11.45am - Convention overview
- 12.00noon - Felicitation by Chief Guest
- 12.30pm - Launch of Thirumangalam Vattara Vayalagam
- 01.00pm - Experience sharing and special addresses
- 01.30 pm - Lunch
- 02.30 pm - Sub Group discussions
- 04.30 pm - Convention Declarations

Date : September 14, 2011

Place: Thamukkam Ground, Madurai

For Registration and Contact :



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