



# Madurai Symposium 2017

Building Resilience for Sustaining Development

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Bulletin

Day 5: 24 September 2017

## Application of GIS in Water Resources Development and Resilience Building in Gundar Basin



The workshop on application of GIS in water resources development and resilience building in Gundar Basin organised by DHAN Vayalagam (Tank) Foundation has resulted in enhanced understanding and capacity of professionals from different programs of DHAN Foundation on application of GIS in their projects. DHAN Vayalagam programme has attempted mapping out the tank Cascade and creating a GIS database taking into consideration all the elements of a tank. Creation of GIS database aids DHAN's intervention in evicting encroachments, sewage fed, weed invasion, inactive tanks and developing zone maps for floods and drought in the work area and thereby analyzing the maps on varied criteria to attain objectivity. For the proposed Green river project it was planned to characterize a broader up-gradation of the intervention, carry out creation of a base map, carrying out photo-geological study, rating the health index and updating the work done on the GIS representation in the study area. Quantifying the water conserved in the Gundar basin was also emphasized.

In Rain Fed Farming Development Programme developing agricultural base maps, plotting the spatial and temporal trend of the change in climate, crop type and other attributes were of high priority. Educating the farmers on the use of GIS will help draw futuristic ideas from the community.

Demarcating the registered farmers of the FPO, ranking their performances and creating market linkages were considered in the creation of GIS database in Jeevidam programme.

In Kalanjiam, geo-tagging of the groups, demarcation of the federation boundaries, incorporating the Kalanjiam score card data from which a range of analysis could be obtained for groups, clusters & federations, determining its sustainability and the factors controlling the same were insisted upon. Incorporation of livelihood in GIS would be of use in the form of a website and a mobile app consisting mapping the skilled labors location and their work extent (province) was also given greater importance.

On development tourism, developing a database of the tourism spots, heritage site, artisanal skills, and roadmaps for the same & incorporating this database into huger platforms in site like Google map was of particular importance and ideas of floral species zoning, plotting the sacred grove were proposed.

Looking broadly, making a team exclusively for GIS, decentralizing the work, collaborating with various departments and organizations and making use of open source applications and data ought to be given higher priority.

## Convention on Comprehensive development for building resilience of adolescent girls

Adolescence is a critical phase of human development, wherein the transformation of an individual takes shape in their physical, psychological and cultural expressions. In general adolescence signifies the physical growth and hormonal development, sexual characteristics, social expressions, personal identity (who am I?), peer bonding and sudden and intense emotions.

India has the largest population of adolescents in the world; it constitutes 21 per cent of the world's 1.2 billion adolescents. The sex ratio of adolescent girls is 898 as on 2011 census. The learning during this stage defines in shaping the psycho-social abilities that enables the individuals to translate knowledge, attitude and values.

DHAN through SUHAM Trust works with two lakhs adolescent girls in six states on five major areas especially Reproductive and Child Health includes anaemia, nutrition, hygiene and sanitation, skill building and adolescent savings. The advancement goals of the adolescents are in achieving comprehensive development. Encompassing these objectives, the convention focused on ensuring the health of the adolescent, which will decide the future of the country,

as they are the economic drivers. Other than building knowledge and awareness on nutritional aspects and balanced diet, transforming their behavioural practices and attitudes in food habits is essential.

The need to create awareness on adolescents is wide spread and the tribal pockets are the important regions where the need and scope for intervention is higher. DHAN's intervention in the tribal sections in the northern states has improved the health awareness among the tribal adolescent girls.

Dr. Mamphela Ramphele, Former Managing Director, World Bank felt that India and South Africa has identical development issues and ideological similarities. She called for further collaborative actions and joint efforts with DHAN to combat the development issues that challenge poverty alleviation.

Ms Selva Gomathi, an advocate called for the girls to overcome the huddles and barriers in the society with conviction. The girls need psychological guidance and support to get rid of fear. She called DHAN to take such initiative. Ms Balasundari, a legal expert, called for ensuring education to girls and facilitating them in career development. The participants univocally expressed that leadership development for adolescent girls is very important and NGOs shall link these girls with government social welfare schemes meant for them.

The core areas that need persistent attention are health, nutrition, hygiene and emotional development in adolescent girls. Nurturing of adolescent girls will help attain physical well being of the girls in their later age and the health of the child when she attains motherhood. Efforts to make the adolescents aware of the programmes and schemes of government meant for them will ensure access and benefit from it.

### **Institutionalization of Disaster Risk Reduction through Panchayat governance: Status, Challenges and Way Forward**

Disasters like floods, cyclones, droughts and earthquakes are increasing globally, and in India we have been witnessing this in the recent years. Natural Disasters cannot be prevented, but their impact on the lives and livelihoods of the people could be reduced significantly, if we are prepared. While the Government has the role to help its people in distress, the people and their institutions themselves have greater responsibility to withstand together to face such eventualities. In this process, people and their institutions and panchayat governance can work together to strengthen the resilience capacity.

This year marks the 25th year of Constitutional Amendment on Decentralization. The manifestations are local and need to include significant local context for effective response and



preparedness. Local governance was designed to enhance inclusivity and participation of community. There are many instances where the communities had responded collectively for mitigation, response, rehabilitation and resilient practices across India. Panchayats being the lowest level governance have the advantage of being closer to its people where it can be in continuous consultation with the community about their needs. It is believed Panchayats can plan better taking into consideration the needs of vulnerable groups like aged, women, SCs, STs and persons with disability. Panchayats play most important role in ensuring appropriate risk reduction activities like flood protection, drought proofing, constructing safe houses, planning do mitigation and preparedness. Responsibility has to be shared during planning and executing DRR efforts at local levels can give Panchayats a greater sense of ownership in the processes. Community also gets benefits by the involvement of local governance as the local government institutions are mostly less politicized than those of the state or central governments.

The role of Village Panchayat in disaster management and developing coping mechanism in preparedness and mitigation is essential. The participants have brought out ways and mechanisms with respect to institutionalization of DRR at panchayat level. Mechanisms such as, capacity building for panchayat leaders, community and need assessment through the involvement of community participation have come up as suggestions. Mr. Balaji Singh, Care Today Foundation, New Delhi and Ms. Suganthi, Revenue Divisional Officer, Usalampatti attended the workshop and shared their perspectives on building resilience at the grassroots level.

#### **What needs to be done?**

- Panchayat policy for DRR has to be formulated with rules and guidelines.
- Policy for restoration of livelihoods has to be prepared at village /panchayat/ block / district level
- Indigenous practices and resources for rescue operations have to be documented and disseminated; a comprehensive plan for integration



of indigenous practices of rescue operations has to be prepared.

- Working committees for DRR at village/ panchayat level have to be promoted for integration and implementation of DRR plan.
- Fifty Panchayats would be taken as model Panchayats, wherein the DRR strategies would be piloted.

### Impact of climate change of tank cascades in Champavathi River Basin

The Champavathi river basin consists of 3,673 irrigation tanks, in which about 78 tanks are located in Gurla Mandal in Vizianagaram district. These tanks have been taken for renovation by DHAN Foundation with assistance of GIZ, New Delhi and in collaboration with Ministry of Rural Development at the ground level.

Farmers expressed that issues such as variation in rainfall pattern, intensity of rainfall and number of rainy days have undergone drastic changes due to the impact of climate change that effected in lack of water for livestock, poor drinking water supply and fluctuation in water distribution. The age old tanks were poorly maintained for many years, disconnected links between tanks and rivers and lack of community ownership aggravated the impact of climate change.

One of the farmers involved in tankfed farming expressed that through 'My Name Tree', every farmer will plant and protect one plant per year and adopt energy efficient interventions, they would build their village a climate resilient model village.

The unique characteristics of GIZ – MoRD – DHAN Foundation initiative is taking up of tank revival works through labour of Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme and materials from Prime Minister's Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY). Integrating GIS and PRA helped the team to identify the exact streams corresponding to each tank in an effective manner. A study was also carried out about climate change vulnerability and its resilient practice for the tank farmers.



### Way Forward

Rehabilitating every component of tank, renovating every tank cascade falling in the basin, integrating with line department for basin level watershed development approach, data creation/ extraction based on GIS, enabling farmers to plan their own rehabilitation process and carryout self-financed treatment of catchment area, demarcating and removing encroachments are the resilient activities against climate change. Farmers of this river basin unanimously declared that these activities would be carried out within 5 years.

### Resilience Building through Water Conservation: Role of People Institutions and Community Ownership

In Savereyar pattinam village near Ramanathapuram, there are 250 households but they have more than 360 farm ponds. The village is self-reliant in water resources to meet their domestic and agricultural needs. In another village Peikulam, the tank based farmers association is actively functioning for more than 100 years. In ancient Tamil Literature about 80 different forms of surface water storage structures have been recorded. All these structures were evolved based on the purpose and nature of the context "EANDHAL" are tanks which mainly used for drought mitigation and "THANGAL" used for flood risk reduction. In the same way, "OORANIS" are meant for drinking water and "KULAM" are meant for bathing and domestic usage.

There are festivals celebrating water across various parts of the State throughout the year, Chithirai festival, Aadi Perukku, Kumbamela, Kaveri Pushkaram are few of such festivals which connects community with water. Still in many villages community initiated Kudi Maramathu and collective fishing in water bodies is continuing. So, such climate resilient rich water harvesting structures and processes are found to be our traditional wisdom. More than 60% of village names in Tamil Nadu are originated from water structures. These evidences show community ownership and emotional link between water conservation in their day to day lives.

On the contrary, in the past few decades centralization of water bodies by government has diluted the community involvement in managing water resources. The irony is Government immensely failed in harvesting rain water and allowed significant quantity of water to drain in to sea. And then allocates hundreds of Crores of rupees for Sea water purification. We are attempting complex solution for simple problems. Community ownership could play a critical role in ensuring water harvesting structures.

This workshop aimed to enable better water governance by building community ownership. Leaders and people

functionaries from various districts of Tamilnadu have participated in the event and deliberated on best practices taken up by community and distress factors that affect the water bodies.

Farm ponds are one of the proven climate resilient measure that can be adopted which will increase the per farm income. It can also contribute for ground water recharge, sustaining livestock and also vegetables can be planted on its perimeter. Tanks and other local water harvesting structures like tanks, ooranis established at villages helps to cater the needs of both domestic and agriculture level. It also helps to maintain the biodiversity of the area. This in turn helps to make the local places climate resilient. This will also create a permanent income source for the farming families which will stop the migration problem.

Farmers should voluntarily remove *Prosopis juliflora* from their lands. Dumping of garbage and sewage into the common water bodies has to be stopped. Encroachments in water resources have to be removed. Tree plantation along the tank embankments and Ooranis' bunds should be taken up. Feeder channels and storm water drains shall be maintained properly. Water conserving technologies like Drip irrigation, SRI, farm ponds, inter cropping and multi cropping techniques has to be encouraged and implemented by farmers more. Organic fertilizers shall be used. Government should implement the "Kudimarath" for reviving the age old practice. Training camps and field visits have to be organized showcasing the best traditional practices which are climate resilient. Incentives should be given for organic farming.

### Sustainable Farming Techniques and Farmers Innovations

SEVA, a Madurai based Environmental NGO organised a workshop on Sustainable Farming Techniques and Farmers innovations as part of Madurai Symposium. Forty farmers involved in organic farming from different districts of Tamil Nadu have come together to discuss on sustainable farming techniques and promote knowledge on organic farming. Organic farming expert from Coimbatore, Erode, Madurai, Virudhunagar and Dindigul were the resource persons. Mr. Vivekanandan, Executive Director of SEVA called the participants to explore the organic farming practices and popularize the benefits of the organic farming.

Mr. Tamilmani who has been practicing Zero Budget Farming methods (Subash Balekar Method) narrated his experience on preparations of Jeevamirtham, Ganajeevamirtham, Panchakaviya, fish solution and egg



solution. He also explained the traditional approach of Bio Dynamic Calendar and told sowing and harvesting time for different crops according to the planet position. For example, root crops should be sown on descending period of the moon. Those crops which matured above the ground should be sown on ascending period of the moon. On the days of node, no agricultural operation is to be performed. Moon opposite to Saturn is auspicious day for taking any agricultural operation including sowing.

Mr. Alagarsaamy, organic Moringa farmer, Pallapatti explained about the new Moringa variety developed by him and so for 98 lakhs air layers of Moringa were distributed to many farmers in different states. He narrated how resource poor farmers have become rich by cultivating this new Moringa. He explained organic method of cultivation and practices from planting to harvesting of Moringa. It includes preparation of Panchakaviya, Kunapajala (Swarna balan Ayurvedic method). He is very successful in developing vegetative propagation of Moringa using air layering. He is also practicing double layering in a single branch. While applying Kunapajala and Panchakaviya hastened the root formation in a shorter period by using his innovative approach. He is appreciated for his innovative efforts and for receiving many national awards including the prestigious city bank award in 2008.

Mr. Chellamuthu, Agricultural labour, Karukkanpalayam village from Erode district explained his experience of preparing herbal pesticide and panchakaviya. Now he and his family members are fully engaged in the preparation of these organic products on a full time basis and they are self-employed and are happy to be green entrepreneurs. He has received Tamil Nadu Government Environment award for disseminating green technology among the farming community. Mr. Chellamuthu also explained the preparation of herbal pesticide using Aloe Vera, Notchi (*Vitex negunda*), Neem, Calotrophis and Aadathoda. He is a pioneer to standardize the use of Panchakaviya in agriculture. He has received National Innovation Foundation award by developing eco-friendly herbal pesticides.





P.R. Subramanian, organic farmer, from Annur, Coimbatore district explained about traditional varieties of Pulses and vegetables which are distributed to audience. At the end of the event, participants resolved to use organic way of production.

### Round Table on Professional Action in Building Resilience at Grassroots

This event served as a platform to development professionals working in development sector in various themes such as improving livelihoods of the rural and urban communities, promoting organic agro-based production, making people bankable and developing people's skills.

Mrs. R. Sasikala, Team leader of Centre for Research and Faculty of Tata-Dhan Academy, gave a brief outline about the foot print of alma-matter of academy and trend of variation in the strength of the students, male and female percentage in each batch, current organization in which they are working and the lime.

Mr.Mageshwaran represented the first batch of PDM (Programming in Development Management), spoke about the Innovative ways for enabling the community. Intervention will always fail to reach the community with regards to the commitments and plans, if it is not market forces driven.

Mr. Narendran, an Alumni of Tata-Dhan Academy, from the 5<sup>th</sup> batch of PDM, shared two models, the first one was motivating the sex workers to become Resilient and enable them to prevent themselves from getting affected by HIV, and making them self-reliant & independent. As these workers are earning low, they are highly dependent on the funds and donations offered. But he considers this funds and donations offered are the main reason behind the lack of resilience among these workers. The second model characterized the training and enabling of the community to mobilize funds from the donors on their own. He witnessed fruitful results within 6 months from the time the project got implemented, whereby 50 out of the 70 women could mobilize about a crore of money. He elaborated the

importance of Resilience over Grants in bringing about sustainability, self-reliance and independence among people.

Mr. Aravindan, an Alumni of Tata-Dhan Academy, Student of the 7<sup>th</sup> batch of PDM, spoke about his own experience in rehabilitation and restoration in disaster prone areas of Ramnad, a coastal region in Tamil Nadu. He described how he trained the people to develop resilience to natural calamities.

Mr. Prashant Mane, Student of the 14<sup>th</sup> batch of PDM, talked about the necessity of collective work in achieving development goals. He shared how he took help from the NSS volunteers in his location to start a Computer training Centre, where the people had no access to computer training centers. Thereby, teaching and training the children in that region about computer peripherals and computer fundamentals.

Mr. Prabhakaran, an Alumni of Tata Dhan Academy, Student of the 13<sup>th</sup> batch of PDM, presented his experience in becoming a resilient professional. Being a native of Tamil Nadu, having just started his career in development sector, he shared how he got acquainted with the local language and got accustomed to the environment in Odisha. He insisted on Collective action being promoted towards coping up with the effects of flooding in Balasore in Odisha. He described how he trained about 3000 volunteer students in DRR. He stated that Resilience is the outcome of initiatives, whereby they undertook several immediate resilient measures with the help of small groups of volunteers during the flooding at Balasore.

The round-table elicited the Knowledge of resilience-building among the weaker-section required the contextual understanding, building the capacity of the members to become resilient through adaptive and well-designed development interventions . These interventions have to be executed with high level of motivation and commitment in order to get succeeded.



## Global Closing Ceremony



“The Reserve Bank of India has been into financial inclusion since 1969, since we developed guidelines for priority sector lending. It was historic period for Indian banking system, when many of the banks were nationalised to meet social and development roles. Since nationalisation, the credit was totally skewed towards large industries, large advances, that is why we brought our priority sector guidelines in 1969. With the guidelines, the banking system has undergone sea changes like service area approach, and at the moment we have lead bank scheme.

2006-07 was a watershed moment for the Reserve Bank of India, which had a review of performance of Priority Sector Lending under the chairmanship of Shri. Rangarajan, to see how much credit was available to the people under priority sector. I was fortunate to be part of it and wrote three chapters. That committee has resulted in a lot of actions for the Central Bank. We had a recommendation for financial inclusion plan. The core issue was that we just have 30000 bank branches for over six lakhs villages in the country with just 40 percent of the population connected with the banking system. There no ways and means to connect the remaining 60 percent with the formal banking system”, said Ms. Surekha Marandi, Executive Director, Reserve Bank of India.

Speaking at the Global Closing Ceremony of the eighth edition of Madurai Symposium 2017 organised by DHAN Foundation from 20-24, September 2017 in Madurai, she said “Fortunately in 2007, technology came to our rescue to take banking to the door steps of the households in the remote areas. RBI piloted banking with bio-metric access in two districts in Andhra Pradesh, where the pension of the State Government was delivered to all the villages through the bio-metric system in both the districts. It saved Rs. 400 crores for the State Government through distribution of pension and it

took 10 years to take off. It was a great success. In 2016, 96 percent of the people from the supply side that has been addressed, there are over 50 million people have been connected through Banking Correspondents. The supply side has been fulfilled. Opening of accounts was only possible due to bio-metric authentication system of *Aadhaar* by UIDAI, which is a primary KYC for everything today. Now, 96 percent of the people have bank accounts. The challenge now is how to make them use their bank accounts. This is where DHAN Foundation, and all the social sector agencies, NGOs comes to rescue”.

“Now, RBI has taken up another pilot with NABARD, which handle financial inclusion fund, for piloting in 80 blocks, for financial literacy at the block level in nine states with various target groups. Bankers are now increasing partnering with NGOs to take forward the financial literacy. The best models will be scaled up in 2000 districts. RBI’s deputy governor is the chair of the technical group financial inclusion and literacy advisory committees. We are planning to take up national strategy for financial inclusion and literacy”.

“We are going to the block level to broad base the financial literacy along with the banks. The role of NGOs is very crucial, since they are closer to the community. We have been asking the Government to direct transfer of agricultural subsidies into farmers’ bank accounts. We have to ensure that all their accounts are *Aadhaar* seeded and their land holding records are given to the banks and uploaded in the agricultural ministries website so as to release insurance claims. At the G-20 Nations level, we are smarter in behaviour parameter, but we are low with respect to awareness and attitude. NGOs will help us build awareness and attitude. Water harvesting is part of priority sector lending. In 2017 December we are planning for revision of lead bank system. Out of Rs. 10 lakhs crores worth of farm



credit all over India, Rs. One lakh crore credit has been extended to Tamil Nadu, most of which goes to cereal production and allied agriculture. But, for storage, farm machinery, irrigation, markets water harvesting the financing ranges not more than 2 percent at the maximum. NABARD will have to help us in this regard. I hope the events like Madurai Symposium would help taking the bank to next level”, she added.

Dr. Mamphela Ramphele, Women Strong International Board Member and former World Bank Director, South Africa, in her presidential address said “This is one of the historic and unique events. This symposium is so broad and deep in all its deliberations. The root and pillar of the success is inclusion of the community. We have to take DHAN’s ideas and models and implement in South Africa for its sustainable development. Outcomes from this Symposium will help various development institutions and policy makers to take decisions which can actually help to improve the community”.

Dr. G S Vijaya Raghavan, Professor, James McGill University, Department of Bio-energy, McGill University, Canada in his felicitation said “In ancient times there were ‘Structured wells’ for water now they are converted to “well structured” buildings. Small millets are one of the crops that use less water requiring crop. 12th five year plan of India has included small millets. It is just a beginning. Millet is our future and leads to sustainable food secured future”.

Mr. H. R. Dave, Deputy Managing Director, NABARD, Mumbai said “NABARD and DHAN have started their works almost at the same time to work on SHG movement. DHAN helps us to take our policies to grass root level. What DHAN does in various states like Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh offer lessons for the banks like ours to take this and adapt to various states. This is one the unique events where various stakeholders and importantly the community are the main participants. These bulletins and declaration brought out at the end of each day have to be looked at each and every point by the policy makers. NABARD will definitely look into these policy suggestions and try to adopt these policies all over India”.

“NABARD took up pre monsoon campaign in one lakh villages and over 30000 bank branches participated in it.

‘More crops per drop’ is the slogan NABARD is working on and will work more towards conserving water. Water is one the central part of climate resilience building and NABARD is going to launch Water Campaigns in the next four years. NABARD will also to participate and coordinate with DHAN’s millet programme. 80 percent of farmers are small and marginal farmers, for them FPOs are the best solutions, which needs to become a farmers’ movement and people have to own this idea which will help ‘double the farmers income’. DHAN needs to showcase this model to the farmers all over India as an example. Tamil Nadu has been drawing a lot of funds from NABARD under different funds with water theme”, he added.

Deliberations in 54 events including conferences, conventions, seminars and workshops organised as part of the Madurai Symposium revolved around the core issues of resilience building at the grassroots, showcasing community experiences, best practices and collective solutions from practice. Each day of this 5-day event had over 1500 participants including farmers, women, and fishers, representatives from academia, government and NGOs. Madurai Symposium is one of its kinds which involves all the relevant stakeholders and intends to build knowledge from practice. There were discussions focusing on community-led solutions like coping, adapting and transformative actions to build resilience at the households and community level. Resolutions and declarations came up from all the events, adopted at the closing ceremony, have called for:

- 1 The Commercial Banks shall work with SHGs and their Federations to include all the eligible families and people under GoI sponsored social security schemes such as Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Jyoti Bima Yojana (PMJJBY), Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana (PMSBY), Atal Pension Yojana (APY) to build household resilience at times of uncertain events.
- 2 Innovative microfinance products with inbuilt resilient building measures shall be piloted and scaled up in partnership with the partnership of mainstream institutions such as banks, NABARD, and CSR shall earmark funds to build resilient rural, urban and tribal livelihoods.



- 3 Holistic treatment of river basins through revival of all the water resources including tanks, ponds, ooranis, water ways and other minor irrigation structures to mitigate the drought and moderate the floods as a resilience building measure.
- 4 Resilience building among the coastal eco-system by way of afforestation of mangroves along the coast, banning trawling-nets causing decline in fish production, preventing seawater intrusion, promoting indigenous knowledge and adaptive farming practices such as native crop varieties resistant to salinity and flooding, empowering Panchayat Raj Institutions to work on Disaster Risk Reduction with funds allocation.
- 5 Promoting bio-diverse forests and forest based livelihoods through community action, collaborative initiatives, and supportive legal provisions for the indigenous communities to conserve the forest resources and secure their livelihoods.
- 6 Encouraging resilience building practices such as tank silt application, organic manuring, mixed and inter cropping, conservation and dissemination of native species and seeds of crop varieties, livestock, soil micro organisms, simple and farmer's friendly technologies.
- 7 Promoting small millets conservation, cultivation, consumption, commercialization through enabling policies, incentives for production and marketing, education and awareness building among the consumers, postharvest processing and value addition, credit and incubation financial assistance.
- 8 Bring changes in the legislation like APMC Act enabling Farmers Producer Organisations (FPOs) to participate legitimately in the policy action, exempt the FPOs from the income tax and simplify Registrar of Companies Compliances and licensing procedures, assist them with revolving fund assistance as provided by the Government of Karnataka
- 9 Climate resilient healthcare insurance for mitigating risks and bring changes in Atal Pension Yojana favouring people from unorganised sector such as increasing the age limit from 40 to 50 years, providing inflation indexed pension, engaging federations as aggregators in the administration of this scheme, and allowing annual remittances to the pension accounts.



- 10 Building health resilience through intensive focus on 1000 days care for pregnant mother and first two years of child, comprehensive physical and mental health wellbeing of adolescent girls and boys, awareness and access to generic medicines to reduce the cost of healthcare, construction and use of toilets in every household, safe drinking water and sanitation and de-addiction.

On the sideline of the Symposium, 11<sup>th</sup> edition of Development Film Festival focusing on "Small millets" and an exhibition cum sale of products made by members of Farmer Producer Organizaions (FPOs), women self help groups, NGOs were organised in the evenings of all the 5-days. In addition, for entertaining common public cultural programmes by local folk artists were organised.

Mr. M.Kalyanasundaram, Chief Executive, INAFI India welcomed the gathering, Mr. A. Gurunathan, Coordinated the entire event and proposed a vote of thanks. Mr. M.P. Vasimalai, Executive Director, DHAN Foundation felicitated the event and senior Programme Leaders of DHAN Foundation readout the declarations at the event.

We profusely acknowledge with  
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