

# Consultation workshops and Convention on Advancing Development through Information & Communication Technologies

24-29, September 2007



**DHAN Foundation**  
Madurai



## Madurai Symposium 2007

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DHAN Foundation is hosting a National Symposium "Madurai Symposium 2007" on Development Interventions from 24<sup>th</sup> to 29<sup>th</sup> September 2007. The Symposium is envisioned to be a development arena, where all stakeholders of Development-Community Institutions, Civil Societies, Government, NGOs, Financial Institutions and Academia converge at Madurai, Tamil Nadu, INDIA for the convention, conferences and carnival. Initiated as part of fiftieth year celebration of Ford Foundation, DHAN Foundation hosted two successful bi-annual symposiums in the year 2003 and 2005.

From this year, Madurai Symposium will be a common platform for the development stakeholders to come together to share and learn from each other's experiences and practices. A host of development themes are being implemented for addressing poverty and development across the country. These interventions are promoted, nurtured and built around specific themes which includes Water, Microfinance, Information & Communication Technologies (ICT), Panchayat, etc and have emerged as flagships of development interventions. A series of conventions, conferences, seminars and rallies would mark the symposium. More details can be obtained at [www.maduraisymposium.in](http://www.maduraisymposium.in)

## Consultation Workshops on Advancing Development through Information and Communication Technologies (ICT)

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The Thagavalagam (Advancing Development through ICT) Theme of DHAN Foundation is hosting a series of Consultative Workshops and Convention on Advancing Development through Information & Communication Technologies in the Madurai Symposium 2007 event. The workshop aims at bringing together Scientists, Researchers, Policy Makers, Administrators, NGOs, Community (Farmers, Fishermen, Women, Youth, Students, etc.,) Field associates and all other Stake holders on a common platform to share and discuss the technological advancements, experiences and other issues related to ICT as a tool for Poverty Reduction and Advancing Development. The different themes and participants for the Consultation Workshops and Convention are given in the table.

## Date and Venue

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The Consultation Workshops & Convention is scheduled between September 24-29, 2007 at Thammukam Grounds, Madurai, Tamil Nadu. This is located at about four kms from Madurai Periyar Bus stand / Railway Junction and 3 km from Mattudhavani bus stand & 4 km from Arapalayam bus stand.

## Call for Papers

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Abstracts are invited from participants, mentioning the theme in the respective language (English or Tamil). The authors are free to use any font, any size, use of photographs and images, etc

The **abstract** should reach the Organizing Secretary by **September 15, 2007** and the **full paper** by **September 20, 2007**. Authors are requested to send both the hard and soft copies of their abstract and paper before the due dates.

(e-mail [dhanictsymposium@gmail.com](mailto:dhanictsymposium@gmail.com))

## Registration

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The Registration fee for Consultation Workshop is Rs.100/- per participant per day. For invited speakers and special guests there is no registration fee. Interested participants are requested to send the filled registration form through email / post.

**Last Date for Registration:  
September 15, 2007**

## Tutorial on Advancing Development through Information & Communication Technology

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A one day Tutorial on Advancing Development through Information & Communication Technologies is organized on 29.09.2007 for the benefit of the rural ICT project implementing agencies and researchers. This tutorial would focus on basic concepts of rural ICT, field experiences and learnings, case studies, Participatory Information Need Assessment (PINA), Developing Rural ICT services, Community Organizing and Community managed Village Information Centres, Management Information System, etc. Interested participants may join the tutorial by paying a nominal fee of Rs.1,000/-. The participants are requested to send the filled tutorial registration form through email / post.

Sl. No.	Date	Themes	Participants	Language	No. of Participants
1	24.09.2007 MONDAY	Information Need Assessment for designing e- Services for Water Sector	Village communities includes, women, farmers, agriculture labourers, fishermen, youth, students, etc	Tamil	40-50
2	25.09.2007 TUESDAY	Strengthening e-Services in Agriculture and allied activities	Operators of Village Information Centres from different ICT projects of Tamil Nadu (Govt, private, NGO, entrepreneurs, etc)	Tamil	250
3	26.09.2007 WEDNESDAY	Strengthening Early Warning System for Disaster Preparedness & Management through Village Information Centre and Community Radio	User communities, Operators of Village Information Centres, Government Officials, Scientist, NGO Officials, Researchers, Field Implementers, etc	English & Tamil	40-50
4	27.09.2007 THURSDAY	Designing e-Health services	User communities, Operators of Village Information Centres, Government Officials, Scientist, Doctors, NGO Officials, Researchers, Field Implementers, etc	English & Tamil	40-50
5	27.09.2007 THURSDAY	Software for Development Projects & NGO sector	Software professionals, developers, NGO officials, Researchers, Field level Implementers, Users, etc	English	40-50
6	28.09.2007 FRIDAY	Community based Content Development for Enabling Livelihoods	User communities, Operators of Village Information Centres, Content developers, Content providers - teachers, doctors, lawyers, scientist, etc	English & Tamil	40-50
7	29.09.2007 FRIDAY	ICT Theme Advisory Committee Meeting	Advisory Committee Members of the ICT theme of DHAN Foundation	English	20-25
8	29.09.2007 SATURDAY	Tutorial on Advancing Development through Information & Communication Technology	Government Officials, Scientist, Doctors, NGO Officials, Researchers, Field Implementers, etc	English	20-25
9	24.09.2007 to 28.09.2007 (Mon to Fri)	Development Tour on ICT Initiatives	User communities, Operators of Village Information Centres, Government Officials, Scientist, Doctors, NGO Officials, Researchers, Field Implementers, etc	English & Tamil	10-15

## Fee Payment

The registration fee for tutorial, tour and exhibition can be paid as cheque/demand draft or as cash during the event. The cheque/demand draft should be in favour of DHAN Foundation and payable at Madurai.

## ICT Exhibition

Exhibition on various development themes - Microfinance, Water Conservation, Information & Communication Technologies, Rainfed Agriculture, etc will be an important feature of the symposium. Development film festival, Posters, display of crafts/ wares from various locations and groups, pavilions of women's federations, etc., would be part of exhibitions and business fairs of SHGs would also be held.

Interested NGOs/ Agencies / Institutions related to Information & Communication Technology can make use of this opportunity for exhibiting their technology/products/models, etc.

Exhibition stall size : 8 x 8 feet

Exhibition stall fee : Rs.5,000/- for 6 days  
(24.09.2007 to 29.09.2007)

Interested agencies are requested to send the filled exhibition registration form through email / post.

## Development Tour on ICT Initiatives

The Development tour on ICT initiatives to nearby Village Information Centers and Resource Centers will be organized every day (24.09.2007 to 28.09.2007) during the evening at 3.00 PM. The interested participants may join the tour by paying a nominal fee of Rs. 500/- per day. The participants are requested to send the filled Development tour registration form through email / post.

## Accommodation & Travel arrangements

Accommodation arrangements on request for delegates shall be made at nearby guest house, hotels, hostels, etc on first come and first served basis. DHAN Foundation would offer free lodging and boarding to all the delegates participating in the workshop. The participants are requested to inform their travel details well in advance through the e-mail for accommodation arrangements.

### Correspondence

**Mr. P. Premanand**

Team Leader - ICT

**DHAN Foundation**

Advancing Development through ICT

18, Pillaiyar Kovil Street, S.S. Colony, Madurai - 625 016 TAMIL NADU, INDIA

Tel.: +91-452-2610794, 2610805, 3209321 Fax: +91-452-2602247

Email: dhanictsymposium@gmail.com & dhanhoict@gmail.com

Website: www.maduraisymposium.in & www.dhan.org