ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH & WATER RIGHTS

1) What specific environmental & water issues most deeply affect the community you live in?

Group 1:
- **Drought**, forest fires, global warming, contamination bacteria, viruses, climate change, harsh winters, landfills, mining, air quality

Group 2:
- Environmental & water issues: Uranium - Churchrock to Coyote Canyon. **No running water** - need to haul water. They have to buy bottled water

Group 3:
- Life: Farming, livestock, drinking h20, forestry, drought, erosion on roads, land security, lakes, rivers, springs, wildlife
- Health, pollution, global warming, waste water/sewage, reforestation, urban sprawls, public health issues

Group 4:
- **Lack of knowledge** or information about water quality; no transparency
- Limited access due to poor infrastructure & roads
- No power over water quality, source or standards

Group 6:
- Not enough water. **Access to water** (no vehicle, muddy roads, etc)
- Limited indoor plumbing. Hauling water from wells
- Drought for livestock. **Dry wells**

Group 13:
- Power plant, contaminated rivers, wells affect livestock, gardens
- Arsenic water wells, abandon mines (uranium, coal), mercury, radon, lead, zinc.

Group 17:
- Uranium. Whole watershed - infrastructure restoration. Decrease in water table.
- Groundwater recharge - no recharge plan
- Arsenic - contaminated wells, many unknown & climate change

Group 19:
- Oil drilling - Community contaminated water well, piping corrosion, open mines

Group 21:
- **Gold King Mine Spill** - Uranium contamination.
- Snow making in Flagstaff
- Uranium open mines
- Substandard & non testing of water

**Group 22:**
- Mining, commercial development, water hauling, relocation
- Lack of education about conserving H2O, corporate America, contamination, Apathy; wastefulness

**Group 23:**
- Water contamination, drought, **air quality**, what don't we know yet? Standards for measurement/ethics of responsibility
- Heat, radiation, vitamin D, sunshine, flooding, fires & valley fever

**Group 25:**
- Lack of portable water - dehydration/drinking of soda, cost/time of hauling h2o
- Toxin exposure from unpaved roads - also leads to isolation, asthma, wood burning stoves, respiratory illnesses

**Group 28:**
- Impacting development - affects healthcare. Environmental impact of development in urban areas.
- Community organizing at water - Have to haul water from distances

**Group 29:**
- Limited portable water in homes. Alkalinity, expense (buying & hauling), dry wells, limited qty of chapter houses, mud due to drought/impermeability
- Mosquitoes (standing water), failed septic systems (due to standing water), infrastructure aging (discolored non-potable)
- Drought effects on agriculture (crops & livestock), sandstorms, fire control, lack of education re: what a watershed is, water rights issues

**Group 30:**
- Destruction of traditional food system & knowledge. Food related diseases aka diabetes
- Mining (Peabody), BIA mismanagement - federal lands. Damage to land & water, climate change, drought
- Livestock reduction, erosion, loss of water

**Group 32:**
- Hauling water from questionable wells for human consumption. The inability for our elders to travel to
- Gold King Mine spill: shut down irrigation to prevent contamination of ground water. Lack of clarity about effects of spill on drinking water quality
- Uranium in environment: livestock wells, sued for drinking water, lack of knowledge of effects of use of contaminated water on agriculture & livestock health

**Group -:**
- Lead issues from old pipes/buildings, no water available, well contamination due to mining
- Privatization of water, profit over people
2) Brainstorm a project or program that increases access to water and creates healthy environments.

Group 1:
- Water testing labs, sterilization plants. Public awareness where uranium is located. Provide drinking water in schools & childcare. Encourage breastfeeding.

Group 2:
- Project Proposal: Chapters > water hauling project.
- Educate on health effects from drinking from contaminated wells.
- Data collection regarding health effects of those drinking from contaminated wells.

Group 3:
- Salt water CHAMA River Project, San Juan River Project, NAPI, OEH/IHS, COPE
- NN Water Resources, NN Parks & Recreation, LCRWCA

Group 4:
- Mapping areas of contaminated vs. clean water
- Providing free water testing kits
- Targeting problem areas with subsidized cisterns, low cost water delivery & collecting rain water.

Group 6:
- Prevent misuse of aquifer. Protect water rights. Educating community about different types of water catch systems.
- Drip tube for irrigation.
- Chapter hauls water to local residence for a small or no fee.

Group 13:
- Protest, activist. Youth education programs.
- Social media for younger audience (instagram, snapchat, FB).
- School programs assemblies at schools; elementary, mid-school, high school.

Group 17:
- Recharge/land stewardship. Plan based on k’e
- Community organizing/education/training.
- “Conservation” with use of Traditional, Ecological, Knowledge (TEK).
- Watershed restoration & traditional food systems.

Group 19:
- Chapters, Missions, Churches, NUTA.
- Navajo water development delivery to sites.

Group 21:
- Support for maintenance of the public support system.
- Make hauling water more manageable - closer to area & decrease cost.
- Support more public water.

Group 22:
- NTUA could improve the water quality - over chlorination?
- Advocate as a nation to demand water rights due to us - we all need to be more active!
Hold water quality accountability to the highest standard, not just the "Navajo Standard" or what we have come to expect

Group 23:
- Shared use spaces, storage vessels for safe water - distribute, subsidize water catchment
- Distribute filters, low-flow appliances
- Market water like junk food, update urban plans to maximize h20 reuse, create policy change

Group 25:
- Re-direct gambling revenue to build basic infrastructure, tax (reparations) on rest of U.S. to inside solutions
- Coalition (from NN) on fixing these issues (i.e., eliminate favoritism)
- **Recycling program** that generates $ to also address these issues
- Centralize coordination & grassroots to access needs - measure environmental hazards (water, soil)

Group 28:
- Providing reusable water containers & having **more filling stations** in public places (Nat'l Parks)
- Partner with existing organizations to bring already successful practices into local communities

Group 29
- Conservation (addressing leaks), systematic schedule for water pick-ups
- Placement of wells where they are accessible
- Rainwater catchment of wells where they are accessible, rainwater catchment in school curriculum - data collection (that is then also useful to researchers)
- Legalize greywater systems

Group 30:
- Food sovereignty, climate justice
- Clan based land management - give responsibility to clan mothers again

Group 32:
- Alternatives to build water projects to save water
- Reduce the price of water per gallon under NTUA
- Request for water wells in each chapter
- Solar Energy. PSA's, everyone listens to Navajo station

Group -:
- Ban all fracking on the NN
- Communication, educate the next generation, set the example of never give up!