

WOMEN'S LEADERSHIP & The ENVIRONMENT



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Gender, Water & the Home

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Profiles of Water Users

1 (North)	2 (West Coast)	3 (South)
70+ year old woman, lives with 50-something old daughter. Takes care of the home.	50+ year old woman. Lives with 83 year old mother, who is bed-ridden due to stroke. Mother uses diapers Is sole caretaker of her mother.	30-something, stay at home mother of 3 children (12, 7, 3 years old).

What are the uses for water on a daily basis?

What are your peak times of the day for using water?

What are some of the challenges you face when there is no water?

What was the impact of the recent hurricane (Elsa) on your water supply?

Follow on question:

Do you have a garden that was affected by the hurricane?

What were the changes or challenges faced with water use due to COVID-19?

Any other comments

General Findings

Impact of Hurricane Elsa

‘Elsa mash up my garden, that is food for my mother gone. Then WASCO never gave me water for a whole day! It was hard to carry water from the barrel to clean my mother, and outside was muddy, so then I had to be using the little water I have to clean again and again’

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General Findings

Impact of Hurricane Elsa

‘I had no water for 3 days!! I have a tank, but with 3 children in the house I was so afraid that I would run out of water’

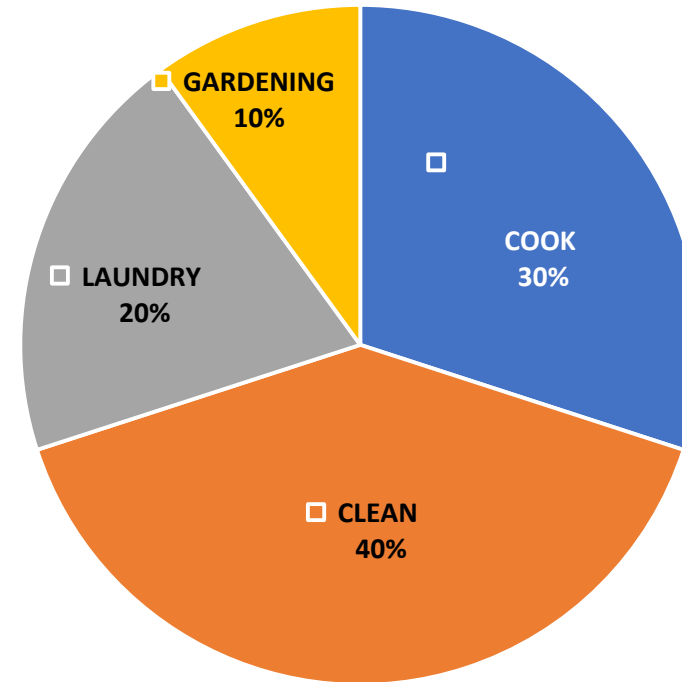
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Water use in the Home



■ Cooking ■ Cleaning ■ Laundry ■ Gardening

Peak hours of water use - 10am to 2pm

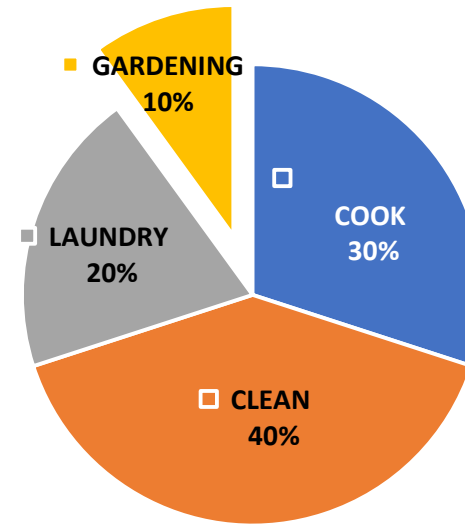
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Impact: Too Much, Too Little



- Hurricane damage to crops which meant:
 - Need to increase food budget
 - Having to leave her mother alone to go to market

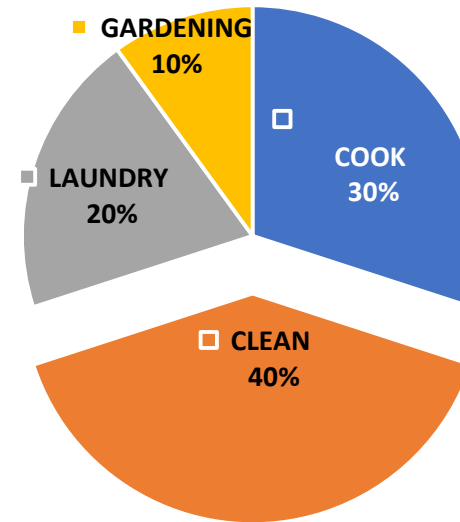
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Impact: Too Much, Too Little



Cleaning/sanitizing have become vital in the COVID environment:

- Increased water bills
- Increase in the amount of “stored water” being used

Water supply from the Water company: Too Much, Too Little

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- Aging infrastructure means that supply from the water company simply stops due to a broken main or not-working pump or impact of a climatic event
- No national policy or strategy for rainwater harvesting addressed through building codes or similar instruments

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