

# Indonesia



## Did you know that...

**Local governments, businesses or individuals cannot take actions** that take away people's access to food, and communities should be involved in plans and actions that affect their food security.

## This is my country

**With 217 million people**, Indonesia is the fourth most populous country in the world.

**Made up of more water than land**, Indonesia has over 13 thousand islands, over half of which are uninhabited. The country has ten per cent of the world's remaining tropical rainforests that supply people with food, medicinal plants and building materials.

**Indonesia has seen many crises in recent years** such as civil conflicts and natural disasters: earthquakes, volcanic eruptions, El Niño, floods and tsunamis.

**One out of two Indonesians** lives on less than two dollars a day.

**Over twelve million people - six per cent of the population - suffer from hunger**. One out of four children under the age of five (nearly five million) are hungry.

**Almost all young people under twenty-four years of age can read and write**, but only half of boys and girls are in secondary school.

**Indonesia recently started a school nutrition programme** in poor villages to provide children with locally grown snacks made by parents and teachers.



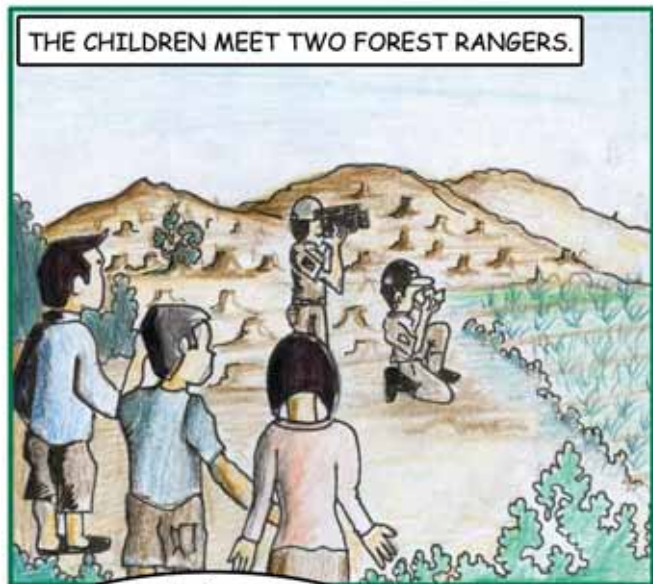
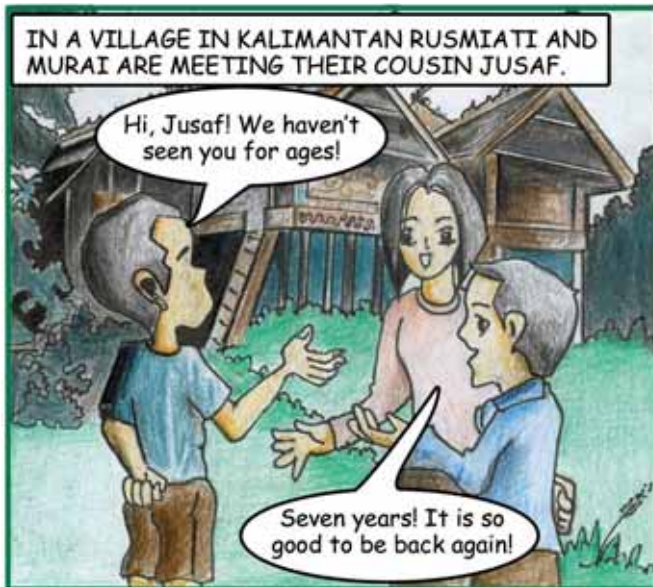
## Read my story to find out...

**How** destroying our forest and polluting our river affected our village.

**What** decisions we made to restore our environment.

**How** we learn to grow fruit and vegetables at school and why this is good for us.

# Trees, Fish and Orang-utans

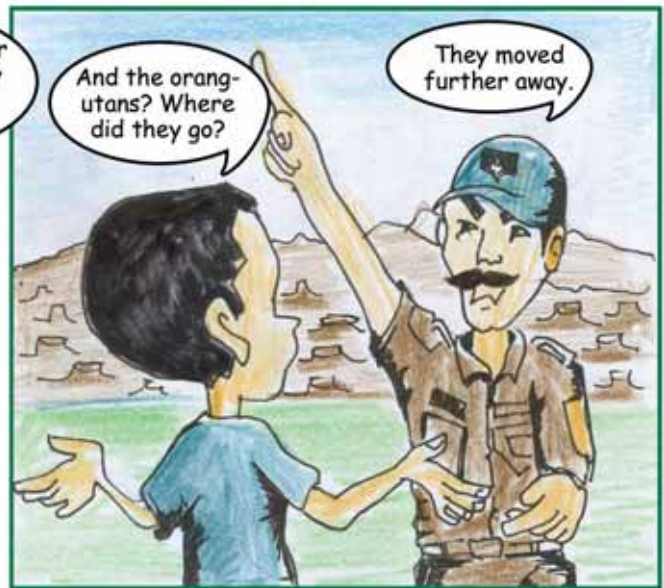


**orang-utan:** a large, long-armed monkey native to Indonesia  
**logging:** removing trees from a forest for timber

# Trees, Fish and Orang-utans



Of course. It is our right to have a say in decisions that affect us.



**pollute:** to release harmful substances into the environment



Many families face this problem, Rusmiati. They are not able to feed themselves through their own efforts. For a fisherman, no fish means less food and no income. And less food and no work means hunger.



Hunger?

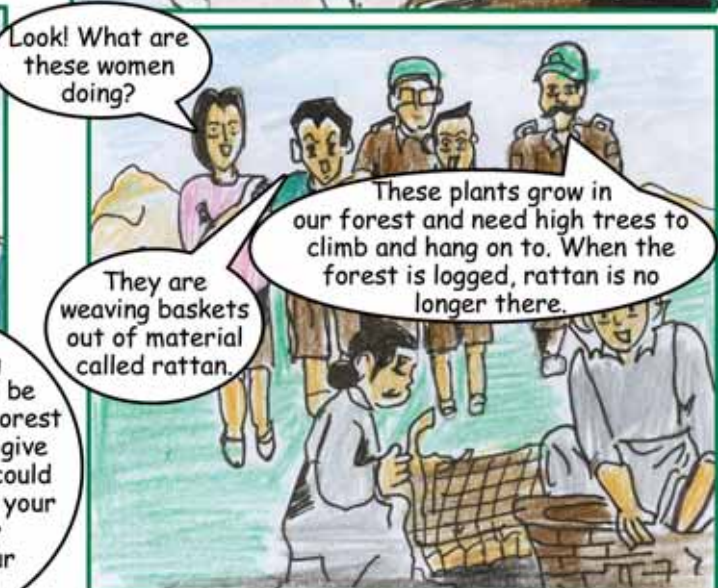
Yes. Hunger is a **violation** of the human right to food. Our leaders have an **obligation** to ensure that all of us are free from hunger. They must enable people to provide for themselves and their families.



So what can we do about the violation of our right to food?

A lot. We can work to fight illegal logging. We can help clean up the river. We can get organized and plant a new forest.

Tomorrow at the floating market there will be a big gathering of forest experts. They will give you hints on what could be done to protect your land and water and improve your access to food.



Look! What are these women doing?

These plants grow in our forest and need high trees to climb and hang on to. When the forest is logged, rattan is no longer there.

They are weaving baskets out of material called rattan.



Our men used to collect rattan near the village, now they have to walk far to find it... We need rattan because we make many useful things out of it: fishing traps, baskets, mats.

And then what do they do with these things?



They sell them and buy food, clothes and other essentials with the money.

That is why it is important to reforest logged areas.

**violation:** when somebody breaks a law or a rule

**right to food:** the right of every man, woman and child to always have enough food for a healthy and active life

**obligation:** a duty, something a person should or should not do

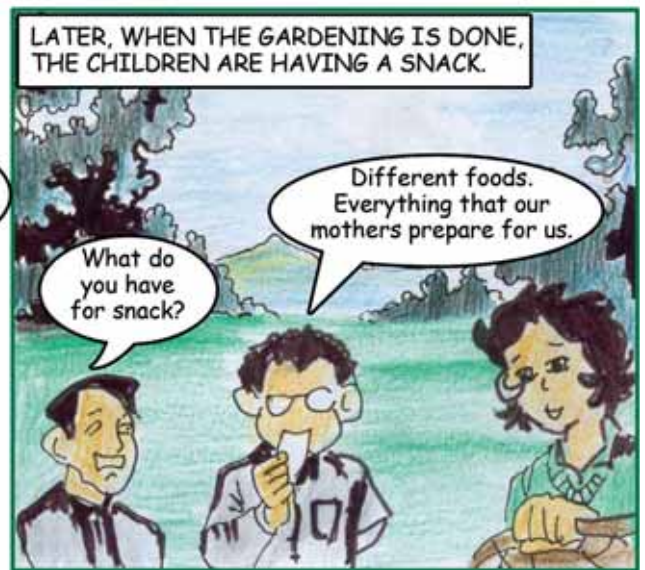
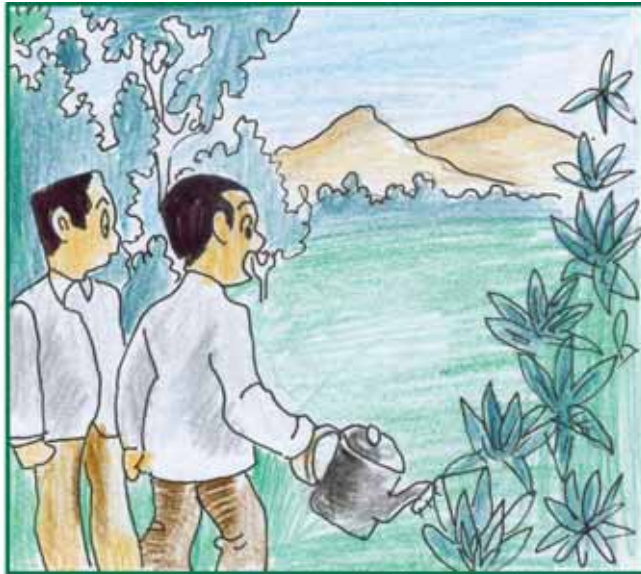
# Trees, Fish and Orang-utans

HAVING SAID GOOD-BYE TO THE GAME PARK RANGERS, THE YOUNG PEOPLE ARE ON THEIR WAY HOME.



THE NEXT MORNING...





# Trees, Fish and Orang-utans

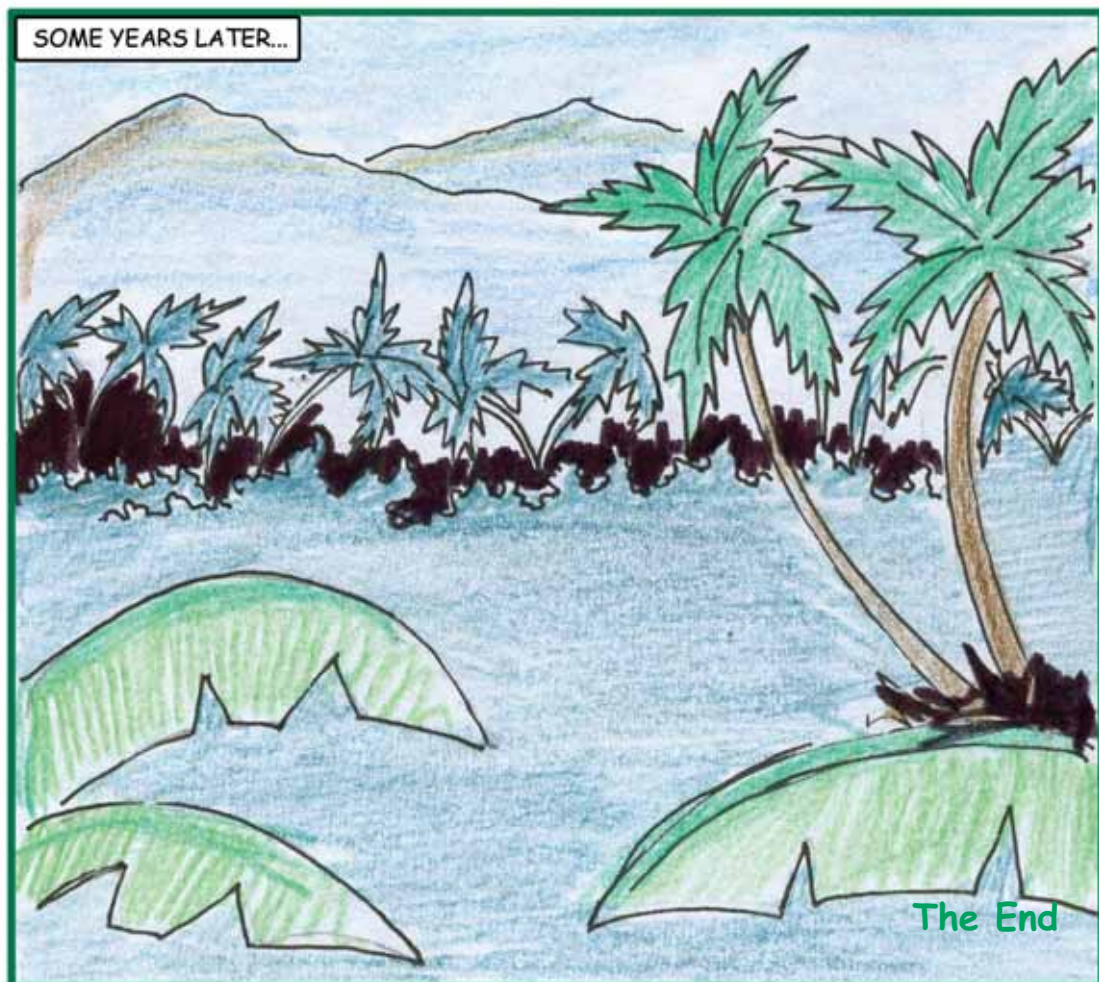
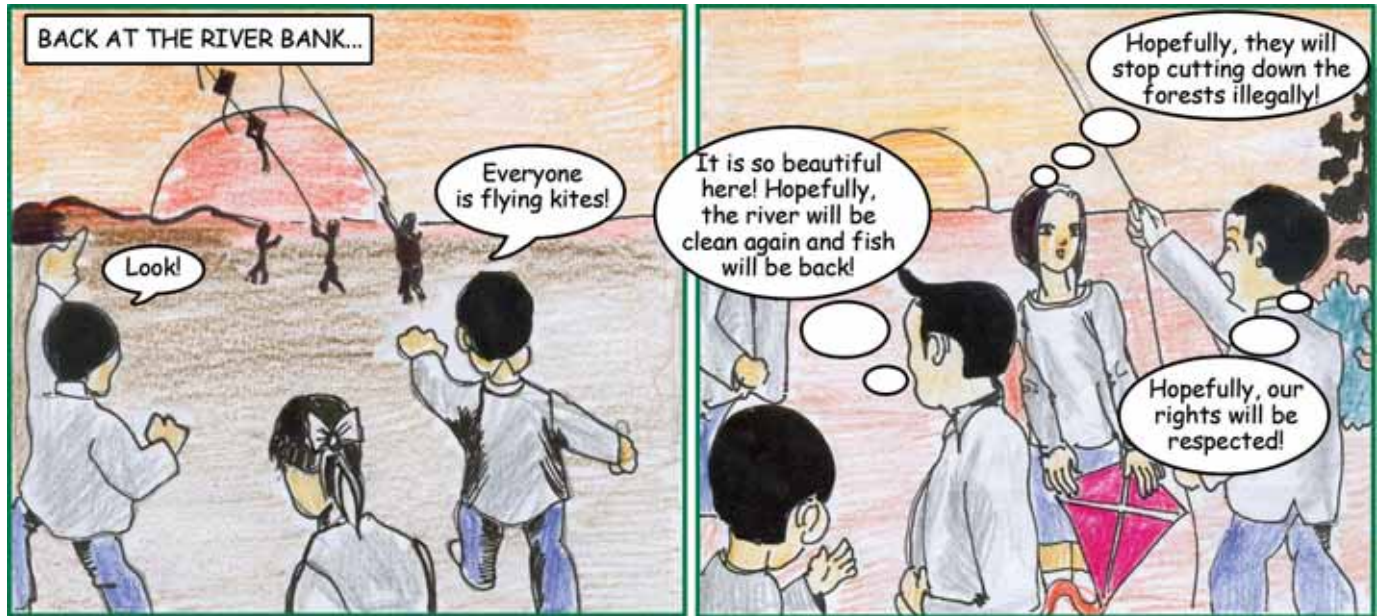


swamp: wetland covered by shallow water





# Trees, Fish and Orang-utans



So, what do YOU think?



## Have you thought about...

**how** many things changed for the people in the village when the forest was destroyed?

**how** people who lose their ways of making a living can get the food they need?

## Is it fair that...

**community leaders** sometimes make important decisions without involving the people?

**the government should help people** who have their access to food taken away?



## Everyone can do something

**Find out what important decisions** are being made by your community leaders and encourage your family, friends, neighbours and your school to get involved.