



**The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)**  
was founded in 1945 to help countries improve nutrition and agriculture  
and better the lives of rural people.

With 190 members, FAO works across the globe to fight poverty  
and hunger and achieve food security - access by all people at  
all times to the food they need to lead active and healthy lives.

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**The World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts (WAGGGS)**  
is a worldwide movement providing non-formal education where girls and young women  
develop leadership and life skills through self-development, challenge and adventure.  
*Girl Guides and Girl Scouts learn by doing.*

The World Association brings together *Girl Guiding* and *Girl Scouting* Associations  
in 144 countries. It is the voice of girls and young women who influence issues they  
care about and build a better world.

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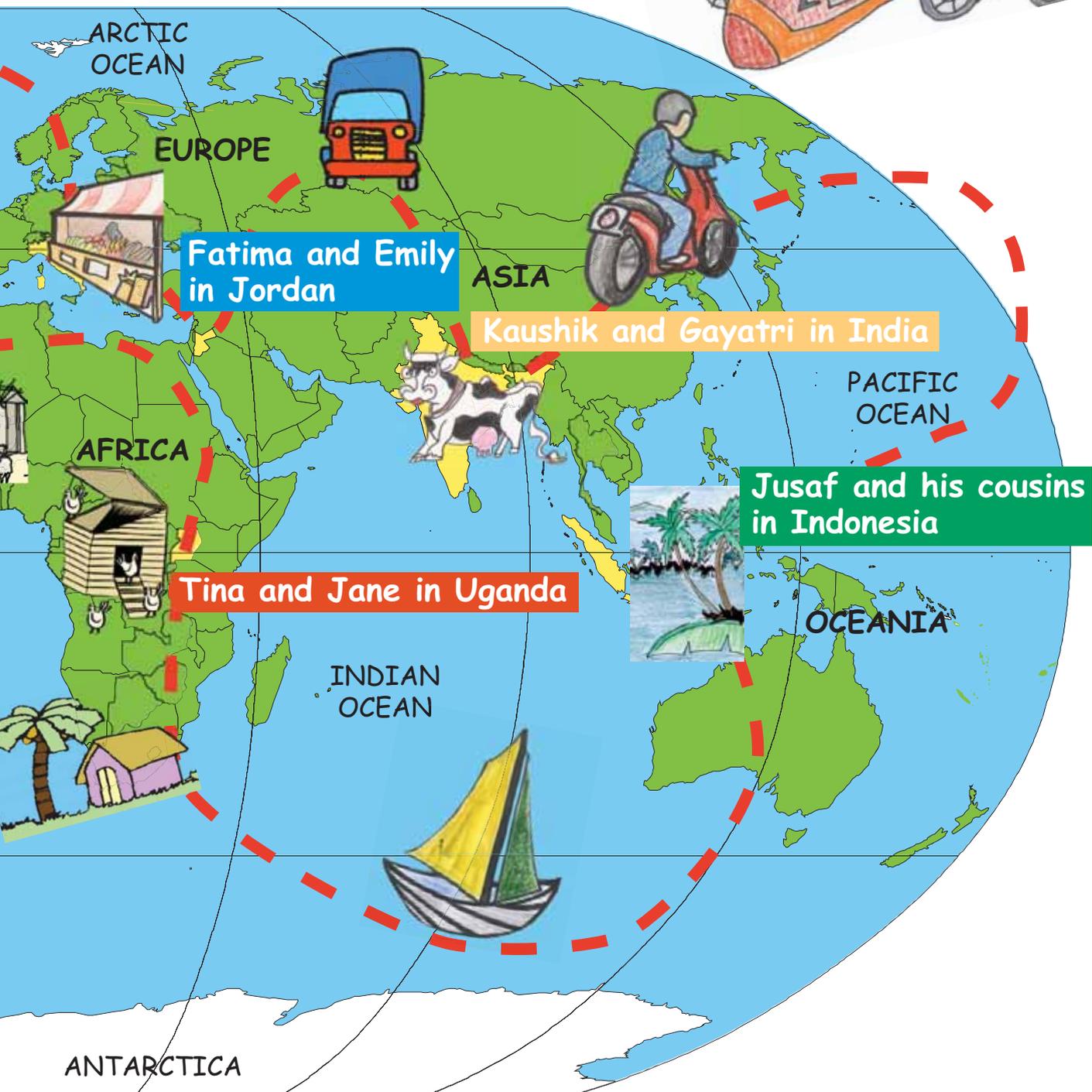
# THE RIGHT TO FOOD: A

## Discover the world and the



# WINDOW ON THE WORLD

right to food together with...



# About This Book

**This is a book about the right of every human being to be free from hunger.** It tells eight separate stories, set in different countries and cultural settings, that illustrate how people in every country can work together to overcome similar problems. All of the stories are about making sure that all people, no matter what their cultural, economic or social situation, can get the food they need.

**Many millions of people in the world never get enough to eat.** When people do not have enough food or enough of the right kinds of foods to meet their body's needs, they will be hungry and **malnourished** and will not be able to lead healthy and active lives. Many will die. Food is so important for life and health that governments all over the world have recognized that people have a **right to food**.

**The right to food means that all people have the right to feed themselves and their families with dignity.** People must be able to grow or hunt or catch the food they need or earn enough money to buy it. Fulfilling the right to food means ensuring that people have the knowledge, skills, resources and opportunities they need to get food for themselves. It also means that when people, for reasons beyond their control, are not able to feed themselves, they still have a right to food and they must be helped until they are able to feed themselves again. By recognizing that people have a right to food, national governments have committed themselves to doing everything possible to make sure that all of their people have enough to eat.

Each story in the book points out different important features of the right to food. They do not reflect the overall situation in any particular country and do not cover all of the issues about the right to food.

By reading these stories, you will understand that:

**Everyone has the right to obtain and enjoy food in a dignified way**

It is a right that is due to every person.

**Fulfilling the right to food means that everyone must have access to nutritionally adequate and safe food**

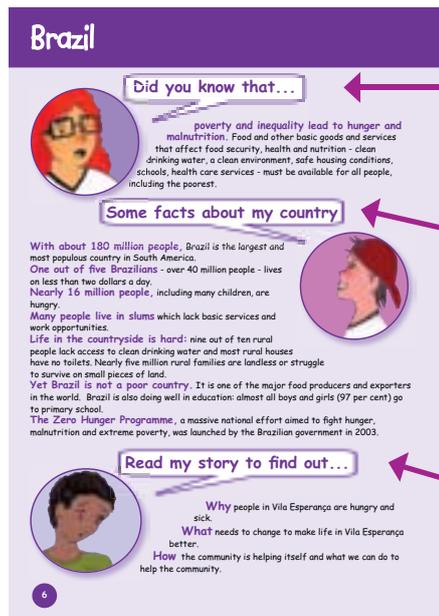
Freedom from hunger and malnutrition means that all people must be able at all times to get a sufficient amount and variety of good quality and safe foods to meet their body's needs.

**malnourished:** people who are unhealthy as the result of eating too little, too much or not having the right variety of food

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

**violate:** break a law or a rule

At the beginning and at the end of each story you will find:



the key right to food messages for that story.

some facts and figures about the country in which the story takes place.

interesting points to think about while reading the story.

a chance for you to express your own thoughts on the story and how things are in our world.



## National governments must meet certain obligations on the right to food

Governments must do everything possible to make sure that all of their people are free from hunger and have access to adequate and safe food. They must help people who are not able to get adequate food on their own and they may not take any actions that prevent access to food or **violate** the right to food.

## All members of society have responsibilities in the realization of the right to adequate food

Everyone - individuals, families, local communities, non-governmental organizations, civil society organizations, the private business sector - has responsibilities in securing and protecting the right to food for the local and global community.

Want to know more about the right to food? See the Activity Guide that goes with this book, and:

FAO Right to Food

Feeding Minds Fighting Hunger

The United Nations CyberSchoolBus

UNICEF Voices of Youth

[www.fao.org/righttofood](http://www.fao.org/righttofood)

[www.feedingminds.org](http://www.feedingminds.org)

[www.cyberschoolbus.un.org](http://www.cyberschoolbus.un.org)

[www.unicef.org/voy](http://www.unicef.org/voy)