

FISI MAJI WA HIFADHI YA TAIFA RUBONDO





We thank the Columbus Zoo and Aquarium and the African Otter Outreach Project for funding this book. We also thank TANAPA for their support and contributions to the creation of this book.

Drawings by: Kamalang'ombe M. N.

Story by: S. R. Ndaga, W. D. Losioyo, V. P. Uruka, E. S. Ayubu, C. D. Kibwe, F. L. Maimu, W. W. Mamuya, M. M. Maheri, and H. R. Mwamjengwa.

This book is dedicated to the children around Lake Victoria.

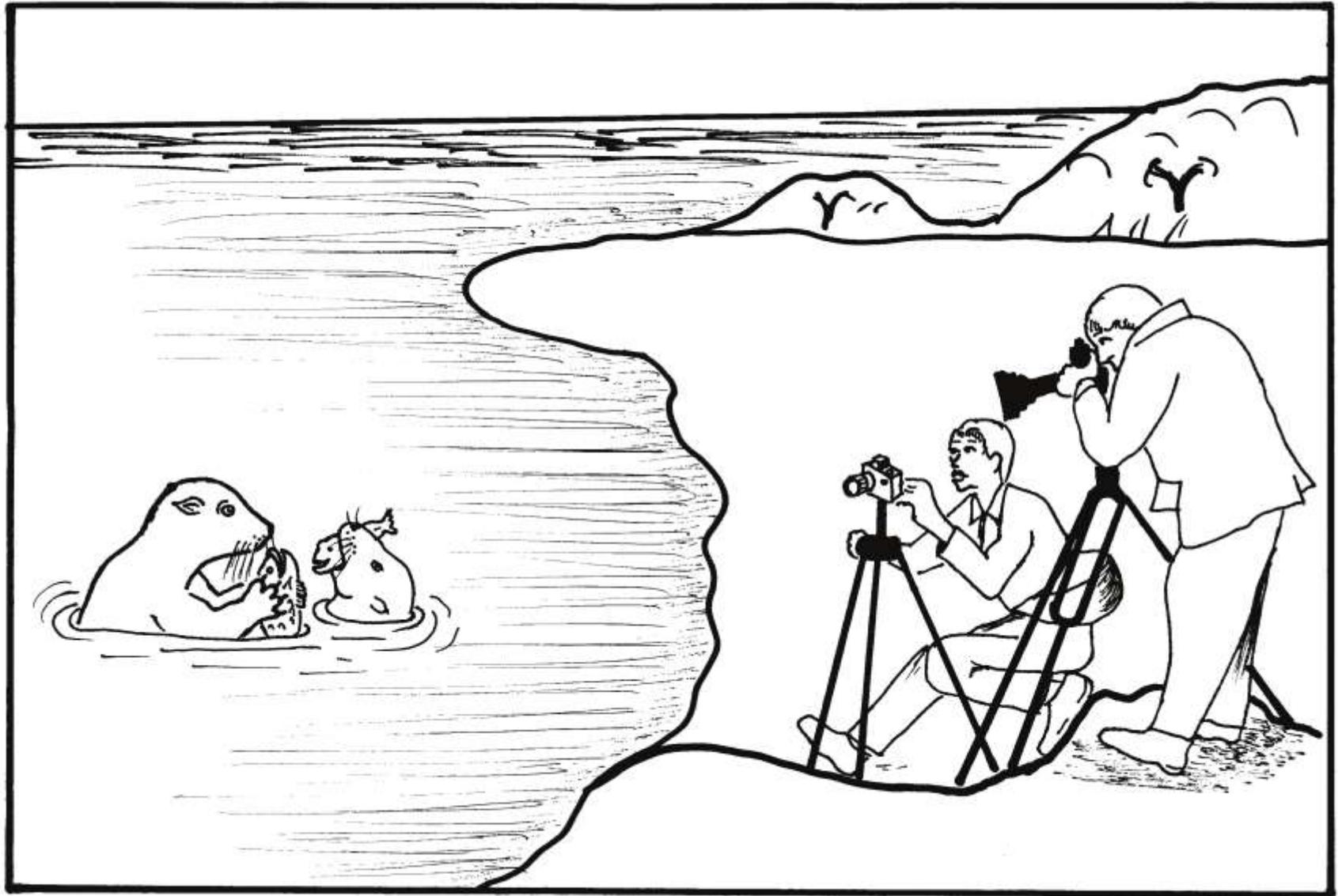
This is the village along the lake. Villagers like to use clean water from the lake for cleaning, for washing, for cooking, even for drinking. Children like to swim in the clean water and like to watch fish in the clean water of the lake.

Hiki ni kijiji cha pebeni mwa ziwa Kimejengwa kando ya maji safi ya ziwa. Wanakijiji hutumia maji safi ya ziwa kwa Kufua, kupika na hata kunywa. Watoto Wengine nao wanafurahia kuona samaki kwenye ziwa safi.



There is a special animal living in the clean water of the lake. This animal is called the otter. Have you ever seen it? You can see it in the early morning and the evening but you should stay quiet because if it sees you it will leave. Otters like to play in the clean water where searching for crab (kaa). Have you ever seen crab?

Kuna mnyama maalum anaishi kwenye maji safi ya ziwa. Huyu mnyama anaitwa fisi maji. Je umewahi kumuona? Unaweza kumwona ziwani saa za asubuhi mapema sana na jioni lakini ni lazima ukae kimya kabisa kwa sababu akikusikia ama akikuona atajizamisha majiini na kujificha humo ndani. Fisi maji anapenda kucheza majini akitafuta kaa na samaki.



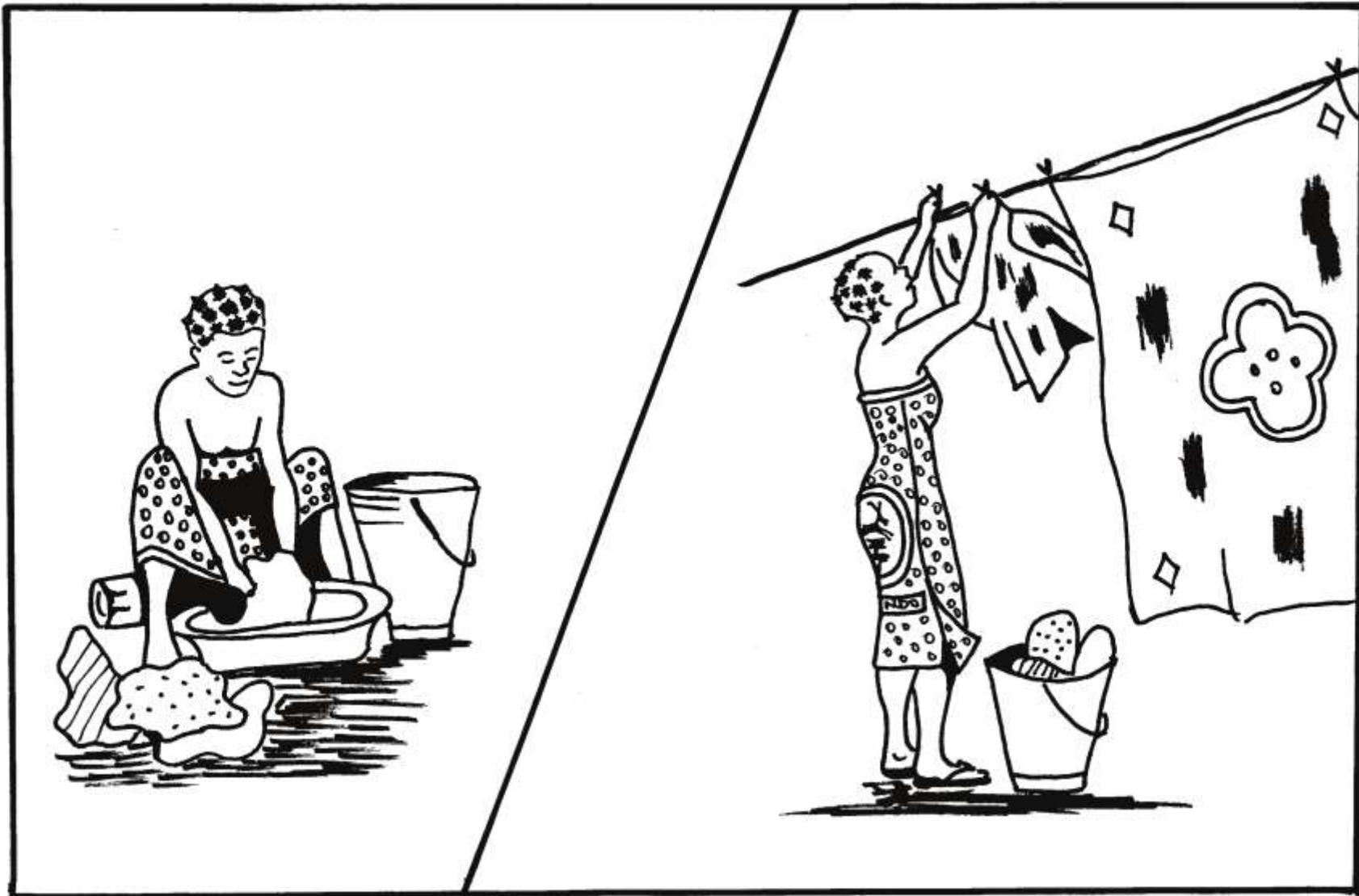
One day the villagers lost their discipline and they started to put their trash and dirty water into the lake. Bwana Kifagio was lazy instead of digging a pit for trash he began throwing it in the lake. Bwana Mboga began furrowing his fields near the lake so to get more vegetables (mboga). This made the clean water of the lake dirty from trash and soil erosion.

Siku moja wanakijiji walianza kukosa nidhamu. Walifungulia majitaka na yakaanza kumwagikia katika maji safi ya ziwa. Bwana Kifagio naye akawa mvivu, badala ya kuchimba shimo la takataka, akaanza kutupa ovyo takataka ziwani. Bwana Mboga naye akalima shamba hadi mwaloni kwenye maji apate maboga kwa wingi. Haya yote yakafanya maji safi ya ziwa yabadilike kuwa machafu kabisa.



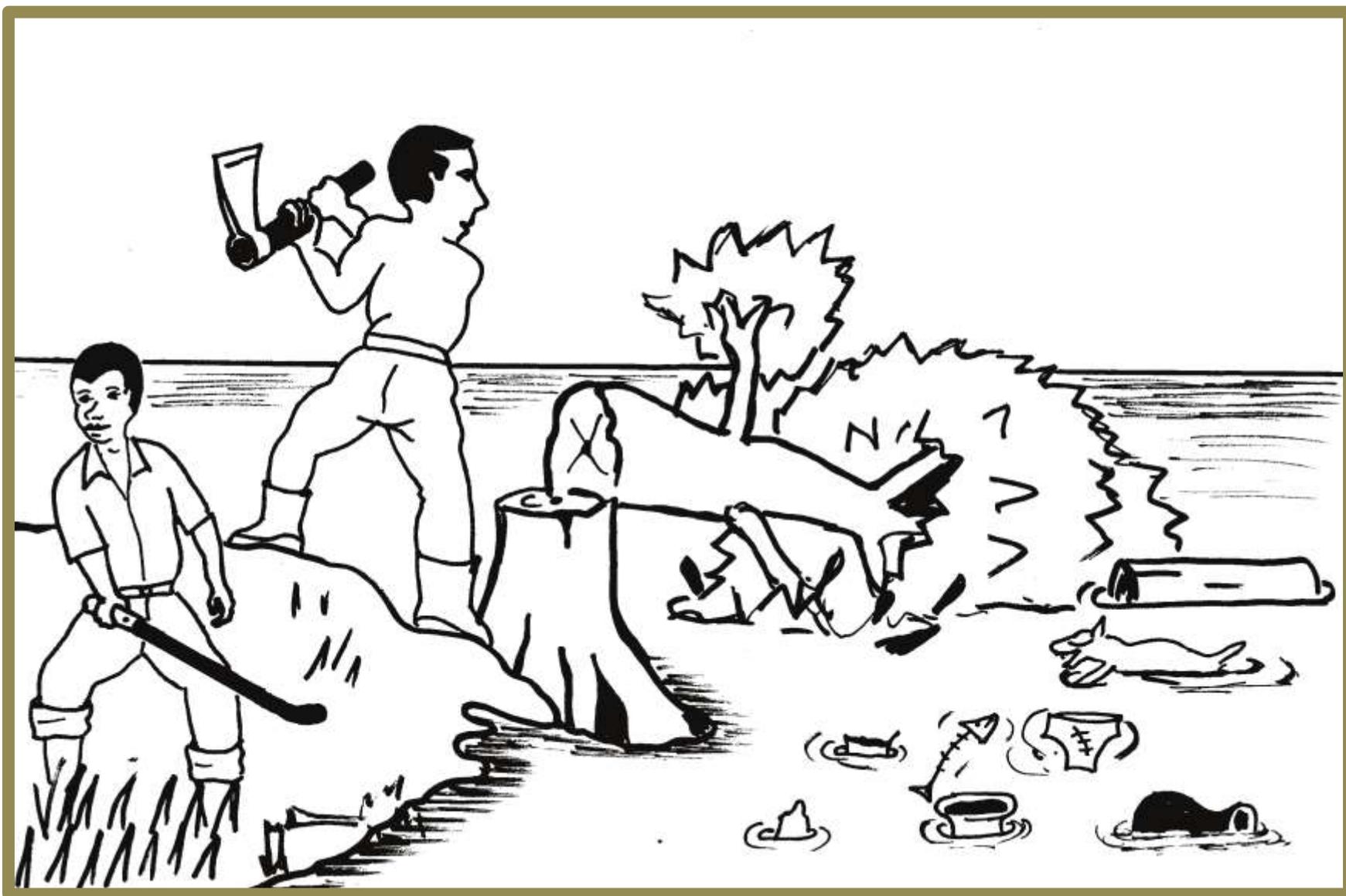
After a short time things started to get bad for the villagers. Bwana Kifagio was thirsty and when he drank the water he got stomach aches and got sick because of the dirty water. Bibi Mboga washed clothes from morning to night but they did not get clean.

Baada ya muda mfupi, mambo yakaanza kuwa mabaya. Bwana Kifagio akatoka kazini akiwa na kiu, lakini alipokunywa maji akapatwa na maumivu ya tumbo kwa sababu haya maji yalikuwa machafu! Bi Mboga naye alishinda akifua nguo lakini bado zilikuwa na madoadoa kutokana na uchafu wa maji.



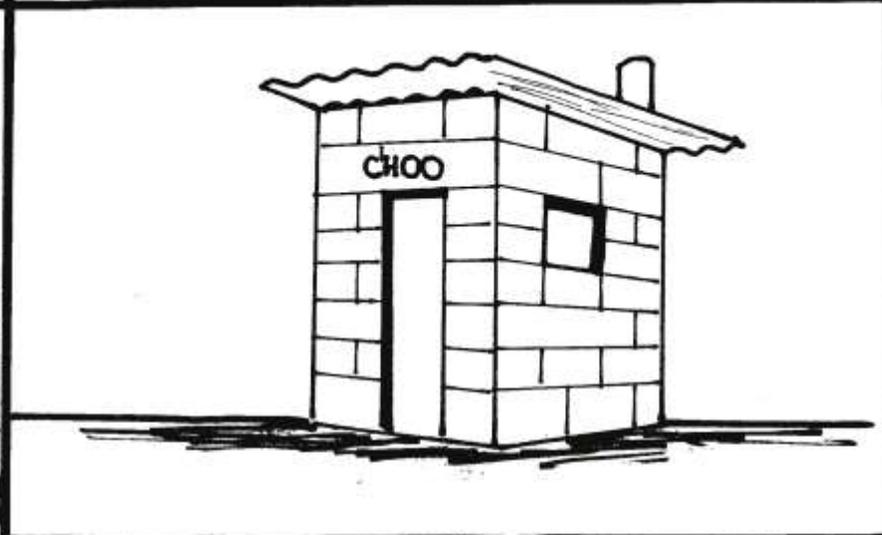
The fisherman also tried to catch fish but when he threw the hook and nets he got shoes and plastic instead. Poor, poor, poor fisherman. He ate ugali without fish! Fish and crab and the otters also were forced to leave the place to find food and shelter. Otters were sad because they like to live in the clean, fresh water of the lake.

Mvuvi naye alijaribu kuvua samaki lakini alipotupa nadoano majini akashika kiatu, akashika chupa ya plastic. Masikini mvuvi alilazimika kula ugali mkavu. Samaki na kaa wote na fisi maji nao wakalazimika kuhama ili watafute chakula na Makro kwingine. Fisi maji walihuzunika kwa sababu walipenda sana kuishi kwenye maji safi ya ziwa.



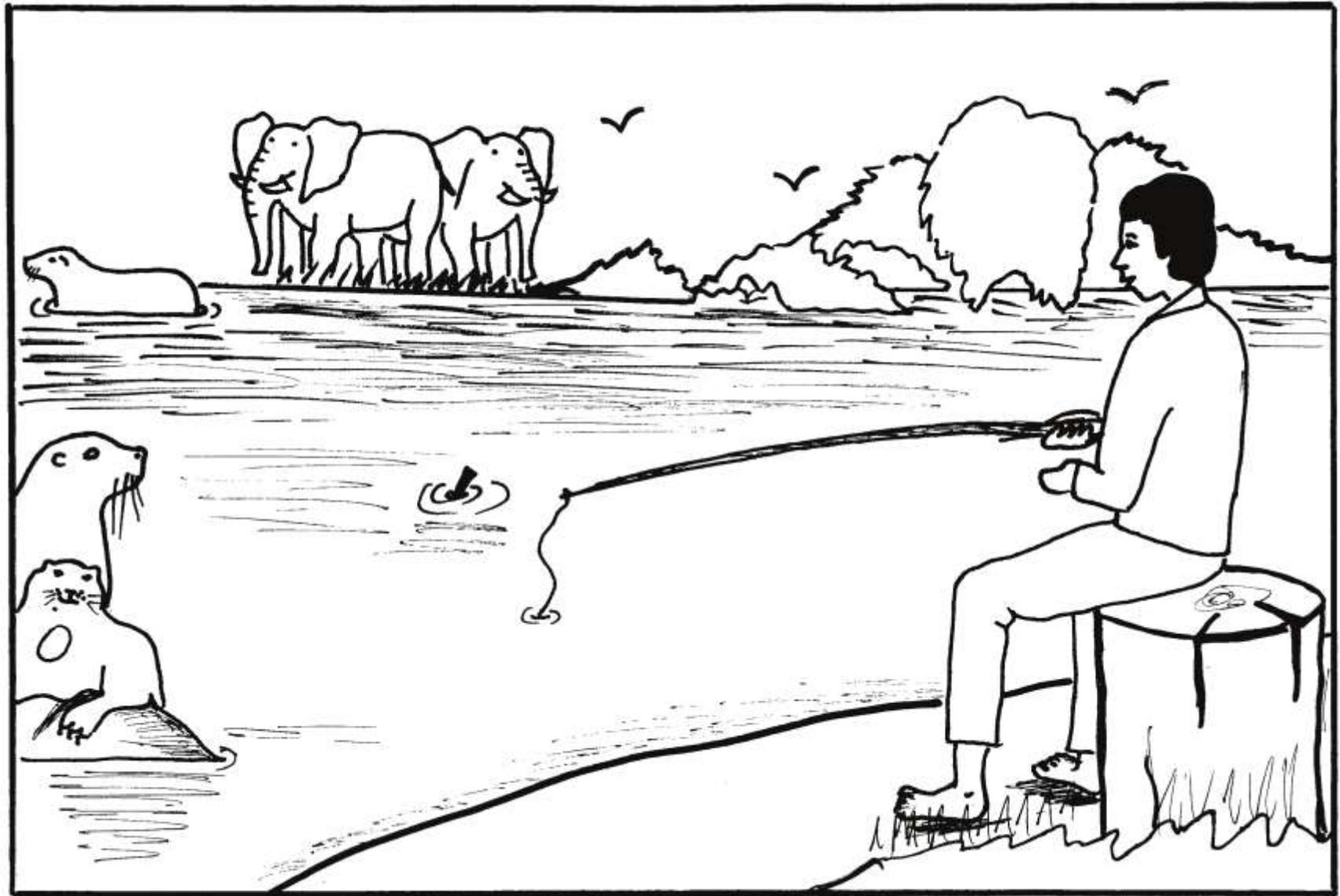
Finally, the villagers were tired of the bad water of the lake. Bwana Kifagio decided to dig a pit for trash and the entire village joined together to build a big tank for the storage of water. Bibi Mboga told Bwana Mboga that he should not dig so close to the lake which caused the erosion of soil into the lake. Just look how they destroyed the lake environment.

Mwishowe wananchi wa kandokando ya ziwa walichoshwa na maji machafu ya ziwani. Bwana Kifagio akaamua kuchimba shimo la kutupa takataka na wanakijiji wote wakaungana kujenga tangi kubwa la kuhifadhia maji. Bi Mboga naye akamwambia Bwana Mboga asilime pembeni ya ziwa ili ziwa lisichafuke na mmomonyoko wa udongo kutoka shambani.



The inhabitants of the village were trained how to keep the lake water clean. They dug pits for trash and put their trash there. They stopped using the lake as a latrine and stopped cutting down all of the trees. So the lake's water became clean again and the environment became good again for all creatures, man and animals.

Wenyeji walielimishwa matumizi bora ya maji ya ziwani. Walianza kuchimba máximo ya takataka na kutupa takataka simón. Waliacha kufua na kujisaidia ziwani. Wakapanda mitin a kuacha kukata miti ovyo.



After a few months the fishermen began to catch fish again. Bibi Mboga was happy because her clothes could be cleaned again. Everybody was happy and enjoyed the clean water for especially for drinking without getting a stomach ache. The otters also found that the dirty water was now clean and they came back again. Let's help our lakeshore and our lake because otherwise we will lose the fish and we will not manage to keep our home clean and healthy and the lake water will bring disease to the villagers. People, fish and all animals need a clean environment to survive so we should maintain the clean environment of the lake.

Baada ya miezi kadhaa mvuvi akaanza kupata tena samaki na Bi Mboga alifurahi nguo zake kuwa safi. Kila mtu alifurahia maji safi ya kunywa bila kuumwa tumbo. Fisi maji nao wakagundua kwamba ziwa chafu kabisa limegeuka kuwa ziwa safi tena na wakarudi kuishi humo ndani tena. Tusaidie mialo yetu/ziwa letu kwa sababu tutapoteza samaki, tutashindwa kudumisha usafi nyumbani, na maji machafu yatatuletea magonjwa. Fisi maji nao wanahitaji mazingira safi kwa hiyo tulinde usafi wa ziwa letu.



