TOWARDS BETTER HEALTH

WASTEWATER AND CATTLE DUNG/GARBAGE DISPOSAL

THE TITLES OF THE FLIP CHARTS ARE

1. Sanitation and Diseases
2. Wastewater and Cattle Dung/Garbage Disposal
3. Disposal of Human Excreta—Sanitary Latrine
4. Vector Control
5. Personal Hygiene
6. Home Sanitation

The Texts of these Flip Charts are also available in Seven Regional languages, viz., Hindi, Telugu, Tamil, Oriya, Marathi, Bengali and Gujrati.

WATER AND ENVIRONMENTAL SANITATION SECTION
UNICEF, NEW DELHI
DECEMBER 1984

WASTEWATER AND CATTLE DUNG/GARBAGE DISPOSAL

CARD 1 Stagnant water encourages the breeding of mosquitoes which transmit diseases such as malaria and filariasis (discussed as a separate topic under "Vector Control."). Wastewater can be generated in many ways as shown in the picture. There are several simple methods of wastewater disposal which you can devise yourself.

CARD 2 You can construct a compacted earth drain which can be lined with stone or use clay pipes to divert the wastewater from the kitchen to a vegetable plot. You can grow vegetables for your family consumption. You need to ensure that adequate slope is given so that the water flows easily to the plot.

CARD 3 Provide a soakage pit to drain away the wastewater from a bathing cubicle. It is not advisable to divert the water to a garden as it contains soap.

What is a soakage pit? It is a pit filled with different sizes of stones or broken bricks. The stone fillings prevent the pit walls from collapsing. As the wastewater flows into the pit, it will gradually seep into the ground.

CARD 4 A soakage pit is very easy to build. You can do it step by step as follows:

(1) Dig a pit 1 metre long, 1 metre wide and 1 metre deep
(2) Fill the pit to about half its depth with large stones of size 10 to 15 cm diameter.
(3) Fill the pit three quarters full with smaller stones of size 5 to 10 cm diameter.
(4) Fill the rest of the pit with small stones of about 1 cm diameter.

Now you have a soakage pit.

NOTE: Various sizes of broken bricks can be used in the place of stones, if stones are not easily available in your area.

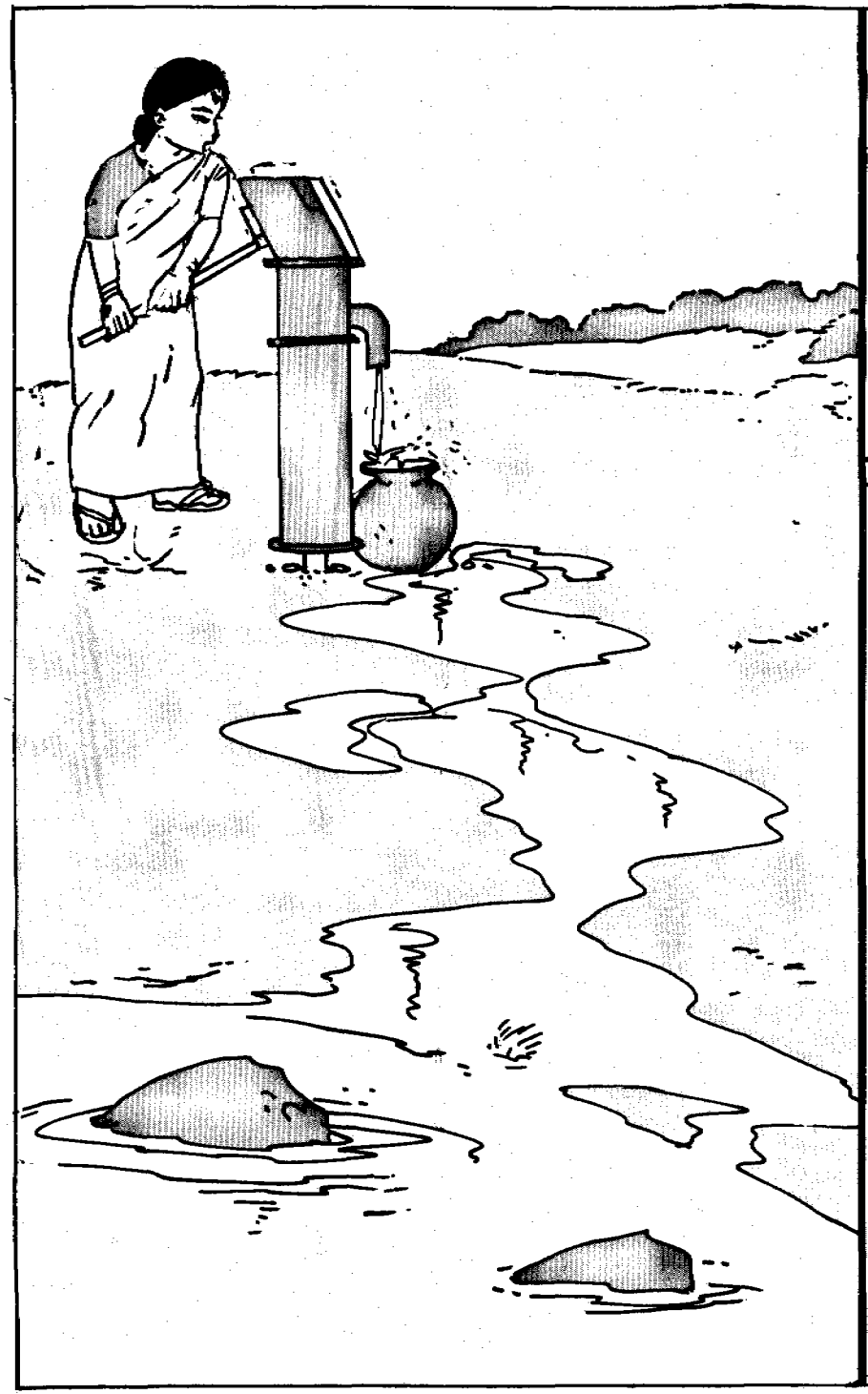
CARD 5 Every handpump, tap or well should have a concrete platform and a drain to lead the wastewater into a soakage pit. Alternatively, where a natural or man-made drain is located nearby, the wastewater can be discharged into it. If the handpump, tap or well in your area does not have a proper platform and drain, request the officer in-charge to have them built. Better still, why don't you organise the villagers through the youth club/women club/adult education class and together, build these for the health benefit of your community.

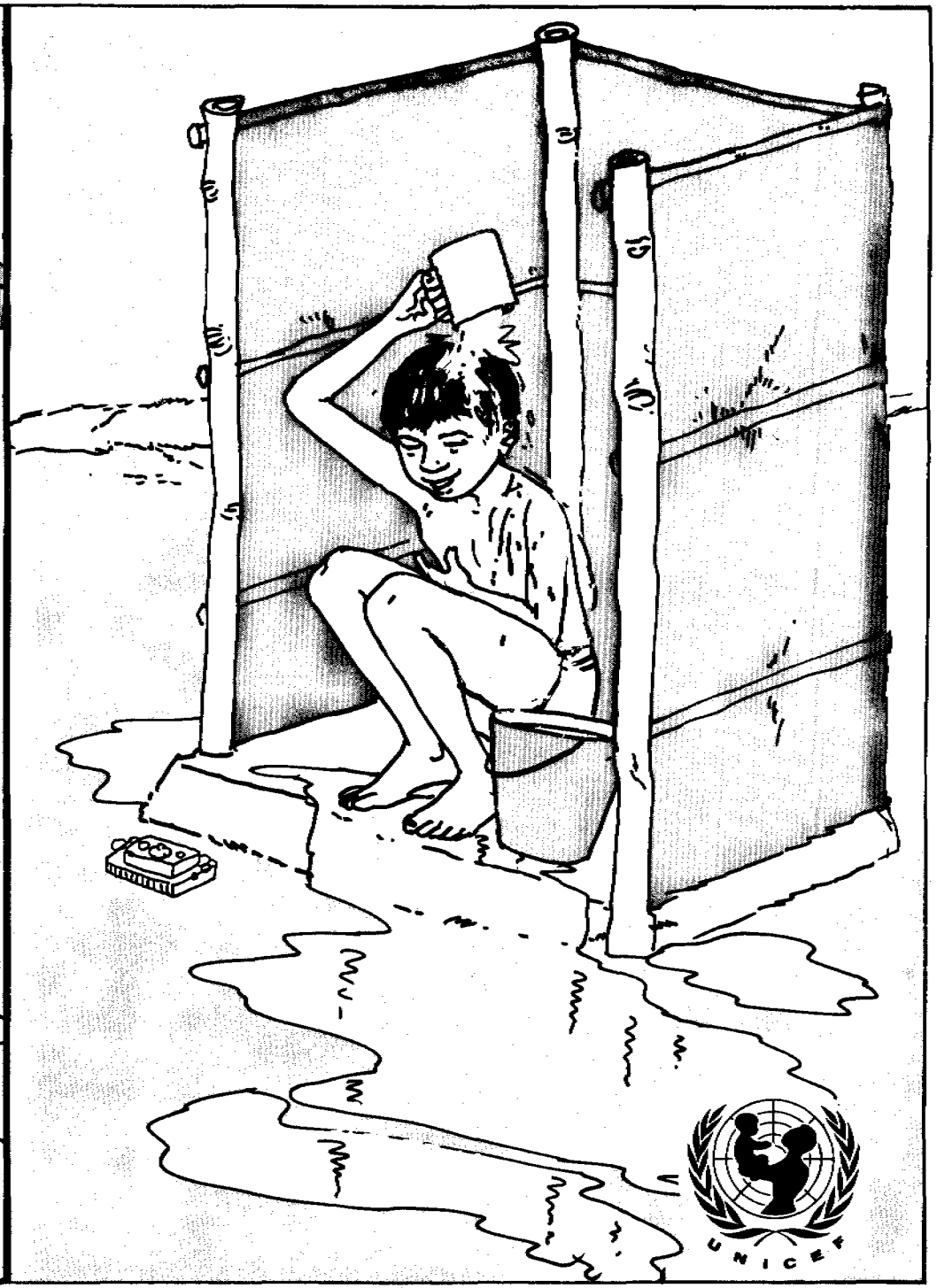
CARD 6 An even better alternative, where possible, is to divert the water to a nearby vegetable plot. The water will be usefully utilised to produce more and better crops.

CARD 7 Cowdung encourages the breeding of flies. Where excess cowdung is not made into cakes for fuel, it should be disposed of in a pit together with the household garbage. This pit is called a "garbage pit." It should be located as far from the house as possible.

CARD 8 It is quite easy to build a garbage pit for yourself. Dig a pit 1 metre long, 1 metre wide and 0.8 metre deep, in your backyard. Build an earth bank about 10 cm. high around the pit and compact it well. This prevents rain water runoff from flowing into the pit. Every week or 10 days, level the contents in the pit with a rake or stick and cover with a layer of compacted soil of about 3 finger thickness. This will prevent flies from breeding in the pit. When full, the pit should be covered with a layer of compacted soil and left undisturbed. Construct a new pit next to the existing one. After 2 to 3 months, the pit content is turned into good fertiliser.

Waste Water and Cattle Dung/Garbage Disposal





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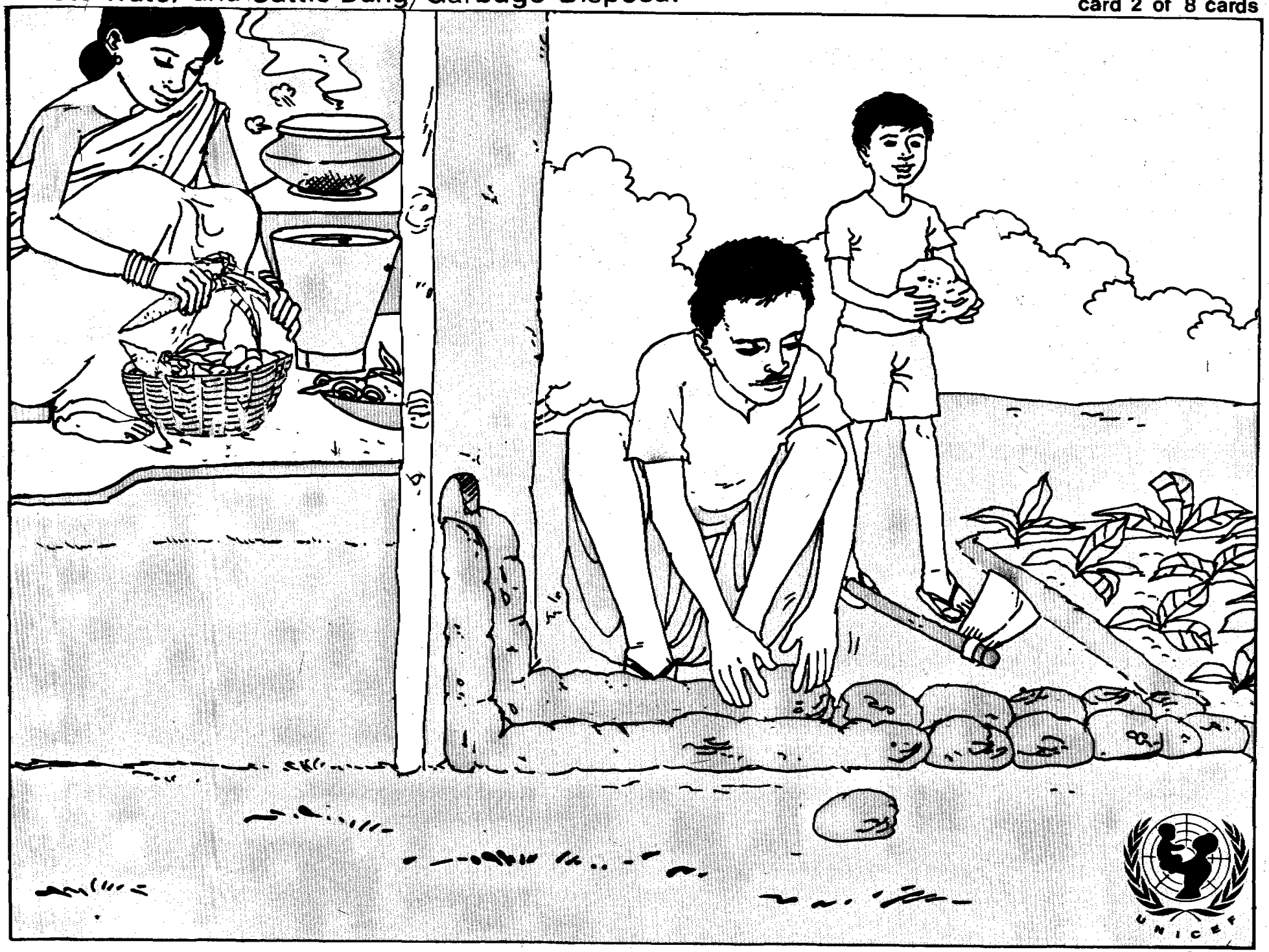

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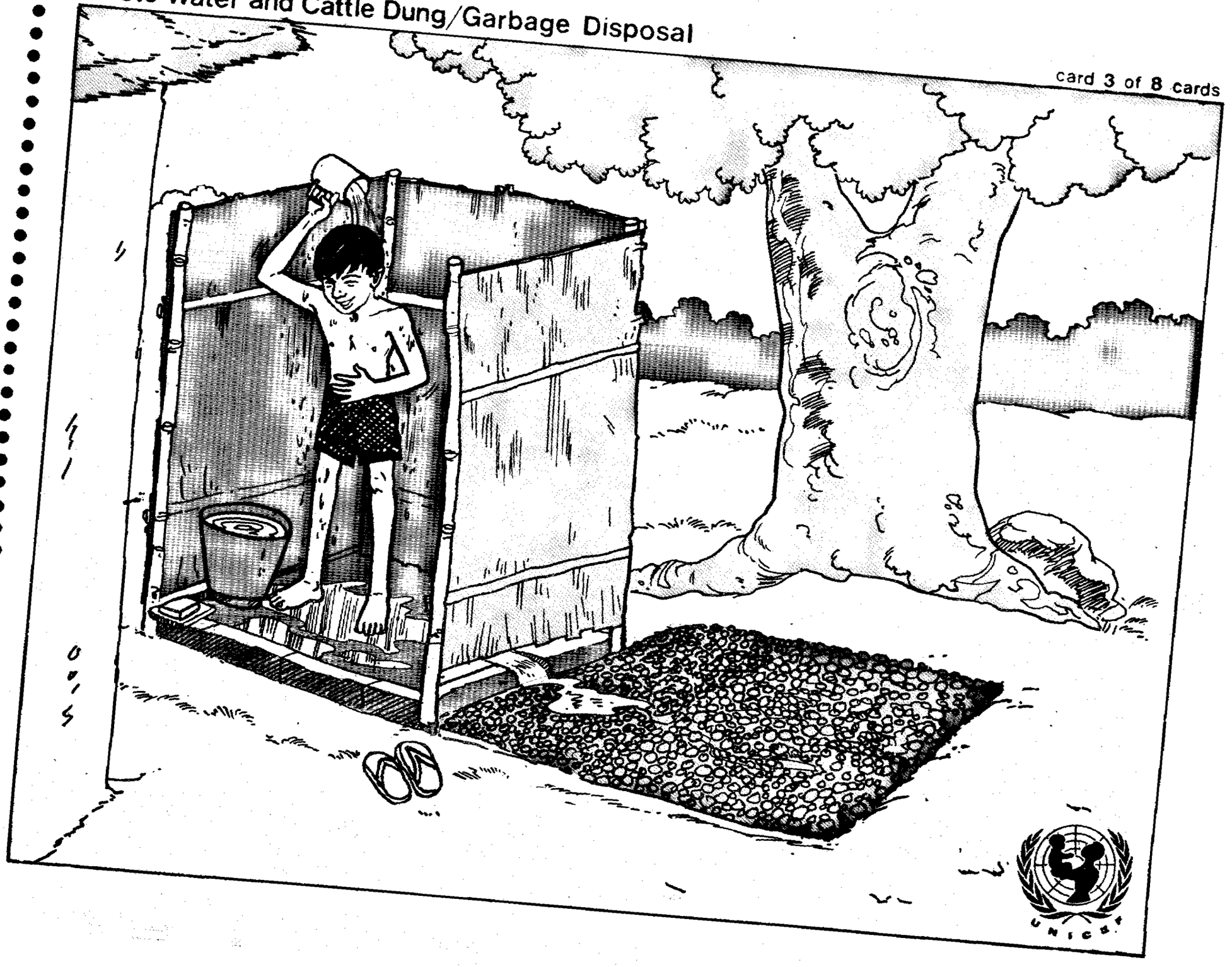

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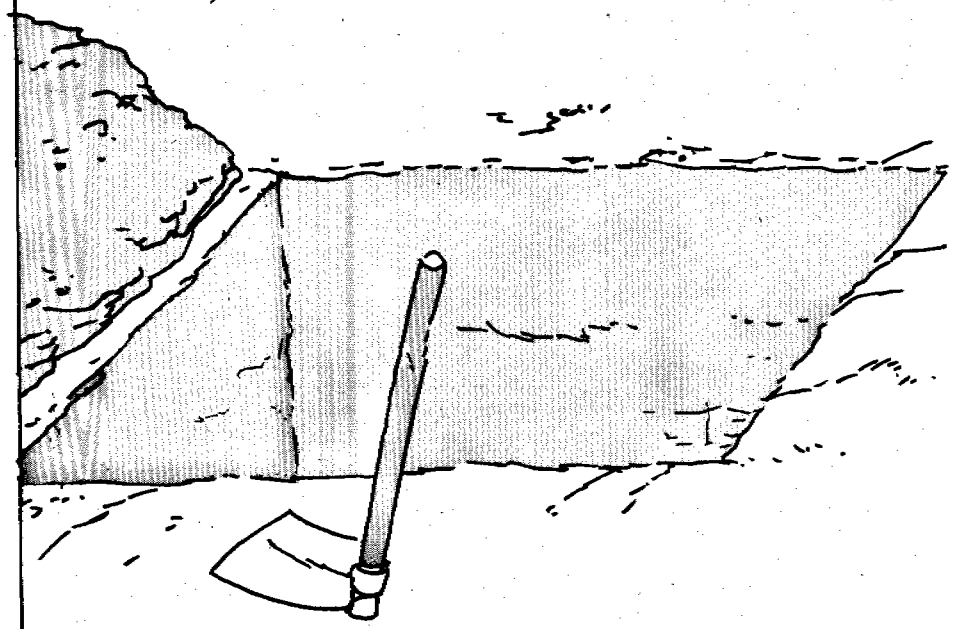

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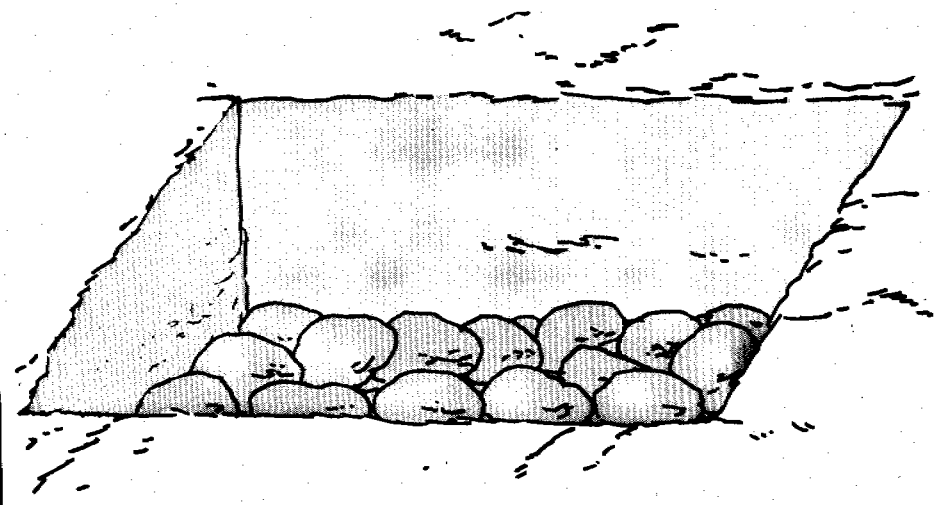

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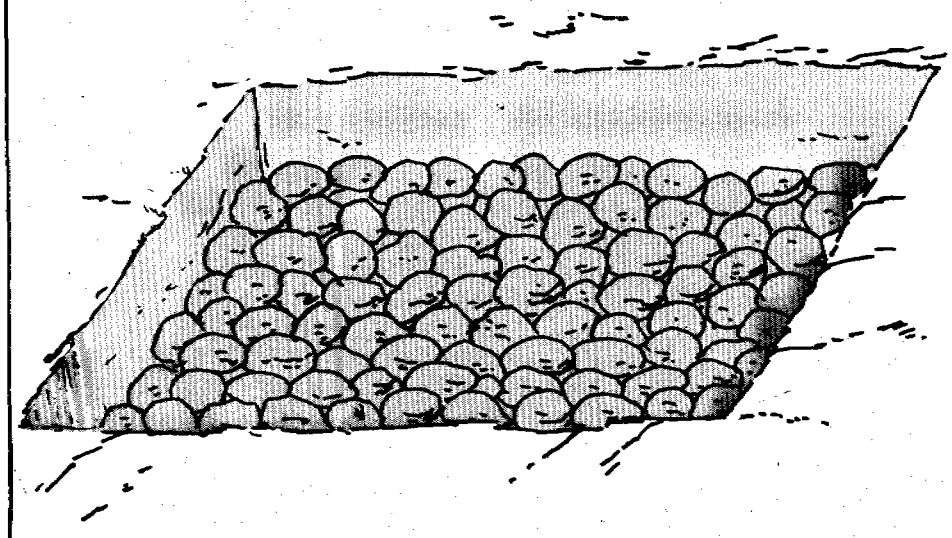

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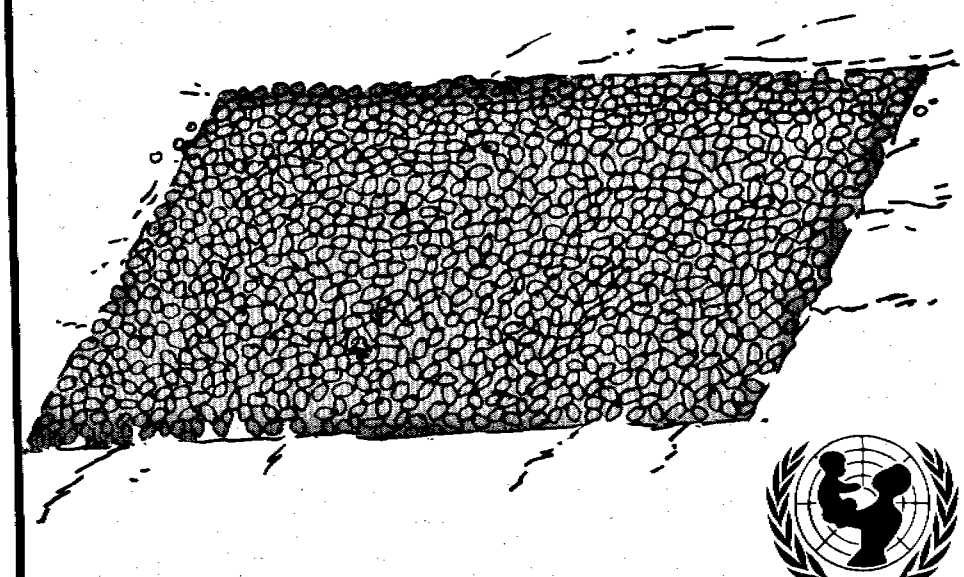

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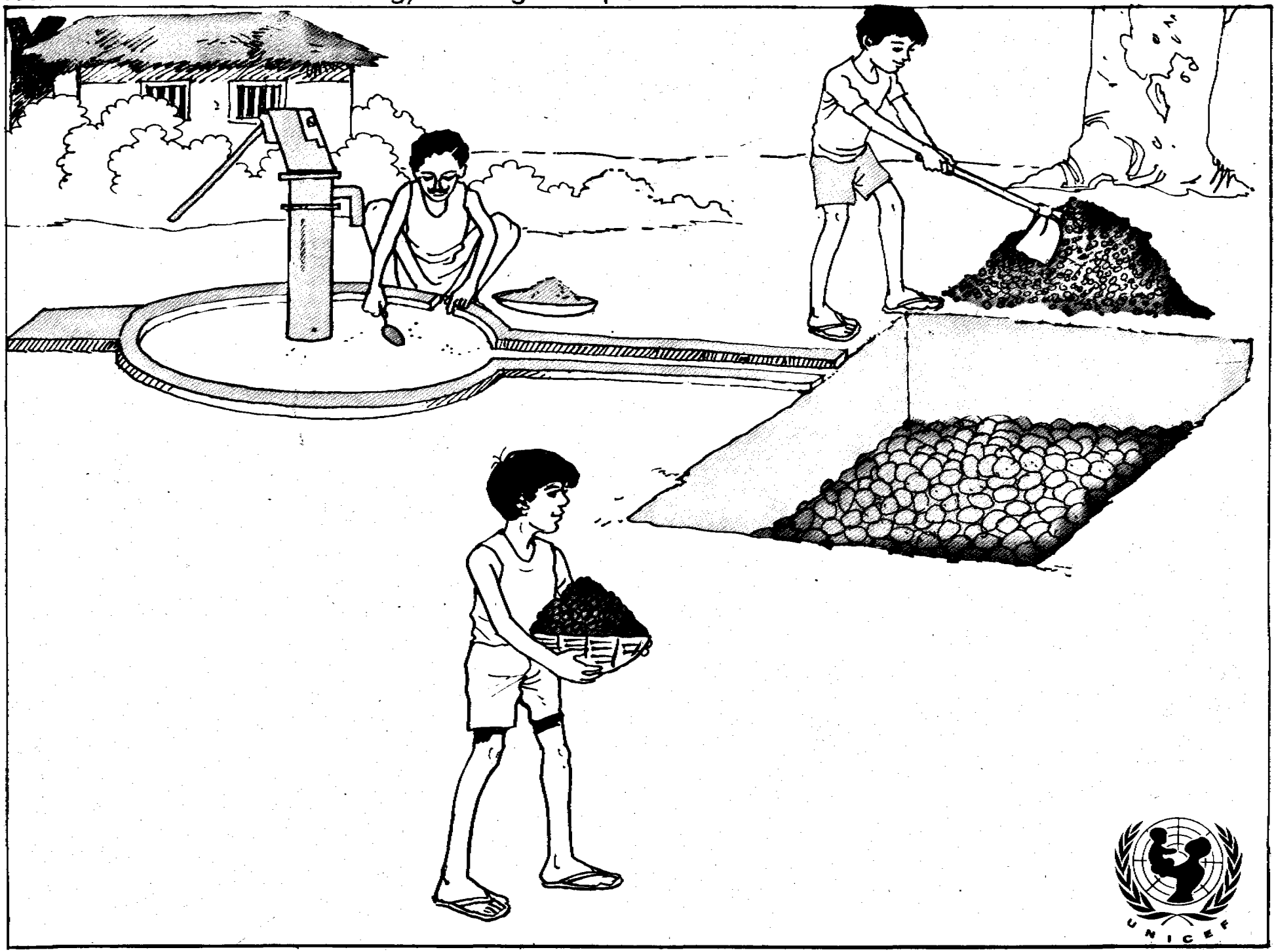

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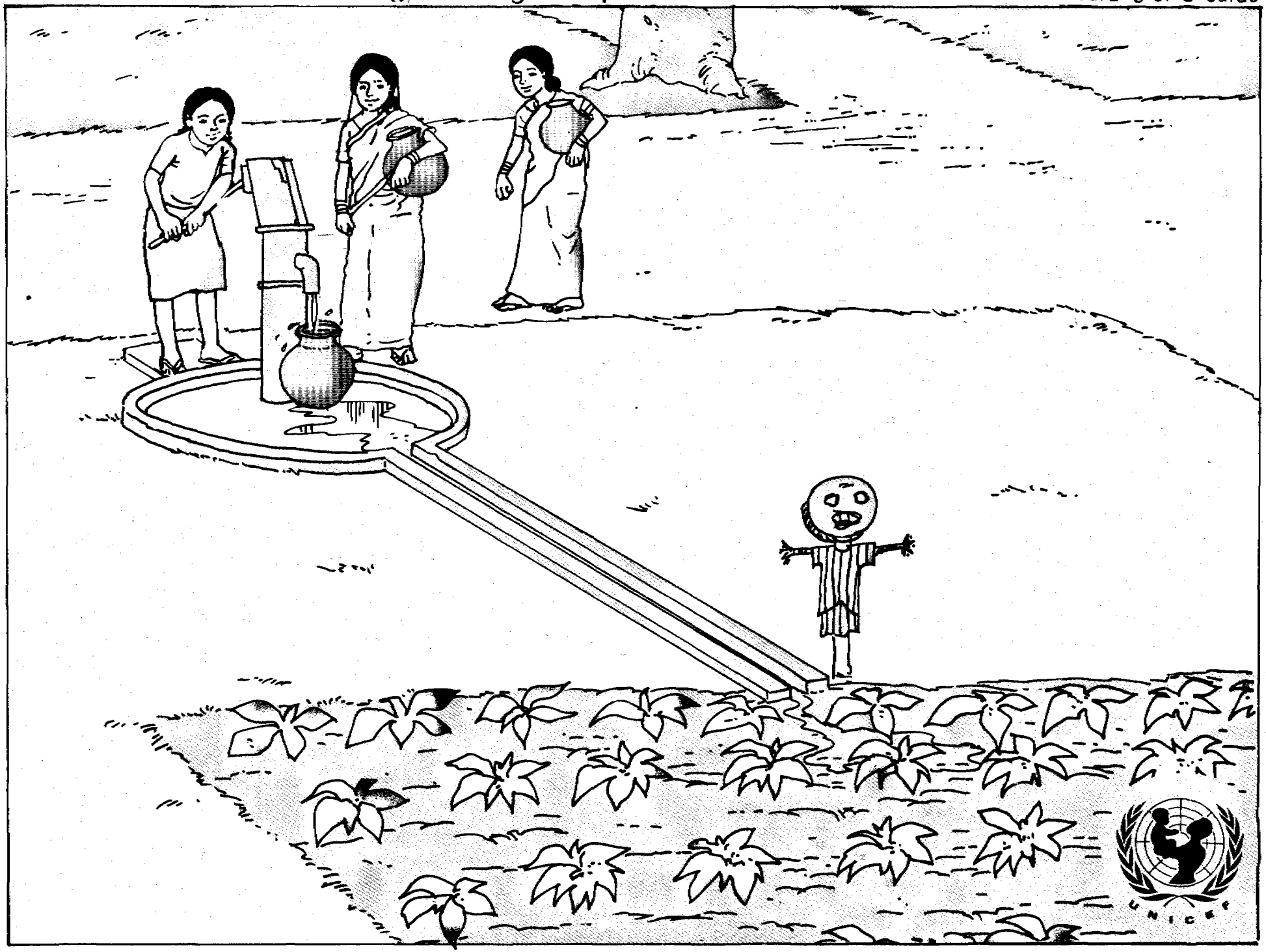

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