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Tackling Colonial Waste As A Global Movement

Exploring Western Waste in Africa, the Fashion Industry Impact, Our Initiatives, and How To Get Involved.



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Centric | Cengiving



What is colonial waste?

"Colonial waste" refers to the historical and ongoing practice where wealthier or more industrialized nations, often referred to as colonial or developed countries, export their waste, including hazardous and non-hazardous materials, to less developed or economically disadvantaged nations, which are typically former colonies or regions with less stringent environmental regulations.



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150–200 tonnes of textiles a day finds its way to African countries as waste, and with up to 69% of the fibres used in clothes synthetic (mainly polyester) they are therefore oil-based and non-biodegradable. Microplastic fibres from the waste also leach into the environment and end up in the human food-chain.



In the next decade, about **165 million** tonnes of plastics are also expected to reach their end-of-life in African countries such as Ghana, Gambia, South Africa and Morocco. This includes traded waste and waste that washes ashore on coastlines and beach fronts.



The impact of colonial waste.



Ghana, like many other African nations, faces significant challenges stemming from the influx of colonial waste, with a particular focus on plastic and fashion waste, as well as ocean plastics that wash up on its beaches and coastal shores. These challenges encompass a wide array of issues, ranging from environmental degradation to adverse impacts on health, tourism, and the economy.



In The Gambia, a nation known for its stunning coastline and natural beauty, grapples with the far-reaching consequences of colonial waste, particularly plastic and fashion waste, alongside the pressing issue of ocean plastics washing up on its beaches and coastal shores. These challenges have multifaceted implications, spanning environmental degradation, health concerns, tourism setbacks, economic ramifications, and more.

The impact of colonial waste.



Cengiving is tackling the issue as a global movement!

Cengiving, its strategic partners and subsidiaries are actively addressing the pressing issue of colonial waste in South American and African nations like Ghana, Gambia, and South Africa through a multifaceted approach that includes organised beach cleanups, educational initiatives, and the promotion of community equity. Central to our efforts is the adoption of circular economy principles, which involve converting waste materials into valuable products, not only safeguarding the natural environments of these communities but also fostering sustainable economic growth at the local level.

SEPT 2022

Cenethics in the UK launches with a vision to tackle the historical affects of colonial waste and its relations to the fashion industry. The journey starts with developing an approach that supports a circular economy.

OCT 2022

Cenethics in the UK undertakes an inspired visit to the V&A Museum for the Fashion Africa Exhibition to explore the rich culture/ influence that Africa has on the fashion and design industry.



SEPT 2022

Cengiving in Ghana funds locals to clean beaches and residential areas on a weekly basis. In this new initiative, the local people clean the beaches where littering is a major problem, being used as dumping grounds for rubbish, plastic and old clothing.



OCT 2022

Following an exploratory trip to the Dominican Republic, **Centriko** is born through a collaboration between **Centric** and its Dominican Partner Etikos.

Our Journey So Far.



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OCT 2022

Cenethics launches its AP Fashion project with a series of interviews in its locale based on fashion in black communities and protest fashion.

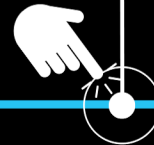
FEB 2023

Tackling the issue of equity and education in the Dominican Republic, **Centriko** is launched with a series of community research workshops in partnership with Etikos.



DEC 2022

Centric presents at the Connectors in Engagement Workshop, an African-led health engagement event in Cape Town and take learnings from the UK over to South Africa.



FEB 2023

Cenethics collaborates with Nelly Biche De Bere for Paris Fashion Week showcasing the green space and sustainable fashion for an interactive installation einteractiprotest ve event, showcasing oing.

Our Journey So Far.



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MAR 2023

Cenethics continues to amplify its green space fashion project with Southwark Council and plans an interactive event similar to the one in Paris.

MAY 2023

Cengiving visits Morocco to explore the impact of colonial waste.

MAY 2023

Centric extends its cleanup from the beaches into local inner city suburbs in Ghana.

“It’s as much about **Advancing Initiatives** as it is about reparations. The latter is necessary to help facilitate the former and the **Cen-Triangular Identity Nexus** provides a framework to enable this process.”

Dr. Anthony Baker

Our Journey So Far.



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What's Next?

Join our journey in tackling 'colonial waste' and help us to create a new future for sustainability in fashion.

Get in touch:



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