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ASSISTING WEST AFRICA: DRAWING TO THE BELARUSIAN EXPERTISE

Оказание помощи Западной Африке: привлечение белорусского опыта

The modern world emphasizes ethics, tolerance, equal rights, and respect for others' feelings. The term 'third world country' is no longer considered politically correct, but the meaning remains unchanged. Has anyone spoken out about the large amount of digital waste in African countries? Developed and powerful economies are dumping digital waste on poor countries.

Let's focus on the Republic of Ghana as an example. Ghana is one of the poorest countries in Africa and the world, with its economy based on cocoa bean production. In addition to cocoa bean production, it is home to Agbogbloshi, a large electronic waste dump near Accra, the capital. Thousands of people, including children, work there daily to find valuable materials to make a living.

Despite ongoing research and public engagement, Ghana's environmental issues are neglected. Authors like Dr. Kwame Agyeman, Prof. Abena Oduro, and Dr. Emmanuel Mensah have made significant contributions to addressing this problem, with Prof. Oduro advocating for inclusive policies prioritizing environmental justice and community participation in waste management initiatives. While the focus of different studies may vary, it is universally agreed that European electronic waste has a negative impact on Ghana's environment.

Electronics waste is highly toxic, as the elements contained in it pose a threat to the environment. Developed countries have strict regulations for disposing of electronic waste due to its toxic nature, but it is often exported to third world countries under various disguises. About 200,000 tons of waste are sent to landfills in these countries every year, as recycling is too expensive. Despite the Basel Convention, which prohibits exporting toxic waste to developing countries, places like Agbogbloshi still exist. People working at an electronics dump in Ghana extract valuable metals from decommissioned equipment and live off their sale. They burn the cases to extract metals, creating acrid smog that poisons everything around. Children make up the main labor force, earning up to \$3.5 a day. They work in toxic smoke, disassembling monitors and processors, and suffer from constant headaches, insomnia, and nausea. Many die before reaching 30. However, for many people, it is easier to make a living here than in other regions of Ghana.

In our opinion, the European Union has a crucial role to play in addressing the issue of electronic waste in Ghana. By taking responsibility and implementing these

measures, the EU can help mitigate the negative impact of electronic waste on the environment and contribute to sustainable development in Ghana. It is important for the EU to work collaboratively with Ghanaian authorities and communities to ensure that these initiatives are effectively implemented and have a long lasting impact.

The UN and Greenpeace are actively involved in addressing environmental waste issues in Ghana. The UN supports programs aimed at improving waste management and promoting sustainable living, such as the 'Clean Ghana' initiative. They have also developed a framework program for sustainable development cooperation in Ghana for the period 2022-2025. Greenpeace engages in research, documentation of environmental issues, and campaigns to draw attention to waste problems, collaborating with local communities and stakeholders to find solutions.

Thus, Belarus can contribute by sharing its experience in waste management and recycling, providing technical assistance, training programs, and knowledge-sharing opportunities. They can also cooperate with the EU and African countries in joint ventures for processing electronic waste, participate in international forums and conferences, and advocate for stricter rules and policies at the global level. This can help address the issue of electronic waste in Ghana and other African countries.

In conclusion, addressing the issue of digital waste in African countries requires an integrated approach involving infrastructure development, education and public awareness, public attention, and international cooperation.

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THE FEATURES OF BUSINESS CULTURE IN JAPAN

Особенности бизнес-культуры в Японии

Understanding the complexities of doing business in countries and regions around the world is crucial in today's global marketplace. In order to successfully conduct business in different countries, it is necessary to know cultural, legal and obviously economic factors.

In international business, the influence of culture manifests itself literally at all levels. Therefore, the higher are cultural barriers, the more critical are the requirements for the managers and staff in international relations. The difference in the values of national cultures, the methods of management and the feature of the discipline in the organisation create conditions for doing business with partners.

This research provides an overview of the topic and defines the key to successful business in Japan based on cultural values.