

MOT: Tracking Your Used Garments

Käytetyn vaatteen jäljillä

Yle's investigative team MOT decided to dive into the global billion Euro business of used clothes and found a secretive world where cameras were prohibited and the experts of the field don't have exact knowledge of what happens to recycled garments in the end. The team decided to use exceptional research method: trackers. The viewer can follow the long trip of the old jeans, a green sweater and for example a winter jacket from the garment collecting bin near your supermarket, into trucks and ships via train stations and international ports to gigantic sorting plants throughout Europe - and finally even to African flea markets.

Recycling gives us a good conscience. Only in the Nordic countries we donate over 100,000 tonnes of used clothes each year to charity funds and fashion chains like H&M. But why don't even the experts know the final destiny of the huge amount of textile waste that we produce each year? Yle wasn't allowed to film at UFF, the biggest garment collector of textiles in Finland, or the huge sorting plants in Europe. Instead the journalists sewed small trackers into garments and followed their way from country to country during several months. Yle also visited a big market for 'Dead Man's Clothes', that sells used Western clothes in one of the poorest countries in the world, Mocambique. There the team found known brands like H&M, Zara and Lindex – a lot of them dirty and in such bad shape that they are thrown away in a country with a lousy garbage system. This is the story of how rich countries dump their waste problem on poor countries as we consumers continue buying more and more cheap fashion produced in unethical ways.

MOT: Tracking Your Used Garments

Käytetyn vaatteen jäljillä

Submitting organisation: **Yle, the Finnish Broadcasting Company, Investigative team MOT**
Contact: **Minna Knus-Galan – minna.knus@yle.fi**
Author: **Minna Knus-Galán**
Director: **Minna Knus-Galán**
Camera: **Jouni Soikkeli, Hanna Nordenswan (Mocambique), Janne Järvinen,
Tuomas Stedt**
Commissioning editor: **Pentti Väliähdet**
Producer: **Hanna Takala**
Production company: **Yle**
Key staff: **Riikka Kurki (Concept designer),
Liselott Lindström (Reporter in Mocambique),
Anna D. Kokko (Editor),
Camilla Arjasmaa (Graphic designer)**
Titel of series: **MOT**
Episode: **5 : 34**
Length: **28 min**
Total budget: **€ 25,000**
Original language: **Finnish**
First broadcast by: **Yle TV1**
Date of first broadcast: **17 February 2020, 20:00**
Competing for: **Best European TV Investigation of the Year**