# Unit 3.6. Colonial legacy

## 4. Legacy of Colonialism

1. Colonialism disrupted colonies way of life. Choose the type of consequence of each change.

- Europeans drew new borders and created new countries, without considering indigenous peoples' tribal, linguistic and religious differences.
- Many indigenous people's customs and traditions were lost.
- Traditional crops were replaced with large plantations to grow products for the metropole (cocoa, cotton, rubber, fruits,...)
- The population increase and the death rate decrease altered the balance between population and resources and led to chronic malnutrition.
- Industrial imported products from the metropolis were cheaper and sold in large quantities, so indigenous peoples had to abandon traditional crafts.
- Artificial countries had borders drawn along meridians and parallels, which led to clashes between different communities.
- Tribal life and old system of social hierarchies were lost.
- Europeans turned natural forests into agricultural areas and build infrastructure to exploit the territory and link it to other conquered territories.
- Europeans taught European languages, beliefs and lifestyles, including Christianity, which led to an acculturation phenomenon.
- Colonisers created hospitals, introduced vaccines and better hygiene, which reduced epidemics. These changes caused an increase in population.
- Indigenous peoples were forced to work in the plantations and had to buy food, abandoning their traditional lifestyle.
- Ethnic groups were divided or united artificially, which forced opposing groups to live together. Some indigenous groups were recruited to the army and civil service.
- The settlers imposed a cash market economy which forced indigenous peoples to buy food, instead of growing it.

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