



(The Minor Foundation for Major Challenges)

**UKRAINE: STOP FIELD FIRE!**  
*(the brief, full version is available from authors)*

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**Project Summary**

Open field burning of plant residuals contributes to regional and global climate change by producing CO<sub>2</sub>, methane and, especially, black carbon (BC). Nowadays, Ukraine is one of the biggest world polluters due to field fire and contributes more BC pollution to the Arctic than all the Nordic countries. Newly emerged, just aggressive domestic agrarian business are neglecting environmental issues completely trying to maximize own profit.

National legal base consists some provisions for field firing: penalty 3 000 – 10 000 euro or prison term of 2-3 years. But practice of such law enforcement is absent. As well issues of preventing pollutions and diminishing of the influence on climate change are not a subject of national agrarian policy, which is extremely weak at all. On the other hand, wide public and local population express great concern about biomass burning. And the aim of proposed project is to direct this concern into sound informational flow resulting in strengthening of national agrarian policy and environmental law enforcement aimed at mitigation of climate change due to field fire.

Activities of the project include consultations with stakeholders (big agrarian business, small farmers, NGO activists, local habitants including healthcare specialists, representatives of regional state and municipal agencies) in 3 regional spots based on information about big field fire from local activists. The aim of consultations is to work out measures, means and ways to combat using of field fire. It is supposed that consultations may result in filing of claim to court to impose a penalty on field arsonists. The results of consultations will be disseminated in local and central mass media as journalists will be welcomed to project activities. Project is supposed to be open for activists from other regions, reporting and covering in mass media relative information about arsons on fields from other villages and regions.

Based on the results of the consultations a policy paper on preventing of air pollutions due to burning of field residuals will be developed and presented at Public Council of the Ministry of Agrarian Policy and Food of Ukraine and to profile committee of the National Parliament.