



## Local communities actions in addressing degradation of lands contaminated with radionuclides

(UKR/SGP/OP5/Y4/STAR/LD/15/51)



Country	Ukraine
Grantee	NGO "Ecological life"
Focal Area	Land Degradation
Project Type	Full
Operational Phase	OP5—Y4
Duration	4/2015 - 12/2015
Grant Amount	49,960 US\$
Project Types	Demonstration, Applied Research and Policy Analysis, Information Dissemination, Networking and Policy Dialogue
Partners	Kamianka village Council, Lugyny Ltd., Educational and Research Institute of Economy and Ecology under SEA, Zhytomyr National Agroecological Institute
Co-financing	Kamianka village Council, Lugyny Ltd., Educational and Research Institute of Economy and Ecology under SEA, Zhytomyr National Agroecological Institute
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### Project Description

Zhytomyr region is highly polluted with radionuclides due to the Chernobyl disaster. The specific conditions of the region affect the situation and facilitate its spread to other areas. These conditions, as well as difficult economic situation along with violation of crop rotation technologies by local population leads to land degradation, catastrophic reduction of cattle stock and losses for the region in general. The main objective of the project is to implement technologies of managed pastures as an instrument to combat land degradation and establish profitable animal husbandry, which is the foundation of the well-being of the region's local population. Adapted meadow and pasture systems, which will facilitate increase of cattle stock and decrease of cattle mortality, will improve fodder and introduce use of hayfields. The project is implemented in the pilot area of Kamianka village. This project fosters intensive use of pastures during 5-6 years with decrease of the level of radionuclides in the soil.

### Project achievements and expected results

- Technologies of managed pastures were established in the pilot area of Kamianka village to address degradation of lands contaminated with radionuclides.
- The project improves the agricultural area in Zhytomyr region.
- Within the framework of the project 200 local residents and other partners became environmentally aware and more responsible in use of managed pastures. A series of workshops were held.

### Follow up

The demonstration project established initiatives beneficial for the agriculture of Zhytomyr region and empowered local communities to combat land pollution and degradation, and improve the well-being of the population.