

ДЕРЖАВНЕ АГЕНТСТВО УКРАЇНИ  
З УПРАВЛІННЯ ЗОНОЮ  
ВІДЧУЖЕННЯ

бульвар Лесі Українки, 26  
м. Київ, 01133, тел.: (044) 594-82-42,  
факс: (044) 594-82-45, e-mail:  
office@dazv.gov.ua  
http://dazv.gov.ua/



STATE AGENCY OF UKRAINE  
ON EXCLUSION ZONE  
MANAGEMENT

26 Lesya Ukrainka Blvd  
Kyiv, 01133, phone (+38044) 594-82-42,  
fax: (+38044) 594-82-45,  
e-mail: office@dazv.gov.ua  
http://dazv.gov.ua/en/

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To whom it may concern,

I am First Deputy Director of the State Agency of Ukraine for Exclusion Zone Management (SAUEZM) responsible for managing Chernobyl contaminated lands. I am writing in support of the application of the projects TREE and iCLEAR for an NERC Impact Award. Research in TREE project on transfers of radioactivity to plants and animals, on radiation effects on Chernobyl wildlife and biodiversity in the Chernobyl Exclusion Zone, has greatly assisted my Agency and Ukrainian other respective authorities in planning the management of Chernobyl contaminated areas. This led to iCLEAR project working with SAUEZM as partners, supporting us in planning the re-use of huge areas of radioactively contaminated land. Ukraine has about 4,000 km<sup>2</sup> of land that cannot legally be used because of Chernobyl radioactive contamination, both in Chernobyl Exclusion Zone and in Districts where people live.

TREE research on wild animals had big international news coverage. It showed for the first time through good science the recovery of wild animal populations at Chernobyl. It is clear that TREE has changed perceptions of Chernobyl Exclusion Zone in Ukraine and internationally.

Collaboration with iCLEAR already led to a Ukraine State budget committee supporting funds request for new radiological survey to support derestriction of Chernobyl impacted lands, starting with ten thousand hectares of abandoned land in Narodychi district. Following iCLEAR-organized expert group meeting held in Narodychi in Spring 2018, which brought together more than 30 Ukrainian national and local authority representatives and international experts, have agreed input into our Agency recommendations for the next Presidential Decree. So TREE and iCLEAR has put us in position to bring major economic benefits to Ukraine by enabling the State, local populations and business to reuse lands.

Yours sincerely

**First Deputy Head**

**Oleg Nasvit**