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New biomass tech to reduce open field burning in India

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A renewable energy technology developed recently has been unveiled that aims to eradicate open field burning in rural India.

The technology, termed Pyroformer container, has been developed by scientists at the European Bioenergy Research Institute (EBRI) of Aston University, UK under collaboration with the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Ropar.

It is believed that farmers throughout India burn millions of tonnes of crop residue every year. Energy

Harvest, a project based in the Punjab, uses agricultural waste left after harvests, and using Pyroformer to heat them in controlled conditions.

The process generates oil, gas and biochar, all of which can be put to use rather than simply burnt. 'Open field burning is a problem in India and I hope this project will provide a socially and economically viable solution for farming communities, not only in Punjab but for the rest of the country,' IIT Ropar director M K Surappa, was quoted as saying by the media.

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