

# Social and community surveying

Case study



## Our services

Cefas' Social Surveying team specialises in interviewing members of the public in order to collect qualitative and quantitative data for use in a broad range of research topics.

Our experience in data collection and interview techniques is facilitated by close collaboration with mathematicians, statisticians and modellers who ease data interpretation and realisation. Cefas has extensive experience of conducting site-specific surveys to assess public exposure to contaminants in the environment and through the food chain. Such surveys provide a more reliable and accurate alternative to generic surveys about the actions or habits of members of the public.

Our customers include among others; the Environment Agency, Food Standards Agency, Health and Safety Executive, the Scottish Environment Protection Agency, and commercial organisations. .

## Case study - Radiological habits surveys

Since the early 1950's the Cefas team has been involved in extensive Radiological Habits Surveys. These assess exposure to liquid and gaseous radioactive waste discharges and direct radiation, at over 25 nuclear licensed sites in the UK. Sites include the Sellafield Nuclear Reprocessing Plant, Springfields nuclear fuel reprocessing plant, Sizewell nuclear power stations, and the Aldermaston Atomic Weapons Establishment. Surveys have also been undertaken into accidents such as Chernobyl. These surveys identify and quantify public exposure to radiation from the consumption of locally produced foods and occupancy of areas potentially affected by any discharges.

Surveys have also been conducted at locations remote from nuclear sites to assess any impacts of radiation. This includes work around the Southwest Scottish coast, the Channel Islands and the Eastern coast of Northern Ireland.

## Case study - Off-shore wind farms

These studies have used cognitive mapping methods to assess the opinions of stakeholders about off-shore wind farms and the effect they may have for instance on the fishing industries.

Cefas has gathered and represented the opinions of many different groups of people who may be affected by the development of wind farms. We have identified, contacted and interviewed a wide variety of stakeholders including commercial fishermen, anglers, farmers and others.

Data collection may be through quantitative or qualitative methods, followed by robust data interpretation and publication of results.

## Services

- Quantitative data collection
- Qualitative data collection
- Stakeholder identification
- Database construction
- Post Data interpretation
- Cognitive mapping
- 97.5th percentiles
- Calculation of critical groups

1 Off-shore windfarms

2 Interviewing commercial fishermen

## Contact us

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Contamination can occur in the food chain

## About us

Cefas is a multidisciplinary scientific research and consultancy centre providing a comprehensive range of services in fisheries management, environmental monitoring and assessment, and aquaculture to a large number of clients worldwide.

We have more than 500 staff based in 3 laboratories, our own ocean going research vessel, and over 100 years of fisheries experience.

We have a long and successful track record in delivering high quality services to clients in a confidential and impartial manner. ([www.cefasc.co.uk](http://www.cefasc.co.uk))

Cefas Technology Limited (CTL) is a wholly owned subsidiary of Cefas specialising in the application of Cefas technology to specific customer needs in a cost effective and focussed manner.

CTL systems are developed by teams that are experienced in fisheries and environmental management and of working closely with clients to ensure that their needs are fully met. ([www.cefastechnology.co.uk](http://www.cefastechnology.co.uk))

## Customer focus

Our unique facilities and our breadth of expertise in environmental and fisheries management, enable us to rapidly put together a multi-disciplinary team of experienced specialists, fully supported by our comprehensive in-house resources. Our existing customers are drawn from a broad spectrum with wide ranging interests.

Clients include:

- international and UK government departments
- the European Commission
- the World Bank
- United Nations Food and Agriculture Organisation (UNFAO)
- oil, water, chemical, pharmaceutical, agro-chemical, aggregate and marine industries
- non-governmental and environmental organisations
- regulators and enforcement agencies
- local authorities and other public bodies

We also work successfully in partnership with other organisations, operate in international consortia and have joint ventures commercialising our intellectual property.