



## PREMIAM 5<sup>th</sup> Biannual Conference

When there is a significant spill of oil, chemicals or other substances (e.g. plastic nurdles in a recent incident!) there is a need for prompt post spill-environmental monitoring and impact assessment to support response operations and to provide authoritative evidence to support decisions and promote food safety and environmental recovery. Cefas has been a leading light nationally and internationally in the application of science to achieve this, especially through the Premiam initiative, a cross government and industry programme that has been running since 2009.

As well as the publication of scientific guidelines and the set-up and maintenance of national decision making and management processes another aim of the initiative is to disseminate best practice and to promote knowledge exchange and debate across government, industry and academia. A primary vehicle through which this is achieved is by convening a full day biannual conference.

The 5<sup>th</sup> PREMIAM conference was held this year on the 22 June in Amsterdam at the RAI as part of the Interspill conference and exhibition which ran from the 20<sup>th</sup> – 23<sup>rd</sup> June.

Interspill is the largest spill response event in Europe and the opportunity to include the Premiam event as an integral part of it allowed exposure to a larger international audience and showcased the importance of preparedness in marine impact assessment and monitoring as a result of a pollution response emergency.

The PREMIAM conference theme this year was '*Promoting best practise in an international context*',

and was delivered across 3 sessions: *Development & Innovation in Post spill Environmental monitoring, Emerging Issues- implications for monitoring and impacts, and The international Context.*

Mark Kirby introduced the day and chaired the conference and welcomed speakers from across government, industry and academia including JNCC, ITOPF, NOAA, NIOZ, OSRL, IMO and CEFAS.

The conference was very well received, and we had an exceptional turn out to all sessions. Cefas/Premiam have been welcomed back to the Interspill Conference 2025 as an option for highlighting the importance of the PREMAIM guidelines for post spill monitoring.

Should you want to know any more about the Premiam initiative please feel free to contact Mark Kirby (mark.kirby@cefas.co.uk)



