Plan Overview

A Data Management Plan created using DMPonline

Title: BREXFISH

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Project abstract:

The UK’s withdrawal from the European Union (Brexit) has been a pivotal moment for fishing in north-west Europe, impacting on fishers, related businesses, and wider communities, not only in the UK, but also in neighbouring countries. Brexit has redrawn the spaces of fishing regulation and reshaped fishing value chains, compounding the effects of COVID-19 and longer-term transitions. BREXFISH examines how fishing people, places and enterprises have experienced and responded to Brexit as part of longer-term political-economic and environmental transition. Adopting an international and interdisciplinary approach, with multi-sited case studies in northern France (Brittany and Normandy), south-west England (Cornwall and Devon) and Wales, BREXFISH will trace the actors and policy discourses involved in reworking governance and regulatory frameworks post-Brexit, connect these to the experiences and responses of individual actors and communities in diverse parts of the fishing sector, and project future scenarios and their potential implications for fishing places. Drawing on concepts of polycentric governance, relational place and sustainable transitions, the BREXFISH analysis will provide much-needed evidence to support policy-making and public debate around the impacts of Brexit for fishing industries and communities and insights into how the effects of macro-scale policies are grounded in places and intersect with individual agency. As such, BREXFISH will make broader contributions to spatialising the nascent interdisciplinary field of Marine Social Science, bringing it into dialogue with the Human Geographies of the Sea, and to understanding social, economic, cultural and governance entanglements of the land and the sea.

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BREXFISH

Assessment of existing data

Provide an explanation of the existing data sources that will be used by the research project, with references

BREXFISH will re-use interview data, statistical data and documentary sources collected by partners AU and ESO as part of the CYMBREIZH scoping study in Brittany and Wales and supplement these with new data addressing additional research questions, extended over a longer time period, and for the additional case study regions of Normandy and South West England.

BREXFISH will also make use of publicly available secondary datasets including for fishing fleet statistics and for landings of catch at ports (e.g. Defra, 'UK and foreign vessels landings by UK port and UK vessel landings abroad: provisional data'; Marine Management Organization, 'Monthly UK Sea Fisheries Statistics'; Seafish, 'Fleet Enquiry Tool'; CEFAS, 'Fisheries Data Archive Centre'; 'Système d'information halieutique'.

Provide an analysis of the gaps identified between the currently available and required data for the research

New data is required in order to answer research questions relating to: (1) Qualitative accounts of the impacts of Brexit at individual and community scales, experiences and perspectives of fishers and other individual actors; responses to impacts and adjustment strategies; disruption and innovation in fish value chains; (2) Quantitative evidence of local and business-scale changes in the volume, type and geography of fishing activity, produiction and related income; (3) Actors involved in fishing and marine policy networks, changes to policies and regulations following Brexit and factors shaping these decisions; (4) Mapping of changes to regulatory geographies and to the spatial pattern of fishing activity at individual and collective level; (5) Stakeholder and community perspectives on potential future trajectories for fishing places.

Information on new data

Provide information on the data that will be produced or accessed by the research project

Data to be collected by BREXFISH will include:

1) Qualitative interview data in the from of audio recordings (.avi or similar) and transcripts (MS Word). Approximately 200 interviews total (average 1 hour each), including interviews conducted in-person (recorded by digital dictaphone or smartphone) and online (recorded via zoom or MS Teams).

2) Qualitative data from stakeholder workshops, in the form of audio recordings (.avi or similar), transcripts (MS Word) and written notes (MS Word).Approximately 12-15 hours total.

3) Quantitative data (e.g. fisheries landings, vessel registrations, port income, trade statistics), including aggregation of primary data and selection and processing of data from secondary datasets, stored in MS Excel format or similar.

4) Spatial data relating to marine zoning, spatial patterns of fishing activity (including geolocational data for fishing vessels), and spatial mapping of value chains, produced in ESRI ArcGIS or similar software. Raw data (e.g. coordinates) stored in MS Excel format.

5) Textual data, including copies of policy papers, reports, regulations, press articles and other documents, and web and social media content, to be captured and stored as digital copies in pdf format.

6) Data from field observations including photographs, video recordings, and written notes. Photographs and video recordings to be stored in .jpeg and .mov formats or similar. Written field notes to be maintained and stored in hard copy by researchers, with summaries or copies typed and stored in MS Word format as appropriate for analysis and sharing.

7) Data from workshops and community-outreach activities in hard format, e.g. flip charts, post-it notes, etc.. Hard copy materials will be photographed and stored in .jpeg or .pdf format as a digital dataset.

In total, the research is estimate to generate approximately 11GB of audio and audio-visual data, 7.5 GB of photographic data, 10GB of pdf files, 1GB of GIS output, and 200MB of word processing files. There is adequate storage capacity for these data at the partner institutions, including 1TB of dedicated filestore at AU.

Quality assurance of data

Describe the procedures for quality assurance that will be carried out on the data collected at the time of data

collection, data entry, digitisation and data checking.

Quality control and consistency will be ensured by through common protocols for data collection and templates for interview schedules and workshop formats, as well as standardized approaches to data analysis (including coding frameworks), to be agreed by collective discussion in WP teams. All researchers involved in data collection will have had postgraduate-level or equivalent training in the relevant methods, and will be encouraged to participate in courses provided by the partner institutions or external providers such as NCRM for novel methods and/or for refreshing skills. Protocols for field data collection will include checking that recording devices and cameras are working correctly. Transcription of interviews will be undertaken by professional transcription service providers, selected on the basis of a test transcript.

Secondary data sources will be evaluated for reliability. For quantitative data an emphasis will be placed on official sources (e.g ONS, SIH) wherever possible. For policy and textual analysis, original documents will be sourced and used wherever possible. Data from unofficial and secondary sources will be verified through triangulation wherever possible.

Backup and security of data

Describe the data security and backup procedures you will adopt to ensure the data and metadata are securely stored during the lifetime of the project.

Data will be stored and managed by the research partner responsible for its collection on password-protected computers, backed up in institutions' network drives. At Aberystwyth University, up to 1TB of data storage will be made available for the project during the grant duration under indirect costs, and up to 500GB for post-project storage. This storage will be provided on a centrally held server, mirrored to a separate system (at an alternative location) with periodic backup arrangements in place. This arrangement allows stored data to be protected from component and system failures with the ability to restore from tape for data that was deleted or corrupted. Access will be password protected, restricted to project team members, and available via a shared drive and devices that support standard WebDAV. The AU secure data store will serve as a central data store for the project, regularly updated with copies of non-personal core data from the research partners.

Data collected in the field (including interview recordings) will be stored and transported in encrypted files on password-protected laptop computers and/or encrypted portable drives until it can be securely uploaded to an institutional secure data store.

Data will be shared within the research team as required through a password protected secure shared drive, compliant with the data security regulations of the particapting institutions (AU, ESO, University of Gloucestershire, and University of Oldenburg), the EU Data Protective Directive, and UK data protection law. If required, data will be directly transferred to/between project team members only in encrypted format using secure file transfer platforms.

Following the end of the grant, data required for verification purposes and ongoing dissemination will be stored on the AU secure network drive. Anonymised data will be archieved and shared as appropriate as described below. Data not required for verification purposes or ongoing dissemination will be destroyed.

Management and curation of data

Outline your plans for preparing, organising and documenting data.

Data will be managed and curated according to the FAIR (Findable, Accessible, Interoperable and Resuable) principles. Dataset records will be described using the standard DataCite metadata schema. Data will be formatted in standard formats accessible to widely-available or open source software (e.g. Microsoft Word, Microsoft Excel; .csv, .pdf, .jpg, .mov, .avi), with filenames following standard protocols.

Difficulties in data sharing and measures to overcome these

Identify any potential obstacles to sharing your data, explain which and the possible measures you can apply to overcome these.

Data will be archived and shared where consistent with data protection regulations and the ethics protocols of the project. Qualitative data in the form of interview and workshop transcripts will be shared in anonymised form where participants have given specific consent. Where specific consent for archiving has not been given the data will be withheld. Audio recordings will not be archived or shared, as individuals may be identifable, and audio-visual or photographic material will be shared only with the specific consent of the indviduals concerned. Processes for anonymisation are described below. Interviews and workshops may be conducted in English,

French or Welsh. To maintain the integrity of the data, transcripts will be shared only in the language of recording, which will be indicated in the metadata. Visual data, such as photographs of workshop flip-charts, will be shared only where individual participants are not identifiable.

Obstacles to sharing textual sources and statistical data may be presented by third-party copyright. Accordingly, textual data and quantitative data obtained from secondary or proprietary sources will not normally be archieved or shared. Sources will be identified for these data in outputs where they are used, with hyperlinks to sources and/or information on access as appropriate.

Consent, anonymisation and strategies to enable further re-use of data

Make explicit mention of the planned procedures to handle consent for data sharing for data obtained from human participants, and/or how to anonymise data, to make sure that data can be made available and accessible for future scientific research.

Data sharing and re-use will be subject to the specific consent of participants and will adhere to the requirements of the GDPR, under which personal data may be collected and held for specified research purposes. Informed written consent will be obtained from all participants prior to data collection (e.g. interviews, workshops), and will include specific consent for the archiving and sharing of anonymised transcripts.

Transcripts will be prepared for archiving using anonymisation guidelines produced by the ESRC WISERD Civil Society Research Centre and previous employed by the PI, which will remove any personal data or identifying information. The anonymisation process will be undertaken by a team member or by a contracted professional on a confidential basis. Resource has been budgeted for preparation of data for archiving.

For in-project use, interview recordings and transcripts will be labelled by code and not by participant name. Personal data such as names and contact details for participants will be maintained by individual researchers only as necessary for fieldwork logistics and for fact-checking and sharing of findings.

Copyright and intellectual property ownership

State who will own the copyright and IPR of any new data that you will generate.

Each participating research institution will retain IPR and ownership over data that its employees collect. Project members will be able to aggregate and analyse these data for the specified objectives of the project, subject to the consent of the respective researchers and attribution of contributions to data collection, analysis and authorship, as set out in the Consortium Agreement. The Consortium Agreement will also specify the IPR of partners over background data brought to the research, including data from the CYMBREIZH scoping study.

Responsibilities

Outline responsibilities for data management within research teams at all partner institutions

Oversight of data management will be the responsibility of the project management group within WP5. A named individual team member will be responsible for data management at each research partner, including ensuring secure storage and management of data, compliance with institutional data management policies, producing metadata and preparing data for archiving: Goodwin-Hawkins at CCRI, Karrasch at University of Oldenburg, Lepetit at ESO, and Woods at Aberystwyth University (assisted by the project administator).

Preparation of data for sharing and archiving

Are the plans for preparing and documenting data for sharing and archiving with the UK Data Service appropriate?

Data to be archived includes anonymized interview transcripts and workshop transcripts, new aggregated quantitative datasets, and visual records of hard-copy data from workshops and outreach exercises. These data will be offered in full to the UK Data Service, and data collected by individual partners will be archived in the respective institutional data repository. Data archived with the UK Data Service will be made available for open access with a CC-BY-SA licence through UKDA access procedures. Data will be deposited at the end of the grant period. No embargo period is envisaged, but this may be revisited if requested by research participants or if data is senstive with respect to political circumstances at the time.

Data will prepared for archiving following UK Data Service guidelines. Transcripts will be prepared for archiving using anonymisation guidelines produced by the ESRC WISERD Civil Society Research Centre and previous employed by the PI, which will remove any personal data or identifying information. The anonymisation process will be undertaken by a team member or by a contracted professional on a confidential basis. Resource has been budgeted for preparation of data for archiving.

Selected non-personal data, notably quantitative data sets and spatial data, will also be made available through the project website, which will be maintained for a minimum period of five years after the grant end.

Is there evidence that data will be well documented during research to provide highquality contextual information and/or structured metadata for secondary users?

In order to faciltate re-use, dataset records will be described using the standard DataCite metadata schema. Data will be formatted in standard formats accessible to widely-available or open source software (e.g. Microsoft Word, Microsoft Excel; .csv, .pdf, .jpg, .mov, .avi), with filenames following standard protocols.