Craft metrics to value co-production

To assess whether research is relevant to society, ask the stakeholders, say Catherine Durose, Liz Richardson and Beth Perry.

Advocates of co-production encourage collaboration between researchers and participants throughout the process, rather than at the end. This is particularly important when evaluating the value of research narrowly. They are also called public interest researchers.

NOT GOOD ON PAPER

There are now many examples of work co-produced by local partnerships that address health inequalities or environmental and social injustice. Today’s ‘publish or perish’ system in academia vastly undervalues outputs from such projects, which often don’t come in the shape of a paper.

Examples challenging this include the feature film Pili (2018), a ground-breaking co-production project. The women of Miono in western Tanzania make up the ensemble cast of non-actors, 65% of whom are HIV positive; their real stories provide the basis for the film. It came together as part of a research project on global health, led by political economist Sophie Harman at Queen Mary, University of London, that aimed to give a voice and visibility to unseen women on the periphery of world politics.

Another example of co-production that would be undervalued by conventional measures is the Massachusetts Institute of Technology’s Fab Lab Network. This open community of scientists, engineers, educators, students and artists of all ages is located across more than 1,000 laboratories in some 100 countries. Fab Labs is, in part, a distributed research lab that aims to democratize access to the tools, education and means for invention, to create opportunities to improve lives.

Consider also the Morris Justice Project. Residents of the Bronx in New York City worked with the City University of New York’s Public Science Project to challenge the New York City Police Department (NYPD) with a toolkit to improve police and community relations.
Action Research: co-production for urban governance

We want to seize the opportunity to make devolution matter in Greater Manchester by creating spaces for social innovation and inspiring and igniting change.

MISSION

METHODS

The Action Research Collective

Adrian Ball, Alex Whinnom, Alice Toomer McAlpine, Amanda Bickerton, Andrew Burridge, Bertie Russell, Beth Perry, Catherine Durose, Dan Silver, Jez Hall, Julie Asumu, Katie Finney, Laura Williams, Liz Richardson, Paul Maher, Susanne Martikke and Vicky Simpson.

10 co-initiated case studies

- The 21st Century Councillor
- People’s Republic of Energy
- The System Doesn’t Work
- Transform GM
- GM Decides
- People’s Procurement
- The Care at Home Challenge
- Space in Common
- Young People Missing from Decisions
- Co-Producing the Green Summit
1-5 JULY
NATIONAL CO-PRODUCTION WEEK
jamandjustice-rjc.org
Coalitions for Change
How can we share our knowledge and power to change our city-region for the better?

In 2019, we are connecting with others to forge coalitions that outlive our research.

#CoProduceGM
CO-PRODUCE GM PROCESS

29 JAN
SHAPING THE COALITION

6 MARCH
AM: SHARING PRACTICE
PM: TAKING ACTION TOGETHER

1-5 JULY
NATIONAL CO-PRODUCTION WEEK
VARIOUS OPPORTUNITIES TO COME TOGETHER

CALL TO ACTION

JAM & JUSTICE
COLLATING DATA

ACTION LEARNING SETS
ACTION LEARNING SETS
ACTION LEARNING SETS
ACTION LEARNING SETS
ACTION LEARNING SETS

EVENT CO-DESIGN SESSION

JAM & JUSTICE SHARE FINDINGS
ACTION LEARNING SETS

1. System level change/creating a local participatory ecosystem

2. Skills, development, capacity of people, permission and space to develop

3. Creating conditions for active decision-making including experts by experience

4. Open (set decides)

5. Open (set decides)
Sign up to a set at tiny.cc/cpgmals

CoProduce GM Action Learning Sets

New to Coalitions for Change? Either leave your email here
Or send an email to:

jamandjustice@sheffield.ac.uk

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