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Relationships

- Public involvement in research as research being carried out ‘with’ or ‘by’ members of the public rather than ‘to’, ‘about’ or ‘for’ them
- Relationships are key to high quality public/citizen involvement
- Good relationships are built on clarity or values, even if you have different views and agree to disagree!

Co-production

- Sharing of power – *the research is jointly owned and people work together to achieve a joint understanding*
- Including all perspectives and skills – *make sure the research team includes all those who can make a contribution*
- Respecting and valuing the knowledge of all those working together on the research
- Reciprocity – *everybody benefits from working together*
- Building and maintaining relationships – *an emphasis on relationships is key to sharing*



Power sharing

- What is the reality of sharing power to build relationships?
- Maybe clarity about where and when power can be shared in a project?
- Greater methodological clarity for how power sharing might work
- Greater understanding of the benefits of power sharing
- Good relationships are based on some level of power sharing



Reciprocity

- Research is moving from a context where only researchers decide what to research
- Identifying areas of importance for publics and researchers
- In UK James Lind Alliance priority setting partnerships identify research areas of importance and their process supports reciprocity
- Reciprocity can take other forms – supporting community development



Valuing public/citizen knowledge

- The knowledge citizens and public contributors bring often adds new thinking
- Active listening is a vital way of valuing this knowledge
- Affirming the importance of citizen knowledge and building it into your knowledge or evidence base is key
- Shared knowledge creation can develop strong relationships



Time and place

- Consider the time needs to build high quality relationships
- Ideally relationships develop over time and research ideas emerge
- The right place to talk is important
- Agree where people feel comfortable to meet
- Think about the space you meet and how you nurture people

Facilitation

- Active forms of involvement with the public/citizens need high quality facilitation
- Facilitation sets the tone, ensures people are included, demonstrates active listening and valuing and is honest about the limitations of a process
- Sometimes it is better to have some neutral who is not an academic who can focus on relationship building or an academic who can step out of their academic role

MEMVIE Study

- Co-production of framework for public involvement in mathematical and economic modelling
- Values underlying motivation explored
- Public contributor knowledge unique and valued
- Research role changed towards facilitation
- Time and place were carefully considered
- Reciprocity in how framework was developed

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