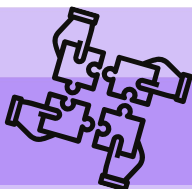


RQ+ 4 CO-PRO

RQ+ 4 Co-Pro can be used by a variety of actors. These include researchers and research beneficiaries partnering in a co-production effort, but also the numerous individuals, organisations, and institutions that play stewarding roles for co-production. Here we provide four illustrative cases. This list is not exhaustive.

Case #1

Co-Producers



A co-production team uses RQ+ 4 Co-Pro from start to finish of a research project. At the outset, researchers and knowledge users apply the approach to develop and clarify a shared understanding of goals for the work. As the project progresses, the team uses the framework to assess progress, and identify areas for project improvement. When the research is completed, the team evaluates their effort against the framework components and shares successes and failures.

Case #3

Publishers



A journal that specializes in publishing research co-production works with its editorial board and representatives of its community to build an RQ+ 4 Co-Pro framework that represents the mission and values it wants to espouse. The journal then puts RQ+ 4 Co-Pro to work in its peer-review and editorial decision-making processes. Because it keeps a record of individual reviewer assessments, at year end the journal's editorial board commissions a meta-analysis of results against the contextual factors and quality dimensions it assessed in every paper received and published, learning much about the strengths, weaknesses, and opportunities ahead for its field.

Case #2

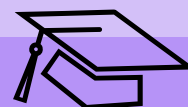
Funders



A research funder launches a call for co-production research projects. To send a clear message to its community about what will be valued and assessed, the funder articulates its quality dimensions in the call. When peer-reviewers are assessing applications received, they systematically apply the framework to each application ensuring consistent and transparent reviews. Years later, the same funder revisits this portfolio of funded projects, and assesses their quality using the same framework as a post-hoc evaluation tool.

Case #4

Universities



A university faculty decides to re-think how it supports, rewards, and teaches co-production. Using RQ+ 4 Co-Pro as an evaluative framework it begins to assess and reward faculty based on the components of quality that matter for this type of research. This sets clear and meaningful goalposts for staff who have felt co-production work was under-valued using traditional research evaluation metrics. At the same time, the faculty draws on RQ+ 4 Co-Pro as a teaching device, to share case studies and highlight critical components of co-production quality to students and staff.