

Activity 1.5: Approaches to engaging communities

Duration: 30-60 Minutes

Aims:

- To introduce different modes of community engagement, their histories and theories, strengths and limitations, and their application in AI and data-driven research

Requirements:

Tables and chairs, computer and screen

Activities:

1. Using slides 3-4 from the PowerPoint presentation (see Resources), talk through the different approaches to community engagement and consider their micro and macro functions.
2. What might be the strengths and limitations of different approaches in AI and data-driven technologies? Facilitate small- or whole-group discussion.
3. Using slides 5-7, consider how organisations might move over time towards deeper community collaboration. In small groups, discuss where participants' organisations (or organisations they have engaged with) are at in this process, and what might support or inhibit change.

Resources:

- PEAS in Pods Training - Activity 1.5 - Resource - approaches to engaging communities.pdf

Additional resources:

- [What kind of community engagement are you practicing? | by Lauren Coulman | Noisy Cricket | Medium](#)
- [Glossary of engagement terminology \(Co-production Network for Wales\) - V1.5 \(A4\)](#)
- Citizen Science: <https://citizensciencetoolkit.eu/>
- Community-based participatory research <https://www.durham.ac.uk/research/institutes-and-centres/social-justice-community-action/toolkits/>, and especially [Navigating-Participatory-Research_A-Visual-Guide.pdf \(durham.ac.uk\)](#)
- [Co-production in research – UKRI \(with links to other resources\)](#)
- [Research and innovation for all: UKRI's public engagement strategy – UKRI](#)

Facilitation notes:

It is important to note that the definitions and discourses related to modes of community engagement are not clear cut or universally agreed. Different disciplines and sectors might use different language to describe the same practice. The emphasis here should be on differences in *ethos* and *practice*.