✨ Top tips for co-production - from the LUSTRUM2 team

Practical tips to support better, more inclusive co-production

🎯 Start with a clear purpose

Be clear on what the project is about from the beginning—and keep coming back to it. A shared purpose keeps everyone grounded and heading in the same direction.

🤝 Set ground rules together

Agree how you'll work as a group—things like listening to everyone, being kind, and sharing power. These principles build trust and help people feel safe to speak up.

⏰ Give people time to prepare

Simple tasks—like watching a short video or filling in a worksheet—help people feel more confident and ready to contribute in workshops.

💬 Leave space for real conversations

Don't cram the agenda. The best ideas come when there's space for free-flowing and iterative discussion. Add extra time where you can.

🌱 Be flexible, not rigid

It's great to have a plan—but be ready to bend it if the group wants to go in a new direction. Some of the most powerful moments can be unplanned.

🎭 Welcome disagreement

Not everyone will agree all the time—and that's OK. Allow time to explore different views respectfully. The best decisions often come from hearing all sides.

💻 Bring online sessions to life

Use tools like Padlet or Mentimeter to make virtual workshops more creative, engaging, and human.

📁 Make information easy to find

Having everything in one place (like a shared folder or link) helps everyone feel organised and included.

🎨 Mix up how people take part

Small groups, big groups, chat boxes, polls—offer different ways to share ideas so everyone feels comfortable.

🔗 Help people stay connected

Co-production can build real relationships. If you can, create space to stay in touch—even after the project ends.

💡 **Remember:** Co-production works best when everyone feels they matter, their voice is heard, and they can contribute in their own way. Use these tips as a starting point but always pay attention to what your particular group needs.