

About

Participatory, collaborative, action-based and shared research practices have recently gained momentum in response to calls for decolonial and non-extractive approaches to knowledge production. Central to these approaches is a focus on the co-production of knowledge, an endeavour that seeks to foster inclusivity and symmetry among all actors involved in research processes—be they researchers, collaborators, research participants, or even non-human entities. Co-producing knowledge moves beyond collaboration by emphasizing shared authorship and ownership, mutual accountability, and the active engagement of both human and non-human actors in the creation of knowledge. It requires reflecting on how power dynamics, disciplinary boundaries, and diverse epistemologies shape the research process and its outcomes. Co-producing knowledge can occur at various stages of research, such as identifying the need for research, planning and writing project proposals, implementing the project, and disseminating findings in various ways.

While symmetry and equity are often upheld as ideals, they remain aspirational norms rather than guaranteed outcomes. Intersectional hierarchies and power dynamics shape every stage of research, raising critical questions about who benefits from these processes and whose perspectives are put centre-stage.

For this edition of boasblogs, we invite short blog posts that engage with the complexities, possibilities, and challenges of co-producing knowledge in anthropological research and beyond.

Key themes include:

Reflections on Practice: Contributions may reflect on the assertion that all ethnography involves some degree of co-production. What does co-producing knowledge mean in your research? What are the challenges? Why do you strive for

it?

Power and Inclusion: How can we promote inclusion and equity among diverse research actors while acknowledging the structural and intersectional power dynamics at play? What are the limits of co-producing knowledge (where does it end?)

Methodological and Epistemological Innovation: What practical and epistemological frameworks have you found effective in fostering co-production? What kinds of knowledge do you co-produce (embodied-affective, multimodal, etc.)?

Interdisciplinary and Transdisciplinary Collaboration: How can inter- and transdisciplinary approaches enhance co-production and address the needs of research participants and collaborators? What more explicit collaborative and symmetric approaches are possible?

We are particularly interested in contributions that interrogate the gains and implications of co-produced knowledge. Who profits from these efforts? How can we ensure that collaborative research serves the interests of all parties, rather than perpetuating extractive practices? By examining these questions, we hope to facilitate deeper reflections on the ethical, practical, and conceptual dimensions of collaborative knowledge-making.

We welcome texts but also multimodal or audiovisual contributions or contributions in an experimental format and are interested in perspectives from researchers, practitioners, and collaborators across fields. Written contributions should be between 3.000 and 4.000 words (the shorter, the better) and should be relatable to an interdisciplinary audience. Please send your contributions to the guest editors via the email address: coproducingknowledge@boasblogs.org

Please note the [stylesheet](#).

Let's co-produce this boasblog together!

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