

What is Kiezlabor?

Kiezlabor is Berlin's "tiny house" for digital transformation. It is a test bed, workshop, stage, interactive exhibition, networking hub and neighborhood meeting place – all packed into a single shipping container.

Thanks to built-in solar panels and battery operation, the *Kiezlabor* is **energy self-sufficient** and has been **touring Berlin's neighborhoods since summer 2023**.

Kiezlabor is part of the **smart city and digital strategy [Gemeinsam Digital: Berlin](#)** and is implemented by CityLAB Berlin on behalf of Berlin Senate Chancellery.

What are the goals of Kiezlabor?

CityLAB's neighborhood lab aims to help make Berlin **sustainable and resilient**. To this end, *Kiezlabor* takes the **prototypical CityLAB approach** to the capital's neighborhoods. The *Kiezlabor* motto – "Without you, we're just a container" – says it all: with its wide-ranging events, it offers a platform where **citizens and initiatives from specific neighborhoods can come together with public administration**. The local context is crucial here: *Kiezlabor* seeks not just to **learn with local neighborhoods**, but also to learn from these neighborhoods. This mutual exchange and focus on **specific, local needs and challenges related to digitization** makes an important contribution toward designing a **truly needs-oriented digital future** for Berlin. This contribution includes easily accessible **participation opportunities** as well as insights into the areas addressed by CityLAB Berlin, such as **open data, open source, prototype development, service design for public administration and smart cities**.

What is the program like in each neighborhood?

When planning the content program for individual sites, *Kiezlabor* focuses on a range of different topics, including **climate, mobility, and land management in urban contexts**. Local organizations also help shape and even contribute to the program. Some of the on-location offerings at *Kiezlabor* include the generation of AI-supported visions for re-imagined neighborhoods, the collection and presentation of neighborhood characteristics and data, and opportunities for locals to **offer their opinions and perspectives through participatory processes** or to otherwise engage in discourse with city authorities.

To aid these undertakings, CityLAB provides its own toolbox filled with methodological expertise and experience drawn from various innovation and participation processes as well as interactive prototypes and applications that demonstrate these approaches in practice. During the **one to two-week periods** where the container is stationed in a neighborhood, the program is fully coordinated by CityLAB employees.

About CityLAB Berlin

CityLAB is Berlin's public innovation laboratory. At the interface of urban society, public administration, the private sector and academia, we tap into the potential of digitalization to promote hands-on, impact-oriented urban development that is geared towards the common good. CityLAB is operated by Technologiestiftung Berlin and funded by the Berlin Senate Chancellery.

Links to further information

[To the project](#)

[To the photo selection](#)

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