webversion





News from the CityLAB Berlin

August 2022

Hi, dear CityLAB community!

We could go for the classic summer recess option of course and get you – and ourselves – through the heat wave with pics of about cute baby animals and the latest wedding on Sylt. But we've been out on tour so much lately, we prefer to relax in our deck chair and give you a chilled review of what's been happening instead! From trips to Mall Anders and re:publica to evening events such as the Long Night of Science and our big summerfest where night turned into day: we're certainly having a busy summer!

In this slimmed-down newsletter — which makes a perfect lakeside reading, incidentally — we take a look back at some of the things that have been going on and, as always, keep you up to date on the latest news!

Enjoy!

Recaps

CityLAB Summerfest: Summertime Labness



We celebrated our third anniversary – and did so in style! It was a day full of highlights, such as the visit of mayor Franziska Giffey and our Chief Digital Officer Dr Ralf Kleindiek – not to mention a perfect finale with music by Mouse on Mars, DJ Femalemacho and Byrke Lou. We're still buzzing from 650 guests and a program lasting 15-hour program that included 32 sessions and 45 speakers! In the face of such diversity, you quickly come to regret that you can't be everywhere at once! Anyone who missed a session can still watch the presentations on YouTube, and there are lots of photos to make all those memories come alive.

To the videos

To the photos

CityLAB Project Days at Mall Anders



Only we are capable of taking shopping to a higher level! In connection with the Mall Anders project, we tried out what happens when science leaves its comfort zone at the university and enters non-academic terrain. At the Wilma Shoppen complex we presented three of our projects and came into contact with all kinds of people. Our research assistant Yannick Müller has written a blog post for you summarizing what we found out and what impressions we were able to take away with us.

To the article (German only)

Gemeinsam Digital Berlin: comments on the first draft of the smart city strategy



June 24 2022 was a great day for the team behind the Gemeinsam Digital:
Berlin strategy: we invited people to come to CityLAB, where they were able to enjoy coffee and cake while attending our public presentation of the first draft of the strategy paper, given jointly with the Berlin Senate Chancellery.

With a delicious slice of cheesecake in hand, visitors listened to the words of Berlin's Chief Digital Officer **Dr Ralf Kleindiek** and **Karen Laßmann**, Head of the Smart City Unit at the Senate Chancellery, who provided insights into the process and the context of the strategy work being done.

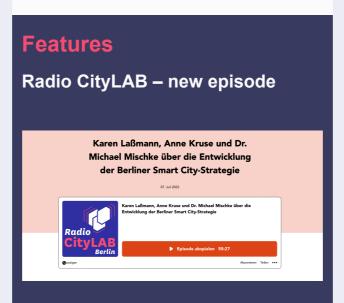
Following the presentation of the strategy, attendees got down to the business of commenting on it. Based on the evaluation criteria such as comprehensibility and feasibility, visitors were able to provide valuable feedback as well as engaging in direct dialogue with everyone involved. After all, that's another core aspect of strategy work: ensuring ongoing transparency from an early stage of the process and getting feedback from the people of Berlin. This is the only way to make sure we create a strategy that really is relevant to everyone in the city.

Around 30 representatives of the four stakeholder groups – civil society, science, business and administration – engaged in discussion with the team drawn of CityLAB, the Senate Chancellery and members of the cross-departmental and cross-level teams, and there were

opportunities to ask questions about the strategy. Afterwards it was possible to comment on the draft online at mein.berlin.de until mid-July.

The results of the comments phase are fed back into the ongoing development of the strategy. The strategy Gemeinsam Digital: Berlin is then to be submitted to the Berlin Senate for approval in late fall 2022.

More information (German only)



In our latest episode of Radio CityLAB, Karen Laßmann and Dr Michael Mischke of the Gemeinsam Digital unit at the Berlin Senate Chancellery talk to Dr Benjamin Seibel, Head of CityLAB, and Anne Kruse, Project Manager Smart City & Participation about the pathway to Berlin's new smart city strategy. Have a listen!

To Radio CityLAB (German only)

The Organigram Tool 1.2 sheds light into the administrative jungle



After an intense round of feedback and testing, the **Open Data Information Service (ODIS)** is now releasing the revised version of its tool for creating organizational charts. The prototype provides an insight into the organigram landscape of the Berlin administration, opening up a whole range of new possibilities for analyzing open data.

In addition to creating a smart graphical representation of Berlin's administrative organization in the usual pdf format, the tool also generates a **JSON file**: this reproduces the organigram in a simple and compact text format that is independent of any programming language. The benefit here is that this file can be further processed without any need for complicated formatting. As such, the JSON format enables the data to be used in a variety of ways as open data for completely different applications and analyses. The revised prototype works

directly in the browser: no download or login is required.

To the Organigram tool (German only)

Meet the City LAB Berlin team



CityLAB Berlin would be nothing without its team, who use their wide range of expertise to drive the digitalization of the city of Berlin. Our 'Meet the CityLAB Berlin team' series introduces CityLAB Berlin team members every month. This month, Markus Sperl from the project freemove and Jenny Huang, personal referent of our director have answered a few questions.

Meet Markus: "What we're doing is privacy-related work in connection with mobility data for the sustainable design of transport and mobility – fascinating context, very specific topic, transdisciplinary setup."

Meet Markus (German only) Meet Jenny: "Through my work at CityLAB, apart from the actual work itself, I've realized how important it is to connect people and their skills, and to give them a place to share and try things out.

Ultimately, everyone can learn something from everyone else!"

Meet Jenny (German only)

Job vacancies

Jobs jobs! Our team not only surpasses itself every day – it's actually getting bigger, too! We're looking for reinforcements in the following areas as soon as possible:

Product Ownership

We're looking for someone to work with our prototyping team to manage and guide the development of open source products and web applications from initial concept through to launch.

Event management

Whether small workshops or large-scale events with up to 1,000 participants: CityLAB organizes more than 100 public formats every year. For the event area, we're looking for someone to assist in the conception, organization and implementation of a wide variety of CityLAB formats.

Graphic design or print and digital products

For Technologiestiftung Berlin and CityLAB we're looking for an all-round talent in the field of graphic design.

Working student

Whether welcoming and assisting groups of visitors or providing community management and public relations support: as a working student at CityLAB, you can gain insights into the diverse CityLAB world. We look forward to receiving your application!

To the job vacancies

Events



At some point in life, everyone wants to do it: send data and receive data. Completely autonomously, with your fingers in the code! From remotely controlling a motor to switching lights via cell phone to feeding sensor data into websites: the perfect solution here is OpenSoundControl – a humanfriendly data transfer protocol! We'll be having an open workshop on July 29 where we're going to try it out together. Tim Marc Schröder and Sara Reichert of TU Berlin will be there to guide you through the evening! As always, no prior experience is necessary; to sign up, simply send an e-mail to **bildung@ts.berlin**. English speakers are welcome.

More

Stay hydrated!

Your CityLAB Berlin

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