

News from CityLAB Berlin

November 2022

Hi , dear CityLAB community,

When the United Nations (UN) published a **300-page study on the digital ranking of metropolitan areas** this month, we – like many others – were initially a bit surprised at the results. The verdict: Berlin is in first place worldwide in the digitalization of administration! Of course we realized right away that the UN's enthusiasm must come from reading our newsletter regularly! (Dear UN, just between you and us: there are still one or two things to sort out – but don't worry, we're on to it!)

That's why we'll mainly be dedicating this November to sharing knowledge with other cities, whether further afield at the Smart City World Expo Congress in Barcelona or at Science Week here in Berlin.

But for once we have some sad news to share: the corona pandemic has got in the way of our sociable get-together for the planned 'LABissage' in November. Just because it's postponed doesn't mean it's canceled, however: the event will be rescheduled for next year, we promise!

To find out what fascinating events are coming up and for details of everything else we've been cooking up, read on!

In Focus

Smart City Expo World Congress: CityLAB goes Barcelona



From November 15 to 17, we'll be packing our bags for the world's leading international trade fair on smart city ideas – and taking with us everything we've learned from the strategy process for **Gemeinsam Digital: Berlin**, intriguing insights into the work of various innovation labs and, of course, YOU: – on **Instagram** and **Twitter**, we report live from the trade show center in Barcelona.

In addition, this year's Smart City Expo World Congress(SCEWC) will again be offering a digital program broadcast by Tomorrow.City.

We're delighted to be part of the Berlin-Brandenburg joint stand together with the Berlin Senate Chancellery and other actors, and are pleased to invite you to the following presentations:

- **Dr. Ralf Kleindiek, Chief Digital Officer (CDO)**, and **Caroline Paulick-Thiel, Director of Politics for Tomorrow**, will share experiences and highlights from the almost two-year strategy process of the smart city and digital strategy **Gemeinsam Digital: Berlin in a roundtable**. The strategy is due to be adopted in late fall of this year and the first pilot projects to test the strategy are already getting underway. [Please find more info here](#).

- **Julia Zimmermann**, manager of the tree-watering project **Gieß den Kiez**, introduces the project **Quantified Trees (QTrees)** which uses artificial intelligence and open data sets to develop a prediction system for watering urban trees. Her input will be part of the solution talk 'Unprecedented Solutions to the Climate Emergency'. [Please find more info here](#).

LabCamp – International Edition

And as if all this wasn't reason enough to follow SCEWC22, we're also hosting the first international **LabCamp** edition – a networking format where innovation labs get together to discuss ideas and challenges. To be opened on November 15 by CDO Dr. Ralf Kleindiek and the Chief Technology Officer (CTO) of Barcelona, Michael Donaldson, the event will provide a platform for three successful examples of innovation labs to present their vision.

Berlin Smart City Night

Together with our co-hosts Berlin Partner, we'll also be hosting Berlin Smart City Night on November 16: at this evening event we'll be exchanging ideas with experts on topics such as innovation, cooperation and digitalization, before engaging in discussion about the cities of the future – complete with the usual Berlin hospitality including music and drinks. If you would like to attend, we are looking forward to your registration.

[Registration Berlin Smart City Night](#)

Fancy being in on the action? If so, be sure to get your SCEWC-ticket and drop by in person or virtually via the accompanying digital program, or else keep up to date on our social media channels. We look forward to seeing you there!

[More Info](#)

Data Story

The new sensor story: in search of CO2



For our sensor data platform **Stadtplus** Anna Meide and Ninett Rosenfeld of the **COMo project** being run by Technologiestiftung Berlin have set off in search of an intractable molecule – CO2! We can't see, hear or smell CO2 or even carbon dioxide – but by using sensors we can measure, display and interpret it. In their Data Story, the two CO2 investigators present three selected locations in Berlin that have been equipped with this type of sensor. Which activity generates the most CO2 in Schloss Biesdorf? How can the collected data be analyzed in the first place? And how does the technology behind it work?

All these questions are answered in the following story:

[Data Story \(German only\)](#)

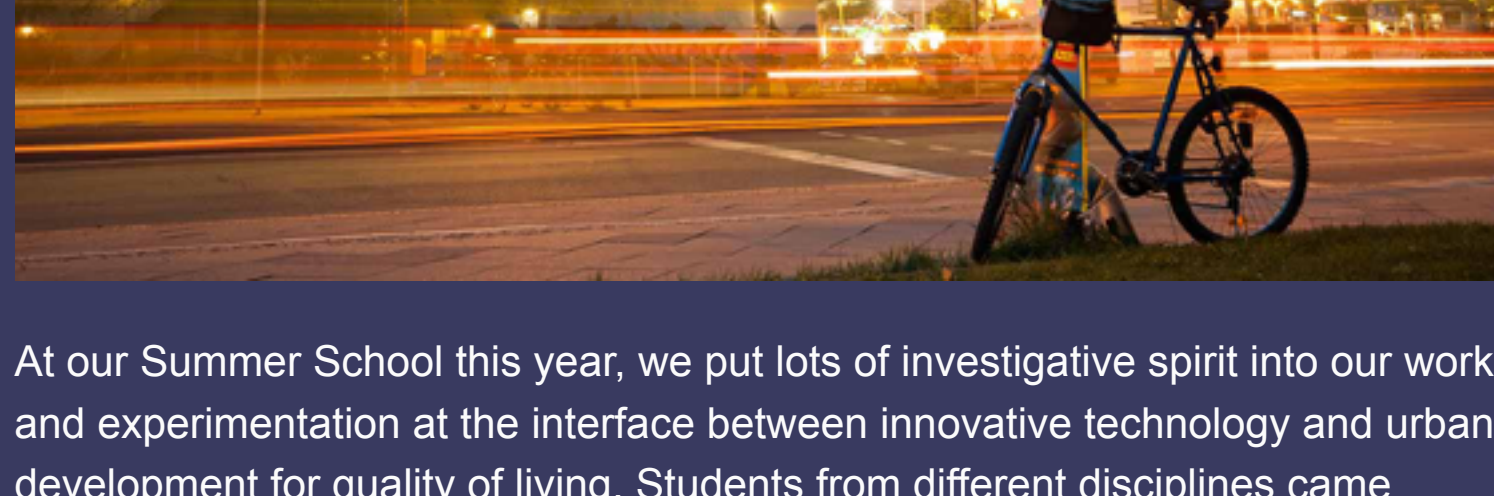
Want more FACTS FACTS FACTS on CO2?

Our fact sheet summarizes four pieces of information for you on the subject of air quality. Did you know?

[Social Post \(German only\)](#)

Recap

Summer School: we're still in the (Kotti)flow



At our Summer School this year, we put lots of investigative spirit into our work and experimentation at the interface between innovative technology and urban development for quality of living. Students from different disciplines came together to work on a common goal!

Sara Reichert of TU Berlin was enthusiastic about the assignment: *"The students had a particularly large number of challenges to tackle at this Summer School, and they were very confident and resourceful in doing so – such as with the courage demonstrated by business IT specialists in getting to grips with the hardware, and the necessity of dealing with supply bottlenecks for the material required on site."* The result is the **phased traffic light assistant Kottiflow** which is designed to give cyclists a smoother, safer ride as they navigate the city.

This blog post gives you more fascinating details about how Kottiflow came into being.

[Blogpost \(German only\)](#)

Events

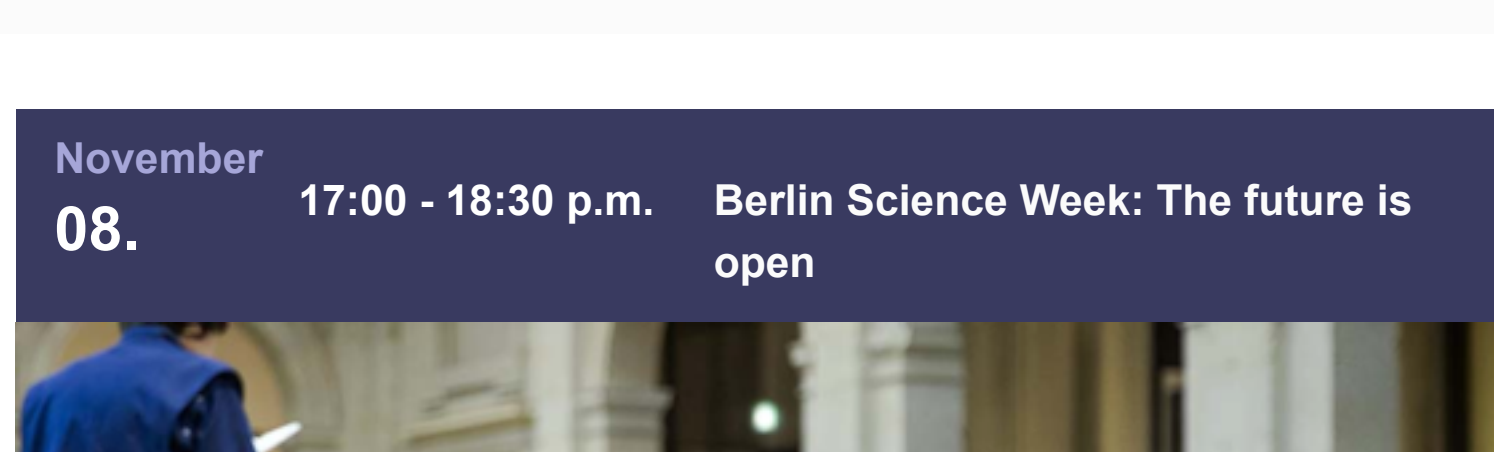
POSTPONED: LABissage



We originally made a big deal of it – and now unfortunately we have to postpone our invitation to join us for a tour of our exhibition and presentation of new exhibits. We definitely want to spend this evening with you in person and with a clear conscience. But just because it's postponed doesn't mean it's canceled: the moment will eventually come when we can stroll through our exhibition together! We'll keep you updated on our sign-up page and let you know as soon as a new date is set.

We very much appreciate your understanding!

[More Info](#)



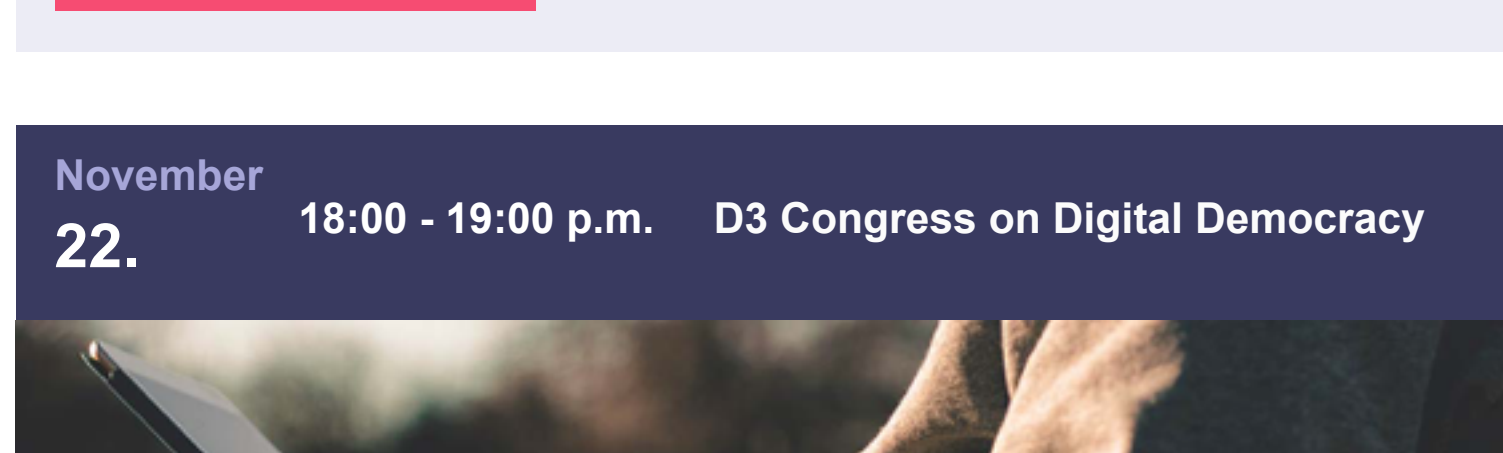
This year, CityLAB is an official partner to the D3 Congress on Digital Democracy. Over the course of two days, more than 80 experts and more than 500 participants will be involved in online debate of all aspects of digital democratic participation.

At a "Best-practice session: between active involvement and commenting" organized in collaboration with Politics for Tomorrow, we'll be presenting our experience of the almost two-year Berlin Smart City strategy process from 6:00 p.m. Onwards on November 22.

The aim of this process was to involve the city's key stakeholders and Berlin residents in the development of the new Smart City strategy, **Gemeinsam Digital:Berlin**.

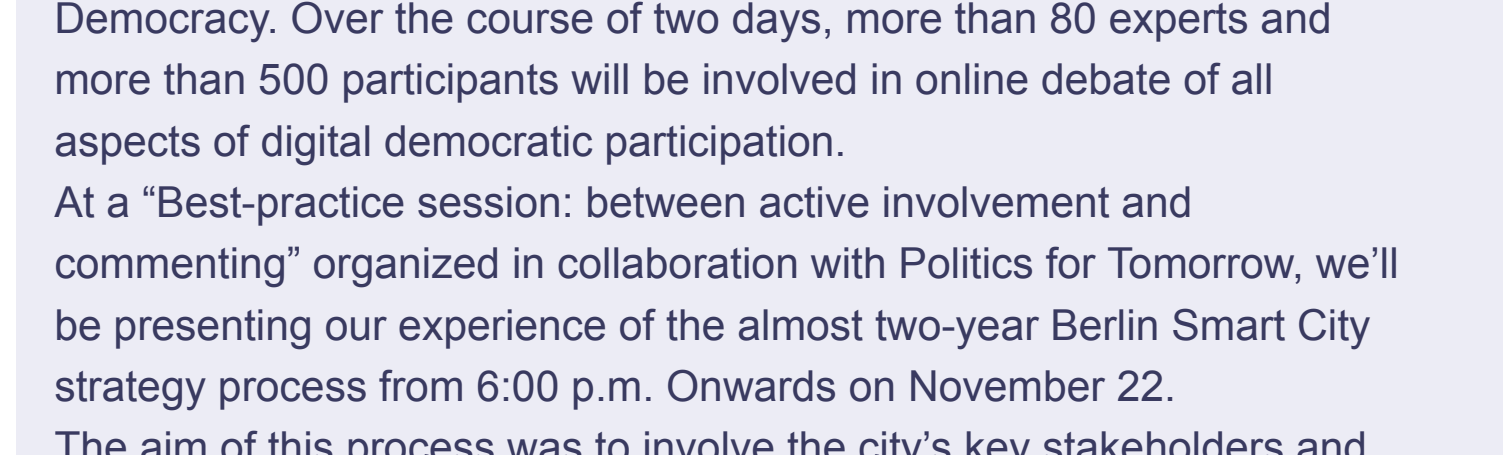
Join us and get involved in the discussion. Click here to sign up:

[Get your Ticket](#)



We'd love to see you there – so be sure to get your free ticket and let's get talking!

[More Info](#)

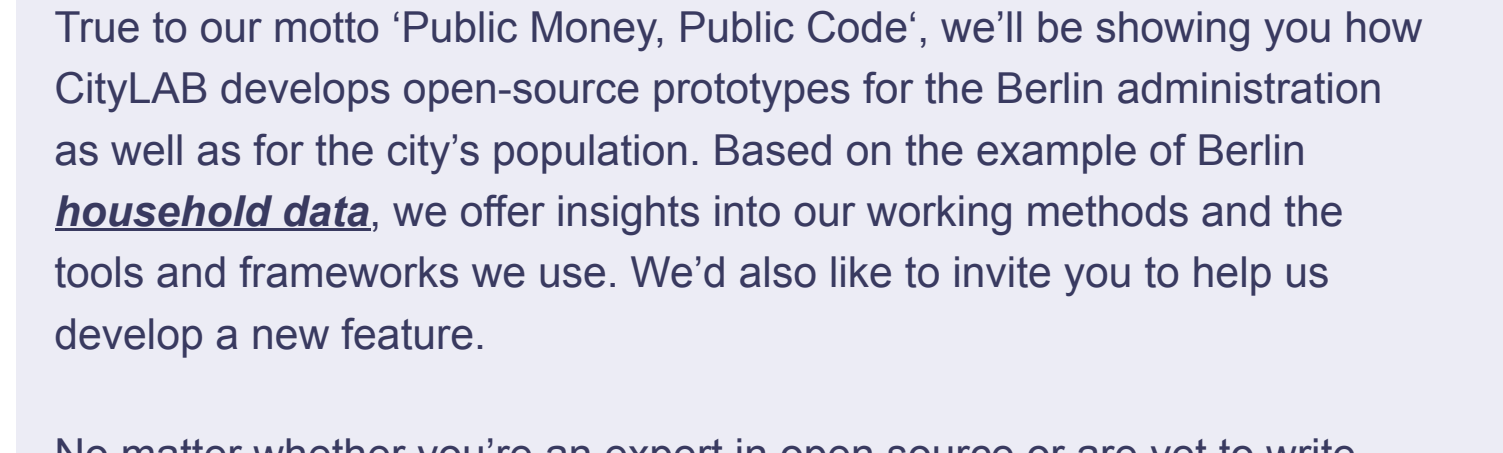


November 08. 17:00 - 18:30 p.m. Berlin Science Week: The future is open

Zurich meets Berlin: In the course of this evening at Clärchens Ballhaus Berlin, we'll be engaging in a talk called 'The future is open' with the Swiss city about common goals and challenges relating to topics such as climate neutrality, the mobility transition, affordable housing, equal opportunities and inclusion. After a welcome by Berlin's Chief Digital Officer, Dr. Ralf Kleindiek, the expert for digital transformation in Europe, Bart de Witte, will be talking about the potential of open innovation. For CityLAB, Max B. Eckert from the **Open Data Information Service (ODIS)** talks about the **household data tool** and the **Berlin Refreshment Map**.

We'd love to see you there – so be sure to get your free ticket and let's get talking!

[More Info](#)



November 22. 18:00 - 19:00 p.m. D3 Congress on Digital Democracy

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Join us and get involved in the discussion. Click here to sign up:

[Get your Ticket](#)

November 23. 19:00 - 22:00 p.m. Developer Meetup #3

We invite you to our third "Developer Meetup" on our premises on November 23 – and we can reveal this much: things will get interactive. True to our motto 'Public Money, Public Code', we'll be showing you how CityLAB develops open-source prototypes for the Berlin administration as well as for the city's population. Based on the example of Berlin **household data**, we offer insights into our working methods and the tools and frameworks we use. We'd also like to invite you to help us develop a new feature.

No matter whether you're an expert in open source or are yet to write your first code: you're very welcome to take a peek over our shoulder and get involved yourself. Be sure to get in on the action!

[Registration](#)

Stay healthy and have a good start into November,

Your CityLAB Berlin

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