

Hello dear CityLAB Community,

Have you also wondered why January always feels like an endless hangover, while February seems to fly by at lightning speed? Even Albert Einstein knew: time is relative – our brains perceive it differently when a lot is happening. And we at CityLAB can confirm that! This month, we’re celebrating our brand-new prototype *Fairnügen*, which has already transitioned into regular operation. But that’s not all: In this newsletter edition, we take you inside the *Kiezlabor* to explore placemaking, dive into urban data platforms, and reveal what Uri Geller has to do with our upcoming summer conference. So, take a quick look before February disappears into the space-time continuum!

Enjoy – or should we say: Fairjoy!

You know exactly what you want? Go directly to

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Spotlight 1



Fairnügen

Making Berlin’s activities accessible for everyone

Did you know that Berlin offers over 400 free or discounted cultural and recreational opportunities for people receiving social benefits? From free museum admission and sports memberships to concert tickets – yet many people are unaware that they can take advantage of these offers. *Fairnügen* changes that! The platform centralizes discounts for culture, education, and leisure, making them easily accessible. This way, more than 700,000 Berliners who receive social benefits can more easily participate in social life. Our goal: to break down barriers and make Berlin’s cultural diversity truly accessible to all. Funded by Senate Chancellery, *Fairnügen* was developed in cooperation with the Senate Department for Arbeit, Soziales, Gleichstellung, Integration, Vielfalt und Antidiskriminierung (SenASGIVA).

[Explore Fairnügen](#)

Spotlight 2



Prototyping

Fairnügen – The Story of a Prototype

In her blog post, Myrian Rigal from the Prototyping Team takes us on a journey through the development of *Fairnügen*. A user-centered approach, open data sets from the SenASGIVA, and an automated database are just some of the success factors that make integrating offers especially easy. The highlight? *Fairnügen* is the first CityLAB prototype to be directly integrated into Berlin’s official website, berlin.de! Find out more about this success story in the blog post.

[To the blog post](#)

Spotlight 3



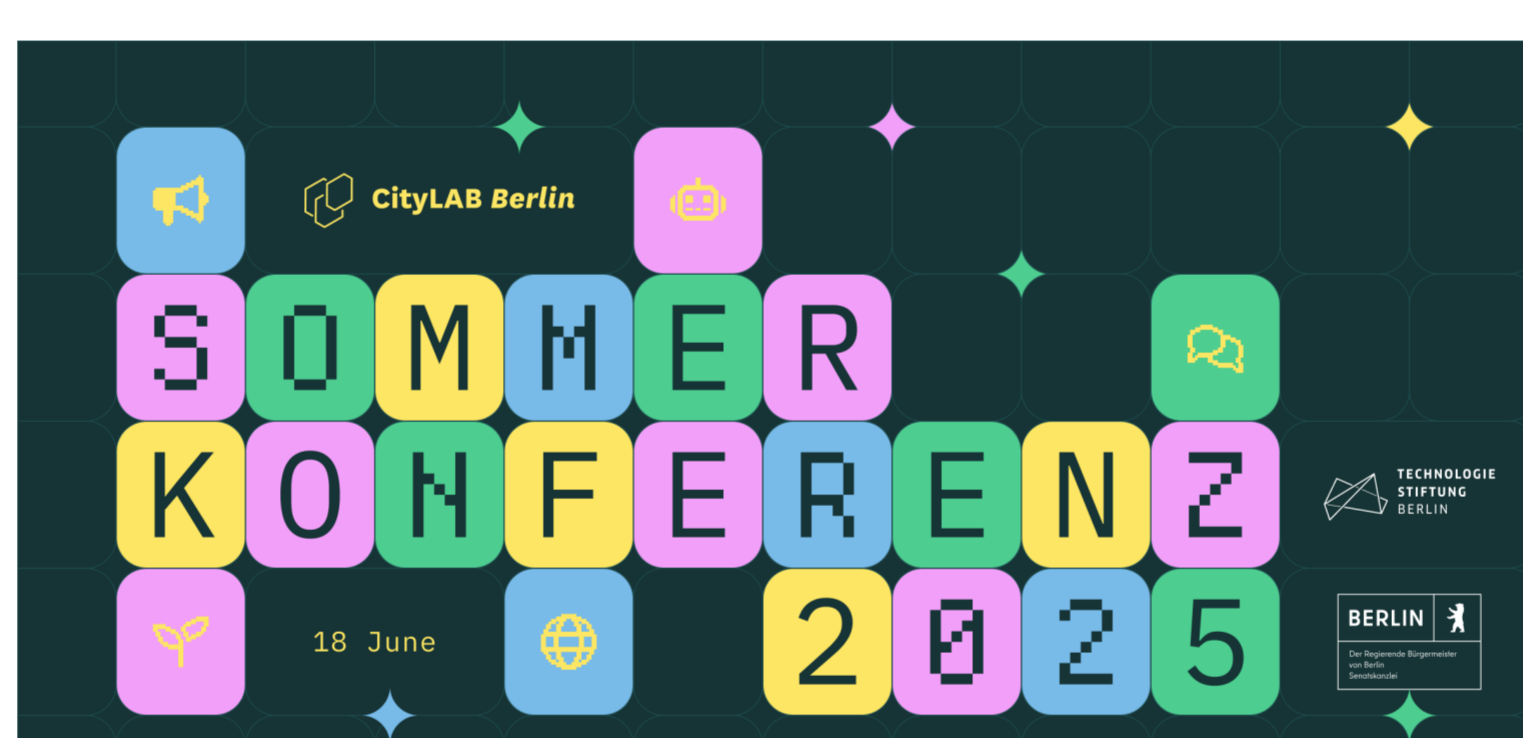
Smart City & Public Sector Innovation

Data Instead of Waiting – Why a Strong Data Infrastructure is Crucial

Whether it’s climate, mobility, or energy supply – many urban processes rely on how well data is collected and used. Yet in practice, administrations often face fragmented IT systems, isolated data silos, and a lack of governance structures that hinder efficient use. At the same time, digitalization is increasing the pressure to better organize data – not just for Open Data, but also for smoother administrative processes. What solutions exist, and how are we already supporting them in Berlin? Markus Speri explains in the latest blog post.

[To the blogpost](#)

Events



18.06.2025

Sommerkonferenz

Open Call – Apply by February 28

Umweltforum Berlin

“The stage is yours!” – This motto doesn’t just apply to Uri Geller, but also to public sector employees from across Germany! Would you like to be more than just a guest at our sixth Sommerkonferenz and take the stage yourself? Now’s your chance to actively shape the event! Our conference is all about exchange, learning, and creativity on topics such as digitalization, public sector innovation, Smart City, and community-driven urban development. Submit your proposal by February 28 and become part of the Sommerkonferenz!

[Submit to the Open Call](#)

[Register for the event](#)

03.05.

Berlin’s Future Day

Girls’ Day

09:00 - 15:00 Uhr, CityLAB Berlin

On April 3, we’re inviting teenagers from 10th grade and up to explore the world of data at CityLAB Berlin’s Future Day! In three hands-on workshops, participants will learn how to visualize data, make it tangible, and even use code creatively. Know someone who shouldn’t miss this opportunity? Spread the word and share the registration link!

[Register here](#)

06.03.

Save the Date

**Meetup Öffentliches Gestalten
“Better voting, better democracy”**

18:00 - 21:00, CityLAB Berlin

After one election comes the next! Our next Public Design Meetup on March 6 will focus on the future of voting. We’ll take a close look at digital tools and election processes, from tech solutions to structural challenges in organizing elections. This event is open to all Berliners interested in shaping the future of democracy. More details coming soon!

[Save the Date](#)

Looking ahead

Phew, made it through the newsletter? Time to take a deep breath, recharge, and get ready for the next exciting CityLAB adventures! And yes, there are still three days left in February – but who knows how relative time will feel until then?

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CityLAB Berlin is a project by
TECHNOLOGIE STIFTUNG BERLIN



Funded by



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Imprint

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