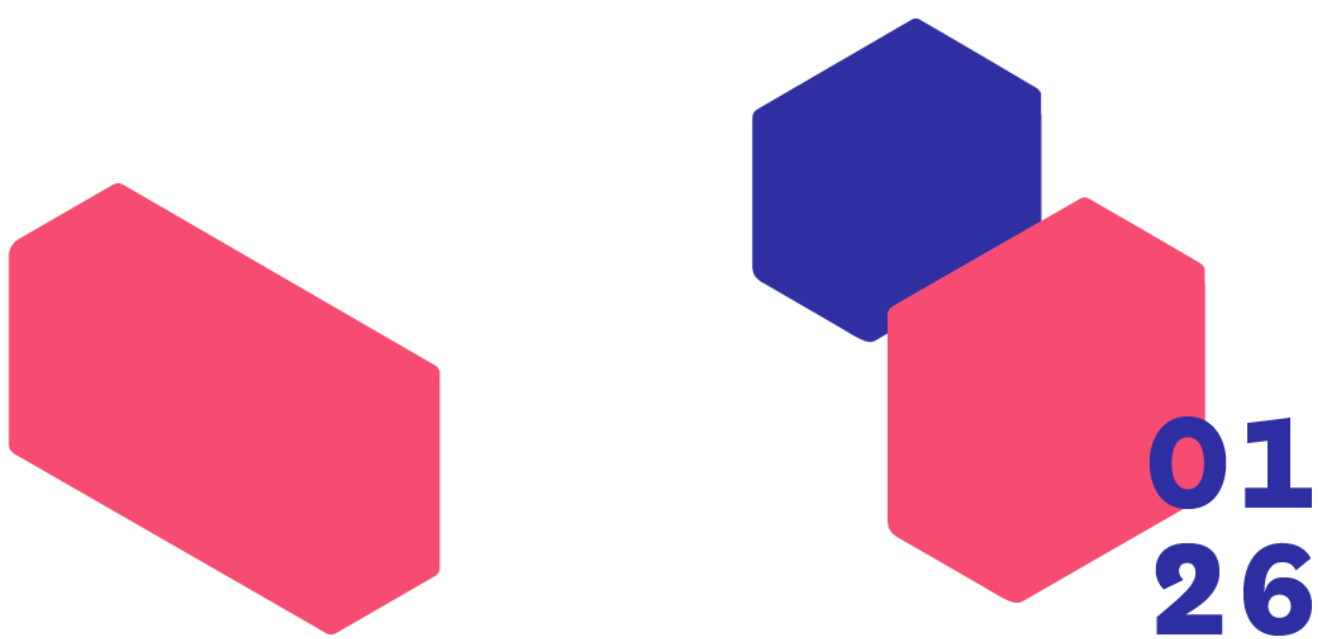




Hello dear CityLAB-Community,

It's time to reveal a well-kept secret: in January, all newsletters follow the rule of the two Ps: **Prophecies and Participation!** And we're no exception. What does 2026 hold? Whether it's Head of CityLAB Berlin Benjamin Seibel or our esteemed colleagues, we have plenty of perspectives to share. And the second P? That's where you come in! Get involved in our CityLAB Sommerkonferenz 2026 by submitting your contribution to the Open Call. Don't worry – afterward, you can sit back and enjoy blog posts about our delegation trip to Cambodia.

Happy reading!

Spotlight 1



[Interview / Blog](#)

What does the CityLAB horoscope predict for 2026?

Which sources did our CityLAB Lead consult for his forecasts? Were they the northern lights, guiding him on a clear night toward the near future of our innovation lab? Or did he rely on his sharp intuition, carefully weighing what milestones and challenges this year might bring? The "how" will probably remain a secret, but you can read about the "what" in the interview here.

[To the blog post](#)

Spotlight 2



[Events / Open Call](#)

Sommerkonferenz 2026 – We are looking for your contributions

Our seventh Sommerkonferenz is just around the corner – only 126 nights to go! And we're dreaming again of exchange with you, shared learning, and the many creative contributions around digitalization, administrative innovation, smart cities, and common-good-oriented urban development. Speaking of contributions: do you have an idea, a project, or a perspective that would fit on our stage? Or do you want to claim 15 (or more) minutes of fame? Then fill out our Open Call by 27 February and become part of the Sommerkonferenz! New this year: in addition to contributions from the administration, we are explicitly inviting perspectives from the scientific community.

[Submit to the Open Call](#)

[Save the Date](#)

Spotlight 3



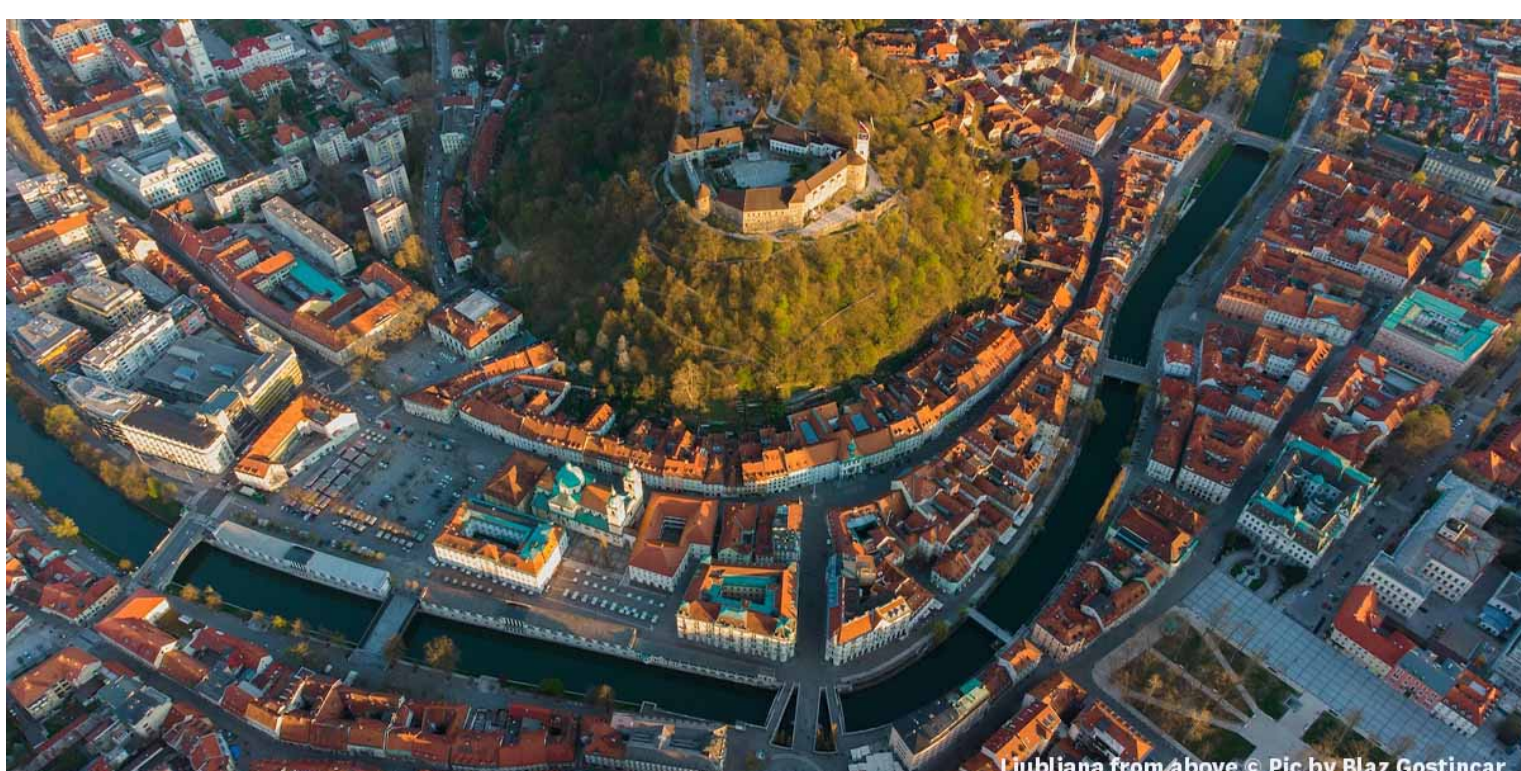
[Blog / Delegation Trip](#)

CityLAB goes Long-Distance

How far can the CityLAB model travel? Phnom Penh, the capital of Cambodia, is also growing rapidly – with challenges such as traffic congestion, housing shortages, and infrastructure pressure. What began as an exchange on international urban development approaches and smart city methods has now become a concrete collaboration: the CityLAB Berlin team supports Phnom Penh as part of the Build4People consortium. On our blog, colleague Lisa shares her travel impressions.

[Read the blog post](#)

Events



24. – 27.03.2026

Conference

Berlin @ Urban Future 2026

all day long, Ljubljana

Ljubljana demonstrates how people-friendly city centers, less traffic, and a strong focus on public spaces work in practice. A car-free old town and plenty of greenery are everyday life there. This makes the city the perfect host for Urban Future Conference 2026. Join the Berlin delegation, exchange experiences, and use the Berlin Lounge of CityLAB Berlin and Berlin Partner for Business and Technology as your meeting point. Use the discount code for the Berlin delegation to save 50% on the conference pass – and don't forget: conference hotels fill up quickly, so book early!

[More Information](#)

Looking ahead

Which P-word also describes this newsletter? To the POINT!

Contact

CityLAB Berlin
Platz der Luftbrücke 4, 12101 Berlin
Phone [+49 30 95 99 96 410](tel:+4930959996410)
info@citylab-berlin.org
www.citylab-berlin.org



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Technologiestiftung Berlin
Chairman of the Board: Nicolas Zimmer
Grünwaldstraße 61-62, 10825 Berlin
Phone +49 30 209 69 99 0
info@ts.berlin
www.technologiestiftung-berlin.de

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