

Unlike the other labs, Berlin Fairville Lab has not promoted or initiated the co-productive process, yet we accompany and observe its development.

Our primary interest lies in the existing Modellprojekt Rathausblock. Situated in a central urban district in Berlin, Kreuzberg, this area is being developed collaboratively with a focus on public interest.

This development aims to enhance the social space in the Kreuzberg district by offering affordable housing, commercial spaces, much-needed administrative expansions, and cultural areas. What sets this project apart is its parallel multi-level decision-making process involving citizens, government authorities, and other stakeholders.

Our first contact with the Modell Project dates back to 2020, coinciding with the launch of the research-based and participatory project Transforming Solidarities, involving the future head of the Berlin Fairville Lab Prof. Dr. Anna Steigemann.

The Fairville Lab's activities began in May 2023. Prof. Dr. Anna Steigemann organised a Fairville Workshop to showcase the example of the Rathausblock project to other Fairville Labs. Dr. Mari Paz Agundez briefly attended the workshop, and her official engagement with the project began on September 1st.

Since then, the team has been observing interactions between stakeholders and organisations involved, participating in public hearings and workshops held by Rathausblock initiatives, and conducting interviews with city and local authorities, civil society actors, activists, and other interested parties.

Initial results were shared during a mid-term Fairville meeting in Brussels, which was joined by Enrico Schönbergő one of the members of the Zusammen Stelle initiative, responsible for the communication and cooperation between the authorities and the citizens,

In spring 2024, research assistant Maria Tsakulova joined the project to enhance the Lab's involvement in the Rathausblock processes.

Currently, the Lab is working on establishing connections with citizens and municipal and city-level actors, capturing the ongoing changes and developments in the project, and mapping the area.

Our main goal is to identify the key elements crucial for successful collaborative development and facilitate the exchange of experiences between Fairville Labs' projects. This aims to foster co-production in cities, addressing inequalities and democratic challenges.