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Radiating into the future

In 2020, we all had to learn how to handle a pandemic, but one thing was already clear: 2021 would become the truly challenging year of crisis because many consequences of the pandemic would only become noticeable with a delay. This is especially true of the business environment that we operate in, one that is highly interlinked and is part of complex value creation cycles. Nevertheless, the assumption prevailed that the state of emergency that our society and economy were in would come to an end. In late 2021, after a good business year, much confidence could be felt. However, the Russian attack on Ukraine created new challenges. With two acute crises in short order, it has become clear that the robustness, or resilience, of an economic region will be of decisive importance in the future.

In 2021, the Science and Technology Park Adlershof and WISTA Management GmbH celebrated their 30-year anniversary. Adlershof has established itself as a success story. What is more: The Technology Park has proven for the second year in a row that it is well able to stand tall in times of crisis. Despite the adverse circumstances, the companies on the site have a positive view of their future business development. This gives us reason to hope that, in the current situation, they will find ways to cope with the economic consequences of the war in Ukraine.

Adlershof’s strength is the successful interlacing of research and industry as well as having a common mission that all the site’s stakeholders are committed to. For thirty years now, we at WISTA Management GmbH have been committed to establishing and developing a knowledge-driven economy. WISTA is making a tangible contribution to strengthening the economic foundation of the German capital. This success is a role model for others – not just for the ten other places generating future innovation in Berlin (“Zukunftsorte”) but for the entire region: In the near future, an innovation corridor will connect the Science and Technology Park Adlershof with the newly developing Lausitz Science Park in Cottbus. An economy built on scientific research is not only particularly resilient in crises but can (and should) also contribute to tackling the “grand challenges” of our era. We strive to play a part in this.
Unwavering growth dynamic

The Science and Technology Park Berlin Adlershof has developed positively despite being affected by palpable consequences during the second year of the coronavirus pandemic. At 3.21 billion euros, revenues and budget funds grew by 13.1 % in 2021 compared to the previous year. The number of employees saw a 11.4 % increase to 24,500. Adding to this number were 6,650 students as well as 1,000 apprentices.

In the site’s core area, the Science and Technology Park with its particularly high density of technology-driven companies, revenues of the 532 (2020: 553) companies rose by 1.2 % (2020: 1.6 %) to 1.08 billion euros. The number of employees saw a 1.2 % increase (2020: 5.9 %) to 8,520 (2020: 8,420). Adding to this were 298 apprentices (2020: 280). What is also remarkable is that existing companies, those that had already been based on the site in 2020, saw a 6.7 % increase in revenues and 6.5 % in staff.

Revenues and budgets of the 444 (2020: 430) companies and facilities of the neighbouring growth area increased by 23.4 % (2020: 10.7 %) to 1.4 billion euros (2020: 1.13 billion euros). The number of employees saw a 29 % increase (2020: 9.5 %) to 10,000. Adding to this were 557 (2020: 426) apprentices, including from several providers of inter-company training.
In the Media City, revenues rose by 27 % to 401 million euros. However, the number of companies, at 195 (2020: 196), and the number of employees, at 2,890 (2020: 2,920), remained virtually unchanged – as did the number of apprentices (2021: 95, 2020: 96). As a result of the coronavirus pandemic, the number of so-called permanent freelancers decreased from 1,140 (2020) to 778.

The share of subsidies and third-party funding of the budgets of the Adlershof-based faculties of Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin (HU) rose slightly to 33 million euros (2020: 32 million euros); its basic funding increased to 64 million euros (2020: 61 million euros). At 144 million euros, the budget funds of non-university research institutes were also above those of the previous year (141 million euros). The share of third-party funding decreased from 90.1 million euros (2020) to 84.7 million euros. The number of employees in scientific institutes grew by 6.1 % to 3,080 compared to 2020.
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<tr>
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<th>Companies, facilities, institutes</th>
<th>Non-university research institutions</th>
<th>Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin</th>
<th>Media City</th>
<th>Companies and facilities of the remaining growth area</th>
<th>Total</th>
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<td><strong>Companies, facilities, institutes</strong></td>
<td><strong>2021</strong></td>
<td><strong>532</strong></td>
<td><strong>10</strong></td>
<td><strong>6</strong></td>
<td><strong>195</strong></td>
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<td><strong>553</strong></td>
<td><strong>10</strong></td>
<td><strong>6</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Employees</strong></td>
<td><strong>2021</strong></td>
<td><strong>8,519</strong></td>
<td><strong>1,956</strong></td>
<td><strong>1,124</strong></td>
<td><strong>2,894</strong></td>
<td><strong>10,022</strong></td>
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<td><strong>2020</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Revenues, budget funds (in million euros)</strong></td>
<td><strong>2021</strong></td>
<td><strong>1,060</strong></td>
<td><strong>143.5</strong></td>
<td><strong>64</strong></td>
<td><strong>394.7</strong></td>
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<td><strong>1,043</strong></td>
<td><strong>140.6</strong></td>
<td><strong>61</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Subsidies, third-party funding (in million euros)</strong></td>
<td><strong>2021</strong></td>
<td><strong>18.1</strong></td>
<td><strong>86.7</strong></td>
<td><strong>33</strong></td>
<td><strong>6.28</strong></td>
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<td><strong>2020</strong></td>
<td><strong>22.14</strong></td>
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<td><strong>32</strong></td>
<td><strong>0.5</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Performance (in million euros)</strong></td>
<td><strong>2021</strong></td>
<td><strong>1,078</strong></td>
<td><strong>228.2</strong></td>
<td><strong>97</strong></td>
<td><strong>401</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td><strong>2020</strong></td>
<td><strong>1,066</strong></td>
<td><strong>230.7</strong></td>
<td><strong>93</strong></td>
<td><strong>315.6</strong></td>
<td><strong>1,134.7</strong></td>
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Adlershof in numbers
(as of late 2021)

Area: 4.6 km² *)

Employees: 24,500

Number of companies: 1,200

Revenues and budget funds: 3.21 billion euros

*) including the Science and Technology Park, Media City, “Gleislinse” as well as the adjacent retail and services area, including the landscaped park (“Airfield Johannisthal”), and the residential areas “Wohnen am Campus” (“Living on Campus”) and “Wohnen am Landschaftspark” (“Living at the Landscaped Park”)
Business development prospects for 2022

Regarding business development for 2022, the companies of the Science and Technology Park rated their prospects better than the previous year. While the mean values in terms of staff and revenue development were 107.5 % for 2021, they rose to 111.3 % for 2022. About 60 % of the companies are expecting an increase in revenues, only every fifth company is expecting a decrease in revenues. However, it is important to note that these figures were collected before the Russian attack on Ukraine in February 2022.
Impact of the coronavirus pandemic: How much working-from-home do employees want?

Many companies had their employees work from home during the coronavirus pandemic. Even after the pandemic’s course had waned, many continued spending significant portions of their work life at their desks at home. WISTA took this opportunity to examine the working-from-home issue in greater detail as part of its 2021 annual survey – yielding remarkable results:

It seems like employment models with a high loyalty to the site prevail at Adlershof: More than 40% of employees and managers prefer working on-site at their respective workplaces on four or five days a week. In the commercial area, this share was more than 60%.

While employees wanted to work remotely on two (23.4%) or three (18.6%) per week, their managers deemed one (25.4%) or two (23.0%) days adequate. What was also striking was that about 32% of employees and 28.5% of managers did not desire any mobile work at all or considered it unrealistic. Only 5.1% of employees would like to work from home all the time.
New companies and acquisitions in Adlershof

Despite the coronavirus pandemic, several remarkable new companies arrived at the Adlershof high-technology site in 2021. This included Vigor Hydrogen AG, founded in November 2021. They are developing a novel procedure for producing green hydrogen in large quantities for the mobility and heating industry. Modis GmbH is a provider of cross-industry expertise on digital engineering consulting, skills development, and staff services. They offer so-called end-to-end services as well as a complete range of smart industry offerings – e.g., they support smart industry implementations by supplying businesses with talent and new technologies. Mushlabs GmbH is a developer of vegan meat alternatives made from waste from the food industry (e.g., fruit peels from juicers) using mycelia. Founded in 2018, the company moved into laboratories in Adlershof in 2021, which it uses mainly for analytics. Tutanota GmbH also moved to Adlershof in 2021. Behind the name is the world’s first end-to-end email service that encrypts the entire mailbox. Astrial GmbH, a German spin-off of a Greek company, develops integrated, geospatial command-and-control solutions and security applications for use by the police, coastguard, emergency services, civil protection, and the fire brigade.
Despite the pandemic, Adlershof’s co-working space has been in high demand.

Two application rounds were held for the Adlershof Founder’s Lab (AFL). The twelve-month scholarship received by select teams from the second application round started on 01.01.2021 and lasted until the end of the year. In total, 20 scholarship positions were given out to nine teams. One of the participating start-ups, SuperCoop (a cooperative supermarket) was able to complete a highly successful crowdfunding campaign as part of the Founder’s Lab, during which it generated 74,000 euros and 600 new members.

The application for the project sponsorship of “Berliner Startup-Stipendium” for the funding period January 2022 until June 2023 was also successful. This will enable WISTA to give out AFL sponsorship positions for the aforementioned period. The application phase for the next AFL round will be launched in early January 2022.
In late October 2021, an important infrastructure project was also completed. The new tram line between Karl-Ziegler-Strasse and the S-Bahn station Schöneweide took up operations. Three lines run along the new 2.7 km track with five new stops; around 12,000 passengers have been benefitting from the new connection between the Adlershof Technology Park and Schöneweide every day since then.

Adlershof once again was a hive of construction activity in 2021: In late June 2021, HOWOGE Wohnungsbau GmbH, a city-run public housing corporation, finished construction on its car-free housing construction project "Johannisgärten" between Strasse am Flugplatz and Melli-Beese-Strasse. On an area of 26,000 m², the estate includes 314 rental apartments, a large day-care centre for 25 children, three commercial units, and a garage with 121 parking spaces.

In July, SEM GmbH Schaltschrankbau moved into its new headquarters on Walther-Huth-Strasse. Twenty-five employees will be working in the three-story office building and its adjacent manufacturing facility. Founded in 1994, the company develops and produces electrical controls, electrical power distribution systems, as well as measurement and control technology.

On 25 August 2021, the office campus "Brain Box Berlin" on Eisenhutweg celebrated its grand opening. The project is a collaboration between PROFI PARTNER Projekt GmbH, a project developer, and MOUNT Real Estate Capital Partner, a finance specialist. The building has a gross floor area of about 40,000 m² set on a 17,032-m² lot close to the Adlershof motorway exit. It offers room for 14 lettable units. Gegenbauer Holding SE & Co. KG merged several of its companies within "Brain Box" in 2021.
On 27 August 2021, Christian Dunkel GmbH Werkzeugbau laid the foundation for its new office-cum-manufacturing building on Gerhard-Sedlmayr-Strasse. The company was founded as a management buyout from VEB Werk für Fernsehelektronik (WF), a nationalised company in former East Germany. Today, it is active in aerospace technology, power plant construction, and medical technology.

On 9 September 2021, the project partners of immobilien-experten-ag, a real estate developer, celebrated the topping-out ceremony for “OfficeLab-Campus Adlershof”. Once it is finished in early 2023, OfficeLab-Campus on Wagner-Régeny/Hans-Schmidt-Strasse will offer about 26,000 m² of useable office space.

A multistorey car park with 353 parking spaces has been completed next to the commercial campus “Am Oktogon” (Rudower Chaussee/Herrmann-Dorner-Allee).

On 26 October 2021, a groundbreaking ceremony marked the beginning of construction of the new building of Scienion GmbH. The company was founded in 2000 as a university spin-off from the Max Planck Institute for Molecular Genetics and has been based at the Science and Technology Park Adlershof since then. Scienion is a world market leader for dispensing systems for handling smallest volumes of liquids.

PEIX Agentur für Design & Kommunikation GmbH, a leading German advertising agency in healthcare, moved into a new building on Willi-Schwabe-Strasse in Adlershof with 80 employees in 2021. LHB LichtHaus Berlin GmbH also moved into its new media centre on Gross-Berliner Damm in 2021.
On Wagner-Régeny-Strasse, construction began on the new headquarters of EvoLogics GmbH in 2021. The company develops innovative systems for acoustic underwater communication, acoustic location, positioning, sonar technology as well as non-destructive materials testing and ultrasound diagnostics.

In its capacity as an urban development agency of the State of Berlin, WISTA.Plan GmbH has been going forward with the land consolidation of the area between Segelfliegerdamm and Gross-Berliner Damm (“Müller-Erben”). On 19 November 2021, the contract for the approximately 21 hectares of land was notarised between the community of co-heirs (Erbengemeinschaft) and the State of Berlin. The development plan is currently being drawn up and provides for residential (around 1,800 residential units by 2031) and commercial uses.
Adlershof Health Network

The Adlershof Health Network kicked off the new year with the "#sixweeks Health Challenge". This personalised six-week training programme was aimed at improving physical and mental fitness. Throughout the year, the network provided interested employees with online courses to maintain their fitness. Topics included "active breaks", yoga, handling stress at work, proper equipment for when working from home, and treating people with appreciation in the workplace. The tenants of the co-working space were offered coaching services. From 26 to 30 April 2021, the network organised the week of digital health. In September 2021, Adlershof Health Network supported the "STADTRADELN" campaign, initiated by Berliner Klima-Bündnis e. V., aimed at motivating people to switch to cycling. "Berliner Wirtschaft", the member magazine of the Chamber of Commerce and Industry, or IHK, looked at how company health management is being implemented in Adlershof in its September 2021 issue.
"Zukunftsorte" are eleven places in Berlin that generate future innovation and the "industries of the future" by turning research results into innovative products and services. During the pandemic, it has been found that highly specialised and research-based companies weathered the crisis better than other industries. For this reason, Berlin’s policymakers attach great importance to the "Zukunftsorte". This was underscored in the coalition agreement for the current legislative period (2021–2026): "The Coalition wants to further develop the transfer of science and research into the society and the economy. [...] Among the [...] Zukunftsorte that we want to strengthen are Siemensstadt 2.0, Berlin-Buch, CleanTech Marzahn, or EUREF-Campus Berlin."

Already in December 2020, Berlin’s Senate Department for Economics, Energy and Public Enterprises (SenWEB) commissioned WISTA to operate the "Zukunftsorte" business office until 31 March 2024. According to its bylaws, which were passed on 18 March 2021, the business office is to focus on tasks regarding the coordination, organisation, and communication as well as support for the networking of the sites and therefore establish itself as "the advocacy group for the interests of all Zukunftsorte".

The eleven "Zukunftsorte" in Berlin are to be marketed as one and made known beyond the borders of the Berlin-Brandenburg region. The aim is to attract and to retain in Berlin fresh talent and skilled staff. In cooperation with Berlin Partner for Business and Technology GmbH, the office wants to attract more companies to Berlin. To do so, however, the "Zukunftsorte" need suitable conditions to fulfil this important task (e.g., urban development, accessibility, environmental protection).
In 2021, the Business Office had to postpone many of its planned activities, especially those regarding the project’s profile and external networking, due to the coronavirus pandemic. These started picking up steam only in late summer: On 26 August 2021, representatives of all the “Zukunftsorte” met in person for a “partner breakfast” for the first time since the beginning of the pandemic. In cooperation with Berlin Partner for Business and Technology GmbH, the office pressed ahead with planned marketing activities. They launched an advertising campaign aimed at Berlin’s public, for example. Between September and November 2021, “Berliner Fenster” (passenger entertainment on screens in the U-Bahn, Berlin’s underground) and social media channels on Instagram and Twitter showed the campaign “Berlin ist schlauer als du denkst” (“Berlin is smarter than you think”). They also featured representatives of the eleven “Zukunftsorte” of Berlin and their innovations in a series of articles (“Faces of Future”).

On 30 November 2021, the “Zukunftsort” Campus Charlottenburg hosted an event kicking off the event series “Zukunft mitdenken”. A panel discussion at WISTA’s Charlottenburg Innovation Centre (CHIC) on the topic of “Young talents: what makes them tick & what do they want” was attended by, among others, Kirstin Bauch (member of the board, Green party). The event series will continue at different “Zukunftsorte” sites every eight to twelve weeks.
“Grand Challenges” centre

The idea to set up a technology centre in Adlershof that contributes to solving future societal challenges (“Grand Challenges” centre, GCC) took shape in 2021. It is planned to build the GCC on a lot on the corner of Rudower Chaussee and Schwarzschildstrasse. It will be aimed at companies and researchers who jointly work on interdisciplinary topics.

In January, WISTA presented a concept study, developed by Borderstep Institut für Innovation und Nachhaltigkeit gemeinnützige GmbH. It highlights the need for such a centre and illustrates by means of a realisation variant how its implementation is possible in practice. Based on this study, WISTA put out a tender for an architectural feasibility study. Six architecture firms submitted bids. The contract was awarded to the architectural firm Gerkan, Marg und Partner (gmp). A design concept, including a space allocation plan and a budget plan, was developed as part of the feasibility study. Based on this, it was possible to determine expected rents and to examine the centre’s economic viability.

In autumn 2021, WISTA began setting up a network especially for the “Grand Challenges” centre. To do so, WISTA took part in relevant events and set up meetings for exchanging with other actors who also deal with such topics. By way of this network, WISTA aims to gain access to potential cooperation partners and tenants at a very early stage. Moreover, the network serves to get an overview of the activities and topics that are related to the “grand challenges”.

During an internal workshop in November 2021, WISTA collected ideas as to which services it could provide to the companies based at the new centre. Moreover, we defined those activities that could be implemented as part of an “experimental phase” already at the present time. This includes using available space at existing technology centres, organising relevant ideas, and developing a “digital twin” of the GCC. The results of the feasibility study and the concept ideas for the GCC have been put out in a specially prepared brochure.
Innovative infrastructure projects

Energy projects
WISTA’s main building received browser-based controls for each room as part of the “Heat optimisation in non-residential buildings” project, funded by the Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy (BMWi). This could save between ten and 15% of the annual heat energy consumption. A control strategy for the heating circuit regulation in WISTA’s co-working space is expected to reduce heat energy consumption by 20%. Heat pumps were installed at the Innovation and Start-up Centre in Adlershof to support the ventilation and air-conditioning systems during the transitional heating periods. This can significantly reduce, even to zero, the use of district heating.

Together with RWTH Aachen University (RWTH), WISTA has drawn up a sketch for a monitoring project that has been submitted for evaluation to Projektträger Jülich, a major research sponsor. Based on this project, all heat optimisation measures will be tested for their effectiveness beginning in early 2023.

In January 2021, WISTA commissioned Drees & Sommer SE with a research project as part of the heat optimisation programme (“Future Model Energy Infrastructure”). The aim of their research is to assess the potential for digitisation and “sector coupling” (integrating sectors of the energy economy) within WISTA’s own heating and electricity networks and to develop and evaluate future operating models. The final report was handed over to WISTA in June 2021.

The BMWi-funded collaborative project “Combifuel” was concluded on 30 June 2021 as planned. The final report was also submitted to the German National Library of Science and Technology Hanover.
Adlershof 2030+ mobility concept

WISTA launched several activities in 2021 to improve the mobility situation in Adlershof. For example, it supported the “Edge City” project of HTW Berlin - University of Applied Sciences as an associated partner. The project is aimed at testing hardware. It is planned to set up the so-called Real Laboratory I (“Energy-efficient people flow and environmental data collection”) at the Adlershof site, which will deal with energy efficiency and “energy harvesting” (the extraction of small amounts of electrical energy from ambient temperature, vibrations, or air currents).

The “Data basis” project was completed on 30 June 2021. It resulted in the establishment of environmental and traffic sensors and a database. It also made possible integrating smart global traffic data and connect them to the “Open Data Berlin” portal.

Continuous mobility monitoring was established across the Adlershof site as part of the Adlershof 2030+ mobility concept. For environmental monitoring, so-called LoRaWAN sensors collect measurement data on particulate matter, nitrogen dioxide, carbon monoxide (CO), and ozone. These data are used to ascertain a location’s respective air quality. Monitoring of environmental data can already be viewed online and in real-time.

In an effort to expand the cycling infrastructure, WISTA set up bike parking garages in front of three technology centres (Centre for Photovoltaics and Renewable Energies, ZPV, Centre of Biotechnology and the Environment, ZBU, and the Innovation and Start-up Centre, IGZ) in Adlershof. Owing to the high demand, it is planned to see if additional boxes can be put up.
On 29 June 2021, WISTA informed the relevant authorities about the current status of the mobility concept’s implementation. Representatives of the Senate Department for the Environment, Urban Mobility, Consumer Protection and Climate Action (SenUVK) and Berliner Verkehrsbetriebe (BVG), a major public transport company, provided information on the urban development plan Mobility and Traffic 2030.

Berliner Verkehrsbetriebe (BVG) are aiming to foster mobility “beyond classic public transport” with their “Jelbi” project. This is to be done in cooperation with partners. At “Jelbi” locations, passengers can use an app to book, use and combine various means of transportation. The company is planning to set up “Jelbi” points and stations in the years ahead. However, it is requesting financial support on behalf of WISTA and its site partners. WISTA then presented the concept to some major partners on the site. Moreover, WISTA representatives talked to several providers of electromobility.
WISTA Management GmbH and its daughter company, WISTA.Plan, bring in their expertise in developing and operating business parks as well as start-up and technology centres all over Berlin. In addition to Berlin Adlershof, we are now active at numerous other sites on behalf of the State of Berlin.
Charlottenburg (CHIC)

The coronavirus pandemic affected companies based at the CHIC Charlottenburg Innovation Centre very differently. While some are now seeking highly skilled employees and have indicated a need for additional space, others suffered greatly from the impact the pandemic had on their businesses.

In 2021, 13 companies moved into CHIC, including Zixio GmbH (a HTW university spin-off), Digimind GmbH, PlattenBaum UG (from the Adlershof Founder’s Lab), and Rappert Technologies GmbH (a Free University of Berlin spin-off). Codary UG, based at CHIC, won both the “Digital Female Leader Award” and the special award of the Berlin Brandenburg Innovation Prize. Nostos Genomics GmbH and Visseiro GmbH won the “Deep Tech Award”, given out by the Berlin Senate Department for Economics, Energy and Enterprises, which merited a report in the “Tagesspiegel” newspaper (17 June 2021). Sablono GmbH, a start-up, received 5.3 million euros for investment.

On 1 September 2021, the new centre manager started her work. She will be working at CHIC as well as the Innovation and Start-up Centre (IGZ). The two WISTA founding teams will be pooling their competencies in a new team and with a new team leader.

A demand for lettable space (especially laboratories) for new companies with a science background was the topic of a meeting of the CHIC management and TU Berlin (Office “Campus Charlottenburg”) as well as the head of business promotion of the Charlottenburg-Wilmersdorf district on 4 November 2021. Together they identified a demand for an additional start-up or grown-up centre on Campus Charlottenburg.

The first issue of the CHIC newsletter, designed by the WISTA online team, was published in late October. It will inform about the centre’s companies and Campus Charlottenburg every two months.
Business and Innovation Center next to Freie Universität Berlin Campus FUBIC

In February 2021, WISTA submitted key documents for construction planning for the innovation centre. While the planning for the clean-up of contamination was approved on 24 June 2021, the planning documents for the new buildings had to be revised at the behest of the Senate Department for Urban Development and Housing (SenSW). They were submitted in July together with the paperwork on the development of the FUBIC campus. The reviewing process was completed in late December and planning was approved.

After consultation with SenSW, planning permission for FUBIC can be expected by March 2022. During the planning process, it became clear that the former boiler house was no longer needed. Demolition will take place in the first half of 2022. Demolition of all other unused buildings will be completed by mid-2021. For reasons of nature protection, one cellar will be kept as a winter roosting site for bats.

FUBIC All Electricity for Technology Quarters (FAE)

The FAE project puts forward an energy concept that uses renewable energy to provide all the energy consumed in the FUBIC quarter – including heating and cooling. Funded by the Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Climate Action (BMWK), the project is being implemented by RWTH Aachen University, Free University Berlin (FU Berlin), BTB, a district heating provider, and aedificion GmbH.

Following an intense coordination and re-planning phase, the planning documents for the entire project were submitted on 30 June 2021. They included the FAE energy concept, which contains specifications on the design of the heating system, the size and operation of the battery storage, configuration of energy management systems, as well as measurement, control, and regulation systems.
Due to project planning delays, Projektträger Jülich, a major research sponsor and FAE administrator, approved an extension of the FAE project until April 2022. Workshops with the commissioned planning companies dealt with electrical, telecommunication, ventilation, and laboratory technology, the energy system, building automation, and fire protection.

On 6–7 October 2021, WISTA and its cooperation partners, BTB, aedifion GmbH, RWTH Aachen and FU Berlin, hosted a conference on “All Electricity Systems for Technology Quarters”, which was attended by representatives of the Federal Ministry of Economics and Technology (BMWi), Berlin’s senate departments, real estate developers, energy suppliers, and members of the research and technology development community.

**FUBIC-All Electricity - Realization (FAE-R)**

The project was launched together with all cooperation partners on 1 February 2021. A website was launched (www.fubic.energy). Since the project had to be extended beyond 31 January 2025 due to a delay in operations of FUBIC, WISTA came to an agreement with Projektträger Jülich and adjusted the work plans accordingly. An application for extending the project period will be submitted in the first quarter of 2022.
Marzahn (CleanTech Business Park, CBP)

"TransferHUB Marzahn" started work in February 2021. The aim of the project is to foster the interlacing between industry and research. It is operated in cooperation with the business promotion office of the District Office Marzahn-Hellersdorf and HTW Berlin - University of Applied Sciences. The TransferHUB is funded by the Senate Department for Economics (SenWEB) as part of the "Masterplan Industriestadt Berlin 2018–2021" scheme.

With effect on the 1 April 2021, ownership of land of Berlin’s waterworks transferred from the District Office Marzahn-Hellersdorf to WISTA. Simultaneously, land from the northern areas of the CBP were transferred from the State of Berlin to WISTA.

Together with WISTA Plan GmbH, a daughter company, WISTA is in charge of marketing the CBP land. To do so, WISTA has put out a video, a brief portrait of the site, and a primer brochure ("Your way into CleanTech Business Park Berlin-Marzahn").

It is now planned to modify the approved development plan with the aim to facilitate marketing smaller plots of land. Demand for land in CBP has seen a tangible increase in 2021. Negotiations with three companies were either initiated or continued.
Regional Management Berlin South-East (RM)

After nine years, the regional management agency in Schönweide, or Regional Management Berlin South-East, ceased operations on 28 February 2021. Since 2011, Schönweide has developed into a lively quarter and is now one of Berlin’s eleven “Zukunftsorte”, places generating future innovation. Over the years, RM has advertised this idea, created relevant networks, and created a profile for the site together with the “Zukunftsorte” business office. The lucky break came in 2006 with the move of HTW, Berlin’s largest university of applied sciences, to the area. All subsequent investors that came to the site between 2016 and 2019 did so due to the proximity to the university. The regional management agency was successful in coordinating all the development visions of individual stakeholders, including HTW, the landowners, companies, and district-level policymakers, and to develop a unified vision for Schönweide. This effort is exemplified by numerous panel debates (“Salon talks”). Today, Schönweide symbolises the development potential of the entire Treptow-Köpenick economic area.
Innovation and Technology Centre Industry 4.0 (ITZ 4.0)

Kebe & Schober Architekten, an architecture office, presented a feasibility study for the building of the centre on 1 March 2021. They gave out a positive review to the plans of WISTA and HTW Berlin. Plans include the construction of a building in Oberschöneweide – in the immediate vicinity of the university –, which will house a technology centre, funded, and operated by WISTA, and HTW facilities. These harmonised uses will create synergies. According to the study, the joint project is feasible because it gives WISTA enough lettable space (5,000 m²) and enough space for HTW to concentrate all its facilities in Oberschöneweide in the future. The feasibility study was submitted to the Treptow-Köpenick district administration.
Projects outside of Adlershof – development of commercial property

SenWEB has commissioned WISTA with drawing up concepts and developing hybrid (and state-run) so-called Gewerbehöfe, local hubs for skilled trade businesses. It also offered WISTA several state-owned plots of land for development as part of this process. Together with WISTA.Plan GmbH, WISTA has examined these and prioritised them for realising possible construction projects. They are located in Spandau, Marzahn, Lichtenberg, and Steglitz.

Goerzallee
WISTA purchased a plot of land (14,682 m²) on Goerzallee 155 in the Steglitz-Zehlendorf district on 17 February 2021. In a coordinated effort with the district, it is planned to use it commercially. WISTA.Plan GmbH has been commissioned with the management of the land, which is currently used for allotment gardens. Owner of the lease is the district association of allotment gardens in Steglitz. The contractors were informed about the change in ownership.

A meeting took place between the board of the district association of allotment gardens in Steglitz and representatives of WISTA and WISTA.Plan on 12 October 2021. It was also agreed that the association would be informed about planned measures at an early stage, so that it could keep its members informed about developments. It did so for the first time on 14 December 2021.
Marketing

The marketing team began implementing new marketing and communications measures in early 2021, which were geared towards specific new target groups.

They also updated the content and design of the site map for the Adlershof Science City; simultaneously, the team replaced the boards at the WISTA infopoint and those in the WISTA headquarters. New information brochures (“one-pagers”) about the advantages offered by the Adlershof site were also published. An image brochure was released about the FUBIC innovation campus in Dahlem. Another brochure informed about the planned “Grand Challenges” centre.

In March 2021, WISTA launched a new monthly interview series, “#RoleModels-Adlershof”, which kicked off with three videos. The series is about the Technology Park’s entrepreneurs, their employees, and researchers, their careers, and their value systems. It received a remarkable response through social media channels, especially on LinkedIn. On “Diversity Day” on 18 March 2021, WISTA staff talked about the relevance of tolerance, diversity, openness, and individuality in the workplace.
Following a lengthy hiatus, Adlershof’s most visible landmark, the green laser, has been back to beaming across Rudower Chaussee since late January 2021.

The regional competition Berlin South of “Jugend forscht”, Germany’s major young science competition, had to be held in a digital format. As a consolation, the “Leute Treptow-Köpenick” newsletter of “Tagesspiegel” featured a piece on the winners on 09.03.2021.

The Competence Network for Optical Technologies Berlin-Brandenburg (OpTecBB) hosted the “Photonics Days” in a hybrid format in Adlershof on 4–7 October 2021. WISTA actively advertised the event and took part with a booth.

WISTA also participated in the “Made in Berlin Südwest. Innovation trifft Tradition” exhibition, which was opened at Goerzwerk in Steglitz-Zehlendorf in August 2021.

In the fourth quarter, the Science and Technology Park Adlershof successfully presented itself and six other Adlershof-based facilities with a joint booth at the Berlin Science Week, which took place at the Natural Science Museum.
WISTA Management GmbH in the media

The successful handling of the consequences of the pandemic ran as a common thread through the media coverage of WISTA. As early as 2 January 2021, "Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung" (FAZ) dedicated a whole page to the question how the companies of Germany’s largest technology park got through the pandemic in 2020. A "FAZ" op-ed praised the resilience and efficiency of the site. On 13 January 2021, "Tagesspiegel" reported how Jonas & Redmann Group GmbH, originally a manufacturer of specialised machinery, started producing FFP2 masks.

Adlershof’s annual press conference on 23 March 2021 was a media highlight. The press was highly interested and visibly impressed. Again, it was "FAZ" that acknowledged that the Technology Park had a "recipe for growth even during a crisis" on 24 March 2021. The media coverage of the event was completed by reports on "Berliner Abendschau", a news programme on rbb television, and a half-hour report on rbb’s "inforadio". The echo of the annual press conference was heard well into the year’s second quarter: Roland Sillmann, CEO of WISTA, was invited to "TV Berlin" on 5 June 2021.

On 12 July 2021, "Tagesspiegel" reported on the challenges faced by the Adlershof-based AEMtec GmbH because of the pandemic and, on 30 August 2021, also by Smarterials Technology GmbH. On 30 July 2021, Benjamin Gareis, whose reachtag GmbH is based at the CHIC technology centre, explained why the pandemic prompted him to launch a second start-up. On 6 October 2021, AEMtec GmbH went on rbb’s "Abendschau" to talk about how the global chip crisis affects the company.

In addition to the successful handling of the pandemic crisis, several other topics attracted attention: On 12 January 2021, Berlin’s governing mayor and science senator, Michael Müller, recommended setting up research facilities and institutes not only in Berlin’s Mitte district and City West but also in Technology Parks like Adlershof in the "Berliner Morgenpost" newspaper.
On 13 January 2021, "Handelsblatt" quoted WISTA’s CEO Sillmann on the new 5G mobile standard in Adlershof. "RAI", an Italian television channel, featured a segment on Germany’s energy transition that quoted the Adlershof-based company Graforce Gmbh and WISTA’s CEO Sillmann. The company proved media-savvy several times: Two major business newspapers, "Handelsblatt" and "Wirtschaftswoche" reported on it on 14 April 2021 and 30 April 2021, respectively. Segments on Belyntic GmbH, a start-up, could be watched on the Swiss television channel "RTS" on 4 February 2021 and on the German-French cultural affairs channel "Arte" on 3 March 2021. "Tagesspiegel" featured a long read on Boreal Light GmbH on 15 March 2021.

On 1 March 2021, "Berliner Morgenpost" and "Berliner Abendschau" of rbb, Berlin-Brandenburg’s public broadcaster, reported that Berlin’s Natural Science Museum would move its branch office to Adlershof in 2024. The reason behind the decision was the high density of researchers and experts on the site.

Many reported on construction activity in Adlershof. A guest author of "FAZ" praised the systematic development of the site, resulting in "significant impulses for growth", on 22 January 2021. Begin of construction on "Square 1", an office complex in Gleislinse in Johannisthal, was even mentioned in "FOCUS" (19 June 2021), a major national news magazine. As in previous years, the "Future Living" construction project received high praise in 2021. It was awarded with the DW Future Award 2021 by "Wohnungswirtschaft", a professional journal for housing. Even "Schwäbische Zeitung" reported on it (14 August 2021). "Immobilien-Zeitung" presented the "Living on Campus" residential quarter close to the Adlershof Technology Park on 28 October 2021.

WISTA’s activities in other locations also attracted great interest in the media. "Berliner Morgenpost" called FUBIC a prestige project in Steglitz-Zehlendorf on 6 January 2021. On 17 March 2022, "Tagesspiegel" published an extensive report on the Cleantech Business Park in Marzahn. Shortly after, on 9 April 2021, "Berliner Morgenpost" also concerned itself with the new Transfer Hub there. BAE Batterien GmbH presented its plans to build a battery factory on the premises in "Tagesspiegel" on 25 May 2021.
On 26 May 2021, "Berliner Morgenpost" reported that WISTA would take over "the planning for Berlin's largest new business area" in Buchholz Nord.

"Berliner Abendschau" on rbb paid a visit to CleanTech Business Park in Marzahn on 25 September 2021 and did not forget to mention that WISTA is "always called when others are jammed up".

On 24 May 2021, rbb television looked at the history of the Adlershof site as part of a report on the Treptow district. In the newspaper "Die Welt" on 30 June 2021, Matthias Kollatz, Berlin's finance senator, cited the Adlershof Technology Park as an example for projects that Berlin is envied for by other cities.

Xolo GmbH attracted a lot of attention with its 3D printing process, including in "Technology Review" (28 January 2021) and in "Wirtschaftswoche" (15 May 2021). The crowdfunding campaign of SuperCoop, a start-up from the Adlershof Founder's Lab, was so successful that rbb television reported on it on 30 May 2021. On 1 June 2021, the morning show on ZDF, a public television broadcaster, showcased sensors used in elderly care by the Adlershof-based 5micron GmbH.

ORF, the public radio service in Austria, tackled the summer slump by showing a comprehensive portrait of Adlershof Technology Park. IFS Design GmbH hit the headlines, including of "BZ", on 29 July 2021, presenting the new tram models for BVG. BTB GmbH, a local district heating provider, publicised its plans for "modern energy production using the efficient principle of combined heat and power" in "Tagesspiegel" on 3 September 2021. "Süddeutsche Zeitung" featured an article on Berlin Space Technologies GmbH on 30 September 2021. The Adlershof-based company produces satellite construction kits.
WISTA Management GmbH in the media

In late October, the extension of the tram line from Schöneweide S-Bahn station to Adlershof hit the headlines. The opening of the 2.2-km-line found an above-average echo (e.g., in “Abendschau” on rbb and in the “Tagesspiegel” newspaper).

On 26 November 2021, the Adlershof-based company Home Power Solutions GmbH (HPS) received the renowned Innovation Award Berlin Brandenburg. Two days prior, the company was showcased on “Inforadio”, rbb’s spoken-word channel. According to “Welt am Sonntag” on 7 November 2021, the electrolyser of the Adlershof-based HPS Home Power Solutions GmbH, which produces hydrogen from electricity produced on people’s roofs, could become a “key element of the German energy transition”.

Just before Christmas (18 December 2021), “Süddeutsche Zeitung” looked at how delivery services, menu boxes, and fine dining fit together. A start-up from the Adlershof Founder’s Lab called Voilà was mentioned.

Later in the year, the innovation corridor between Berlin and Lusatia was put in the public eye. On 3 June 2021, “Antenne Brandenburg”, a radio station, reported that the premises of the Brandenburg University of Technology in Cottbus would be “integrated into a future science park” and “based on the model” of Berlin Adlershof. On the same day, Thomas Kralinski – former head of the Brandenburg State Chancellery – took to “Märkische Allgemeine” newspaper to showcase the WISTA project to set up a co-working space in Lübben. On 8 June 2021 in “Tagesspiegel”, Franziska Giffey, then-candidate of the Social Democrats to become Berlin’s governing mayor, underscored the special importance of the innovation corridor for economic growth in the region because of its proximity to Adlershof and the BER Airport. On 14 June 2021, the “Lausitzer Rundschau” newspaper cited Roland Sillmann, CEO of WISTA, saying: “We want to connect with Lusatia in a hitherto unseen pilot project.” On 16 August 2021, Sillmann appeared in the “75 Visions” series of “Tagesspiegel”, highlighting the knowledge of people living in Berlin. This is, he said, the most important raw material for creating knowledge-based industries.

New task: developing local hubs for skilled trade businesses (Gewerbehöfe)
WISTA Management GmbH in the media

Increasing attention was being given to the idea to connect Berlin and Brandenburg using “innovation corridors”. In the “Lausitzer Rundschau” paper, district mayor Oliver Igel proudly pointed to the “city of business, science and media”, which he claimed had “made a name for itself nationwide”.

Both “Deutschlandfunk Kultur” (3 August 2021) and the Austrian ORF channel “Ö1” (29 July 2021) emphasised the importance of Adlershof for the innovation corridor. In the October issue of “Berliner Wirtschaft”, the magazine of Berlin’s Chamber of Commerce, IHK, had a cover story on the Berlin-Brandenburg metropolitan region and dedicated a four-page interview to WISTA CEO Sillmann. On 8 October 2021, the “taz” newspaper remarked that WISTA CEO Sillmann was the one presenting “the most concrete project so far” regarding the innovation corridor. It was “an extension of his ‘WISTA’ to Lübben and Cottbus”. On 5 November 2021, the “Lausitzer Rundschau” reported that the project for a co-working space in Lübben had been deemed eligible for funding. However, the same newspaper reported that there were doubts about its feasibility just a week later (13 November 2021).

Towards the end of the year, the scientific expertise in Adlershof attracted particular interest from journalists. On 18 November 2021, “FAZ” visited the IRIS research institute in Adlershof and talked to them about the potential establishment of a new “institute for geoanthropology”. “Die Zeit”, a national weekly newspaper, wrote about the Cupriavidus necator bacteria – and how the Adlershof-based company Animox is using the microorganisms to create plastics from organic waste. On 18 December 2021, “Tagesspiegel” informed about CatLab, the planned catalysis centre of Helmholtz-Zentrum Berlin (HZB) and Max Planck Society, which is focusing on catalysts and is currently being set up in Adlershof. In an interview with “Tagesspiegel” on 12 December 2021, Meike Jipp, director of the Institute for Transportation Research of the German Aerospace Center (DLR), explains which measures help motivate people in road traffic to change their behavioural patterns.
Networking activities

On 4 May 2021, the Dissertation Award Adlershof was given out for the 19th time. The award ceremony took place online. This year’s award went to Dr. Fani Madzharova and included a prize money of 3,000 euros. It is jointly endowed and organised every year by the IGA-FA e.V. research network, Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, and WISTA Management GmbH. Dr. Madzharova researched how nanoparticles boost non-linear optical processes at the Department of Chemistry of Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin.

After the "Long Night of the Sciences" was again cancelled, participating institutions from Adlershof put out some digital offerings on 5 June 2021. "radioeins", a rbb radio programme, reported on this. The next "Long Night" will take place on 2 July 2022.
The first of six issues of "Adlershof Journal" sent out positive signals with stories about Adlershof’s entrepreneurs and employees during the coronavirus pandemic (January/February 2021 issue).

On 12 March 2021, the Science and Technology Park Adlershof could have celebrated its 30th birthday. However, the pandemic made not having a big party seem like the way to go. Instead, the March/April 2021 issue of "Journal" dedicated a whole issue to the anniversary and got unexpected responses: The "Leute Treptow-Köpenick" newsletter of "Tagespiegel" praised the development of Adlershof with an explicit reference to the "Journal" on 22 March 2021.

Other issues focused on science communication (May/June 2021 issue), sustainability (July/August 2021 issue), and the climate (September/October 2021 issue).

The November/December issue of Journal looked at the families of the Technology Park and why entire families sometimes focus their careers in Adlershof.

The Journal’s inserts ("Potenzial") looked at new businesses, knowledge transfer, business support, the expansion of the 5G campus network, and the restructuring of WISTA’s conference service.
Online

WISTA Management GmbH’s online team relaunched the company website. Newly designed pages and a strategic restructuring of the content on the website now offer WISTA’s targeted audiences a better overview of the company, its sites, projects, and services.

The real estate pages on adlershof.de were also revised. All residential projects are now included in an overview. Additionally, lettable space offered by external providers is now being listed for a fee.

The content of the CleanTech Business Park Marzahn website was transferred to the WISTA website. The team also added a page on “Grand Challenges” to the Adlershof website.
Facts and figures
WISTA Management GmbH

WISTA Management GmbH, a publicly owned company in Berlin, is an experienced business promoter, site developer, and service provider. As an initiator and economic catalyst, WISTA strengthens the economic foundation of the German capital on the intersection of research and industry. WISTA builds, operates, and lets out technology centres in addition to selling leasehold properties. Above all, it supports new businesses, brings together research and industry, and fosters national and international cooperation. WISTA operates the Science and Technology Park Berlin Adlershof. Germany’s largest high-technology location and Berlin’s largest media location are embedded into an overall urban development concept. Covering an area of 4.6 km², the site is home to more than 1,200 companies and scientific institutions that employ more than 24,500 employees. Adding to this number were 6,650 students as well as 1,000 apprentices. WISTA also runs the Charlottenburg Innovation Centre (CHIC) in Berlin’s City West. It is also building the FUBIC Innovation Campus in Berlin-Dahlem and has recently taken over marketing for the Cleantech Business Park Marzahn, an industrial estate. On behalf of Berlin’s Senate Department for Economics, Energy and Public Enterprises, it is operating the business office for Berlin’s places of future innovation (“Zukunftsorte”). Lastly, WISTA will soon start to build so-called Gewerbehöfe, backyard hubs for skilled trade businesses, where the skilled trades can come together with advanced technology.

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<th>Shareholder</th>
<th>State of Berlin</th>
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<td>Share capital</td>
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<td>Shareholders’ meeting, supervisory board, advisory board</td>
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**Supervisory Board of WISTA Management GmbH**  
(as of: 31.12.2021)

**Barbro Dreher**  
State secretary, Berlin Senate Department for Economics, Energy and Enterprises

**Karoline Beck**  
Deputy chair; CEO of in.wendt Management GmbH

**Brigitte Dworak**  
Chair of the board of B&O Service und Messtechnik AG

**Stephanie Bschorr**  
Managing director, HTG Wirtschaftsprüfung GmbH and HTG Rechtsanwaltsgesellschaft mbH

**Hans-Jürgen Reil**  
Department head, Berlin Senate Department for Finance

**Dr. Sandra Obermeyer**  
Department head, Berlin Senate Department for Urban Development and Housing

**Prof. Dr. Jürgen Mlynek**  
Chairman of the board, Falling Walls

**Advisory Council for Adlershof**  
(Stand: 31.12.2021)

**Prof. Dr. Christoph Schneider**  
Vice-President for Research, Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin

**Prof. Dr. Ulrich Panne**  
President of the BAM Federal Institute for Materials Research and Testing

**Oliver Igel**  
Mayor of Berlin's Treptow-Köpenick district

**Mike Krüger**  
Managing director, Studio Berlin-Adlershof GmbH

**Dr. Christine Wedler**  
Managing director, ASCA GmbH; chair of the board, Technologiekreis Adlershof e. V. (TKA)

**Dr. Stefanie Molthagen-Schnöring**  
Vice-president for Research & Transfer of HTW Berlin - University of Applied Sciences
As an urban development agency of the State of Berlin, WISTA.Plan GmbH’s tasks include developing the already established technology park in Adlershof in line with its existing profile. WISTA.Plan is also active in Berlin beyond Adlershof. Additionally, the company develops other important “Zukunftsorte”, places generating future innovation, together with WISTA Management GmbH.

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WISTA.Service GmbH

WISTA.Service GmbH is a 100-percent daughter company of WISTA Management GmbH and is active on the premises of the Science and Technology Park Berlin Adlershof as well as other sites across Berlin. The company is responsible for performing business, technical, and infrastructure management tasks for buildings and properties of WISTA Management GmbH and other affiliated companies. Additionally, WISTA.Service GmbH provides services in IT and cartography. It also provides its services to other companies and institutions outside of the site's core area.

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