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## THE 3ZERO HOUSE: A COLLABORATIVE SPACE FOR AGENTS OF CHANGE

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### OUR COMMON GOAL

*To break down silos and bring together diverse stakeholders to jointly fight against poverty, inequality and climate change.*

In 2015, the international community made key commitments for the future of our planet with the adoption of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the Paris climate agreement at COP21. Building on these commitments, and on thirty years of actions on the field aligned with these goals, ACTED's **3Zero vision** aims to promote new approaches to contemporary global challenges, radically reshaping the way individuals, businesses and communities live, work and interact.

#### ZERO EXCLUSION

Because no one should be left behind.

#### ZERO CARBON

Because we only have one planet.

#### ZERO POVERTY

Because poverty should not hold back potential.

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The 3Zero House is **a physical and/or digital collaborative space**, grounded in the local eco-systems, that will serve to multiply and accelerate partnerships, innovations, and solutions in a country by local actors. The multidimensional nature of environmental and social problems calls for active and innovative multi-sectoral networking. The 3Zero House will serve as **a unique hub that connects and empowers diverse actors** from every sector - local social enterprises, civil society organisations (CSOs), and other agents of change - empowering them to innovate, to drive the ecological transition and the digital transformation towards a Zero Exclusion, Zero Carbon, and Zero Poverty world. The 3Zero House serves as a connector, bringing these multi-sectoral actors together, building capacities, and facilitating collaborations on innovative solutions for local problems.

**Why?** Because it is important to engage those who suffer the most from exclusion, climate change, and extreme poverty, in finding solutions to their problems and support scaling these solutions to global action.

**The 3Zero House was designed to accelerate the innovations of local actors on a global scale.** The 3Zero House aims to work in some of the most marginalised communities around the world, providing opportunities to catalyse agents of change, connecting them with resources and networks; allowing them to identify and promote localised solutions that deliver positive global impact.

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# FUNCTIONS OF THE 3ZERO HOUSE

THE 3ZERO HOUSE HAS THREE MAIN FUNCTIONS: **CONNECT, UNLEASH, AND INNOVATE**

## CONNECT

The 3Zero House is a **collaborative hub** aiming to **connect diverse actors** both locally and globally, and fuel dialogue and actions towards the 3Zero vision. Adapted to each local context, 3Zero Houses mobilise actors with a mix of programmes and events across physical and digital platforms - such as ideation workshops; competitions; hackathons; presentations; networking opportunities; debates and working groups. Collaborative spaces such as co-working spaces; information hubs; social cafes; and community farms help inspire agents of change with new ideas. The 3Zero House serves as a showcase of ideas and facilitates actors to break silos, collaborating to identify issues and foster innovative partnerships to solve local challenges.

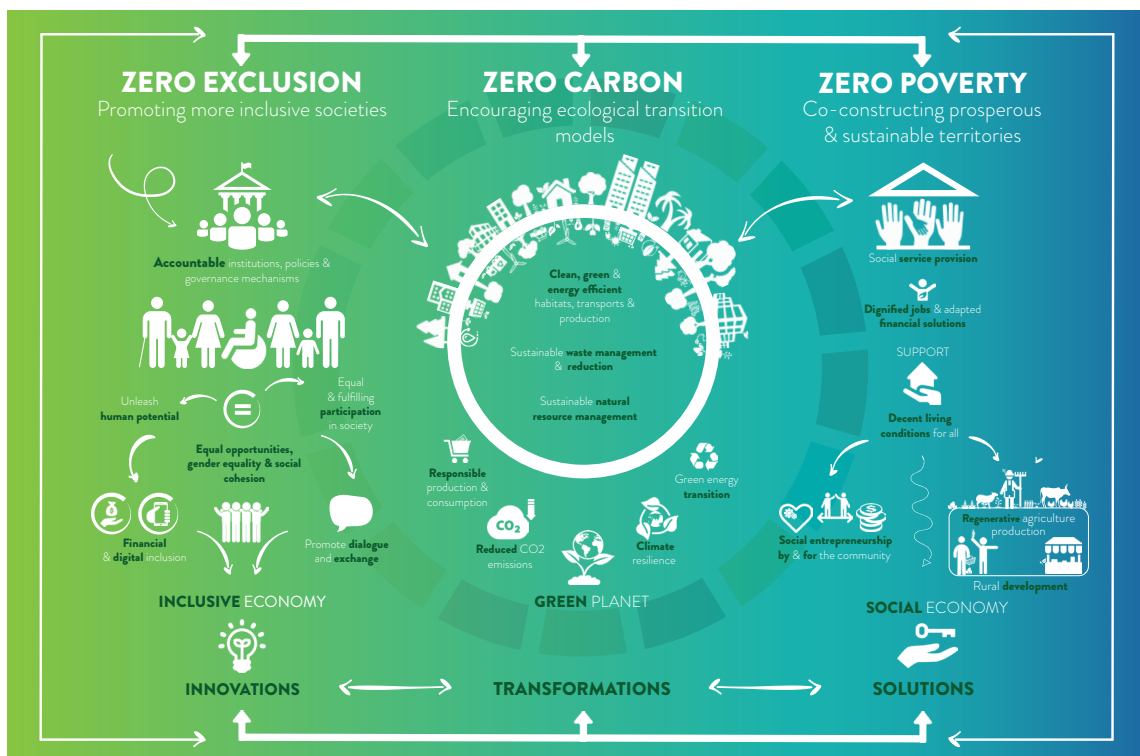
## UNLEASH

The 3Zero House offers space and/or resources devoted to **unleash development of human potential and the preservation of natural capital**. Leveraging ACTED's expertise, the 3Zero House can provide tailored trainings and mentoring for CSOs using our signature GOCA tool, for Social Entrepreneurs using our ECAT tool, or on 'greening' with our carbon footprint tool and nature-based solutions for landscape restoration. Like-minded partners from private sector, academia, and NGOs bring unique technical trainings, research, and service provision adapted to local needs. Agents of change and organisations connect to services in a 'one-stop-shop' to **unleash potential and drive the shift towards a 3Zero world**.

## INNOVATE

The 3Zero House will provide space and/or resources to promote experimentation and piloting of solutions. It will advance promising, innovative projects aligned with 3Zero through collaborative partnerships in incubation or acceleration services, small grants, and specialised trainings and materials. Innovative financial services will be promoted including social investment funds, carbon financing, and blended finance. CSOs will be connected to innovative social enterprise solutions to scale up the application of solutions within their communities – enabling to reach the most vulnerable. The 3Zero House aims to **grow joint innovative ventures - merging for profit and non-profit components**.

Across 3Zero Houses, successful local and national solutions will be promoted, building opportunities for expansion, adaptation and replication at the global level. Shared resources and networking across 3Zero houses will further drive global empowerment and innovation.



# OUR CURRENT 3ZERO HOUSES

## 3Zero House Manila



The first 3Zero House was launched in Manila, Philippines, in October 2019, with our local partner and co-founder of the 3Zero Global Alliance, Gawad Kalinga (GK). The 3Zero House is a 6-storey building owned by GK located at the heart of Metro Manila. The space was renovated to turn each floor and the roof deck into a unique hub fostering collaboration, fueling innovation and boosting creativity.

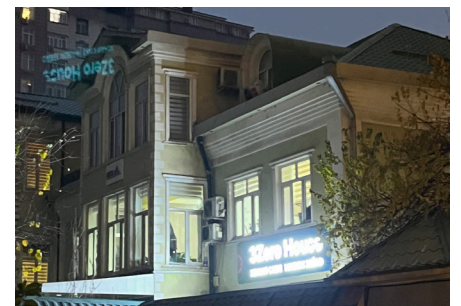
The various spaces and provision of shared services from partners range from incubation, accounting and compliance to a coffee shop, and recording studio, which supports the local ecosystem and cooperation between CSOs and Social Entrepreneurs. Following the transformative effect of the Covid-19 era, the 3Zero House Manila has embraced its digital footprint and is creating and disseminating digital training content. The Manila 3Zero House has been providing services to the public since the end of 2021.



## 3Zero House Dushanbe

The second 3Zero House, in Dushanbe, Tajikistan, opened in December 2022. The 3Zero House Dushanbe was created in order to better address the challenges and issues of modern-day Tajikistan, led by ACTED Tajikistan together with its sister organisation Bactria Cultural Centre.

Following a renovation process to improve the building's energy efficiency and adapt it to future operational needs, the 3Zero House offers an inviting and engaging space for a range of services and actors throughout the three floors of the building. These services include, but are not limited to, a Social Café, a center of professional excellence with classroom spaces for trainings, community spaces, informational hubs, a media studio, and a business incubation space. The 3Zero House will act as a springboard, helping to propel Dushanbe and Tajikistan more broadly towards a 3Zero future.



## Upcoming 3Zero Houses:

**Yangon (Myanmar), Colombo (Sri Lanka), Brussels (Belgium)**

# 3ZERO HOUSE PARTNERS

The **3Zero House focuses on collaborations and strategic partnerships**. Global partners will compliment technical capacities of local partners and connect with local eco-systems. The 3Zero Global Alliance, founded by ACTED and Gawad Kalinga provides a unique North-South approach to drive the 3Zero movement. All 3Zero Houses will be connected and engaged as members of the 3Zero Global Alliance, leveraging a shared vision and voice to build a global movement and drive action towards a Zero Exclusion, Zero Carbon and Zero Poverty world.

## Added value of the 3Zero House

The 3Zero House offers a unique convening space - facilitating the intersection of innovative ideas and agents of change – breaking silos – to ensure a holistic view to address the most pressing local and global issues. Development advances cannot be viewed in isolation – the intersections of poverty, carbon reduction and inclusion must be addressed to ensure sustainability. Local and national actors are connected to global resources and actors through the 3Zero Global Alliance – supporting the multiplication of innovations and impact for vulnerable populations around the world.



**ACTED**, the convener of 3Zero House partners brings almost 30 years of experience working with social and solidarity actors and supporting 18 million beneficiaries in 40+ countries. ACTED's signature Grassroots Organizational Capacity Assessment (GOCA) toolkit, and Enterprise Capacity Assessment tool (ECAT) aim to unleash the potential of CSOs and social entrepreneurs in the 3Zero House. ACTED is leading efforts towards greening humanitarian action and the preservation of natural capital with our pioneering carbon footprints, and prioritising the restoration of landscapes.



**Convergences**, ACTED's sister organisation, is specialised in convening dialogues between different sectors (social entrepreneurs, CSOs, local government, private sector, and academics) to foster co-construction and innovations that are socially and environmentally impactful for a 3Zero world. 3Zero Forums aim to mobilise diverse ecosystems of actors, building collaborations for the 3Zero house, both locally and globally, driven by the common purpose of reaching the SDGs.



**Climate KIC** works to accelerate the transition to a zero-carbon, climate-resilient society. Supported by the European Institute of Innovation and Technology, they identify and support innovation that helps society mitigate and adapt to climate change. ACTED and Climate KIC will set-up incubation and accelerator programmes to support business start-ups access to innovate, catalyse and scale potential climate solutions and provide the learning and skills needed for climate focused social enterprises.

The 3Zero vision is guided by the motto "Think Local – Act Global". For over two decades the phrase "Think Global, Act Local" shaped the rhetoric of social and environmental movements critical of the globalisation narrative. However, when global ideas reach local ground, they remain very foreign ones. This approach can overpower what is local, instead of empowering it.

We propose to turn the tables and work to "**Think Locally, Act Globally**" to ensure the empowerment of local communities. Thinking locally and acting globally helps to ensure that adapted solutions, built on local ingenuity, are brought to the global stage.