

The Base by CyprusInno

Social Impact Generator™



The first innovation space in the world located in a demilitarized zone

Connecting Entrepreneurs Island-Wide

CyprusInno is a social venture founded by a mixed Greek- and Turkish-Cypriot team who have overcome decades of social and geographical division to create the first and largest platform connecting entrepreneurs on the divided island of Cyprus. Founded in late-2016, the organization operates a platform of digital tools and live events that utilizes a novel method of entrepreneurship as a mechanism for peacebuilding.

In 2020, CyprusInno moved into a historic 4-unit container located within the UN-controlled Buffer Zone on the border between both sides of the island, which it transformed from a military unit into **The Base by CyprusInno, the world's first Social Impact Generator™**.

5,000+ community (members/subscribers)

30,000+ social media following

2,000+ participants across 40+ events

700+ startup mentorship hours with 28 startups mentored

4 public policy recommendations

200+ students in 37 modules, 101 lessons, and 30+ hours of online coursework

€500,000+ in value created through island-wide entrepreneurial collaborations and partnerships

KEY STATS



OUR STORY

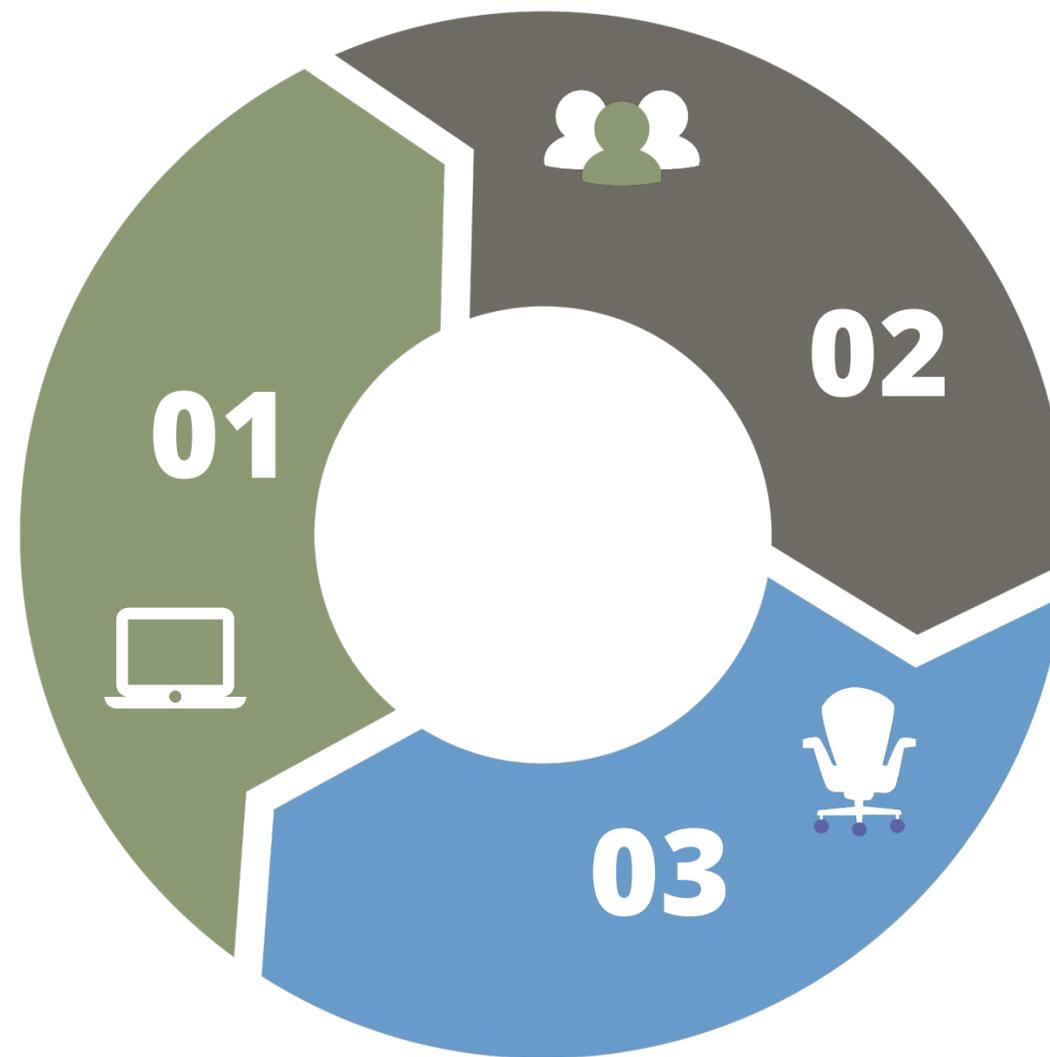


The CyprusInno Model for Collaborative Innovation

.01 Digital Tools

A suite of digital tools that empower entrepreneurs on both sides of the island of Cyprus to connect and innovate, including but not limited to:

- Online community (3,000+)
- Startups map
- Jobs board
- Funding database
- Events calendar
- Mobile app
- And more...



.02 Live Events

Networking events, startup trainings, mentorship programs, youth workshops, hackathons and much more.

.03 Physical Space

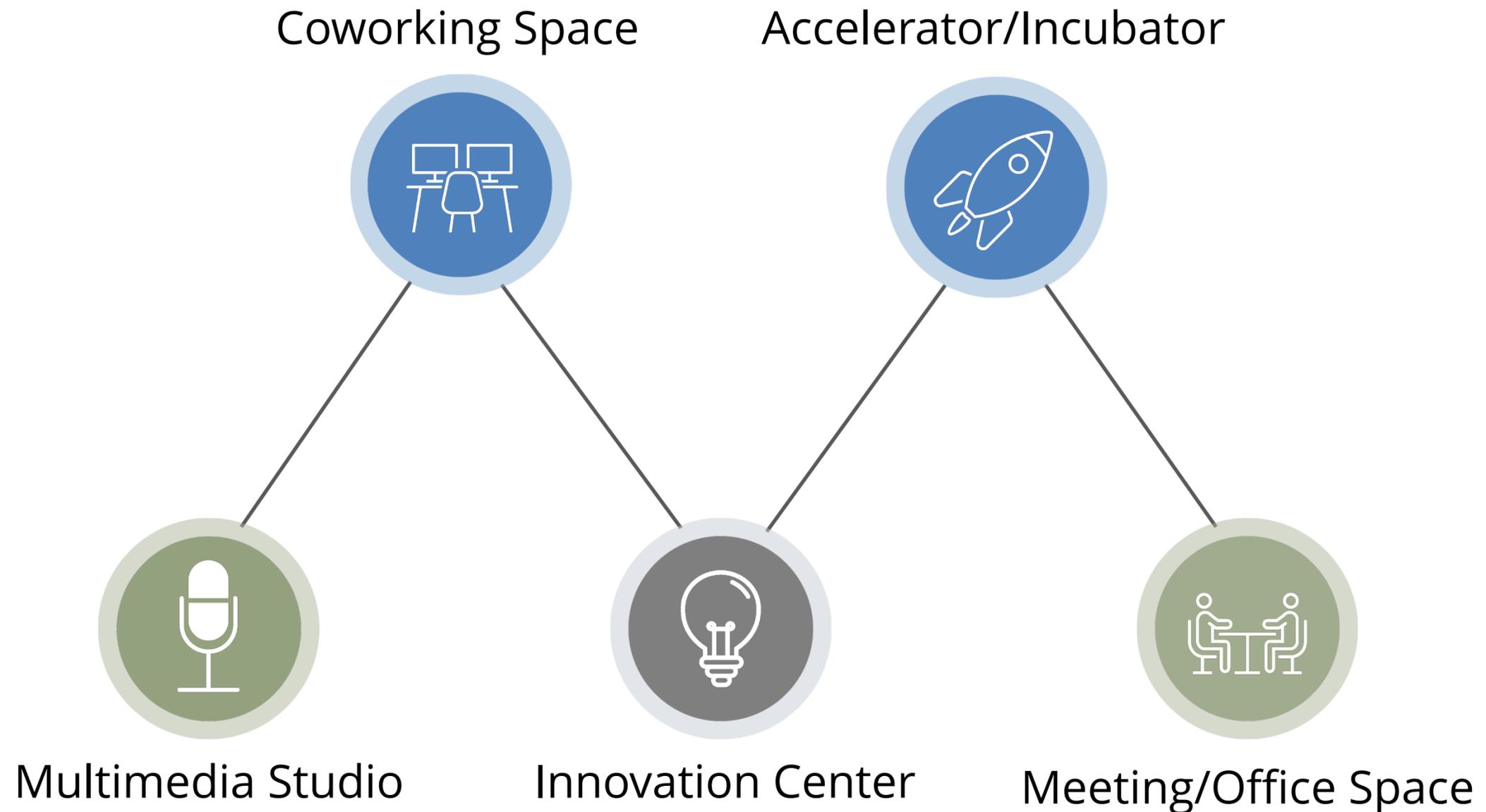
The **Base by CyprusInno**, an all-in-one coworking center, meeting/office space, accelerator/incubator, innovation center, and multimedia studio.

Overview of The Base



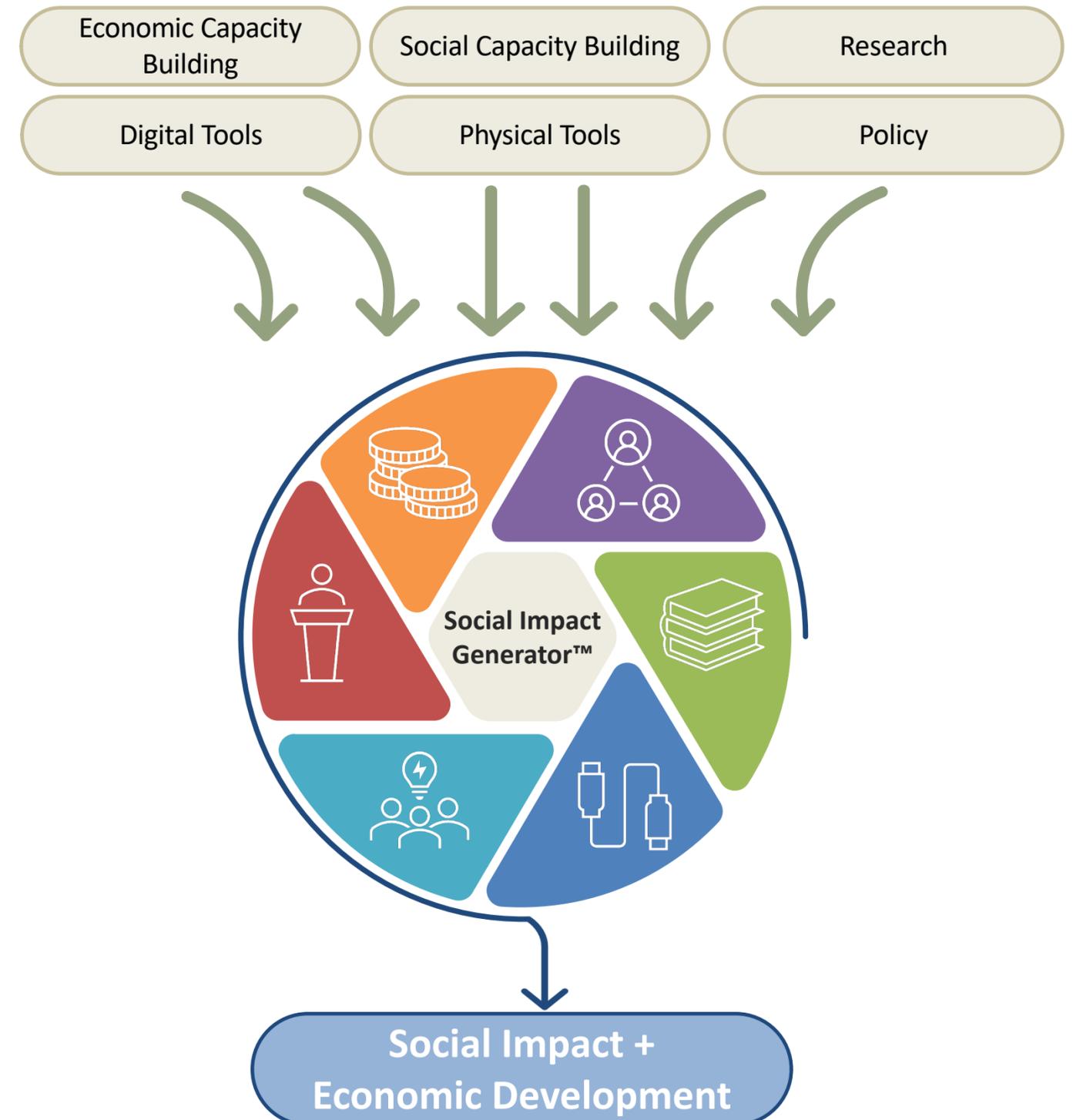
The Base by CyprusInno - Social Impact Generator™

The Base by CyprusInno, the world's first Social Impact Generator™, combines the elements of a coworking center, meeting/office space, accelerator/incubator, innovation center, and multimedia studio **located on the grounds of the historic Ledra Palace in Cyprus' UN Buffer Zone** in the city of Nicosia, the last divided capital in the world, and is the first space of its kind in a demilitarized zone, positioning Cyprus as a potential model for other countries and regions.



What is a Social Impact Generator™?

A **Social Impact Generator™** is an ever-evolving, multi-purpose space that enables the co-creation of social and economic impact in various fields of focus by bringing together both the private and public sectors, as well as civil society, via a hybrid platform of digital and physical tools.



Our Strategic Imperatives



Establish a peaceful, stable, engaging, and interactive space in the Buffer Zone that maximizes dialogue and cooperation via entrepreneurship and innovation



Facilitate the formation, launch, and scale of inter-communal startups and ideation for products and/or services that create social impact and contribute positively to the Cypriot reality and/or the peace process of the divided island



Align with global strategies (i.e., YOUTH2030) and support the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by accelerating businesses with social impact embedded into their models and/or who tackle one or more of the SDGs



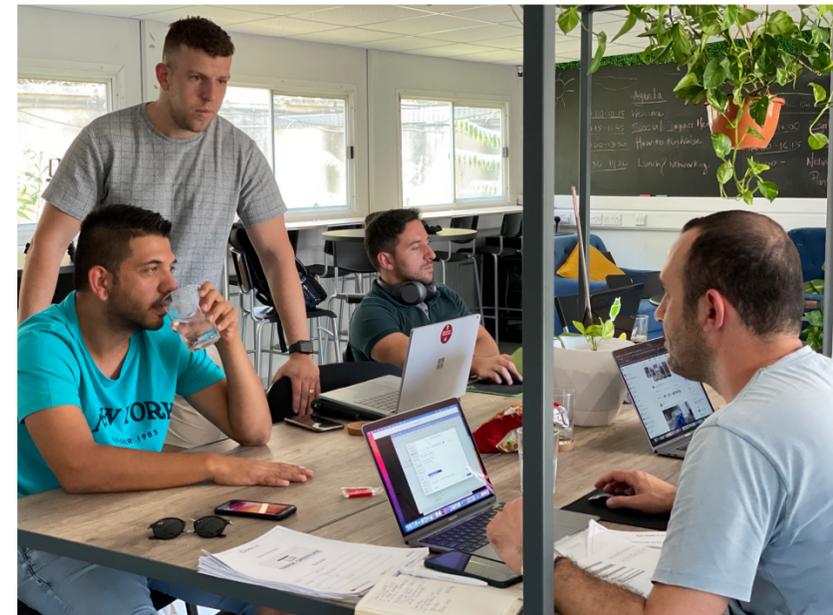
Our Activities & Offerings



- Social startup accelerator program and incubator
- Hosting of resident startup teams (3-6 months)
- Co-working for founders and freelancers
- Think tank for joint committees from both sides of the island
- Island-wide mentorship network (30+ mentors)



- Hybrid physical/virtual entrepreneurship conferences
- Fireside chats, inspirational speaker series, and live pitching
- Podcast series recording in live studio
- Vertical gardening & artwork to cover up remnants of the war



Virtual Tour of The Base



A Unique Area Frozen in Time

1959-1974



- Opened in 1949, Ledra Palace becomes the first 5-star hotel on the island
- In July 1974, after Cyprus' independence from the UK in 1960 and years of escalating inter-communal violence between Greek- and Turkish-Cypriots, a military junta in Greece backs a coup against Cyprus' President. Five days later, Turkish troops invade, leaving the island divided for decades.
- Ledra Palace serves as a stronghold during the war, armed by Greek-Cypriot troops while housing foreign press covering the war

1975-2004



- Following the war of 1974 and the subsequent division of the island, the Buffer Zone between the two sides is established and Ledra Palace grounds become the HQ for Sector 2 United Nations Roulement Regiment (URR) of the UN Peacekeeping forces in Cyprus (UNFICYP), as well as host to high-level meetings between Greek-Cypriot and Turkish-Cypriot leaders
- In 2004, checkpoints along the Buffer Zone open, allowing for restricted crossing and inter-communal contact for the first time in 30 years. Ledra Palace becomes a designated crossing point.

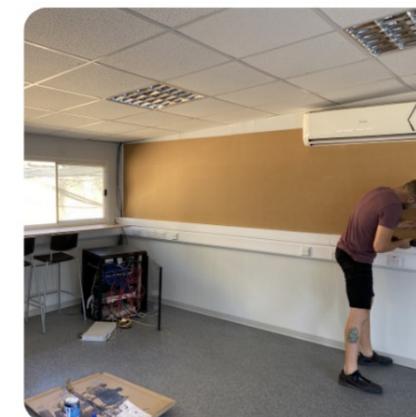
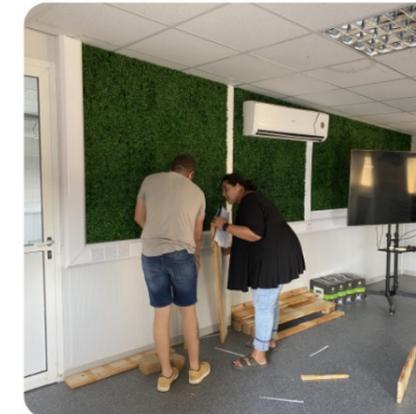
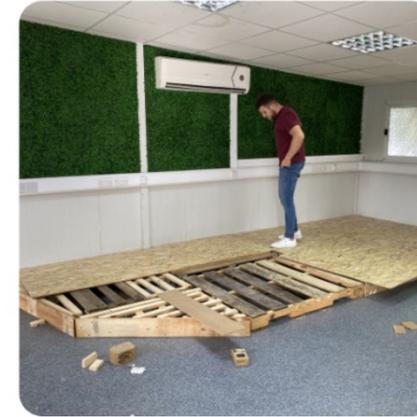
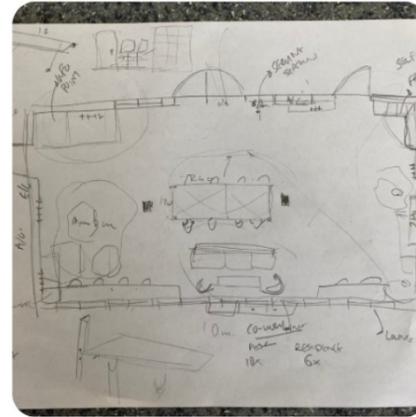
2005-2021



- The 4-part military base container, originally from the peacekeeping operation of the Lebanese Civil War, opens in the Buffer Zone on the Ledra Palace grounds as a bi-communal radio station
- In 2020, after two years of vacancy, it is transformed into The Base by CyprusInno. The Base is located within the Buffer Zone (demilitarized zone) and technically part of a peacekeeping operation military base (but with access given to civilians) on the Ledra Palace grounds

Our Transformation Process

1. The Base by CyprusInno **was built by hand** by CyprusInno co-founders and a few gracious helpers, using local producers and upcycling methods
2. The Base by CyprusInno **MVP was self-funded** by the organization's savings of only €5,000 (not including team labor)

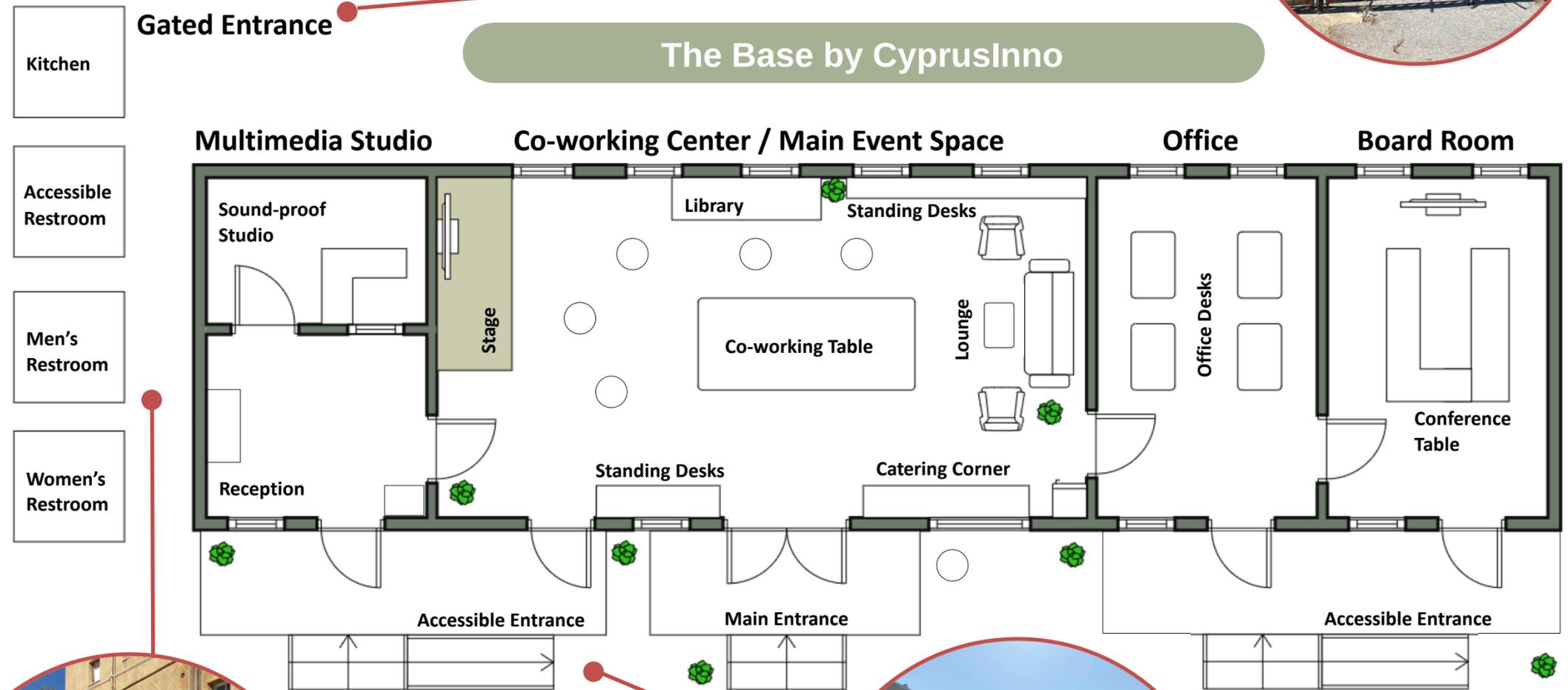


A Bird's-eye View of a Historic Space

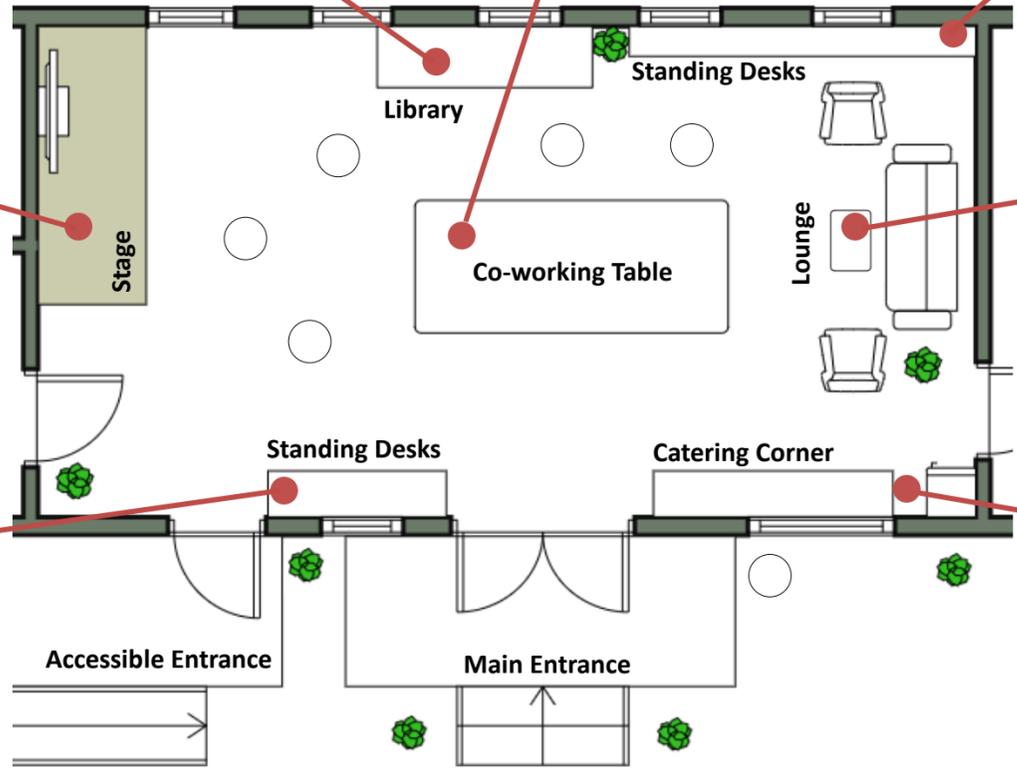


The historic 4-unit container features some of the following:

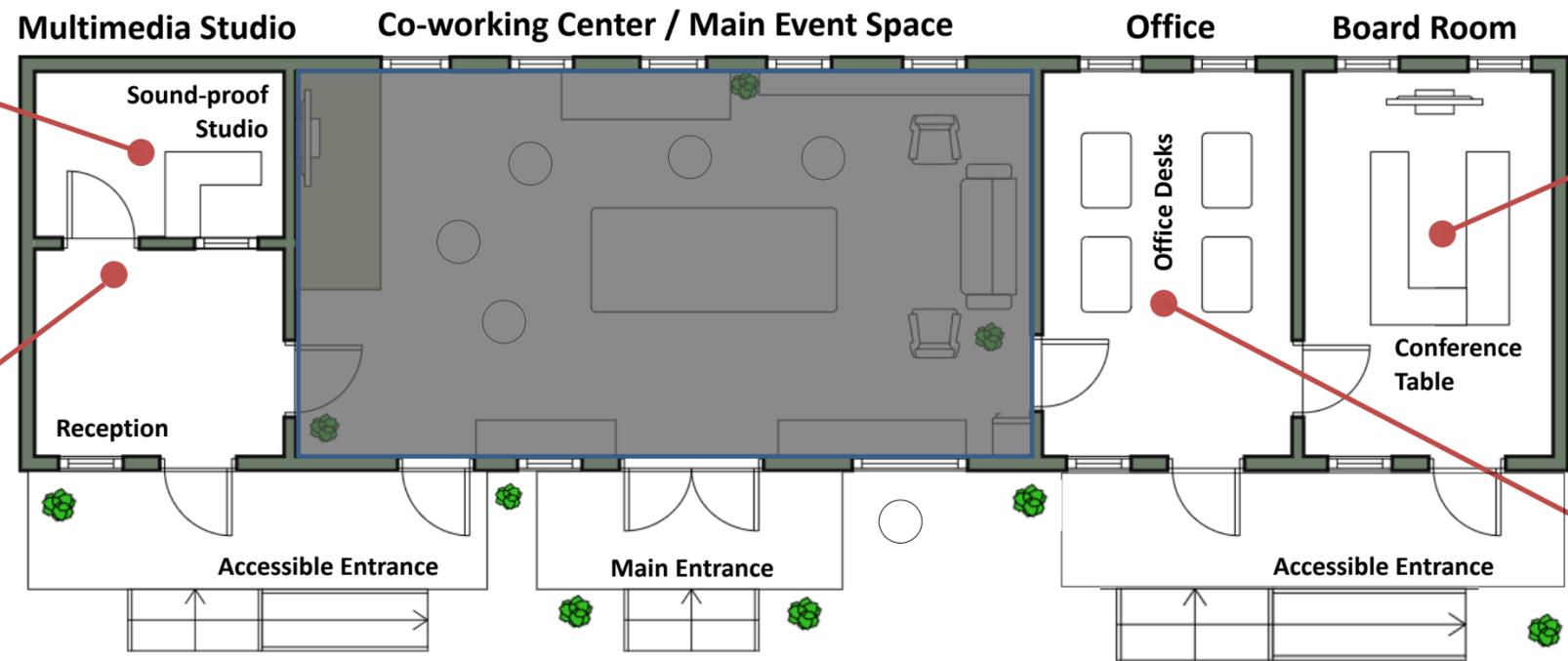
- Co-working center that converts into an event space
- Custom-built co-working tables by local producers
- Custom pitch stage built from upcycled military pallets
- 4K TVs and projectors
- Full wireless and surround sound A/V system
- Sound-proof multimedia recording studio
- Seated office for resident teams
- U-style conference room
- Brainstorming/lounge area with writeable walls
- Fully-stocked catering corner



Co-working Center / Main Event Space



Multimedia Studio, Ideation Loung & Board Room



Milestones & Key Needs



Upcoming Milestones



Global crowdfunding campaign to cover:

- Upgrades to the entire space
- Accelerator/incubator program costs
- Community/labs manager



Gardens of the Future outdoor vertical garden launch



New equipment orders/deliveries:

- New conference room chairs
- Upgraded studio equipment
- Wireless camera system
- Wireless A/V system

Key Needs



Funding for:

- Operations (running costs, staff)
- Programming (accelerator)
- Upgrades/equipment



Resources:

- Furniture (i.e., chairs, desks)
- Tech (i.e., hardware, software)



Partnerships:

- Local partners
- International partners
- Experts and mentors
- Advisors

Meet Our Team



Burak Berk Doluay
Co-Founder & Director

UN Young World Leader for the SDGs, Young European Leader, SUSI Student Leaders on Social Entrepreneurship Fellow, Young Transatlantic Innovation Leaders Initiative Fellow, EU Trainer



Steven W. Stavrou
Co-Founder & Director

Management & Strategy Consultant, Price-Babson MBA Fellow for Entrepreneurship, Muhammad Yunus and Youth Fellow, Obama Leader Europe

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