General information

This building was awarded the Sustainable Renovation Grand Prize of the Green Solutions Awards 2020-21 at the national level; and a mention for the same category at the international level.

Triple is a coworking and events space located in the heart of Madrid that represents the concept of Triple Balance. Inside of it, organizations and activities whose vocation is to generate a positive environmental, social, as well as economic impact converge.

It was born from the rehabilitation of an old industrial building located in a courtyard. It has 538 m² distributed over three floors and the geometry of the building gives it a special character: its sloping roof-facade provides a powerful source of natural light that is distributed throughout the interior.

A series of ecological principles and design tools are applied to achieve the least possible impact on the environment where it is located and make Triple a healthy space. A space that respects the environment, offers maximum comfort and well-being to its users, and improves their productivity.

All this together with the use of ecological and proximity materials, the use of available resources to save energy, and an air monitoring system that maintains good air quality in the space, which is especially important in the context of COVID-19.

It is the first coworking building that received zero CO2 certification from the Spanish association Ecómetro.

The use of Ecómetro's LCA tool during the design and construction phase allowed us to make data-driven decisions to reduce the environmental impact from the beginning of the project. The emissions emitted have been offset through a reforestation program. The building is 100% electrified and the utility company provides renewable energies.
Owner approach of sustainability

Triple was born with the aim of bringing together triple balance companies, companies with a positive impact or in transition, under the same roof. The space also reflects these principles, which is why it is a healthy space that takes care of people and the environment.

Triple is the first space, but more are planned.

Architectural description
An architecture that respects the environment and people's health has been developed based on these measures:

- Building CO2 null
- Air quality and technology
- Energy efficiency and passive measures
- Healthy and proximity materials
- Vegetation
- Geoenvironmental analysis

### Energy

#### Energy consumption

**Primary energy need:** 78.80 kWhpe/m².year  
**Primary energy need for standard building:** 161.88 kWhpe/m².year  
**Calculation method:** RD: 47/2007  
**CEEB:** 0.0002  
**Final Energy:** 37.60 kWhfe/m².year  
**Breakdown for energy consumption:**  
- Heating = 14.7 kWh / m² year  
- Cooling = 5.7 kWh / m² year  
- DHW = 2.4 kWh / m² year  
- Lighting = 14.6 kWh / m² year  
**Initial consumption:** 1.00 kWhpe/m².year

#### Envelope performance

**Envelope U-Value:** 0.30 W.m⁻².K⁻¹  
**More information:**  
- U enclosure: 0.30 W / m²K  
- U covered: 0.25 W / m²K

### Renewables & systems

#### Systems

- **Heating system:**  
  - Heat pump  
  - Fan coil  
- **Hot water system:**  
  - Individual electric boiler  
- **Cooling system:**  
  - Others  
  - Fan coil  
- **Ventilation system:**  
  - Double flow heat exchanger  
- **Renewable systems:**  
  - Heat pump

**Other information on HVAC:**

The air conditioning (cooling and heating) is carried out through an air-to-air heat pump system. The system is zoned and has both cassette and wall-mounted indoor units. All these units are associated with outdoor units located on the roof.

The ventilation is controlled by a mechanical double flow with heat recovery. Controlled mechanical ventilation is the most effective way to combat the buildup of biological, chemical and radioactive contaminants, and dual flow with heat recovery avoids the energy losses of traditional systems. Emission through duct networks that will use central ventilation with heat recovery, dimensioned for the projected occupation.

These systems improve air quality and therefore people's HEALTH and COMFORT.

**Solutions enhancing nature free gains:**

- Passive strategies: insulation of the envelope and solar protection.  
- Internal loads: people, equipment  
- Heat recovery through ventilation
Environment

GHG emissions

GHG in use: 2,000 KgCO₂/m²/year

Methodology used:
The Life Cycle Analysis methodology of the LCA ECOMETER tool has been used.

GHG before use: 303,000 KgCO₂/m²

Building lifetime: 30.00 years

i.e xx in use years: 151.5

GHG Cradle to Grave: 363,000 KgCO₂/m²

The emissions from the construction phases are offset by a carbon footprint offset program. The use phase does not generate impact since the energy comes from renewable sources.

Water management

We use a ceramic filter to obtain water free of odors, pathogens and other substances and thus obtain a good quality of drinking water. Aerators are installed in taps to reduce the flow to 0.6 l/s.

Indoor Air quality

DOUBLE FLOW CONTROLLED MECHANICAL VENTILATION

The double-flow controlled mechanical ventilation system (with heat recovery unit) has filtration units that clean the air of particles, guaranteeing indoor air quality.

Ventilation equipment with heat recovery supplies fresh filtered outdoor air with a sufficient and proportionally adjustable flow to the premises. At the same time, they suck in an equivalent volume of stale air, laden with CO₂, and remove it as evacuated air, reducing at the same time the possibility of suspended particles containing viruses and bacteria. This also effectively removes other harmful substances, such as odors, fine dust, moisture, etc. Heat recovery takes place by means of a corrosion resistant rotary heat recovery unit with heat recovery factors of up to 90% and moisture recovery factors of up to 90%. This considerably reduces the primary energy costs of the heating installation. The SFP (Specific Fan Performance) value also reflects the high degree of energy efficiency.

Comfort

Health & comfort:

GEOENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH ANALYSIS

A study has been carried out aimed at the identification of the different risk factors present in the place, factors of geophysical, physical, chemical and biological origin. Geoenvironmental analysis is a tool for disease prevention. After the analysis, the corrective measures are indicated for the values that are above what is considered acceptable according to the NORMA FSG 2015 V.1 regulation.

The main environmental exposure factors are:

- Low frequency alternating electric fields.
- Low frequency alternating magnetic fields.
- Harmonics in the installation.
- High frequency artificial electromagnetic radiation.
- Electrostatic or continuous electric fields.
- Continuous magnetic fields or magnetostatic.
- Environmental radioactivity and especially radon gas.
- The geophysical activity of the terrain: magnetic field and terrestrial radiation.
- Artificial lighting.
- The levels of aldehydes and especially formaldehyde.
- The levels of VOCs.
- The levels of particulate matter.
- Nitrogen dioxide gas levels.
- Sulfur dioxide levels.
- Carbon dioxide levels.
- Ozone levels.

Calculated indoor CO₂ concentration:

Controlamos la concentración de CO₂ interior a través de un sistema de monitorización continuo, con un medidor en cada planta del edificio. Permite el control en tiempo real, así como conocer un histórico diario de distintos compuestos y sustancias (CO₂).

Measured indoor CO₂ concentration:
Calculated thermal comfort: InBiot system

### Products

**Product:** Recycled cotton fiber insulation  
**Geopannel**  
[http://www.geopannel.com](http://www.geopannel.com)  
**Product category:** Insulation based on regenerated textile waste, which constitutes up to 85% of the composition of the product. Not only do they not consume hardly any resources, but they also contribute to eliminating waste from other industrial processes to incorporate them into architecture, promoting the circular economy. It has a low CARBON FOOTPRINT, helping to minimize global warming and reduce waste from the textile industry. WITHOUT TOXICITY throughout its useful life and non-irritating. Origin: Logroño (Spain).

**Vegetable paint:**  
**Auro**  
[http://auropinturas.es/](http://auropinturas.es/)  
**Product category:** Vegetable paint is a low-emission, solvent-free aqueous emission naturally derived from organic and mineral products. It is a 100% natural product that does not present any compound derived from petroleum. The paint cans have been recycled as flower pots for the plants. Origin: Barcelona (Spain) / Germany  

**Clay tile:**  
**Rústicos Toledo**  
[https://www.rusticostoledo.com/es/](https://www.rusticostoledo.com/es/)  
**Product category:** Natural clay tile.

**FSC certified wood**  
**Product category:** Furniture and carpentry made with FSC certified wood. Birch and oak wood treated with organic oil (Naturtrend Zweihorn). Origin: Madrid (Spain) / Romania.

### Costs

**Construction and exploitation costs**

**Total cost of the building:** 580 160 €

### Urban environment

The building is located in a central area of Madrid. Access is made directly from the street on the ground floor. It has all the necessary services and the Parque del Oeste at 5 minutes on foot.  

The reform of the envelope has taken into account the integration into the interior of the block patio where it is located. For this reason, aesthetic solutions have
been chosen from this perspective.  
The place has a bike parking space that promotes **sustainable mobility** alternatives, both for the organization and for the neighborhood.

**Land plot area**

- **Land plot area**: 250,00 m²

**Built-up area**

- **Built-up area**: 535,00 %

**Building Environmental Quality**

- indoor air quality and health
- works (including waste management)
- comfort (visual, olfactive, thermal)
- energy efficiency
- renewable energies
- products and materials

**Contest**

**Reasons for participating in the competition(s)**

**Edificio CO2 nulo**

A través de la herramienta ECÓMETRO ACV, se desarrolló el Análisis de Ciclo de Vida para calcular, entre otros, el impacto en Huella de carbono de la obra. El resultado fue de 196 toneladas de CO₂ (364 kg/m²), que ha sido compensado a través de un programa de reforestación. La compensación del CO₂, unida a la completa electrificación del edificio y el uso de energías 100% renovables hacen de TRIPLE un **espacio CO₂ nulo**.

**Calidad del aire y tecnología**

La ventilación es mecánica controlada de doble flujo con recuperador de calor (VMC), lo que supone un ahorro de un 40% respecto a un sistema convencional. De este modo hay una renovación continua con aire exterior filtrado a través de filtros que eliminan hasta el 80% de las partículas contaminantes (incluidos virus y bacterias) y permiten una buena calidad del aire interior. Controlamos la calidad del aire a través de un sistema de monitorización continuo que mide los parámetros del aire. Permite el control en tiempo real, así como conocer un histórico diario de distintos compuestos y sustancias (CO₂, COVs, partículas en suspensión, humedad, ozono, formaldehídos...).

**Eficiencia energética y medidas pasivas**

La estrategia energética es reducir al máximo la demanda a través de medidas pasivas. Para ello se ha aislado la envolvente, se han instalado vidrios con altas prestaciones y se han puesto elementos de control solar. De esta forma conseguimos ahorrar energía y reducir el impacto.

**Materiales sanos y de proximidad**

Uso de materiales saludables y de proximidad: barro en el suelo, madera certificada FSC en las carpinterías, pintura vegetal en las paredes, aislamiento de textil reciclado para el interior de la envolvente.

**Vegetación**

Las plantas limpian el aire y generan espacios más sanos y productivos, además de construir una conexión con la naturaleza que nos produce bienestar.

**Salud del espacio y análisis geoambiental**

La salud de las personas depende de una serie de alteraciones geofísicas perfectamente medibles. Analizamos ondas, partículas, gases, campos eléctricos, luz, formas, colores y vegetación para proponer medidas y generar la mejor relación de las personas con el espacio.