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### **Innovative Solutions for Low-cost Housing in Gaza Strip**

**Abstract:** The need of the Palestinian people for housing requirements goes beyond the typical human desires for a proper shelter. For many Palestinians the proper dwelling started to be considered as small homes which can partially substitute the large lands and properties they missed. Although, there were many attempts to face the challenge of the necessity of having affordable residential units by establishing large-scale housing projects to meet the increasing demands of the housing sector to provide shelters for thousands of refugees and returnees. Even the periods of relative calm after the arrival of the Palestinian Authority did not manage to bring significant improvements in the income of these people to enable them meet the requirements of possessing a proper shelter. Therefore, the large-housing projects which were designated for people in need and with low incomes have mostly benefited the people of medium and higher incomes of the society, although these project have been subsidized by governmental

institutions and external donors, and aimed mainly at assisting the people with low incomes of the Palestinian society. So, the governmental support goes to people with less need, leaving the poor far from being counted in this regard. The paper analyzing the circumstances led to the failure of the previous housing patterns to present a good-quality model for accommodating the people from the society who mostly suffer and lack the ability of paying for proper shelters by their own financial resources. The paper also illustrates the design guidelines which can overcome the limitations in the previous patterns through preparing a real housing project which exemplify the right approach towards establishing low-cost housing in Gaza Strip. The new model illustrated in this project can be affordable to the vast majority of people with low-incomes without compromising the living values of the appropriate shelter; shelters which are consistent with dwelling parameters and can create the suitable environment for the existence of the Palestinian people. Project analysis attempts to highlight the several aspects contributed to the reduction of the price of these residential units. Although, the patterns were adapted to specific location requirements, the authors hope that the main concepts presented in this project can be implemented elsewhere as the models demonstrated the truthful approach to handle the issue of the low-cost housing in Gaza Strip. Hence, the project can be considered as a pilot project with can be inspired in similar projects with the adequate modifications in the design perception to correspond with the specific requirements of each location and community needs.

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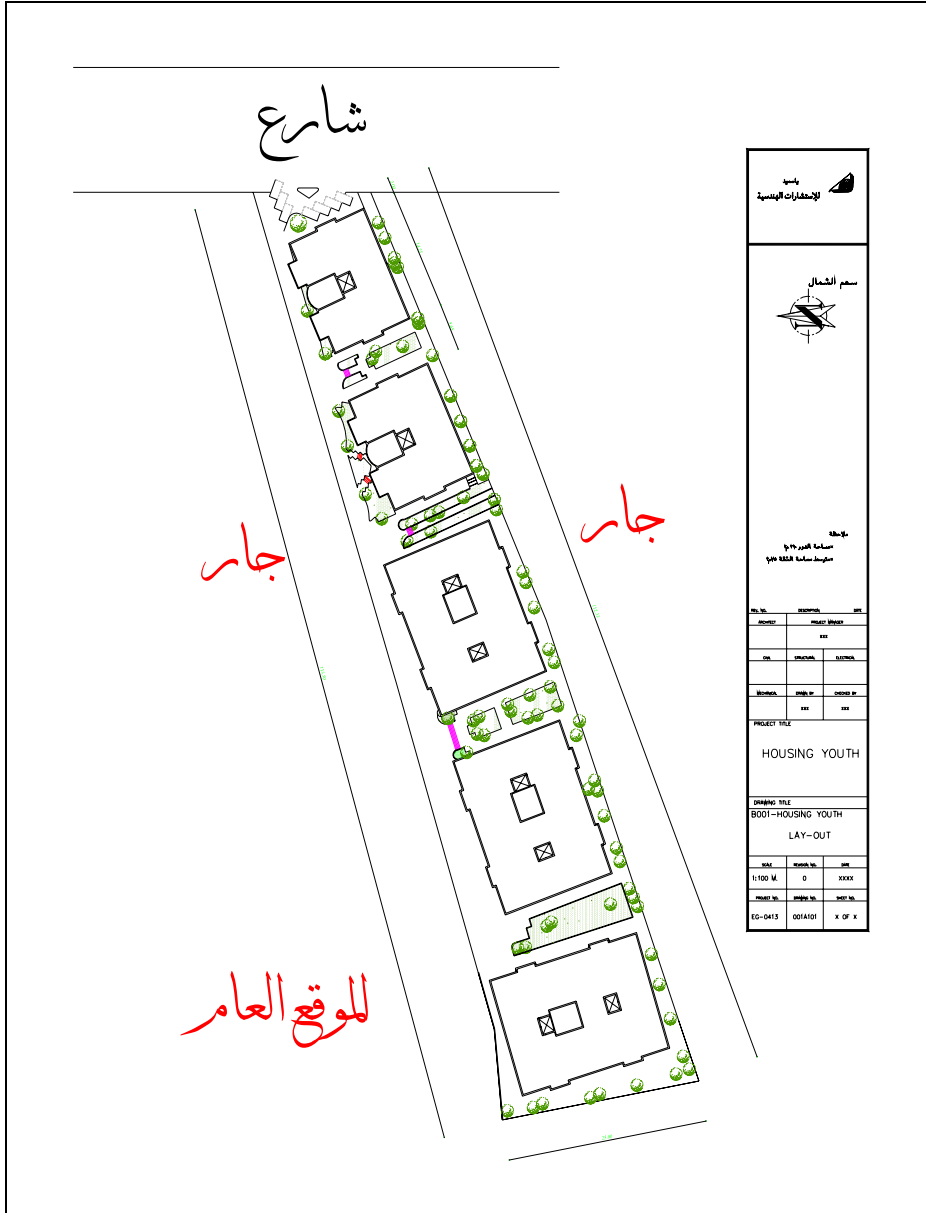
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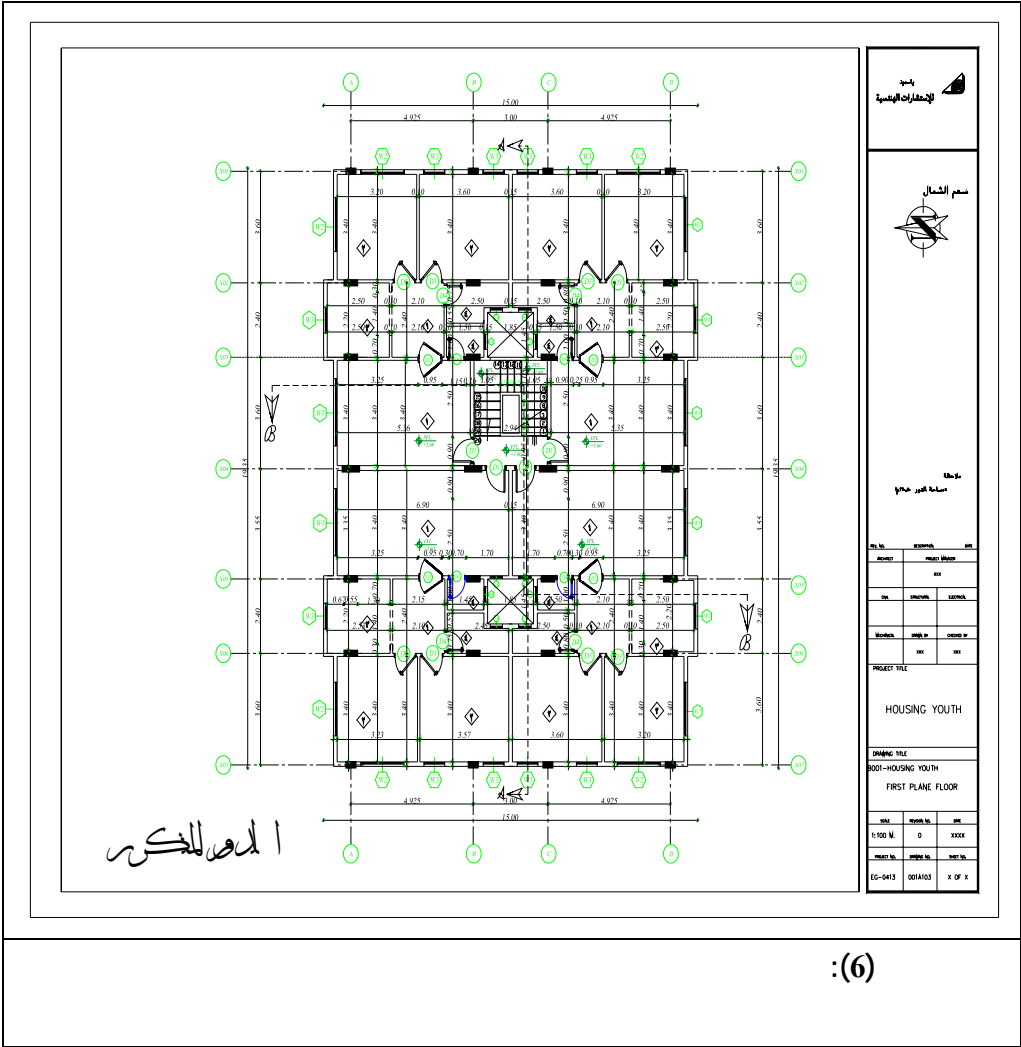
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The floor plan shows a rectangular apartment with a living area on the right containing a sofa and coffee table, a dining area, and a kitchen. The left side features a bedroom with a bed, a bathroom, and a staircase. A central hallway connects the rooms. The title block on the right contains the following information:

اسم المصمم  
اسم العميل  
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HOUSING YOUTH  
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SCALE: 1:100  
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