



**CECumene**  
studio SPACES FOR DIGNITY

# Housh | Houma | Hay

## Coexistence Through Design

Participatory Art & Architecture



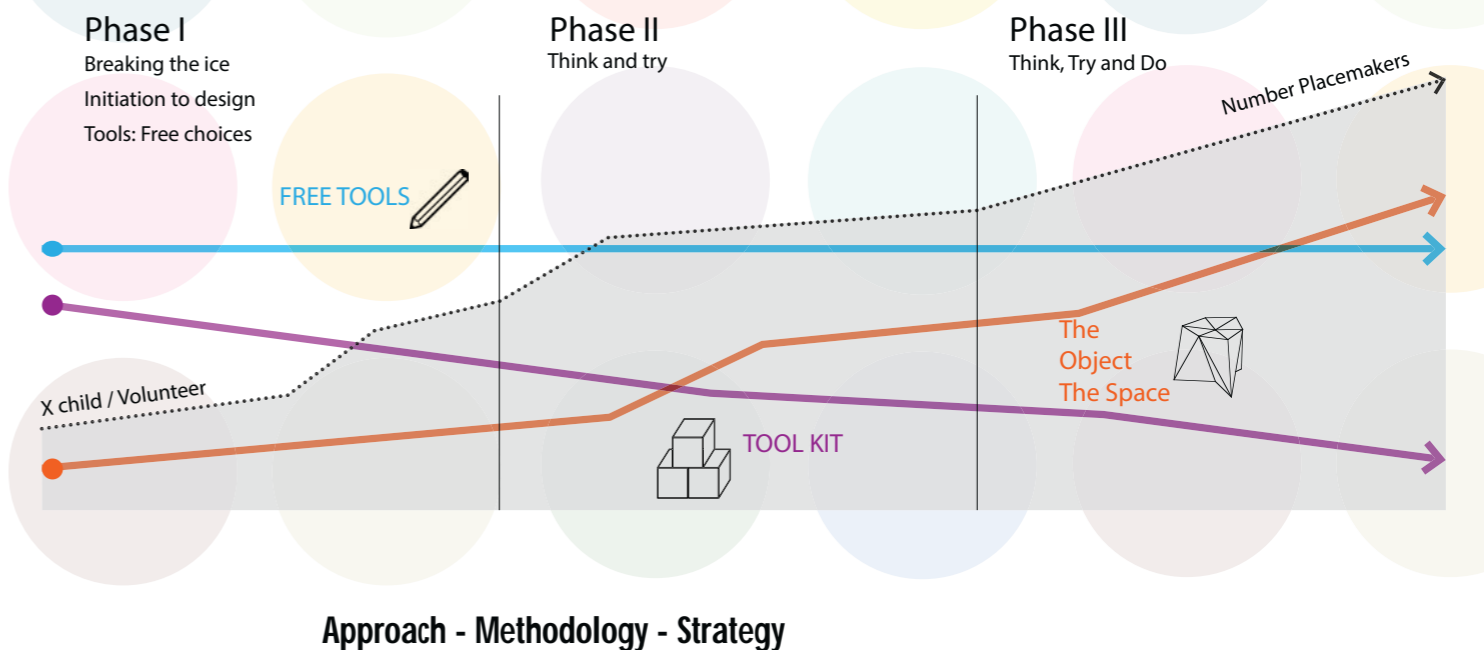


# Housh | Houma | Hay

## Coexistence Through Placemaking



"Housh-Houma-H'ay" - translates as " Yard - Neighbourhood - District"- is a bottom-up placemaking project addressing social issues through play. The project's incentive is driven by the social and urban challenges in MENA cities which face questions of social cohesion, inclusion and diversity, scarcity of resources and overloaded infrastructure, coupled with being dominated by privatised public spaces and commercial playgrounds. The aim of the project is to co-create age and gender inclusive child-friendly spaces that foster children's imagination and enhance their physical, cognitive, emotional and social development with the overarching goal of touching on issues of social integration, inducing a sense of ownership and reducing youth delinquency. The project has been realised in schools, pocket parks, rooftops, public spaces in more than 15 locations in Egypt and Tunisia where inclusion of the children, local community and authorities, the youth and university students take place through each step of the process.



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COLLABORATIVE WORKSHOP WITH VOLUNTEERS  
Playworkers = Agents of change



CO-DESIGN WORKSHOP WITH CHILDREN  
Children = Shaping their own environment



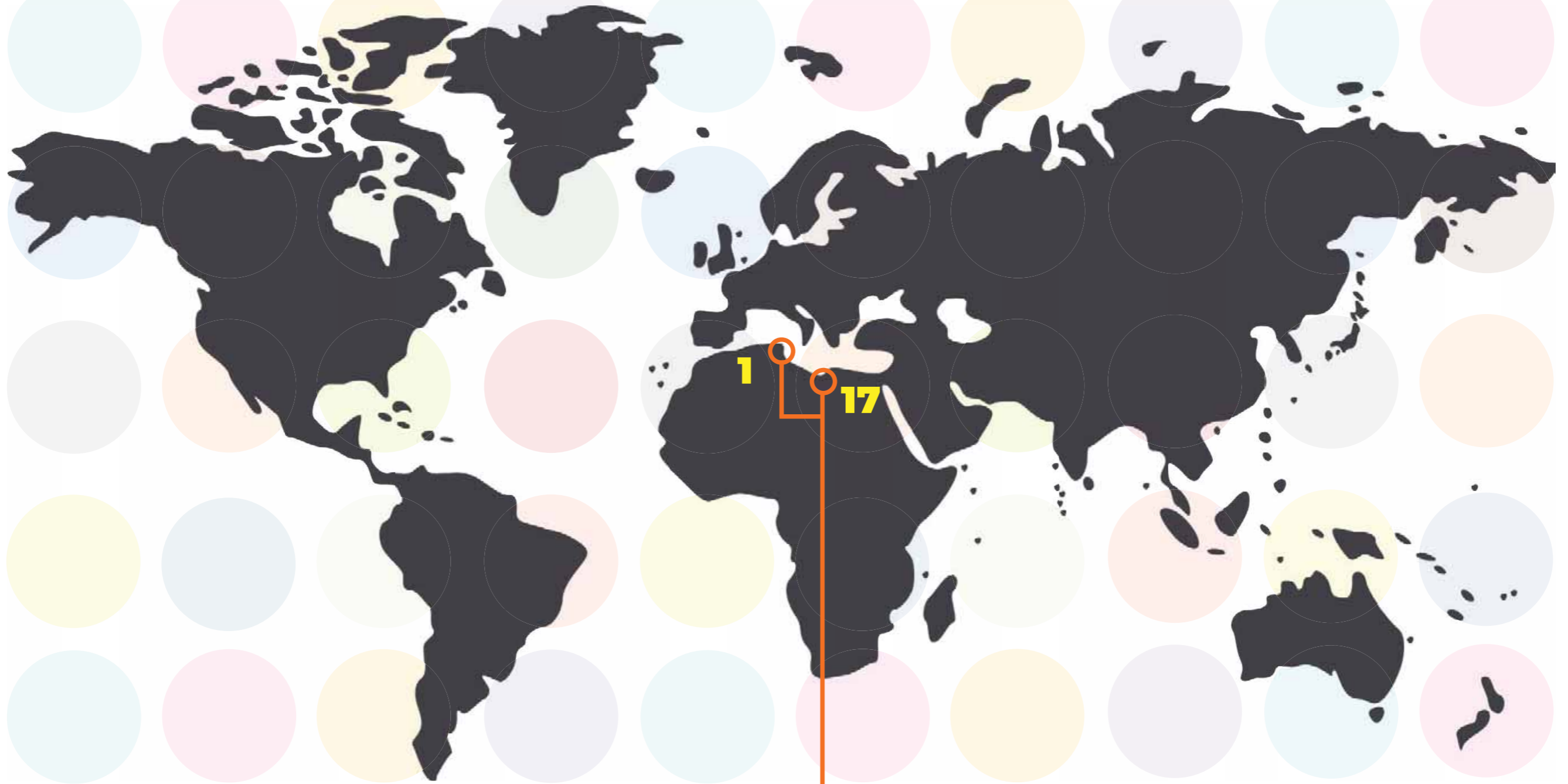
EXPERIENCING THE SPACE - INTERACTION AND TRANSFORMATION  
Appropriation process





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SELECTED PROJECT IN THE PORTFOLIO in EGYPT - TUNISIA



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## Coexistence Through Placemaking

**Location:** Gamasa, Egypt

**Date:** 2013-2014

**Description:** HOUSH YGAMA'NA GAMASA was the first of a series of projects that aimed to address the integration of Syrian Students in Egyptian Governmental schools through the Co- design of the open space that gathers all students alike in the activity of play, socializing and recreation, which is the "Schoolyard". The project was first implemented in a preparatory and primary-stage mixed school in Gamasa, Egypt.

**Partners:**

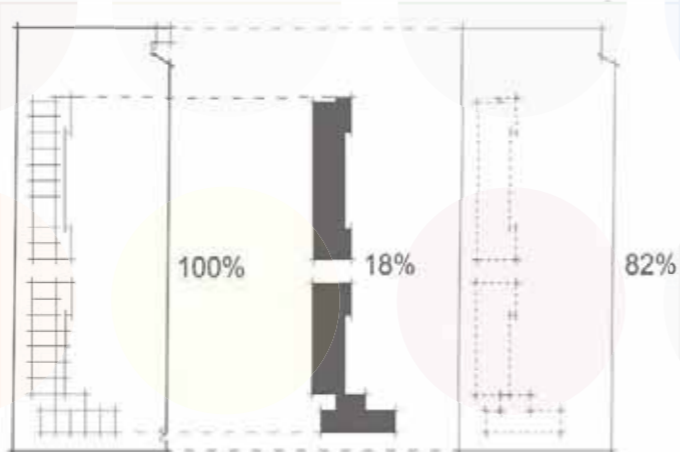
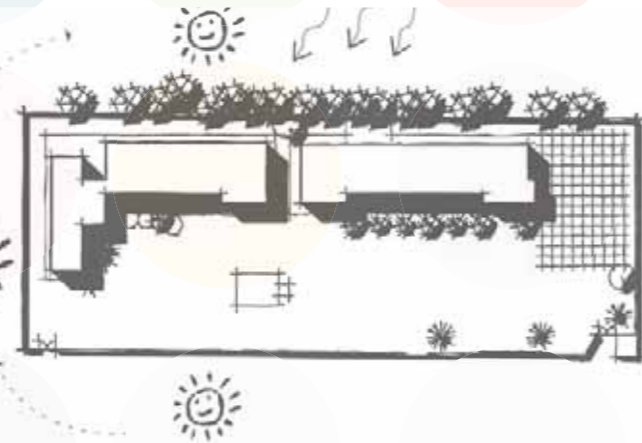
UNHCR EGYPT- Community Support Programme "CSP" - Local Ngo's - Ministry of Education

**Characteristic Elements:**

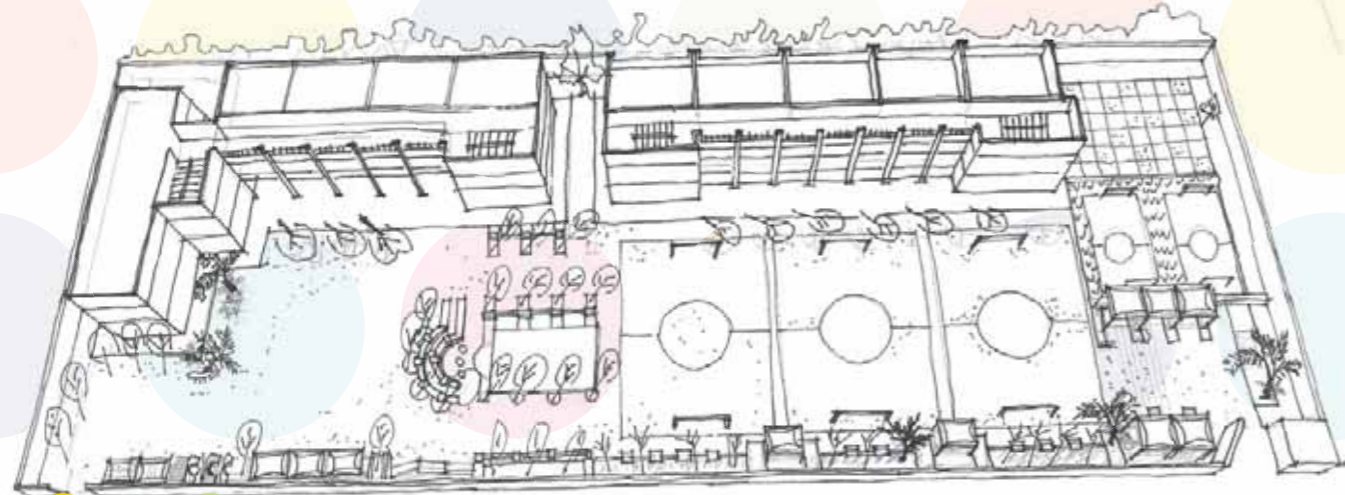
- Use of local building materials, eg. Bricks, recycled tiles, reeds.
- Participatory design and construction with the local community (craftsmen, students, teachers)
- Construction site at High Intensity of Labor

**Organisation:** Ecumene Studio

**Liens:** Youtube: <https://youtu.be/j4Dr5Gw6Ntk>



The solid and void analysis of the school.



Preparations - Analysis - redesign

Co-Design with School community - Children/ Students and Playworkers





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## Coexistence Through Placemaking

**Location:** New Damietta - Egypt

**Date:** : 2014-2015

**Description:** The project addressed the upgrade of an existing outdoor space for and with the local Syrian and Egyptian community of the Public Garden in New Damietta by creating a more functional, child friendly, educational playscape that fosters children of different age- groups and enhances their playing, learning and social experience.  
Project Partners: Terre Des Hommes

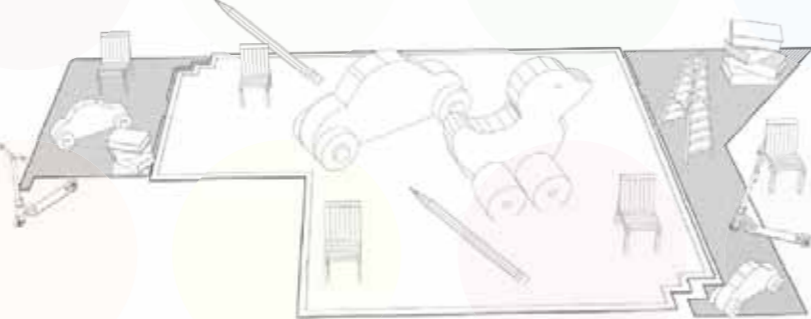
**Partners:** UNHCR EGYPT- Community Support Programme. Terre Des Hommes

**Characteristic Elements:**

- Create a flexible space that can be self-appropriate by users
- Construction in 1 day
- Participatory design and construction with the local community (craftsmen, students, teachers)

**Organisation:** Ecumene Studio

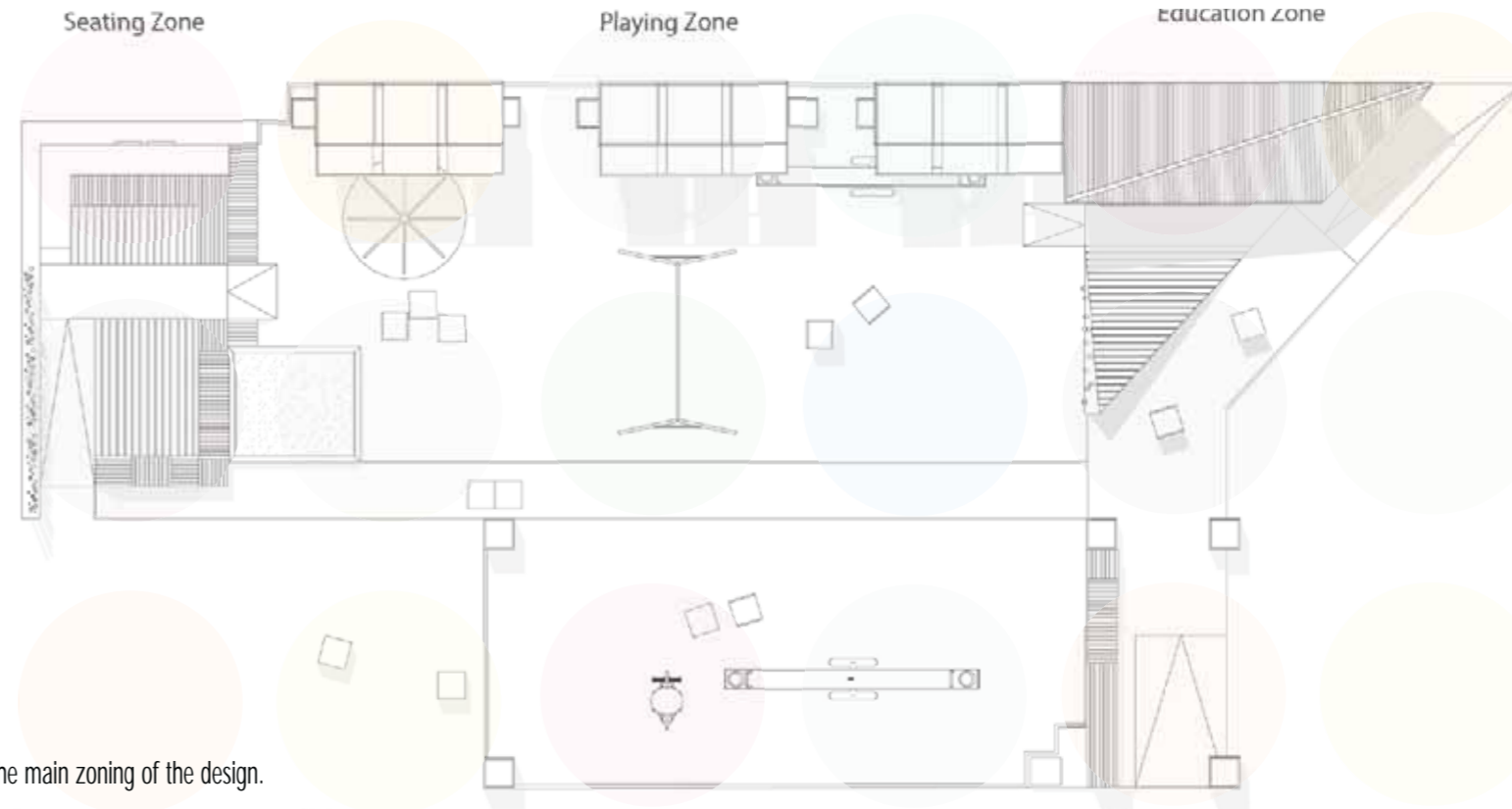
**Link:** [https://youtu.be/INzxr\\_KQnPO](https://youtu.be/INzxr_KQnPO)



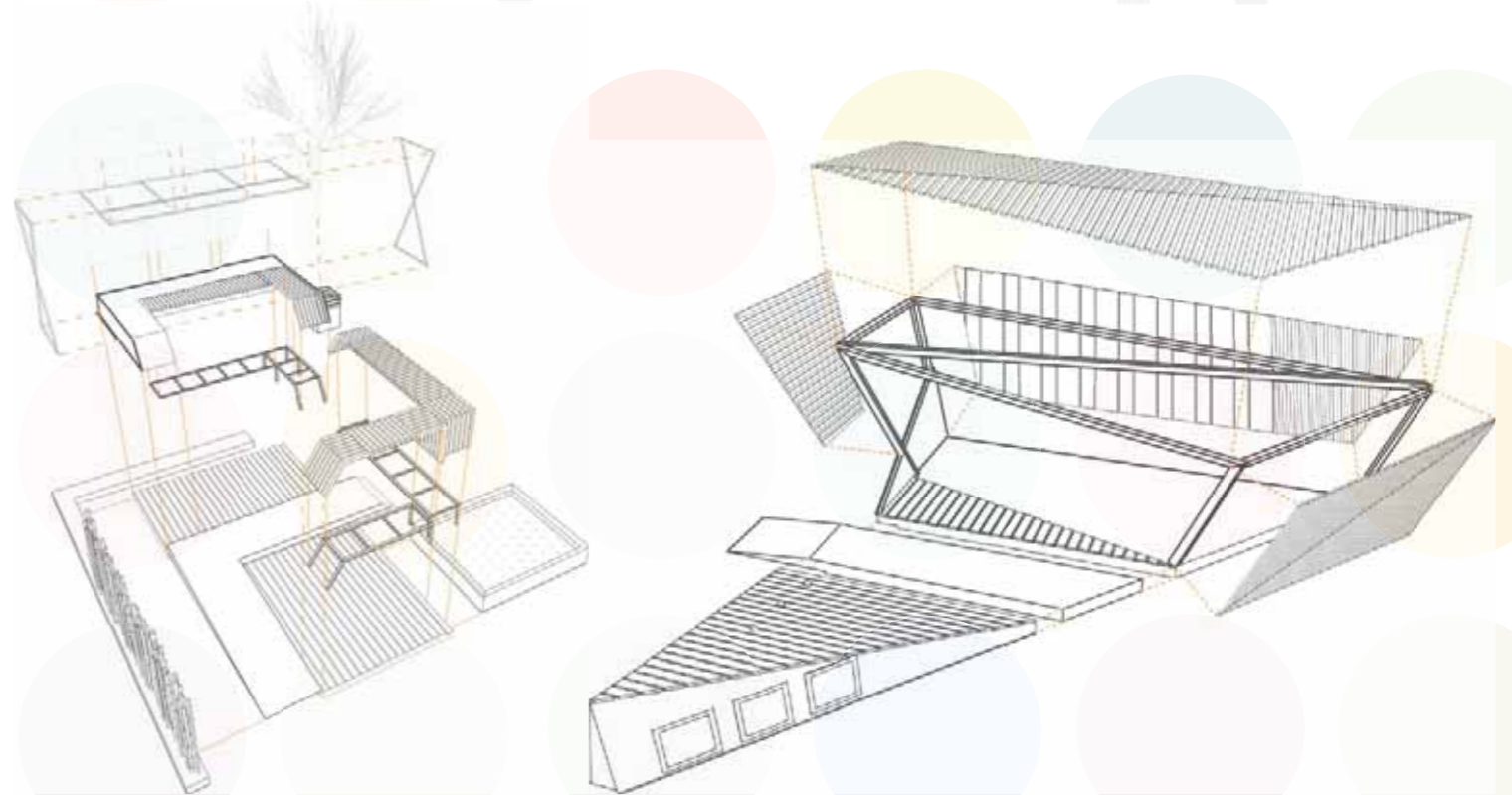
The multi-use of the space



General rendering of Housh Ygamaana instalation.



The main zoning of the design.

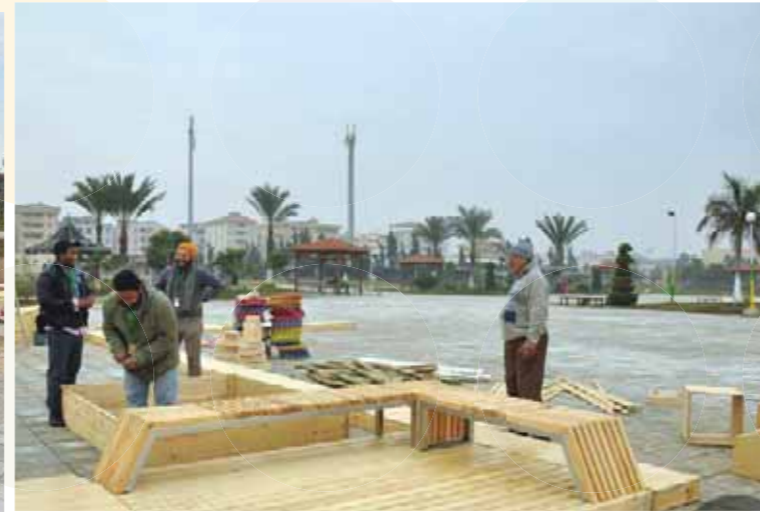


The dismantling of the installation



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## Coexistence Through Placemaking



**Location:** Alexandria, Egypt

**Date:** 2015

**Description:** Houchygama'ana Alexandria is the 3rd version of the project aiming to redesign the underutilized schoolyards of five refugee-hosting governmental schools in Alexandria, Egypt through a series of participatory Co-design workshops with the students, teaching staff and school administration. The project redefines Egyptian schoolyards as a stimulating multi-use open space suitable as not only a recreational environment but also as an outdoor learning environment which contributes in shaping the characters of future generation.

**Partners:**

UNHCR EGYPT- Community Support Programme "CSP" - University of Alexandria, Ministry of Education

**Characteristic Elements:**

- Maximize the use of abandoned and in-between spaces
- Participatory design and construction with the local community (craftsmen, students, teachers)
- Construction site at High Intensity of Labor

**Organisation:** Ecumene Studio



A Andalus  
Al Higiz

A And Aly  
El Misy

Azz Assala

A Shaboud  
Mohamed  
El Ashmawy

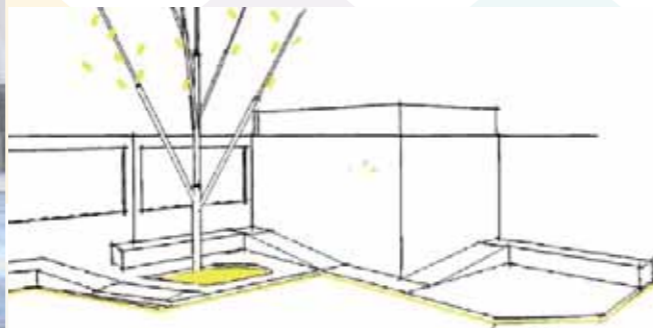
Mutafa  
Mohamed





# Housh | Houma | Hay

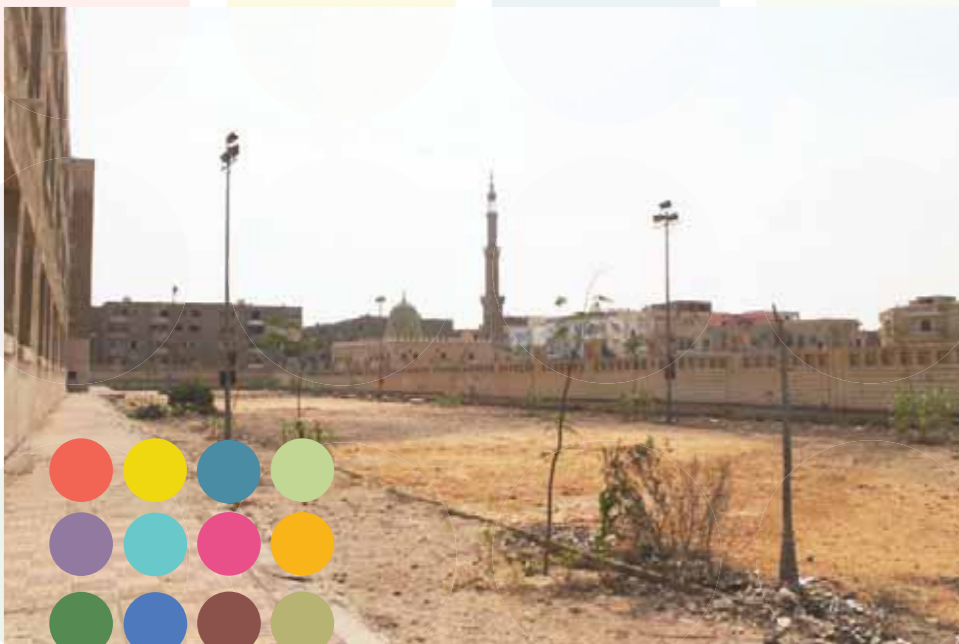
Coexistence Through Placemaking





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## Coexistence Through Placemaking



**Location:** Amr Ibn El As - Sheikh Zayed City - Egypt

**Date:** : 2016

**Description:** The project involved upgrading the outdoor schoolyard and two inner courtyards in two schools in Sheikh Zayed City in Cairo as well as maintenance work for classrooms. The design includes educational spaces for the preparatory stage, shade elements, seats, a nursery school, planting areas and vegetation on large surfaces with a reduced budget.

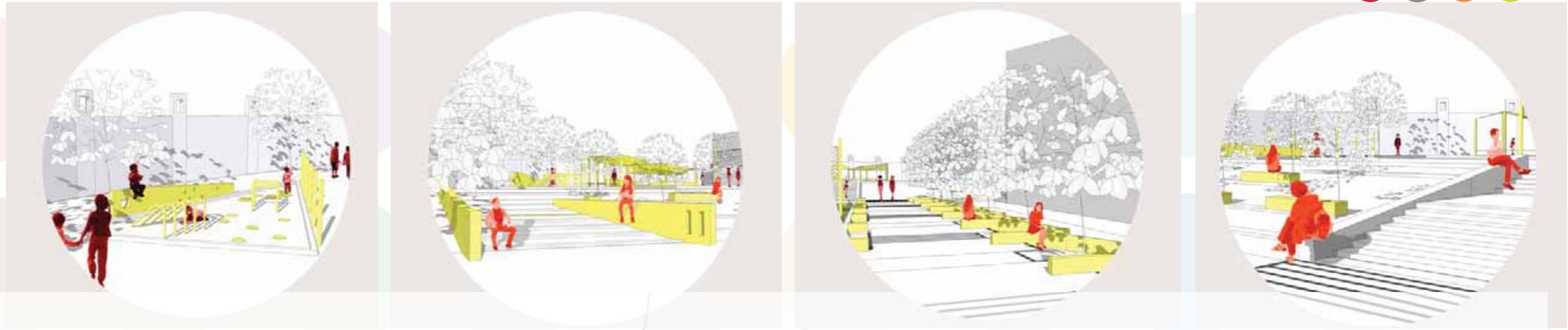
**Partners:**

UNHCR EGYPT- Community Support Programme "CSP" - Ministry of Education, Terre Des Hommes - City Council

**Characteristic Elements:**

- Sustainable materials and adequate construction methods
- Participatory design and construction with the local community (craftsmen, students, teachers)
- Construction site at High Intensity of Labor

**Organisation:** Ecumene Studio:





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## Coexistence Through Placemaking

**Location:** 6th of October - Egypt

**Date:** : 2016

**Description:**

Creation of public space in one of the poorest neighborhoods of the 6th of October city. After a consultation process with the local inhabitants, a play and seating area was highly requested and needed.

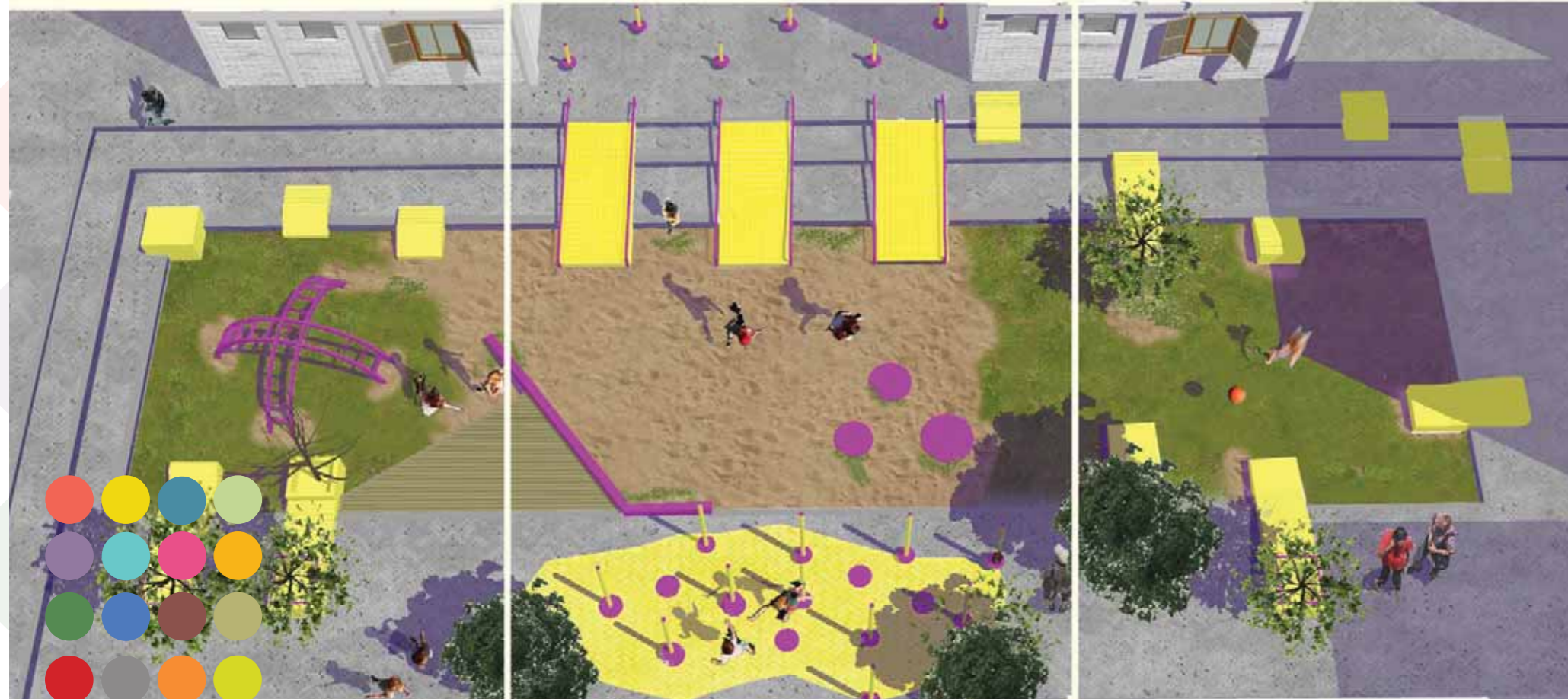
**Partners**

UNHCR EGYPT- Community Support Programme "CSP"

**Characteristic Elements:**

- Adequate and low cost Materials
- Rapid realization
- Design on-site
- Occupied site while implementation

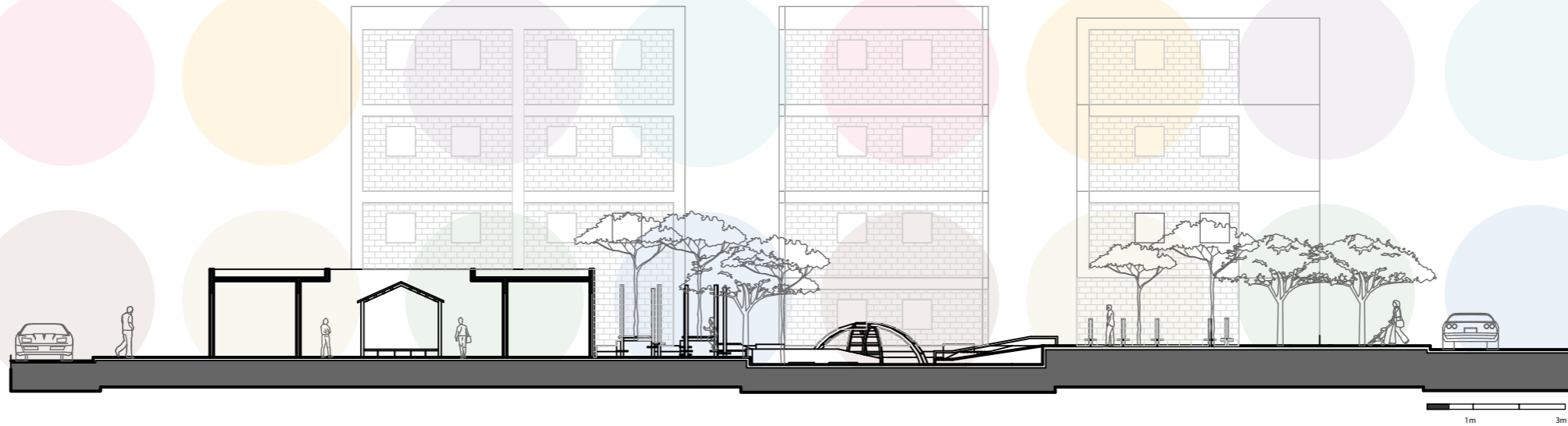
**Organisation:** Ecumene Studio





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## Coexistence Through Placemaking

**Location:** EL Obour City - Egypt

**Date:** : 2015

**Description:** This project aims to support and ensure better access for Syrian and Egyptian communities in the first district of EL Obour City, Egypt to public services and spaces through the upgrade and redesign of the district's service node which includes the health centre, the Kindergarten and local NGO and the interstitial open space. The design interventions emerged from participatory needs assessment (PNA) sessions held with the city council, doctors, nurses, HC staff, KG administration and staff, Local NGOs and the actors in the vicinity of the. Project Partners: Terre des Hommes and UNHCR. The project was featured at the Biennale of Architecture 2016 :Reporting from the Front in the Egyptian Pavilion.

**Partners:**

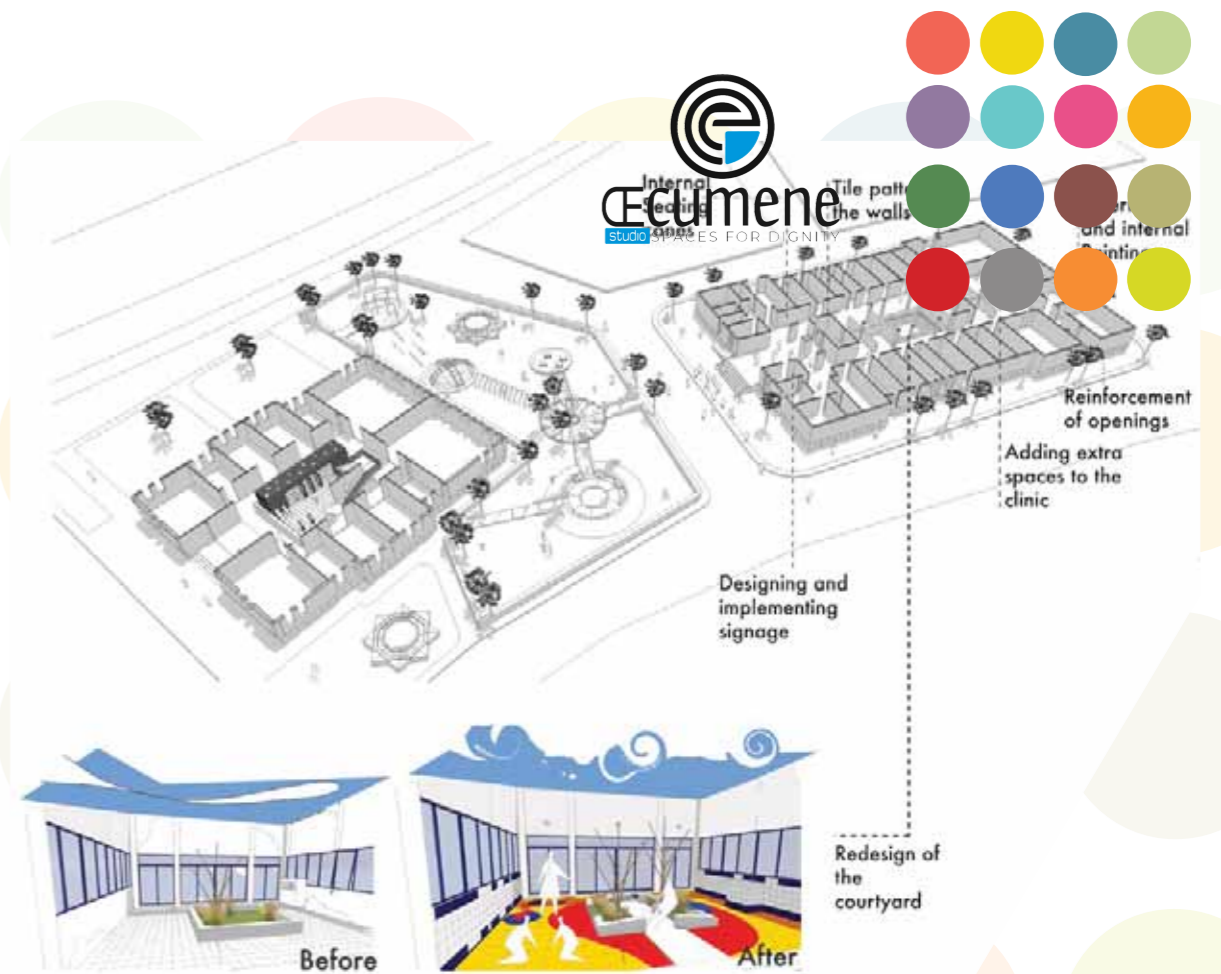
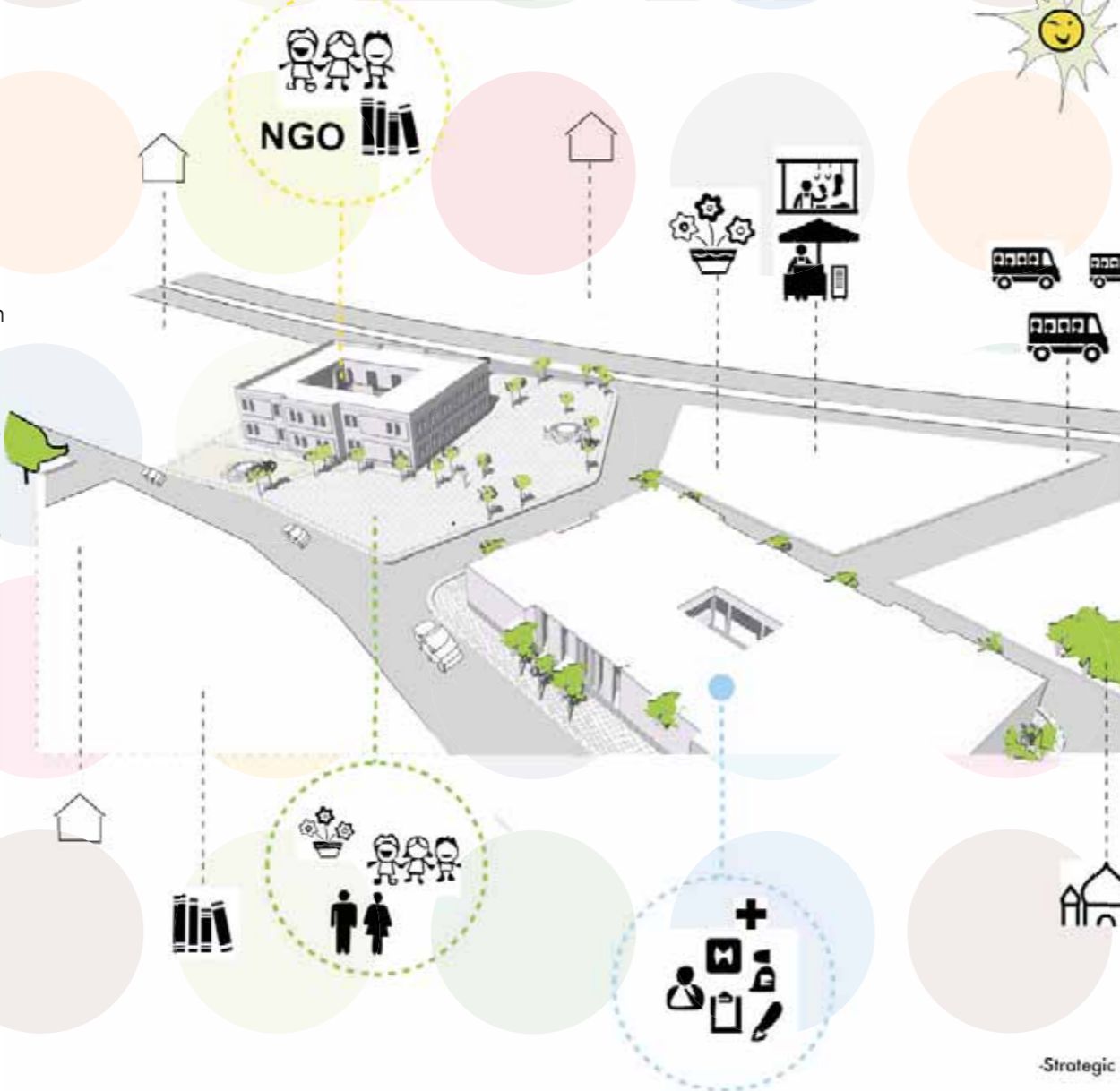
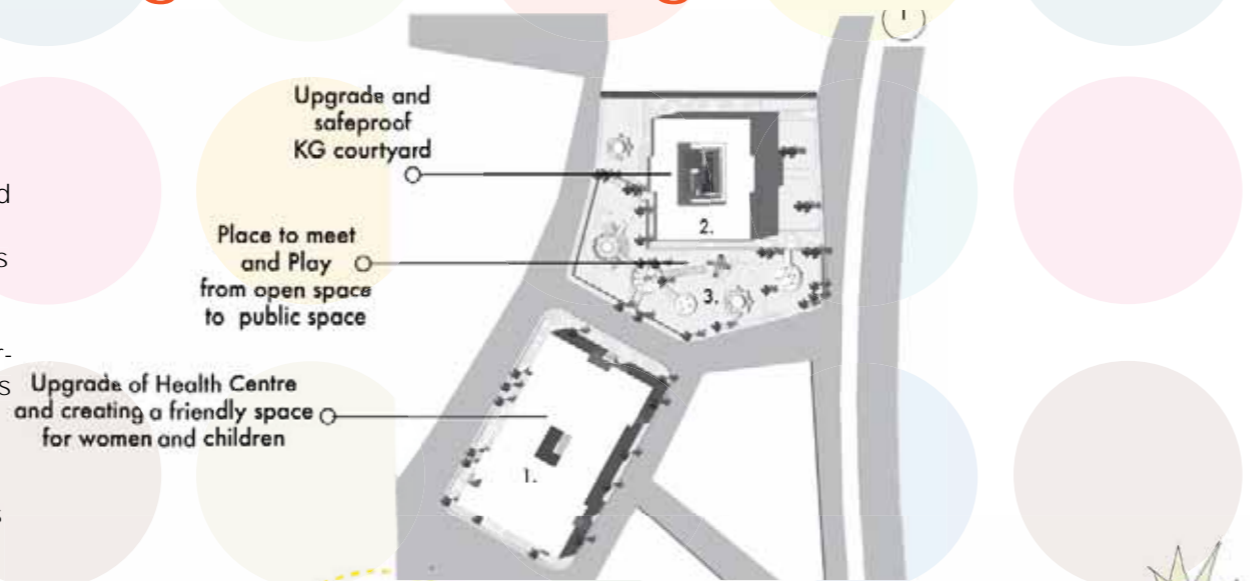
UNHCR EGYPT- Community Support Programme "CSP" - Local Ngo's - Ministry of Health

**Characteristic Elements:**

- Sustainable materials and adequate construction methods
- Participatory design and construction with the local community
- Use of hygienic materials easy to clean and to maintain in the health center.
- Create inclusive spaces for different ages

**Organisation:** Ecumene Studio:

**Link:** [https://issuu.com/oecumenestudio/docs/obour-report\\_issuu](https://issuu.com/oecumenestudio/docs/obour-report_issuu)



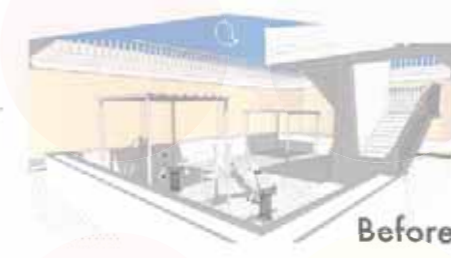
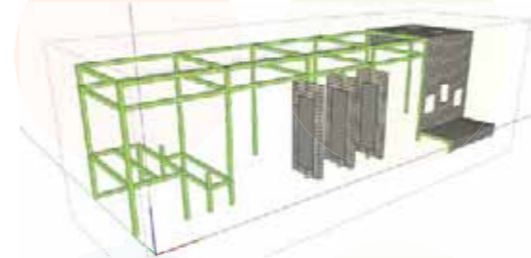
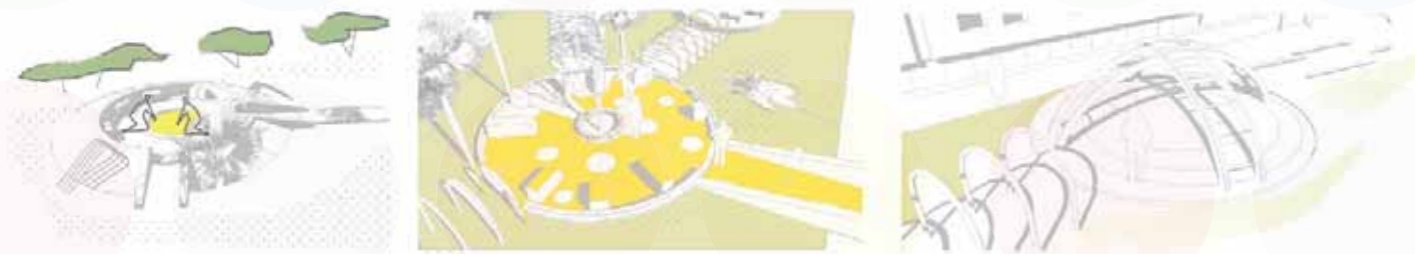
-Strategic Site-





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## Coexistence Through Placemaking



**Location:** BORJ EL ARAB - Alexandria

City - Egypt

**Date:** : 2016

**Description:** The project involved the design of the outdoor open air school-yard and two courtyards in the school of 25 January in Borj El Arab. The design includes a basketball court, shading elements, landscaping, seating area, a kindergarten,

**Partners:** UNHCR EGYPT- Community Support Programme "CSP" , University of Fine Arts , Alexandria

**Characteristic Elements:**

- Sustainable materials and adequate construction methods
- Participatory design and construction with the local community (craftsmen, students, teachers)
- Construction site at High Intensity of Labor

**Organisation:** Ecumene Studio:





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Ecumene  
STUDIO

**Location:** Siwa Oasis, Egypt

**Date:** 2017

**Description:**

SIWI" is a community- initiative aiming to bring the local community, local NGOs e.g. Abnaa Siwa ,Siwa Community Development and Environment Conservation (SCDEC), together with the City Council, governmental and Academic bodies, researchers and experts striving to work on raising awareness, restoring or safeguarding of the oasis's Architectural heritage. The project's overall objective is to preserve, protect the Siwian architectural heritage as well as define a new vision for its urban future through a holistic and integrated approach.

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**Characteristic Elements:**

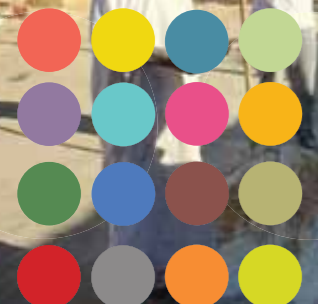
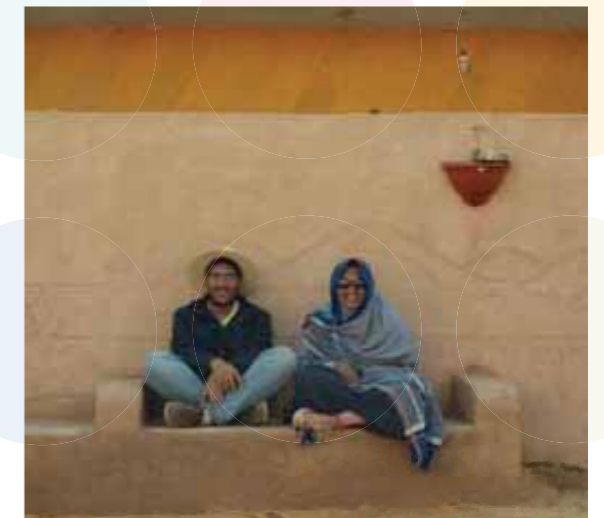
- Vernacular Architecture
- Threatened Heritage (tangible and intangible)
- Community mobilization

**Organisation:**

Ecumene Studio



EJOURNAL - Earth construction with the local community  
Link: <https://youtu.be/MI3ZIUOwVe8>





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## Coexistence Through Placemaking

**Location:** Shubra, Cairo - Egypt

**Date:** 2017

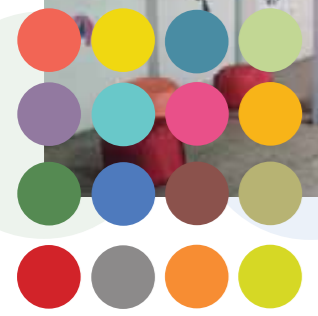
**Description:**

Dari project aims to design and build a safe and child-friendly environment in two Orphanage houses in the district of Shoubra through encouraging the children and the staff to participate within the project process in improving their surrounding environments in which they live and interact.

Dari team will co-design and build with the participation of Fine Arts students and playworkers the unique outdoor spaces in these houses: The roofs to make it a space to learn, to play and to socialize.

Dari is designed and implemented by Waq3 Tany for Holistic Development and Ecumene Studio with partnership of Sadat Organization for Development and Social Care and the Ministry of Social Solidarity With Housh Lab.

link: <https://www.facebook.com/DariLab>  
<https://issuu.com/oecumenestudio/docs/dari-pub>





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## Coexistence Through Placemaking

**Location:** La Medina de Tunis, Tunisie

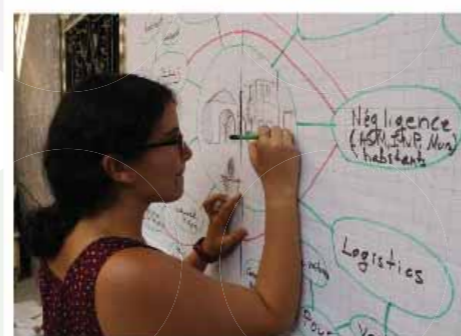
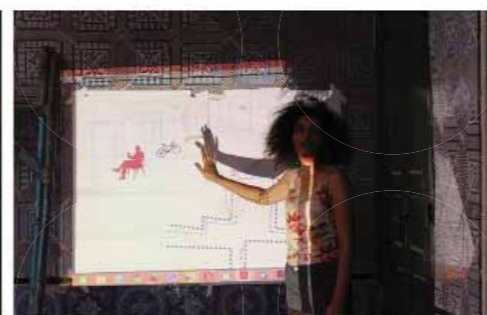
**Date:** 2017 - 2019

**Description:**

El-Houma Khir est un atelier de co-conception à la Medina de Tunis avec bon nombre de partenaires locaux en offrant l'opportunité à la communauté locale et en particulier les jeunes de penser, concevoir leurs espaces afin de les rendre plus inclusifs et plus que tout savoir comment se crée, se transforme la ville à travers des usages nouveaux.

Ce premier atelier, qui a eu lieu entre le 24 Juillet et 11 Août 2017, a été clôturé par une exposition des travaux développés. Le projet est initié par Ecumene Studio, en partenariat avec Collectif Créatif, Le Journal de La Medina de Tunis, ICCOMOS, Dar El Harka, Periferi.org, Doolasha, De Terre et d'Argile, Enauvateur, Dar Ben Gacem, Association El-Rashidia et Enauvateur soutenus par la municipalité de Tunis, Le Conseil Arabe des Sciences Sociales sous les auspices de SIDA (Agence suédoise de coopération internationale pour développement).

link: <https://www.facebook.com/EIHOUMAKH-IR/>





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## Coexistence Through Placemaking

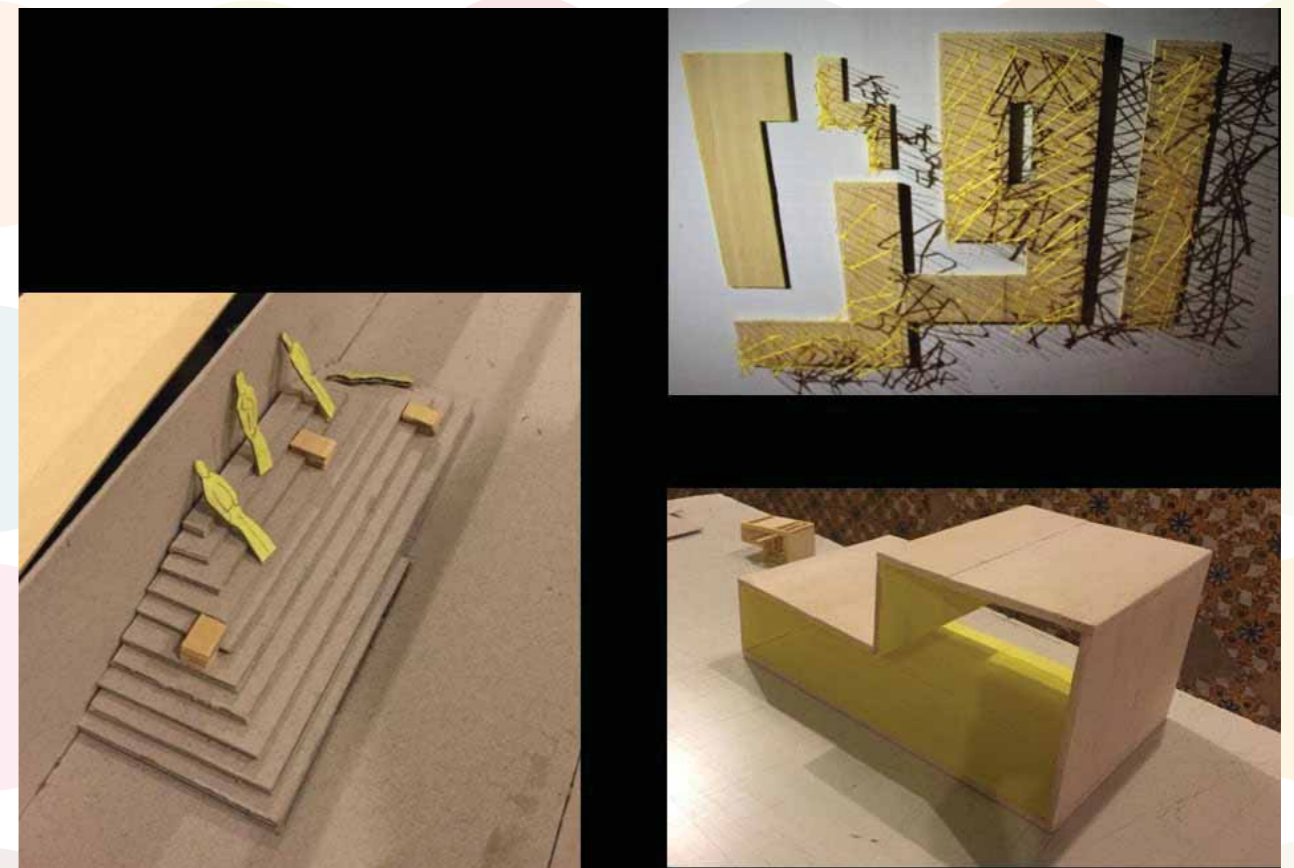
**Location:** La Medina de Tunis, Tunisie

**Date:** 2019 - En cours

**Description:**

Premier Atelier de la mise en Oeuvre d'un des projets développés pendant la phase 1: Drouj Jemaa Zitouns. L'atelier a eu lieu dans la Medina de Tunis, du 25 au 28 Décembre 2017 avec comme membres organisateurs les participants de la phase 1 avec de nouveaux participants. Le projet est repris en Septembre 2019.

Link: <https://www.facebook.com/EIHOUMA-KHIR/>





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## Coexistence Through Placemaking

### Project Name:

ArchitectureForChange  
Exhibition Installation

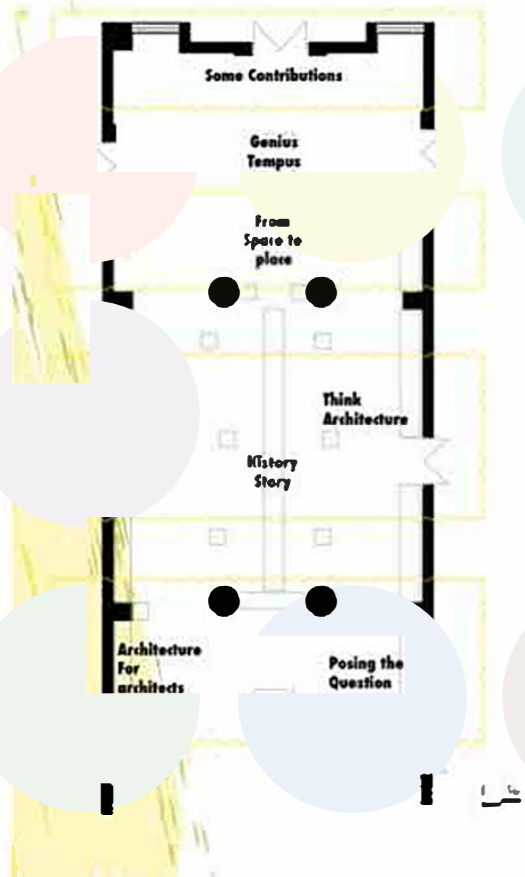
Location: French cultural centre - Alexandria - Egypt

Date: 2017

Description: ArchitectureForChange is a series of workshops and seminars that aim to foster knowledge exchange and to track innovations in the field of "Architecture in development". The 21st century witnesses a shift in architecture and urban practice with architects, urbanists, planners, artists and others from different disciplines getting more and more involved in community development projects, urban development and conflicts resolutions fields. Mostly, Architecture is responding to today's human condition: The Habitat. This led to a redefinition of what is called: Architecture as a concept, theory and practice and its relationship with the notion of Habitat.

Organisation : Ecumene Studio

Characteristic Elements:







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