

## Mecanoo's Kruisplein youth housing A critical project on HAT housing policy for small households

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accept the concept of flexible resilience as a solution proposal and reveal the principles of design at unit, neighbourhood and settlement levels through descriptive coding methodology. With the research, 'emerging housing system' approach for disaster scenarios and related flexible resilience design principles are presented as a system proposal in housing.

## Multi-story incremental housing for urban affordability

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Incremental housing meets the minimum need for a certain period and allows for development and expansion over time in case where the user does not have the economic means to afford the cost of the entire dwelling. Today, incremental housing should be considered not only for the poorest segment in the urban environments anymore, where the affordability problems apply to a wider range of urban residents than before.

However, there are some disadvantages in its application in urban settlements since the provision of incremental housing generally focuses on producing a single dwelling on a single plot. These disadvantages such as creating low-density settlements, increasing land costs per dwelling, and high infrastructure costs in the first phase hence increased public expenditures in terms of management and operation, are possible to be overcome by applying the method to multi-story residential buildings.

For this purpose, the study discusses the project "Üzmit Project of New Settlements", a participatory housing project with industrialised construction techniques in 1970s. Although the Project was not planned as a multi-story incremental housing, holistic solutions for its sociological and technological novelties addresses a potential for the subject.

## Mecanoo's Kruisplein youth housing: a critical project on HAT housing policy for small households

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One- and two-person households are predominant in most developed countries; moreover, they are the fastest growing, including the Netherlands (75%). This trend dates back to the 1960s, when they started to increase sharply due to social, economic and political developments, leading towards a more diverse society (38%). In 1975, the Dutch government responded to this new demand by introducing so-called "HAT units", one and two-person housing units, through the Nota on Housing for One and Two-person Households (Huisvesting Alleenstaanden en Tweepersoonshuishoudens). Over 77.000 HAT units were built between 1975 and 1995. This paper analyses a project developed under the impact of this innovative housing policy: the Youth Housing Project (Jongerenhuisvesting) in Kruisplein, Rotterdam, by Architectengroep Mecanoo, designed and built between 1981 and 1985, which introduced innovation in housing design by offering a critical perspective on how the housing problem of target groups such as young people was addressed at the time.