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Abstract / Initial Proposal Form:

1. Paper / Proposal Title: Innovative housing and living models: an investigation on Cypriot housing in relation to appropriateness, affordability, adaptability, and social cohesion

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5. University or Company Affiliation: Architecture Department, University of Nicosia

6. Abstract (300 words):

Innovative housing and living models

An investigation on Cypriot housing in relation to appropriateness, affordability, adaptability, and social cohesion

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Abstract

Publications on Cypriot housing are dominated by monetary control institutions, the business sector and economic researchers whilst little is published by spatial disciplines such as architects, urban designers and planners. The paper dives into this gap by questioning the markets capability to provide a spectrum of choices that is appropriate and affordable for diverse population groups (and especially vulnerable groups) and can adapt to life cycles and evolving living trends.

First, the current status of the housing market, housing options and household composition is investigated and population groups are identified for whom the Cypriot market does not offer an appropriate choice. Then, innovative housing and living models are analysed providing different approaches to affordability, adaptability, and social cohesion that have lately been developed internationally but are lacking in the local context.

Social, demographic and economic changes are reflected in trends of low cost housing and building, adaptable or flexible housing, multigenerational housing, and cooperative and community housing. These concepts are based on the need and desire for economic efficiency and social bonding but also on a growing environmental awareness. Innovative housing or living models are often bundling several concepts that can be related to different pillars of sustainability. They often directly address or indirectly influence their immediate urban neighbourhood and have positive effects on the entire community. As such they can also be described as sustainable forms of living and housing.

Key words: innovative housing and living models, affordability, adaptability, social cohesion

7. Author(s) Biography (200 words maximum for all authors):

Eleonore Zippelius is an Assistant Professor in the Architecture Department at the University of Nicosia, Nicosia, Cyprus and an architect, landscape architect and urban designer and planner. Her research includes sustainable urban development strategies, an integrated approach to urban regeneration, adaptability and resilience, adaptive urban management, creative participation through urban living labs, social networks and nongovernmental organisations, the potential of the cultural landscape for urban

development and revitalization, the significance and design of public open space, and the urban potential of public markets.

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