

GRIMSHAW

Press Release

Grimshaw reveals updated details of Expo 2020 Pavilion at Abu Dhabi Sustainability Week

Thursday 19th January 2017

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Grimshaw has been an integral part of the Expo 2020 Dubai presence at Abu Dhabi Sustainability Week (12th – 21st January, 2017), unveiling revised images and features of the Sustainability Pavilion.

The practice is lead designer and architect of the pavilion, working with a multi-disciplinary team including engineers BuroHappold, exhibition designers Thinc, and an advisory group that includes Sir Tim Smit, founder of the Eden Project, and Dennis Bushnell, chief scientist from NASA Langley. The team are set to deliver an immersive experience that will educate and delight the 25 million visitors expected to attend Expo 2020 for its six month duration.

Set to open on 20th October, 2020 the Sustainability Pavilion will be a celebration of ecology, sustainable technologies and design, with an overall scheme that works in harmony with the exhibitions it will house. The buildings will be working demonstrations of the effectiveness of solar energy, water harvesting and innovative materials in a context that is unique to the region.

Grimshaw's design for the site includes a core building with 8,000 sq m of exhibition space, an auditorium, courtyard and reservoir. A dramatic over-arching roof structure provides shade over the building, and acts as the nucleus for energy generation with sizable photovoltaic (PV) panels drawing energy from the sun to power the site.

Surrounding the central building are a series of 'energy trees' which will track the sun and harvest energy for the pavilion, whilst also generating water from the atmosphere. Landscaping and walkways through the pavilion are inspired by the Wadi riverbeds, providing intuitive navigation. Paths meander around performance spaces, and flora from the region is celebrated as a key feature of the overall exhibition design.

Her Excellency Reem Al Hashimy, UAE Minister of State for International Cooperation and Director General, Expo 2020 Dubai, said, "Sustainability is at the heart of this World Expo and the legacy we aim to leave behind for the region. Our Sustainability Pavilion will play a major part in this effort, and will serve as an 'oasis' for sustainable and innovative experiences and practices – linking to the strategy of the UAE government to be a leader in sustainability on a global scale."

Grimshaw's Deputy Chairman, Andrew Whalley said, "We are pleased to be showcasing the design of the Sustainability Pavilion at Abu Dhabi Sustainability Week, as well as engaging in public discussion on the need to inspire current and future generations on the importance of protecting our planet, and how we can use innovation in science and design to achieve this. The commitment to sustainability from the region is sincere and we look forward to delivering the client's aspirational vision for an energy-neutral pavilion at the next World Expo in Dubai."

Legacy is a core part of the design considerations as the pavilion is a permanent fixture on the site. It will continue its planned purpose as a science 'Exploratorium' after the mega-event's closure in April 2021.

ENDS

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NOTES

All CGIs ©Grimshaw.

Panel photograph ©Expo2020.

High resolution images can be downloaded via ftp:

<https://grimshaw.ftptstream.com/17902/b2221c482b6138afdf1f8638060a674e/high%2bres.zip>

About Grimshaw

Grimshaw is an award-winning, international architectural practice with offices in New York, London, Doha, Dubai, Kuala Lumpur, Melbourne and Sydney employing over 400 staff. Committed to providing architecture of the highest calibre, the company's work is characterised by strong conceptual legibility, innovation and a rigorous approach to detailing, underpinned by the principles of enduring and sustainable design. Complete architectural services are provided: master planning, feasibility studies and planning applications through tendering to construction and inspections on site. Grimshaw's international portfolio covers all major sectors, and has been honoured with over 170 international design awards including the prestigious Lubetkin Prize.

<https://grimshaw.global>

About Thinc

Located in New York, Thinc Design is a leading design firm serving clients in North America, Asia, Africa and Europe. For more than 20 years, Thinc has designed projects for a wide range of clients, including museums, science centers, aquariums, zoos, theme parks, corporations, and governments. Notable prior and ongoing projects include the USA Pavilion at the 2015 World Expo; exhibition design for the Smithsonian Institution; the National September 11 Memorial Museum; and the California Academy of Sciences. To learn more visit thincdesign.com.

BuroHappold Engineering

Described by our clients as 'passionate', 'innovative', 'collaborative': BuroHappold Engineering is an independent, international engineering practice that over the last 40 years has become synonymous with the delivery of creative, value led building and city solutions for an ever changing world. Having worked on every continent, our clients include more than 90% of the world's leading architectural practices and we have collaborated with global

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organisations such as the United Nations, The World Bank and UNESCO. Through our global community of driven, world leading engineering professionals we deliver elegant solutions for buildings and cities that seek to address the major problems facing societies today. Follow us [@burohappold](https://twitter.com/burohappold) and find out more at www.burohappold.com

About Expo 2020 Dubai

Expo 2020 Dubai is guided by the belief that innovation and progress are the result of people and ideas combining in new ways. Over the course of six months from October 2020, Expo aims to bring together hundreds of countries and millions of people to celebrate human ingenuity: 'Connecting Minds; Creating the Future'.

- Between its opening day on 20 October 2020, and its close on 10 April 2021, we expect Expo to be visited 25 million times.
- 70% of all visitors are expected to come from outside the UAE - the largest proportion of international visitors in Expo history.
- We aim to create and deliver an inclusive and global Expo with over 200 participants, including nations, multilateral organisations, businesses and educational institutions.
- Expo 2020 also has an ambitious volunteer programme, which aims to include more than 30,000 volunteers from a wide range of ages, nationalities and cultures and backgrounds.
- The Expo site covers a total of 4.38 sq. km, including a 2 sq. km gated area. It is located within the Dubai South District, adjacent to Al Maktoum International Airport.

About World Expos

In 1851 the Crystal Palace was the centrepiece of London's Great Exhibition - the first World Expo. It celebrated the man-made industrial wonders of a rapidly changing world. Architecture, contents and a theme, 'Industry of All Nations', coalesced to create a big idea of nations meeting nations in shared technological and commercial progress. In more recent years, participants in World Expos, including governments, international organisations and companies, have gathered to promote their achievements, products, ideas, innovations, their national brand, and their nations as destinations for tourism, trade and investment.