Nine projects that encapsulate The Laboratory of the Future at Venice Architecture Biennale

Lizzie Crook | 22 May 2023 | Leave a comment

This year's Venice Architecture Biennale is now open to the public. In this roundup, we spotlight nine projects from its main exhibition, The Laboratory of the Future.

Curated by architect Lesley Lokko, The Laboratory of the Future includes a number of installations exploring themes of decolonisation and decarbonisation.

Many of these are examined through the lens of Africa, which Lokko has deliberately placed at the heart of the Venice Architecture Biennale for the first time.

"For this exhibition, two keywords shaped practitioners' responses: decarbonisation and decolonisation," Lokko told Dezeen ahead of the opening.

"Africa's unique context, which is both richly challenging and richly creative, means it's a powerful place from which to examine the issues that will dominate the next century—climate change, societal change, demographic change, new forms of governance, explosive urbanity."

Read on for nine projects that encapsulate The Laboratory of the Future.
Liminality by Neri&Hu

Chinese architecture studio Neri&Hu is exhibiting Liminality, a showcase of three of its adaptive reuse projects that explore the concept of liminal space. According to the studio, it aims to create a zone between "design practice and theoretical exploration".

"As we imagine for ourselves what the future holds, we collectively occupy the liminal space of experimentation both in theoretical constructs and in design practice," the studio said. "Liminal space and the notion of the threshold represent a space of ambiguity that engenders new possibilities and change."