

HITESH MEHTA

One Page Resume

PROJECT EXPERIENCE

Mr. Mehta is one of the world's leading authorities, practitioners and researchers on holistic eco-planning and eco-design, and both the landscape architectural and architectural aspects of ecodolges. In July 2006, **National Geographic** Adventure magazine identified Mr. Mehta as one of five Sustainable Tourism Pioneers in the world. In July 2005 he was named by **Men's Journal**, a New York based Magazine as the "25 Most Powerful People in Adventure" in the world. Mr. Mehta's firm **HM Design** began in Kenya in 1991 and is currently working on projects in Costa Rica, Kenya, Indonesia, China, Namibia and Dominica. With 22 years of experience, Mr. Mehta has worked in over 30 countries in six continents.

PROJECT AWARDS

Mr. Mehta was Principal/Project Manager/Team Member for landscape architecture and planning projects that won following awards: **ASLA General Design Honor & Research and Site Analysis Awards** for Crosswaters Ecolodge, China (2010 and 2006); **"China Best Design Hotels Awards"** for 'Best Concept Hotel' and 'Judges Choice' to Crosswaters Ecolodge and Spa, China (2009); **"India Ministry of Tourism Best Planned National Park Award"** for Corbett National Park, India (2007-2008); **AIA Merit Award** for Bahsecehir New Urbanist Town, Turkey (2001); **"Architects Association of Kenya (AAK) Commercial Category Award"** for Diagnostic Center, Nairobi, Kenya (2000); **ASLA Award of Excellence** for EDAAW Intern Program, USA (2000); **"United Nations (UN) Habitat Award"** for Bahsecehir New Urbanist Town, Turkey (1998); **"Tacoma Chapter AIA Design Award"** for Commerce Connections and Public Spaces Transit Project in downtown Tacoma, Washington, USA (1994) and **"AAK Residential Category Award"** for Chestnut Groves, Nairobi (1989).

KNOWLEDGE CREATION

- Editor/Author of three books: **Authentic Ecolodges** (Harper Collins, NY), **International Ecolodge Guidelines** (The International Ecotourism Society, DC), **Wild Beauty Accommodation Handbook for Montenegro** (GTZ, Germany).
- Author of seven research-based book chapters: "Site planning" and "Architecture" in the **International Ecolodge Guidelines Book**, published by TIES, Washington DC; "Towards an International Ecolodge Certification" –in the book **"Quality Assurance and Certification in Ecotourism"** –published by CARI, Australia; "Visual Impacts in Tourism". in the UNWTO Book – **"Indicators in Sustainable Tourism"** published in Madrid, Spain; "Lodge du Grouped de Ngwesie" –in the book **"Le Guide des Destinations Indigenes"** –published by Esprit, France; "Ecotourism in Madagascar: How a Sleeping Beauty is finally awakening" in the book **"Responsible Tourism: Critical issues for conservation and development"**, Earthscan Publishing, London and "Ecolodge Planning and Design" in the **Ecotourism Handbook – Pacific Asia Travel Association**.
- Author of seven Research Papers.
- Peer Reviewer of following books: **"Ecotourism and Sustainable Development: Who own paradise? – second edition"** – Martha Honey (2008). Island Press; **"The Green House Effect – An integrated approach to sustainable tourism and resort development"** - Sweeting J (2000). Conservation International; **"The Business of Ecolodges"** - Edward A. Sanders; **"Marine Ecotourism Guidelines"** - Elizabeth Halpenny; **"Saving Paradise, the story of Sukau Rainforest Lodge"** - Albert Teo and Carol Patterson; **"Rethinking the National Parks for the 21st Century"** - National Park Service, USA; **"Designing Tourism Naturally"** – Western Australia Tourism Commission; **"Nature Lodge Footprint and Justification for Biodiversity Conservation** (2005) World Bank.
- Adjunct Professor - Taught **"Site Planning"** course at Florida Atlantic University (2004)
- Adjunct Professor - Taught **"Ecotourism Planning"** course at FIU (2000).
- Assistant Professor (US Equivalent) and Chairman of Landscape Architecture, Dept. of Architecture, Uni. of Nairobi (1990-95)
- Presented as a Keynote Speaker/Guest Speaker at over 60 Conferences, Seminars in 30 countries including two ASLA, three APA, two AIA and 4 LABASH conferences.
- Interviewed/featured/mentioned in over 85 international magazines/newspapers/books.
- Landscape Architecture related Photographs have appeared in over 40 magazines/newsletters in all six continents

SERVICE

- International Federation of Landscape Architecture (IFLA) Education & Africa Committee Member
- Member of Juries for both FAU and FIU Architecture/LA Studio student presentations.
- Facilitated the Crosswaters Ecolodge Raffle for LA Foundation last year.
- Longest Serving Board Member of The International Ecotourism Society (1999-present)
- Mr. Mehta is/was a judge and on-site inspector for the Tourism for Tomorrow (WTTTC), World Legacy Awards for Heritage Tourism (National Geographic/Conservation International), Ecotourism Awards (Conde Nast Traveler) and Green Hotelier Awards (Caribbean Hotel Association).
- Reviewed and made comments on the first draft of the LEED Criteria (1996)