



LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE | ECOLOGE DESIGN | ECOTOURISM PLANNING | ARCHITECTURE | PHOTOGRAPHY

HITESH MEHTA

Academic Resume

SUMMARY

For 24 yrs, Hitesh has been creating knowledge and sharing it around the globe. An accomplished author, teacher, researcher and international recipient of several project awards, Hitesh exemplifies the holistic landscape architect responsible for spreading his very own “quadruple bottom line’ philosophy of sustainability: financial; environmental; social and spiritual. In Florida and Kenya, he has taught Landscape Architecture courses within University Architecture Departments. Hitesh is also an environmental planner, professional architect and landscape architect, photographer, and Hall of Fame cricket player from his birthplace, Kenya. With 22 years of project experience, Mr. Mehta has worked in over 30 countries in six continents.

EDUCATION

Master of Landscape Architecture, University of California, Berkeley, 1989, GPA-3.94

Bachelor of Architecture, University of Nairobi, Kenya, 1985, First Class Honors (Summa Cum Laude)

ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE

6/98 to Present Adjunct Professor, Juror, Guest Lecturer

- Teach course in “Site Planning and Engineering” at FAU.
- Teach course in “Sustainable Tourism” at FIU.
- Juror at FIU School of Landscape Architecture for a school plaza competition.
- Juror at FAU School of Architecture for a final year design studio.
- Juror – School of Architecture, CECAR University, Sincelejo, Colombia.
- Conducted On-line continuing education seminar for ASLA.
- Guest Lecture – Huazhong University of Science and Technology, Wuhan , China
- Guest lecture – University of Florida, USA.
- Guest lecture – North Carolina State University, USA.
- Guest lecture – Utah State University, USA.
- Guest lecture – Michigan State University, USA.
- Guest lecture – University of Sydney, Australia.
- Guest lecture – University of Buenos Aires, Argentina
- Guest lecture – Lincoln University, Christchurch, New Zealand.
- Guest lecture – University of Nairobi, Kenya.
- Guest lecture – Tsinghua University, Beijing, China

HITESH MEHTA | ASLA, RIBA, ASSOCIATE AIA, MAAKA, MAAKLA

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- Guest lecture and juror – CECAR University, Sincelejo, Colombia.
- Guest lecture – Dubai Academic City, Dubai
- Guest lecture– University of Cape Town, Cape Town, South Africa
- Guest lecture – University of Brunei, Brunei Darussalam.

6/99 to Present Ecodesign Workshop Instructor

- Conduct 2-5 day ecodesign training workshops. Participants include various stakeholders of tourism industry.
- Workshops have been conducted in India, Philippines, Malaysia, USA, Kenya and Canada.
- Participatory workshops include theory and practical. Participants get actively involved in the site analysis, planning and design of a hypothetical ecolodge/visitor center.
- Consistently given 'outstanding' reviews by participants.

1/92 to 5/95 Chairman Landscape Architecture Section, University of Nairobi.

- Developed curricula for undergraduate and graduate degrees in landscape architecture.
- Supervised landscape technician in cataloguing indigenous plant materials.
- Coordinated the formation of a database on landscape architecture literature.
- Co-organized a four-day IFLA Seminar on "Landscape Architecture Education in Africa" (70 attendees).

7/90 to 5/95 Assistant Professor Department of Architecture, University of Nairobi.

- Developed curriculum of and lectured course in "History and Theory of Landscape Architecture" to second-year students.
- Advised and supervised final-year students in they're written thesis and project designs.
- Supervised invigilation of student examinations.
- Evaluated and graded student examinations and design projects.
- Developed program for environmental design studios for second-year students. Conducted studios.
- Assisted in developing and conducted architectural studio programs in basic design for first-year students.
- Developed a curriculum for and lectured a course in "Building Technology" for first and second-year students.

PUBLIC SPEAKING

- International Green Building Design Conference – Wuhan, China (2010), **Speaker**
- Ecotourism Kenya Annual General Meeting – Nairobi, Kenya (2010) **Keynote Speaker**
- ASEAN Annual Conference – Bandar Seri Begawan, Brunei (2010), **Keynote Speaker and Panel Moderator**
- Ecotourism Australia Global Conference – Alice Springs, Australia (2009). **Keynote Speaker and Eco-design Workshop Facilitator**
- Adventure Travel World Summit – Quebec, Canada (2009). **Keynote Speaker**
- Oshwal Women's League Guest Lecture Series – Nairobi, Kenya (2009). **Guest Speaker**
- Mali Ministry of Tourism Seminar – Bamako, Mali (2009). **Keynote Speaker**



- The International Ecotourism Society's annual conference - Vancouver BC (2008). **Speaker and Facilitator**
- Cornell University Central America Hotel Society Conference - San Jose, Costa Rica (2008). **Keynote Speaker**
- Guest Lecture Series – University of Buenos Aires – Buenos Aires, Argentina (2008) **Speaker**
- Argentinean Institute of Architects Guest Lecture Presentation - Buenos Aires, Argentina (2008) **Speaker**
- Annual Shanghai Design Week Conference– Shanghai, China (2008). **Speaker**
- Guest Lecture Series – University of Sydney – Sydney, Australia (2008) **Speaker**
- Autumn Semester Lectures – Lincoln University– Christchurch, New Zealand (2008) **Speaker**
- First Gulf Landscape Architecture Conference – Dubai (2008). **Speaker and Conference facilitator (MC).**
- Hospitality Design Asia Annual Conference and Expo – Hong Kong, China (2007). **Keynote Speaker**
- The International Ecotourism Society's annual conference - Madison, Wisconsin (2007). **Speaker**
- Florida ASLA's Annual Conference and EXPO on "**Landscape Transformations..How shall we grow**" in Miami (2007). **Keynote Speaker**
- US Landscape Architecture Students Annual Conference (LABASH) on "Survive". Baton Rouge, Louisiana (2007). **Keynote Speaker**
- "**Authentic Ecolodges**" book presentations in San Francisco, California; Sumba Island, Indonesia; Sydney and Pt. Douglas, Australia; Avignon France; London, England; Toronto & Moose Factory, Canada; Lapa Rios, Costa Rica; Nairobi, Kenya; Singapore; Moscow, Russia and Jupiter & Ft. Lauderdale, Florida.(2006-present) **Book Tour Presenter**
- Costa Rica National Chamber of Ecotourism's (CANAECO) International Forum on Ecotourism "**The Challenges of Ecotourism**". – Turrialba, Costa Rica (2006). **Keynote Speaker**
- AIA's Hong Kong and Pacific Northwest Chapter Annual Conference "**Pacific Crossings**" – Hong Kong, China (2006). **Speaker**
- The American Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Panama's VI International Tourism Forum "**Defining Success**". – Panama City, Panama (2006). **Keynote Speaker**
- The Adventure Council's annual **Adventure Travel Professional Symposium**, - Orlando, Florida (2006). **Panel Member**
- Coastal Zone Management Aruba's 2nd Stakeholder's Conference - Aruba, Dutch West Indies (2006). **Guest Speaker**
- Center of Ecotourism seminar presentation "**What's Hot**". Rishikesh, India (2006). **Guest Speaker**
- Center of Ecotourism presentation "**Ecotourism and Ecolodges**". Uttaranchal State, India (2006). **Guest Speaker**
- American Planning Association's Annual conference. Presentation on "**Ecotourism as a tool for indigenous cultural preservation**" in San Antonio, TX (2006). **Panel Moderator and Speaker**
- US Landscape Architecture Students Annual Conference (LABASH) on "**Be the Change**". Maryland (2006). **Speaker.**
- Texas A & M University Annual Environmental Conference. Presentation on "**Extreme Planning**" (2006). **Speaker.**
- Oman International Conference on "**Ecotourism**". Muscat (2006). **Speaker.**
- Dominica Dept. Of. Tourism Seminar Presentation – "**A case for Ecotourism in Dominica**". Rousseau (2006). **Speaker.**



- Ecotourism Australia's Annual Ecotourism Conference - "**Ecotourism: Creating Unforgettable Natural Experiences.**" Tasmania, Australia (2005). **Keynote Speaker for 2 Presentations.**
- Tourism Tasmania workshop presentation "**Trends in Eco-Architecture.**" **Speaker**
- Tasmania Parks and Wildlife Service workshop presentation "**Protected Area Planning Exemplary Practices.**" **Speaker**
- Taras Foundation "Meet the Scientist" lecture series – "**Ecotourism, Gorillas and Giant Pandas**" in Jupiter, Florida (2005). **Guest Speaker**
- ASLA's Annual Conference and EXPO on "**Winds of Change, Keys to the Future**" in Ft. Lauderdale (2005). **Speaker**
- The International Ecotourism Society's conference - "**Ecotourism in the US**" in Maine, VT (2005). **Keynote Speaker** and **Speaker**
- American Planning Association's Annual conference "Making Great Communities Happen" in San Francisco, CA (2005). **Speaker**
- Sustainable Tourism Workshop, Muscat, Oman (2005). **Facilitator.**
- World Tourism Organization's Conference on "Built Environments for Sustainable Tourism", Muscat, Oman (2005). **Speaker**
- Sri Lanka Ecotourism Society's seminar on "Ecotourism and Ecolodges", Colombo, Sri Lanka (2004). **Speaker**
- Ecotourism Australia's Annual Ecotourism Conference on "Ecotourism – Leading the Business of Sustainability", Blue Mountains, Australia (2004). **Keynote Speaker** and **Workshop Facilitator.**
- Conservation International's conference on "Tourism and Biodiversity", Sichuan, China (2004). **Keynote Speaker.**
- Ecotourism and Ecolodge Planning and Design Seminar, Awaji and Hokkaido, Japan (2004). **Presenter and Facilitator.**
- Broward Women Council of Realtors seminar on "Urban Redevelopment". Pompano Beach, Florida (2004). **Panelist.**
- US Landscape Architecture Students Annual Conference (LABASH) on "Worlds Colliding". Gainesville (2004). **Panelist and Guest Speaker.**
- American Institute of Architects, Orlando Chapter Annual Meeting (2003). **Guest Speaker.**
- IUCN's World Parks Congress, Durban, South Africa (2003).
- Conservation International's seminar on "Making Biodiversity Work for your Travel Business – Increasing profitability while protecting the environment". Punta Cana, Dominican Republic (2003). **Workshop Facilitator.**
- Utah State University's 4th Annual Sustainable Landscapes Conference on "Uncommon Ground: Collaboration and the Nature of Design". Logan (2003). **Keynote Speaker.**
- US Landscape Architecture Students Annual Conference (LABASH) on "Fields Of Vision". Raleigh (2003).
- Fiji Hotel Association's Annual Hospitality Forum in Fiji (2002).
- Ecotourism Australia's International Ecotourism Conference on "Ecotourism – A World of Difference". Cairns, 2002. **Keynote Speaker.**
- UNESCO's conference on "Sustainable Planning and Design in World Heritage Sites", Beijing, 2002.
- Statement presentation at the World Ecotourism Summit, Quebec (2002).
- Saudi Arabia's "Ecotourism Symposium" in Riyadh (2002). **Keynote Speaker.**
- ASLA's Annual Conference and EXPO on "Culture and Nature" in Montreal (2001).



- American Planning Association's Annual conference "New Orleans 2001: A Planning Odyssey" in New Orleans, LA (2001).
- ULI's Fall Conference on "Real Estate in the New Economy", Chicago, (2000).
- EDSA's Symposium on "Environment and Development: Where the Twain shall meet" in Ft. Lauderdale, Florida. (2000). **Moderator.**
- IFLA's World Congress on "Conservation and Ecotourism" in San Jose, Costa Rica. (2000). **Keynote Speaker.**
- Florida Center for Environmental Studies Third Annual conference on "Ecotourism on Public and Private Lands in Florida" in Palm Beach Gardens, FL (2000).
- BIOSFERA "World Ecotour 2000" conference in Salvador, Brazil (2000).
- Egyptian Tourism Development Authority's (TDA) "Ecodge Guidelines Forum" in Cairo, Egypt. **Facilitator** for the panel on Design and Construction (2000).
- Malaysia Ministry of Arts and Culture's "World Ecotourism Conference" in Kota Kinabalu, Malaysia. Delivered the **Keynote Address**. Was also the **facilitator** for the Ecodge Field Trip (1999).
- PATA Chapter's workshop on " Ecotourism/Ec lodges" in New Delhi, India (1999).
- George Washington University workshop on " Ecotourism Planning and Management" in Washington, D.C. (1998).
- BIOSFERA "World Ecotour 1997" conference in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil (1997).
- The Ecotourism Society's "Ecotourism at a Crossroads: Charting the way forward" conference and field seminar, Nairobi, Kenya (1997).
- 2nd All Africa Seminar on "Green Architecture and Environmentally Sensitive Sustainable Development", Nairobi, Kenya (1996).
- The Ecotourism Society's "Ecodge Forum and Field Seminar", Costa Rica (1995).
- Adventure Travel Society's "Fifth Annual World Congress on Adventure Travel and Ecotourism", Paradise Island, Bahamas (1995).
- IFLA's Seminar on "Education in Landscape Architecture in Africa" in Nairobi, Kenya. (1994). **Co-Organizer.**

LITERATURE WRITTEN

- Currently the Author of a new book "**Authentic Ec lodges**"- to be published by Harper Collins, USA.
- Author of Wild Beauty Accommodation Handbook – Montenegro – published by GTZ, Germany.
- Main Editor of the book "**International Ec lodge Guidelines**"- published by TIES, USA
- Wrote a chapter "**Towards an International Ec lodge Certification**" –in the book "Quality Assurance and Certification in Ecotourism" -published by CARI, Australia.
- Wrote a chapter "**Lodge du Grouped de Ngwesie**" –in the book "Le Guide des Destinations Indigenes" -published by Esprit, France.
- Wrote the Chapter "**Visual Impacts in Tourism**". in the UNWTO Book – "Indicators in Sustainable Tourism" published in Madrid, Spain.
- Co-author for a Chapter "**Ecotourism in Madagascar: How a Sleeping Beauty is finally awakening**" in the book "Responsible Tourism: Critical issues for conservation and development", Earthscan Publishing, London.
- One of the members of the team that wrote the "**Oman Declaration on Built Environments for Sustainable Tourism**" – UNWTO and UNESCO
- Co-wrote chapters on "**Site planning**" and "**Architecture**" in the International Guidelines Book, published by TIES, Washington DC.



- Wrote a paper on **“North West Point Sustainable Tourism Plan”** for UNESCO World Heritage Convention Virtual Congress (2002).
- Advisor to the publication **“Nature Lodge Footprint and Justification for Biodiversity Conservation”**, TIES.
- One of the members of the international team that wrote the **“Cairns Charter on Partnerships for Ecotourism”** – Ecotourism Australia
- Wrote two chapters in the **“Ecotourism and Environment Handbook”** – PATA
- Provided research for a chapter in **“People Places”** – Clare Cooper Marcus.

RESEARCH PAPERS WRITTEN

- “Ecotourism in Madagascar: How a Sleeping Beauty is finally awakening”
- “Towards an International Ecolodge Certification”
- “Visual Impacts in Tourism”.
- “The Sacred Cow in Ecotourism Planning”
- “Small Island Sustainable Planning; A case for West Caicos”
- “Lodge Design in Kenya : Working towards a new paradigm”
- “Decay of Nairobi Urban Open Space”
- “Sustainable Design and Technology”
- “Building Technology in Kenya: The Challenge”

PROVIDED COMMENTS AND REVIEWED THE 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., Bruner A., Rosenfeld A. (2000). Conservation International.
- **“The Business of Ecolodges”** - Edward A. Sanders and Elizabeth Halpenny.
- **“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

PROFESSIONAL WORK EXPERIENCE

Hitesh’s 22-year professional career spans over 30 countries and has worked in offices in Nairobi, San Francisco, Oakland CA, Silver Springs, MD and Ft. Lauderdale, FL. From 1997-2007, Mr. Mehta was a Vice-President at EDSA where he started and led the first Ecotourism Planning Market Sector of any large company in the world. In January 2007, Mr. Mehta re-started his firm **HM Design** which began in Kenya in 1991 and is currently working on projects in Costa Rica, Kenya, China, Namibia, Indonesia, Panama and Dominica. For the past ten years, he has dedicated his professional approaches to only eco-projects and was Project Manager for the multi-award winning Crosswaters Ecolodge.

2007-Present **HM Design**, President, *Ft. Lauderdale, Florida*
1997 – 2007 **EDSA Inc.** Vice President, *Ft. Lauderdale, Florida*
1996 – 1997 **CHK Planners and Architects.** Landscape Designer *Silver Springs ,MD*
1990 – 1996 **HM Design**, Founder and Principal, *Nairobi, Kenya*

1989 – 1990 **Amphion Environmental**, Environmental Planner, *Oakland , California*

Hitesh Mehta Academic Resume

June 4, 2010



1988 **EDAW Intern, San Francisco, California**
1986-1988 **Mehraz Ehsani and Associates Design Associate, Nairobi, Kenya**
1979-1985 **Various Design/ Build firms, Internships while I was a student. Nairobi, Kenya**

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

- Full member, American Society of Landscape Architects.
- Associate, The American Institute of Architects.
- Member, Royal Institute of British Architects
- Registered corporate member, Landscape Architects' Chapter of the Architectural Association of Kenya (A.A.K.).
- Registered corporate member, Architects' Chapter of the A.A.K.

PROJECT AWARDS

Mr. Mehta was Principal/Project Manager/Team Member for landscape architecture, architecture and planning projects that won following awards:

- 2010 **"American Society Of Landscape Architect's (ASLA) General Design Honor Award"** for Crosswaters Ecolodge and Spa, China
- 2010 **"WTTC Tourism for Tomorrow Destination Stewardship Finalist Award"** – Ministry of Tourism, Montenegro (2010).
- 2009 **"China Best Design Hotels Awards"** for 'Best Concept Hotel' and 'Judges Choice' to Crosswaters Ecolodge and Spa, Shanghai, China
- 2008 **"India Ministry of Tourism Best Planned National Park Award"** to Corbett National Park, India
- 2006 **"American Society Of Landscape Architect's (ASLA)" Research and Site Analysis Award"** for Crosswaters Ecolodge, China
- 2001 **"American Institute of Architect's (AIA) Merit Award"** for Bahsecehir New Urbanist Town, Turkey
- 2000 **"Architects Association of Kenya (AAK) Commercial Category Award"** for Diagnostic Center, Nairobi, Kenya
- 2000 **"American Society Of Landscape Architect's (ASLA) Award of Excellence"** for EDAW Intern Program, USA
- 1998 **"United Nations (UN) Habitat Award"** for Bahsecehir New Urbanist Town, Turkey
- 1994 **"Tacoma Chapter AIA Design Award"** for Commerce Connections and Public Spaces Transit Project in downtown Tacoma, Washington, USA
- 1993 **"Washington State Concrete Institute Grand Award"** for Commerce Connections and Public Spaces Transit Project, Tacoma, Washington, USA
- 1991 **"Most Creative Stand"** awards for Reef Hotels at the Kenyan Tourism Exhibition Show, Nairobi, Kenya
- 1989 **"AAK Residential Category Award"** for Chestnut Groves, Nairobi, Kenya